

In this month's issue we will explore seven of the many organizations that support and enhance the stamp collecting hobby.



The American Philatelic Society - The largest national society holding conventions in various cities each year. Publish a monthly magazine circulated to members. The society also operates a major library and an online stamp store for member wishing to sell extras. The Lake County Philatelic Society has been an affiliate member of the APS for over 50 years. [<http://www.stamps.org>].

United Postal Stationery Society - The United States Stamp Society (USSS) is the preeminent organization devoted to the study of United States stamps.

It is, "a non-profit, volunteer-run association of collectors to promote the study of the philatelic output of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and of postage and revenue stamped paper produced by others for use in the United States and U.S. administered areas." Once concerned exclusively with the production of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the USSS has expanded its coverage to include all United States issues, both classic and modern, regardless of printer. [<http://www.usstamps.org/>]



AMERICAN AIR MAIL SOCIETY

Organized in 1923 in the interest of Aerophilately and Aerophilatelists everywhere

American Airmail Society - The AAMS was founded in 1923, and is the second oldest aerophilatelic society in the world with over 1,500 members worldwide. The AAMS publishes the monthly magazine *The Airpost Journal* & the *Jack Knight Air Log*, as well as the *American Air Mail Catalogue*, and many other aerophilatelic books. See the list of *Airpost Journal* & *Air Log* Staff & Department Editors. See the Publications page for the aerophilatelic books & publications which are currently available. The AAMS holds an annual convention, as well as a Spring and/or Fall meeting during philatelic exhibitions in different parts of the country. [<http://www.americanairmailssociety.org/>]



American First Day Cover Society, Inc - The American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS) is a volunteer non-profit and non-commercial organization serving the needs of First Day Cover collectors, cachetmakers, and dealers. Founded in 1955, the society now has a membership of nearly 3,000 active first day cover collectors, including hundreds of collectors who design and manufacture their own cacheted FDCs. [<http://www.afdcs.org/>]

American Stamp Dealers' Association - A professional organization of stamp dealers. Their website has a list of shows and location information on member for dealers. [<http://www.asdaonline.com/>]



American Topical Association - The American Topical Association (ATA) serves members in 65 countries. It is the largest philatelic society devoted to this specific area of stamp collecting. Organized in 1949, the ATA has over 60 years of service to its members. It is the best source of information, fellowship and authority in the topical stamp collecting field. [<http://www.americantopicalassn.org/>]

Universal Ship Cancellation Society - Founded in 1932, the U.S.C.S. is an international philatelic organization of members with an interest in postmarks and covers from all maritime services. This includes Navy ships of all countries, USMC, USCG, Navy bases, merchant ships with seapost/paquebot markings, related cachets, etc. [<http://www.uscs.org/>]

