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Journal of the American Philatelic Society

AMERICAN PHILATELIST

July 2014



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Awards Banquet — Saturday, August 23, Cash bar 6:15 p.m.; Seating 7 p.m. \$53 \$ _____

Salad: Mixed Greens tomatoes, cucumbers, sliced onion, shredded carrots with traditional
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roasted garlic tomato relish and sweet balsamic thyme reduction; **Dessert:** Carrot cake
Vegetarian: Vegetable strudel

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by Lawrence E. Cohen Lost in the political shuffle in the Middle East at the end of World War I, the Kurdish people would finally be granted a region of their own within Iraq. |
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AMERICAN PHILATELIST

Since 1887 — The Premier Philatelic Magazine in the Nation

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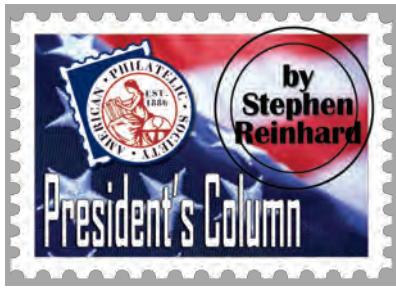
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Youth Philately



I have received many letters from readers suggesting that our membership problems could be solved if we concentrated our efforts on those nearing retirement or already retired. Seldom anymore do I get letters advocating that we need to increase our efforts among our youth.

To take a morbid view of things, those in retirement, including this writer, have a limited number of membership years in their future. Some may have twenty or thirty years, but many will have far less. That's just a fact of life. On the other hand, our youth have a lifetime ahead of them, and can be productive members of the stamp collecting fraternity for far more years than most of we retired people. So why give up on them now?

APS presently has several fine programs for our youth. Among them are the Young Stamp Collectors of America (YSCA), the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship (YPLF), and the Stamps Teach Program. But, is this enough? At the recent World Philatelic Exhibition in Thailand there were forty-five Youth Exhibits from around the world. Not a single one was from the U.S. This is typical of international stamp shows. We seldom have any involvement at all. It appears that those in other countries are doing a much better job of creating interest among their youth than we are.

So, how do we create that interest? When you see a young person today what do you see? What I see is a smart phone or a tablet, or some other electronic device. My 3-year-old grandson has had his own iPad for about a year now. He knows how to navigate it as well as I do. He takes pictures, clicks on the "apps" he wants to get into, calls me on "Facetime," etc. If we are going to make any progress with youth we will need to increase our visibility on these electronic devices by developing new "apps," by using social media at a much greater level than we do now, by developing more and better Internet stamp clubs for kids, etc. The future of our hobby lies in cyberspace. We need to face that fact and move forward and, in fact, we are.

Some of you might be wondering, what is an app? An app is an application, typically a small specialized program, downloaded to a mobile device like an iPhone, smart phone, iPad, or tablet. The staff already is working on two apps to benefit our membership. The first is an app for StampShow, which will be available this month on the APS website. It will act as a mobile StampShow Program, listing the schedule of events, exhibits, and dealers — all in the palm of your hand. It also will include a feature alerting you to meetings/seminars you want to attend.

The second app, which will be available later this year, is for *The American Philatelist*. It will allow members to access the magazine on any of their mobile devices and will include some exciting interactive elements.

For everything you wanted to know about the APS website and our services, register to attend one of our new online orientation get-togethers. This one-hour new social media service uses GoToMeeting to provide members with a "face-to-face" interaction with a staff member who will answer questions and guide them through the website and/or a particular service.



H.R. Harmer

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In addition, members can follow APS on Facebook, Pinterest, LinkedIn, and the APRL blog.

APS StampShow

Our annual extravaganza is upon us, August 21–24, 2014 in Hartford, Connecticut. Those of you who have never been to our summer show are missing the biggest philatelic get-together of the year. More than 100 dealers, 900 frames of exhibits, seminars and meetings every open hour of every day, discussions with APS officials, committee members, staff, etc. If you live in the northeast, mark this on your calendar. If you live elsewhere in the U.S., or around the world, plan a summer vacation in New England. You won't regret it.

How I Became a Stamp Collector

My mother saved the stamps off her pen pal's letters from New Zealand, plus other unusual ones from our country. Because they fascinated me, she turned them over to me when I was a teenager. So, for many years I saved more stamps and even purchased some from the post office. I did not know what to do with them so I kept them in a box. Years later, a neighbor in League City introduced me to Edward A. Richardson who lived right across the street from us. When he learned that I was interested in stamps, he asked me to bring my collection over for him to see. I was proud of that little box of different stamps from around the world. I know now that what I had was next to nothing and wonder why he did not laugh.

We spent many hours discussing stamps and how I could mount my collection. One day he handed me a cigar box of stamps and said I could pick out the ones I wanted. When I walked home with that box of stamps, I thought I was carrying gold. I told my husband that I could not believe that he would let me have any or all of those stamps. I spent hours going through all those stamps and getting them mounted until I thought my eyes would pop out. He was a little surprised when I returned the box as soon as I did. Then he handed me another box. I went through five or so boxes and thought I would go buggy. Once I got started on them, it was hard to stop.

Several neighbors had asked me to look after Ed, because he was not in the best of health and had no relatives in Texas. I went over almost every evening so my husband could read the paper in peace. Ed was like a walking library, and our chats were so interesting. We agreed that we had touched almost every subject. Almost every evening there would be a postal cover, postcard, or some stamps for me on his chair. I said, "I hope you don't think I bring you muffins just so you'll give me stamps." He laughed and said, "I hope you don't think I give you stamps just so you'll bring me muffins."

Well, I'm hooked on stamps, postcards, and almost any type of philatelic material.

— Diane Kerkhove



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Letters to the Editor

Remembering Bud Hennig

Randy Neill's very fine memorial to Bud Hennig in the May AP ("Bud Hennig," page 472) made no mention of Bud's long-standing connection to philately in Canada; what follows will, hopefully, rectify his omission.

Bud was a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada for over 50 years. We were able to recognize this long connection last year by arranging through Charles Verge and Jackie Alton to present Bud with his 50 Year Membership Medal and Hon. Life Membership Certificate. Bud served on the juries for two Capex International Exhibitions in Toronto, in 1978 and 1987. He was the APS liaison for the FIP Youth Show, held in Toronto in 1982.

Bud was, of course, fluently bilingual in English and German and caused

some amusement during the jury deliberations in 1982. One of the German judges addressed us in German and Bud was supposed to translate his comments for us into English. What he did was to repeat the judge's comments verbatim — in German. When we asked Bud what the gentleman had said, Bud, rather irritated, said "I just told you." When it was pointed out to him that he had given it back to us in German, Bud slapped his forehead with an exclamation, and when the laughter had died down, gave us the English translation.

At this time I was the Judging Programme Co-ordinator for the RPSC, and Bud and I worked very closely together on the reciprocal agreement whereby our two National Societies would recognize the judges from each country as being equal in standing. This agreement is still in force today. Bud also



was the guest speaker at the annual dinner of the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada — I'm not sure of the year exactly — and he gave a fascinating talk on the inflation issues of the Weimar Republic. Having lived through this period as a small boy he was able to add first-hand knowledge, with a number of amusing anecdotes, that made for an absolutely fascinating evening.

For his services to Canadian philately, Bud was elected a Fellow of the Society (FRPSC) in 1987.

A fine gentleman, whom I feel very privileged to have known, and a person who was a good friend to many of us in Canada.

Michael Millar

Mississauga, Ontario

Fresh Approach Needed

As I read articles in *The American Philatelist* and other magazines/newspapers that focus on the hobby of stamps, what I continue to read gives me cause to worry, as there is a great deal of complaining, worrying and observing that the stamp shows are less well attended than ever before, that customers and stamp sellers do not seem to be on the same "page" when it comes to the hobby, and that the hobby itself is in

Don't Forget: We Want Your Opinion!

Dear APS Members,

As we continue our efforts to improve our Society's magazine, we invite you to take part in a brief Reader Survey found on the back two wrappers of the May issue and on the APS website: www.stamps.org/AP-Survey. Please have your completed survey and comments to us by August 31, 2014. The results will appear in the October 2014 issue.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Barb, Bonny, Helen, and Doris





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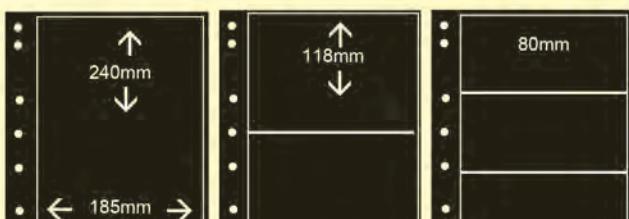
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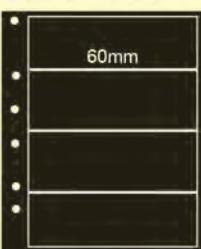
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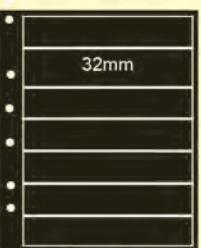
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If the hobby does not change and adapt to the changing culture and how people spend their monies, the hobby itself may become “outdated” sooner rather than later.

dire need of new collectors.

When I attend shows (and I attend most of the shows in my area) I notice that the average age of the collectors is getting older and older. Then I ask myself, “Why is this happening and where are the younger collectors? Where are the beginners?”

Sure, technology, video games and other distractions have given people new ways to entertain themselves, but the hobby itself needs to change. Imagine, for example, that the Super Bowl Cam-

pion team has a stamp that is printed within a few weeks of its victory. Imagine the people who would use those stamps, collect those stamps, mail those stamps, and then begin to collect variations of those stamps. The World Series MVP with his picture on a stamp. The NHL Stanley Cup Champions with the team logo on a stamp, etc. Let us imagine the movie winning the Academy Award for Best Picture getting a stamp with the stars of the movie on it. Think of the first day covers and the stamp collectibles that could occur. Instead, we have stamps in our country that show pictures of flowers, plants, mountains, and a few of people long deceased that many people don't know or care about. Imagine a stamp sheet that shows the thirty-two NFL teams with their logos on each stamp!

The hobby needs a fresh approach. The idea of “only people who are deceased” being on stamps (as some sort of absurd rule/law) is outdated. Sadly,

if the hobby does not change and adapt to the changing culture and how people spend their monies, the hobby itself may become “outdated” sooner rather than later.

I want the hobby to survive. But the hobby must change and must become more inclusive to the younger generation. If it does not, I fear I will see the end of stamp shows in my lifetime and be left with few options.

Argue with me if you will, but one fact remains. Our great hobby will not exist in even a decent form if change does not occur.

Jeff Brandt
Dallas, Texas

Hobby Attraction

Philately seems to have come a long way. Collection interests have greatly diversified. The age of the Society has matured, as evidenced by the number of member deaths each month. Overall membership in the Society has declined

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"The price you paid was very reasonable and the entire evaluation was completed in less than 24 hours.

"Considering that my collection was in 60 albums—all pre-1940 material with specialization—your thoroughness and comprehensive evaluation was greatly appreciated.

"I always knew I would contact you when it was time to sell and I must say how very glad that I chose you to work with. I suggest that stamp collectors go to you when they sell their valuable collection. When they contact you, they will be treated properly."

Dick Richardson
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and attracting new collectors is seen as a major challenge. My attraction, long ago and with gaps, was early and included the following components:

- Lots of different stamps people threw away and so were free.
- Stamps had power to travel and bring messages and packages.
- Stamps were almost all different and nicely printed.
- Stamps came from foreign countries we were studying.
- Stamps had pictures of attractive places, animals, and plants.
- Stamps had pictures of famous people we were studying.
- A first opportunity to collect something on my own.
- Stamps were easy to soak off and dry and press flat.
- Fun to organize and mount stamps in an inexpensive notebook.
- Fun to trade duplicate stamps with friends.

I only hope that in the fervor among

the affiliates for more stamp collectors, these attractions for young children to stamps, among others, are not overlooked.

Frank H. Wadsworth

Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico

Worldwide?

I would like to comment, with great favor, on Wayne Youngblood's article in the May issue about misuse of terminology ("Misused, Abused & Misunderstood: Our Hobby's Worst Terminology," page 316). I am not a very advanced collector, and I learned a couple of important facts here. I am really quite fascinated by the printing process. In days of yore, before things were all computerized, one can see how sheets could get folded or two pieces go through at once. I think nowadays that the press would come to a halt if anything odd was sensed.

The main reason for my writing, however, is to get a determination on the meaning of "world-wide." I have made a

few small buys on eBay and a couple of times I was bitterly disappointed to find that more than half the stamps in a lot were United States throwaways. To me US means *us*, world-wide means *not-us*. Any advice on this topic would be gratefully appreciated.

P.D. Sterling

Lakeland, Florida

Terminology

I greatly enjoyed Wayne Youngblood's recent article on our hobby's rather sloppy use of terminology. His contributions to philately are monumental and I make it a point to search out his articles wherever they appear.

I do want to take gentle exception to his definition of a pre-printing paper crease, however. To my way of thinking, a crease — be it pre-printing or post-printing — is a single entity resulting from a foldover. In many cases, it could be difficult to determine if it occurred on a single stamp before or after printing.

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Roosevelt cover from Hungary found at SPRINGPEX.

We are all familiar with corner creases, etc.

As the term is commonly used, a pre-printing paper fold results from two creases, one from each of two tiny foldovers in opposite directions. The result when opened being an unprinted void between them. I'm not sure that a void is best described as a fold, but common usage seems to prefer that. It is surely not a crease.

On the other hand, I have been misusing the term "oxidation," as it applies to stamps, for six decades and am rightfully embarrassed. My high school chemistry teacher would be annoyed.

Bill Willard
Bellevue, Washington

Come to Springpex!

I was sad to learn of APS member Miguel De Paz's less-than-happy experiences at the two stamp shows he attend-

ed. If he is ever in the Washington DC area in early March, I invite him to visit Springpex, hosted for the last forty-four years by the Springfield (Virginia) Stamp Club.

Just like Mr. DePaz, I began collecting stamps as a child. And, as so many others in our hobby have experienced, my stamp collecting lapsed during my frenetic adult working years. Now that I'm retired, I have rediscovered stamp collecting. What an addiction!

I attended my very first stamp show, Springpex 2014, this past March. There were twenty-six East Coast dealers to choose from. There was even a special table for kids with a fish bowl full of stamps. It was also my first experience with stamp exhibits, which included exquisitely executed original artwork on covers.

I bought a mint Columbian and other used Columbians as my bud-

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Dear Mr. Younger:

This correspondence is an expression of gratitude to your representative, Mr. George Bailey, and his recent business visit to Williamsburg, Virginia.

While in our city on business, we invited Mr. Bailey to participate in our stamp society's monthly meeting. While there he spoke to the group about your philatelic firm and his background related to such. As your representative, he was most professional and you are fortunate to have such an able and knowledgeable philatelist on your staff. He is indeed an asset to your business.

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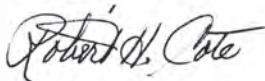
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Dear Mr. Younger:

I just had to take a moment and drop you a line about what a pleasure it was to sell my stamps to Mr. George Bailey. I've had two occasions to sell stamps to George. The first was my plate block collection, and later my mint sheet collection. I found George to be very professional and knowledgeable and he gave me a very fair price for my stamps.

If I have any collections to sell in the future, the first person I shall contact will be Mr. Bailey.

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Robert H. Cote
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get allowed. I even added a used cover of Hungarian Roosevelt stamps (Scott CB1-CB1C) with Budapest cancellations that, according to Stanley Gibbons, were never postally used. (The dealer suggested I notify SG and most likely I'd get an offer from them to buy the cover. No way — it's a keeper!)

Despite the large number of collectors at Springpex, I found the dealers to be personable and helpful. I also found stamps to fit my budget. I still lust after the Columbians (especially Scott 243–245) as well as "Western Cattle in Storm" (Scott 292), which I am unlikely ever to add to my collection. Nevertheless, I found affordable and beautiful postal items at Springpex that I will enjoy in my collection for (hopefully) many years to come.

Barbara Toth

Annandale, Virginia

Friendly Relations

In the last few issues of the AP there have been quite a few invectives against

stamp dealers. Like most of those who wrote, I am not a dealer; unlike them, however, my relationships with dealers are usually open and friendly. I believe that collectors must try to have a better understanding of the business of selling philatelic materials.

Generally speaking, catalogue values have little to do with the actual prices of stamps. In my opinion, the only way to find the true value of a stamp is to put it on auction and receive several independent bids. eBay is a good place to test this notion. Some mid-range stamps sell for 200% catalogue, others don't sell at 5% catalogue.

In any event, catalogues quote *retail prices*. One writer mentioned his "collection of Europe, 1840–1940, virtually Scott complete." Depending on the author's definition of "virtually," such a collection may cost several million dollars if priced by catalogue values. This is an enormous wholesale lot with the majority of stamps that will not sell at any

price. It will take the dealer many weeks, if not months, of work to sort it out, describe the items, and include them in his inventory. And it will take many years to sell this collection. For all those years the dealer's investment will be locked. Also there is a significant risk in buying such a collection. Its value is defined by a few hundred expensive stamps; if they are damaged, there will be nothing left.

I recommend every collector who is complaining about low offers from the dealers to sell a few lots through the Internet on their own. It is a very educational experience in terms of interactions with buyers, true market value of your material, the time it takes to carefully scan and describe it, and the amount of overhead expenses.

I happen to know quite a few dealers. With rare exceptions, they work because of their love for the hobby, general curiosity, and the social aspects of collecting, as much as the financial incentive. Very few of them get rich. It is an interesting,

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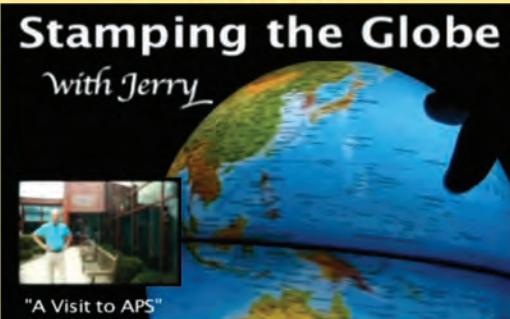
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but tough and low-paying job.

I think that old-fashioned, long-term relationships with dealers could be beneficial for both sides and very helpful when the time comes to part with our collections.

Alexander Kolchinsky
Champaign, Illinois

Sympathy Not Empathy

I sympathize with Mr. Pasquarello's point of view in his letter, "Selling Your Collection" (May AP, page 431), but happily I don't empathize with it. I have sold a collection only once, through a wonderful Prestige Philately auction house and I was satisfied. I sold about AUD\$30,000 cost price of a Western Australia colonial collection I was building before I switched to my current work in progress, Japan in World War II.

They basically got my money back to me for a collection I had started building about five years beforehand. Well done, and thank you gentlemen. Perhaps the

situation is different in Australia. Yes, I carried the auction risk, but even after charges I was home about even. And I had fun.

I now have the balance of what I was hoping to build to a good exhibit on Australian convict philately with another auction house, for no better reason than that they are featuring that type of material in June.

I will report again when I see the text for the sale and the June sale has been finalized. Proper presentation is what we pay a hefty premium for, but auctioneers have catalogue costs and time costs for the resources they tip in. If your material is well presented, you are a good part of the way to where you want to be.

Stephen Dowd

Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

Selling a Collection

Tony Pasquarello's Letter to the Editor in the May AP brought up some good points about the problems of selling your

collection to a dealer. But he also left out some pertinent details:

1. The collection was described as "primarily Europe, 1840–1940, virtually Scott complete." This collection was put together over seven years, so my impression is that it was recently assembled. There is no indication of whether he collected the stamps in used or unused condition. I purchase a lot of older British Colony collections to break down and sell as individual stamps on my website. The quality that I see for that era of material covers a huge range, from pristine to virtually worthless space fillers. Most unused stamp from this time period have been hinged, and many have markings on the back of either the catalogue number or some sort of owner's mark. It also is not unusual to see small tears on the really old stamps. Used stamps (especially higher values) may have revenue cancels, or no visible can-


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cel at all. Every one of these factors affects the value of the stamps. The catalogue values are typically based on high quality stamps, so they are meaningless if your stamp does not meet the criteria.

2. It appears that the dealers who looked at the collection were not willing to pay the 25% of catalogue that was sought. However, we were never told of the dealer's specialty. I pay a pretty good price for stamps that are within my specialty, but don't even want to bid on stamps from other areas.
3. After discussing his problem, the resolution is that the APS, or some other body, should at least allow collectors to recover their original cost. Really? Who was he thinking would fund this insurance policy? Maybe if each of the members just sends him \$1 we can resolve the problem for him.

Overall, my impression of the letter is that Mr. Pasquarello, after his seven years of collecting, is now expecting

someone else to buy his collection, break it down and sell it, while meeting his purchase price. The fact that a number of dealers have rejected his request suggests that maybe he should take another look at how to sell the collection. If you don't like the dealer bid price, take out the middleman.

If collectors will pay 80% of catalogue for the items, why not sell directly to the collectors? If only there was some way to display your material to thousands of collectors and sell it to them.... Well, there is — it's called eBay, Bid Start, or the APS online StampStore. Yes, it will take a lot more work, and there is some risk, but that is how the *dealers* make money selling your collection.

A few suggestion from someone who purchases a lot of stamps from eBay. Scan *both* sides of the stamp and display it so a buyer can see clearly what you are selling (try putting it on a black background so the perfs are visible). Be honest about the quality — not everything is visible in

a scan. Set a realistic opening bid price — some sellers are very successful with a 1-cent opening bid, because it gets a number of bidders interested and they fight over it. If you are worried about someone buying the stamps for a very low price, set a reserve.

If you have high-quality stamps, consider selling them one at a time. Bundle the low-value stamps together and sell them as a collection, but generally don't expect high prices for a collection with a bunch of stamps that are barely visible in your picture. I bid for many collections on eBay expecting a worse case scenario. Most of the time, I am correct.

Assuming you are willing to do the work of a dealer, you should expect to make the money you feel your collection should return. I hope readers consider sending a follow-up letter to the *AP* indicating how you solved the problem.

Tom Cusick
Lisle, Illinois



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More Critical Thing Sought

Thank you for having the courage to publish Tony Pasquarello's letter ("Selling Your Collection," May AP, page 431) that so thoroughly and accurately articulates a serious problem faced by a vast number of individual collectors in our beloved hobby. Like many, I believe stamp collecting should continue to offer individuals not only fair and affordable sources of adding stamps to their collections but should also offer friendly and fair outlets for selling those stamps (excluding the low-value "dime a dozen" stamps) an individual no longer wishes to collect. Internet auctions should not be the sole outlet.

Tony's unpleasant experiences in reaching out to some dealers are surely all too common. One thought is having more auctions limited to individual collector's offerings at local bourses and stamp shows, with a modest percent-

age going to the house — a win-win outcome. This would partially address the ills and Gordian complexities Tony enumerates.

Let's not allow the established mind set among some of "protect my turf at all costs" to help further erode our membership rolls. We've already seen protectionism virtually destroy the baseball card hobby.

Just one opinion on a subject that deserves more critical thinking and solutions.

Dave Marsh Sr.
Ballwin, Missouri

Dealer Non-response

Mr. Pasquarello's comments on selling your stamp collection in the May issue were nicely expressed. It is very frustrating to write to advertisers in *The American Philatelist*, responding to their advertisements to buy your stamps, but never receive a reply. Most businesses would never tolerate the practice. In the

communications I have made, individual country collections were described and inventoried by catalogue number. A current catalogue price accompanied the description. Perhaps that is too much information and reduces the possibility of concluding a deal that is of greater advantage to the dealer.

Even when a request has been made to pass along my offer to another dealer who might have an interest in the collections, no answer was received. Many excellent collections do not have those ultra rare and expensive stamps that we often see advertised. Yet, one cannot help but wonder if entry and mid-level collections would not attract a whole new inspired group of collectors, eager to have a collection to build on that was affordable.

Personally, I have come to the conclusion that attempting to do business with many dealers is of little to no avail. The Internet is a favorable alternative to let some collections pass on to another collector who will care for it and con-

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Foochow, 1862, negative pre-adhesive marking on piece of market circular to New York, showing bold, full strike in red of the exceptionally rare, negative "Foo-Chow-Foo China" handstamp. Realized \$86,250.00 HKD (\$11,125.00 USD)

1871, Dragon, 500 mon yellow green, plate 1, laid paper, used on combination "urgent mail" cover, a spectacular 3 color franking, used via "urgent mail" to Tokyo. Fresh, a great rarity and frontline exhibition piece, Very Fine. Realized \$230,000 HKD (\$29,666.00 USD)

1871, Dragon, 500 mon yellow green, plate 1, laid paper, position 21, Realized \$25,300 HKD (\$3,263.00 USD)

1874, Cherry Blossom, 6 sen violet brown, native laid paper, syllabic 3, Realized \$74,750 HKD (\$9,641.00 USD)



Laos, 1962, Anti-Malaria Campaign, collective deluxe proof, Very Fine. Realized \$5,750 HKD (\$741.00 USD)

Hoihow, 1884 (Sept 22), Webb Type Cii postmark from Kiungchow, 5¢ Victoria cancelled by oval "Kiung-Chow/SP 22/A" postmark which also shows inverted "22" and index "A" varieties. Realized \$39,100 HKD (\$5,043.00)



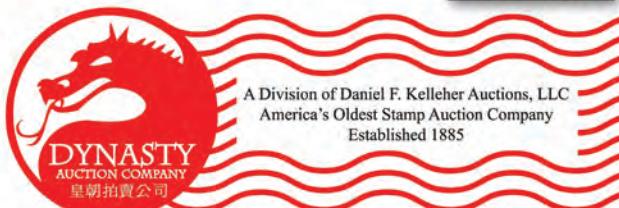
Viet Nam, 1951, First Issue of the independent country, sunken die proofs complete, An extraordinary set in Very Fine condition. Realized \$184,000 HKD (\$23,711.00 USD)



Hong Kong, 1880, Queen Victoria, 10¢ on 16¢ yellow, a Gem! Very Fine, Realized \$25,300 HKD (\$3,263.00 USD)



1872, Dragon, 1 sen blue, plate 3, laid paper, position 7; Realized \$115,000 HKD (\$14,833.00 USD)



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tinue to expand it.

Thanks for a great magazine.

John McKnight
Greenville, North Carolina

Stamp Dealers

I read with interest the views about stamp dealers in the May Letters section of the *AP*. The letter from Miguel DePaz in Florida comes to mind ("Stamp Shows; Collector's View," page 429). I started going to stamp shows here in the Cleveland area almost sixty years ago. During that time I found most of the dealers I had contact with were very nice. Naturally there were always some who were not, so I simply refused to have any dealings with them, no matter what they had in stock. On several occasions I took our youngest son and other times a grandson and his friend to the Garfield Perry show in Cleveland. Here are a couple of examples of dealers at opposite ends of the spectrum that we ran into.

Our son got interested in collecting

stamps of New Zealand when he was around 12 years old. I took him to the GP show several years and we had only one bad experience. While looking through a stock book I saw a stamp he needed, but it was priced way over the Scott catalogue. No, it was *not* a scarce stamp by any means, and the dealer must have marked the value wrong as it retailed, according to Scott, at 50 cents. The dealer, however, had listed it at ten dollars.

I mentioned this to the dealer, who was not happy with my questioning him and was rude to be sure. Then to top that off, as we were turning the pages of the stock books a bunch of stamps fell out of the bottom of the plastic holder. We all know how easily these types of pages can come apart! The dealer went ballistic, but it was his fault for placing a set of 15 or so stamps from a series in one of these types of pages. I have never stopped at this dealer's table since, as I consider him to be a total loon.

On the opposite end, there was the

elderly female dealer from New York City who had a large stock of stamps and S/S from The People's Republic of China. I had been getting new issues from the PRC for several years and had been providing them to our grandson and his friend. I took both to the GP show so they could shop for earlier PRC issues. There was one person ahead of us so we waited for several minutes. This was when PRC stamps were very popular, and several Asian buyers from out of state were at the show buying everything they could.

We sat down and the dealer began talking to both kids, explaining things about PRC stamps and telling them which ones she thought they should buy.

At this point an Asian dealer wanted her attention and she told him in no uncertain terms he would have to wait his turn as she was helping the two young kids. The other buyer was not at all happy, but my heart went out to this woman who died a few years later, but not before the two kids got a chance to talk to her a couple more times at subsequent shows. She was a stamp dealer some people, like the man mentioned above, could take lessons from.

It's a shame Mr. DePaz does not have the chance to attend the Garfield Perry show here in Cleveland as I am sure he would have a different outlook on stamp dealers and shows. Outside of a couple of dealers who I think fit the category Mr. DePaz described (and one has to realize that there is always a moron or two in any group), I have met with many great dealers who are representative of most of the dealers (about sixty) here at the Cleveland GP show. I enjoy seeing these people every year, and I just walk by the couple of deadheads.

Robert W. Collins
Westlake, Ohio

Dealer Displays

I was interested in the Letters to the Editor in the May issue re Stamp Shows: "Collector's View" (page 429) and "Dealer's View" (page 431).

I have attended stamp shows in Pittsburgh continuously since the 1970s. As has been well documented in many



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Small Dragons used
in Jenchuan, Korea



China-U.S. combination usage
From the Dr. Bruce J. Lewin collection



East China
1944 Shantung
Grenade Thrower



East China
1946 Su-Wan
unissued 5c. red



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letters and articles, I too have seen the number of dealers and attendees shrink significantly over the years. In recent years, most of the attendees have been older men and women with relatively few youth in attendance. At last year's Pit Stop show, the U.S. Postal Service didn't even make an appearance.

What is perhaps my chief complaint, and why I don't visit more dealers at the shows, is the fact that many of them keep their extensive array of long boxes of stamps in small glassine envelopes behind the counter table, out of reach of the customers. I can understand why they keep the more valuable items behind the counter, but those in the boxes are generally much lower priced. This practice forces the customer to request each box and, often, wait while the dealer is helping other customers. It's very time consuming and irritating. I like to browse through the boxes and would much prefer to have the boxes on the counter top where I can easily reach the ones I want, without having to ask the dealer each time.

Perhaps if dealers would consider more effective merchandising skills or their lack thereof, they would react positively to this. They might find more customers stopping at their tables and spending more time browsing and buying. I believe that most customers are honest and not trying to steal or otherwise cheat the dealers.

Richard E. Patton

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sell Your Own Stamps

I read Tony Pasquarello's excellent letter in the May AP, "Selling Your Col-

lection." I am in the process of selling my collections and trying to figure out the best way to gain the most value (money) for the hours, days, and years of wonderful hobby time I experienced from stamp collecting. At the beginning of this decision I talked with my wife about the trip (or trips) we could take after the big sale!

The first experience was with a large auction house in Canada. I had used the same customer number there for years and was granted the right to receive my winning bids for review prior to sending in payment in U.S. dollars. When I called about sending my material on consignment, I was told they buy all material prior to the auctions. Okay, I said. So what do you pay? I was told without hesitation that I should not expect a large percentage toward the value of my stamps, around 10–15% of catalogue — even for rare and popular stamps. All said within the first minute of my long distance call and without even asking what I had to offer.

When I was buying at auction, I won most of my bids at around 50% of catalogue value, but not always. Since I received a report on what the actual winning bids were, I found that the best materials sometimes received bids that were actually *higher* than the listed catalogue value! Don't get me wrong, when I won, I was happy with the results, and was able to gain ownership of many good stamps. Once in a while I won after making a bid much lower than I would have expected to win. One time I was the only bidder, and the auction house gave me the stamps for less than my bid!

I could go on and on, but here is my

advice as I prepare to sell: Sell only to other stamp collectors, and not through auctions or dealers. And price your stamps with what *you* would expect to pay, or less. "Less" meaning a price a true collector would judge to be fair or even a great DEAL!

Ludwig Kleinschmidt

Heber Springs, Arkansas

Adhesive Removal Comparison

In the May issue of the AP, David Bize responded to a February letter about using WD-40 to remove adhesives from PSAs ("WHOA! to WD-40," page 428). I would like to reiterate his caution and add the following information:

For one of our club meetings I did a demonstration on using different chemicals to remove a PSA or self-adhesive stamp from its envelope backing. We tested WD-40, Acetone, non-acetone polish remover, paint thinner, Ronsonal lighter fluid, and Pure Citrus air freshener. The test was done in November 2013 using identical Liberty Bell forever stamps, and the results were fascinating.

- While WD-40 did soften the adhesive in order to remove the stamp and, eventually, its adhesive, it stained the stamp with the oil base of its chemical and that stain has not changed to this day; thus destroying the stamp permanently.
- Acetone was the fastest at removing the stamp but it also removed the image from the stamp!
- The non-acetone based nail polish remover was effective after a short wait, and did not damage the stamp — beyond the pink hue left behind from the chemical. So it was also a failure.
- The paint thinner also worked, but left a stain similar to that of the WD-40.

This leaves the only two good options I have found in the household chemical selection: The lighter fluid, while flammable, is tried and true for old and new stamps. The Pure Citrus air freshener does work like a charm and smells much better than the lighter fluid. Neither left any damage to the stamp whatsoever.



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I find myself staying with the lighter fluid, however, not only because it is tried and proven, but because it doubles as a water mark fluid and, by volume, is much cheaper than its fresher smelling competitor.

Robert Hood
Redmond, Oregon

What Stamps?

The *AP* and other stamp publications have carried many articles bemoaning the shrinking numbers of stamp collectors and suggested various explanations. I would like to add another explanation that I haven't encountered: the disappearing use of stamps on letters. I receive a deluge of mail weekly, but seldom ever do I see a commemorative stamp. The vast majority of mail seems to rely on business prepaid envelopes, plus a few non-profit special rate stamps. If I didn't receive the USPS sale catalogue, I would have no idea about most of the interesting stamps they are issuing.

When kids never see an interesting stamp on the mail at home, how are they supposed to discover that collecting them can be fun? Who wants to collect little black rectangles that say "No Postage Necessary if Mailed in the United States"?

I assume that many businesses and the U.S. Postal Service would object to returning to good old-fashioned stamps. However, doing so could spark wonders and intrigue kids into collecting those pretty and interesting colored rectangles on the corners of their mail.

It would also help if the USPS used glue that could dissolve in water; that would make collecting more fun and easier. Many foreign countries have pressure-sensitive stamps that are easily removed with water. Why can't the USPS do that?

Peter Schoettle

North Bethesda, Maryland

Car I.D.

The letter in the May *AP* from C.K. Leverett ("Dating Error," page 420), who

wrote that the light blue vehicle in the background of the Café du Monde postcard depicted in Nan Burby's March article "New Orleans French Quarter" was a 1949–1951 Ford, prompted me to look closely at the illustration.

I was especially interested in his comment because my father owned a black, 2-door 1951 Ford sedan and my summer day camp counselor in 1956 or 57 drove a black 1949 Ford convertible. Even after all these years, I still remember details about such Ford cars. Thus, while the sedan depicted is not as clear as I would like, and although I am certainly not an expert on this subject, I would say that the vehicle in question is a 1951 Ford, based on the configuration of the taillight visible on the postcard.

I realize this letter deals with a very trivial matter, but it does demonstrate how thoroughly APS members read the contents of this outstanding magazine.

Mark H. Winnegrad
Bronx, New York

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5-8	900	127-147	1,100	311a	180	C14-24	300
9-18	1,200	152-154	650	422a	150	C25-38	225
28-31	7,500	Used	200	425-436	500		
32-39	2,100	163-166	200	456	150	1-18	\$125
40-44	180	171a-176a	350	479a	200	22-32	900
45-50	900	188-189	400	509-521B	600	33-49	3,000
55-67	1,300	198-201	125	C1-2	550		
68-71	200	222a	650	C3-7	100	Off ces in Korea	
75-84	490	Used	450	C8	1,400	1-14	\$1,200
91-108	400	239-252	200	Used	800		
113-114	1,400	271a	250				

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87-90	1,000	155-8	180	202-205	65	223-6	125
109	43	159-60	125	214-217	108	227-9	900
110	180	163-6	650	218-221	108	230-3	54
III-2	200	167-170	200				
148-151	180	190-3	360				

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574-85	\$60	746-49	40	920-23	160	1054-57	250
586-7	150	758-59	80	924-26	200	1067-75 Unf d	200
588-9	130	760-65	100	927-29	90	1095-98	100
590-1	60	766	15	930-35	250	1108-13	140
592-9	130	767-81	400	936-37	85	1143-48	30
600-604	200	782	2,000	938-49 Strip	4,000	1149-54	15
615-17	100	782 Used	1,000	949-56	1,300	1211-14	220
620-27	1,800	783-90	100	957-59	800	1255-70	100
Imperf	5,000	795	70	960-64	250	1383a	400
628a XF	15,000	796-8 Strip	200	965-66	140	1399	400
628a Used	7,500	798a XF	3,000	967-80	2,700	1433	250
635-6	150	799-803	400	Used	700	1452	200
639-46	70	804-5	40	982-90	800	1483	100
655-60	350	806-9	350	991	200	1492	400
661-80	350	818-20	200	992-96	1,500	1497	50
681-3	40	823	10	996a Folded	2,500	1518	1,500
684-96	50	828-32	45	Unfolded	5,000	1540	140
Imperf	200	833	10	Used	1,500	1541	170
708-10	75	834-41	200	997	7	1573	200
Imperf	250	842-49	220	998	140	1586	1,500
711-12	35	859-62	70	999	150	1617	200
713-15	45	863-73	380	1000	15	1607 Blkt	500
Imperf	200	886-90	70	1001-4	20	1647 Blkt	130
716-31	800	899-96	200	1005-6	60	1761	140
732-6	100	919	60	1007-10	60	1904	120

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Bahamas

The Bahamas are comprised of an archipelago of 700 major islands (of which only about thirty are inhabited) plus some 2,400 islets and cays located in the North Atlantic Ocean southeast of Florida. The island of New Providence is home to Bahamas' capital city, Nassau (originally named Charles Town). The island of San Salvador was the first point of discovery by Columbus in 1492. He described the area as the islands of the "baja mar" (shallow sea), which over time has become "Bahamas." The scattered native population was soon enslaved to work in the gold mines of Hispaniola and eventually ceased to exist as a people.

Although Spain claimed the archipelago, she made no real effort to settle the small islands. In fact, there was some incentive to avoid them: the numerous channels and reefs are said to be the final resting place of nearly 500 Spanish galleons carrying treasure and supplies



Left: Example of A05 cancel. Right: INTERINSULAR (inter-island) stamp design remained in use for 25 years, 1862, Scott 5: Chalon head Queen Victoria.

between the Old World and the New. Some of them fell victim to pirates such as Edward Teach (Blackbeard), Henry Morgan, and Calico Jack Rackham, who used the coves and small bays as places to lurk and ambush the cargo ships. These pirate bands became so formidable that in 1695 they were able to invade and destroy Charles Town, established 25 years before as a commercial port. The city was quickly rebuilt and renamed Nassau.

Spain ceded the islands to Great Britain soon after and the Bahamas became

a Crown Colony in 1717. In 1718 King George I appointed a former pirate named Woodes Rogers as Royal Governor with the power to grant a pardon to all but the worst of the pirates plaguing the shipping lanes. Nassau was briefly seized again by Spain in the late 1700s before being returned to Great Britain by treaty in 1783.

Bahamas remained a British Crown colony until gaining internal self-government in 1964. Independence was granted July 10, 1973.

From 1858 contemporary British 1-, 2-, 4-, 6-pence and 1-shilling stamps were in use until their withdrawal in 1860. They can be identified by A05 cancellations applied in Nassau. The Post Office became independent from the British GPO in 1859 when Perkins Bacon was contracted to print 1-pence stamps with the Chalon portrait of Queen Victoria and inscribed INTERINSULAR POSTAGE, indicating validity for local inter-island use only. In 1860 these stamps were perforated and their use in multiples was authorized for overseas mail, an arrangement ceasing in 1861 when 4- and 6-pence Chalon Heads, similar to those of Grenada and Natal, were issued.

From 1862 De La Rue took over the printing of 1-, 4- and 6-pence denominations, using a variety of perforations. The Crown CC watermark was introduced in printings from 1863 with perforations measuring 12½ or 14. A 1-shilling denomination was added in 1865.

In 1882 the 1-, 4-pence and 1-shilling stamps were printed on Crown CA watermarked paper, and in 1883 a quantity of the little used 6-pence denomination was surcharged FOURPENCE for overseas letters. Forgeries of the hand-





In 1883 a quantity of the little-used 6-pence denomination was surcharged FOURPENCE for overseas letters, Scott 26.



A tiny ornamental pineapple and conch shell were featured on portrait stamps of British monarchs until the Queen Elizabeth definitives, 1884, Scott 16.



The long outdated INTERINSULAR inscription was finally omitted from the 1-pence stamp in 1884, Scott 27.



A new 1-pence stamp featured the Queen's Staircase in Nassau, 1901, Scott 33.

applied overprint may be found in various positions on the stamps.

Six values from 1 pence to £1 and featuring the Queen's portrait were issued in 1884. The image of the monarch was accompanied by a tiny ornamental pineapple and conch shell, which remained a feature on subsequent small-size portrait stamps until the Queen Elizabeth definitives. Also in 1884, the long outdated Interinsular inscription was finally omitted from the 1-pence stamp after 25 years in use!

The Crown CC watermark was temporarily re-introduced in 1901. A new design for the 1-pence stamp featuring the Queen's Staircase in Nassau appeared that same year. The sixty-five steps (originally sixty-six; the lowest step was buried by asphalt when the pathway was paved) were carved by slave labor from solid limestone and lead up to Fort Fincastle, now a lighthouse. Popular legend has it that each step marks a year of Queen Victoria's reign (which actually lasted slightly less than sixty-four years); however, the staircase was carved in the 1790s. It was renamed to honor Queen Victoria, during whose reign the abolition of slavery came into effect. Additional 5-pence, and 2-, 3-shillings denominations were issued in 1903. Incidentally, the new 1-pence stamp was available alongside the Queen's head design until 1909.

The Crown CA watermark reappeared in 1902 with seven King Edward VII definitives from 1 pence to £1, followed between 1906 to 1911 with a ½-pence denomination and new print-

ings of 1-, 2½- and 6-pence values. From 1911 to 1919 the "staircase" stamps were released with the CA watermark. A new 3-pence denomination in a bland purple color on yellow paper was soon rejected and replaced with a more appropriate black & brown combination. The original 5-pence stamp also was altered from black & orange to black & mauve ("violet" in the Scott catalogue). The 1-pence, and 2-, 3-shilling staircase stamps were not changed.

In 1916 *The Nassau Guardian* was contracted to produce SPECIAL DELIVERY overprints on 5-pence staircase stamps in order to implement an agreement with Canada for reciprocal fast delivery of mail between the two countries. Due to philatelic demand there were three printings. Only 600 stamps from the first overprint were placed on sale in four selected Canadian post offices. They could not be purchased over the counter but had to be affixed to an addressed en-



The Nassau Guardian produced SPECIAL DELIVERY overprints on 5-pence staircase stamps as part of a reciprocal agreement with Canada, 1916, Scott E1.

velope by the postal clerk accompanied by an appropriate Canadian stamp. For an additional ten cents a Bahamas Special Delivery stamp was affixed. Only 330 Bahamas special delivery stamps actually were used in this reciprocal arrangement, but this was many more than the approximately fifty Canadian equivalents from the 600 dispatched to Nassau.

However, it turned out that Canada's Deputy Postmaster General apparently sold 100 of the Bahamas special delivery stamps to collectors "under the counter." Several months later, envelopes bearing the Bahamas stamps were intercepted,



Philatelic demand for special delivery stamps led to additional overprints in 1917, Scott E2, and 1918, Scott E3.

thereby revealing the existence of the unannounced extra printings, none of which were sent to Canada. In 1917 the ill-fated scheme was terminated by the Canadian post office and remaining Bahamas stamps were sold off.

Nevertheless, philatelic demand for special delivery stamps prompted a request for De La Rue (not *The Nassau Guardian*) to produce additional overprints in 1917 and 1918. Unlike the original printings, these are readily identified by the different typefaces and watermarks. In addition, the 5-pence black and mauve stamps are completely unique because the originals were black and orange! Sales to collectors provided useful revenue, and surplus stocks were placed on sale in the GPO Nassau for everyday postal use.

Trinidad & Tobago and Bahamas were the only Crown colonies to issue Red Cross stamps during World War I. Bahamas 1-pence "staircase" stamps, planned for release on January 1, 1917 were overprinted by De La Rue with a Red Cross and the date 1.1.17; their release, however, was postponed until May due to wartime shipping delays and other factors. To add to the problems, the Bahamas post office had breached the Geneva Convention Act by featuring the Red Cross emblem without authorization. Half the proceeds from sales were donated to the British Red Cross.

Locally-applied WAR TAX overprints on ½-, 1-pence and 1-shilling George V definitives and the short-lived 3-pence purple/yellow paper Queen's Staircase were issued in February 1918. To replace the "sold out" definitives, while they waited for new War Tax stamps to arrive from De La Rue, an overprinted 1-pence "staircase" was issued on July 10. The new stamps from London were placed on sale on July 20; these are readily identified by their narrow, sans serif lettering.

The 1-pence staircase stamp was overprinted one more time by De La Rue as "WAR CHARITY 3.6.18" in two lines, for use as a semi-postal. The stamp was intended for issue on June 3, 1918 to mark the arguably insignificant bicentenary of the appointment of Bahamas'

first governor. For technical reasons its release was delayed until January 1, 1919 — a mishap unlikely to have unduly concerned too many locals!

The war had been over for eight months when yet another series of war tax overprints, this time in two widely-separated lines, was applied to ½-, 1-pence and 1-shilling definitives and the recently issued black & brown 3-pence staircase stamps.

A five-stamp issue commemorating peace after World War I was issued in 1920. The ½-, 1-, 2-, 3-pence and 1-shilling finely engraved designs featured King George V and an inset of the colony's Seal.

The new Multiple Script CA watermark was introduced for final printings of the popular staircase designs, which were issued between 1922 and 1929 in denominations of 1-, 5-pence, and 2-, 3-shillings. New printings of eleven King George V definitives from ½-pence to £1, including additional 1½- and 3-pence values, were released between 1921 and 1934.

The anniversary of the colony's first settlement in 1629 was marked with attractive square-shaped stamps in values of 1-, 3-, 5-pence, and 2-, 3-shillings featuring the Great Seal of Bahamas with the dates 1629–1729–1929. (The first House of Assembly was established in 1729.) They were printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and issued in January 1930. Because of their popularity, the 2- and 3-shilling denominations were adapted for use as definitives by removing the anniversary dates; they were re-issued in 1931.

In 1935 Bahamas participated in the Silver Jubilee omnibus. This was quickly followed with an 8-pence definitive to meet an increased charge for air mail letters. The stamp, printed by Waterlow, featured flamingos in flight.

King George VI Coronation was marked in 1937, followed in 1938 with definitives from ½ pence to £1. Most were printed by De La Rue, and adapted from the 1912 stamps by simply replacing the portrait with that of the new King. However, Bradbury, Wilkinson's 1931 2- and 3-shillings Seal of Bahamas were retained, as was the 1935 8-pence which

was supplemented with 4- and 6-pence pictorials depicting the renowned Sea Garden and a view of Fort Charlotte, completed in 1798 for protection against Spanish invasion. These three pictorials were printed by Waterlow.

To comply with UPU regulations, postal rate increases required color changes for the 1-, 2-, 2½- and 3-pence stamps. To meet an urgent requirement for a blue 3-pence stamp in 1940, *The Nassau Guardian* surcharged the 2½-pence stamps with a bold 3d. The revised colors for 1- and 2-pence values appeared in 1941, whereas the 2½- and 3-pence were delayed until 1943. A 10-pence yellow was added in 1946 to cover higher air mail charges. In 1951 the 2-pence red was changed to green, followed in 1952 with ½-pence purple ("claret" in Scott) and 3-pence red ("rose red" in Scott) denominations.

Two lengthy commemorative sets were issued during the King George VI era. In 1942, with little prior notice, definitives were withdrawn from stocks held in the Colony and the Crown Agents in order to be overprinted "1492 LANDFALL OF COLUMBUS 1942" by *The Nassau Guardian*. Some denominations were reprinted as well, to ensure sufficient "Landfall" overprints would be available to cater for anticipated high philatelic demand. They were not handled by the Crown Agents, so philatelic sales were undertaken by the Bahamas postal authorities.

The decision to overprint two blue stamps (2½- and 3-pence) was probably made to utilize excessive stocks of the old 2½-pence stamp, regardless of many having been requisitioned for the provisional 3d surcharge in 1940. Although the five-line overprint was an aesthetic disaster, numerous plate flaws in the basic stamps and many minor typesetting varieties in the overprints ensure continuing popularity with specialists. A major error on row 5/2 of the 4-, 6- and 8-pence pictorials reads COJUMBUS instead of COLUMBUS.

Bahamas was the only Crown colony to have issued stamps printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company and, therefore, without the Crown CA watermark.

Bahamas Sampler



Seven King Edward VII definitives were released in 1902, Scott 37.



Trinidad & Tobago and Bahamas were the only Crown colonies to issue Red Cross stamps during World War I, 1917, Scott B1.



From left: Locally-applied WAR TAX overprints were issued in February 1918, Scott MR4. An additional overprint was issued in July 1918 to replace sold out stock, Scott MR5. New War Tax stamps from De La Rue in London are readily identified by their narrow sans serif lettering, Scott MR8.



The 1-pence staircase stamp also was overprinted "WAR CHARITY 3.6.18" in two lines, for use as a semi-postal, 1919, Scott B2.



A final war tax overprint, this time in two widely-separated lines, was issued eight months after the war was ended, 1919, Scott MR12.



Peace commemorative featured King George V and the Bahamas' Seal, 1920, Scott 65.



From left: Anniversary of the colony's first settlement in 1629 commemorative, 1930, Scott 88. The 2-shilling stamp reissued as a definitive, without the anniversary dates, 1931, Scott 90.



Air mail stamp, 1935, Scott 96: flamingos in flight.



King George VI definitives were adapted from the 1912 stamps by replacing the image of George V, 1937, Scott 100.



One of three pictorials printed by Waterlow in 1938 featured the renowned Sea Gardens, Scott 106.



To meet an urgent requirement for a blue 3-pence stamp The Nassau Guardian surcharged 2½-pence stamps with a bold 3d, 1940, Scott 115.



New definitives adapted the "Eleuthera" designs for two colors and with a portrait of Queen Elizabeth, 1954, Scott 164.

Visit www.stamps.org/AP-Album for additional Bahamas Sampler.



The 1954 definitives were overprinted "NEW CONSTITUTION 1964" when the representative government was replaced with a premier, 1964, Scott 200: Parliament Building.



The 1965 definitives featured old and new themes; one example is a solitary flamingo from the 1935 and 1938 Flamingo Flock stamps, Scott 208.



An increase in the foreign letter rate required 8-pence stamps to be surcharged 9-pence, 1965, Scott 221.



The 1980 definitives (Bahamas Scott 464–479) provide a history of Bahamas from their discovery by Columbus in 1492, Scott 464, to independence in 1973, Scott 479

These were sixteen pictorials issued in 1948 to mark 300 years of European settlement by a group of British dissidents known as the Eleutheran Adventurers. They sailed from Bermuda seeking religious freedom, eventually reaching an uninhabited island in the Bahamas that they named Eleuthera (Greek for Freedom). The stamps are inscribed "1647 Tercentenary of Settlement of the Colony 1947" — possibly factually incorrect because the island settlement is thought to have been in 1648, or even 1649, a subject carrying considerable online controversy on the Internet.

To issue sixteen stamps to mark the occasion was perhaps "over the top," particularly as only three of the designs used images representing Eleuthera island. The settlement of Hatchet Bay on the 4-pence stamp was the location of the dairy farm shown on the 2½-pence stamp, and of the "modern agriculture" device shown on the 1-pence stamp. As was frequent with Bahamas stamps, the issue date was delayed until 1948, thereby missing the so-called 1947 anniversary, which, in the circumstances, may have been appropriate!

Bahamas participated in the Crown colony Victory, Royal Silver Wedding,

UPU and Queen's Coronation stamps between 1946 and 1953. Subsequent omnibus issues are of little interest except for one sheet of the 1963 Freedom From Hunger stamp, which has been found in Nassau with BAHAMAS and 8-pence omitted.

Back in 1950 new definitives were proposed by the Bahamas House of Assembly; a suggestion to include air mail stamps was rejected, as was a recommendation for small size stamps similar to those of King George VI. Eventually the "Eleuthera" designs were adapted, without the commemorative inscription, for the 1954 Queen Elizabeth definitives printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson in two colors and with a larger royal portrait.

In 1959 four stamps re-created the Interinsular design of 1859, and in 1962 Nassau's centenary was celebrated with two large stamps featuring the city's Christ Church Cathedral and Public Library.

In December 1962, U.S. President John F. Kennedy and British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan met in the Bahamas for three days of defense talks ending with the Nassau Agreement — an important meeting, but why was the release of the two stamps, overprinted "Ba-

hamas Talks/ 1962," delayed until July 1963? Bermuda's overprints for similar talks in 1953 and 1971 coincided with the events, not six months later!

Definitives were overprinted "NEW CONSTITUTION 1964" when the representative government was replaced with a premier. Following the withdrawal of these overprints, the 1954 definitives were again placed on sale, with the recently introduced Block CA watermark on the 2-pence stamp.

Participation in the Tokyo Olympics was marked in 1964 by overprinting the 1-shilling yachting definitive with the Olympic Rings and a denomination change to 8-pence.

New definitives in 1965 were printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and featured old and new themes; the 3-pence denomination exactly reproduced the leading flamingo (without its companions) from the 1935 and 1938 8-pence stamps. Other designs included the 1-shilling Sea Garden, and on the 5-shilling, a related image of J. E. Williamson's renowned underwater film project and the 1939 undersea post office. A new view of Fort Charlotte showing the cannons was used for the 2-shilling stamp. Later in 1965 an increase in the foreign letter rate required

8-pence stamps to be surcharged 9-pence.

Decimal currency in 1966 was introduced by surcharging the definitives, which after exactly one year were replaced with mostly identical designs inscribed in the new currency; there were some altered colors and two other changes. The liner *Oceanic* on the 5-cent stamp replaced the recently withdrawn from service *Queen Elizabeth* from the previous 4-pence stamp. A close look at these two stamps reveals a tiny lighthouse (also seen on 1935 and 1938 8-pence pictorials). This was known as the Hog Island lighthouse until 1959, when it was renamed Paradise Island. This distinctive landmark will be familiar to cruise ship passengers entering Nassau Harbor. The \$2 value features a re-designed conch shell.

In 1969 there was an unannounced printing on markedly whiter, wood-free paper. The stamps were not available to the trade, with most denominations being placed on sale at Nassau during 1970

and, if requested, at some other post offices. The 12-cent, \$1, \$2 and \$3 denominations were not needed, becoming available from the GPO in Nassau just days before the introduction of new definitives. An entrepreneurial English dealer, receiving information about this development, flew to Nassau especially for this purpose, and purchased the remaining stock, so few of these values could have been used postally.

In 1971 Questa Colour printed new pictorials from 1-cent to 3-dollars (Bahamas Scott 313–330). Watermark changes followed in 1973 for 5, 8, 50-cents and \$1, \$2, \$3 denominations, and in 1976 the recently-introduced Crown CA diagonal watermark was used for new

16-, 21-, 25-, and 40-cent values and on several later printings. Watermarks were omitted from 1, 5, 16, 25, 50-cents and \$1, \$2, \$3 stamps released in 1979.

From this time increasing numbers of new issues prompted me to close my collection, although I relented by adding the fascinating 1980 definitives (Bahamas Scott 464–479), which provide a history of Bahamas from their discovery by Columbus in 1492 to independence in 1973. The 5-cent stamp features an old scroll and a map of Eleuthera. The inscription “Eleutheran Adventurers: (Articles and Orders, 1647)” could perhaps vindicate the controversial date on the Settlement stamps!

Acknowledgment

My grateful thanks to Peter Fernbank for advice and information.

Readers are invited to contact the author via email at chambon@xtra.co.nz

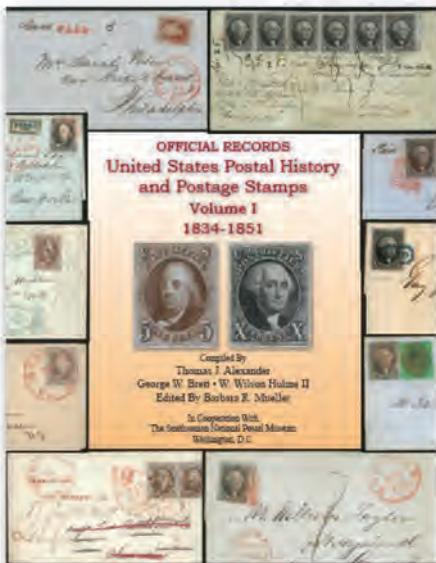
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*Expanded stamp album pages
for this article showing more examples of Bahamas stamps can be found in the Bonus Content online at www.stamps.org/AP-Album.*

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Kurdistan's Postal Service Seeking Its Own Address

by Lawrence E. Cohen

This story begins almost 100 years ago. It has not yet ended.

Bitter Fruit from the Great War

When asked about his Foreign Service assignment in Iraq, a friend responded that each day he deals with “picking up the pieces from the First World War.” A map of the Middle East demonstrates the insight behind his remark. Countries carved from the remnants of the Ottoman Empire were amalgamated from various ethnic and religious groups, often rivals and always in the quest for political control of economic resources. The victors of the “Great War” drew borders that, outside of European staterooms, made little ethnic or geographic sense. This was true in the early twentieth century and continues to foster deep animosities in the twenty-first.

Arguably, the biggest loser from the post-World War partition of the Ottoman Empire was the region’s ethnic Kurdish population. Despite being one of the Middle East’s largest ethnic groups, possessing a distinct cultural and linguistic identity, Kurds achieved neither independence nor even semi-autonomous status. One reason was the rise

of a secular Turkish state under Mustafa Kemal Ataturk. To Turkey’s new leadership, as well as to the principal victors of the First World War, a separate Kurdistan nation in their midst was unacceptable. A Kurdistan kingdom briefly established itself in 1923 in northern Mesopotamia. That same year, however, European powers and Turkey signed the Treaty of Lausanne that defined most



First Kurdistan Region stamp issued after Operation Provide Comfort and the establishment of a regional Kurdistan government. On June 4, 1992, the new Kurdish National Assembly met for the first time and elected Jawhar Namiq Salim its speaker.

of the borders of the modern Turkish state. The Treaty effectively snuffed out the nascent Kurdish kingdom.

During the 1920s, the region of the Middle East occupied largely by Kurds was divided among Turkey, Persia/Iran, Iraq, and Syria where substantial Kurdish populations were condemned to minority status. Among Kurds a perceived sense of injustice emerged, nowhere sharper than in the new nation of Iraq.

Iraq's turbulent short history reflects many periods of Kurdish persecution and alienation. None, however, was worse or more brutal for Kurds than the Saddam Hussein years (1979–2003). Among Saddam's many crimes, perhaps the most notorious was his genocidal campaigns against Iraq's Kurdish population. Following waves of anti-Kurdish persecution in the late 1970s, Saddam Hussein launched a series of attacks against the Kurds in the late 1980s. The anti-Kurd campaigns coincided with the final throes of the decade-long Iran-Iraq War begun by Saddam in 1980. Code-named "Al-Anfal," the military campaigns destroyed villages and towns throughout Iraq's Kurdish region. Saddam's forces slaughtered more than 100,000 people and left many hundreds of thousands more refugees in neighboring countries. The zenith of this bloodshed occurred on March 16, 1988, when Saddam launched a chemical weapons attack against the Kurdish town of Halabja. At least 5,000 of the town's inhabitants died in the massacre.

Picking Up the Pieces

On August 2, 1990, Saddam Hussein turned his army against neighboring Kuwait, sparking the Gulf War — later the First Gulf or First Iraq War. Following the decisive victory of U.S.-led Coalition forces over Saddam in February 1991, popular uprisings were launched against the regime in southern Iraq among the majority Shia population and in northern Iraq in Kurdish territory. Shia and Kurds anticipated U.S. support for their revolts; however, American protection did not materialize. Within weeks loyalist forces led by Saddam's Republican Guard suppressed both uprisings. Northern Iraq was cut off from all international linkages and communication.

The subsequent humanitarian crisis forced the Bush Administration to respond. To protect Kurds in northern Iraq and allow delivery of humanitarian assistance, the United States and its Gulf War allies launched in April 1991 Operation Provide Comfort. With United Nations agreement, the United States and its allies established No-Fly Zones in Iraq's north and south. In October Iraqi military forces withdrew



Left: Emblem of Iraqi Kurdistan Region Post Office. Above: Postal box outside the Postal Administration Office, Erbil.

from Iraq's Kurdish-inhabited territory and a *de facto* semi-autonomous Kurdish state, the Iraqi Kurdistan Region, was established. Protection from Baghdad allowed Kurdish leadership to organize elections in 1992 and the seating of a Kurdistan National Assembly.

Regional self-rule, however, did not end the Iraqi Kurdistan Region's instability. A civil war in 1994–1997 between the largest rival Kurdish political factions, the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), left 3,000–5,000 people dead. Iraqi, Iranian, and Turkish forces were drawn into the fighting. Eventually, Washington's diplomats negotiated a truce between the KDP and the PUK. The parties agreed to share revenue and power and prohibit Iraqi forces from re-entry into the region.

The U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 — the Second Gulf War — toppled the Saddam regime. Kurds from both major political groups, the PUK and the KDP, strongly supported the war and cooperated with U.S. forces. Since the invasion and the fall of Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi Kurdistan Region has enjoyed relative stability and rapid economic growth fueled by the emergence of new oil and gas fields. Today, the Iraqi Kurdistan Region — especially its three major urban centers: Erbil, Sulaimaniyah, and Dahuk — is swiftly emerging as a regional commercial center generally free of the sectarian strife that afflicts the rest of Iraq. For the U.S. role in bringing down Saddam, Kurds retain a very warm appreciation for the United States.

Emergent Postal System

Kurdistan's first postage stamps appeared briefly in 1923 during the short-lived independent Kurdish kingdom. Kurdistan's modern postal and philatelic story, however, begins in 1992. Following the establishment of the northern No-Fly Zone and the launch of Operation Provide Comfort,



The famous national bird of Kurdistan, the "kaw." Unlike other Kurdistan stamps, no year is indicated, nor does "Iraqi Kurdistan Region" appear. Although the stamp is apparently canceled, its authenticity and legitimacy may be open to question.



Issued to commemorate Mustafa Barzani's 94th birthday (1903–1979) by the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) during Kurdistan's Civil War. The most prominent political figure in modern Kurdish politics, Barzani in 1946 became the leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and led the subsequent Kurdish revolt against the Iraqi Government. His son, Massoud Barzani, is the current leader of the KDP and President of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region.



Located in the Zagros Mountains, world-renowned Shanidar Cave is Kurdistan's foremost Neanderthal site. It was excavated in 1951–1960 by archaeologist Ralph Solecki and a team from Columbia University.

Commemoration of Spring, six philatelic issues 1998–2000. Ottoman-era cannon, upper left, is located at the Rwanduz arsenal, close to the Iranian border. Bonfires — on Erbil's citadel, lower right — are popular during Nawroz, the Kurdish New Year and the first day of spring.



the semi-autonomous Iraqi Kurdistan Region emerged. A Kurdistan National Assembly was inaugurated in Erbil, the Iraqi Kurdistan Region's capital. The new Kurdistan Regional Government authorized the creation of the Kurdish Postal Administration under its Ministry of Communications and sanctioned the issuance of postage stamps, valid only for internal regional use. A year later, the Ministry extended the range of postal service to include delivery of newspapers, official documents (including birth certificates and driver's licenses), and commercial advertisements.

Throughout most of the 1990s the Saddam regime enforced an embargo on all commerce with the Iraqi Kurdistan Region and prevented direct mail service with other parts of Iraq. Iraqi and international mail departing from or destined for the Iraqi Kurdistan Region was channeled through Turkey. Outgoing international mail utilized Turkish postage — sold at Kurdish post offices. For incoming mail, the Kurdish Postal Administration utilized a Turkish post office box. During the 1994–1997 civil

war between the PUK and KDP, each side issued its own postage valid only in territory controlled by that party.

After the fall of the Saddam Regime in 2003, the Iraqi Kurdistan Region's postal system began to emerge. Mail delivery through the new Iraqi Government's central postal authority in Baghdad was reestablished in 2004, although use of Iraqi Post, the government-owned corporation that handles postal services in Iraq, for international mail remained disorganized until 2007. That year the Kurdish Postal Administration requested of Iraqi Post's Director of Postal Services in Baghdad that the Iraqi Kurdistan Region launch direct international mail service. In August 2007 the first shipment of packages from

the Iraqi Kurdistan Region was delivered to Greece and distributed globally. The Kurdish Postal Administration utilized Greece as a transit hub for just six months, then it shifted transit operations briefly to Vienna via Austrian Airlines. Finally, the administration signed a contract with Royal Jordanian Airlines. Outgoing mail continues to transit Amman, Jordan as of late 2013.

Although Kurdistan is not sovereign, on December 11, 2007 the Universal Postal Union (UPU) formally recognized the Iraqi Kurdistan Region as both an origin and direct destination for international postal items. The UPU approved international parcel delivery direct to Erbil and the Iraqi Kurdistan Region. In 2008 the UPU issued a country code: IQE-BLA. With this code, postal items destined for the Iraqi Kurdistan Region do not need to transit Iraqi Post facilities in Baghdad.

Continuing Challenges

While direct mail service is authorized, most national postal authorities, including the United States, do not yet recognize Iraqi Kurdistan as a specific postal destination. Items destined for the Iraqi Kurdistan Region continue to be combined with mail destined for elsewhere in Iraq. Most incoming mail for the Iraqi Kurdistan Region continues to be routed through Iraqi Post. This circuitous route through Baghdad delays mail delivery to Erbil by up to three weeks. Roughly 80 percent of all international mail destined for the Iraqi Kurdistan Region currently originates in the United States and Europe.

Mail from regional countries such as Kuwait, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, or Jordan makes up only a tiny percentage.

After years of upheaval, a functional street address system in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region was essentially demolished. Unless an address is well known, for example, the Ministry of Interior or the United States Consulate General in Erbil's Ainkawa neighborhood, packages and letters must indicate the cell phone number of the recipient to assure delivery. Postal authorities call the number and arrange either pick-up or drop-off. Some postal customers rent post office boxes at a cost of roughly \$10 annually.

The Kurdish Postal Administration is developing its International Postal System (IPS) network. Its postal code project will first enhance postal service in the city of Erbil (population 1 million+). Eventually the codes will be extended throughout the entire Iraqi Kurdistan Region (estimated 5.3 million people). When the network is fully implemented, each housing unit will have its distinct code. The project for Erbil city may be complete by early 2014.

Erbil currently has seventeen post offices that collect and distribute mail and sell stamps. All are tiny affairs and, by appearances, are under-utilized. Few local residents are even aware of the existence of a postal system. In any case, citizens remain skeptical about the performance of such government institutions. Mailboxes are still very sparse, although more than 100 were placed throughout Erbil city in 2013. Following the establishment of an effective post-



In December 2007 the Universal Postal Union recognized the Iraqi Kurdistan Region as an origin and destination for international mail. However, as of 2013, most incoming international mail continues to transit Baghdad while outgoing mail is generally sent via Amman, Jordan.



Commemorating Kurdish journalism with the first Kurdish language newspaper, *Kurdistan*, published in Cairo in 1898. The newspaper no longer exists.

While direct mail service is authorized, most national postal authorities, including the United States, do not yet recognize Iraqi Kurdistan as a specific postal destination.



Emblem of the Kurdistan Regional Government established in 1992. At the 2013 exchange rate, the value is over \$4.



Pre-paid, non-profit organization envelope from the United States sent from Belgium with Belgium return address, back-stamped at Baghdad International Airport and at Baghdad's main post office on April 15, 2012. Cancel indicates arrival in Erbil ten days later on April 25



Air mail envelope from the same U.S. organization sent directly from the United States with Pitney Bowes \$1.05 postage — no Belgium markings. Envelope is identically back-stamped (April 15, 2012, at Baghdad International Airport and Baghdad's post office, and April 25 upon arrival in Erbil). Matching Kurdish handwriting indicates addressee and destination.

al service in Erbil, authorities plan to extend it throughout the region.

The large cities of Mosul and Kirkuk, located in territory disputed between the Kurdistan Regional Government and the Government of Iraq, utilize the Kurdish postal service. However, with recent improvement in Baghdad operations, the cities are now linked internationally through Iraqi Post.

Philatelic Focus

The domestic Iraqi letter rate for Kurdistan-origin mail is 500 Iraqi Dinar (IDR), approximately \$0.42. This rate applies to all Iraqi destinations, not just the Iraqi Kurdistan Region. The international (registered) letter rate is 1,000 IDR, about \$0.84. For the lucrative parcel business, the postal administration believes — once the postal code system is fully operational — its service can be competitive with existing private sector carriers such as DHL, FedEx, and ARAMEX. A one-kilo parcel from Erbil to Europe will be priced by the postal administration around \$8–\$10, ver-



Third envelope from the U.S. originator sent June 28, 2012 with same Pitney Bowes \$1.05 postage. Back-stamped cancels indicate July 8, 2012, arrival at both Baghdad International Airport and Baghdad's main post office, and arrival in Erbil eleven days later on July 19. Front cancel indicates delivery to the branch post office in Erbil's Ainkawa neighborhood on July 29. Kurdish handwriting for addressee differs from previous letters.





Post Office in Erbil

Below: Erbil Postal Administrator (left) and Author.



sus about \$60 for a private carrier.

Early stamps of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region were used only for domestic regional mail. They are generally of low paper and print quality. Kurdistan's first issuances were printed in Lebanon. Following authorization from the Kurdistan Parliament in 1993, stamps are printed in Erbil. The Postal Administration desires to raise the quality of its philatelic issuances to international standards. Since 2007, following UPU approval, Iraqi Kurdistan Region postage is internationally and officially recognized as legitimate.

Since 1992 about 170 different Iraqi Kurdistan Region stamps have been issued. To date there appears to have been almost no effort to popularize Kurdish stamps. However, occasional international e-mail requests seeking Iraqi Kurdistan Region stamps reportedly reach postal authorities.

The Author

Larry Cohen is a retired United States Foreign Service officer who served on five continents. He has written recent *AP* articles on the postal services of Afghanistan and South Sudan. With luck, he will continue to visit post offices in unusual places.



The Halabja Monument honors the victims of Saddam Hussein's chemical bombardment of the town of Halabja on March 16, 1988 that killed approximately 5,000 and left many more disabled.

AP Bonus Content

From time to time, our authors have many more philatelic items for illustration than we are able to print in the *AP*. We don't want you to miss out on any these fabulous items, so we have created online article album pages on the APS website. You will be alerted to visit the website when you see a box like the one to the right. There are four article albums for this issue of the magazine. Visit the Bonus Content at www.stamps.org/AP-Album. Remember to log in, as these special pages are for Members Only.



Expanded stamp album pages for this article showing more examples of Kurdistan stamps and philately can be found in the Bonus Content online at www.stamps.org/AP-Album.

Maria Skłodowska-Curie in Philately & Numismatics

by Jerzy Bartke

Philately and numismatics are not just stamp or coin collecting: numismatics is an auxiliary branch of human history and philately is on its way towards achieving a similar status. Also, stamps, coins and banknotes — items that are issued in large quantities — offer wide publicity and promotion for a person or an event, and it is this aspect that will be explored in this presentation.

Maria Skłodowska-Curie (1867–1934)

Maria Skłodowska-Curie was a Polish-born scientist who made her scientific career in France. In her native town, Warsaw, she learned qualitative and quantitative chemical analysis and gained practice in various chemical procedures. In 1891 she entered the Sorbonne (the renowned Paris university) and within three years graduated in physics and mathematics. In 1894 she began research work there.

In 1898 she, with her husband Pierre Curie, discovered two new radioactive chemical elements: polonium (named after Maria's native country) and radium, both extracted from the uranium ore.

In 1903 the Curies shared with Henri Becquerel the Nobel Prize in physics, making her the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize. After the tragic death of Pierre Curie in a street accident in 1906, Maria continued her work on radioactive materials, which earned her the individual Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1911. She was the first individual to receive two Nobel Prizes in different disciplines and remains one of only two to be so honored. (Linus Pauling received Nobel Prizes in chemistry and peace.) Apart from her research and teaching (she was the first

female professor at the Sorbonne), she established Institutes of Radium in France and Poland, providing them with large specimens of radium for research and medical applications (cancer treatment).

Maria Skłodowska-Curie visited the United States twice: in 1921 and 1929. On her first trip she was received by President Harding, who handed her one gram of radium as a gift from American women. On the second visit she was received by President Hoover, who presented her with a bank draft for buying another gram of radium, this time a gift from American citizens for the Radium Institute in Warsaw. She received honorary degrees from several U.S. universities, and visited many women's colleges. She also visited the Standard Chemical Company in Pittsburgh, the American manufacturer of radium. On her trips to the United States she was accompanied by her two daughters: Irene (born 1897) and Eve (born 1904). On their first trip, which was much longer, they also took the time for some sightseeing, visiting



Pierre & Marie Curie.



Issued for the 12th International Women's Congress in Istanbul, 1935 (Turkey Scott B67).

You cannot hope to build a better world without improving the individuals. To that end, each of us must work for our own improvement and, at the same time, share a general responsibility for all humanity.

— Marie Curie

the Grand Canyon, Colorado, and Niagara Falls.

Maria Skłodowska-Curie is a legendary figure in science. She is also one of the most important women in human history. She created a new branch of science: radiochemistry, and she helped to change the position of women in society. Numerous scientific institutions and research programs throughout the world are named in her honor.

Philatelic Honors

Portraits

Maria Skłodowska-Curie (MSC) has been featured on about 120 postage stamps issued worldwide (on many of them she appears together with her husband, Pierre Curie), and also on other philatelic items such as postal stationery or special cancellations. Illustrated will be some of the more interesting examples, with emphasis on the ones presenting the “chemical aspects” of her activity, related to her discoveries of the new chemical elements *polonium* and *radium*, and to her Nobel Prize in chemistry awarded in 1911.

The earliest, and perhaps the most famous, stamp featuring MSC was issued in Turkey in 1935 on the occasion of the 12th International Women's Congress in Istanbul. In 1938, to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the discovery of radium and polonium, the postal authorities of France issued twenty-two stamps of the same design, all printed in blue, featuring both Pierre and Maria Curie: one for France, and the others for the twenty-one French colonies

Issued with surcharge to benefit the Aliabad Hospital in Kabul, 1938 (Afghanistan Scott RA2).



Issued to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the discovery of radium and polonium, with a surcharge to benefit the International Union Against Cancer, 1938 (France Scott B76).



Issued in a design similar to the French issue and with a similar surcharge, 1938 (Cuba Scott B1-B2).





Issued with surcharge to benefit the International Union Against Cancer, 1938 (Monaco Scott B24).



Issued with a surcharge to benefit an anti-cancer campaign, 1950 (Surinam Scott B49 and Scott B52).



Both of the stamps shown also exist imperforate, 1947: Poland (Scott 401 and Scott 410).



Issued on the occasion of the 1st Congress of Polish Science, which took place in Warsaw, 1951 (Poland Scott 512).

(now independent states or their parts). That same year, Pierre and Maria Curie also appeared on two stamps of Cuba with a similar design to those of France, as well as on a stamp from Afghanistan and one from Monaco. All these stamps show an additional inscription, "International Union Against Cancer" (in French or Spanish) and all but the stamp from Afghanistan bear a supplementary charge to benefit this organization. The Afghanistan surtax went to benefit the Aliabad Hospital in Kabul.

Panama issued twenty-two postal tax stamps honoring Pierre and Marie Curie between 1939 and 1949, all in the same design but in various colors. Issued as "charity stamps" for the International Union Against Cancer, the stamps carried a very low face value of one centesimo, and were intended to be put on mail as extras. Surinam issued two stamps in a single design honoring Marie Curie in 1950, both of which carry a surtax to benefit the anti-cancer campaign.

Postal issues often commemorate various anniversaries and important events. In 1947, eighty years after her birth, a stamp featuring Maria Skłodowska-Curie was issued in Poland in two colors, grey-brown and blue, and in both imperforate and perforate varieties. The total issue was 17 million stamps, a number that serves as a good example of the wide promotional role stamps can have, both within the country of issue and abroad. The next Polish stamp featuring MSC was issued in 1951 as part of a set honoring scientists on the occasion of the 1st Congress of Polish Science, which took place in Warsaw.

Other countries issuing stamps that featured either MSC or Pierre and Marie include:

- Afghanistan — issued in 1964 as part of a set in support of the Red Crescent Society and featuring both Pierre and Marie Curie.
- German Democratic Republic — issued in 1967 in honor of her birth centennial.
- Dahomey (now Benin) — issued in 1974 on the fortieth anniversary of her death.
- San Marino — issued in 1982 as part of a set honoring famous scientists.
- Russia — issued in 1987 on the 120th anniversary of her birth; se-tenant format



I never see what has been done; I only see what remains to be done. — *Marie Curie*



Issued in honor of Curie's birth centennial, 1967 (German Democratic Republic Scott 937).



Issued on the 40th anniversary of Curie's death, 1974 (Dahomey Scott C202).

with label mentioning her two Nobel Prizes, awarded in 1903 and 1911.

In 1938 two postal cards were issued in Poland, one intended for domestic use and a similar one, with additional inscriptions in French, for foreign mail. The latter card is shown, together with a Romanian postal card of 1968.

Laboratory Work

Some philatelic items show "chemical aspects" of MSC's research. Examples include two stamps issued by North Korea in 1984 on the fiftieth anniversary of her death; a Portuguese stamp issued in 1998 to mark the centennial of the discovery of radium; and one from the Republic of Guinea issued in 2001 as part of a Famous People set. All show MSC with the typical glass bulbs used in laboratory chemical procedures. Her laboratory equipment also is shown in a 1968 special cancel from Poland and on a 1967 stamp from Monaco.

Other stamps are devoted to the element radium. A 1967 French stamp features a laboratory bowl with glowing radium salt (the same image is repeated in a special cancel), while a 1998 stamp highlights the name of the element. A 1992 Polish stamp from a set on Famous Poles includes the symbol of the element radium along with a portrait of MSC.

In 1948, fifty years after the discovery of radium and polonium, special postal commemorative cancellations were applied during two months in seven Polish towns. In 1998 several countries (including Poland) issued stamps commemorating the 100th anniversary of the discovery of radium and polonium.

Some anniversaries of the Nobel Prize in chemistry awarded to MSC in 1911 also found their reflection in philately. A Swedish stamp of 1971 and two Polish special postal cancellations of the same year commemorated the sixtieth anniversary of this event, while a special Polish postal cancellation of 1981 marked its seventieth anniversary.

Monuments honoring MSC exist in Poland, France, Argentina, and in the United States. Polish stamps show monuments in Warsaw (sculptor Ludwika Nitschowa) and Lublin (sculptor Marian Konieczny), the latter also had a corresponding special postal cancellation that features the monument.



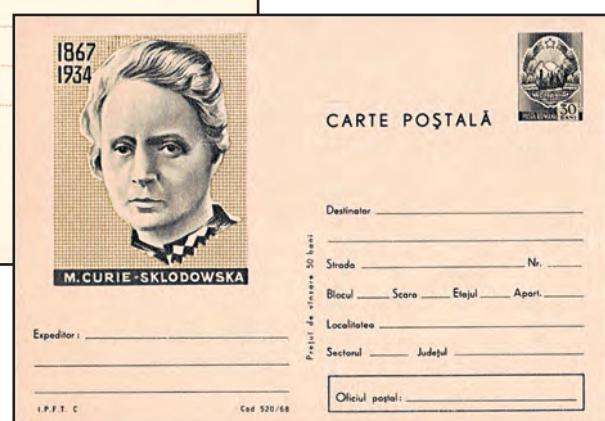
Issued as part of a set honoring famous scientists, 1982 (San Marino Scott 1025).



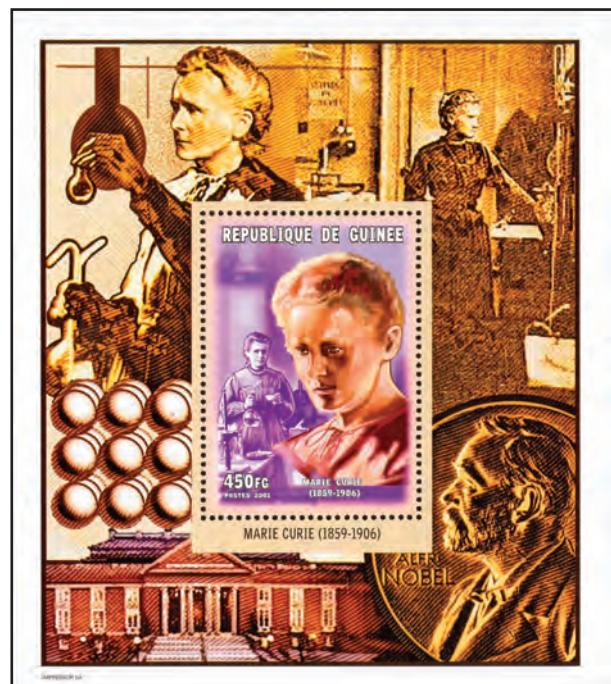
Se-tenant, issued on the 120th anniversary of her birth, 1987 (Russia Scott 5602).



Left: Polish postal card issued 1938 and intended for foreign mailing.
Below: Romanian postal card issued 1968.



Issued on the 50th anniversary of her death, 1984 (North Korea Scott 2422).



Souvenir sheet issued as part of a Famous People set, 2001 (Republic of Guinea Scott 1936e).



Issued on the centennial of her birth, 1967 (Monaco Scott 673).



Issued to celebrate the centenary of the discovery of the element radium, 1998 (France Scott 2690).



Polish cancel 1968 showing laboratory equipment.



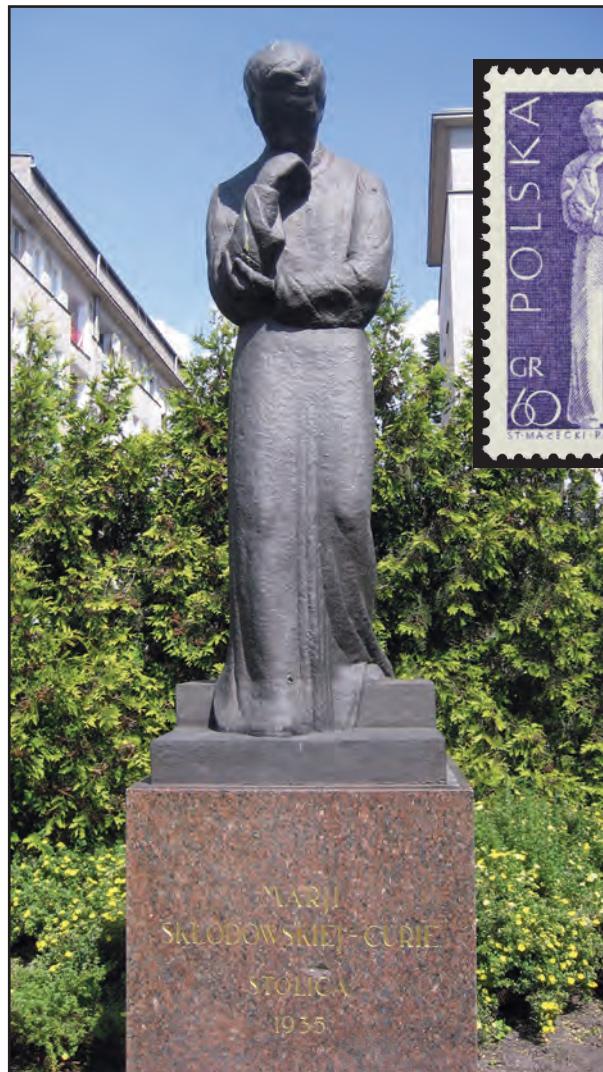
In 2011, which was declared the International Year of Chemistry (IYC), many new stamps featuring MSC

were issued. Some of them — Bosnia and Herzegovina (Serb Administration), France, Jersey, Paraguay, Poland, and Sweden — show MSC with typical chemical laboratory glassware. Other stamp designs — North Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka — show her portrait, together with the IYC emblem and some chemistry-related motifs. The French stamp design is based on a photograph taken in 1921. The Spanish image is based on a photograph taken in 1931 during an MSC visit to Madrid. Both stamps have corresponding “fi st-day-of-issue” cancellations. The Polish and Swedish mini-sheets also are illustrated.

To close the philatelic part, we show the unique U.S. item: the special commemorative cancellation applied in Chicago in 2007.

Numismatic Portraits

Portraits of MSC also appear on coins and banknotes. There have been two regular coins struck featuring MSC: Poland 10 ZŁ, Cu-Ni, mintage 2,000,000 (1967) and France 100 FF, Ag, mintage 3,886,000 (1984). There also have been two banknotes: Poland 20,000 ZŁ, designed by Andrzej Heidrich (1989) and France 500 FF (1994). Both banknotes, however, were in circulation for a few years only. Rising inflation in Poland in the 1990s (on January 1, 1995 the currency was exchanged at the rate of 1:10,000) led to the



Stamp depicts monument to MSC in Warsaw, 1967 (Poland Scott 1519). Monument created by sculptor Ludwika Nitschowa.

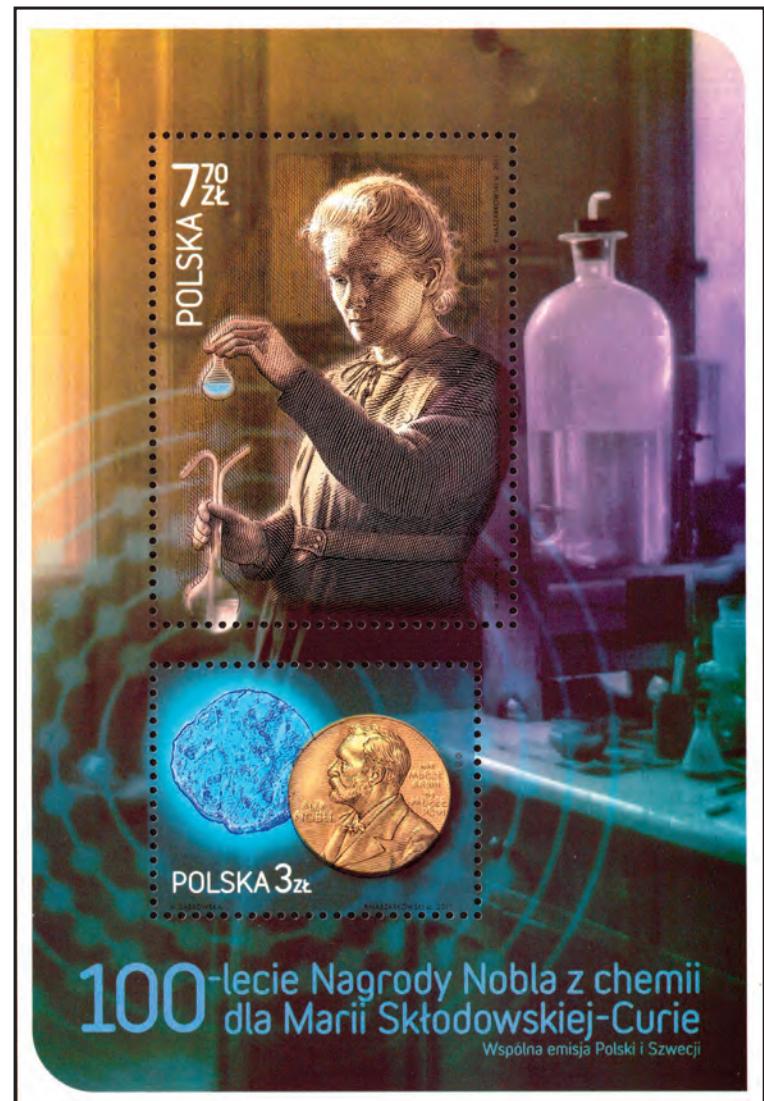
Expanded stamp album pages for this article showing more examples of Maria Skłodowska-Curie stamps and philately can be found in the Bonus Content online at www.stamps.org/AP-Album.

demise of the first, and the adoption of the Euro in France on February 18, 2001 to that of the second. Nonetheless, these coins and banknotes undoubtedly constituted a powerful means of promotion for MSC.

Apart of regular coins, meant for normal circulation, some special coins intended for collectors also have been issued. In Poland one such coin was struck in 1974 and two others in 1998. The first one marked the fortieth anniversary of MSC's death, and the latter two the 100th anniversary of the discovery of radium and polonium.

Medallic art is of a somewhat different character. Commemorative medals, usually created in a limited number by renowned artists, are small pieces of art that pay tribute to a famous person or to a remarkable event. A complete inventory of medals featuring MSC, even just the Polish ones, is not possible to make, as many might have been ordered by various institutions and not necessarily struck in the State Mint. In catalogues of the issues of the Polish State Mint until 1993 ten items can be found. The first one was struck as early as 1934, shortly after the death of MSC. The 1934 medal was designed by Józef Aumiller and dedicated to the memory of MSC as a honorary member of the Warsaw Scientific Association. Additional medals were struck by the State Mint in 1954, 1967, 1973, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1988, and two in 1990.

The first French medal was issued in 1938 to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the discovery of radium. Similarly to postage stamps issued at that time, it features both Pierre Curie and Maria Skłodowska-Curie, and bears the inscription "Union Internationale contre le Cancer." The medal created in the United States in 1966 for Poland's Millennium features MSC together with Mieszko I, the founder of the Polish state, and Nicolaus Copernicus, as the three most important personalities in 1,000 years of Polish his-



Poland Scott 4024a (2011).



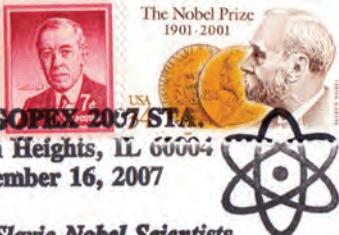
Regular coin featuring MSC: Poland 10 zł, Cu-Ni, mintage 2,000,000 (1967).

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tory. The artist was Stefan Chorembski, and creation of the medal was sponsored by the Polish community in the United States. Only a few copies of this medal were made. The Czechoslovak medal of 1967, signed by Kune, bears an inscription in Latin that evokes Jachymov Valley (St. Joachimsthal) as the place from which the uranium ore used by the Curies in their experiments came.

The Polish medal of 1972, created by Jerzy Jarnuszkiewicz, marks forty years from the establishment of the Maria Skłodowska-Curie Institute of Oncology in Warsaw, founded by MSC herself in 1932, originally under the name of "Warsaw Radium Institute." This medal features the statue of MSC erected in front of the Institute. The Polish medal of 1974, created by Bogdan Markowski, is devoted to the MSC University in Lublin. Finally, the Polish medal of 1980, created by Edward Gorol, commemorates twenty-five years of the Institute of Nuclear Research in Warsaw.

Acknowledgments

The author would like to thank the organizers of the NOEA Symposium for having invited him to deliver this talk. He also expresses his gratitude to Dr. Jerzy Grabczak for making the catalogues of the Polish State Mint available, and Mrs. Danuta Filipiak for technical help with the illustrations.

The Author

Jerzy Bartke is professor emeritus of physics at the Institute of Nuclear Physics of the Polish Academy of Science in Cracow, Poland. His field of research is high energy physics, and particularly collisions of relativistic nuclei. His main interest in philately is postal history, and he has won many national and international medals for his collection of pre-adhesive postmarks of Austrian Galicia and for the book he wrote on the same subject. He also collects stamps and other philatelic and numismatic items related to physics. He is a member of the Polish and European Academies of Philately.

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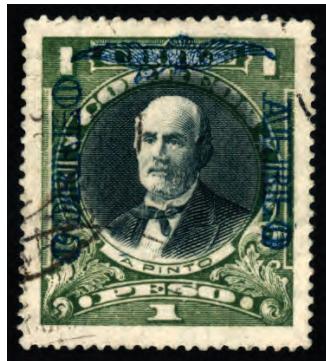
Chile 1-Peso

CORREO AEREO Overprints

by Dr. Eduardo Madsen

In 1929, 1930, and 1931 the Chilean 1-peso values belonging to the regular issues of 1915–1936 (Scott Type A43) were first printed on a watermarked paper. The watermark showed small stars on a shield (Scott Wmk. 215), its apexes pointing horizontally to the right (*position 3*) and to the left (*position 4*). Other printings followed (again in 1931 and in 1932) with watermark crest apexes pointing vertically down (*position 1*) and up (*position 2*). These stamps have off set frames and engraved centers.

In order to pay international air mail surcharges, in 1928 the non-watermarked issues (#1.1 in Table) were overprinted in blue typographic “CORREO AEREO” (#1.2 in Table). In 1929 the 1-peso values were reprinted, this time on watermarked paper crest positions 3 and 4 (#2.1 in Table). They were also issued as air mail stamps, this time off set overprinted in blue “CORREO AEREO,” with a period af-



Example of rare 1-peso with blue Correo Aereo overprint with position 2 watermark.

ter “AEREO” (Scott C10) (#2.2 in Table). In 1932 stamps with watermarks 1 and 2 (#4.1 in Table) were off set overprinted in black with the same legend, but without a period (Scott C21) (#4.2 in Table). A final 1-peso air mail stamp was issued in 1933 with watermarks in positions 3 and 4 and an off set overprint in blue without a period (#7.1 & #7.2 in Table), catalogued by Scott as C10 (Type A43).

Only air mail stamps with these watermark positions and the corresponding overprint colors and types have been listed so far in catalogues and publications.^{1,2} Table I shows those printings related to air mail use.

News about the existence of a 1-peso blue overprinted stamp with a watermark in *position 1* may first have been reported in the philatelic literature on the occasion of a lost letter from Holland to Chile, which contained one of these stamps. The sender, Hugo Brinkgreve, published in both the *Latin American Post* (September 1991)³ and *The Chile*

1-Peso Presidentes Overprinted CORREO AEREO

Issued	Stamp size: in mm	Wmk	Thickness	Chile 2006 No.	Frame offset color
1.1 1928	27.7 x 31.5	—	0.080	144	green
1.2 July 1928	27.7 x 31.5	—	0.080	186/144	green
2.1 1929	27.7 x 31.5	3–4	0.065	167	deep green
2.2 Nov 1929	27.7 x 31.5	3–4	0.065	191/167	deep green
3.1 *	27.7 x 31.5	3–4	0.075	167	green
3.2 June 1930	27.7 x 31.5	3–4	0.075	191/167	green
4.1 1931	27.2 x 31.5	1–2	0.090	167	yellowish green
4.2 Aug 1932	27.2 x 31.5	1–2	0.090	192/167	yellowish green
5.1 1932	27.7 x 31.5	1–2	0.090	167	green
5.2 Nov 1935	27.7 x 31.5	1	0.090	—	green
6.1 1932	27.7 x 31.5	1–2	0.090	167	green
6.2 ?	27.7 X 31.5	1	0.090	—	green
7.1 *	27.7 x 31.5	3–4	0.090	167	green
7.2 May 1933	27.7 x 31.5	3–4	0.090	191/167	green

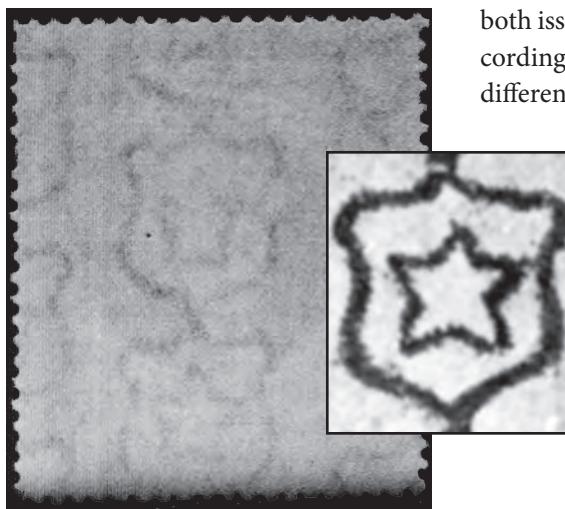
*Not seen as regular issue.

Specialist (January 18, 1992)⁴ an advertisement reporting the letter's loss and asking readers for help in retrieving the stamp.

Later, Burl C. Henry, from Poughkeepsie, New York, communicated with the Chilean Philatelic Society to report a second example of the stamp, which was held in his collection and certified as genuine by the American Philatelic Society. He wanted to know if any other examples, apart from his own and the missing Brinkgreve stamp, were known. The late Emmerich Vamos, who had seen the lost stamp, informed Henry at his request that Brinkgreve's stamp carried a Concepción cancel. Henry's stamp was cancelled at a travel post office, its number illegible, but with a date fragment "V.35" to the right of it, leading Henry to surmise that this cancel had been applied in November 1935. Roman letters are not seen in this type of TPO cancels.

In my own collection I have another example of a 1-peso with watermark 1 and the blue overprint. It is cancelled with a Valparaiso registered mail cds. The overprint is lightly blurred and typographed without a period, as in 1928. The stamp is genuine in the opinion of the Royal Philatelic Society London, as stated in their April 23, 2008 certificate No. 199267.

Data about these two existing stamps were exchanged between Mr. Henry and myself. Through a comparison of



Position 2 watermark (pointing up).

both issues it became apparent that, according to the color of the centers, two different varieties of these stamps had been overprinted. Henry's stamp has a grey black center (#5.1 & #5.2 in Table), while the author's issue has a slate grey center (#6.1 & #6.2 in Table). Both stamps have typographed overprints, identical to those on the non-watermarked 1928 issues.

According to the specialized catalogue *CHILE 2006*, the following varieties of the 1-peso watermarked stamps are known:

All watermarked 1-peso stamps (SC A43) are listed in the *CHILE 2006* catalogue as No. 167. The varieties with watermark 1 and 2 were issued in 1931 and are described as having olive or yellowish-green frames and grey black centers. On closer examination, however, the frames prove to be a deep olive green with brownish-grey or grey black centers. The 1932 variety is described as green and black, but all the stamps I have examined show olive or deep grey green frames and slate grey or grey black centers. The earliest covers in my collection with the non-overprinted stamps with watermark 1 with *grey black* centers date from 1935, while those with the same watermark 1 and *slate grey* centers first appear in September 1936. Production of these stamps later than 1932 may be presumed.

Center engraved color	Overprint	Transfer characteristics
slate grey	— —	
slate grey	CORREO AEREO	blue typographed without period
grey black	— —	
grey black	CORREO AEREO	offset blue with period
grey black	— —	
grey black	CORREO AERO	offset blue with period
grey black	— —	
grey black	CORREO AEREO	offset black without period
grey black	— —	
grey black	CORREO AEREO	blue typographed without period (1 issue known)
slate grey	— —	
slate grey	CORREO AEREO	blue typographed without period (1 issue known)
brownish black	— —	
brownish black	CORREO AEREO	offset blue without period



Face and back of Chile Scott C10 1-peso with blue overprint and watermark in position 3 (pointing to the right). Courtesy APS Reference Collection.

In the CHILE 2006 catalogue, stamp sizes measured between the opposite bottoms of the perforation punched holes are not mentioned, nor have they ever been described to date. However, there are variations in both the 1931 and 1932 issues (#4.1 and 4.2). Both have the same height, 31.5 mm, but the width is 27.2 mm, unlike the other 1-peso issues, which are 27.7 mm wide. The catalogued watermark 1 stamps with the black overprint belong to the 27.2 x 31.5 mm variety, while both the blue typographed and the off set blue over-

prints belong to the 27.7 x 31.5 mm variety.

All peso value sheets contain five stamps, and since all of the unlisted watermark 1 issues were cancelled at three different locations, it may be thus presumed that at least 150 stamps existed. It is my hope that, through the publication of this information, other examples will appear. These stamps may be considered as the most uncommon of all the CORREO AEREO overprinted 1915–1936 issues.

Endnotes

1. Chile 2006, specialized catalogue (Santiago: Sociedad Filatélica de Chile, 2006).
2. Julio C. Vaca S., *La Emisión Provisional de Correo Aéreo 1928–1936* (Santiago: Sociedad Filatélica de Chile, 1944).
3. *Latin American Post*, No. 3 (July/August/September 1991): 240.
4. *The Chile Specialist*, No. 4 (January 181, 1992): 8.
5. Letters by Burl C. Henry to the Sociedad Filatélica de Chile, dated August 18, 1992 and November 4, 1997.



Valparaiso registered mail air mail cds.

The Author

Dr. Eduardo Madsen, a native of Chile and a retired orthodontist, has lived in Germany since 1970. Following his retirement he developed an interest in the aero postal history of Chile, which has led to the publication of two books and numerous papers in different journals.

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Prisoners of the Great War Send Home Picture Postcards

by Alexander Kolchinsky

On June 28, 1914, Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip assassinated the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria. A month later, this event triggered the military conflict that eventually involved countries on six continents and resulted in unimaginable suffering and loss of life: the Great War.

The war also left an extensive philatelic legacy. One of the most peculiar aspects of this legacy are picture postcards that were used by prisoners of war for correspondence with their homelands.

The total number of prisoners of the Great War is estimated at eight million. Most of them were held in Russia (2.4 million), Germany (2.4 million), and Austria-Hungary (between 1.2 and 1.9 million). The general principles of

their treatment were spelled out in the Hague Conventions signed in 1899 and 1907 by all major belligerents. Among other provisions, the prisoners were allowed to correspond with their home countries postage-free, with the assistance of neutral countries and international relief organizations.

The specifics of these requirements were agreed upon during the Stockholm conference of national Red Cross organizations in November–December 1915. In particular, the captor countries had to supply POWs with blank postcards free of charge or at a nominal price, and most of the surviving mail of POWs is written on such formular cards issued both by central authorities and by local camp administrations. These formular cards have been described in great philatelic details.¹ At the same time, quite a few prisoners communicated with their loved ones using picture postcards

(PPCs). Such postcards sent by prisoners from different countries present unique historic evidence of their human condition.

The war broke out at the height of the so-called “Golden Age” of picture postcards. When PPCs were



The goal of sending such a postcard was to reassure the loved ones that the captivity was not a tragedy, but just a novel experience at an exotic place.





"Greetings from Gardelegen" sent by a French POW from Germany in March 1915.



used for actual communication (as opposed to exchange and collecting), their visual messages supplemented the text in order to share the sender's impressions, experiences, and feelings with the recipient. It was even more important for POWs, whose correspondence was censored and who had to navigate between writing about their captivity either too negatively or too positively. In the former case, the outgoing mail would be censored or destroyed by the military censorship, since all complaints had to be sent in sealed envelopes to the Red Cross. In the latter case, the mail could not pass through the censors of Russia, Austria-Hungary, and Serbia who censored the incoming mail from POWs. These countries were not confident in the loyalty of their military and did not want the captivity to look attractive. Germany, France, and Great Britain did not censor such mail.

Under these circumstances, the picture on a postcard could have been more eloquent than any written word. My first example is the postcard "With Greetings from Tiumen" (the so-called "Grüss aus" type) sent by an Austrian ensign from the Siberian city of Tiumen' to his family in Brünn (today Brno) in June 1915. In addition to its inviting picture, he wrote: "My beloved baby, I am eagerly waiting for news from you. I am well, swim in the river every day. It is very warm here. There are many buddies from Königsfeld here. We exercise, play, read and hope for the best" The goal of sending such a postcard was to reassure the loved ones that the captivity was not a tragedy, but just a novel experience at an exotic place.

The handwritten marking in blue pencil is the permission of a postal clerk to send the postcard postage-free. The larger red circular stamp is the Russian censor mark at the center of postal district Omsk, while the smaller red circular stamp is the Austro-Hungarian censor mark applied in Budapest. Outgoing mail from Russian camps usually was collected in large bags and did not receive dated cancels. The postcard was issued by M. E. Efimov.

The majority of PPCs of this kind were sent from Russia.

The reason for this was the fact that about 75 percent of all prisoners there were Hungarians, as well as Czechs, Croatians, Poles, and other ethnic minorities from the piecemeal Austro-Hungarian Empire, many of them of Slav origin, who had limited loyalty to their homeland.² Although they experienced their share of mistreatment and violence, they felt a certain affinity with the population of the Russian empire. This affinity was often mutual, and the images on their PPCs were usually the most upbeat and diverse.

Indeed, similar "Grüss aus" PPCs sent from other countries are extremely rare, and I have only one sent by a French POW from German soldiers' camp ("Stalag") Gardelegen in Saxony-Anhalt. The markings include black dated origin and destination circular postmarks; a purple marking "Kriegsgefangenensendung" ("sent by POW"); a circular purple German censor mark; and a purple German camp marking "F. a." ("Fristgemäß abgefertigt" — "dispatched timely"). Issued by A. Langenbeck Verlag in Gardelegen.

Unlike the Russian camp system, in Germany the location of the camp unambiguously indicates whether it was a Stalag or an Oflag.³ The sender did not mention that at that time the Gardelegen camp experienced an epidemic of typhus.⁴ Most likely, he was afraid to attract censor's attention. In fact, in most countries censors were so overwhelmed by the amount of mail that they preferred to destroy postcards with undesirable content rather than mark anything out.

Of course, not every prisoner in Russia felt so welcome that he was sending such joyful postcards, especially rank and file soldiers. Russian society was extremely socially segregated, and this segregation determined the difference between the treatment of officers and soldiers codified in the Hague agreements. Officers were supposed to receive salaries equal to the same rank in the army of the captor, could not be forced to work, were not subjected to abusive



PPC sent by an imprisoned soldier from Irkutsk to Budapest.

treatment or corporal punishment, and enjoyed many other privileges. Soldiers were forced into hard labor, had very little money if any, and were severely punished for even minor offences or for no fault at all. Soldiers were kept in complete separation from officers, with the exception of those lucky souls who served the officers as servants, cooks, janitors, etc.

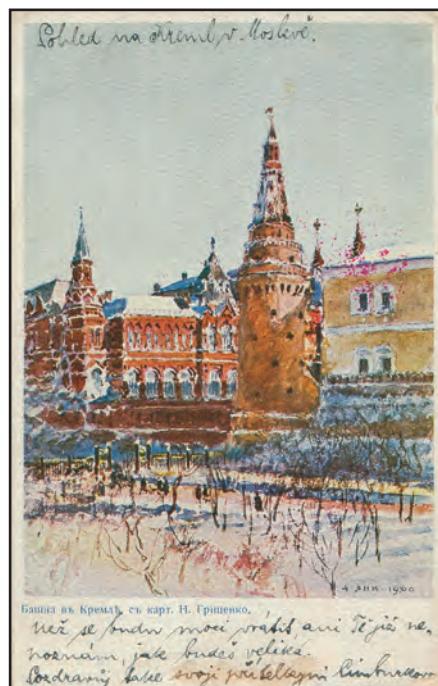
The living conditions of higher and lower ranks were radically different as well, especially at the beginning of the war. In most locations in Russia, soldiers' and officers' camps existed side by side, so it is rarely possible to determine whether the sender was an officer or a soldier. Officers were often allowed to live in private quarters outside the camps. As the war progressed, the warring countries experienced an ever increasing shortage of workforce both in agriculture and in industry. As the result, more POWs of lower ranks also were allowed to live outside the camps. This was especially common in Russia: it was virtually impossible to escape from Siberia anyway. Prisoners who lived or worked outside Russian camps sent their cards from regular post offices and they received circular dated postmarks.

It is no wonder that the majority of PPCs from Russia were sent by officers. Still, some soldiers also sent such postcards. Illustrated is a soldier's post-



PPC sent by an imprisoned soldier from Irkutsk to Budapest.

card mailed in December 1914 from Irkutsk to Budapest. At the bottom the sender wrote in Russian with great difficulty: "From an imprisoned Hungarian soldier" The Cyrillic writing in purple ink "Д.П." represents the Irkutsk censor mark. The postcard shows Irkutsk cathedral, one of the largest in Russia. It was issued by a local bookstore.



One has to keep in mind that, unlike the United States and some other countries, PPCs in Russia were quite expensive. A black-and-white postcard cost 5 kopeks, and a color postcard 10 kopeks. By comparison, in 1914 a pound of meat cost 4 kopeks and a pound of white bread 2 kopeks. At the same time, blank postcards distributed in the camps cost ½ or 1 kopek. Thus, sending a PPC was an intentional act requiring additional expense.

In general, landscapes and landmarks were the most common subjects of PPCs from POWs. Again, the majority of such "touristy" postcards were

sent from Russia. They depicted peaceful landscapes, views of Russian cities, churches, public buildings, and exotic peoples of the multinational Empire. By choosing these pictures, senders expressed not just mere curiosity but optimistic mood and sympathy to Russia. For instance, a Czech POW chose a reproduction of a sunny Impressionistic painting of Moscow's Kremlin, issued by



This postcard was sent by a Czech POW from a camp in Syzran' on the Volga River in 1916.

the charitable Society of St. Eugenia, a major publisher of high-quality artistic postcards. In the message, he thanked his acquaintance in Brno for Easter greetings. The card arrived in Austria in fewer than sixty days, which was about average for that period. The red triangular handstamp representing the Austro-Hungarian censor mark was applied in Vienna.

The life of POWs in the Russian Empire was often extremely difficult: they suffered from dismal living conditions, epidemics of mortal diseases, harsh climate, inept and corrupt state bureaucracy, and — by the end of the war — starvation. In addition, there was an open discrimination against German and especially Turkish POWs. As the result of all this, the mortality of prisoners in Russia is estimated at 25–30 percent. Although the treatment of POWs in Germany also was harsh, better sanitary conditions, organization, and traditional German “Ordnung” resulted in much lower mortality of 5 percent among Russian prisoners and even lower among prisoners from other countries.

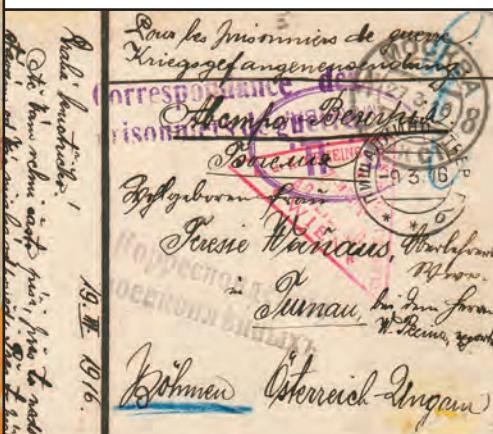


Many problems of POWs were caused by the rapid deterioration of local economies that affected the general population almost to the same extent. Paradoxically, those prisoners who survived in Russia, especially during the most difficult early period of imprisonment, sometimes fared better than POWs in other countries. Many of them had more freedom of movement, found gainful employment, and, in 1915, the Russian government even allowed prisoners in Siberia and the Far East to marry Russian women. These aspects of their captivity can help explain the imagery and the abundance of PPCs sent by prisoners from Russia.

Another postcard issued by a Russian charity, The Com-



Easter greeting sent in March 1916 from a village in Tverskaia guberniia to Turnau in Bohemia (currently Turnov in Czech Republic).



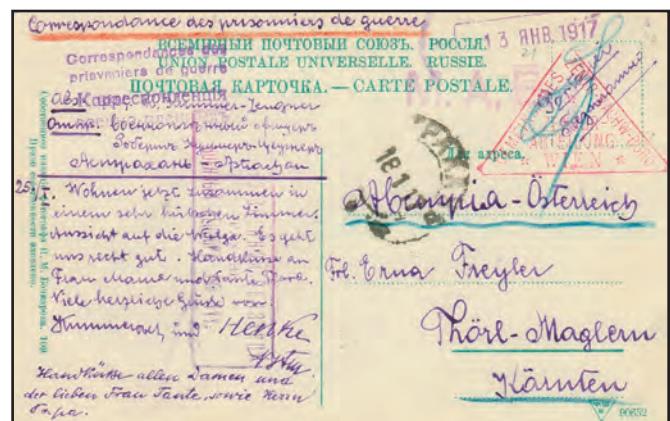


munity of St. Nicholas, shows a nurse accompanied by a boy bringing treats to a wounded soldier. In fact, prisoners were often treated side-by-side with the soldiers and officials of the captor country, in exact accordance with the Hague agreements. For contemporaries, however, it was obvious that the "nurse" on the postcard was actually the Empress consort of Russia, Alexandra Fedorovna, who was the patron of numerous charities caring for the sick and the wounded as well as a trained surgical nurse, and the boy was the heir to the Russian throne, Tsarevitch Alexei. Thus, the prisoner did not hesitate to send home a postcard that portrayed members of the enemy monarch's family! The larger black circular marking is a Moscow transit stamp, and the oval purple marking is the Moscow censor mark.

Naturally, with more than 400 camps spread all over the huge Empire, PPCs from prisoners show many unusual images of its peoples, mores, and nature. An Austrian office from a tiny village in the Italian Alps, who was a prisoner in Astrakhan', sent home a picture of a group of Kyrgyz people with their camels harnessed to sleds on the snow. Such an

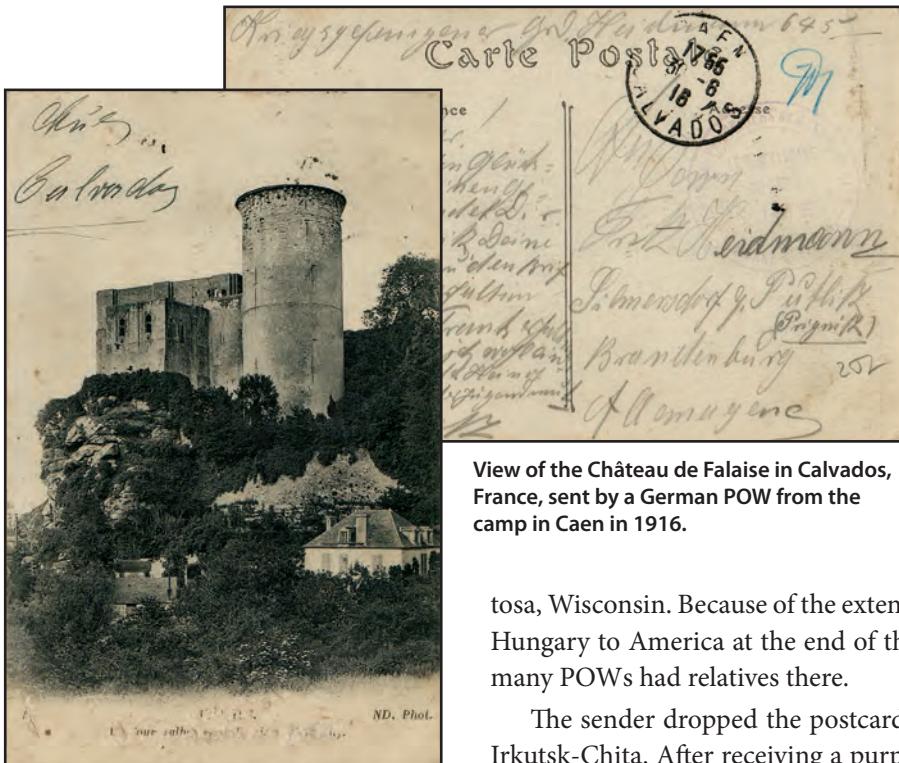


"Astrakhan', The Kyrgyz on the road," Postcard sent in January 1917 from Astrakhan' to Thörl-Maglern.





PPC shows a segment of Trans-Baikal railroad.



View of the Château de Falaise in Calvados, France, sent by a German POW from the camp in Caen in 1916.

tosa, Wisconsin. Because of the extensive emigration from Germany and Austria-Hungary to America at the end of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, many POWs had relatives there.

The sender dropped the postcard at the traveling post offic (TPO) mail car Irkutsk-Chita. After receiving a purple censor mark in Irkutsk, the postcard was sent to London, where it was machine-canceled in orange ink. During the war, this postmark was used by Royal Mail for postage-free mail, both incoming and



Picturesque view of Königsbrück sent by a French POW to Lorient in Brittany.

transit. Then it crossed the ocean and in New York was postmarked for postage-free delivery. In Wauwatosa it received a patriotic arrival postmark and was forwarded to Milwaukee. It reached its destination in eighty-one days, which was about average in 1917. Note the low quality of postcard due to collapsing Russian economy.

Postcards with local views also are relatively common in the mail of German POWs from France, both from the mainland and from those who found themselves in the French colonial territories in Northern Africa, although these postcards are not as colorful as those sent from Russia. This could be explained by the fact that high-quality PPCs remained available in Russia longer because of their relatively high price. At the same time, the inventory in other European countries probably sold out, while the European printing industry suffered a dramatic deterioration caused by economic difficulties.

A typical French postcard of the period shows Falaise castle, the birthplace of William the Conqueror. The large, faint purple marking is the French censor mark, while the marking in blue pencil gives permission to mail the card postage-free. The postcard was published by Neurdein Frères (Paris).

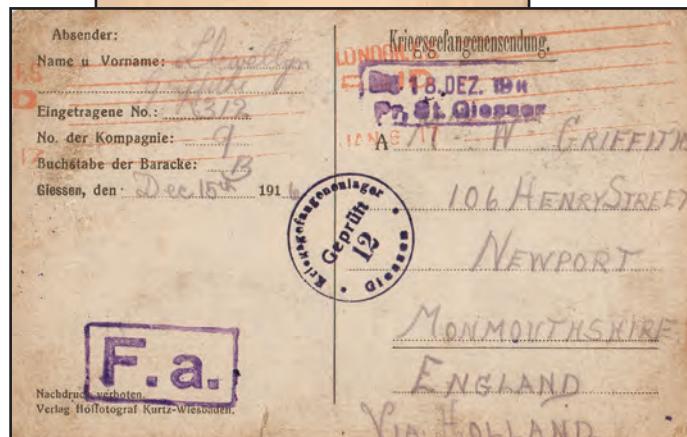
Built before the beginning of the eleventh century — the prominent features that remain are structures from the twelfth to thirteenth centuries — it was probably depicted in every visitor's guide. However, real photographs were not allowed on postcards, and the French censor carefully scratched out the name of the place below the picture. Such a senseless execution of a formal requirement is evident on other PPCs sent from France. Although the same restriction was in effect in Russia, Russian censors proved much more reasonable than their French colleagues and did not think that the picture of a Siberian Cathedral might bear any importance for Austro-Hungarian intelligence.

From the other side of the front line, French POWs sometimes sent view postcards from Germany, especially in the last two years of the war. In contrast to Russia, most of these postcards were sent from soldiers' camps. One such postcard was sent from Stalag Königsbrück, which held 15,000 French, Russian, Serbian and, later, Italian prisoners, separated by nationality.⁵ The black oval is the German censor mark. The postcard was published by Brük and Sohn (Meissen).

Many, if not most, PPCs sent by French and especially British POWs from Germany depicted the grim reality of life and death in the camps. German printers produced a seemingly infinite amount of images of prisoners of all nationalities in camps, outside the camps, marching, at work, resting, in color and in black-and-white, etc. One of the reasons for this abundance, as some historians believe, was the colonialist mentality of the German public. "Exhibitions of peoples"



Postcard sent by a British POW from Camp Giessen to England.



were popular in Germany well before the onset of the war.⁶ Since many soldiers in the French and British armies were recruited in the colonies and looked "exotic," the locals came to see them in the camps and even had to be kept away by camp guards.

In comparison, very few postcards showing prisoners were printed in Russia; it seems that Russian publishers refrained from additional humiliation and indiscretion towards the prisoners, and the public had a similar disposition.

Some postcards sent from Germany and depicting the camps were produced by independent publishers. In addition, print shops working inside the camps often produced similar images. They showed boring, depressing buildings, bunks in the barracks, food lines, and modest places of worship. Often they showed monuments commemorating those who died in captivity, like the one sent from soldiers' camp at Giessen. The image is titled "Monument Erected in Memory of the Prisoners of War Who Died in Captivity at Giessen. R.I.P." The dark purple circular marking was left by the German censor. The PPC was issued by L.W. Kurtz in Wiesbaden.

An altogether different category of PPCs used by prisoners were Christmas, Easter, and New Year greetings. Here, again, one can observe a major difference between greeting cards sent from Russian captivity and from other countries.



New Year's greeting sent in November 1915 from Petropavlovsk.

The former were invariably positive and sometimes even playful, such as the one shown with a young woman "flying" an airplane. Such an image hardly can be associated with deprivation and suffering. Although offi ally all prisoners' mail had to be written in Russian, German or French, Russian authorities consistently ignored this requirement, permitting the prisoners to write in any of the many languages of Austria-Hungary. The greetings on this postcard are in Czech. The black circular date stamp is from Petropavlovsk (modern-day Petropavlov in Kazakhstan) with a faint purple rectangle permit for postage-free mailing. It was then censored (purple circular marking) and went to Olomouc in Austria-Hungary (currently the Czech Republic) after being censored in Vienna (red triangular marking). The postcard was issued by E. A. Schwerdtfle er & Co. (Berlin).

This postcard is in stark contrast with greeting cards from prisoners in Germany. They were either ordered exclusively for the camps from outside suppliers, or produced by print shops inside the camps. These postcards always project a certain degree of gloom and homesickness. One such postcard was sent to Great Britain from the soldiers' camp in Dyrotz. The religious meaning of the holiday is indicated by a small church in the background of the oval that symbolizes the soldier's dream of at-



tending Christmas church services at home. The purple circle is the German censor mark. Most probably, the postcard was produced in the camp.

A somewhat similar postcard was printed, although not postally used, at the Stobs camp for German POWs in Scotland. The camp was used as a military training base and held 6,000 German prisoners. Although the conditions in the camp were in full compliance with the Hague agreements, the landscape and climate were so depressing that even British soldiers referred to it as "Hell."

In general, PPCs sent by German prisoners from Britain are quite rare, and those sent by the British from Germany were usually produced at the camps and demonstrate patriotism and strength of British character. The mutual animosity between the two nations shaped by intensive propaganda campaigns before the war is evident upon consideration of the illustrated mail sent by their POWs.

The argument could be made that Russian POWs had much stronger religious feelings than prisoners from other countries. The defense of Orthodox Christianity was at the center of Russian state ideology and played an important role in its international policy, in the very decision to declare war on Austria-Hungary, and in the motivation of Russian troops. Holiday PPCs produced



Christmas card sent from the German Camp Dyrotz to London in December 1917.

for Russian POWs in Germany were so festive that sometimes they were used by prisoners from other countries, despite the difference in denominations. A British prisoner used a Russian Easter PPC to send greetings to his relatives in Scotland. The girl on the postcard holds traditional Russian Easter treats: sweet Easter cake ("kulich") and sweet cottage cheese with raisins in the shape of a pyramid. Above the image are the words "Christ has risen!" and at the bottom left the POW wrote "Easter 1916," so that his loved ones would not be confused by Cyrillic writing.

Since the prisoners were limited in expression by censorship, some of them tested their luck by hinting at their plans or dreams using postcards with suggestive images. Thus, a prisoner in Tobol'sk in Siberia found a British postcard issued by Raphael Tuck with quite a telling picture. The Russian censor missed the provocative visual message of the flying rabbit, and the postcard reached its destination in Austria in a record twenty-one days. The New Year's greetings card was sent in November 1915 from Petropavlovsk to Olomouc. The red triangular censor mark was added in Vienna.

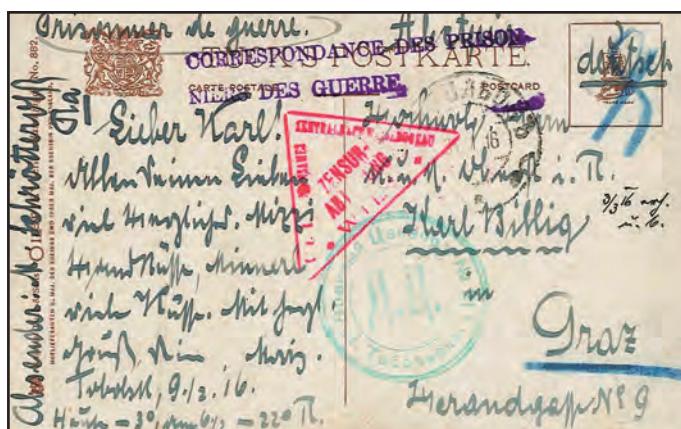
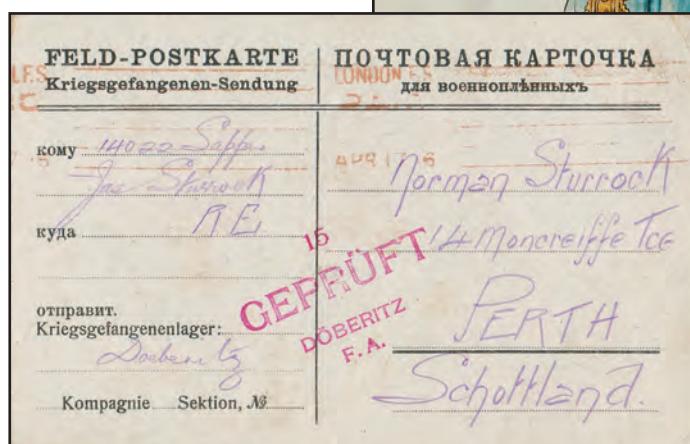
The mail of German POWs from Japan oc-



New Year's greeting card printed at British camp Stobs for German POWs.



Easter postcard "Christ has risen!" printed for Russian POWs and sent by a British prisoner from the Camp Döberitz to Scotland in 1916.



PPC with New Year greetings sent in November 1915 from a POW in Petropavlovsk to Olomouc.



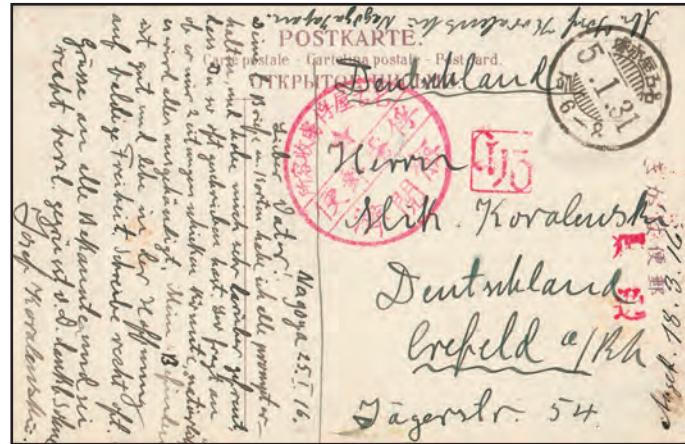
PPC from a German POW in Japan to Krefeld-on-Rhine (before 1929 also spelled Crefeld) (courtesy of Charles Rehwinkel).

cupies a place of its own in the philatelic history of the Great War. Japan's decision to join the Entente was rather opportunistic: it attempted to acquire more influence in Asian region, and in October 1914 joined the British siege of the German settlement Kiautschou (currently Jiaozhou) in China. After the surrender of the German garrison, Japan took 4,500 POWs. Although isolated incidents of cruelty and violence against German prisoners have been reported, generally their treatment was exemplary, in a striking contrast to the events of World War II. There was no anti-German propaganda in Japan before the war, and in some places locals met arriving prisoners with fl wers.⁷ It is no wonder that all postcards from POWs in Japan that I have seen depict peaceful landscapes and other national motifs. Some of them have post-production overprints on their address sides for the use by POWs. In the example shown, the circular black stamp is dated 5th year of Taishō era, corresponding to 1916.

Conclusion

Among today's historians there are two theories regarding the treatment of the prisoners of the Great War. Some scholars posit that the violence against POWs, the concentration camps, the use of forced labor, and the system of punishment were all direct precursors, even models, of the treatment of both POWs and civilians during World War II. Another point of view is that, despite the suffering, violence and high mortality, the treatment of POWs during the Great War at least to some extent complied with international agreements and in general was much more humane than in the next World War.

I believe that picture postcards presented in this article make an argument in favor of the latter concept. The very appearance of these primary historic documents, especially those sent from Russia, conveys a feeling that at least some of the prisoners were held in fair conditions and were able to maintain their dignity and even a certain degree of free-



View of Japan. Yokohama Bay
Nagoya 25.1.16.
Brief an Heimkehr habe ich alle postmöglichen
Briefe und habe mich sehr darüber freuen
dass Du so oft und gebeten hast uns zu schreiben
und wir auch von welchen Ereignissen nichts
wirbel allen empfanden. Wenn es funktioniert
ist gut und kann ich das Hoffnung auf
auf baldige Freilicht Schreibe recht oft.
Gemeine sind alle Reformierte und wir
nicht hier. Gegrüßt u. S. Burdick
S. Burdick
Krefeld a/Rh
Jägerstr. 54
Deutschland
18.3.16

dom. In fact, this point of view, which is in striking contrast with the treatment of the prisoners during World War II, is strongly supported by numerous memoirs written by former prisoners of the Great War.⁸

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Professors Manfred Raether, Zoltan Ujhelyi, and David Cooper (all at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) and the APS translation Committee for help. The 1915 New Year's card sent from Petropavlovsk to Olomouc was kindly provided by Charles Rehwinkel; all other postcards are from the author's collection.

Endnotes

- See, for instance, Miron Lam, "A Classification of World War I POW Cards," *The Journal of the Rossica Society of Russian Philately*, No. 150 (Spring 2008): 149–182.
- I. I. Shleikher, *Voennoplennye pervo mirovoi voiny: problemy pleneniia, transportirovki i soderzhania v sibirskikh lageriakh* [Prisoners of the First World War; problems of capture, transportation and imprisonment in Siberian camps] (Iz proshloga Sibiri. Vyp. 4. Ch. 1. Novosibirsk, 2001), pp. 54–97.
- See complete list of German camps in the entry "World War I Prisoners of War in Germany" in Wikipedia.
- Heather Jones, *Violence against Prisoners of War in the First World War: Britain, France and Germany, 1914–1920* (Cambridge University Press, 2011), pp. 98–100.
- Today there is a sculpture of dying Serbian soldier installed in Königsbrück in commemoration of one of the largest POW camps of World War I in Germany.
- Oxana Nagornaja, "United by Barbed Wire. Russian POWs in Germany, National Stereotypes, and International Relations, 1914–22," *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 10, No. 3 (Summer 2009): 475–98.
- Charles Burdick and Ursila Moessner, *The German Prisoners of War in Japan, 1914–1920* (Lanham, MD: University Press of America, Inc., 1984), pp. 7–8.
- See detailed references in: Alon Rachamimov, *POWs and the Great War* (Oxford, UK: Berg, 2002).

The Author

Alexander Kolchinsky is a retired molecular biologist who immigrated to the United States from Russia in 1991. He is interested in social and historic aspects of philately, focusing primarily on Russian postal history. He is the secretary of Rossica Society of Russian Philately and active in his local Champaign-Urbana Stamp Club in Illinois.

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-George Bailey



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Shades of Midnight

by Kevin Lowther

Postal history puts you in touch with the past; it can put you in touch with the present, as well. Browsing the APS StampStore one day, I came across a 1911 cover neatly postmarked in the small Yazoo delta town of Midnight, Mississippi. For \$10, how could I resist?

The seller had neglected to mention that the envelope contained an eight-page handwritten letter from "Clifton" to his fiancée, Lucille Wallace, thirty miles north in Indianola.

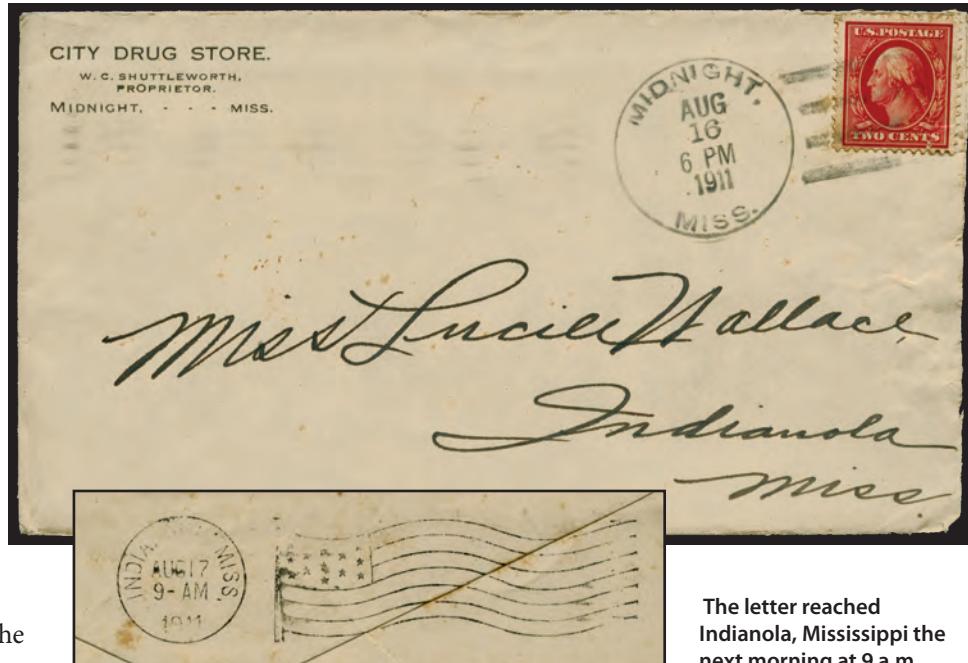
"The time passes so awfully slowly down here," wrote a love-sick William Clifton Shuttleworth, the 21-year-old proprietor of the City Drug Store. Lucille, he lamented teasingly, was enjoying the good life in Indianola, "car riding and eating watermelons." He implored her to visit Midnight. "But then I'm afraid [sic] you might not want to come back here any more."

Researching Shuttleworth revealed the usual bits and pieces. Lucille, it seemed clear, had *not* ventured down to Midnight. When Clifton registered for the military draft on June 5, 1917, the couple were married and living in Indianola with their two children. No longer a druggist, Clifton listed himself as a farmer. Now a family man and producer of crops needed for the war effort, he was spared conscription into the army.

While surfing the Internet, I also stumbled across a somewhat dated posting from a woman in Memphis regarding Shuttleworth. On a whim and a prayer, I e-mailed Amy Simpson Redmon, mentioning the cover and its contents. What could she tell me about Clifton and Lucille? Shuttleworth, she responded the next day, was her maternal grandfather!

"We called him Daddy Shag ... because of his shaggy hair," she wrote. "He was a cut-up and sang and played guitar.... He would make up words to songs and put our names in them."

Although Mrs. Redmon was only four when Clifton died in 1945, she has vivid memories. "He had horses and carriages for rent," she recalled. "He had the second car in Indianola and would rent it out, but only if they would agree



The letter reached Indianola, Mississippi the next morning at 9 a.m.

to let him drive it." Many a young Indianola beau reluctantly had to accept Daddy Shag as his chaperone on dates.

"Muddie" — as Lucille was known — became as much of an institution in Indianola as Clifton. She would spend more than a half century as court stenographer. Unwilling to part with her services when she reached mandatory retirement, the judges arranged a special exemption. She died in 1979 at age 88.

It may have been then, with the cleaning out of a lifetime's mementos, that Clifton's Midnight letter slipped away into the world of philately. But having tracked down a living descendant of the sender, I felt that it belonged back in the family. So I sent it to her.

What Mrs. Redmon had neglected to tell me initially is that her own mother — Clifton and Muddie's daughter Allane — was still living.

"Oh my goodness," she reported, "what joy I had today, showing my 97-year-old mother the 101-year-old letter from her father to her mother!"

Daddy Shag could have composed a song about that special moment.

The Author

Kevin Lowther, an APS life member, specializes in the Washington-Franklins and their postal history. Readers with information on the Shuttleworth family history may contact Mrs. Redmon at REDMON1@aol.com.

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Scanning for Stamp Shades

by Timothy A. Lyerla

Is there a simple way to determine shades of stamps of the same basic color objectively? That is the question I would like to explore in the following article. The purchase of two used, unwatermarked 3-rupee varieties from German East Africa, both supposedly *Michel German Specialized* catalogue number 21a, stirred my interest in distinguishing these stamps from the other color variant, Michel 21b.¹ One stamp was from an active U.S. dealer of German stamps, and the other from a well-known mail order house. Neither of the 21a stamps was expertized, but having three less expensive and presumably, easily identified, 21b items in my possession for comparison, it seemed a matter of simply making the distinction based upon their Michel descriptions — dark carmine red (21a) vs. dark red (21b) frames — under good lighting conditions. This turned out not to be possible through simple visual inspection, however, so some attempt was made to compare these five used items using more technical and less subjective methods.

There is interest in developing objective methods to as-

sess stamp colors, as seen in a recent technical article by Herendeen and others.² However, the Herendeen article involved some sophisticated instrumentation for spectroscopic evaluations and is not likely to become a commonplace tool for the average collector. Also, the aim of these authors was to determine the color of a given issue, and not simply to compare shades within the same color. The flatbed scanner that is readily available nowadays uses the reflective properties from white light to produce a color image that can be manipulated with easily accessible software for this purpose. This article describes the possibility of making stamp shade comparisons using these more common tools.

The stamps were scanned with Scan Express™ software at 1200 resolution and 24-bit color using a Mustek model SE A3 USB 2400 PRO flatbed scanner connected to a Dell Latitude D810 laptop computer, and saved as JPEG images. These were opened on the Adobe Photoshop Elements™ (version 7) platform, and the histograms for “Colors” from the Rupee value “3” outlined by the “Quick Selection” tool were captured by the “Snipping Tool” and placed into a Microsoft Excel™ spreadsheet for analysis. An example of one of these stamps and the precise selection of the numerals for color analysis of the mint stamps is illustrated in Figure 1.

The efficacy of this method to distinguish among color variants was tested with the same stamp produced at a later date and bearing the lozenge watermark, Michel number 39 for German East Africa. According to the *Michel German Specialized* catalogue, there are some eight different varieties of this stamp. Five of these are described as having frames with differing shades of red, including the two given for the Michel number 21 types. More than one mint copy of three of the color variants of this issue was available for establishing the uniformity of the histograms within stamps of the same variety, and mint condition stamps were used in order to avoid the effects of cancellation ink for these assessments. One of these “Colors” channel histograms is shown in Figure 2.

The histogram reads from left to right and



Figure 1. German East Africa stamp purchased as Michel number 21a (dark carmine red) shows the numerals selected using the Snipping Tool.

shows the numbers of pixels captured (Y-axis) by the channel used across the tonal range of the scanner. This range of luminosity, or tones, goes from black to white, in 256 columns along the X axis, from 0 at the left edge or totally black (no luminosity), to 255 at the right edge or totally white (greatest luminosity). The histogram is the visual display of the total number of pixels for each of the 256 different luminosities. The three different colors are assigned luminosities according to human eyesight, which is most sensitive to green, less to red, and least to blue, and this relates to their relative luminosities in the tonal scale developed for digital color photography: green 75-red 38-blue 17.

For a red color image, the highest luminosity at the right edge will be in red, as red is the most luminous because it is what is being seen by the observer, so the pixels are clustered in the histogram on the right, as shown in the above figure. The arrow points to a single luminosity column, 195, whose numbers of pixels have gone off the scale and beyond the top line of the border around the histogram. The blue and green luminosities in this same region of the stamp are far less luminous than the red, and so are located toward the black, left edge. The overlap between the blue and green luminosities is shown in the mid-region as a cyan color. The yellow seen at the left end of the red region is due to the overlap of red with green at these luminosities. For a purely blue color image, the blue region would show a histogram with pixels clustered at the right end, and any red and greens toward the left end; and for a green color image, the green pixels will be clustered at the right end, and curve toward the left end for the red and blue channels, respectively, in their histograms.

The average luminosity seen here is 108.46 (although this is a calculated number — each column is a single integer), with a standard deviation of 66.87 — indicating the spread of luminosities around the mean. These values are not useful in this context, as they include the entire range of tonalities, and the concern here is limited to the red and green/blue regions.

With red considered as an example, the luminosity of the red inks themselves used in the production of a given issue may differ among different printings, giving rise to different shades that could provide different histograms. Also, the non-red compo-

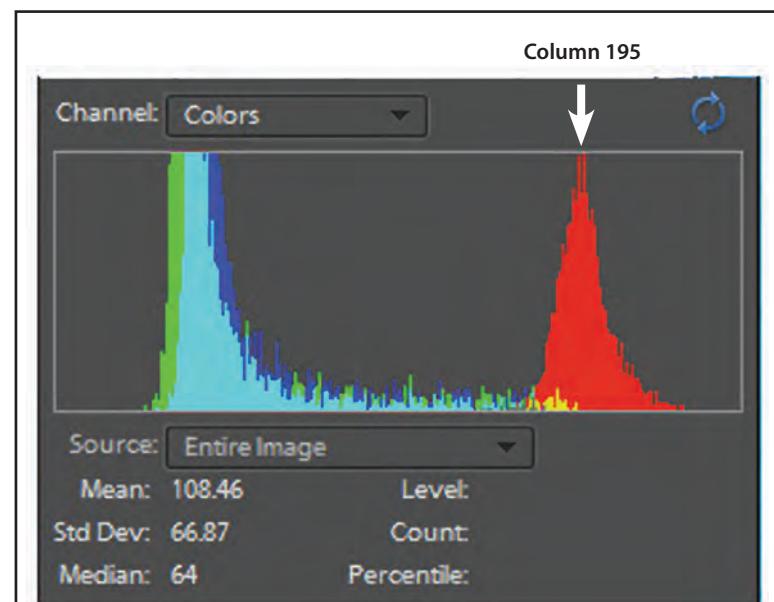


Figure 2. A screen shot of an example of a “Colors” channel histogram showing Column 195.

nents of these inks, or even the paper itself, that are seen as luminosities in the green and blue channels could very well differ among various printings, and exhibit histograms that can be used to define a given shade. Finally, differing histograms indicative of proportional differences among the dyes in the inks for a given issue could account for shade differences. This is the logic for pursuing a study of tonal histograms in the “Colors” mode to see if they provide an objective method for determining shades of postage stamps.

As all three varieties of the Michel German East Africa

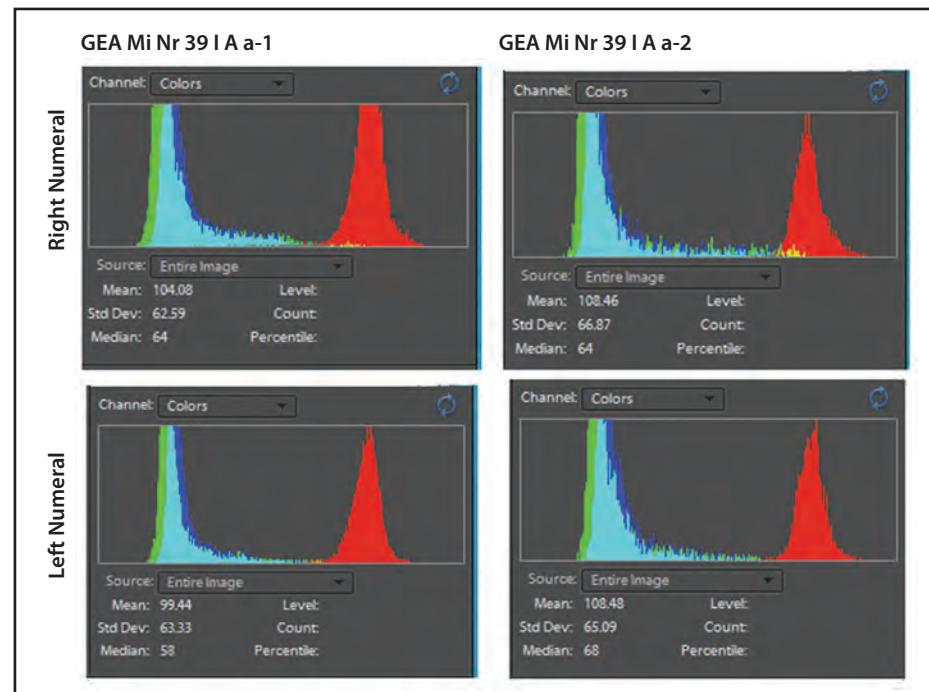


Figure 3. Screen shots of histograms displaying varieties of German East Africa Michel number 39.

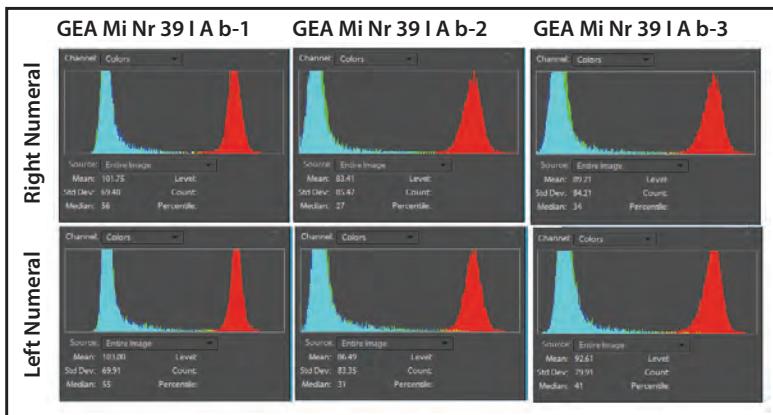


Figure 4. Screen shots of histograms for three samples of Michel number 39 IAb, listed as dark red.

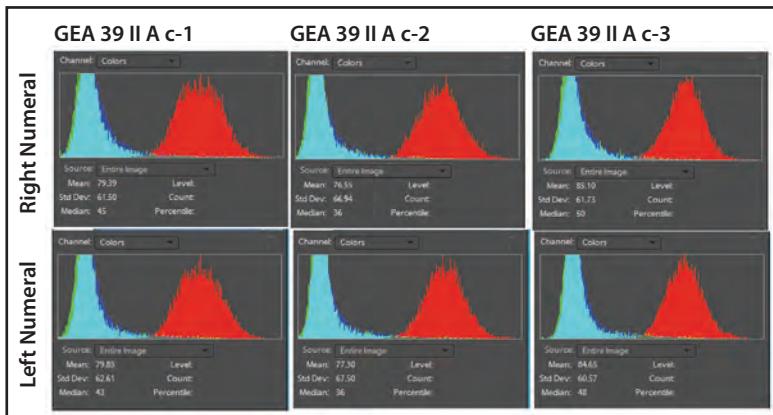


Figure 5. Screen shots show the third type of histogram found in the three samples of 39 II Ac variety, described as blackish red carmen.

number 39 were of different shades, and there were two or three stamps of each variety for testing, it was possible to verify the technique for the uniformity of histograms within a shade using these small sample sets. Figure 3 shows histo-

gram displays of these issues.

The “Colors” histograms of the right and left numerals from Mi Nr (Michel number) 39 IAA-1 (item 1) and 39 IAA-2 (item 2 of this stamp) exhibit this uniformity. This variety is listed as dark carmine red in shade, and yellowish red in UV. The red area regions in the histograms are separated from the blue/green region similarly in all samples, and the blue and green regions have about the same amount of overlap (cyan color between the blue on the right, and green on the left). The higher number of pixels seen in the red region of luminosity in the upper left panel, supposedly a duplicate of the lower left panel, is due to a larger amount of the numeral captured with the Quick Selection tool. This is commonly encountered and ignored for the purpose of analyzing the histograms. The major features used for analysis are the distances between the three color regions, their areas of overlap, and their shapes.

These differences are seen in the histograms for the three mint items of Mi Nr 39 IAb, listed as a dark red shade (Figure 4). The uniformity of histograms within this set is obvious, and the histograms differ considerably from those seen for the Mi 39 IAA variety. Note that there is greater separation between the red and green/blue regions than in the 39 IAa histograms, and essentially complete overlap between the green and blue channels — both features easily distinguishing these two varieties.

Yet a third type of histogram was found in the three samples for the 39 IIAC variety, which is described as blackish red carmine in shade (Figure 5). Again, the left and right numerals’ histograms are virtually identical and histograms form a uniform set for this shade, and are easily distinguished from those of the 39 IAa and 39 IAb varieties. Note the lower luminosity for the red channel, its broader base, and the intermediate amount of overlap between the green/blue channels compared with those of IAa and IAb. From these results, it was concluded that the numerals provided an excellent area to sample for shade distinctions of this issue, that histograms from a given shade were consistently alike, and that these may be used to distinguish among different shades objectively.

The same techniques were employed, then, to compare the used items in the collection of German East Africa for Michel numbers 21a and 21b, dark carmine red and dark red, respectively. Only one copy of the mint stamps for these two varieties was available for establishing base-line histograms, but the uniformity seen in the Michel #39 group gave confidence in the method. The only difference in the

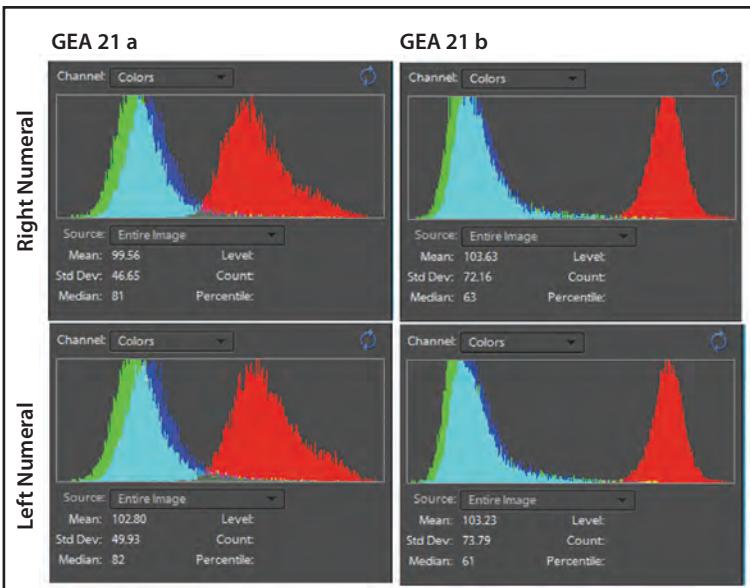


Figure 6. The two mint items for Michel 21 yielded quite different histogram profiles on the “Colors” channel in these screen shots.

sampling of the 3 numeral in this series was restricting the area of it that was "Quick" selected in the used items, in order to avoid any cancellation ink.

The two mint items yielded very different histogram profiles for the "Colors" channel (Figure 6.) The right and left numerals were identical for each stamp, whereas the red and green/blue regions were quite distinct for each variety. All of the used copies of this issue closely matched that of the Mi 21b type of histogram. The items sold as Mi 21a, then, were misidentified. Their histograms exhibit a large gap between the red region and blue/green regions, the red region does not have an extended right "foot" as seen in the histograms for the Mi 21a variety, and the region of overlap between the green and blue areas is larger than that seen in the Mi 21a histograms (Figure 7).

This was confirmed when the scans of the items themselves were compared directly as a group. In

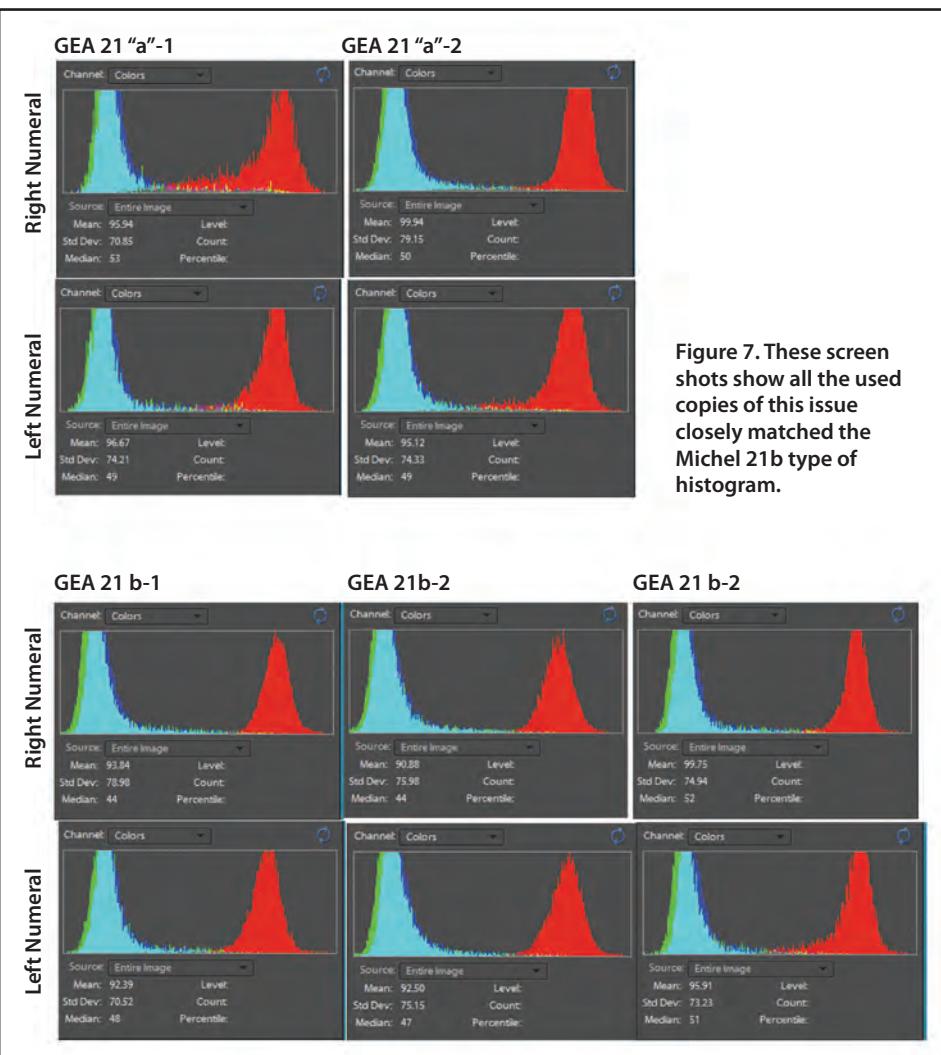


Figure 7. These screen shots show all the used copies of this issue closely matched the Michel 21b type of histogram.



Figure 8. Used Michel "21a" stamps compared with mint example (center); note shade difference.



Figure 9. Used Michel "21a" stamps do compare favorably with the mint 21b example (center).

Figure 8, the used Mi Nr 21 stamps are compared with Mi Nr 21a in mint condition (center stamp). Note the now objectively supported distinction that none of the used stamps match the shade seen of the mint Mi Nr 21a. This is in contrast to what is observed when the used stamps are compared with the mint 21b. In this figure, all of the used copies are seen to compare favorably with the mint item shown in the center (Figure 9).

Comparing these stamps by visual inspection led to no firm conclusion that the two items sold as the Mi 21a shade variety in used condition were, in fact, this shade. This was primarily because they were purchased from normally highly reliable sources as this shade, and there was no independent way to verify their apparent discrepancy in shade from the 21a item in mint condition except for expertization. This discrepancy became very apparent, though, when the scanning methods described above were used for these comparisons. The histogram profiles placed all of the used Mi 21 items into the 21b category, and this was easy to see when the scans of the group of used items were set directly against the individual scans of the mint condition stamps for comparison.

So scanning provides a couple of different ways to compare closely related shades of the same color, and together, these may be of more use than visual examination of the items by someone not an expert in the field. There was some consternation, of course, that dealers had sold incorrectly identified stamps that were the more expensive of the two shades. However, the quest to verify the visual impression that this was the case, was satisfying, and may provide an ob-

jective way to assess shades and even improve dealers' abilities to characterize these stamps.

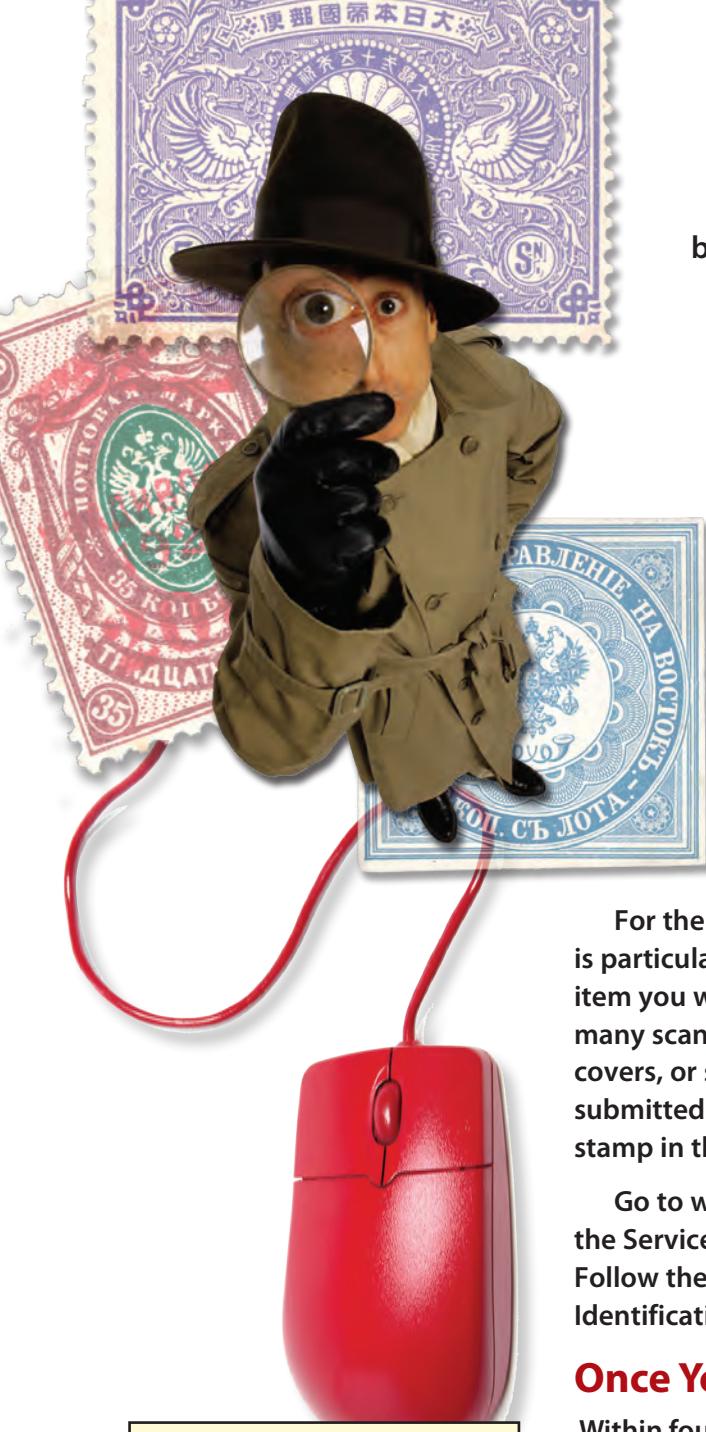
As histograms are also subject to interpretation, this method obviously will not supplant the more traditional way of assessing shades of stamps — that is, by visual comparisons with many examples of a known shade under standard lighting conditions. It is not an alternative to this, then, but may be a useful addition to the more classical approach. It will be necessary to examine several more samples of the same variety to assess the variability within the same shade, and determine how this might best be used to separate it from other shades within the same basic color. If the variation of the histograms is manageable — that is, there is greater uniformity within a given shade than variability, as in the case presented here — this seems a promising technique that is available to the average collector. Certainly it merits further evaluation and makes a case for the use of a scanner beyond simple record keeping — although that's not to be sneezed at, either.

Endnotes

1. Michel Deutschland-Spezial 2011 Kataloge Band 1: 1849 bis April 1945 (München: Schwaneberger Verlag GmbH, Unterschleißheim, 2011).
2. See Institute for Analytical Philately, Inc., www.analyticalphilately.org/, "Philatelic Shade Discrimination Based on Measured Color."

The Author

Tim Lyerla, a retired professor in the biological sciences, has been interested in German philately since boyhood and specializes now in stamps from the Colonial and Foreign post offices of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He thanks Matthew Lyerla for his suggestion of the use of a scanner and for reviewing a version of the manuscript.



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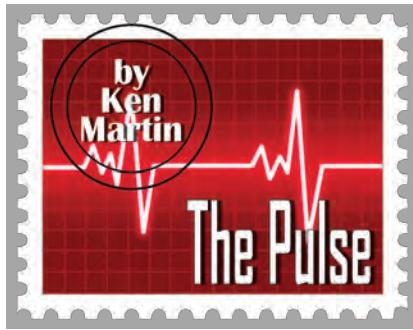
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World Stamp Show NY 2016 Is Coming

The fourth newsletter for *World Stamp Show New York 2016* was issued June 2. This once-every-ten-year U.S. international show will be held May 28 to June 4, 2016. It will utilize 294,000 square feet (about seven acres) in the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City. The show has secured blocks of hotel rooms for as little as \$150/night, some in Manhattan within walking distance of the show. The new subway stop at the Javits is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year, providing more convenience for individuals who would rather stay farther away. Visit the recently updated New York 2016 website, www.ny2016.org, for the latest information.

Speaking of international shows, the APS Board of Directors, which is responsible for sanctioning any FIP shows held in the United States, recently established the schedule for selecting the location for the 2026 international. Proposals will be due January 15, 2015 with a decision planned for our February 2015 Board meeting in Riverside, California. A meeting will be held at *APS STAMPSHOW 2014* in Hartford on Saturday, August 23 for any groups interested in submitting proposals to host the 2026 show. We will answer questions and provide the detailed requirements for proposals. Anyone interested in submitting a proposal for the 2026 show who is unable to attend the Hartford session should contact me at kpmartin@stamps.org; 814-933-3803, ext. 218; or at 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.



APS Website Updates

The home page of the APS website, www.stamps.org, has recently changed its look, giving you easier access to Society News and Upcoming Events. We invite you to visit the website, which it is chock-full of valuable information on finding The AP, how-to articles and videos, exhibits, cachets, and much more.

In May another feature was added to the MyAPS members-only area. Individuals can now track the status and view the opinions of items they have submitted to Expertizing. Log on to our website, click on MyAPS at the middle top of the page, and then choose MyCertificates. At present you can only view items that you yourself have submitted; however, by the end of the summer members should be able to view the final opinions for *all items* we have expertized in the past ten years.

Another great resource recently added to the website is the *Theodore Tedesco Forgeries Index*. This is an English-language literature index that describes postage stamp forgeries, fakes, reprints, fraudulent postal markings, and other obliterations. Originally compiled in 2004 by Theodore M. Tedesco, the index was updated in 2014, and includes book, periodical, and website references. The original index was published serially in the *Philatelic Literature Review*.

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StampShow Meetings and Seminars

National Search for Executive Director – announcement and job description now posted.

2014 Kelz Award Nominees Sought

Local Article for Distaffle coming to the APC

APS Hall of Fame Inductees for 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 11: StampTalk Radio
- June 15-20: Annual Summer Seminar, Headquarters, Bellefonte, PA
- June 25: StampTalk Radio
- July 16-17: Computers and Collecting On-the-Road-Course, Plymouth, MN
- July 21-25: APS Volunteer Work Week, Headquarters, Bellefonte, PA
- July 23 or 26: Exhibiting 101: Writing a Solid Title Page and Synopsis, NEW Internet Module w/Tony Wawrikiewicz (1 - 2 hrs.)
- Aug. 19-20: Before the First Issue: U.S. Locals and Carriers, On-the-Road-Course, Hartford, CT

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World Stamp Show NY 2016

Online Orientation Meetings

If you ever have trouble finding a specific page on our website (which includes about 1,000 different pages), you can always use the search box in the upper right corner of most pages. This searches *only* on our website. Another page to check is our Free Online Seminars on APS services, using GoToMeetings. About thirty members attended our first three online New Member Orientations during May. Another round of online orientations will be held in July, and during the fall we will debut more specialized offerings on specific APS services such as the APS StampStore, Circuit Sales, and the Library. We hope to meet many more of you there.

Mobile App for StampShow 2014 in Hartford

By the time you read this, a free mobile app for our August 21–24 StampShow in Hartford will be available. Many users have found the two previous mobile apps for APS shows more convenient than carrying around a show program. You can even set up a schedule of meetings and seminars you want to attend and receive automatic notifications/reminders about them. While our Hartford StampShow may not be as large as the U.S. international show held every ten years, it is larger than any other annual philatelic exhibition in the United States and is definitely worth a visit!

APC News

The American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte has been a busy place this year. Our newest tenant, the Big Spring Distillery, is finishing up construction on its space and hopes to be manufacturing products by the beginning of July. Unfortunately, it does not appear that this year's 80+ Summer Seminar students will be able to sample their beverages, but the Big Spring Distillery should be open in time for our July 21–25 Volunteer Work Week!

Our Summer Seminar students, however, should see the very beginning of construction to get the larger of the two buildings for future library space to a stage where we can use it for philatelic events. By installing a concrete slab on the first floor, stairs from the first to second floor, a railing around the atrium on the second level, basic lighting, and emergency exit doors we should be able to get an occupancy

permit. The space then becomes usable for events such as the September 12–14 Aerophilately Show and Postal History Symposium, for which we expect as many as 300 frames of exhibits. We will not take out any additional debt for this construction, which is funded by money donated exclusively for the new library space.

We have also had a lot of visitors recently. In late May **Michael Eastick** flew into State College from Melbourne, Australia to spend a couple days here. **Jim and Sue Dempsey** of A&D Stamps from California spent a few days before Napex and plan to be back for nearly two weeks following Napex. **David Grossblat** from Phoenix, Arizona surprised us with a visit. And we were happy to welcome **Dan and Sandy Lubelski** from Ohio, **Jay Carrigan** from North Carolina, and a group from the **Cumberland Valley Philatelic Society**. In addition to making purchases from Circuit Sales and our donation sales, the Cumberland Valley Chapter also made a generous donation. All of these visits were within a one-week period!

Member News

In early May I enjoyed visiting the **Sussex Stamp Club**. Hats off to **Bruce McKinney** who is working hard to grow the club and work with other Delaware chapters. Bruce even managed to get the mayor of the town, who is not a stamp collector, to attend their meeting, which included an excellent overview of Confederate philately by Trish Kaufman.

Congratulations to American Philatelic Research Library president **Roger Brody**. On May 7 the Collectors Club of New York bestowed him with its 2014 Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award for Outstanding Service. Congratulations also to the **Society for Czechoslovak Philately**, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary.

I'm sad to report that **Roland Essig** has passed away. He was a tremendous asset for philately in Wisconsin and a frequent exhibitor probably best known for his *Man Beneath the Sea* exhibit.

Thanks to all of you, member applications to the APS are slightly up for the first five months of the year compared to last year. We still have an annual member loss but this is an important step to reversing it. We thank you and need you to continue your efforts to promote the hobby and the APS.



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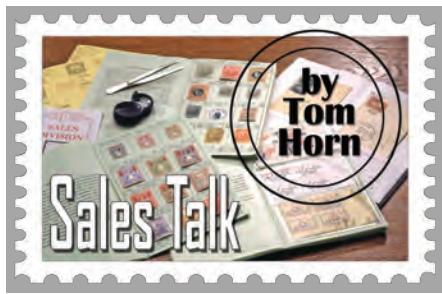
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USPS Tracking Review

In May 2013 we changed the mailing method for forwarding circuits from using Signature Confirmation to USPS Tracking, saving members \$2.80 per mailing. In addition, we raised the Insurance Fund Fee to \$2 to cover anticipated loss increases, because we were not requiring delivery signatures. After reviewing the effects of that change, we have decided to continue with the USPS Tracking method. We still have losses, with some increases coming in the form of moisture-damaged items, so your cost of mailing circuits will continue to be \$5.80 to \$5.95 for postage and \$2 for the Insurance Fund fee. (This assumes that there is no USPS adjustment to postage rates the rest of this year.)

The Insurance Fund Fee is placed in a fund maintained by APS to cover postal losses and damages. Without this fund, members would be required to use

Registered Mail with full insurance to forward circuits, which would cost between \$16.30 and \$20.95 for Registered with Insurance plus postage of \$5.80 (totaling from \$22.10 to as much as \$26.75).

Sign Up for Circuits

There is a postage paid business reply card included in this copy of *The American Philatelist* that you may use to request circuits. For first time requests, please note that no more than three categories should be entered. We do this to give the first-time user the opportunity to become familiar with how the circuits work and learn what is required in time and financial responsibility when processing each circuit. We would rather have you become comfortable with circuits than have you be overwhelmed by the process. You may add more categories later.

Members who are now receiving or have received circuits previously may use the card to update or add to their want lists.

Which British Categories Are Selling?

The January, April, May and June editions of this column had listings of Far Eastern, European, Latin American, and U.S. categories that have good sales in our sales books. This month we look at the British categories. Here are the comparisons of all inventories and the Clearance inventory breakout for the British Commonwealth areas. The statistics are taken from the retired book information in 2012 and 2013. The categories are shown in order by the percentage sales, as compared to the total original values of the books as submitted. The percentage includes Clearance book amounts. The second column notes the percentage

number of Clearance books that sold, as compared to the total number in each category retired from the Clearance inventory in that two-year period:

Category	% \$ amt material sold	% # Clearance books sold
British Caribbean Saints	67.0%	87.5%
British Channel Islands	58.1%	75.0%
British West Indies Mint	54.9%	33.3%
British Africa	52.2%	52.6%
British Oceania Mint	51.8%	75.0%
India & States	49.4%	32.1%
British Atlantic Islands	45.2%	55.6%
Malaysia	44.8%	27.3%
British Empire Mint	44.7%	58.8%



British Africa.



Bermuda, Jamaica, St. Kitts, St. Vincent.

British Oceania	43.3%	59.0%
Australian States	41.0%	64.7%
British Pre-Elizabeth	41.0%	32.6%
British West Indies	39.1%	40.9%
Bahamas	39.0%	75.0%
British Middle East	38.0%	58.8%

In the categories shown in previous months, there are many that sell well in the regular inventory but do not have correspondingly successful sales in the Clearance inventory. However, many of the British areas *do* sell well in the Clearance circuits. Note that nine of the fifteen categories shown here are doing very well in both systems, with strong sales as Clearance books.

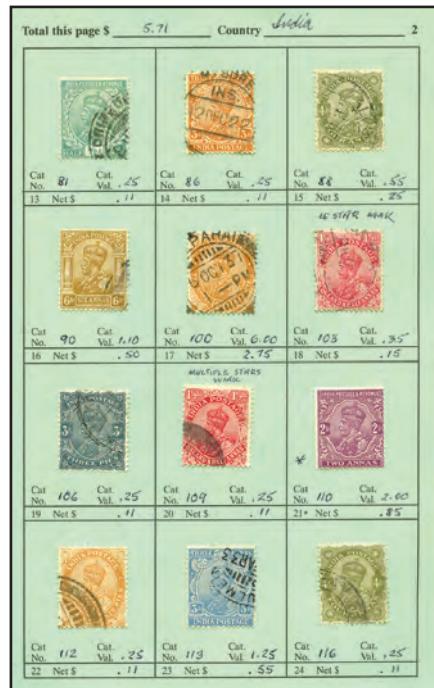
Overall, the British categories are showing a strong market in both supply and demand. The Commonwealth is global in scope, but collecting interests can vary widely. Some concentrate on one region, one era that is delineated by the sitting monarch, or on the condition of the material (used, cancellations, mint, etc.). Please keep in mind that material that is nicely presented and is priced attractively and competitively should sell well.

We will cover the rest of our categories in the August column and will have a full listing of categories that can be requested by email, hard copy or accessed online by StampShow in later August.

Return of Retired Sales Books Update

We should be in the process of upgrading the Sales Division's program by the time you read this. As noted last month, there already is a lot of detail in the preparation of retired sales books without adding sellers' special instructions to the mix. When talking with programmers, we might add some efficiency to the process or there may be extra steps required to make the web-based program work. If a seller's special instructions cannot be honored, we will call the seller and try to work on a mutually agreeable solution.

Keeping the mailing costs down is a priority. The packaging of the books will



India and Indian States.

continue without much change. Holding books until a minimum number are retired before returning them might be a possibility for those who have a lot of books in circulation. This would save us time and save postage costs for the member. Any suggestions and comments are welcome from current sellers. We will continue to look at the procedures as we talk with programmers about the upgrades.

StampShow Circuits

Make your plans for StampShow in Hartford, Connecticut in August. The Sales Division will have sales books, both regular and Clearance, at the show

next to the main APS booth. When you have walked around the show to check dealers' tables, stop by the booth and browse through our sales books. More information about the show can be found in this issue, or visit <http://stamps.org/STAMPSHOW-SS>.

'5 for 10' Categories (Needs)

You can earn coupons for free blank books for every 10 completed books (Clearance books do not qualify) containing material from a set list of categories. For more information and the list of qualifying categories visit <http://stamps.org/Stamps-Needed> or contact us to obtain a hard copy of the list. [Please note: Single-country books usually have better sales.]

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U.S. Fancy Cancels

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The "Show Time" Calendar features a list of upcoming shows and APS events (shown in green). To obtain a listing, please submit a "Show Time" form, available online at www.stamps.org>Show-Calendar or by mail from APS headquarters. Information must be received 60 days before desired publication time.

The listings are free to World Series of Philately and other shows that are sponsored by an APS chapter or affiliate. Other shows/bourses may purchase listings for the month of the show/bourse and the month prior **only**. The listing fee is \$25 per show per issue. Shows designated *B* are bourse only.

Grand award winners from *WSP* shows are eligible for the annual APS World Series of Philately Champion of Champions competition. Visit www.stamps.org>Show-Calendar for a complete listing of shows and APS events.

California July 11-13
ASDA Northern California 2014 Postage Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Association, The Westin Hotel, 1 Old Bayshore Hwy., Millbrae. *B*
Contact: Van Siegling, 800-369-8207, ext. 4
E-mail: asda@asdaonline.com
Website: www.americanstampdealer.com

Maryland July 12
Laurel StampFest Holiday Inn Laurel West, 15101 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel. *B*
Contact: Jack Ott, 888-297-3536
E-mail: jackott@comcast.net
Website: www.jackottstamps.com

Michigan July 12
Bay De Noc Stamp and Coin Club Show Bay

De Noc Stamp and Coin Club, Bay College Heirman Building, 2001 N. Lincoln Ave., Escanaba. *B*

Contact: Mark Kuehn, 906-786-2103
E-mail: triplejump@charter.net

Michigan July 12
SUMMERPEX Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren, Dearborn Heights. *B*
Contact: Paul Stanton, 734-459-0795
E-mail: weluvstamps@hotmail.com

Minnesota July 16-17
Computers and Collecting On-the-Road Course, Plymouth. *APS*
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803 ext. 239
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses>

Minnesota July 18-20
Minnesota Stamp Expo Twin City Philatelic Society and Various Local Clubs, Crystal Community Ctr., 4800 Douglas Dr., N., Minneapolis. *WSP*
Contact: Randy A. Smith, 952-431-3273
E-mail: rasmay4@frontiernet.net
Website: www.stampsmnnesota.com/MN%20Stamp%20Expo.htm

Ohio July 20
Hudson Stamp Bourse Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway, Hudson. *B*
Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992
E-mail: lincolnway@sssnet.com

Pennsylvania July 21-25
Volunteer Work Week Hosted at the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. *APS*
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803 ext. 239
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org

Website: <http://stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week>

Internet Module July 23-25
Synopsis Through Collecting Connections
APS instructors offer small portions of their popular courses in one to two hour ON-LINE segments through GoToMeeting. *APS*
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/Modules>

Colorado July 23-26
PMCC Convention Post Mark Collectors Club, Double Tree Hotel, 1775 East Cheyenne Mountain Blvd., Colorado Springs.
Contact: Kent Bickell
E-mail: kbickell@comcast.net
Website: www.postmarks.org

Indiana July 26-27
MSDA Indianapolis Show Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Lawrence Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin Rd., Lawrence. *B*
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676
E-mail: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Louisiana July 26-27
Bossier-Shreveport Stamp Show Red River Stamp Society, Bossier City Civic Center, 620 Benton Road, Bossier City. *B*
Contact: Tom Mueller, 318-218-0981
E-mail: starsavs@hotmail.com

Nevada July 26-27
Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show Nevada Stamp Study Society, National Bowling Stadium Museum, 33 N. Center St., Reno.
Contact: John Walter, 775-246-4769
E-mail: show@renostamp.org
Website: www.renostamp.org

New York July 26-27
Northeast Postal History & Ephemera

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Show Capital District Associates, Polish Community Center, 225 Washington Ave. Extension, Albany. *B*

Contact: Thomas Auletta, 518-877-3027
E-mail: azusacollectibles@yahoo.com
Website: www.nphes.com

North Carolina

July 26-27

CHARPEX 2014 Charlotte Philatelic Society, Worrell Bldg, Central Piedmont Community College, 1228 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte.

Contact: Gene Zhiss, 704-553-8110
E-mail: signup@charpex.info
Website: www.charpex.info/

Connecticut

Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. *B*

Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Ohio

August 2-3

CINPEX 2014 Greater Cincinnati Philatelic Society, Greenhills American Legion Hall, 11000 Winton Rd., Cincinnati. *B*

Contact: Jim Siekermann, 714-759-5580
E-mail: jims150320@aol.com
Website: www.freewebs.com/gcps

Korea

PHILAKOREA 2014 General World Philatelic Exhibition.

Contact: W. Danforth Walker
Contact address: P.O. Box 99, Lisbon, MD 21765
E-mail: danforthwalker@comcast.net
Website: www.philakorea.com/

Washington

August 9

Strait Stamp Show Strait Stamp Society, Sequim Masonic Lodge, 700 N. 5th Ave., Sequim.

Contact: Cathie Osborne, 360-683-6373
E-mail: rickcath@waveable.com

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South Carolina **August 9-10**
Summer Stamp & Post Card Show Columbia
Philatelic Society, Spring Valley High School,
120 Sparkleberry Lane, Columbia. *B*
Contact: Bob Wilson, 803-237-1184
E-mail: wilsonj0800@bellsouth.net
Website: www.wilsonj0800@bellsouth.net

New Jersey **August 15-17**
AMERICOVER American First Day Cover
Society, DoubleTree Somerset Hotel &
Executive Meeting Center, 200 Atrium Drive,
Somerset. *WSP*
Contact: Cynthia Scott
E-mail: showinfo@afdc.org
Website: www.afdc.org/americancover/
americancover.html

Kansas **August 16-17**
The Wichita Show Wichita Stamp Club, Cessna
Activity Center, 2744 George Washington
Blvd., Wichita.
Contact: Ralph Lott, 316-683-6593
E-mail: berndfr@cox.net
Website: www.wichitastampclub.org

Michigan **August 16-17**
COLPEX'14 Collectors Club of Michigan,
Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren Ave.,
Dearborn Heights. *B*
Contact: Charles Wood, 248-546-1282
E-mail: jarnick@wowway.com

Missouri **August 16-17**
St. Louis Stampfest '14 Greater Mound City
Stamp Club, Parkway Central High School,

369 North Woods Mill Rd., Chesterfield .
Contact: Gary Hendren, 314-576-5261
E-mail: g2hslm@msn.com

Connecticut **August 19-20**
Detecting Damaged, Altered and Repaired
Stamps On-the-Road Course, Prior to APS
StampShow, Hartford, CT, Hartford. *APS*
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/On-the-Road-
Courses

Connecticut **August 19-20**
Before the First Issue: U.S. Locals and
Carriers On-the-Road Course, Prior to APS
StampShow, Hartford. *APS*
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/On-the-Road-
Courses

Connecticut **August 21-24**
APS STAMP SHOW Connecticut Convention
Center, 100 Columbus Blvd., Hartford.
WSP

Contact: Barb Johnson, 814-933-3803 ext 217
E-mail: stampshow@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/STAMP SHOW-SS

Connecticut **August 24**
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven
Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554
Woodward Ave., New Haven. *B*
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net

Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Ohio **August 24**
Hudson Stamp Bourse Lincolnway Stamps,
Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway,
Hudson. *B*
Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992
E-mail: lincolnway@sssnet.com

New Jersey **August 29-30**
MERPEX 2014 Merchantville Stamp Club,
St. Cecilia School, 4851 Camden Avenue,
Pennsauken.
Contact: Macario Sarreal, 856-424-2389
E-mail: macsar530@aol.com
Website: www.merchantvillestampclub.org/

Maryland **August 29-31**
BALPEX Baltimore Phil. Soc., Baltimore Hunt
Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., I-83 Exit 20 E.,
Hunt Valley. *WSP*
Contact: Robert E. Gibson, Sr., 410-465-5712
E-mail: balpex@verizon.net
Website: www.balpex.org

Maryland **August 29-31**
BNAPEX 2014 British North America Philatelic
Society, Baltimore Marriott Hunt Valley Inn,
245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley (Baltimore).
Contact: Earle Covert, 403-752-4548
E-mail: ecovert@telusplanet.net
Website: www.bnaps.org

Ohio **September 5-6**
AIRPEX Dayton Stamp Club, IBEW Local,
Crossroad Expo Ctr., 6550 Poe Avenue (at
Space Dr.), Dayton. *B*

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E-mail: stamp4@frontier.com

Indiana **September 20-21**

**AWPEX 2014 Anthony Wayne Stamp Society,
Concordia Lutheran High School, 1601 Saint
Joe River Road, Fort Wayne. *B***

British Columbia **September 26-27**

VANPEX 2014 British Columbia Philatelic Society, West Burnaby United Church, 6050 Sussex Avenue, Burnaby.
Contact: Trevor N. Larden
E-mail: verdraco@uniserve.com
Website: www.bcpphilatelic.org

Indiana **September 26-28**

INDYPLEX Indiana Stamp Club, Wyndham Hotel
Indianapolis West, 2544 Executive Drive,
Indianapolis. ***WSP***

Contact: Bob Zeigler, 317-844-5200
E-mail: indyplex@indianastampclub.org
Website: www.indianastampclub.org

Florida **September 27-28**

Tampa Stamp & Coin Expo Tampa Collectors Club, Holiday Inn Express, 4750 North Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa. *B*
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
E-mail: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.flo.idastampdealers.com

Washington **September 27-28**

2014 Apple Harvest Inland Empire Philatelic

2026 Meeting at APS StampShow

If you are interested in hosting the 2026 International Show, proposals are due by January 15, 2015. An informational meeting will be held at APS STAMPSHOW 2014 in Hartford on Saturday, August 23 for any groups interested in submitting proposals. We will answer questions and provide the detailed requirements for proposals. Please check the August issue of the *AP* and STAMPSHOW program for meeting time and location.

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You can pass the philatelic energy of your or your loved one's collection on to others by sharing these collections with the APS as tax deductible,* "in-kind" donations.

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The image features a group of vibrant pink flamingos standing in a body of water. They are all facing towards the right side of the frame. The water is calm, reflecting the light. The background is a clear, pale blue sky. The flamingos have long legs and necks, with their heads tucked down towards their bodies.

Society, Hilton Garden Inn, 9015 West
Highway 2, Spokane *B*

Contact: J. Wilson Palmer, 509-443-8147
E-mail: ickyburg@comcast.net
Website: www.ieps-stamps.com

Connecticut **September 28**

Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven
Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554
Woodward Ave., New Haven. ***B***

Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

California October 3-5

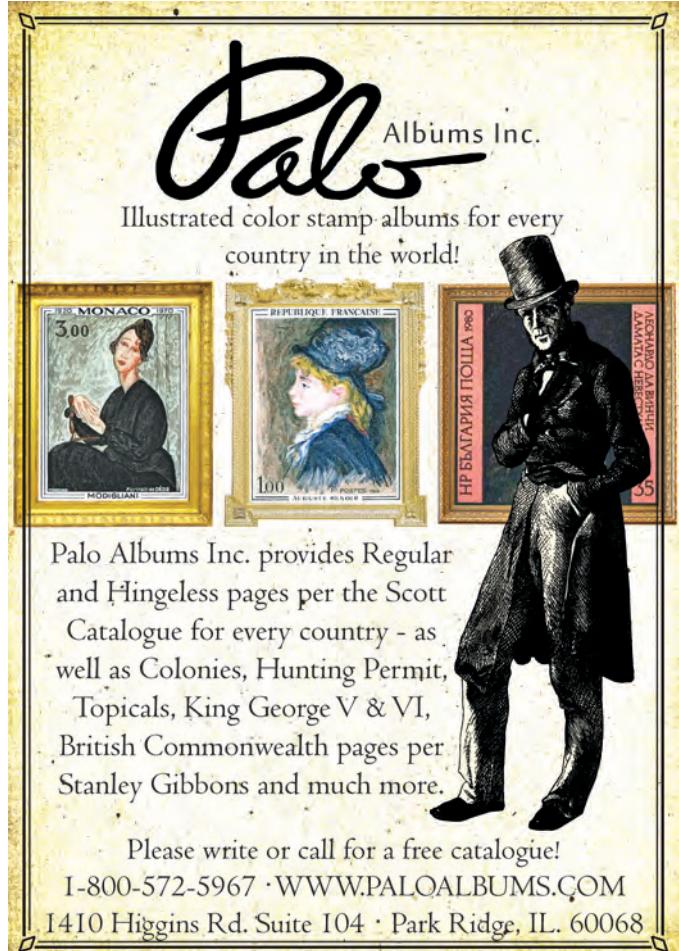
WINEPEX 2014 Redwood Empire Collectors Club, Marin Civic Center, 10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael.

Contact: Kurt Schau, 707-778-6454
E-mail: info@harmerschau.com

New York **October 4**

Stamp & Postcard Show/ Bourse Leatherstocking St

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County, Holiday Inn, 5206 State Highway 23,
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 Vance Auctions Ltd. www.vanceauctions.com
 Varisell www.Varisell.com
 Westminster Stamp Gallery, Ltd. www.westminsterstamp.com

New York **October 4**
 Olepex 2014 Olean Stamp Club, B.P.O. Elks Club No. 491, 209 West State Street, Olean. *B*
 Contact: Ronald J. Yeager, 814-362-4471
 E-mail: cry@atlanticbb.net

Washington **October 4-5**
 Tri-Cities Stamp Show Tri-Cities Stamp Club, Knights of Columbus Hall, 2500 Chester, Richland. *B*
 Contact: Lawrence Clay, 509-735-3731
 E-mail: lclay3731@charter.net

Internet **October 6- December 15**
 Keys to Exhibiting Course Online Course (10 weeks), *APS*
 Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
 E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
 Website: www.stampcampus.org

California **October 10-11**
 Powpex 2014 Poway Stamp Club, Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., San Diego. *B*
 Contact: Steve Twenge, 858-368-9109
 E-mail: jands.twenge@gmail.com
 Website: www.sandiegophilatelibrary.org

Delaware **October 11**
 63rd Annual Dover Stamp and Postcard Show Dover Stamp Club, Camden-Wyoming Fire Hall, 200 E. Camden-Wyoming Avenue, Camden.
 Contact: Melvin Nace, 302-674-0837
 E-mail: doverstampclub@aol.com

Illinois **October 11**
 Will County Stamp Show Philatelic Club of Will County, Messiah Lutheran Church, 40 Houbolt, Joliet.
 Contact: Rodney Juell, 815-741-2734
 E-mail: rajuell2@gmail.com
 Website: http://willcountystampclub.wordpress.com

Florida **October 11-12**
 West Pasco Stamp Roundup New Port Richey Area Stamp Club, Inc., Regency Park Civic Center, 10240 Regency Park Blvd., Port Richey. *B*
 Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
 E-mail: h.rogg@verizon.net
 Website: www.NPRSTAMPCLUB.COM/www.flo idastampshows.com

Pennsylvania **October 12**
 Fall 2014 CAPEX Capital City Philatelic Society, Susquehanna Township High School, 7500 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg. *B*
 Contact: Linn Kinney, 717-732-7813

Internet Module **October 14**
 Digital Scanning for Collectors Through Collecting Connections APS instructors offer small portions of their popular courses in one to two hour ON-LINE segments through GoToMeeting. *APS*
 Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
 E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
 Website: http://stamps.org/Modules

Internet Module **October 15**
 Photoshop Elements 1 Through Collecting Connections APS instructors offer small portions of their popular courses in one to two hour ON-LINE segments through GoToMeeting. *APS*
 Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
 E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
 Website: http://stamps.org/Modules

California **October 15-16**
 Revenues: Stamps and Their Stories On-the-Road Course, Prior to SESCAL, Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel, Los Angeles. *APS*
 Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
 E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
 Website: http://stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses

Internet Module **October 16**
 Photoshop Elements 2 Through Collecting Connections APS instructors offer small portions of their popular courses in one to two hour ON-LINE segments through GoToMeeting. *APS*
 Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
 E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
 Website: http://stamps.org/Modules

New York **October 17-18**
 STEPEX 2014 Elmira Stamp Club, American Legion Post, 45 S. Olcott Rd. (I-86, Exit 49), Big Flats.
 Contact: Alan Parsons, 607-732-0181
 E-mail: alatholleyrd@aol.com

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California **October 17-19**
SESCAL Federated Phil. Clubs of Southern California, Hilton Los Angeles Airport, 5711 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles. *WSP*
Contact: Carl Shaff, II, 213-383-7111
E-mail: c2shaff@ao.com
Website: www.sescal.org

New Mexico **October 18-19**
NEWMEXPEX 2014 Stamp Show Albuquerque Philatelic Society, Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane, SE, Rio Rancho.
Contact: Paul L. Morton, 505-867-9664
E-mail: p.morton@att.net
Website: http://madjac.com/stamps.htm

Internet **October 21-November 14**
Basic Stamp Collecting Course Online Course (4 weeks) *APS*
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803-
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: www.stampcampus.org

New York **October 23-26**
ASDA 100th Anniversary Stamp Show 2014 American Stamp Dealers Association, The Hilton, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York.
Contact: Van Siegling, 800-369-8207, ext. 4
E-mail: asda@asdaonline.com
Website: www.americanstampdealer.com

Arkansas **October 25-26**
PINPEX 2014 Pinnacle Stamp Club of Arkansas, Jacksonville Community Center, #5 Municipal Drive, Jacksonville. *B*
Contact: Ann Austen, 501-868-4553
E-mail: anniephant@aol.com

Florida **October 25-26**
FSDA Fall Sarasota Stamp Show Florida Stampdealers Assoc. & Venice & Sarasota Stamp Clubs, Sahib Shriners Ball Room, 600 N. Beneva Road, Sarasota. *B*
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
E-mail: h.rogg@verizon.net

Illinois **October 25-26**
CUPEX 2014 Champaign-Urbana Stamp Club, Urbana Civic Center, 108 E. Water Street, Urbana.
Contact: Louise B. Toft, 217-359-9115
E-mail: ndx4031r@att.net
Website: http://custampclub.org/

Ohio **October 25-26**
CUY-LORPEX 2014 Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, Rocky River Civic Center: Memorial Hall, 21016 Hilliard Boulevard, Rocky River.
Contact: Stan Fairchild, 440-333-2536
E-mail: cuylorstampclub@hotmail.com
Website: www.virtualstampclub.com/apschap_cuylor.html

Connecticut **October 26**
SONEX - NHPS 100th Anniversary New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven.
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.nhps1914.org

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Membership Report

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during May 2014. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to July 31, 2014 these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the September 2014 issue.

Abbott, Geoff ey (223210) **Fairview, TX**
PHILIPPINES; 74; Retired
Aceves, William E. (223221) **Parker, CO** PEARL HARBOR SHIP COVERS-SOLOMON ISLANDS; 57; Retired
Anderson, David G. (223235) **Knoxville, TN** US BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVE PANELS, SOUVENIR SHEETS, AIR MAILED-UN IMPRINT BLOCKS-SPACE; 64
Ashley, Duane A. (223199) **Grosse Pointe, MI** US COMMEMORATIVES; 74; Teacher
Ashley, Joseph M. (223181) **Bozeman, MT** PRE 1950 WORLDWIDE; 71; Retired
Balquiedra, Anna (223170) **Briarwood, NY**
Banta, Muriel P. (223173) **New Britain, CT**; 87; Retired
Burgess, Philip (223140) **Chandler, AZ**
US, AIR MAILED, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES; 67
Caballero, Kathleen E. (223231) **Oakley, CA** US-CANADA-PARAGUAY-ROMANIA-RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-SPACE; 68; Retired
Cary, Phillip W. (223211) **Norfolk, VA** US; 73; Retired
Chan, Camille (223159) **Davis, CA** CHINA-RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-JAPAN-TAIWAN-FOREIGN AIR MAIL; 68
Clarke, Douglas (223155) **Stafford, NY** US AIR MAILED, PARCEL POST; 73; Retired
Coleman, Kent D. (223130) **Hayward, CA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY-USED WORLDWIDE-19TH CENTURY FOREIGN; 48; Social Worker
Cortes, Tania (223219) **Hialeah, FL** CUBA-US BUREAU ISSUES, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, CLASSICS; 40; Paralegal
Creecy, Donald (223143) **Port Orchard, WA**; 74; Retired
Crook, Sheldon F. (223232) **Prescott, AZ**
Crystal, Tom (223182) **Bozeman, MT**; 72; Sales
Daly, John F. (223222) **Kaysville, UT** BRITISH COMMONWEALTH; 67; Retired
Davis, Renee L. (223165) **Sidney, OH**; 47; Advertising Sales

DeHaas, Stephen L. (223176) **Vancouver, WA** US 19TH CENTURY; Teacher/Accountant
Dubin, Mark W. (223223) **Boulder, CO** TOPICALS-US FDC; 71; Retired
English, Ellery D. (223144) **Mustang, OK** US, POSSESSIONS; 67; Retired
Fermaglich, Harvey (223203) **Forest Hills, NY** US AIR MAILED, BUREAU ISSUES, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, PLATE BLOCKS, POSTAL HISTORY-CHINA-UN; Bookkeeping
Ferrell, Lloyd (223183) **Beaverton, OR** SHIP CANCELLATIONS; 62; Retired
Fout, Russell L. (223171) **Keyser, WV** US COMMEMORATIVES; 50; Accountant
Fox, Alexa R. (223131) **Woodbury, NY** US CANCELS, FDC, ESSAYS & PROOFS, INAUGURATION COVERS
Frederickson, Mark (223168) **Walnut Creek, CA** US 20TH CENTURY; 58
Fross, Shane (223224) **Westminster, CO**
Garner, Hank (223184) **Camas, WA** AIR MAIL HISTORY; 59
Gennrich, William (223145) **Madison, WI** MINT US-OLYMPICS-BRITISH ROYALTY; 73; Retired
Goldstein, Jeff ey A. (223163) **Simi Valley, CA** PRE 1900 US, BACK OF BOOK, CONFEDERATE-WORLDWIDE; 71; Retired
Gotay, L. R. (223150) **New York, NY** MINT US COMMEMORATIVES, PLATE BLOCKS, COVERS; 58; Retired
Grau, Emilio (223195) **Ocean View, DE** MINT US; 61
Groves, Al (223218) **Bothell, WA** US, CLASSICS, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVE/PANELS; 66
Harris, Jim (223225) **Littleton, CO** US; Retired
Holcombe, Randall F. (223198) **Mountainside, NJ**; 56
Hoopengardner, Alton B. (223146) **Warfordsburg, PA** US; 74; Retired
Hulme, Stephen (223201) **Philadelphia, PA** CHINA-US AIR MAILED; 57
Hume-Pratuch, Jeffery (223137) **Merrifield, VA** ROMAN STATES-VATICAN CITY
Hutton, Betsy (223132) **State College, PA**; 61
Irwin, R. Stephen (223192) **Polson, MT** US-UN-FIREARM ADVERTISING COVERS-DUCK; 67; Physician
Johnson, Karl A. (223212) **Rolling Hills Estates, CA**; 74; Retired

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 222566, 222700, 222881, 222892 through 222901, and 222903 through 222944, and 222946 through 222996 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, Apr. 30, 2014	30,859
New Members	106
Reinstated	37
	143
	31,002
Deceased	18
Resignations	5
Expelled	1
Chapter Disbanded	1
Dropped, Unable to Locate	33
	58
Total Membership, May 31, 2014...	30,944

(Total Membership, May 31, 2013 was 31,584 a difference of -640)

Johnson, Peggy (223205) **Eugene, OR** US OREGON POSTAL HISTORY-AFRICA-REFUGEES/HUMAN RIGHTS-SOUTH AFRICA/ENCLAVES-NORWAY; 67; Interior Designer
Jones, Gordon H. (223177) **Aloha, OR** AIR MAIL; 70; Retired
Lee, Scott H. (223185) **Happy Valley, OR**; 41
Levine, William (223157) **Simi Valley, CA** PRE 1970 WORLDWIDE; 49
Lichauer, Sandy (223194) **Lewes, DE** EARLY US, BACK OF BOOK; 60; Retail Nursery/Landscape
Llinas, Carlos F. (223200) **Davie, FL** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY
Marroquin, David (223141) **Silver Spring, MD**
Marshall, Dave (223156) **Garden Bay, BC** NEW ZEALAND-AUTHORS/LITERATURE/LIBRARIES; Retired
Martin, Daniel I. (223135) **Janesville, WI** US, PLATE BLOCKS; 56; Engineer
Matalavage, William M. (223196) **Milton, DE** US SINGLES, PLATE BLOCKS, ZIP BLOCKS, POSSESSIONS-LITHUANIA-ITALY; 51; Math Teacher

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McClellan, Ernest (223169) **Charlotte, NC** US-AMATEUR/HAM RADIO-US USED WORLDWIDE; 66

Mifsud, Albert J. (223158) **Calgary, AB** CANADA, ERRORS/ODDITIES-US, POSTAL HISTORY, IMPERFORATES, CLASSICS, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES; 56

Miller, Ellen (223133) **Harrisburg, PA**; 42

Miller, George A. (223220) **Warner Robins, GA** US, CLASSICS, COMMEMORATIVES, AIR MAILED, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING; 73

Miller, Thomas L. (223179) **Riverbank, CA** US-PORTUGAL, COLONIES; 61; Retired

Mitchell, Calvin (223161) **Silver Spring, MD** US FDC, FD PROGRAMS, ESSAYS & PROOFS, JOINT ISSUES, POSTAL MARKINGS-BLACK AMERICANS; 64; Retired

Moore, Joan (223166) **Towson, MD**; 60

Moore, Richard A. (223186) **Richland, WA**; 56; Retired

Morehead, Steve (223226) **Green Valley, AZ** CO POSTAL HISTORY; 66

Mussi, Richard L. (223206) **Flushing, NY** US BOOKLETS/PANES, COILS, COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES-UN; 67

Nielsen, David E. (223151) **Helper, UT**; 57

Northern, Christopher L. (223208) **Littleton, CO** GREAT BRITAIN-CANADA-US-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH; 54

Olsen, James B. (223187) **Portland, OR** US-3D; 73; Retired

Olsen, John (223138) **Stratford, CT** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIR MAILED, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, PLATE BLOCKS, SHEETS/SMALL PANES; 53

Pando, Gregory (223216) **Canton, MA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY; 67

Parkhouse, Keith (223214) **Jonesboro, GA**

Pohle, Robert W. (223230) **Saint Augustine, FL** PA POSTAL HISTORY-CHINA-KOREA-GERMANY-COSTA RICA-MEXICO; 64; Retired

Provance, Phillip D. (223134) **Valencia, PA** US 19TH CENTURY, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, PA POSTAL HISTORY-GREAT BRITAIN-FRANCE-BRITISH COLONIES; 30; Journalist/Editor

Rantz, Stephan (223217) **Winston Salem, NC** SCANDINAVIA-AUTHORS/LITERATURE/LIBRARIES-ART-FINE ARTS-PERFORMING ARTS; 53

Ray, Charles D. (223164) **State College, PA**; 57; Wood Professor

Rebiske, Thomas (223136) **Groveland, CA**

Reynolds, Mark (223167) **Philadelphia, PA** GERMANY-US FDC, CONFEDERATE STATES-GREAT BRITAIN-ICELAND-PITCAIRN ISLANDS; 58

Roussey, Pierre T. (223197) **Bloomington, IL**; Retired

Rzeznik, Raymond S. (223162) **Hamburg, NY**; 73; Retired

Saint Louis Bears (1592-223154) **Saint Louis, MO**

Sand, Brian (223213) **Wenatchee, WA** US-CANADA-CHRISTMAS SEALS; 55; Sales Manager

Schirmer, Robert A. (223215) **Chadds Ford, PA**; 71; Consultant/Professor

Scott, Greg B. (223234) **Redding, CA** UNCUT PRESS SHEETS; 62; Transport Company

Shaver, Gary D. (223227) **Broomfield, CO**; 66; Retired

Shchukina, Julia (223129) **Largo, FL** BRIDGES-CHRISTMAS-TRANSPORTATION; 54

Shigley, Francis M. (223202) **Redmond, WA** US COMMEMORATIVES, FDC-CANADA-VATICAN CITY-BRITISH EUROPE; 46; Technical Program Manager

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Sinski, John C. (223228) **Aurora, CO** US; 70; Retired

Smalley, Christian A. (223180) **Saint Paul, MN**; 54; Attorney

Snyder, Ed (223209) **Jacksonwald, PA** PICTURE POSTCARDS-US GENERAL & PA POSTAL HISTORY, POSTAL CARDS, SPECIAL EVENT COVERS/CANCELS-FOREIGN

Spielvogle, William K. (223233) **Hot Springs National Park, AR** US 19TH CENTURY, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, COMMEMORATIVE PANELS; 69

Stafford, Lee W. (223188) **Clackamas, OR**; 62; Water Treatment Plant Operator

Sterrett, Michael R. (223174) **Scottdale, PA**; 55

Stroyman, Carol (223207) **Palm Beach Gardens, FL** US, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, 20TH CENTURY, CANCELS, FDC-CANADA; 70; Retired

Swain, Astrid L. (223193) **Bridgeville, DE** US COMMEMORATIVES-CANAL ZONE-SPACE; 71; Retired

Teter, Charles S. (223172) **Washington Court House, OH** US, CIVIL WAR COVERS, CLASSICS, COVERS, OH POSTAL HISTORY, COIL LINE PAIRS; 70

Theilen, James (223152) **Liberty, MO** US; 65; Dentist

Thomas, Charles R. (223190) **Jacksonville, FL** US

Thomas, Timothy M. (223147) **Baldwin, NY**; 47; Sign Steward

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 WORLDWIDE USED, COVERS; 73

Toffolo, Denny (223142) **Stoney Creek, ON**; 59;
 Physician

Torres, Alberto L. (223191) **Virginia Beach,**
VA RELIGION-PUERTO RICO-FAIRY TALES &
 FOLKLORE-WORLD WAR II-FAKES &
 FORGERIES-USED WORLDWIDE; 67; Retired

Valentine, AnnaMaria (223189) **Lincoln, MA**

Van Allan, Katherine (223153) **Palm Harbor, FL**
 USED WORLDWIDE

Van Tungeln, Donald M. (223178) **Kalama, WA**
 MATCH & MEDICINE; 53; Insurance

Wagner, Charlie (223204) **Cary, NC** US 19TH
 CENTURY, LOCALS & CARRIERS, CONFEDERATE
 STATES; Retired

Walters, Skip J. (223149) **Lancaster, PA** USED US-
 MINT COMMEMORATIVES; Retired

Waters, Ruth (223148) **Batavia, IL** ART & HISTORY
 OF STAMPS; Consumer Insights Director

Wilfie, Robert (223229) **Aurora, CO** US
 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, BACK OF BOOK,
 POSSESSIONS; 71; Retired

Williams, Rose M. (223175) **Boynton Beach, FL**
 US; 73

Woodruff, Jessica (223236) **Gaylord, MI** AFRICA-US,
 CLASSICS-CUBA-EGYPT-RUSSIA/USSR/
 INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS; 34

Zuellig, William (223139) **Fairfax, VA** US,
 WASHINGTON/FRANKLIN-19TH & 20TH
 CENTURY, CLASSICS, AIR MAILED; 69

CHAPTER DISBANDED

Club Cubano De Coleccion (086296)

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Maritime Postmark Society (UN0037)

DECEASED

Baron, Alberto (4541-037232), Mexico ZP, Mexico
 Bennett, M. H. (5097-039808), Wynnewood, PA
 Dadison, Gus (6157-044804), Brooklyn, NY
 Eitner, Klaus E. (7962-055242),

Kirchberg/Donau, Austria

Essig, Roland D. (132026), West Bend, WI

Gailius, Arthur V. (6626-047141), Waltham, MA

Ghent, S. Avery, Jr. (078920), Greensboro, NC

Holcombe, James T. (190971), Mountainside, NJ

Kay, Sydney K. (5050-047674), Dallas, TX

Land, Gary (163414), Berrien Center, MI

Leubitz, Joseph A. (12140-061349),

Georgetown, TX

Long, Allan J. (117980), Bella Vista, AR

Noel, L. Allyn (118609), Hendersonville, NC

Peterson, Marvin L. (9230-066292), Longmont, CO

Rutherford, Vernon (10585-073688),

Manitou Springs, CO

Sole, Michael A. (096053), Bonita, CA

Storm, John R. (165840), Flagstaff, AZ

Urich, Robert F. (185902), Sun Lakes, AZ

EXPELLED

Pabst, Bob (213884), 5441 Shooting Star Road,
 Pollock Pines, CA, for conduct unbecoming
 a member for failure to account for sales
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American Hot Rods

On June 6, in York, Pennsylvania, the U.S. Postal Service issued the *Hot Rods* 49-cent Forever® stamps, in two designs, in a pressure sensitive adhesive booklet of twenty stamps. With these two stamps, the USPS celebrates hot rods, the fast, powerful vehicles that thrill-seeking enthusiasts have been modifying for nearly a century. The cars depicted are 1932 Ford "Deuce" roadsters. One stamp features a black '32 Ford with orange flames running down the car's body. The other stamp showcases a red '32 Ford. Art director Derry Noyes designed the stamps, which feature art by John Mattos.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Forever

Format: Double-sided Booklet of 20 (2 designs)

Series: N/A

Art Director/Designer/Typography:

Derry Noyes, Washington, DC

Artist: John Mattos, San Francisco, CA

Modeler: CCL Label, Inc.

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Engraver: WRE

Printer: CCL Label, Inc., Clinton, SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Print Quantity: 100 Million Stamps

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III, Overall tagged

Adhesive Type: Pressure sensitive adhesive

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Sizes (w x h): 21.34 x 18.54 mm (image); 24.89 x 22.09 mm (overall); 49.78 x 139.7 mm (booklet); 139.7 x 348.49 mm (press sheet)

Colors: Yellow, Red, Cyan, Black

Plate Numbers: "C" followed by 4 single digits

Marginal Markings: Plate numbers; ©2014 USPS; USPS logo; Barcode (689200)



Migratory Bird Hunting & Conservation

On June 27, in Washington, DC at the Department of the Interior, the U.S. Department of the Interior issued the \$15 *Migratory Bird Hunting & Conservation* stamp for the 2014–2015 waterfowl hunting season. The stamp is valid through June 30, 2015 and is available in the following formats: Water-activated gum (WAG) pane of 20 and Pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) pane of one. There are four philatelic products for this stamp issue: Migratory Bird Uncut Press Sheet (WAG), \$1,100 (Quantity 100); Migratory Bird Uncut Press Sheet Flat (PSA), \$350 (Quantity 100); Migratory Bird Silk Cachet, \$25; and Migratory

Bird Artist Commemorative Card, \$50.

The artist, Adam Grimm, of Burbank, South Dakota, won the 2014–2015 competition with his oil painting of a pair of Canvasback ducks. Eligible species for the contest this year included Blue-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Gadwall, Mallard, and the Canvasback which has appeared four times on the stamp, most recently in 1993. Adam Grimm is a two-time winner of the contest. His painting of a Mottled Duck appeared on the 2000–2001 stamp. The Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp — commonly called the Federal Duck Stamp and increasingly called the Migratory Bird Stamp — raises about \$25 million annually. Proceeds from the sale of the stamp are used to buy or lease wetlands and associated upland habitats for inclusion in the National Wildlife Refuge System. Waterfowl hunters, bird watchers and other outdoor recreationists, art and stamp collectors, and many other people who wish to invest in wetland and grassland conservation buy these stamps. (*Stamp image unavailable at press time.*)

Denomination: \$15 Special

(a) Format: Sheet of 20 (1 design)

Series: Federal Duck

Art Director: Laurie Shaffer, FWS

Artist: Adam Grimm, Burbank, SD

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Off et/ Microprint "FWS"

Printer: Ashton Potter (USA) Ltd., Williamsville, NY

Press Type: Stevens, Vari-Size Security

Print Quantity: 100,000 stamps

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III

Adhesive Type: Water-Activated Gum

Colors: Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Invisible Fluorescent

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Sizes (w x h): 44.02 x 32.00 mm (image);



48.01 x 35.99 mm (overall); 260.35 x
179.96 mm (pane); 457.20 x 558.80 mm
(press sheet)

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by 5 single digits

Marginal Markings: Front : "Artist:
Adam Grimm" in four positions;
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR 20
x \$15.00 in four positions; Silhouetted
Image of Duck printed in BCMY, in
two positions; Plate number in four

positions. Back: Barcode (335000) in four positions; Verso-text behind each stamp.

(b) Format: Pane of 1

Print Quantity: 2,500,000 stamps

Adhesive Type: Pressure Sensitive Adhesive

Sizes (w x h): 44.02 x 32.00 mm (image);
48.01 x 35.99 mm (overall); 155.58 x
66.68 mm (pane); 457.20 x 558.80 mm
(press sheet)

Plate Numbers: N/A

Marginal Markings: Front : Header: "U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service"; 2014–2015 Migratory Bird Hunting & Conservation Stamp; Peel Here; Artist: Adam Grimm; Canvasback; If applicable peel and attach to hunting license; Informational text. Back: Verso-text; Ordering information; UPC Code (015645335103).



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Worldwide in a Nutshell

by
Bob
Lamb

Republic of Austria

Status: Republic in central Europe

Population: 8,223,062 (2014 est.)

Area: 32,383 square miles

Currency: 100 cents = 1 Euro (1€= US\$1.39)



Tradition sets the founding of Austria in the year 976 when the German Babenberg dynasty assumed control of this sector of the eastern reaches of the Holy Roman Empire, but Vienna was a place of importance even in Roman times. But 976 marks the beginning of a long rise to power under the Babenbergs and especially their successors, the Hapsburgs.

In 1804, when the Holy Roman Empire fell victim to Napoleon, Francis declared himself "Emperor of Austria," and in 1867, as a concession to the Hungarians, it became Austria-Hungary, or the Dual Monarchy. In 1918 under the losses of the First World War and lacking a national bond, the empire disintegrated.

On October 21, 1918, the German-speaking members of the Imperial Parliament formed themselves into a national assembly for German Austria, an independent state that was to be a component part of the German Republic until the Treaty of St Germaine forbade Anschluss with Germany. The fledgling Austrian state struggled during the Interwar years with national and international threats to its democracy. It succumbed on March 12, 1938, when Hitler personally led the German army into Austria.

Austria was a part of the German Reich until the end of World War II. The Russians occupied Vienna on April 13, 1945. In June the Allies agreed to the division of Austria — and Vienna — into four zones of occupation. Ten years later the Russians agreed to the restoration of an independent but neutral Austria, and the resulting State Treaty restored its sovereignty on July 27. Austria today is a prosperous, stable and democratic republic.

Austria has had experience with postal services since Roman times. In 1443 the Emperor brought the Thurn and Taxis family to Vienna to organize the Hapsburg postal services. The Austrian Empire issued its first postage stamps on June 1, 1850. In 1867 under the Dual Monarchy, Hungary began issuing its own stamps. Stamps overprinted for the new republic were available in December 1918. On April 1, 1918 Austria-Hungary inaugurated air mail flights from Vienna to Kiev, establishing the world's first international air mail service.

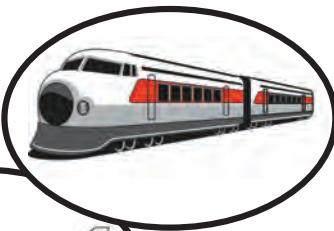
German stamps were introduced on March 13, 1938 and used during World War II. Various locals, provisionals, and occupation stamps were used as Allied armies moved across Austria in 1945. On Nov. 24, 1945 common stamps were reintroduced throughout Austria. After January 1, 2002 Austrian stamps were denominated in euros.



(For expanded text and additional illustrations, see www.stamps.org/AP-Album.)



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Revenues: Collecting the Stamps and Their Stories

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Revenues: Collecting the Stamps and Their Stories *with* *Ron Lesher*

After a brief exploration of revenues, we will spend the first day talking about what and how to collect revenues and fiscal history. A very important part of this will be to do some exploring of fakes and forgeries intended to deceive the collector, many of which are frequently found on Internet auction sites.

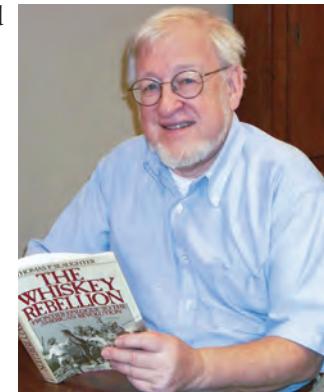
On the second day we will delve into stories about why these stamps were issued, how they were a part of the material culture of their times, and how the taxes impacted society. Examples will be chosen from the eighteenth century to the present. Early sign-ups to the course are invited to suggest specific revenues that should be included in the second day's explorations.

Ron is a retired New Jersey government bureaucrat and teacher in private and public secondary schools in Pennsylvania and Maryland, with a special interest in the teaching of mathematics and physics. He is a frequent exhibitor and a nationally and internationally accredited judge. His column

“The Tax Collector” has appeared in every issue of *The American Stamp Dealer & Collector*. Ron admits to having penned more than 500 articles in philatelic journals under such names as Roscoe Irwin, Ben Czech, and even Ron Lesher.

The course meets from 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel, 5711 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles.

Lunches and dinner are at the participant's expense. Self-parking is available at \$8 per day.



Accommodations

Following the course, SESCAL will be held **October 17–19, 2013**. SESCAL has reserved a block of rooms at **\$91 per night**. For reservations, call the Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel directly at 310-410-4000, or 800-HILTONS. Remember to mention the SESCAL Code, “FPC”.

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Central Europe	Central Europe	Germany Pre-1945
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