## A Comparison Of Three Ephemera Hobbies

| MATCHCOVERS | BUSINESS CARDS* *** | POSTCARDS** |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Ephemera | 1. Ephemera | 1. Ephemera |
| 2. New issues not plentiful | 2. New issues extremely plentiful | 2. New issues extremely plentiful |
| 3. National organization (RMS) +regional and specialty clubs | 3. American Business Card Collectors (ABCC) + local clubs | 3. No national organization; just local clubs |
| 4. Highest price for matchcover: $\$ 6,000$ | 4. Highest price for business card: \$200+ (I haven't found any reference to any higher amount) | 4. Highest price for postcard: $\$ 45,370.60$ |
| 5. Conventions and swapfests | 5. Conventions ceased in 2006 | 5. Conventions/shows |
| 6. Freebie tables | 6. Freebie tables ceased in 2006 | 6. No Freebie tables |
| 7. Newsletters | 7. Newsletters | 7. Two major magazines, but they have ceased |
| 8. Covers go back to 1894 | 8. BC's go back to 15 th century | 8. Postcards go back to 1861 |
| 9. Dues vary between $0-\$ 20$ (\$20 for RMS) | 9. $\$ 12$ for ABCC | 9. \$20 (San Francisco club) |
| 10. Worldwide | 10. None known | 10. Worldwide |
| 11. No kids | 11. No kids | 11.? |
| 12. Trading | 12. Trading | 12. Trading |
| 13. On-Line presence | 13. On-Line Presence | 13. On-Line Presence |
| 14. Storage: binders, plastic pages, boxes | 14. Storage: binders, plastic pages, boxes | 14. Storage: binders, plastic pages,boxes |
| 15. Official collectors in hobby: 864 | 15. Official collectors in hobby: 75 for ABCC | 15. Official collectors in hobby: thousands (specific number not known) (San Francisco club has 200250 members) |
| 16. $70 \%$ male; $30 \%$ female; | 16.? | 16. $50 \%$ male; $50 \%$ female; |

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    **Special thanks to Lew Baer, postcard collector, for his contributions here.
    *** Special thanks to Karen Proctor, President, ABCC

