



# Greater Mount City Stamp Club **Perf-Dispatch**

**Volume XVI, Number 4**

Established 1884

**April, 2010**

**Where** Parkway Central High School  
Woodsmill Road

**When** 4<sup>th</sup> Monday each month at 8 PM

## April Meeting

**Guy Gasser** will be speaking to us in April about Grading Stamps. Guy has been a member for about 5 years and is quite knowledgeable about US stamps.

## Breakfast Club Meeting

The Breakfast group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. The next meeting is **May 10<sup>th</sup>** at Steak 'n Shake in Chesterfield at 8:30 AM.

## 2010 SCHEDULE

April 26 .....	Guy Gasser: Grading Stamps
May 24 .....	Alan, Tom, Gary: Topicals
June 28 .....	Clothesline Exhibits
July .....	No Meeting
August 23 .....	TBA
August 28-29 .....	StampFest
September 27 .....	TBA
October 25 .....	David Straight
November 22 .....	Auction Bux Sale & Elections
December 15 .....	Holiday Party

## Address Changes?

If you have moved recently, please update us with your new address. The USPS charges 50¢ to get a forwarding and address correction.

## StampFest

Dealer contracts are out and work is already underway for StampFest 2010 to be held in August.

## June Meeting

It is not positive at this point but the high school might be closed in June. If that is the case, we will probably move the meeting to a restaurant. Alan is already talking to Sports Page where we have gone in the past.

## Our Busy Members

**Gary Hendren** won a Vermeil medal at TEXPEX 2010 for his exhibit of Snapple bottle caps, titled "Twisted Caps, Twisted Markings." Perhaps it was because the Auxiliary Markings Groups was meeting there.



## Philately Around Town

Did you know that there are a number of other stamp clubs around town? There is something for everybody and every taste.

For example, the Monsanto Stamp Club meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday most months. Their sole program are 2 auctions at each meeting, one auction of high-value stamps and one of lower values.

The Webster Groves Stamp Club meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday each month. Their meeting consists of an auction and a program. Distinguished collectors from around the country present many of Webster's programs. Webster has always attracted the more advanced philatelists in the area.

There is a group of philatelic exhibitors that meet monthly to help each other with exhibiting and write ups of their collections.

Ask one of your officers if you are interested in any of these groups. We are all affiliated with all of them.

## Officers – 2010

President .....Tom Minor (314-645-4451)  
Vice-President..... Joe Conti (636-327-5569)  
Treasurer..... Gary Hendren (314-576-5261)  
Secretary .....Alan Barasch (alan@mophil.org)  
Recording Secretary..... Dan Baugher  
Librarian & Dispatch Writer ..... Alan Barasch  
Buxs Banker ..... Gene Stewart

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## Starting a New Collection

I have been writing newsletters for stamp clubs for over 25 years. My first was for the **Birmingham Philatelic Society** from 1979 to 1986, when I left Alabama.

My next, was the joint newsletter of the **Razorback Stamp Club** of Rogers and the **Northwest Stamp Club** of Fayetteville, Arkansas. I wrote that one from 1988 until I left Arkansas in 1994 to move to Saint Louis.



All through the time I was writing those newsletters, I had a column going on how to start a new collection and suggestions on what to collect. Now that I have all this space and no auction list, I thought I would pick up where I left off.

Over the years, I have started a number of new collections, played with them for a few years and then set them aside or sold them. I began collecting Tristan da Cunha in about 1974. I built it up as far as I thought I could go, and then traded the whole thing for 2 Falklands stamps.

Deciding what to collect is harder than beginning to collect it. Some of you have heard the story of how I decided to collect the Falkland Islands; but the story bears repeating.



I was showing a college buddy my worldwide collection in many International Albums. He

looked at it in disgust and said, “Real collectors specialize in something and don’t try to collect the world.” I took the Scott Catalog down off the shelf and opened it at random and said, “okay, that one!”

Forty-one years later and I still working on “that one,” and loving every minute of it.

I don’t recommend that everyone open a catalog at random, but it illustrates the point that anything you collect can be enjoyable. I know others that have done exactly the same thing. That is why a good friend collected Travancore-Cochin for many years. A random choice led him to become the world’s expert on an obscure topic.



I started a collection a number of years ago of computers on stamps. Realizing that this could get out of hand, I limit myself to pictures of actual computer equipment.

I do not want stamps with web addresses (that’s a different collection), space stations or televisions, simply because they look like CRTs. I want punchcards on stamps, reel-to-reel tape, keyboards, and handheld devices.

## Important Announcement

Communication during the month should be directed to the Secretary at the website or email.

<http://www.GreaterMoundCity.org>

[Secretary@GreaterMoundCity.org](mailto:Secretary@GreaterMoundCity.org)

## Auction

The list is below. Remember – a lot will not open on the floor unless a bid is placed on it during the “look” period.

## Gene’s Show

Don’t forget the dealer show at the Stratford Inn in Fenton on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month.