

**POSTMARK ATLANTA
ATLANTA STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB
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Spring has sprung! We have some major news this month, especially in regards to the Southeastern Stamp Show.

SOUTHEASTERN STAMP SHOW NEWS. As some of you may already be aware, Cobb County has decided to close the Cobb County Civic Center, where we have held the Peach State/Southeastern Stamp Show since 2001. At one point, it looked like the show would have to move this year, as construction was slated to begin on September 1st. Fortunately, through the efforts of John Coles and other Southeast Federation officers, we were able to persuade Cobb County to hold off one month, thus allowing the show to proceed as scheduled. Therefore, the 2006 show will be the last to be held at the Cobb County Civic Center and the Federation is now on the lookout for a new venue in which to hold the show.

We could certainly use your help in the search for a new venue! Most of the major venues are out of the Federation's price range. For example, the Gwinnett Convention Center basically would want double (about \$5000 for the weekend) what we have been paying at the Cobb Center (\$2600). And the trouble with holding the show at a hotel is twofold: generally there isn't quite enough space at most hotel meeting rooms for a show the size of the SE Stamp Show and we are usually competing with wedding parties, which make the hotels quite a bit of money due to food and drink sales.

The Federation is looking at several alternatives to keep the show running in 2007 and beyond. Nothing is really off the table: moving the date to summer is a definite possibility because it opens the possibility of using schools gyms/meeting rooms as possible venues. Other options include cutting back to a two-day show, either with or without exhibits but keeping the show in the Atlanta area and finally, moving the show out of the Atlanta area (suggested possibilities include Birmingham, Alabama and Chattanooga, Tennessee) where there are more venues available in our price range.

What I would like from club members is if they happen to know of a possible venue (especially more non-traditional venues like schools and senior centers where we could host the show) to contact either John Coles or myself with the information (the location of the venue and contact information such as a name and phone number/website/e-mail). To contact us about a possible venue, call John Coles at 770-962-5888 and you may contact me at 404-285-4290 and I will relay the information to John. We require somewhere in the vicinity of 10,000 sq ft, but we could squeeze into an 8,500-9,000 sq. ft. location. We have already checked some venues. Already eliminated from our list of possibilities - the Cobb Galleria, Jim Miller Park in Cobb County, Douglasville Civic Center, the Gwinnett Civic Center, the North Atlanta Trade Center, the

GWCC downtown and the GICC near the airport. We have also eliminated several hotels as well, either due to lack of space or competition from wedding parties.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 6th, 2006. Business meeting and auction. I will set aside some time during the business meeting to discuss the SE Stamp Show situation. Other items on the agenda include what we might like to do as a club at the joint meeting that we will be hosting in one month's time. Finally, we definitely need someone to hold the room for us both at this meeting and the following meeting. Please e-mail or call me and let me know that you will be coming down to hold the room so that I know someone is going to be there. You need to be at the library no later than 5:45-5:50 p.m. to hold the room.

April 20th, 2006. Round-robin discussion night. Bring something from your collection and tell us something about it. We will also have our kiloware lots available. We have some newer lots available, one from Canada, one from Great Britain, one from Germany and an Australian lot.

May 4th, 2006. JOINT MEETING. We are hosting a Joint Meeting of the Atlanta area stamp clubs on this date. More information in May's newsletter regarding the Joint Meeting. One note, I will not be attending the joint meeting as I will be out-of-town. This is the first joint meeting that I will be missing, and Barbara Asher, our Treasurer, will basically be running the show for this one meeting. So I would appreciate it if you could help Barbara out any way that you can.

MARCH RECAP

The first March meeting went very well. Turnout was up from February's meeting, which for some reason had been unusually light. At the second meeting, Tony Roozen gave a program on topical collecting that proved to be quite fun, as Tony talked about some the topics one can collect and showed us several examples. Just about everyone at the meeting also talked about their experiences with topical collecting, whatever topic it might be. We also had a short discussion on the Southeastern Stamp Show, with John Coles offering us an update. See above for details.