



# **CAPITAL CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

October-December 2024

Issue #4-2024

Post Office Box 61162, Harrisburg, PA 17106

Web: <https://lcps-stamps.org/capital-city-philatelic-society>

Club Email: CapitalCityPhilatelic@gmail.com

Meetings – 7:00 PM the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly at the Lower Paxton Municipal Building, Room B, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, PA

Officers: President: Keith Nonemaker; Vice President: Ray Biemiller; Secretary: Vacant; Treasurer: Beth Nonemaker; Board Member #1: Marlin Wilson; Board Member #2: George Rohrs; Board Member #3 – Vacant

**Lancaster Sunday Stamp Show 2024 Schedule:** November 22-23 (Friday and Saturday) – December 21-22, 2024 (Saturday and Sunday). For more information call Kevin Kellman at 301-524-9562 or email k2stamps@gmail.com

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**CCPS CLOSING** - The CCPS club members voted on October 16, 2024, to dissolve as of December 31, 2024. The club voted to dispose of its records and materials by donating them to the American Philatelic Society (APS) Research Library. The required paperwork is processed to complete this action, and the records will be delivered in December 2024.

Club members voted to split all remaining funds between the APS and the Susquehanna Stamp and Postcard club. The CCPS club treasurer's records were audited by the three members that the President had appointed and were found to be in order. It's anticipated that as soon as the last check clears, the club bank account will be closed, and the 100-year-old club will be history.

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**MY VISIT TO THE GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SHOW, GASS 2024**

BY MIKE MARINO

Earlier this year my wife and I made the decision to downsize and move to Massachusetts to be closer to our daughter and grandchildren. We moved into our new home on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, I made plans to attend The Great American Stamp Show (GASS) in Hartford, Connecticut; just 90 miles down the road.

On Friday August 16<sup>th</sup> I left my wife to continue the unpacking and picked up my grandson, Connor and his friend Sean at 7:30 am both are Boy Scouts in Troop 89 in Medfield, MA, and headed we to GASS. It was nice to have some company for the drive. Neither 12-year-old knew much about stamp collecting yet were excited about the opportunity to work toward another Merit Badge. Scouts on Stamps Society International & Boy Scouts of America were offering a six-hour session on stamp

collecting. I had been working with Connor on a topical collection of Scouts on Stamps hoping to spark his interest in philately with minimal success. Upon completing the session, attendees will be awarded a Merit Badge. I dropped them off at the meeting room at 10 am and headed downstairs to the show. I had pre-registered so there was no waiting to enter. It was very busy; dealer tables quickly filled up with collectors looking to add to their collections.

With the boys in class, I had six hours to view the endless aisles of impressive philatelic exhibits and visit dealers and societies I've only seen in related publications. It was nice to see a few familiar faces; APS personnel, club members and dealers from central PA. I attended the First Cay Ceremony for the new Autumn Colors stamps. Lines were long for the various cancellations.

Given my recent move I had limited funds to spend, however I did acquire a few items for my collection and made several new connections. One of my goals was to find a local stamp club to join. There are several (20-25 miles from home) but with Boston traffic it would be a 60-90-minute commute each way; unlike the easy commute from Hershey to Lititz. I'll keep searching.

Four o'clock soon rolled around and it was time to pick up the boys. I was genuinely surprised to see how excited they were. They thoroughly enjoyed the class and immediately asked if they could attend the show. I had put in several miles of walking already, but I agreed. They asked to see several stamps which they had learned about in class: the Inverted Jenny, George Washington's Free Frank (courtesy of the APS) and Duck Stamps, (all on display). I believe they were fascinated. Then it was off to the Youth Area where they signed up for a Scavenger Hunt. They were instructed that there were numbered clues corresponding to the ten questions given to them throughout the bourse to find the answers. A few more laps around the bourse the scavenger hunt was completed. It was fun chasing them around, answering additional questions along the way and watching them interact with the dealers who further peaked their philatelic interest. The boys each received a Tee shirt, a ball cap (philatelically related), pin back buttons and a bag of stamps to take home as their reward. More smiles: the boys were thrilled.

Six o'clock quickly arrived and it was time to leave. We stopped for dinner where I was bombarded with more philatelic questions which continued all the way home. Connor asked, "When is the next show?" I replied, "Boston 2026". Both boys asked in unison "Can we go, can we go?". I replied. "Definitely!" It was a very long, enjoyable and educational day. I was thrilled to see the boys so enthusiastic; they enjoyed themselves without their electronics and came away with a newfound interest in stamp collecting. Who said, "Stamp Collecting is a dying Hobby?"