

The PhilateliKid

The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK)

Collect Stamps (The Most Educational Hobby)

www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org

August 1, 2018

Stampshow, Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St., Columbus, Ohio

How to Establish and Run Successful Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids

Details about beginning and running a successful stamp collecting club for kids will be the subject of a 1-hour seminar provided by Robert W. Martin at 11 a.m. on Thursday, August 9, 2018, tentatively scheduled to be held in Room B 231. If you are interested in the future of our hobby, you are encouraged to attend. Be sure to check listings at the Show for any last-minute changes of time or place.

More on how to make stamp collecting grow among kids:

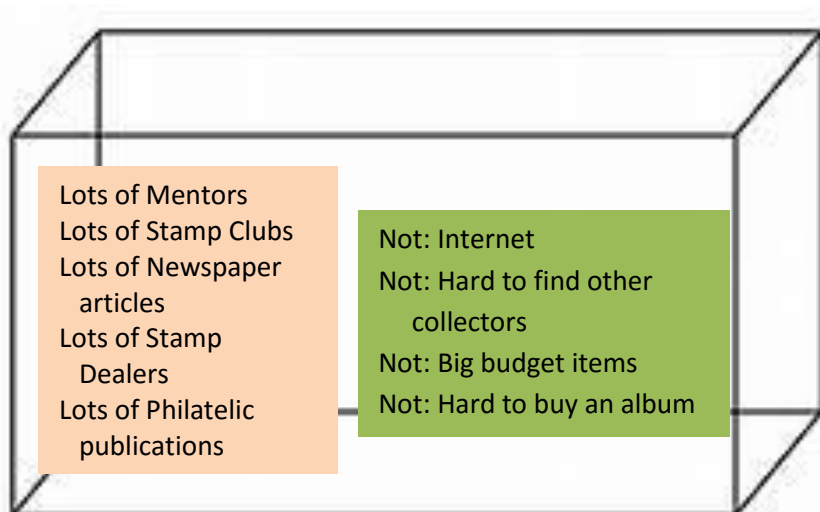
We hear a lot about thinking “outside the box.” Well, how about thinking “inside the box?”

The box (kids having fun collecting stamps) was overflowing 60 years ago, but it is pretty empty today. How about we go back to those tried and true ways of the 1940's and 1950's? What was done then was successful, and millions of kids began the hobby of stamp collecting. The way things were done back then involved mentors, articles in newspapers, philatelic publications, stamp clubs, and helpful, very, very patient stamp dealers. All that has pretty much have faded away to just a few remaining today.

It does not appear likely that newspapers will be around much longer, and certainly those columns authored by knowledgeable philatelists in the Sunday papers are not going to suddenly reappear. It also does not appear likely that a bunch of new philatelic publications will spring up, or that there will be a bunch of storefront stamp dealers. So what can we do? We can develop MENTORS.

Thinking Inside the Box

WAS



GOAL FOR TODAY



THINKING

Do you feel qualified to be a mentor? Surely, you have many of the credentials that those mentors of the past century had! What were their credentials?

Let's take a look at what those mentors did.

1. Enthusiasm. They lived and breathed stamp collecting.
2. A willingness to share their expertise, no matter how limited it was.
3. Connections. Mentors knew other mentors.
4. Supplies. Mentors had some tongs, hinges, stamps, and probably beginner albums. They often gave away enough supplies to get the beginner off and running.
5. References. Mentors might (but not always) had a catalog handy, the names and addresses of some stamp dealers willing to sell approvals to kids, and knew a little about how stamps from different countries could be identified.
6. Time. Mentors were always willing to spend plenty of time to help a "newbie" learn the ropes, or at least some of the ropes. (Does anybody know ALL the ropes?)
7. Time. This needs repeating. Time was not be just once or twice. It was an ongoing thing. Once a person took on the role of mentor, it was a lifetime job. Pleasure was especially sweet the day the "newbie" had something to teach his mentor.
8. Thoughtfulness. Mentors were thinking about their protégées on a non-stop basis, and when something arose that might be interesting to the "newbie" the mentor paid special attention, and passed along the information.
9. Educational. Mentors knew the level of learning of their "newbie" and did not try to teach a graduate level course to a 1st grader. Mentoring was matched to the abilities and needs of the "newbie."
10. **Fun**. The mentor always focused on ensuring that the hobby remained FUN.

Face Different (FD) Stamps part 2.

To decide if two stamps are face different there has to be some sort of criteria for what determines "different." Here are some criteria that I have developed. I would enjoy hearing opinions about expanding or contracting, or adding, or deleting criteria. (More criteria will be listed next month.)

In comparing two stamps, certain things will be ignored in determining if face different.

1. Two identical stamps with different cancellations are not FD.
2. Two identical stamps with one having damage (stain, tear, etc.) are not FD.
3. Two identical stamps with tiny differences in engraving are not FD.
4. Two identical stamps with INTENTIONAL tiny differences are not FD.
5. Two identical stamps with different selvage (such as plate numbers, etc.) are not FD.
6. Two identical stamps with different tiny dates outside the main design are not FD.
7. Two identical stamps with different perforations are not FD.
8. Two identical stamps printed on different types of paper are not FD.
9. Two identical stamps that the dimensions of the print are within three percent (3%) are not FD.

Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are greatly appreciated and if \$10 or more are provided written receipts. You also can donate via PayPal on our website.

Visit our website at www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org or www.yummystampcollecting.org

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