

RMS INSTA-POLL

“As a collector, what is your long-term goal”

[December - 46 responding]

-To enjoy the Hobby/People for whatever years I have left	15
-To try to get complete collections in my categories	11
-Organize my covers/put in albums/get rid of duplicates and unwanted covers	7
-None now (Winding down/too new/etc.)	4
-Support the hobby	4
-To figure out how best to dispose of/sell my collection	4
-Keep collecting and enjoying the hobby/show them whenever I get the chance	3
-Sell out/retire	3
-50 years of storage!/More room	2
-To downsize and only have the categories I collect	2
- Begin trading/buying. Also, I hope to have the opportunity to travel and join in on the convention fun.	1
-To get younger collectors interested, so they can take over when I leave!	1
-To enjoy the "treasures" I find both in matches & friendships	1
-To be more focused on the categories I like and to have less categories	1
-For people to open up my binders and say "Wow! These are really cool	1
-Continuing trading, although my traders are dying off and too old to trade and membership in hobby is not growing	1
-To figure out the best way to sort out all the conjunctives into various categories	1
-Find any missing covers from Rancho Mirage CA	1
-Frame & display my various categories	1
-Rebuild a collection that I had to dispose of prior to my relocation	1
-To share my dupes	1
-To keep my collection small and manageable	1
-Encourage expansion of the hobby on the internet	1
-I want my collections to go to museums and historical societies	1
-Legacy for my children and grandchildren	1

Well, there was a fairly wide range of responses, but the most frequent response was “to enjoy the hobby/people”. I suppose that’s not surprising since almost all of us are in the hobby for enjoyment.

I was surprised that the second most frequent response (“To try to get complete collections in my categories”). I would have assumed that the number of responses there would have been much higher. Isn’t that the goal in putting together any collection?

A number of the other responses highlighted basic problems that collectors face — finding more room for expanding collections, downsizing when more room just isn’t available, what will happen to the collection when the collector passes away, etc.

Several of the responses dealt with organizing, a quandary that most collectors have to deal with and solve early on—how to organize all those covers so that you can find what you want with a minimum of time and effort. There are a number of different solutions. In the end, whatever the collector is satisfied with is acceptable.