



PERRYSCOPE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
GARFIELD-PERRY STAMP CLUB

FIRST THURSDAY each month at the DOUBLETREE HOTEL - 6200 Quarry Lane - INDEPENDENCE, at 7:00 PM

October 2024

As BIG as it gets 135th March Party hosts two major societies; top-level exhibits, FIP judges also to be on hand

Two high-profile societies will gather at March Party 2025, making for an exciting show.

Members of the Civil War Philatelic Society and the United States Stamp Society are planning to be part of the 135th edition of the show, which convenes March 14-16.

"Having the Civil War Philatelic Society and the U.S. Stamp Society with us will make March Party 2025 one of the 'must see' shows in the country," show Chairman Rocco Caponi said.

High-level exhibits are expected to compete for top honors in March, Caponi added.

"This is an opportunity for local collectors to meet and learn from some of the country's best-known and most knowledgeable philatelists. Having both societies here in Cleveland demonstrates that the March Party remains one of the pre-eminent shows nationwide," he said.

The exhibitor's prospectus for the three-day event is available online at www.garfieldperry.org.



Civil War PHILATELIC SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1935

Those interested in exhibiting also can contact Greg Shoultz at coilcollector@hotmail.com.

Shoultz advises exhibitors to complete their application as early as possible to avoid being locked out.

Judging at this year's show will include an option for exhibitors interested in exhibiting internationally under Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP) rules. FIP-qualified judges will be at the show to judge those exhibits.

March Party 2025 is one of four national level shows that will host FIP judges throughout the year.

The show will host 170 frames of exhibits including 10 one-frame exhibits.

Show hours are 10 a.m. to 6



p.m., Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday.

The show site is the Best Western Plus, 15471 Royalton Rd., Strongsville, Ohio. Show attendees can take advantage of a special show rate of \$114 per night as

long as reservations are made by Feb. 22 by calling the hotel at 440-238-8800.

The March Party is an APS World Series of Philately show. The multi-frame and single-frame grand award winners, respectively, qualify for the APS Champion of Champions competition at the Great American Stamp Show 2025, scheduled for Aug. 14-17 in Schaumburg, Illinois, and Chicago, set for Nov. 21-23, 2025, also in the Windy City.

Inside the head of a collector

Note: This article is reprinted courtesy of The Chronicle-Telegram in Elyria, Ohio.

By Dennis Sadowski

Lots of people collect lots of different things. Antiques, art, coins, toys, jewelry, stamps and more are vigorously pursued, whether an item costs millions of dollars or much less.

But not everyone does. Studies have shown that 33 percent to 40 percent of Americans collect something, according to Psychology Today.

Neuroscientist Shirley Mueller, a collector of art herself, has long wondered what drives people to collect, and embarked on a yearslong effort to understand what motivates “these often-passionate individuals” who seek out additions to their holdings.

She discussed her work to an online audience of stamp collectors in a May 21 program of the American Philatelic Society. Her full presentation is online at online



DENNIS SADOWSKI

Collectors peruse the offerings of Mike Homel of Arbor Stamps during March Party 2024. Neuroscientist Shirley Mueller has learned that a sector of the a collector’s brain “lights up” when they come coming across an item of interest.

at <https://stamps.org/learn/educator-resources/stamp-chats>.

The discussion summarized her findings described in her most recent book, “Inside the Head of a Collector: Neuropsychological

Forces at Play.” The book examines how different areas of the brain function as someone considers an item for their collection.

In introducing her findings,

See HEAD on page 3

From the president

Fall is officially here, and philately is back in season. September started our in-person meetings again. We look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting on Oct. 3. Remember to bring an item to share in our stamp and covers of the month. We all enjoy seeing others collecting interests.

The Cuy-Lor Stamp Club will host its annual show, CUY-LORPEX 2024, Friday and Sat-



urday, October 25 and 26. Support this nearby club show, just as we would want them to support the March Party.

Your officers are planning a holiday dinner get together with spouses or a significant other. We have been looking at new venues. Details will be sent soon.

Please remember that our club sponsors the Garfield-Perry Room at the American Philatelic Society headquarters in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. We are working through the steps in building out this room to make it as nice as the adjoining library and other sponsored APS rooms.

Member Robert Weygandt has drafted architectural plans to finish the room’s interior.

All of you can help by making donations to the APS and designating the donation for the benefit of the Garfield-Perry Room. You can even send donations from your Required Minimum Distributions in your retirement account directly to the APS. This will save you taxes and benefit our club and the APS. We plan to move this project to fast track during summer 2025. With your help, this project will happen.

Enjoy your collecting!

Howard S. Chapman

Head

From page 2

Mueller briefly mentioned two well-known scientists who also have studied human behavior: Sigmund Freud and Werner Muensterberger. Neither of them held collecting in high regard.

Freud concluded that “collecting is a redirection of surplus libido onto an inanimate object.” Meanwhile, Muensterberger, a psychoanalyst, wrote in 1994 in “Collecting: An Unruly Passion,” that collectors “like to make a spectacle of their possessions. ... And, while they use their objects for inner security and outer applause, their deep inner function is to screen off self-doubt and unasimulated memories.”

Mueller disagreed with the negative assessments of both researchers, and set out to learn more about what inspires people to collect.

Research has not determined whether there’s a “collecting gene” in the human genome, Mueller said. “But we do know that it seems that there’s some predisposition to it. Of course, collecting has to do with not only genetics, but environment, experiences, even probably nostalgia to some degree,” she said.

Collecting, she said, often makes people happy and brings joy to life. “Collecting is more than a hobby, it’s a passion,” she concluded.

Mueller described measuring brain activity among willing participants when viewing a desirable item among a group of run-of-the-mill objects. She saw how specific areas of the brain “light up” when the unusual item was seen.

“The process of collecting stimulates our pleasure center which enhances our quality of life,” Mueller said.

But there’s more to collecting than pleasure, she explained.

Collecting can involve pain as well, especially when a desired item slips away to another collector or an item is found not to be genuine.

She pointed to the amygdala, a small, almond-shaped part of the brain that is a major processing center for emotions, as playing an important role in how someone decides to acquire something. It’s there that not only joy but fear that can arise, helping push someone to seriously consider whether an item is priced fairly or is genuine.

Mueller also identified behavioral economics as a key factor in collectors’ lives. There are times, she said, that people may have to forego buying an item because the economic pain it causes is greater than the joy that may be generated.

Collectors can be driven by other factors, such as pride in acquiring an exquisite object because it can generate “admiration by asso-

ciates,” she said. Pride also can be generated when acquiring something extraordinary at a modest price. That can happen when, for example, a collector recognizes a rare item in a dealer’s holdings that may be offered at a price much lower than it is worth.

Collectors also can face a factor she described as “sunk cost,” the tendency of people to follow through on an activity that is not meeting their expectations because of the time, effort and/or money already spent on it. She compared such action to someone who sits through a movie they don’t like because they paid for the ticket.

Mueller reminded the online audience that “our collecting decisions involve a struggle between our emotions and logic. By understanding this, we can not only increase pleasure and diminish pain, we can also make better life decisions in general.”

A fun Hollywood stamp mystery

By Kenneth Nilsestuen

It’s not often that we find stamps at the heart of a movie.

“Murder on Approval” is an exception. It’s only 70 minutes long, so you won’t be investing too much precious time when you watch this 1955 thriller.

An American stamp collector pays 10,000 British pounds for a stamp. He begins to suspect it is a counterfeit. Our hero, private detective Tom Martin, comes on the scene to solve the philatelic mystery. Eventually, there is a body or two added to the drama, hence the “murder.”

Tom Conway, a British actor

who was George Sanders’ brother, often played a detective, including The Falcon in several of those movies (George also played The

Falcon). Tom is probably the only recognizable actor, and even then only to fans of mid-century mystery films.

“Murder on Approval” won no awards and was even described by TV Guide as “an inept mystery.”

Consider yourself warned, but it is still an hour’s worth of philatelic entertainment.

Available for a fee on Amazon Video and on YouTube for free. Released in the United Kingdom as “Barbados Quest,” since the stamp was from that country.



Upcoming events

Oct. 18-19: MOTORPEX, Motor City Stamp and Cover Club, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights, Michigan

Oct. 19-20: CANPEX 2024 Royale, London-Middlesex Stamp Club, The Hellenic Community Centre, 133 Southdale Rd., West London, Ontario, Canada

Oct. 25-26: Cuy-LorPex 2024, Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, Rocky River Memorial Hall, 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, Ohio

Nov. 1-2: AAPEX 2024, Ann Arbor Stamp Club, Morris Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor, Michigan

Nov. 23: Black River Stamp Club, 40th show, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 300 Third St., Elyria, Ohio

GP programs

The club meets the first Thursday of the month except July and August. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. at Doubletree Hotel, 6200 Quarry Lane, Independence; (216-447-1300).

Club members are invited to meet for dinner at 6 p.m. at The Sanctuary Restaurant at the hotel.

Upcoming programs are:

Oct. 3: Kent Johnson, "John D. Rockefeller, the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club and the Grand Euclid Arcade."

Nov. 7: Dennis Sadowski, "A Philatelic Adventure in France."

Dec. 5: Ray Beer, "Counterfeit Stamps 2024: A Year in Review."



Club Officers

Howard Chapman, president

Ray Beer, vice president

Clint Many, secretary

Ken Nilsestuen, treasurer

Rocco Caponi, Carol Thatcher, trustees

Matt Liebson, legal adviser

Perryscope is published 10 times a year by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club.

Editor: Dennis Sadowski

Send news and information to
GPPerryscope@gmail.com.

The club is online at garfieldperry.org
and on Facebook.

Stamps teach history, geography & more

Perryscope
Garfield-Perry Stamp Club
c/o Dennis Sadowski
3245 Nagel Rd.
Avon, OH 44011-2059

**Use this QR code
to connect with
the latest news
and information
about the
Garfield-Perry
Stamp Club**

