June 8, 2003

Roland, the other side explains it all! Back in 1982 I had turned over most of the day-to-day operation of SCCS to two people who I thought worked well together.

One took care of getting the mail, opening and depositing checks. The other filled the orders when the covers came back from the printer. This person also took care of the mail.

My time then with SCCS was to help design the covers, get photos, type set, and copy ready for the printer. When the covers were ready from the printer they were delivered to the two office-people.

About two months ago, I received what was supposed to be the final carton of SCCS "stuff" from the estate attorney. That carton had your filled and unfilled order forms in it, in one package. I still cannot understand what happened and why all of it was there, unanswered.

Bear with me, Roland. I'll get it worked out for you.

Best regards,

Harry



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From time to time it is my good fortune to come into contact with some of the "early space cover collectors" who collected covers from the Space City Cover Society.

As the first president of SCCS (and its co-founder along with M. Allen Banks) I held that position from 1967 until I had to relinquish those duties in 1988. That was due to being at "death's door" from 1988 through 1993. I tried coming back to help once during that period, but only helped make my health worse.

From 1988 until about 1994 there were four different people selected to guide the SCCS cover program and the club's activities. But things went from "bad" to "disastrous."

The last person to handle those duties died in 1994 and all of the covers, records, etc. in her possession went into her estate. This included space shuttle covers, and some late first day covers, but nothing before that. The covers from 1967 through the end of Apollo Soyuz remained in my possession.

I have spent the last four years, with the help (and cost) of two attorneys trying to get all of the SCCS material but it was only partially successful. Most of the early space shuttle covers were recovered but all records and files "no longer existed." The covers recovered included up to the 51-L Challenger explosion.

At age 74 I am trying to catalog all of the SCCS covers from the first one in 1967 through 51-L. This is being done by way of "Fact Sheets" and at least one of those is enclosed to show what is being done.

The state of Texas has just selected a launch site for private space launches from Texas. And people like Ed Aldrin and Mike Collins, both of Apollo 11 fame, are advocating missions to Mars, both unmanned and manned. There is a great future in space.

It is up to people like you and I to pass on to the younger generation our enthusiasm for space exploration. With our space covers we can leave a lot of space history with that generation.

Best regards,

Harry