

CAPITAL CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March-April 2023 Issue #2-2023
Post Office Box 61162, Harrisburg, PA 17106

Web: <https://lcpss-stamps.org/capital-city-philatelic-society>
Club Email: CapitalCityPhilatelic@gmail.com

Meetings – 7:00 PM the 1st and 3rd Wednesday monthly at the Lower Paxton Municipal Building, Room B, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, PA

Officers: President: Keith Nonemaker; Vice President: Ray Biemiller; Secretary: Eric Muir; Treasurer: Beth Nonemaker; Board Member 1: Marlin Wilson; Board Member 2: Mike Marino; Board Member 3 – George Rohrs

Presentations: Beth Nonemaker indicates that Doug McCullough was recently in the hospital and his presentation will be rescheduled. Presentations will also be changing once the CCPS Board decides when/how we will start holding auctions again. Beth has arranged for Paul Michelson to speak on May 3 on The Wild and Wonderful World of Hand Painted First Day Covers and Philatelic Art. On May 17 Beth will be showing a 23-minute YouTube Video entitled, The Mutinous Stamps of the Pitcairn Islands.

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Dues Remain \$5 for 2023. Please pay Eric Muir at a meeting or mail dues to him at 306 Nebinger Street, Lewisberry, PA 17339. Dues should be paid promptly.

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We have reserved the Lower Swatara Fire Hall on **September 30, 2023**, for the CCPS's Stamp Show. Address: Lower Swatara Fire Hall, 1350 Fulling Mill Road, Middletown. Mike Marino will be contacting vendors.

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UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE – 2023 STAMPS



Toni Morrison – Issued March 7, Forever 63c, Sheet of 20 \$12.60. Toni Morrison (1931-2019) crafted novels exploring the diverse voices and multifaceted experiences of African Americans.

Railroad Stations - Issued March 9, Forever 63c, Sheet of 20 \$12.60, Multiple Stamp Designs.

Noteworthy railroad stations began brightening the American landscape in the 1870s and, although may fell to the wrecking ball when they had outlived their original purpose, hundreds survived. This sheet features five architectural gems have continue to play an important role in their community.

Art of the Slateboard – Issued March 24, Forever 63c, Sheet of 20 \$12.60, Multiple Stamp Designs. Bold artwork emblazoned on a skateboard deck is often as eye-catching and individualistic as the skater’s breathtaking moves. These 4 stamps celebrate the art with vibrant designs capuring skateboarding excitement and reflect the diversity.

Tulip Blossoms – Issued April 5, Forever 63c, as a Book of 20 \$12.60, a Coil of 3,000 \$1,890, and a Coil of 10,000 \$6,3000 showing 10 different tulips in a rainbow of colors. Each fall, millions of gardeners bury bulbs, eagerly anticipating the rewards springtime will bring. The thick green leaves poke through the soil soon revealing their payload of tulip blossoms in a variety from prim to ostentations.

U. S. Flag FREEDOM – Issued April 10, Forever 63c, are issued as Sheet of 20 \$12.60 , Coil of 100 \$63.00, Coil of 3,000 \$1,890 and a Coil of 10,000 \$6,300. This 2023 U.S. Flag stamp honors an important symbol of our nation.

Roy Lichtenstein – Issued April 25, Forever 63c, issued as a Sheet of 20 \$12.60 in multiple designs. These eye-catching stamps honor Roy Lichtenstein (1923-1997), the iconic American artists of pop art movement. This genre, which arose in the late 1950s and reached its heights in the 1960s, looked to popular culture for its aesthetic.

In May stamp issues include Tomie dePaola, Chief Standing Bear and Endangered Species.

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By Paul A. Michelson

ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT AND PHOSPHORESCENCE

This story begins with a purchase of a large French stamp collection. In that collection were stamps that were only listed in French catalogues (written in French). If a stamp fluoresces, then it is listed in the Yvert and Tellier catalog which is the main French catalog.

The problem was that I had never checked for a phosphor ever and had no knowledge of what to do. So, I went online and checked out a U-Tube video on U. S. phosphors. The stamp evaluated was a black Lincoln which fluoresced green. Next, I checked out UV lights on

Amazon and found single lights and dual wavelength UV lights. The video used the short wavelength light. I did not realize that there were two (254 and 380 nm). Finally, I decided to purchase the dual wavelength light used in the video which was a Leuchtturm Doppel-UV Lamp L81. Of course, the dual wavelength lamp was far more expensive than the single wavelength lamp (\$70 vs \$20 with tax and shipping).

Well, the lamp came in the mail quickly, and I repeated what the person did in the video. Unfortunately, to my surprise absolutely nothing happened, zero, nada, zip. I was disappointed and could not understand why. Later, while in the shower, it suddenly occurred to me to go back online and check the internet for phosphorescence for French stamps. Low and behold, French stamps use the longer 380 nm wavelength. I was using the wrong light.

So, I tried again, and after about 20 seconds of shining it on the back and side of the stamp, it did indeed fluoresce a bright yellow as the catalog indicated.

The bottom line is for U. S. stamps try the short 254 nm light and for French stamps use the 380 nm light. The Leuchtturm has a switch which is easy to go back and forth. You might want to check online for what the particular country uses you are researching.

I hope this article has been useful.

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By Donald Hacker

ADHESIVES

The Postal Service originally developed self-adhesive stamps to make precancelled stamps more secure. Precancelled stamps are cancelled across the face before being sold. In the late 1960s, as many as 20% of them were soaked off and reused. Because they were precancelled, they skipped a processing step that often-caught used stamps.

With the Christmas 1974 issue, the Postal Service experimented with a self-adhesive precancelled stamp. It was believed that the tightly bonded self-adhesive would not permit stamps to be soaked off. Unfortunately, the stamps cost three to five times more to produce than regular postage stamps. In 1989 the Post Service again experimented with self-adhesive stamps, this time with emphasis on customer convenience. They became very popular and are now issued in formats that include booklets, coils, sheets, and souvenir sheets.

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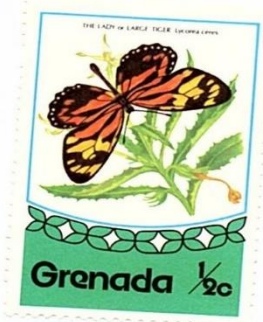
By George Rohrs

CONSIDER A TOPICAL COLLECTION

If you have been collecting stamps for a long period of time, you may have found it increasingly difficult to justify the expense of filling those blank spaces in your albums. This happened to me as I have gotten older. As a long time, collector of U.S. And German material, I have reached a point where I needed something else to maintain my interest in the hobby.

To fill this void, I decided to collect stamps depicting freshwater tropical fish. This new passion of mine was only natural since I have been a collector and breeder of fish my whole life. At one point, I had upwards of sixty-five aquariums in my basement fish room. Regrettably, age and medical issues made it impossible to continue. My only solace now is to build on my new topical collection.

I share this with you because I know I am not alone. Others I have spoken with have been looking for ways to rejuvenate their interest in the hobby without great expense. If this sounds like you, consider building a topical collection from a myriad of possible areas. Ones that come to mind include trains, military, sports, birds, flowers, women, royalty, space, art, etc. The American Topical Association lists over 1300 topics on their checklist. They can be reached at www.americantopicalassn.org. Happy collecting.



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