Herm Island is located in the English Channel about three miles east of Guernsey, halfway between that island and Sark. Herm is approximately 1 1/2 miles long from north to south and over half a mile wide from east to west, with a coastline of about 4 1/2 miles at high water. A small harbor faces Guernsey, and clustered around it is what passes for the island village where the White House Hotel, a restaurant, the piazza that houses the Post Office and shops, the Mermaid Tavern, and a row of cottages are located.

Herm’s recorded postal history began during the tenancy of Compton Mackenzie, the famous author and novelist, who lived on Herm from 1920. During the tenancy of Mr. Mackenzie, there was no post office on Herm and all mail was placed in a locked bag and transported to Guernsey for posting. Mackenzie’s tenancy was succeeded in 1923 by Sir Percival Lea Dewhurst Perry (later Lord Perry), the Chairman of Ford’s, who remained on Herm until 1938. Because of Lord Perry’s large staff, the British GPO established, in what is now the Mermaid Tavern, a Post Office which functioned as a sub-office of Guernsey. It opened May 1, 1925 and closed November 30, 1938 because of a decline in the number of residents and the resultant lack of business. Thereafter, all mail was once again posted in Guernsey.

Postal History of Herm Island and the Genesis of Its Local Stamps

The Herm Island Anti-Malaria Stamps
by Roger Cichorz

This article was originally published in the January-March 1983 Miasma Philatelist, Quarterly Journal of the Malaria Philatelists International, and the August 1983 Channel Islands Reporter.
The Herm Island Anti-Malaria Stamps
(continued)
In 1946 the States of Guernsey Agricultural Committee purchased Herm from the Crown and leased the Island to Mr. A. G. Jefferies. In 1948, as part of his efforts to exploit the tourist potential for Herm, Jefferies approached the British postal authorities with a request to have the sub-office reopened or, failing that, to have an official letter box installed and regular collections of mail made.

During the 20 years of successful operation of the Herm local post, the island “post office” has occupied several locations. During the 1950s the office was situated in the Gift Shop; and in the early 1960s in the terraced cottage at the foot of Manor Drive and then back to the Gift Shop. It was there when the Guernsey Post Office opened its sub-office in 1969. The Herm post office then moved to an adjacent shop in the piazza.

During the operation of the local post facilities on Herm, the Herm “Postmaster” saw that the mail was properly franked with both British stamps (required for the mail to be serviced by the GPO) and with Herm stamps (required as a carriage fee to transfer the mail to Guernsey for GPO posting). No items were accepted for mailing from Herm unless they bore the proper Herm postage.

The mail was subsequently cancelled on Herm and the stamps were tied to the back of envelopes or to the top left of the message-side of postcards by a Herm circular date stamp canceller. They were then placed into a locked mailbag marked “HERM ISLAND MAIL” and then the bag transferred on the 9 am milk boat to Guernsey, where it was taken to the GPO Sorting Office in St Peter Port and unlocked by a Post Office official.

Letters to Herm were placed in the bag, which was then relocked and taken back to the island “post office” for distribution. Unlike Lundy, the Herm local post authorities did not require an additional fee over the British postage payment for incoming mail. However, there was little incoming mail as almost all Herm mail was cards and letters sent out by tourists.

The Herm local post issued numerous series of stamps over the 20-year period of its operation. From 1949 to 1960, Herm local stamps reflected themes of the island history, geography, and fauna. Then in 1961, Herm succumbed to the issuance of popular philatelic “thematics” (such as “Europa” and “Anti-malaria” sets) and underwent much criticism in the philatelic press at that time. These speculative issues damaged Herm’s philatelic reputation. However, it is now being realized by many philatelists that the Herm issues were an integral part of Channel Islands philately and postal history, and collector interest steadily grew among Channel Islands specialists.

On October 1, 1969 the British Post Office became a public corporation, and since Guernsey wished its postal service to remain under state control, it had arranged to take over the GPO and issue its own stamps. The Guernsey Post Office Board did not wish its stamps to be regarded throughout the world as “local” issues, with accompanying negative connotation among philatelists, so it banned all local carriage labels. The Board also realized this edict would cause a severe hardship to Herm if its services were completely withdrawn. Consequently, the Board opened a sub-office there on the so-called vesting day: October 1, 1969 (date of transfer of postal services from the GPO to the Guernsey authority). Major Wood, in recognition of, and as a reward for his 20 years of mail-carrying efforts, was offered and accepted the Herm sub-postmastership, and the Post Office on Herm became “official” once again after an interval of more than thirty years.

Following the relatively great financial success of its
The Anti-Malaria Stamps of 1962

1961 “Europa” set, Herm decided to join the “Anti-malaria” theme of 1962, which had the potential to be an international best seller. During the period of June 1959 to September 1961, Herm had produced four different sets simply by overprinting existing stocks of its 1959 “maps and boats” definitives. After four consecutive overprinted sets, it was refreshing to find Herm’s newly-found prosperity from sales of its 1961 Europa sets permitted the Anti-malaria issue to have two specially designed stamps, even if these were coupled with another overprint for the low-denominated stamp in the set.

The set of three Herm stamps for the 1962 Anti-malaria Campaign was issued on June 7, 1962 and consisted of:

- An 8 doubles denomination, equivalent to one penny, which was the current local rate for mailing a postcard from Herm. The double – pronounced “dooble” – was an old Guernsey coin, eight of which were equivalent to a British penny. Until 1971, Guernsey ½d and 1d coins were, in fact, inscribed, respectively, “4 doubles” and “8 doubles.

- An 11d denomination, which represented no then-current Herm local posting rate, and could only have valid postal use for making up higher rates required for weighty packages or parcels or for registered mail (as far as I could ascertain from examining the rates of carriage from Herm that existed at that time). The sum of the two low-denominated stamps do equal one shilling, but there was no existing one-shilling rate in effect either.

- A 1s 6d denomination, which was the then-current fee for taking registered letters from Herm to the Guernsey Post Office.

The 8 doubles stamp was a special printing in blue of the current 8 doubles “map” definitive and overprinted in black “ANTI MALARIA / CAMPAIGN / 1962” in black. The 11d and 1/6d stamps were designed by Victor Whiteley of Harrison & Sons Ltd. of London, security printers. These were offset lithographed in sheets of 30 (6 across by 5 down), perforated 14½. The 11d design has a microscope and mosquito, and the stamps were printed in red. The 1s 6d design has a mosquito, and the stamps were printed in green.

The printing figures of 105,000 for 8-doubles stamp and 100,000 each for the 11d and 1/6d stamps proved inordinately optimistic, and the stamp sales were well below expectations.

Because of the poor sales of the Anti-malaria set, large stocks of the 11d denomination, which did not represent any existing Herm postage rate, remained on the island. Five years later more than a quarter of the total printing of the 11d stamp was surcharged as a provisional 1½d stamp (to meet the sealed letter rate that was in effect in 1967). The remainder of these (27,750 stamps) were overprinted in black with a 3¾-mm square at the lower right and a 9-mm long and 1½-mm-wide rectangle at the upper left. These served as obliterator for the “11d” denomination and the “1962” date, respectively, together with the 3-line inscription “August/1967/1½d”.

This provisional issue was overprinted by the Guernsey Press Company Ltd. to temporarily rectify a shortage of the 1½d definitive brought about by tourist demand during the summer of 1967. The 1½d fee represented the rate for sealed letters at that time. No overprinting, “errors” or “varieties” of this provisional issue are catalogued, a credit to the integrity of the firm responsible for the stamps’ preparation. First day of issue covers (31 August 1967) seeing actual postal service to and from Guernsey (for actual GPO usage) exist, but are not that plentiful. Technically this stamp is not an “Anti-malaria” issue. It filled the need for a definitive for a Herm rate at the time that it was produced. Nevertheless, the presence of the design and words “Anti Malaria Campaign” make it desirable as a thematic.

The 1981 Backman/Forrester Catalogue attributes the lack of popularity of this issue to “Victor Whiteley’s designs proving to be rather disappointing.” However, I feel that Whiteley’s designs were attractive and the stamps well produced. Herm was under extensive criticism in the philatelic press during the period of the late 1950s and early 1960s for exploiting collectors with an “excessive” amount of “unnecessary” issues. Furthermore, the British Philatelic Association Joint Committee and the Philatelic Traders’ Society did not endorse the British Isle “locals” that were beginning to proliferate during that period and requested its members to use restrictive descriptions when offering such issues for sale.

Themes such as “Europa” and “Anti-malaria”
The Herm Island Anti-Malaria Stamps

(continued)

that had nothing to do with Herm certainly did not enhance its philatelic reputation. In addition, the optimistic printing of 100,000 sets, when the printing of three of Herm’s four previous commemorative sets numbered under 10,000 (1959 Royal Visit = 5,000, 1960 Royal Wedding = 8,000, 1960 World Refugee Year = 8,000) seemed entirely unrealistic for its local post needs unless philatelic exploitation was intended!

No cataloged “errors” or “varieties” of the stamps in the Herm 1962 Anti-malaria set exist, and again is a tribute to the stamp-producing ability and integrity of Harrison & Sons Ltd. A publicity sheet with impressions of the three stamps, reproduced from actual dies, was produced (quantity unknown) by Harrison & Sons Ltd. In addition, imperforate proofs in the issued colors were prepared and six imperforate color trials were also produced by Harrison & Sons Ltd. These were 8 doubles black overprint on green and black overprint on red, 11d green and pale blue, and 1s 6d pale blue and rose carmine.

Ample first day of issue covers containing the usual Herm cachet in black and the red imprint: “ANTI MALARIA / 7TH June / 1962” were prepared for collectors and are still relatively plentiful (See Page 1). These were serviced to and from Guernsey (round trip representing actual GPO usage).

Conclusions
I feel that the Herm local post served a valid postal function for its 20 years of existence and its local stamps were “valid” and “necessary” issues. They were used to prepay fixed fees for a private postal service for Herm residents and visitors that was not being provided for them by the GPO. Therefore, Herm locals should have a place in Channel Islands postal history. I attempted to illustrate this thesis by providing a postal history of the island at the onset of this article. It is also my opinion (as well as that of several national philatelic societies and the philatelic press in general during the late 1950s and early 1960s) that several of Herm’s issues (including the 1962 Anti-malaria set) were unnecessary and produced primarily to be exploitive of thematic collectors.

Orthography
When capitalized, “Post Office” refers to the British Government or Guernsey authority. In lower case, “post office” refers to the Herm operation or the building in which it is housed. “Anti-malaria” is hyphenated and the M is capitalized in headings only. However, Herm did not follow this style on its stamps, so when the wording on stamps is quoted, it becomes “Anti Malaria”.

References
3) Various articles from philatelic periodicals over the period of 1955-65.

Illustrations are from the author’s collection.

CHERPEX Returns in September - Its Second Show This Year

CHERPEX Stamp Show returns Saturday, September 22nd and Sunday, September 23rd
The show is sponsored by the Cherrlyn Stamp Club of Englewood, and will be held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds along Highway 6, just beyond Indiana St. in Golden, a great locale, with more than adequate parking, space in the show hall, and good lighting.

Saturday hours are 10 am to 6 PM;
Sunday’s hours are 11 am to 4 PM
A total of 40 dealer tables will be available; counter service meals will be offered through a caterer. Several organizations are expected to be in attendance. There will be space for numerous exhibits. And don’t forget postcards. Several dealers will feature postcards and paper ephemera.

Contact Sergio Lugo or Eric Carlson if you want to reserve dealer space or to enter an exhibit.
**Attendance:** All board members were in attendance.

Most of the evening’s discussions focused on accomplishments and pending activities:

1. It was noted that up to 25 boxes of material were donated by the RMPL to the Northern Philatelic Library of St. Paul, Minnesota, and to the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Philatelic Library.

2. The Scandinavian Collectors Club of the United States and the Mexico Elmhurst Philatelic Society International both had activities or tours at the RMPL during the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show. Marc Silberman overprinted Swedish and Mexican stamps to commemorate their visit. Both groups made donations to the library; $1,000 from the SCC, $500 from MEPSI, and $100 from a MEPSI member.

3. At least 5 new members were gained from RMSS show attendees.

4. Steve Schweighofer has volunteered to maintain, organize, and make the RMPL’s map room more user friendly. He follows in the footsteps of Bill Dunn, Bob Brown, Carl Barna, and William Crabbs in bringing order to the room and he’s done a magnificent job.

5. Roger Cichorz spent a couple of days cleaning carpets and chairs in both buildings. Thank you, Roger.

6. The garage door has been replaced, and Steve Nadler and Larry Eigle painted it. Now we need some workers to help install wallboard on the inside wall and finish it up. If you wish to volunteer, call Sergio.

7. The first volume of the *This Was Colorado* digitization project has been completed. It is expected that an uplink to the internet for the project will be up and running by August.

8. Youth activities at the RMSS were exceptionally well attended. The board extends thanks to the work of Don Dhonau, Dan Nieuwhardt, Tim Heins, Mary Machado, and Laurie Kring, the executive director of Stamp Camp.

**Old Business**

Summer picnic arrangements have been finalized for Saturday, August 25th beginning at 6:00 PM. This is a potluck affair, with hot dogs and pop provided by the library. The board invites all RMPL members to attend with their spouses, guests and families and to help make it an enjoyable evening for everyone.

The UBS (Union Bank of Switzerland) investment strategy for the RMPL’s librarian’s fund will be implemented soon with an initial capitalization of $80,000. This has been an ongoing concern of the board as we prepare for the day Ellengail Beuthel may wish to step down as our librarian, the job she has held since the first day of discussions to form the library in 1993. Ellengail has been a volunteer from the beginning and her successor may be a volunteer or salaried.

The RMSS auction proved to be another success for the library, and we doff our hats to David Weisberg, William Crabbs, and Tom Pollard. Roughly $21,800 was received in sales (75% sold) at the show, with roughly another $1,800 sold after the show for a total of approximately $23,600.

Peter Bergh’s book, *The Danish Ore Bicolor Issue - A Primer*, has been published and is now on sale through the library for $40.00.

The board voted 8 to 1 to keep the annual holiday party for volunteers at the White Fence Farm in Lakewood.

The Printer Selection Committee recommended, and the RMPL board approved, a decision to lease/purchase two Xerox demonstrator copy machines. The cost will be $18,500 over five years. As this is written, a black/white and color office machine has replaced our old color copier in the main library building while a larger “production” machine is set up in the Scribblings office on Asbury Ave. The production machine will be limited to large printing jobs undertaken by the RMPL and/or other societies under the direct supervision of Ron Hill, Ron Mitchell and Pamela Lugo. The office machine is available for ordinary, daily use under the supervision of front desk personnel who will be trained in its operation by Pamela Lugo.

**New Business**

The RMPL is dealing with an issue raised by a Cuban stamp society based in Miami, whose attorney has sent out an advisory to publications and groups concerning use of its protected trademark and name. We discussed the advisory letter, in light of the use of the RMPL’s printing equipment for a different Cuban stamp organization based in Maryland and registered as a Colorado non-profit corporation. The board decided to continue printing for this organization, as we have for the past two years. This is in keeping with the library’s mission of education and promoting philately. Our thanks to Vera Louise Pfeiffer for her input during the discussion.

The board is proud to announce there is now a periodicals database for magazines and journals in our patron computer in the library. This has been a project fifteen years in the making, beginning with Sergio Lugo and continuing through the efforts of Ellengail Beuthel, Sue Dunn and Mike Milam. Beginning in mid-August, it will also be possible to identify which issues of specific periodicals are in our holdings from the RMPL Web site.

The board voted to appropriate $6,500 to replace the parking lot in front of 2048 S. Pontiac Way and refinish the 2038 S. Pontiac Way parking lot. The job, under the supervision of Rich Palestro and Stan Kliebenstein, is scheduled to be done by the end of July.

The board also approved $1,500 to print an additional 50 copies of Ron Mitchell’s *Mexico’s Denver Printing of 1914*. The original books have sold out and we made a small profit. There have been requests for additional copies. If you have not purchased one of the originals, please jump to the head of the line for your copy by letting Ron Mitchell or Sergio know.

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**RMPL BOARD MEETING (continued)**

We are moving towards replacement of our *Scribblings* editor, Ron Hill, by other RMPL members. Ron has had the pleasure of being editor for the past 5 years, and has decided to move on to serve as the print coordinator for our new Xerox production copier. Ron Mitchell and Sherri Jennings will be stepping into the shoes vacated by Ron Hill. To all three we wish the best of success.

**For the Good of the Order**

A number of RMPL members were recent gold medal winners at PIPEX, RMSS, and NAPEX. They include: Steve McGill, Ron Mitchell, Van Jennings, Marc Gonzales, Dalene Thomas, Greg Frantz, and Tim Barshe. Tim was the reserve grand winner at RMSS, and Ron Mitchell’s book on the Denver Eagles won gold, the reserve grand, and the APS medal for philatelic research at NAPEX. Congratulations to all.

The board also extends congratulations to the ROMPEX Committee for an outstanding 2012 Show. It was very well attended.

All collectors are urged to attend the National Stamp Dealer’s Association stamp show which will be held in mid-August at the Merchandise Mart in Denver. Also the CHERPEX Stamp Show will be held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds at the end of September. Support your hobby - attend the shows, and bring a friend who has been thinking about getting into the hobby.

The RMPL was recently visited by six DU Librarian graduate students. We are also looking forward to a visit by the Colorado Special Librarian’s Association on July 20th.

We all hope that you were able to take in the Channel 9, June 18th, 10 am Colorado and Company show which featured a seven minute segment on the RMPL presented by myself, Don Dhanou and Carol Mobley.

**Scribblings**

**RMPL Picnic - All Members**

**Saturday, August 25th at 6:00pm**

For those of you who can’t think of anything better to do on a hot, summer day, please join us at the RMPL on Saturday, August 25th at 6:00 PM.

It’s our second annual picnic, intended to boost the camaraderie of the membership and to meet others with your same interests.

We’ll provide the hotdogs, buns, condiments, sodas, plastic utensils and the space. All you have to do is bring yourselves, an appetite and a pot luck dish that should serve 8 to 12 people. We hope that everyone doesn’t bring a dessert!

Please contact Dalene Thomas, at 303-986-6620 to let her know how many you are bringing or email her at dalene@lighthousestampsociety.org.

**Six Members of SCC Chapter 27 Receive Top SCC Awards at RMSS**

Six members of the SCC Library Committee, Paul Albright, Howard Benson, Roger Cichorz, Greg Frantz, Jim Kilbane, and Jeff Modesitt, were presented the **Carl E. Pelander Award** for meritorious service at the Scandinavian Collectors Club General Membership Meeting held at RMSS. This Award has been presented 21 times during its 55-year history to SCC members for outstanding work in furthering the aims of the organization. It was created in 1968 to perpetuate the memory of Carl E. Pelander, one of the founding members of the SCC.

Greg Frantz was the only SCC Chapter 27 member to exhibit at RMSS, and received Gold Medals for his exhibits of *Spitzbergen 1896-1914* and *Finland Steamship Companies*. Greg also received the National SCC Grand Award and Lighthouse Stamp Society Award for the *Finland Steamship Companies* exhibit.

**PERIODICAL PICKINS**

*by Sergio Lugo*

The RMPL does not actively pursue the acquisition of periodicals. As with everything else, we rely on our members and donors to provide us with journals of societies and organizations of which they are members. In this way, we have gradually built up our periodical holdings to an impressive total of 1500+ titles, and over 120,000 individual issues. It’s a great pleasure, consequently, to receive journals/periodicals of which we were previously unaware.

In a recent donation of numerous periodicals from North Carolina, we acquired the newsletter *Sydney Views*. It is the journal of the Australian States Study Circle of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club. *Sydney Views* averages 26 pages an issue, is 4 hole punched, and printed on 8 1/2 by 11 3/4 inch paper. Many of the images are in black and white, but the study circle began introducing color imagery several years ago, and those color illustrations are increasingly evident in issues. The journal has no commercial advertisements, but has reference information for the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club. There was no e-mail address that I could readily find.

The RMPL’s issues begin with those of the donation, namely a complete run from 2006 to the present. Near as I can figure, the newsletter began in 1983 or 1984. Since the subjects of the study circle are the stamps and postal history of the Australian States, the journal focuses on what we might consider the “classics” of Australian philately, namely those issues that predate the union that came to comprise what we today know as the modern nation of Australia. Its focus is extraordinarily detailed. One can learn and read about the history of mail service in those states, specific stamp issues, cancellations and postmarks, as well as postal stationery and postally used postcards. For any of you who have tried to understand the Australian States, it’s an invaluable tool that provides enjoyable reading of complex philatelic topics and subjects, including ships, “bushrangers”, early mail routes, numerical cancels, indexes and much, much more.

The journal is a highly recommended primer that is available at the RMPL for everyone’s enjoyment.
The Prez’ Observations

I had the unusual pleasure of taking in two World Series of Philately (WSP) Shows in the month of May. (I normally get to no more than the RMSS once a year.) At both, the vibrancy of the hobby continues to manifest itself in many forms. The two were the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (RMSS - aka ROMPEX) in Denver, and Portland, Oregon’s PIPEX. Similarities between the two shows are remarkable, as are the demographics of their host communities.

But let’s start with the basics - as in WSP. There are about 30 regional shows in the country that are recognized as World Series of Philately (WSP) by the APS because of their longevity, as well as the long history of dealer participation and outstanding exhibits amounting to at least a minimum of 200 frames.

President, John Bloor and Bourse Chairman, Ron Lampo led The 2012 RMSS to its succesful 63rd annual show. PIPEX has a similarly lengthy history, but differed significantly in that it rotated among several host cities in the Pacific Northwest until recently, when the decision was made to hold it in Portland for the foreseeable future. Its chairman is Michael Dixon, and Bourse Chairman is Larry Spray.

Both shows rely exclusively on volunteers from the Northwestern Federation of Stamp Clubs and in Denver from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Exhibitions Committee, Inc. Considerable support also comes from members of the RMPL library although there is no official connection with the library.

The primary areas that attract show visitors are the metropolitan areas of Portland and Denver, but large numbers of show visitors travel significant distances from surrounding states to attend the show. The RMSS also draws visitors from the neighboring states of Wyoming, New Mexico and Kansas. This year the RMSS had a considerably stronger show attendance than did PIPEX - possibly in part because of rainy conditions on Saturday, which made show going a must do instead of staying at home.

Invited societies consisted of similarly sized organizations, with the Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania and WE-Women’s Exhibitors at PIPEX, and in Denver, the Scandinavian Collector’s Club and the Mexico Elmhurst Philatelic Society (MEPSI).

Many dealers travel great distances to the Denver show as well many regulars from the immediate Rocky Mountain area.

Many of you know me as having dealt in stamps at the local level in Colorado since the late 1980s. This year I sold at Portland as an excuse for a travel vacation to see our oldest son and his wife.

Exhibitors and their exhibits span the globe and a large number at both shows were rewarded for their efforts with a variety of medal awards. RMPL Board member Steve McGill won gold at PIPEX; and six RMPL members received gold medals at the RMSS.

The RMPL has a counterpart in the Portland area with the Northwestern Philatelic Library, with whom we at the RMPL have had the pleasure of doing business over the past decade.

Visitor interests, and materials being sought at the show, seem to be on a par, with remarkably astute and knowledgeable stamp and postal history collectors much in evidence at both sites pursuing their specialty interests. I found PIPEX attendees more heavily interested in the postal history of the Pacific Northwest and Alaska (in contrast to the Midwest preferences of RMSS visitors), as well as great interest in Oriental material.

But the fun part for me, whether as a dealer at PIPEX or manning the RMPL table at the RMSS, is the opportunity to chat with folks about their collecting interests, learning from the knowledge that many such visitors represent, conversing with them about their home towns and home countries, renewing familiar acquaintances, and commiserating with them about the hobby in general. That is something I always look forward to, and for which I was fully rewarded at both shows.

Thank you!

Sergio

See the RMPL Web Page
www.rmpldenver.org
See the Library Catalog Online

July-August 2012
A One-Stop Shop for Philatelic Research -
New Global Philatelic Library Answers an RMPL Dream

The Smithsonian’s National Postal Museum and the Royal Philatelic Society of London (RPSL) have joined with the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) to create the Global Philatelic Library, an expansion of a program which placed philatelic library catalogs on the Internet, begun by the APRL and the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library (RMPL) in 2008.

The Global Philatelic Library was built and is run by the RPSL in collaboration with the APRL and the Smithsonian.

It was launched on June 1, 2012 and includes libraries in Canada, Norway and Germany, with the promise there will be more countries represented soon.

The global library’s importance may not be overstated. The APS calls it “a gateway to the world’s greatest philatelic literature.”

Internationally known collector Alan Holyoake said, “The introduction of a centralized gateway must be one of the most important developments ever to have taken place within the philatelic world.”

The beginnings of a union catalog in the U.S. may be traced to APS Executive Director Bob Lamb and APRL Librarian Gini Horn in about 2003. RMPL President Ron Mitchell, Librarian Ellengail Beuthel and webmaster Roger Rydberg were made aware of the possibilities and knew that since both the RMPL and APRL used the same database, it would be logical for the RMPL to take part in testing the technology and thus provide some help in the development of a union catalog. This was also possible because Ellengail used standard library practices for each of the more than 8,000 books she has cataloged.

In late 2005, there was a glimmer of hope to get our catalog on line with the APRL when Bob Lamb told Ellengail and Roger that the library might be able to get help from the APS.

The RMPL had an Internet site, with Roger Rydberg as web master, beginning in March of 2004, but the digital catalog Ellengail created and put into use in 2006 was available only to patrons on a computer in the library. Volunteer Charles Baker’s help with the database and computer issues was invaluable to Ellengail as she transferred information from the card catalog to the digital catalog, and later, as the APRL experimented with adding the RMPL database to its own. This resulted in the Union Catalog with U.S. philatelic libraries in 2009.

During this time, an obvious goal was to put the RMPL catalog on line at its own Web site, but the expense was more than the library’s budget would allow.

Travis Searls, a new RMPL member and volunteer, brought his expert programming skills to the problem, and created an interface that put the catalog on line. This is the site patrons go to when they use the option to go directly to an individual library, rather than using the Global Philatelic Library database, which displays all the libraries where a book or other material is available.

The contents of the following libraries may be searched at GlobalPhilatelicLibrary.org:

American Philatelic Research Library
The Royal Philatelic Society of London
Smithsonian National Postal Museum and Smithsonian Libraries
The British Postal Museum & Archive
Collectors Club of New York
Greene Philatelic Research Foundation (Toronto)
National Philatelic Society (UK)
Oslo Filatelistklubb Bibliotek
Philatelistsche Bibliothek Hamburg
Postal History Foundation (Tucson)
Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library
Western Philatelic Library (Sunnyvale, Calif.)

Sergio Lugo, president of the RMPL, gave high praise to the global library project and all the people involved. Lugo said, “Partnering agencies with the Global Philatelic Library will add to their own lustre as more philatelic libraries join the ranks and flesh out its philatelic resources and reference files.” Lugo likened the RMPL’s presence at the birth of the union catalog as a seed from a pinecone in the forest that helped produce the global library. “Not bad for a nut in the forest,” he said.
SHOWS & EVENTS

Stamp Camp USA at Rocky Mountain Stamp Show
Popular Youth Program Excels in Creativity and Enthusiasm

Top left: Laurie Kring, Executive Director of Stamp Camp USA leads the group on Saturday at RMSS.  
Top right: Erwin Engert (right) and Jerry Eggleston (left) judge the youth projects on Saturday afternoon.  
Lower left: Sam Baker, 7, building his second place winning exhibit.  
Lower right: Grand Champion Peace Garden exhibit by Hannah Baker, 12.

NSDA Denver Stamp Show 2012
Saturday, August 11 10:00 - 4:00  
Sunday, August 12 10:00 - 4:00  
Denver Merchandise Mart - 451 E 58th Avenue - Denver, CO 80216

13 National Dealers • Youth Booth • Free Admission • Free Parking

For more information please visit www.stampshows.com
Ron Mitchell’s Denver Eagle Book Wins Third Gold Medal

Once more an RMPL published book has won gold medals in each of the three most prominent philatelic literature competitions in the country.

Ron Mitchell’s *Mexico’s Denver Printing of 1914*, in addition to winning gold, also won the Reserve Grand Award for Literature, as well as the APS Award for Research Literature.

Ron’s gold medal at NAPEX, added to his gold medals at last year’s CHICAGOPEX and STAMPSHOW, brings the RMPL six gold medals for its two recent publications.

The earlier award winner was our first publication *Camp Center, Colorado Ghost Town Mail*.

Our congratulations to Ron for his outstanding work. The RMPL will be printing a second run of 50 copies of the book to meet demand. Anyone wishing to purchase a copy please contact Sergio Lugo to reserve it.

And if you would like to publish a book which you’ve written, please consider the RMPL. We’ll provide you with a writer’s guide and the publications committee will work with you to produce the very best product the library can publish. Contact Sergio for further details.

A third book by the RMPL recently published is Peter Bergh’s *Danish Ore Bicolor Issues* now available at the library.

Visit the RMPL Web Page
www.rmpldenver.org

Read all back issues of Scribblings since January 2008 online

Coil Waste - Again
by Joe Lambert

The picture shows a good example of a manufactured coil waste item. In this instance, Scott #494, a 3 cent Type II coil, cat. $21.50, has been made into something looking a lot like Scott #541, a perf. 11x10 coil waste item, cat. $100. Note the straight edge of the top perfs, and the slight decrease in hole depth as the perfs move to the right. The bottom edge perfs are slightly more realistic looking, but, both top and bottom, the holes do not gauge correctly. (The Specialist, or Kiusalas, gauge is excellent for these situations- more on this at a later date).

This is a mediocre #494 made into a pretty good looking #541 (for this)- remember that the stamps selected by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for coil waste manufacture were typically, by the Bureau’s admission, badly centered. The presumed end product, #541, is not a rarity or punitively expensive- this is the risk that one takes with some frequently faked items- that the item is not so expensive that the cost of certification is necessarily in line with the value of the item. Be sure that you are comfortable with the origin of such items. They were experimental and were sold only to vending machine operators.

This experiment was of limited time (mostly in 1908) and of limited scope (in the case of #322, only 36,500 were issued). Moreover, according to Armstrong’s *United States Coil Issues of 1906-38*. “Coils were a new thing, and at first, did not receive a heart-warming greeting. Collectors and dealers maintained the attitude that a coil was even worse than a straight edge since two sides lacked perforations. Therefore, it was the general consensus that coils were of no philatelic value. How things have changed!!!

This particular fake fails for a few reasons - it is too short, it is not the right color, and it is not the right type of this stamp (see Armstrong, op.cit. regarding the last two of these).

Flat plate coils are undoubtedly the most frequently faked items in U.S. philately - even the lowest cataloged ones are very often faked. Beware always - and most especially beware of the rarities - of which very, very few genuine examples remain. There are many fakes out there which are considerably more deceptive than the example here- which is so silly and off the wall as to deserve its own picture and article.
Periodical Database Now Online

Nearly fifteen years after our first steps at creating a user friendly periodicals database, we can announce the database is now available to members of the RMPL.

Begun by Sergio Lugo in 1994, when our holdings amounted to two filing cabinet drawers of periodicals, our journals have now grown to include 1,500+ titles and over 120,000 issues of periodicals. In the past four years, Ellengail Beuthel, Sue Dunn, and Mike Milam have worked to transfer earlier databases into the Inmagic database that makes up our online catalog. Over the next two months, it will be on the Union Catalog maintained by the APRL.

The trick to the database was the introduction of individual holdings for specific issues. Ellengail managed to compile cataloging information (10+ data field items) for all of our long-run periodicals, while Sue and Mike have been entering the holdings for the titles cataloged. Specific issues can be found in the “holdings” section of the catalog entry. For example, if we have a complete set for the issue X for the year 1976, the holdings will show “complete” for that year; on the other hand, if we only have four of the six issues for 1985, the holdings entry will read: 1985, #’s 1, 3, 5, 6. Having that kind of information greatly facilitates searches.

But all is not in place, as yet! As noted, the RMPL has 1500+ titles, of which roughly 800 are in our periodical stacks. At the time of this article’s writing, Ellengail has catalogued roughly 800 periodicals/journals (through the letter V), and Sue and Mike have entered the holdings at roughly 400 of them (through the letter H).

The project has taken considerable time over the years, and will continue to do so as bimonthly updates are made by Ellengail, Sue, and Mike. We anticipate the effort will be ongoing far into the future as we receive new journals and periodicals. Further, the short run (periodicals not taking up much space at the moment) and archival periodicals (dating from before 1910) are yet to be integrated, but we hope that including them will begin soon.

Scribblings

**History of the World Through Stamps; OLLI Fall Classes Begin September 13**

Another eight-week class, sponsored by Denver University’s Adult Lifelong Learning program called OLLI, begins in September in Denver. It will offer presentations and discussions of a wide variety of philatelic subjects in addition to a visit to the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library.

Learning history through the study of stamps has provided a popular and interesting program for many of the OLLI class members.

RMPL members, Steve Nadler and Tim Heins, will be the Facilitators for the Fall class in Denver at the Central Christian Church, South Cherry Creek Drive. Many of the presenters will have new subjects to offer in the Fall class.

Future presenters are needed for classes starting in the Winter and Spring. For more information or to offer a program contact Tim Heins at timheinscpa@msn.com or Steve Nadler at schlomox@msn.com.

The Fall 2012 lineup of OLLI classes is as follows:

**September 13** - This session will introduce class members to stamps and stamp collecting. The individual presenters will preview their programs and describe their collecting interests.

**September 20** - Thomas Jefferson and how he was portrayed on stamps. Historian Jack Van Ens will appear in period costume representing Jefferson exploring his image on US stamps.

**September 27** - Ronald Hill will present 140 years of historical events of Cuba as told on stamps and postal history. Subjects range from a stamp issued in 1874 supporting the revolt against Spain to those of the modern socialist period.

**October 4** - Postal history and stamps of Indo-China will be presented by Richard Aspnes, President of the Society of Indo-China Philatelists. Included are the protectorates of Tonkin, Annam, Laos, Cambodia, and the colony of Cochín China, with numerous maps, historical documents and stamps. This program also includes the Japanese occupation of Indo-China during WWII and the US Vietnam War.

**October 11** - David Weisberg, member of the Board of the RMPL will present stamps of Great Britain, the U.S. and Germany and how they influenced and reflected foreign policy in the years leading up to World War II.

**October 18** - Steve Nadler, very familiar with Afghan history, will present its contemporary history depicted on its postage stamps... monarchy, democracy, communism, civil war and radical or extremist Islam and again democracy.

**October 25** - Field Trip to the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library where Sergio Lugo, President, will conduct a tour of the Library and also present a short program on a philatelic subject.

**November 1** - “One Man’s 17 Remarkable Stamp Collections”. Former Channel 9 newsman and Past President of the RMPL library, Ron Mitchell, will describe the life long collections of one of the late founders of the RMPL. The remainder of this final class will be a general review and discussion by class members.
WHAT’S NEW ON THE SHELVES?

UNITED STATES
Borek Briefmarken-Katalog Vereinigte Staaten von Amerika
1983, published by Richard Borek
Large U.S. Banknotes Identification Guide: Strategies and Methods of Identification, by Bob Pipes and Steve Einhorn
The Sesquicentennial of Texas in the Art of Gordon Bleuler
United States and Confederate States Stamps, List No. 11 (about 1953), published by S.L. Stone

AFRICA
Orange Free State Postal and Other Markings 1868-1910, by A. Cecil Fenn

ASIA
Universiade Shenzhen 2011 (album, with stamps)

AUSTRALIA and OCEANIA
A Catalogue of Squared Circle Postmarks of South Australia
Mortimer Colour Catalogue of Australasian and British Stamps, Fifth Edition (1982), by David Mortimer
New Zealand & Dependencies: an Illustrated and Priced Catalogue of the Stamps of New Zealand, 1st Ed., published by Seven Seas Stamps
Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Two Reigns Stamp Catalogue: Australia & Dependencies

EUROPE
Alphabetical List of Town Names of Yugoslavia
Bahnpoststempel-und Streckenarchiv der Schmalspurerbahnen: Osterreich-A, by J. Schmidt
Bolaffi’s Vatican City Specialized Stamp Catalogue 1958
Catalogo dei Francobolli Italiani 1958 (3rd edition), published by Bolaffi
Forgery & Reprint Guide 15: Poland Airmails, published by J. Barefoot
Michel Germany Specialized Catalog 2007
Muller Briefmarken-Katalog: Schweiz/Liechtenstein, 1968
The Postal History of the Manx Electric Railway, by A. Povey and J.T. Whitney
The Postage Stamps of Bulgaria (through about 1910), by Bertram W.H. Poole
Prinet “Allemagne” Catalogue Illustre, 1946
Sieger Europaische Blocks: Block Spezialkatalog, pub. by Sieger Verlag

LATIN AMERICA

NORTH AMERICA
Canadian Revenues, Volumes 1-7, by Edward Zaluski
The Large Hand Stamped G C M Overprint. The Large Vera Cruz Hand Stamped G C M Overprint, by Philip D. Larson

CINDERELLAS
Judaica Labels: Jewish National Fund-KKL according to the Rochlin Catalogue, volumes I & II, by Dasa Metzler

MISCELLANEOUS
Amazing But True Stories Behind the Stamps, by Doug Storer
Black Blot 1962-1967: the First Years of an APS Education Program, compiled by Barbara W. de Violini
Booklets of the World, a priced catalogue published in 1998
Encyclopedia of World Stamps 1945-1975, by James A. Mackay
Gebruder Senfs Illustrierter Briefmarken Katalog 1934, published by Gebruder Senf
A Glossary of Spanish Philatelic Terms, edited by Eric V. Bailey
Stamp Investing, by Stephen R. Datz
The James Bendon Listing of Philatelic Literature, Sept. 1999
The Land Divided (Panama Canal), by F.W. Beedon

NON-PHILATELIC
The Olympic Flame: The Torch of the Centuries, by Eleftherios G. Skiadas
Weld County Towns: the First 150 Years, by Nancy Lynch
WHAT’S NEW ON THE SHELVES?

TOPICAL
Catalogo Sellos: Basketball, edited by Pedro Ferrandiz
Collect Railways on Stamps, by Howard Burkhalter
Fire & Ice: Hindenburg and Titanic,
by Cheryl Ganz and Daniel Piazza
John F. Kennedy International Postage Stamp Album,
published by Kenmore Stamp Company in 1970
Judaica Labels: Charity/Airlines/Hotels/Food/Wine Products:
According to the Beal Catalogue, Volume I,
by Dasa Metzler
One World Through Sports,
pub. by the United States Postal Service in 1992
Railways on Stamps: Volume 1: Eastern Europe,
by A.M. Goodbody and C.A. Hart

UNITED NATIONS
Briefmarken Stempel und Andere Philatelische Belege aus der
Bundesrepublik Deutschland und West-Berlin.
by Thema Vereinte Nationen, Hans H.v.Renesse and
Detlef Schmidt

AUCTION CATALOGS
Brunn Rasmussen Stamps, catalog for the Brunn Rasmussen
auction April 2010
The Mahendra Sagar Collection of Inverted Centers of the World,
catalog for the Cherrystone auction October 2011
South East Asia Revenues,
catalog for the J. Barefoot auction 2006

BOOK REVIEW
by John Bloor

New Mexico: Its History and Culture on United States Postage Stamps, edited by Mary Kircher
and Beverly Rowe, New Mexico Philatelic Foundation,
Albuquerque, 2012) 88 pages, spiral bound. To purchase,
contact John DeBoo (jsdeboo@comcast.net) for pricing and availability.

To many people, New Mexico is a remote, hot place in the
southwestern United States on the Mexican border. While
all this is true, New Mexico is much more than that. It
has many ties to the history and culture of Spain, Mexico,
and the United States going back well before the American
Revolution. I have a particular interest in the state because I
spent the summer of 1966 as a graduate student at Los Alamos
National Laboratory there.

This attractive book takes 114 U.S. postage stamps and describes in detail how the events that they
commemorate are related to aspects of New Mexican history and culture. It is obvious how some of them, such as the Rio
Grande Blankets set issued in 2005, the Pueblo Art set issued
in 1977 and the Gadsden Purchase (1953) and Louisiana
Purchase (1904) issues, are connected to New Mexico.

However, some of the New Mexico ties are much
less well known. Willa Cather, shown on a US stamp issued
in 1973, based her novel “Death Comes to the Archbishop”
on John Baptist Lamy, the first Catholic archbishop of Santa
Fe. In his campaign against Pancho Villa, General Pershing
(Scott 1042A issued in 1961) used JN-4 (Jenny) biplanes based
in New Mexico for aerial observation of the enemy forces.
This aircraft is shown on the first three US airmails, tying
these stamps to the state. The WWII cartoonist Bill Mauldin,
shown on a stamp issued in 2010, was born in Mountain
Park, New Mexico. There are many more examples.

The book could probably be expanded to include
additional United States stamps. One example is the
Pershing stamp (Scott 1042A) mentioned above. His
expedition against Pancho Villa took place, in part, because
of Villa’s attack on the town of Columbus, New Mexico. It
also would be interesting to include foreign stamps related
to the state’s culture and history, although the number might
be small. For example, the United Nations has honored
World Heritage Sites on stamps and the Chaco Culture site
and Carlsbad Cavern National Park are both World Heritage
Sites located in New Mexico. Spain and Mexico may also
have honored explorers and events related to New Mexico.

It is important to note that this book has much to
recommend it to many groups other than stamp collectors.
I would encourage the publisher to contact the New Mexico
Tourist Bureau, the National park service, and public schools
Teaching New Mexico history.

The book is fun to read and provides an interesting
perspective for all of these groups. Now we need similar
books for Colorado and other states.
## DONATIONS
The library thrives on the enthusiasm and generosity of its members. The following members have made donations to the library over the past two months. We thank each and every one who has contributed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location, State</th>
<th>Collections</th>
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<td>Paul Albright</td>
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## NEW MEMBERS
The library is pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined the library in the past two months.

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<td>Sierra Joynt</td>
<td>Littleton, CO</td>
<td>Stamp collecting (United Nations, Famous People)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael E. Ricke</td>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td>Collects philatelyc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Wilfley</td>
<td>Aurora, CO</td>
<td>Collects U.S. possessions, Trust Territories,</td>
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<td>Eric Lee Erickson</td>
<td>Elbert, CO</td>
<td>Collects Cash Books and Accounting Forms</td>
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<td>Ben Wood</td>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td>Collects Sleep, Egypt, and Animals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg Ariyal</td>
<td>Aurora, CO</td>
<td>Collects Russia, Mongolia, and Animals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill VanPatten</td>
<td>Aurora, CO</td>
<td>Collects U.S. and Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Kaplan</td>
<td>Beachwood, OH</td>
<td>Collects Palestine, Egypt, and Finland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Poe</td>
<td>South Jordan, UT</td>
<td>Collects U.S., Malta, Vatican, Space, and</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Njos</td>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td>Collects U.S.A.</td>
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<td>Coast Philatelics, Bob and Barbara Chisholm</td>
<td>Costa Mesa, CA</td>
<td>Philatelic dealer w/retail store in Costa Mesa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ronald Couchot</td>
<td>Oceanside, CA</td>
<td>Collects Airmail 1900 – 1940</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marian Couchot</td>
<td>Oceanside, CA</td>
<td>Collects Airmail 1900 – 1940</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Parker</td>
<td>Englewood, CO</td>
<td>Collects Airmails, U.S.A., Brazil, Special</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walter E. Straight</td>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td>Collects U.S., Denmark, and Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>James D. Singer</td>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td>Collects U.S. and public speaking on stamp</td>
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**Mark Your Calendar**

**RMPL ANNUAL LARGE/BULK LOT AUCTION**

scheduled for
Saturday, October 13, 2012
SECOND SATURDAY PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY
Second Saturday programs are sponsored by the library and attract a friendly group of folks who are interested in a specific subject or who are interested in learning more about an area of philately that may be new to them. Contact Jim Kilbane if you would like to present a program. e-mail: aurora_80017@yahoo.com

The programs begin at 9:00 AM and are over by 10:00 AM.
Doughnuts and coffee are complimentary and all are welcome.

JULY 14, 9:00 AM
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The life and accomplishments of Austrian physicist Ludwig Boltzman will be presented by Steve McGill. Boltzmann applied Newton’s calculus and the notion of probability and derived theories that gave rise to modern day physics. His name is little known, even today, but after his death his work became the foundation of quantum physics. Praised highly by Albert Einstein and physicists of the 20th century, his name is also little known to the philatelic community. Until now.

AUGUST 11, 9:00 AM
Canadian Semiofficial Airmails: Part 2, the Central and Western Provinces
Between May 1927 and July 1934, seven airlines issued semiofficial airmail stamps and operated airmail services in the provinces west of Ontario. In this talk by John Bloor you will see examples of these stamps, both unused and on flown covers, and will hear about the often brief histories of the airlines.
### JULY 2012

**Library Closed July 4**

- **July 11** - Meeting - 7:00 PM  
  Denver Germany Stamp Club
- **July 12** - Meeting 6:30 - Denver Postcard Club

**Second Saturday at the RMPL July 14**

- **July 14** - 9:00 AM  
  Program by Steve McGill
- **July 14** - Meeting - 10:00 AM  
  Mexico/Latin America Study Group  
  Program: *Cuban History on Stamps*
- **July 14** - Meeting - 11:30 AM  
  *U.S.S. Colorado* Chapter, USCS
- **July 14** - Aurora Stamp Club Picnic, 5:00 PM
- **July 15** - Meeting - 2:00 PM  
  Great Britain & Commonwealth Collectors
- **July 21** - 9:30 AM - Metro Denver Young Stamp Collectors Club

### AUGUST 2012

- **Aug 1** - Meeting-Aurora Stamp Club.  
  6:30 PM trading, 7:30 PM meeting/program
- **Aug 8** - Meeting - 7:00 PM  
  Denver Germany Stamp Club
- **Aug 9** - Meeting 6:30 - Denver Postcard Club

**Second Saturday at the RMPL August 11**

- **Aug 11** - 9:00 AM  
  Program by John Bloor
- **Aug 11** - Meeting - 10:00 AM  
  Mexico/Latin America Study Group
- **Aug 11** - Meeting - 11:30 AM  
  Rocky Mountain Aerophilatelists
- **Aug 19** - Meeting - 2:00 PM  
  Great Britain & Commonwealth Collectors
- **Aug 25** - Meeting 1:00 PM  
  Colorado Postal History Society
- **Aug 25** - RMPL Picnic 6:00 PM

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**20th Annual Rocky Mountain States Post Card Show**

**JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

- **Friday, July 20, 2012, Noon-7:00 pm**
- **Saturday, July 21, 2012, 9:00 am-5:00 pm**

Admission: $5.00/ person, good for both days

Information: RMSPS, PO Box 1537, Wheat Ridge, CO 80034, 303 232-3542

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