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MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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The 1952 4-H Clubs Commemorative Stamp

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Ingrid Bergman on U.S.-Sweden Joint Issue

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OCTOBER 2015 • VOLUME 129 • NO. 10 • WHOLE NO. 1,377

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MAIL AMIDST THE BATTLEFIELD
BY DANIEL M. TELEP

Destruction Rules for Combatants Fighting U.S. in Vietnam

Relics are uncommon because standing orders among Viet Cong and North Vietnamese were to destroy covers and contents soon after delivery.

940
4-H STAMP QUICK AND EASY
BY CHARLES M. POSNER

Artist offered just one design for the 1952 stamp honoring rural America's premier youth group. It's the latest in Posner's series on stamps from the 1950s through the 1980s.

950
WWII MEANT RATIONING THE GOODS
BY DOUGLAS K. LEHMANN

To ensure material for military supplies, consumer products were administered and divvied up through tiny — sometimes dreaded and confusing — ration stamps.

958
CAMEROUN'S POSTE AUTO RURALE
BY M.P. BRATZEL JR.

Post offices on wheels served rural communities

Stamps and covers show how the small African nation offered postal services to its rural population starting in 1973. At least 13 different routes and 15 postmarks were used through 1995.

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

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FEATURED COLUMNS

Post Office Department
Chief Assistant Postmaster General
Washington

924
COLLECTING COAST TO COAST
BY WAYNE L. YOUNGBLOOD

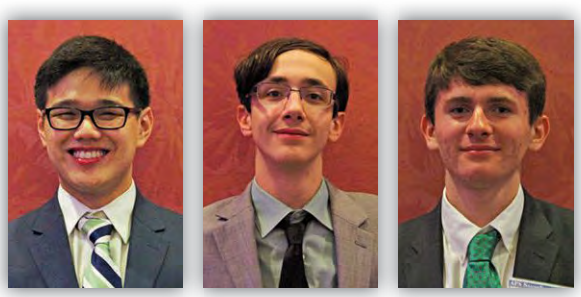
King of Stamp Essays
Attached Rarities to Letter

A set of rare U.S. specimens wound up with a local club whose leader had written to a leader in collecting items of pre-stamp production.

992
WORLDWIDE IN A NUTSHELL
BY BOB LAMB

Principality of Liechtenstein

This tiny nation of 62 square miles nicked out of the old Holy Roman Empire began its postal system in 1817 and before 1912 used stamps from Austria.



964
YPLF WELCOMES THREE
BY JEFF STAGE

The American Philatelic Society names three new young people to its Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship program. Sponsors help fund the YPFL, which offers mentorship, training, and fellowship in the hobby.

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BY STEPHEN REINHARD

APS StampShow 2015

Plenty of Excitement in Grand Rapids

I am just back from the annual American Philatelic Society's StampShow, which was held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The APS last held StampShow in Grand Rapids in 2005. That show was a grand (pardon the pun) success. This year's edition seems to have surpassed that. The first two days, Thursday and Friday, August 20 and 21, were two of the best-attended days in StampShow's recent history. Collectors came to spend! Most dealers were extremely happy with their sales volume. Aisles were crowded and seats at dealer tables scarce. Saturday was a bit less crowded, but still a very well-attended day. Sunday was the usual Sunday, with stamp collecting competing with church attendance and family outings.

The show floor at APS StampShow 2015 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The philatelic and literature exhibitions were outstanding. Congratulations to Mark S. Schwartz, who took home the Benjamin and Naomi Wishnietsky World Series Champion of Champions award for his exceptional exhibit, "Boston Postal History to 1851." In the Open Competition the grand award winner was "The First Postal Issues of Spanish Antilles (1855–1865)" by Yamil H. Kouri Jr. The Literature grand award went to "Mails of the Westward Expansion 1803–1861," entered by the Western Cover Society. Finally, the Single Frame grand award went to "St. Louis Bears Postmaster Provisional Stamps" by Barry K. Schwartz.

The awards banquet was an outstanding affair, with 260 people present. The meal was better than usual and the location in the wonderful Amway Grand Hotel added to the pleasure.

Next year's APS StampShow will be held August 4 to 7 in Portland, Oregon. Plan to attend.

The Reinhards Visit the National Postal Museum

A week before the opening of StampShow, yours truly, wife Jackie, son Jeremy and his wife Heather, along with grandchildren Alex and Bryce, twins age 13, and Kaitlyn, age 8, visited the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. The grandchildren and their family had never been to the postal museum.

This was the culmination of a three-day trip to Washington, D.C., from our home on Long Island. The children and parents had a great time with the interactive exhibits in the William H. Gross Stamp Gallery on the main floor and also enjoyed the postal artifacts and equipment, including the Railway Post Office car and information about Owney, the stray dog that rode in the mail cars for many years, the mail stagecoach, and mail planes.

Reinhard family visiting the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum.

It was a great two hours that hopefully will help induce the children to collect stamps. When asked what their favorite thing that they did while in Washington was, it came down to going to the top of the Washington Monument and visiting the postal museum.

A Small Selection from our October 29-31 75th Anniversary Sale

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HOW I BECAME A STAMP COLLECTOR

BY WILLIAM AIELLO

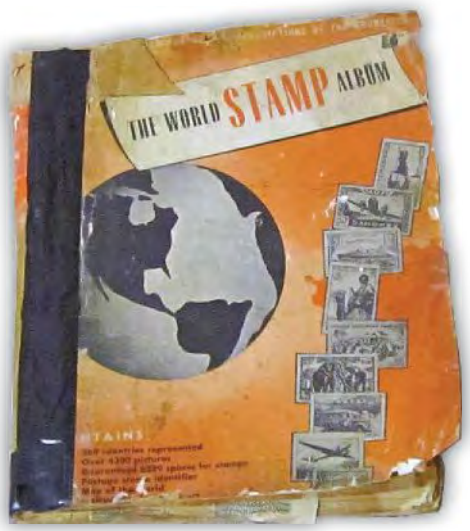
I started collecting stamps in the mid-1960s, so it's just about my golden anniversary. But ironically, it wasn't stamps that got me started, but a jigsaw puzzle.

As a young boy, I learned quickly that to be popular one needed to be good in sports. Although I was a fast runner, photophobia — which is sensitivity to strong light — made it difficult for me to play outdoors. Most of my classmates shunned me, and even two teachers showed little concern.

Instead, my attention turned to books, maps, travel catalogs, and the 1960s version of "Jeopardy!" with Art Fleming. Those who knew me were amazed at how many of the answers I could respond to.

I was maybe 7 years old when my mother bought me a jigsaw puzzle. At first, I had some difficulty with it, often giving up. Mom told me giving up was not acceptable. Keep at it, look for pieces of similar color or interconnecting shapes, she said. In time, I became good at it. My success at jigsaws prompted me that I was to find what I was good at, work at, and perfect it.

In sixth grade, we were all asked to discuss a hobby or favorite pastime and what it involves. Classmates got up and discussed collections of coins, baseball cards, foul balls, matchbook covers. Except for a small collection of leaves that I kept, I had little to brag about.



After almost 50 years of collecting, William Aiello still has his first stamp album.

But when a female classmate showed her stamp collection, a switch went on. All my years of reading books, studying maps and responding to quiz-show material ignited. My mother's words echoed. "Find what I was good at, what interested me, and go for it." I became a stamp collector, and my thirst for knowledge discovered a new word: philatelist.

I began going through desk drawers and poring over family envelopes for all the stamps I could find. My extended family cooperated by giving me the stamps from their mail. My father bought me my first stamp album, which is still with me. I bought stamps on approval.

In later years, working as a mail carrier enabled me to get stamps from customers from countries it would be very difficult to obtain. I was fortunate to work in a town with a large foreign-born population, and most people were thrilled to give me the stamps from their mail. Today, nearly half my foreign collection came from postal customers.

Aside from that, what I really enjoy is collecting covers where the stamp has some relation to the town or region postmarked; for example, the lighthouse issues from the town where the structure is located.

Stamp collecting has changed and regrettably, not as many people are so devoted to it. I regret going to stamp shows and seeing few collectors younger than, say, 40.

Half a century later, stamps still intrigue me. I have my mother to thank, but also my desire to constantly learn and discover the world, which stamps enable me to do.

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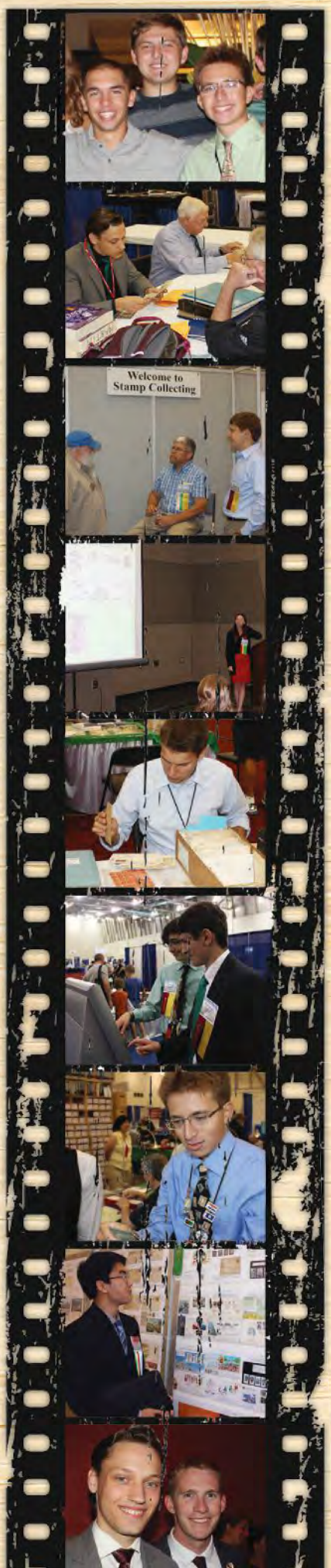

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Thanks to John Hotchner, Jim Lee, and the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society for their support of our seventh YPLF Class which will graduate in 2016.

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Alex Haimann at bretalex1@aol.com

BY JAY BIGALKE

Celebrating Stamp Collecting

National Stamp Collecting Month Kick Off

October marks the start of another month-long celebration of stamps through National Stamp Collecting Month. While there aren't specific formal activities taking place, it allows collectors to reflect on our hobby and share it with others.

One possibility is using *The American Philatelist* as a resource to share the stamp story with noncollectors and stamp collectors you might know aren't already APS members. This month's issue touches on a large variety of subjects ranging from the philatelic objects sent by North Vietnam soldiers during the Vietnam War, the 1952 4-H Clubs commemorative stamp issue, and even a story about a small African nation's post offices on wheels.

The 4-H Clubs stamp issue is near and dear to me because I was an active participant in a local club in rural Wisconsin. I even served as the club president for a couple years. Occasionally we would have to give presentations to the club and I naturally always talked about stamps. Do you participate in any other club or organization? If so, you might be able to share your philatelic adventures in stamps at one of their future meetings. Might be worthwhile adding yourself to the schedule for October next year to coincide with stamp collecting month.

The American Philatelic Society just wrapped up its annual StampShow, this year in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This issue also shows the social philately element that connects us beyond the philatelic objects.

While at StampShow, the U.S. Postal Service announced that it will be issuing 10 different A Charlie Brown Christmas commemorative forever stamps. The stamps will debut nationwide starting October 1, conveniently on the first day of stamp collecting month. We posted an image of the stamps in late August on the APS Facebook page and judging by the response, these stamps are going to be incredibly popular. More than 10,000 people shared the post on their walls, the photo received more than 3,000 likes, and our reach hit 1.2 million that week — going viral as they say in the digital world.

USPS publicity image of the United States A Charlie Brown Christmas forever stamps.

Other news at the show indicated that no new U.S. stamp issues are planned for November and December, but plans are already underway for 2016 and some of those designs have been revealed on our social media websites.

An exciting month is ahead for stamp collectors. Enjoy it!

Editor,
The American Philatelist

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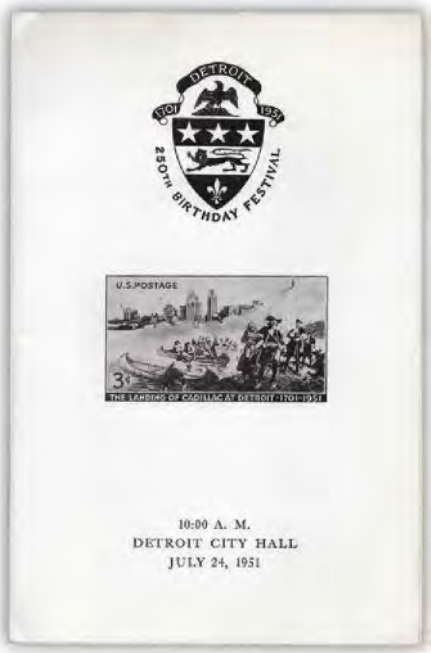
Birthday Ceremony Program Includes Stamp Image

I enjoyed reading the "Landing of Cadillac (Scott 1000)" article by Charles Posner in the August issue of *The American Philatelist*.

In particular, it was a pleasure to learn of the existence of the souvenir event program for the 250th Birthday Festival, a program that is unlisted in *Mellone's Specialized Catalogue of First Day Ceremonies and Events*.

I was surprised, though, that while Posner described the details of the first-day ceremony, he did not include an image of the ceremony program that was distributed to those who attended the ceremony. I am sharing an image of the program cover with members to let them know what it looked like.



The official first-day ceremony program for Detroit's 250th Birthday Festival. ***Image courtesy of Michael Litvak.***

I look forward to reading the next article in this ongoing series.

Michael Litvak
Pasadena, California

U.S. Stamp Series Filled With Interesting Tidbits

Kudos to Charles Posner for his superb "Cataloging US Stamps" series of articles in *The American Philatelist*. These articles are painstakingly researched, and provide a wealth of information not readily available elsewhere. This level of information on stamps more than 60 years old truly brings the stamps back to life.

As a lifelong Detroit resident, I found his research on the "Landing of Cadillac" stamp most fascinating. The illustrations of the photoessays are fascinating, because it allows us to trace the design process from concept to finished

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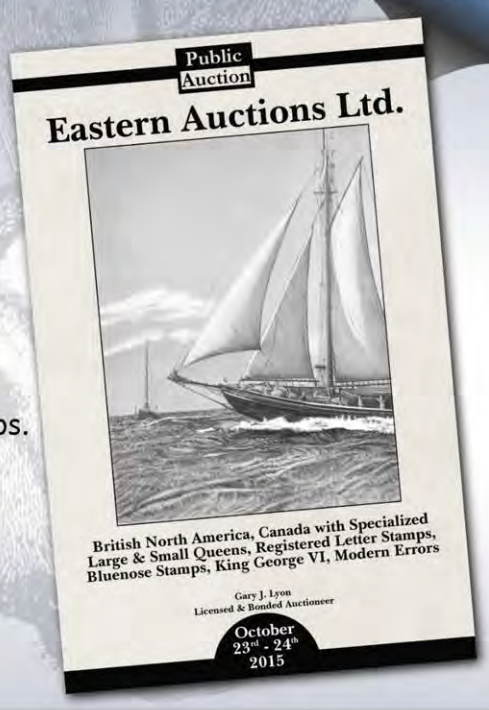

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Joan Hamilton
Wilton Manors, Fla.

"I came to sell my stamp collection to you on the recommendation of a good friend. I was most impressed with the welcome I received and the professionalism and honesty in your assessment of my rather disorganized collection. I was astounded you offered me what I thought my collection was worth!"

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product. I hope this series continues and once again my compliments to him for his first-class research and writing.

Robert Collarini
Brighton, Michigan

Dennison Hinges Could Not Be Improved

Dennison stamp hinges were the best ever produced.

When I was in college, my cooperative job was at Dennison, where I worked in the accounting department. Occasionally, I would get an assignment to do other duties. One such duty was to work on their stamp hinges.

The company was considering changes in how the hinges were applied. Peelable hinges was the important concept. Dennison had a [patent] on these hinges. I had a friend who was an engineer who said the hinges cannot be improved because they were excellent and safe to use.

The department head let me take 25 packages of hinges and I have used them for a long time. I still have five packages unopened.

Joseph L. DesRochers
Port St. Lucie, Florida

Seek, and Ye Shall Find

People say it's getting harder and harder to find interesting collectibles. I try to visit flea markets, old houses, cleanout crews, estate sales, and real estate agents. Get outside and talk to your neighbors. Tell them you are interested in history, the printed word, postal history, stamps, and the people who go along with it. If you are laid up, you still have a voice; call people.

I have been collecting since I was 8 years old. I am now 55. Nothing fell into my lap. But by using these techniques, the sky is the limit. After all, most dealers are busy with their businesses so they don't have time to hunt around. Most of the stuff they come across is from guys and gals who bring it to them from the trenches. The flap on one envelope had not been lifted for more than 83 years. It was found as part of a hoard leftover from a stamp business in New Jersey that was taken over by the owner's son who ran it into the ground.

After a bigwig stamp dealer fished through the stuff, the leftovers went to local flea market buyers, who let me go through it. Just for starters, I found this Capt. Tim material from 1932. I found three 18-cent U.S. bicentennial mint sheets never hinged with the July 4, 1976 cancel.

Knowledge is king. Keep your eyes peeled and soon you will be rewarded. Never give up.

So, who was Capt. Tim and why did the person have to save soap labels? Probably for a stamp give-away over the radio.

Ron Hagan
Maple Shade, New Jersey

Editor's reply: You are right, Ron, about the Capt. Tim radio giveaway. "The Ivory Stamp Club with Capt. Tim" was a very successful mid-1930s radio show created by H.E. Harris & Co. of Boston and sponsored on-air by Proctor & Gamble. At one point, listeners could send in two soap labels and a dime for a stamp album. Millions were given away.

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An old soap label and addressed, but unmailed envelope for a Capt. Tim giveaway. This is one of the several designs of the Capt. Tim stamp album.

Capt. Tim, by the way, was Reginald Stafford Healy, an Australian who fought in World War I and made his way to the United States to study the oil business. For a time, he helped lead a small oil company, which went bust during the Depression. He and his wife, Margaret, were parents of the late Tim-

Contact *The American Philatelist*

Send us a Letter to the Editor by mail to The American Philatelist, *100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823 or e-mail us at* ***lettertotheeditor@stamps.org****.*

Have a suggestion for an article? Write to the above mailing address or e-mail ***aparticle@stamps.org****.*

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Danbury, CT 06810

Dear Mr. Younger:

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

While in our city on business, we invited him 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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Edwin (Ned) Logan

Dr. Edwin M. Logan

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Dear Mr. Younger:

I very much appreciated the professional and competent way you and your representative handled the purchase of my late husband's stamp collection. Your ability to evaluate and purchase all types of philatelic material, not only U.S. and foreign stamps, but postal history, first flight covers, postal stationery, etc. was most impressive.

I do thank you for your "on the spot" payment which I feel was most fair and satisfactory. Thanks again to both you and your representative.

Sincerely,

Nina

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othy Healy, who became a Jesuit priest, president of Georgetown University, head of the New York Public Library and confidant of President Bill Clinton.

Persian Rug Story was Colorful, but Needed One More Element

The "Documenting the Legendary Persian Rug" article in the September issue was very welcome from my point of view. Because, not two days earlier I

United States Persian Rugs Revenue stamps article in the September issue.

had bought a small collection of 1871 U.S. revenue stamps. Unfortunately, though, these were not the revenues pictured in Michael Mahler's excellent missive. However, with due respect to Michael, there was a glaring omission.

He did not include the current Scott catalog values for the revenues shown in his article.

Yes, it might be the case that many readers are not interested in such monetary considerations. There again, may be many more that might be. I am one of them. Of course, this information did not really make the article any less readable. But the inclusion of current values of these stamps would, I believe, have added a pinch of spice to it.

Ray J. Howes
Weymouth Dorset, Great Britain

Editor's reply: For the record, the values listed in the 2016 Scott *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Volume 1,* for the three stamps are as follows:

Scott R102 ($200 green and red stamp), $3,000 imperforate; $1,000 with perforations; Scott R132 ($200 red, blue, and black stamp), $9,000; Scott R133 ($500 red orange, green, and black stamp), $17,500.

All Scott catalog values for these Revenue stamps are for used examples in excellent condition.

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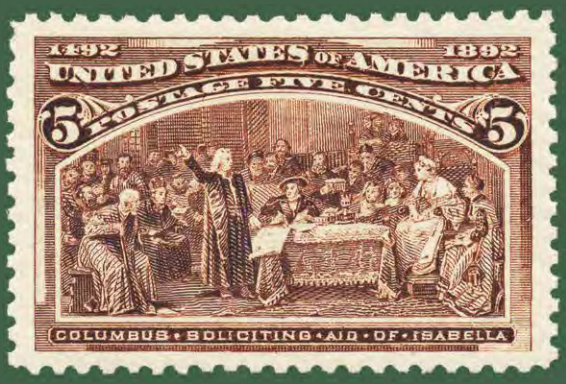

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Three Honored at StampShow

Kenneth Trettin, Robert Gray and Christopher D. Cook were honored for their philatelic writing in 2014 during the annual American Philatelic Society StampShow held in August in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Trettin received the Charlie Peterson Philatelic Literature Life Achievement Award; Gray received the Barbara R. Mueller Award; and Cook was honored with the Thomas F. Allen Award.

The honorees were honored at the StampShow 2015 Awards Banquet held August 22 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Here is a summary of the honorees and awards:

Kenneth Trettin (Rockford, Iowa) received the Peterson award, which recognizes someone whose individual achievements have furthered knowledge through philatelic literature.

Trettin, a member of the APS since 1965, has a philatelic resume much longer than we could ever put into this space, but he's just about done it all. He's been a collector since 1956 and has been an exhibitor, researcher, writer, editor, philatelic and philatelic literature judge, held several society offices and received several philatelic honors.

Kenneth Trettin.

"Ken's accomplishments are done with courtesy, self-effacement, and listening to others," says his nomination petition. "He is an excellent mentor to aspiring writers, editors, and judges, and is a model for us to emulate."

Trettin began collecting U.S. match and medicine revenue stamps in the early 1960s, showed them at a local show in Waterloo, Iowa, and won a grand award. While in the Navy, he visited the post office at Scott Base in Antarctica several times in 1969–70.

Among Trettin's accomplishments are: editor of the *American Revenuer*, for which he has written more than 150 articles; editor of the *Congress Book* (2006 to present); longtime member and officer of the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society; and accredited as a chief philatelic and chief philatelic literature judge. In 1999, he was named to the APS Writers' Unit Hall of Fame. He became the unit's president in 2011.

Just a quick look at the table of contents of the 2011 *Congress Book*, the annual publication for the American Philatelic Congress, gives us a glimpse of the task that faces a philatelic editor of Trettin's background. The 200-page book includes eight main articles. Consider the diversity among just half of them: "The Disintegration of the Hohenzollern Empire 1918–1923," "Prexies and the Interaction of Color," "The Puzzle of the Piscataqua Postmarks," and "The Underground Railroad Post Office in Postumia Grotte 1872–1945."

It's a mountain only a world-class scholarly editor would dare climb. And Trettin has successfully made that climb for many years.

Robert Gray (Livingston, New Jersey), received the Mueller Award for best article in *The American Philatelist* in the past calendar year. Gray's article, "Indian Army Postal Service in World War I," was published in the June 2014 edition of the journal.

Robert Gray.

One could say that Gray became an accidental collector and an expert in the area of Indian philately for the period 1914 to 1924. Influenced by his British father, Gray had collected stamps as a child, but neglected the hobby for several decades.

"While working under great pressure in Germany, I decided to try philately again thinking that it would help take my mind off of work," Gray writes. "Passing a stamp shop in Wiesbaden, Germany I entered and asked the owner if she had any British or British empire small collections and was promptly told to leave the store as 'you British, you come to my store and look at stamps for hours and buy nothing.' Understandably, I started to leave when she asked, 'is India part of the British Empire?' She showed me a box of Indian covers, which I purchased. Unable to understand or appreciate these covers, I joined the India Study Circle of London and restarted my hobby."

When he moved back to the United States, Gray joined the APS and Collector's Club in New York City.

Gray's article explores the challenges of the Indian postal system during this tumultuous period, including the seven divisions, or forces, of the Indian Expeditionary Force, dealing with three languages — English, Hindi and Urdu — and geographic and field obstacles. In a little more than seven pages and using more than a dozen images of covers, Gray explores postal organization, soldiers' letters, outbound military mail, postage, POW mail, censorship and post-war conflicts.

The covers illustrating the article include those with British and Indian field post office markings from places such as India, France, Egypt, Iraq, Tanganyika, and Kenya.

Gray holds a doctorate from the University of Illinois at Urbana, is retired from working for veterinary and human pharmaceutical companies in the area of strategic development, and has published in scientific journals on botany and natural products chemistry.

In November, Gray will take his next step in philately when he presents his first exhibit at Chicagopex.

The award is named for the United States Stamp Society and for one of its most prominent members, authors, and editors, Barbara R. Mueller.

Christopher D. Cook (Columbus, Ohio) received the 2014 Allen Award, which recognizes the writer of the best article published in the previous calendar year in the *Philatelic Literature Review*.

Cook was honored for his article, "Using Omeka to Publish a Stamp Collection Online." It was published in the first quarter of 2014.

"The article on open source software to publish a stamp collection brings a librarian's knowledge and expertise to philately and provides readers with detailed and practical information," wrote the recommending committee. "The information Cook provides is thorough, well-documented and illustrated, and easy to understand and put to use. Cook encourages an innovative approach to publishing in philately."

Christopher D. Cook.

Cook wrote that he chose Omeka because it is a "free, flexible, and open-source web-publishing platform for the display of library, museum, archives, and scholarly collections and exhibitions."

The article explains how to install and use the program, which was developed at George Mason University. Typical of the article was Cook's explanation and analysis that tech-savvy users can follow the do-it-yourself method of installation, though "most readers likely would be more comfortable using" the Omeka.net service, which offers five plans from "free" to a cost of $999. More helpful advice follows: "Using the free account on Omeka.net would be an excellent way to experiment with Omeka before fully committing."

Chapters in the 6½-page article explore the Omeka dashboard, adding items, themes and plug-ins, metadata and tags, and support. Using screen shots, the article also reviews three online presentations using Omeka.

Cook has collected stamps off and on since childhood and began to focus on topical collecting in 2003 as an outgrowth of collecting books by and about the medieval Italian poet, Dante Alighieri. His current collection started with a few easy-to-find Dante stamps — the 1921 issues from Italy and 1965 issues from Vatican City — and first-day covers. In 2009, Cook began to look into the subject of Dante on stamps more seriously. To share his philatelic accumulations with the world he started a website, Dante on Stamps (danteonstamps.com), which has grown over the last several years.

He holds a master's degree in library and information science and is the special collections cataloging coordinator at the Ohio State University libraries.

Cook was selected after a review of the quarterly journal by a subcommit-

tee of Tara Murray, Don Heller, and Larry Nix.

The September issue of *The American Philatelist* highlighted this year's Luff Awards winners — MaryAnn Bowman, Leo J. Harris, and James E. McDevitt — who also were honored at StampShow.

A list of previous honorees and award details are available on the APS website at www.stamps.org/Awards.

Library Final Construction Begins

Final construction on the APRL library began in mid-August. APRL Librarian Tara Murray said "The completion of this project will provide secure and appropriate storage for the library's unique collections and much-needed workspace for our staff, volunteers, and visitors." Additional details on the project are online at www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/news/Lib8.4.15.pdf.

Americover, August 14–16, Columbus, Ohio

Cynthia Weigel of USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services' Cancellation Unit speaking to first-day cover producers.

Cachetmaker Kendal Bevil discussing his FDC line with a collector.

Jane King Fohn won the grand award for her multiframe exhibit "The 9-cent Alamo Stamp and Its First Day Covers."

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APS StampShow 2015, August 20–23, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Collectors from around the nation traveled to Michigan in August for the APS's annual StampShow. Shown here are a couple of the many highlights that collectors enjoyed during the multi-day event. For more information on future StampShow dates and locations visit stamps.org/stampshow. Photos from the 2015 event are courtesy of Ken Martin, David McKinney, Lawrence Okrent, Phillip D. Williams, and Jay Bigalke.

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A Place of Their Own

Programs Planned for Young and New Collectors

World Stamp Show-NY 2016's Welcome to Stamp Collecting Pavilion will welcome youth and adults to the amazing world of stamp collecting with eye-opening programs. With 5,000 square feet of space, the pavilion will offer something for everyone. Whether you are a third-grader, a young mom or dad, or a retired senior, the exhibition will expose you to the adventure of stamp collecting and show you how to get started with your own collection.

The pavilion will have three parts: a youth area, adult area, and theater. We are expecting a large number of youths to attend. At Washington 2006, the last international once-every-10-year show in the United States, more than 6,000 young people were on hand. The Youth Activities Committee, comprising the best stamp educators, is designing hands-on activities, including an activity book handout. With stamps being used as curriculum aids in more than 5,000 classrooms in the United States, youth activities at the show will take the next step in starting young collectors on a pathway to stamp collecting as a life-long pursuit.

Newcomers of all ages who visit the Welcome to Stamp Collecting Pavilion will be able to select free stamps from all over the world to begin a collection, or add to an existing one. The pavilion will be adjacent to the U.S. Postal Service booth. The USPS is a major show sponsor and supporter of all youth and beginner collector activities.

Adults will be individually greeted by StampBuddy mentors. StampBuddy is a program of the American Philatelic Society that helps adults find their way into stamp collecting and supports them through the beginning stages. Each adult visitor will choose free stamps and take them to a work station where they can use an electronic microscope to project images of the stamps they have selected. A mentor then narrates the stamps and counsels the visitor on how to match their life experience and interests to a stamp interest, such as collecting a country, or a special topic.

Beginners are often overwhelmed by the vastness of shows like WSS-NY 2016 so individualized tours of the show floor will be provided by StampBuddy mentors.

The pavilion's theater will project videos about collecting aimed at both youth and adults and will provide a comfortable area for storytelling, lectures and other activities.

Youth and adults who express interest in continuing the hobby will be given formal invitations to participate in online meetings sponsored by the American Philatelic Society using video conferencing.

WSS-NY 2016 Social Media

www.facebook.com/ny2016

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World Stamp Show NY 2016

May 28–June 4, 2016
New York City
www.ny2016.org

Show opens in **8** months

United States Stamps Issued

The United States Postal Service issued two World Stamp Show-NY 2016 commemorative forever stamps on August 20 during a ceremony held at the American Philatelic Society's StampShow 2015 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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BY WAYNE L. YOUNGBLOOD

Essays, Proofs, Specimens, and More

Webster Groves Stamp Club Connections

Because most of us still celebrate October as National Stamp Collecting Month, I thought a small digression might be in order. Philatelically speaking, this may be a bit of a shaggy dog story, but it is interesting and it does have a payoff, as well as containing useful information. Please stay with me.

Recently, while doing some research for giving a talk at my home club, the Webster Groves Stamp Club (Webster Groves, Missouri), I made an interesting discovery that included information that most collectors do not know, but more about that in a bit.

Figure 1. Clarence W. Brazer.

Clarence W. Brazer (1880–1956) [Figure 1] is known to the philatelic world as the man who both popularized and classified essays and proofs, and became the founder of the now-defunct Essay-Proof Society, which specialized in these wonderful artifacts of stamp production. Before continuing, let's first examine the basic definitions of these items. There is some overlap, because some proofs can be essays, some specimens may be proofs, and even some essays may be specimens. Thus, hard and fast classification may not always be possible.

Essay: This is a form of trial stamp whose design differs, even if only slightly, from a finished stamp. In some cases an essay may be for a stamp that was never issued. Essays may include original artwork for a stamp design that was later accepted or rejected, pulled proofs of designs that were later rejected, or even printed examples of stamps that were produced but never issued. The design may be almost indistinguishable from a finished stamp or bear little, if any, resemblance to an actual stamp. Some essays are very rare, or even unique, but some are fairly common.

Figure 2. Examples of different U.S. stamp essays.

Although many essays are a normal part of stamp production, a number of others (mostly from the 19th century) are the result of contractors competing to win a government contract for printing stamps by showing off their capabilities. These can include design essays or those for security devices, such as grills, different papers and more. Another form of essay is created when a stamp design competition is held, such as for federal duck stamps and, occasionally, postage issues, including the 1948 Wisconsin commemorative stamp. Some essays exist in small quantities, others are unique. All are highly collectible. Examples of different essays are shown [Figure 2].

Proof: A proof, simply put, is any stamp image printed to check image, color, quality, design or any other factor that could affect a final printed stamp. Proofs may be pulled at any point in the stamp designing or manufacturing process, including years after a stamp issue has been produced.

There are many different types of proofs, including progressive die proofs (a form of essay taken as a design is being engraved on the original die), die proofs (large and small, from the final engraving as it appears on the original die), trial color proofs (in different colors, from either the original die or printing plates), plate proofs (from finished printing plates), posthumous proofs (made long after a stamp was issued, such as the so-called 1875 "Atlanta" proofs created for the 1881 International Cotton Exposition) and others.

Figure 3. Six different examples of U.S. proofs.

Both die and plate proofs may also exist as essays; those varieties of stamp images produced prior to the final version. Die proofs usually are of a much higher image quality than plate proofs. All are desirable. Examples of six different types of proofs are shown [Figure 3].

Specimen: A specimen stamp (or at least one that is recognizable as such to collectors) is one that has usually been defaced by means of an overprint, usually "Specimen," perforation pattern or other obliteration for the purpose of creating samples to be given to postmasters, philatelic agencies and others, without incurring the liability of live postage (accountable paper). Specimens are highly collectible. An example of two specimen stamps are shown [Figure 4].

Figure 4. Two U.S. stamps bearing "Specimen" overprints.

The first time that many collectors knew about these items and their distinctions was a series of articles begun by Brazer in 1935, for the Collectors Club of New York, that culminated into what became the go-to book first published in 1941, *Essays for U.S. Adhesive Postage Stamps*, in which he listed and classified all items known to him. The skeleton of that book was based on earlier work by Edward H. Mason during 1910–11. Brazer's book [Figure 5] has since been updated and reprinted several times.

Brazer was an architect by trade, but developed his keen interest in essays and proofs in the late 1920s, after making a rather large find of salesman sample books of early bank note companies. These books contained a wealth of yet-unstudied essay, proof and specimen material and he began studying and classifying it in earnest. The stock market crash and resulting period of architectural doldrums that followed gave Brazer the time to study, as well as

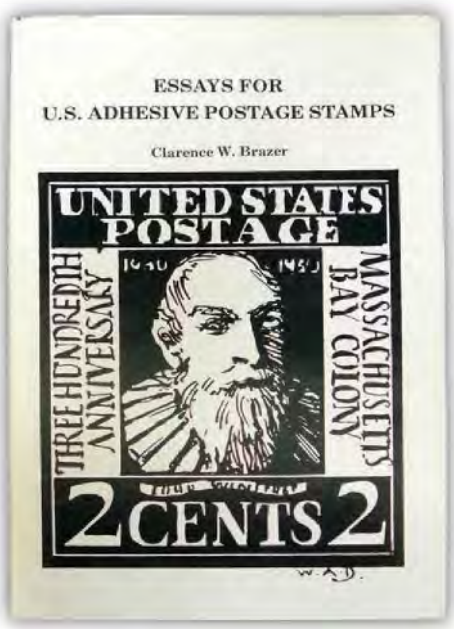


Figure 5. Clarence Brazer's ground-breaking book on U.S. essays material.

to begin buying and selling this type of material. Over time, he developed both his knowledge and trade to the point where he eventually listed "philatelist" above "architect" on his office door.

Now, I want to switch gears briefly, to what may arguably be the scarcest and most desirable specimen stamps of U.S. philately. According to an online web blog created by collector David Schwartz, there are only four known specimen sets for the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition stamps created for the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. Of these, one set is entombed in the cornerstone of the Washington, D.C., Daughters of the American Revolution's Memorial Continental Hall, the cornerstone of which was laid in 1904.

Figure 6. An example of the United States 10-cent specimen stamp created for the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition commemorative set.

WIN C. MADDEN
ASSISTANT P.M.GEN'L

Post Office Department
Third Assistant Postmaster General
Washington
April 16, 1904.

Mr. Allen V. Cockrell,
1816 R Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Cockrell:

In response to your request of this date, I take pleasure in enclosing to you herewith one set of the Commemorative Series, 1904, (Louisiana Purchase) postage stamps. The Series consists of the 1,2,3,5 and 10-cent postage stamps. This is the second set to be given away. The first was given to the Daughters of the American Revolution, to enclose in the corner stone of their Memorial Continental Hall, which is to be laid Tuesday next.

The stamps will not be placed on sale to the public at any postoffice until April 30th next.

Respectfully,

Third Assistant Postmaster General.

P. S. These stamps are all marked "specimen". No stamps can be given away except as specimen.

Figure 7. This letter, with specimens of the 1904 Louisiana Purchase commemoratives affixed, was mailed two weeks before the stamps were issued.

The remaining sets bear "Specimen" overprints [Figure 6], but one of them is very different. That set [Figure 7], is a complete set, affixed to a letter sent to Allen V. Cockrell on April 16, 1904, a full two weeks before the earliest-known use of those stamps (April 30, 1904, their release date). The letter is from Edwin Madden, the third assistant postmaster general and de facto head of the Stamps Division.

According to Schwartz, Cockrell was the son of Brig. Gen. (C.S.A.) Francis Marion Cockrell, who represented Missouri for 30 years in the U.S. Senate. A classic Bourbon Democrat, Cockrell distinguished himself by consistently opposing the majority, and avidly seeking pork barrel tidbits for his constituents. He was ousted by the Republican landslide of 1904. Schwartz continues, "He fought bravely for the Confederacy, and was reputed to be among the South's most formidable combat officers. The recipient of the letter, his son, Allen Vardaman Cockrell, was 21 when he received this letter. He died at the age of 30." Schwartz did not mention where the letter now resides.

Meanwhile, back in St. Louis, well-known philatelist Elizabeth C. Pope [Figure 8] was, for many years, program director for the Webster Groves Stamp Club. Pope is not only remembered for her knowledge of 19th-century U.S. and Confederate states stamps, but also her longtime friendship with Raymond and Roger Weill, as well as her huge contributions to both the Christie's and Robert A. Siegel auction firms. Among those individuals she mentored is current Siegel president, Scott Trepel.

Figure 8. Elizabeth C. Pope.

In 1953, apparently, Pope was working on getting a program lined up for the club that involved essays and proofs of the 1869 series, requesting the same from Brazer.

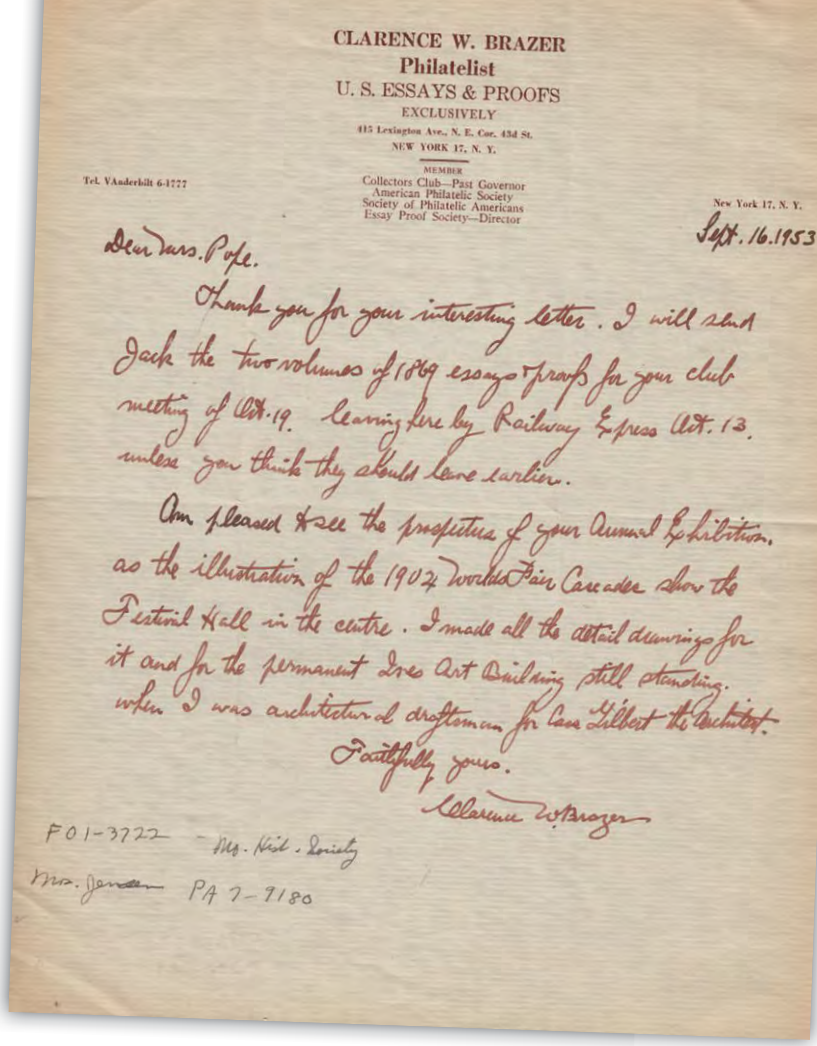
In his September 16, 1953, response to Pope, Brazer mentions two volumes of 1869 proofs and essays he would be sending "by Railways Express Oct 13, unless you think they should leave earlier." Brazer goes on to thank Pope for her interesting letter and thanks her for sending the prospectus for the 1954 club exhibition, which apparently was to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 1904

Webster Groves Stamp Club

The Webster Groves Stamp Club of St. Louis, Missouri, is one of the oldest clubs in the area, founded in 1928. The club currently boasts about 75 members and has been the home club to many philatelic notables, including Elizabeth Pope, Hans Stoltz, Elizabeth "Betty" Nettles, David Straight, David Kols, Gary Hendren, and others. The club meets twice a month (the first and third Fridays of the month) at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 10 West Lockwood, Webster Groves. The club is always looking for new friends and speakers.

Figure 9. Festival Hall building, the visual centerpiece of the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition, also known as the St. Louis World's Fair.

Figure 10. The St. Louis Art Museum was the Fine Arts Building of the 1904 World's Fair.



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Essay Proof Society—Director

Tel. VAnderbilt 6-4777

New York 17, N. Y.
Sept. 16.1953

Dear Mrs. Pope.

Thank you for your interesting letter. I will send Jack the two volumes of 1869 essays & proofs for your club meeting of Oct. 19. leaving here by Railway Express Oct. 13. unless you think they should leave earlier.

Am pleased to see the prospectus of your Annual Exhibition, as the illustration of the 1904 World Fair Cascades show the Festival Hall in the centre. I made all the detail drawings for it and for the permanent Ives Art Building still standing. when I was architectural draftsman for Cass Gilbert the Architect.

Faithfully yours.

Clarence W. Brazer

F01-3722 – Mrs. Neil. Lovely
Mrs. Jensen PA 7-9180

Figure 12. The 1953 letter from Clarence Brazer to Elizabeth Pope that links numerous items in this column.

World's Fair, as the Cascade Fountains and Festival Hall were shown on the front. Festival Hall is shown in Figure 9. As the central visual element of the fair, the hall's dome was 145 feet wide, set on a cylindrical base 200 feet wide. It seated 4,000 guests and had a stage capable of supporting a full orchestra. The hall, which sat atop a hill, also housed the world's largest pipe organ. Spouting from the front of the hall was a cascade of elaborately designed fountains and water spouts that ran down to a picturesque lagoon. The cascades could be illuminated at night as well, and they poured out 90,000 gallons of water a minute, or more than 130 million gallons in a day. That was enough water to supply a city of a half-million people at that time.

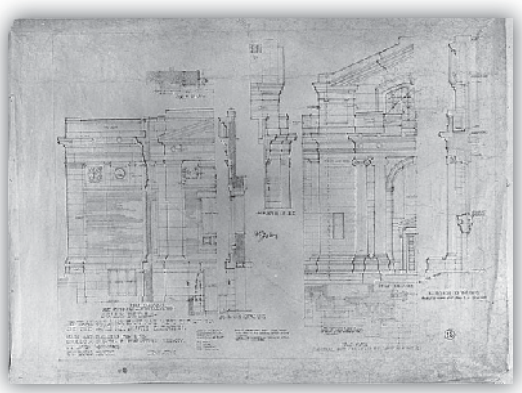

Figure 11. Detail drawing of the Fine Arts Building, likely created by Brazer.

In a bit of reminiscing with Pope, Brazer continued (speaking of his architectural background), "I made all the detail drawings for it [Festival Hall] and the permanent Ives Art Building still standing" (he meant the Palace of Fine Arts building, shown in Figure 10, the only building of the fair intended to be permanent). Indeed, the building is today's St. Louis Art Museum. One of the museum's detail drawings is shown in Figure 11. Brazer was working at the time as a junior architect for the firm of Cass Gilbert, which truly built its considerable reputation upon the buildings it designed for the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904. Brazer's considerable contribution to the 1904 World's Fair has been virtually unknown to collectors for more than a century.

So there you have it: a single letter, shown in Figure 12, with essays, proofs, specimens, Clarence Brazer, the St. Louis World's Fair, Elizabeth Pope and the Webster Groves Stamp Club all wrapped up in one tidy bundle.

Once again, it all comes back to stamps.

References

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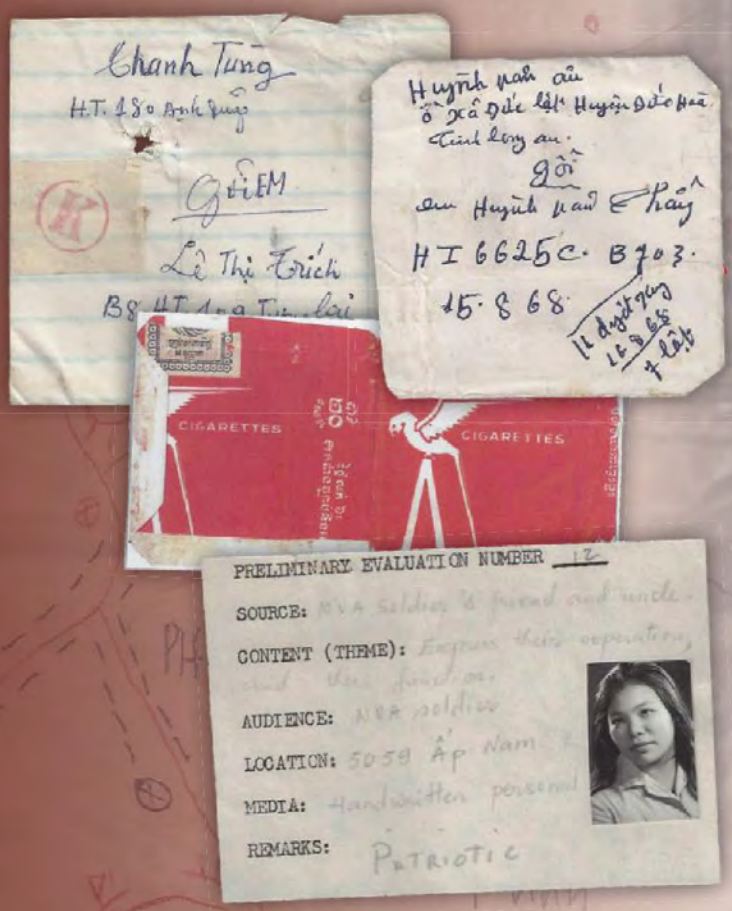
www.websterglovesstampclub.org.

NORTH VIETNAM POSTAL HISTORY

Artifacts From the Other Side of the Vietnam War: 1960–1975



BY DANIEL M. TELEP

There was trouble up in The Rock Pile. North Vietnamese soldiers dug in at the landmark atop the strategic mountaintop were flinging mortar shells and .50-caliber gunfire at our American convoy. Our half-dozen vehicles were pinned down on Highway 9.

The landscape was beautiful, much like western Pennsylvania. No rice paddies or jungle. Just green, leafy trees, pastures, and streams among rolling hills. But this was not the States. It was the northwest corner of South Vietnam at the demilitarized zone, nearly adjacent to North Vietnam and Laos. And it was 1967. And it was the Vietnam War.

It was broad daylight and our American convoy had been ambushed. The enemy — about 30 of them altogether — had to be cleared out. It was crucial to always keep Highway 9 open so convoys could move supplies between Quang Tri, near the demilitarized zone (DMZ), and Khe Sanh.

Several trucks took me and my platoon of 40 Marines from Camp Carroll, an artillery encampment manned by the 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, and dropped us off near The Rock Pile.

We were fast engaged in a firefight with the North Vietnamese. It didn't last too long, maybe two

Figure 1. Military frank stamp of 1969, Soldier and Guerilla Woman (Scott M12), with a Hanoi machine cancel to Hom Thu No. 91364 CS.

or three hours, before they retreated. I didn't lose a man, but we had some wounded because I remember a Medevac. We never saw any dead bodies, but we likely caused some casualties because we found blood trails.

In the midst of that violent shelling and rifle fire, the most astonishing philatelic event happened. I was on the radio calling for an artillery strike when one of my men ran over and dropped a North Vietnamese mail pouch in my lap. Inside, were two bundles of letters tied with ribbons. To this day I don't know if the North Vietnamese courier who had this pouch was killed or wounded or just dropped it. It remains a mystery.

Even then, though, at the age of 23, I was a collector. I was big into Confederate philately. And I recognized what I suddenly had in front of me. I wanted to stuff those captured letters into my pockets. But I knew I couldn't do that. This enemy material was important. It would provide intelligence. I sent it right back on a helicopter to our 3rd Marine Division Headquarters at Dong Ha. However, I never forgot what I had held.

I now own a cover similar to the one I held back on that day [Figure 1].

In 1960, the North Vietnamese army and the Viet Cong escalated their operations and resorted to heightened armed rebellion and political struggle to reunite their country.[1] NVA and VC are more recognizable terms to us than the more proper terms, the People's Army of Vietnam and the National Liberation Front.[2] The armies' military postal system provides rich and scarce material for study.

Several patriotic designs are known, although extremely difficult to obtain [Figure 2]. The primary reason is that Communist authorities required all southbound mail be destroyed after reading, to avoid being captured. Those that were captured and examined were almost all destroyed. Few returned stateside as souvenirs.

In exploring the postal operations of the NVA/VC between the years 1960, when the war escalated and spread deeper into the South, and April, 1975, when Saigon fell to end hostilities, I have been impressed at the very effective, yet simplistic, systems used by the North Vietnamese forces.

NVA or VC soldiers had a personal mail address called a "Hop Tho" number. Similarly, all units deployed or engaged had numerical letter boxes called "Hom Thu" numbers. This is a typical cover and letter [Figure 3] dated March 16, 1968, addressed to a deployed Unit, Hom Thu 92151LT at "Cau Sau," a transfer station in the South. The writer states "… I wish that you will kill a lot of Americans during the fighting."

Almost all northbound or southbound mail traveled through Laos and Cambodia along what became known as the Ho Chi Minh Trail, a bypass around the U.S.-controlled DMZ. That my unit intercepted a courier in the DMZ was

Figure 2. Cover from 1972 with the 3,500th Plane Shot Down stamp (Scott 665) and a Hanoi handstamp postmark.

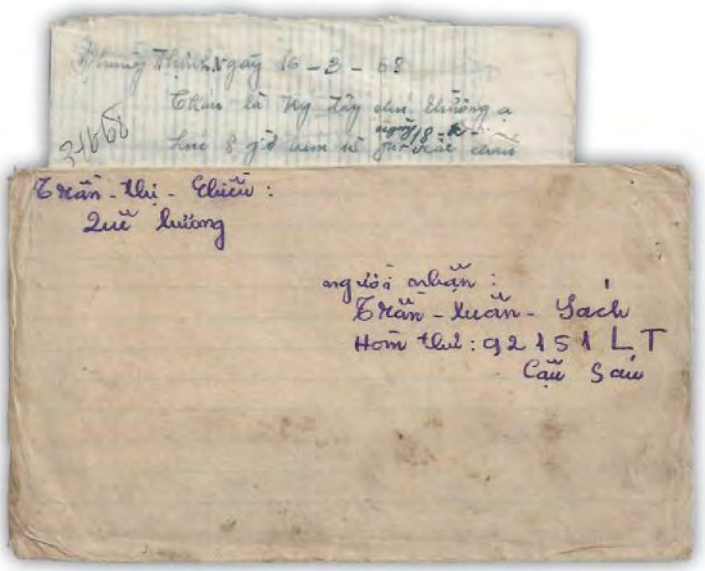


Figure 3. Viet Cong field letter to Hom Thu No. 92151 LT at the Cau Sau transfer station.

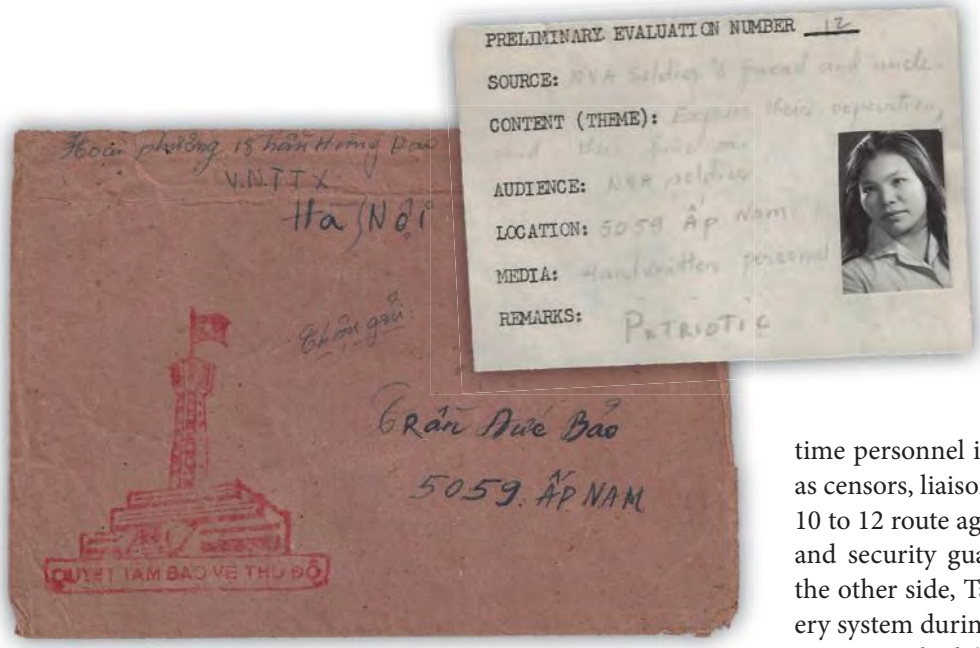


Figure 4. Patriotic cover of Hue Citadel and the NVA flag, with letter, photograph, and postcard as enclosures. Sender's address is given as V.N.T.T.X., Hanoi (Vietnamese Textile Corporation). Letter dated March 2, 1968.

Figure 5. A 1959 military frank stamp with Soldier and Train (Scott M4), a North Vietnamese army usage, sent from Hai-Maut to Hao Binh on March 4, 1960.

Figure 6. A 1966 cover with Type II boxed "K" red handstamp on Viet Cong cover to Hung Chong.

a notable exception. Several entry points along the trail allowed for mail to cross into provinces in South Vietnam, using a complicated mail transfer system. The main transfer post office — identified as "COSVN" — was located in Cambodia. Transfers were made to field offices in districts and then to local sections.[3]

All offices had dedicated, full-time personnel including political officers who acted as censors, liaison agents for mail transfer to districts, 10 to 12 route agents per district named "Giao Liens," and security guards. Another postal historian from the other side, Tạ Phi Long, describes the mail delivery system during the resistance war period as always an extremely difficult and arduous task, often costing the lives of such "communication agents."[4]

Operating principles included:

- Unit Hom Thu and individual Hop Tho addresses changed regularly.
- Stringent security required all mail be destroyed once read.
- "Secret," "Expedite," and "Urgent" markings on covers indicated they required priority handling.
- Letters were heavily censored to protect locations, combatants, circumstances, etc.
- Forwarding markings and other transfer agent notations aided delivery.

The ultimate objective of U.S. military intelligence was to capture prisoners they could interrogate; however, captured letters also were valuable as a secondary source of information. NVA and VC military mail, when captured, was examined by intelligence officers (G-2s), and then had a note in English stapled to the cover describing the translated contents [Figure 4]. Examples with the inspection form attached are prized by collectors.

The government of North Vietnam printed "Military Frank Issue" stamps with no denomination, to be distributed to each soldier in the North, two per month, for their personal correspondence [Figure 5]. The stamps depicted battles fought, heroes, brave actions carried out, and generally motivating themes.

Prioritized mail was designated by special markings because of the need for secrecy, special handling/routing, urgency, or caution. The most often used code indicating that priority was the letter "K," meaning "Kinh" or secret/confidential,[5] with 13 separate "K" types identified to date, of which five "Ks" were manuscript, seven "Ks" were handstamped and only one is an adhesive pre-handstamped label [Figures 6 and 7]. The red handstamped marking (Type II) is a striking example. The red handstamp on an adhesive (Type

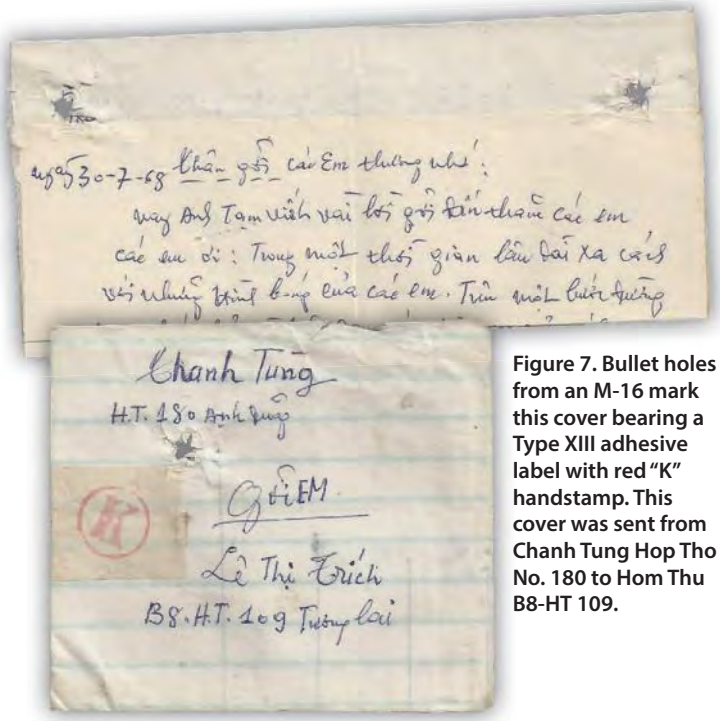


Figure 7. Bullet holes from an M-16 mark this cover bearing a Type XIII adhesive label with red "K" handstamp. This cover was sent from Chanh Tung Hop Tho No. 180 to Hom Thu B8-HT 109.

Figure 9. A Bao Dam adhesive label affixed to this cover. The text "Kinh Goi" translates to "please send, urgent/forward." Handwritten note on lettersheet enclosure [not shown] reads in English, "I Corps taken from body U.S.M.C. Hayes." Letter was captured on the date mailed, August 31, 1968.

Figure 10. The sender lists his Hop Tho number on this cover and a "Kinh Goi," urgent/forward notation. This mailpiece was made from a 0.1 kg opium shipping tag.

XIII) is seldom seen. Note the M-16 bullet hole through the envelope itself. The courier carrying this letter was killed and the mail pouch captured. My philatelic exhibit on this subject displays a photograph of the deceased courier and his mail pouch (not the one found during my engagement at The Rock Pile) lying in a muddy field.

Other special/urgent markings include "DTG," "GGK," "DTK," and "Gap" [Figure 8]. They stand for the Vietnamese commands "Dien Tin Gap," "Gui Gap Khan," and "Dien Tin Kahn," all meaning urgency, confidential and special handling. The usage of "Bao Dam," meaning "registered mail," was applied either as a manuscript marking or as this adhesive label [Figure 9]. All these markings are extremely difficult to find.

These NVA and VC military examples compare to those of my former collecting interest, the Confederate States of America, in patriotic fervor, special handling, improvisation, and historic value.[6] Like the Confederates, because of paper scarcity, the NVA/VC employed turned covers, envelopes made of other kinds of pre-used paper, and folded letters.[7] One item was constructed from an opium shipping tag [Figure 10] where the sender listed his Hop Tho number and a message indicating it should be sent urgently and forwarded on.

Another cover [Figure 11] was built using a printed government form that was carried via the Ho Chi Minh trail to the Cau Sau communications transfer station.

The other item is a Cambodian cigarette package wrapper, captured en route through Tay Ninh to Long An Prov-

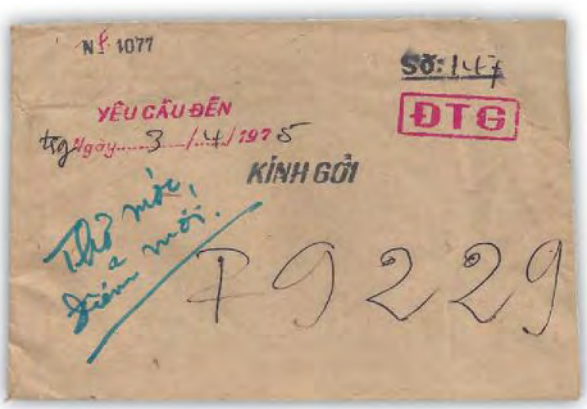


Figure 8. A 'DTG' Type II heavy rectangle with Dash-D in red was placed on this cover. The "Kinh Goi" handstamp denotes urgent/forward. The "Yeu Cau Den" states return by April 3, 1975. This cover also has a Bao Mat red circular handstamp on reverse denoting its contents are "sealed and secret."

Figure 11. Cover carried from Ha Tinh, Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) to the Cau Sau communications transfer station in the Mekong Delta via the Ho Chi Minh trail. It is made from a government form.

Figure 12. This mailpiece was constructed of a Cambodian cigarette package still bearing a Cambodian tax stamp. This was captured while en route through Tay Ninh to Long An Province. It is dated August 15, 1968. "Goi" on the address part of the piece means forward.

Figure 13. Chairman Mao cover with a patriotic message sent from a regimental staging area for Chinese troops near the Laotian border.

Figure 14. Cover bearing a Russian military cancel sent on October 8, 1968.

ince. The mailpiece [Figure 12] is dated August 15, 1968 and still bears a Cambodian tax stamp on it. These three mailpieces bring back memories of wallpaper covers from my Confederate collection.

This study also includes postal usages by Communist allies. The first cover [Figure 13] has an image of Chairman Mao with a patriotic message that was sent from a regimental staging area for Chinese troops near the Laotian border. It was sent from a Chinese adviser writing to Hom Thu Unit No. 8702 and the cover carries a seldom seen Chinese military "Post Free" handstamp. The design, with a 1966 copyright, translates to, "Politics is the key that makes all things work." It shows Mao's instruction to troops: "China's People's Army is always an army of victory — Mao's words" handwritten across the top of the reverse, then the receiver's handwritten note on the reverse is dated August 1968.

The second cover [Figure 14], dated October 8, 1968, has a Russian military cancel that translates

Figure 15. A U.S. Planes Downed Over North Vietnam album of stamps that was produced in 1973 by Xunhasaba Printing Co. in Hanoi. The cover photo shows a captured American airman and contains a complete set of the 19 stamps.

to "Field Post Office." The cover includes handwritten Soviet military censor marks and was most likely pouched and handled outside the Vietnamese system with other Soviet Forces' mail and sent from Hanoi to Moscow. The letter discusses personal issues such as receiving envelopes and socks. "The weather is wet, hot during the daytime and cool evenings," the sender writes.

These covers clearly indicate an advisory role, if not also direct supply and participation of both China and the Soviet Union. The Chinese letter was correspondence with VC troops in the South. The Soviet Union example was routed through East Germany.

As in any country, the images on the Vietnamese-issued stamps reflect its values, heritage, and noteworthy events, people and objects. The most recognizable and famous stamp series issued by North Vietnam would be the American Planes Shot Down series, with exaggerated numbers of downed planes ranging from 500 planes, issued in 1965, to 4,181 planes at the last day of the American presence, issued in 1973 [Figure 15]. Exact figures vary per sources, but today's record of U.S. aircraft lost in combat — both fixed wing and helicopters — stands at 2,730.

This North Vietnamese souvenir booklet, containing examples of all 19 stamps in the series, was used as propaganda, given to foreign diplomats and Communist allied financial backers. The chilling image on the cover of the booklet and on the 2,000th Planes stamp, issued in 1967, is of a U.S. prisoner of war captured after his plane was shot down near Vinh.

Late in the war, post-American involvement, security requirements for mail lessened. Extremely confidential mili-

NORTH VIETNAM STAMP HISTORY

By AP Staff

Vietnamese stamps of that Southeast Asian region's war years, 1960 to 1975, present an intriguing mixture mimicking the confusion, violence and tumultuousness of the times. As most Americans knew it, there were two Vietnams — North and South — which had been administered, built up and torn apart with the help of, or despite, the involvement of many international influences, including France, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, Nationalist and Communist China, and the United States.

With Japan's surrender at the end of World War II, Vietnam became the site of an initial tug-of-war between various political and military forces, chief among them France and the nationalistic and primarily communist-led Viet Minh coalition. After nine years of struggle France was finally forced out. On July 21, 1954, Vietnam was divided at the 17th parallel by the Geneva Conference.

A new conflict, sometimes referred to in Southeast Asia as the Second Indochina War or the Resistance War Against America, found the United States supporting the South Vietnamese regime of Ngo

North Vietnam People's Army 20th Anniversary stamp (Scott 330).

Dinh Diem against Ho Chi Minh and North Vietnam, which was backed heavily by China and the Soviet Union.

In South Vietnam, there also was a large population of support, particularly in rural areas, of the

Three war-era North Vietnamese official stamps (Scott O26 to O28) in three denominations.

North. This support led to the creation in 1960 of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, whose military branch we know as the Viet Cong. The NLF created the flag featuring half red (on top) and half blue (bottom) with a large yellow, five-pointed star in the center.

How does this play out among stamps of Vietnam?

Vietnamese stamps are found in four sections in Volume 6 of the Scott *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*. The first listings are for the Republic of Viet Nam (subtitled South Viet Nam). This includes stamps issued from June 6, 1951 to March 26, 1975, Scott 516. U.S. troops left in April 1975 and the South Vietnamese capital, Saigon, fell.

The second, for stamps issued between 1945 and 1948, carry a "1L" prefix and are for the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam (North Viet Nam), subtitled the Viet Minh issues. There are 63 listings.

The next section is for the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam (North Viet Nam); starting with Scott 1 in 1951 through a set of Flowers stamps (Scott 822–829) issued June 24, 1976.

This section includes several issues that feature anti-American, anti-war, pro-nationalism and pro-unification themes. Among these are three war-era North Vietnamese official stamps from 1958 (Scott O26–O28) that show a Soldier, Factory, and Crops in three denominations.

Several stamps show revered Viet Minh leader Ho Chi Minh along with other Communist leaders such as Marx and Lenin; there is a 1964 pair (Scott 318–319) celebrating the 10th anniversary of the liberation of Hanoi; a 1965 pair (Scott 383–384) celebrates the friendship between Vietnam and China; a heavily armed female soldier appears as part of the 1966 Victory in Dry Season Campaign set (Scott 432–434).

A 1966 stamp (Scott 431) shows an American warplane being shot from the sky. A set of two issued in 1967 (Scott 461–462) shows an American POW being led away with a jet crashing in the background. Similar scenes appear on several other stamps of the era.

The final section, within the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam listings, carries a subtitle "After Unification," beginning with Scott 830 issued on July 27, 1976, and running through today.

There is another group of about four dozen stamps that are not in the Scott catalogs. These are stamps issued by the National Liberation Front from the mid-1960s through the mid-1970s. Vietnamese author Tạ Phi Long discusses these stamps in his dual-language book, *Some Features of Postal History in the Period of Revolutionary South Vietnam* (2012, Information and Communications Publishing House, Hanoi).

Many of these stamps have been considered as wartime propaganda and have not been recognized by some catalogs, such as the Scott catalog, as having philatelic use. However, according to Phi Long, there is evidence that shows that some were used on Vietnamese mail.

Many of the Viet Cong stamps use the "xu" currency unit, the currency used by supporters of the National Liberation Front. Stamps from the government of South Vietnam were in "cents" (xu) and "piasters" (dong). Xu appears on stamps until the end of 1972.

Many show U.S. military planes and vehicles being destroyed or captured. One set of these stamps is called "Painting Sketches War Against America." There is no known exact release date known, but it was numbered Set No. 8. Because no currency appears on the stamps, it was likely the stamps were designed before sets 5, 6, and 7 and had a delayed release because they were printed in the Soviet Union as opposed to previous sets, which were printed at the Tien Bo factory in Hanoi, according to Phi Long's book. Soviet Union-produced stamps were all on white paper with smaller perforations than the Vietnamese stamps. Panes had 20 to 25 stamps.

Some Viet Cong stamps have an anniversary date of 1960. The National Liberation Front, the political leadership of the Viet Cong, was founded December 20, 1960.

Many of the Viet Cong stamps use the "xu" currency unit. Stamps from the government of South Vietnam were in "cents" (xu) and "piasters" (dong). Xu appears on stamps until the end of 1972.

Viet Cong stamp with an anniversary date of 1961–71. The anniversary refers to the 1960 founding of the National Liberation Front, the political leadership of the Viet Cong.

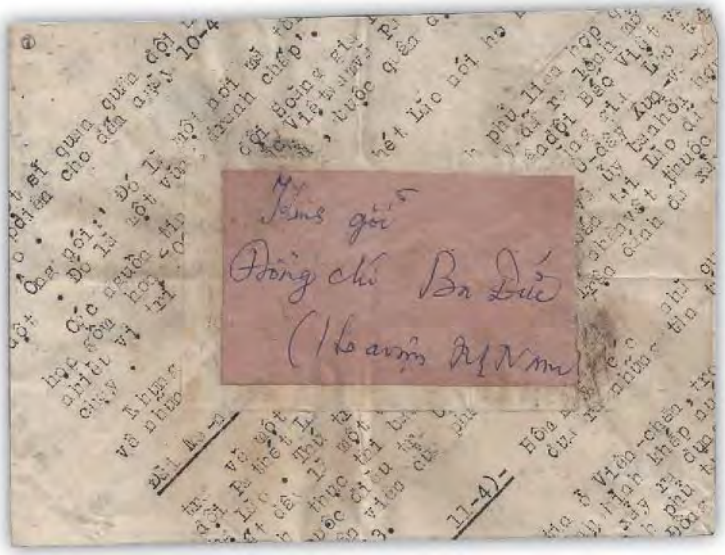


Figure 16. An address label on a folded printed government form that was sent to the Command Center at Phuoc Long.

tary mail could be sent and delivered without fear of being easily captured. Without any secret/urgent marking, this cover [Figure 16] was delivered in the fall of 1974. It contained an intricate hand-drawn topographical map [Figure 17]. The map was divided into two pieces and mailed separately as a precaution. A second cover, with its matching remarkable contents, is also in my collection. When joined together they show ARVN positions in detail within a tight perimeter near the Cambodian border west of Saigon. The December 13, 1974, battle at Phuoc Long was a decisive NVA victory, one of the final victories leading up to the fall of Saigon.

So much more could be told and shown to document this story. This tour of a few items in my collection[8] is only a beginning to acquaint readers with a seldom discussed aspect of postal history.

Figure 17. A captured map showing Army of the Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam) positions at Phuoc Long.

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1. *The Vietnam Experience, the North*, Doyle, Lipsman, and Maitland, 1986, p. 20, Boston Publishing Co.; Authors confirm the exact year from "Central Committee" documents in Hanoi.
2. *Inside the VC and NVA* by Lanning and Cragg, Ballantine Books, 1992.
3. Op cit., Lanning and Cragg, pg. 157.
4. "Some Features of Postal History in the Period of Revolutionary South Vietnam," by Tạ Phi Long, 2012, p. 9, Information and Communications Publishing House (in Vietnam), (#43361 APS library copy in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania).
5. "More Mail from the Trail" by Bob Munshower; *The Indo-China Philatelist*, Vol. XXV, No. 2, April/June 1996.
6. John W. Kaufmann Inc. Sale, 1987.
7. "Allied and Other Forces mail in Vietnam, 1945–1975" by Bob Munshower, *La Posta*, May 1994.

8. This 10-frame collection has been awarded four gold medals when exhibited in APS World Series of Philately competition.

Lt. Daniel M. Telep, First Battalion, Ninth Marines Regiment, Third Marine Division, serving 1967–68.

The Author

Daniel M. Telep a decorated Marine Corps officer with two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star who served 19 months from 1967 to 1968 in Vietnam. Telep is a frequent contributor to philatelic journals as well as business marketing publications relating to his profession with Crossroads Development Group. He has actively pursued collecting postal history for almost 60 years, having specialized in the Confederate Civil War era, the cities of Pittsburgh and Sewickley where he resides, and, most recently, the Vietnam War era.

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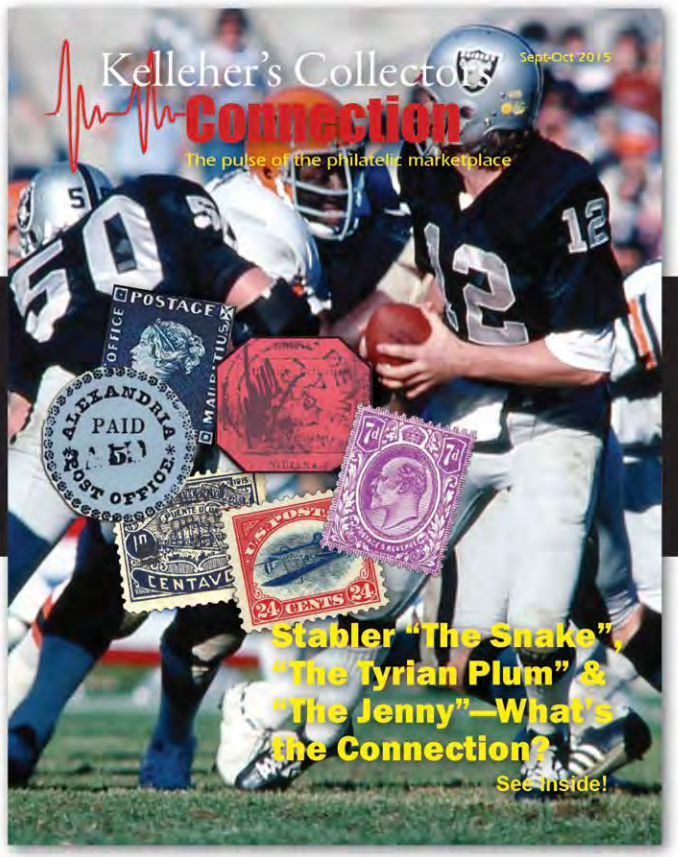

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1950s

CATALOGING U.S. STAMPS

BY CHARLES M. POSNER

4-H Clubs (Scott 1005)

United States 3-cent 4-H Clubs commemorative stamp.

The Making of the Stamp

An obvious candidate for a celebratory postage stamp was the movement that produced the sudden and seemingly spontaneous growth of rural clubs and organizations dedicated to preparing boys and girls for a bright and productive future as agriculturalists. From 1950, the idea of issuing a stamp to honor the coalescing of these organizations into what became known as the 4-H Clubs was firmly put on the agenda of the U.S. Post Office Department. The 4-H movement was instrumental in the development of American agriculture through the work of its clubs with generations of young people. The term "4-H" refers to the aim of engaging the heads, hearts, hands, and health of rural American youth.

By the reckoning of groups in Ohio, 1952 would mark the 50th anniversary of the foundation of 4-H. Other groups scattered around the country cited other years and sites as the beginning of the movement.

However, its growth was so spontaneous and instantaneous that it was extremely difficult to decide exactly when and where the movement started.

U.S. Rep. Clarence J. Brown (1893–1965) was behind the request for a stamp. Brown, who wielded some power in Congress, declared, "If any commemorative stamps are to be issued at all, one should be issued to mark the foundation of the 4-H Clubs." Whilst he convinced Jesse Donaldson, the postmaster general, that a stamp should be issued, he was less successful about the when and the where. Among the most plausible claims was that submitted by the Clark County Agricultural Service for Springfield, Ohio, 45 miles west of Columbus. It had the backing of many historians as well as more than 40 other groups, including farm agencies, cooperatives, historical societies, and philatelic organizations.

Through columns in one of Ohio's leading newspapers, George M. Barmann lobbied strongly on behalf of the advocates of Springfield. Finally, having sifted through claim and counter-claim, the U.S. Post Office Department concluded that the first 4-H club was, indeed, organized in Springfield, Ohio, by Albert Belmont Graham on January 15, 1902. That first meeting was held in the basement of the post office.

Unlike other organizations, the 4-H movement made no suggestions as to the design of the postage stamp, leaving the decision to the authorities in Washington. The only suggestion that was made was that the color of the stamp should be

3-CENT 4-H CLUBS COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

Date of Issue: January 15, 1952
First-day site: Springfield, Ohio
First-day covers serviced: 383,290
Scott catalog number: 1005
Designer: Charles Chickering
Vignette engraver: Matthew D. Fenton
Frame engraver: John Edmondson
Letter engraver: John Edmondson
Color: Blue-green (Scott catalog); green (U.S. Post Office Department)
Format: Electric eye plates of 200 divided into 4 post office panes of 50 by horizontal gutters — arranged 5 horizontally by 10 vertically
Perforation: Gauge 11 x 10.5
Size: 1.44 x 0.84 inches (36.58 x 21.3mm)
Printing: Bureau of Engraving and Printing on Stickney rotary press
Quantity: 115,945,000
Varieties: Over-inked panes

green, because white and green were the colors of the organization.

Using one of the 4-H recruitment posters provided by the Department of Agriculture, Charles Chickering fashioned a single prototype, which was accepted by the postmaster general four days after the design was submitted.

The Design

Chickering, of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, produced only one model. The design has four components: a field of wheat, a barn and a substantial farmhouse; the symbol of 4-H; and two teenage members.

The design depicts a typical group of farm buildings at the left. In the center is the symbolic four-leaf clover with the letter "H" superimposed on each of the leaves. The leaves represent the four principles of the 4-H movement: head, heart, hands, and health. Directly below the symbol the words "The 4-H Clubs" are inscribed in dark Gothic. An adolescent boy and girl facing the symbol dominate the right side of the design. In the lower-left corner of the design the denomination three cents is shown shaded in modified Gothic. "To Make the Best Better" is printed at the top of the stamp in white Roman. A solid dark panel on which the wording "United States Postage" appears in whiteface Roman forms the bottom of the stamp.

Chickering's rendering of the teenagers was taken from a 4-H recruiting poster, but with interesting changes. Both appear to be older on the stamp than on the poster. On the poster, the boy with his hair somewhat dishevelled and his tie flying to a semi-vertical position, is focusing on the girl with a distinct non-agricultural smile on his face. On the stamp, his jaw has been widened to make him appear older. His tie is impeccably in place, and he is no longer looking at the girl, but straight ahead. The girl on the stamp appears to be older than her counterpart on the poster. Her lips are less prominent and she seems to look less like Grace Kelly. She is looking at the 4-H symbol ahead of her.

The Subject

The United States in 1900 was still a rural society — just 60 percent of the population lived in what were classified as rural areas. Despite an enormous rise in industrial output, 58 percent of all exports were agricultural products. The widespread use of machinery and the direct use of scientific knowledge and improved methods of agricultural production were still on the horizon. Agriculture was still largely manual, relying on a walking plow, forked hay, and milking by hand. Farm animals and humans supplied the power needed for farm operations. The kerosene lamp furnished light. The hand pump and windmill provided water. Farm butchering and the trading of bread grains for flour were part and parcel of everyday life.

A 4-H recruitment poster created by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Young rural people were attracted to more urbanized areas, where there was a shortage of labor, hours were not as onerous, pay was better, and life offered many more diversions than county fairs and familial. There was widespread concern that the nation's economic future was threatened if farm production stagnated because of the exodus of farm youth. European markets were no longer as open as they once were, with cheaper grains and animal products now available from Australia and Argentina. A guaranteed, that is contented and educated, work force was seen as essential. The question was, from a popular World War I-era song, "How ya gonna keep 'em down on the farm? …"

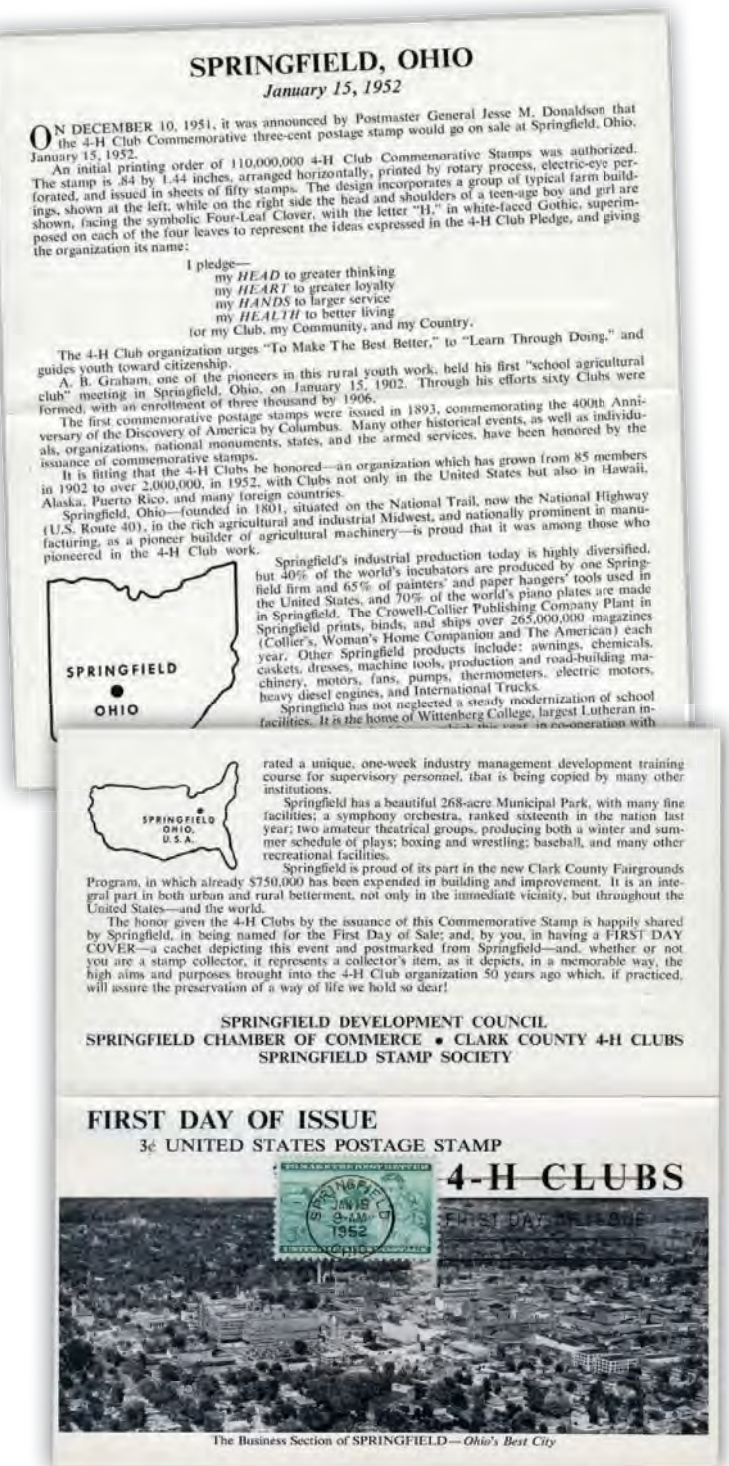
The answer was to provide an education based upon local perceptions, needs, and possibilities, cemented by pride in agricultural work and a culture that was attractive enough to keep young people on the farm. It led to a revolution in educational thinking and practice.

An educational movement to solve these problems began simultaneously in different parts of the country. The practi-

PLATE NUMBER REPORT

Plate. No.	Impressions	Printed
24580	149,897	December 27, 1952
24581	149,897	December 27, 1952
24582	151,199	December 28, 1952
24583	151,200	December 28, 1952

tioners shared the idea of practical hands-on learning and the desire to make public school education more connected to rural life and its culture. At the same time, researchers at the land-grant universities and U.S. Department of Agriculture felt that young people in the farming communities accepted the introduction of new techniques and processes more readily than their parents. So they saw rural youth programs as a way to introduce new agricultural technology. However, rural youth had to be stimulated in such a way that the pride in their accomplishments would lead to a continued commitment to the drudgery of day-to-day life on the farm. How could this be done?



SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

January 15, 1952

ON DECEMBER 10, 1951, it was announced by Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson that the 4-H Club Commemorative three-cent postage stamp would go on sale at Springfield, Ohio, January 15, 1952.

An initial printing order of 110,000,000 4-H Club Commemorative Stamps was authorized. The stamp is .84 by 1.44 inches, arranged horizontally, printed by rotary process, electric-eye perforated, and issued in sheets of fifty stamps. The design incorporates a group of typical farm buildings, shown at the left, while on the right side the head and shoulders of a teen-age boy and girl are shown, facing the symbolic Four-Leaf Clover, with the letter "H," in white-faced Gothic, superimposed on each of the four leaves to represent the ideas expressed in the 4-H Club Pledge, and giving the organization its name:

I pledge—
my *HEAD* to greater thinking
my *HEART* to greater loyalty
my *HANDS* to larger service
my *HEALTH* to better living
for my Club, my Community, and my Country.

The 4-H Club organization urges "To Make The Best Better," to "Learn Through Doing," and guides youth toward citizenship.

A. B. Graham, one of the pioneers in this rural youth work, held his first "school agricultural club" meeting in Springfield, Ohio, on January 15, 1902. Through his efforts sixty Clubs were formed, with an enrollment of three thousand by 1906.

The first commemorative postage stamps were issued in 1893, commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the Discovery of America by Columbus. Many other historical events, as well as individuals, organizations, national monuments, states, and the armed services, have been honored by the issuance of commemorative stamps.

It is fitting that the 4-H Clubs be honored—an organization which has grown from 85 members in 1902 to over 2,000,000, in 1952, with Clubs not only in the United States but also in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and many foreign countries.

Springfield, Ohio—founded in 1801, situated on the National Trail, now the National Highway (U.S. Route 40), in the rich agricultural and industrial Midwest, and nationally prominent in manufacturing, as a pioneer builder of agricultural machinery—is proud that it was among those who pioneered in the 4-H Club work.

SPRINGFIELD
OHIO

Springfield's industrial production today is highly diversified, but 40% of the world's incubators are produced by one Springfield firm and 65% of painters' and paper hangers' tools used in the United States, and 70% of the world's piano plates are made in Springfield. The Crowell-Collier Publishing Company Plant in Springfield prints, binds, and ships over 265,000,000 magazines (Collier's, Woman's Home Companion and The American) each year. Other Springfield products include: awnings, chemicals, caskets, dresses, machine tools, production and road-building machinery, motors, fans, pumps, thermometers, electric motors, heavy diesel engines, and International Trucks.

Springfield has not neglected a steady modernization of school facilities. It is the home of Wittenberg College, largest Lutheran in-

SPRINGFIELD
OHIO,
U. S. A.

rated a unique, one-week industry management development training course for supervisory personnel, that is being copied by many other institutions.

Springfield has a beautiful 268-acre Municipal Park, with many fine facilities; a symphony orchestra, ranked sixteenth in the nation last year; two amateur theatrical groups, producing both a winter and summer schedule of plays; boxing and wrestling; baseball, and many other recreational facilities.

Springfield is proud of its part in the new Clark County Fairgrounds Program, in which already $750,000 has been expended in building and improvement. It is an integral part in both urban and rural betterment, not only in the immediate vicinity, but throughout the United States—and the world.

The honor given the 4-H Clubs by the issuance of this Commemorative Stamp is happily shared by Springfield, in being named for the First Day of Sale; and, by you, in having a FIRST DAY COVER—a cachet depicting this event and postmarked from Springfield—and, whether or not you are a stamp collector, it represents a collector's item, as it depicts, in a memorable way, the high aims and purposes brought into the 4-H Club organization 50 years ago which, if practiced, will assure the preservation of a way of life we hold so dear!

SPRINGFIELD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
SPRINGFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE • CLARK COUNTY 4-H CLUBS
SPRINGFIELD STAMP SOCIETY

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE
3¢ UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMP
4-H CLUBS

The Business Section of SPRINGFIELD—*Ohio's Best City*

A folded piece of paper that has the 4-H Clubs stamp with the machine-canceled first-day postmark on it.

One of the very first efforts in that direction occurred in 1892. Professor Ransom Asa Moore (1861–1941), an agronomist of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in an effort to improve the Kewaunee Fair and Agricultural Society, organized a youth group called "Young People's Contest Clubs." His work was extended when, in 1904, he convinced the superintendent of schools of Richland County, Wisconsin, to have young people organize and assist in corn-project activities to help market and distribute improved seeds for farmers.

In 1902, A.B. Graham (1868–1960) founded in Clark County, Ohio, what some called the "Tomato Club" and the "Corn Growing Club." Later, the name became the Boys and Girls Agricultural Experimental Club. He defined the purpose as follows: "to utilize the daily home and farm environment of young people as a means of developing a more wholesome understanding of agricultural and rural home life."

In the same year, Theodore A. "Dad" Erickson (1871–1963), the superintendent of schools of Douglas County, Minnesota, started local agricultural after-school clubs and fairs for young people.

At almost the same time, William B. Otwell (1863–1941) enrolled both girls and boys in corn-growing contests in Illinois. He found that while parents did not seem particularly interested in agricultural programs, their progeny were more than willing to attend fairs, meetings, and to participate in programs. His bait was an annual corn contest. He requested that his followers were to parade on horseback, the boys wearing a blue sash of crepe paper hanging from their shoulders and the girls a gold sash. In 1905, mounted on a black charger, he led them past the reviewing stand that held Governor Richard Yates and former Vice President Adlai Stevenson.

The work of Graham is best remembered for his development of a model combining theory and practice that subsumed the work of the other pioneers. This coalesced into the 4-H movement.

Celestia Josephine "Jessie" Field Shambaugh (1881–1971), a superintendent of schools in Page County, Iowa, organized boys and girls clubs. She was known as the "Mother of 4-H Clubs." In 1909, she designed a three-leaf clover with an H on each leaf signifying head, heart, and hands. In 1911, she added a fourth leaf for "home," which later was changed to "health."

Things moved quickly. By 1912, the clubs and groups became known as the 4-H clubs. The organization emphasized what it called its three expansive missions: science, citizenship, and healthy living. It established summer camps, encouraged participation in county and state fairs, and, rare for its time, developed an international exchange. Agricultural and animal husbandry subjects were introduced into the school curriculum. Extensive programs of extracurricular activities in which parents also participated were adopted. There were no costs or uniforms involved at the local level,

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although there was a tendency to use a consistent dress code for national camps.

In 1914, a national organization was established with the blessing of the Congress. The Smith Lever Extension Act was passed, creating the Cooperative Extension Service of the USDA. It formalized 4-H programs and clubs, providing coordination, advice, and funding. It also formalized the participation of agricultural universities, which were crucial in terms of transmitting knowledge of research. It was one of the first youth organizations to give equal attention to both genders, which was rare for its time, although the 4-H emphasized different activities for boys and girls, with the girls concentrating on domestic science.

In 1918, Otis E. Hall of Kansas provided the 4-H movement with the pledge that has remained at the heart of the clubs ever since:

"I pledge my head to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service,
And my health to better living,
For my club, my community, my country and my world."

Obviously, by 1950 the world of agriculture had greatly changed, and the rush to urban areas continued. But for the moment, farm communities based on the family farm continued to flourish and profited greatly by the introduction of new technologies and techniques.

Clubs were established for blacks as early as 1910. These organizations never had the same material resources as those made available to white 4-H clubs. Although the national program did not have specific guidelines that permitted segregation, black groups reported that there existed "a de facto policy of racial exclusion at the National 4-H Camp, as both southern (and non-southern) extension directors excluded African-Americans from their delegation."

A regional black camp was established in the south starting in 1948, although elsewhere, such as in West Virginia, such camps had been organized since 1928. Not until 1960 were black 4-H members able to attend the same national event as white members.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 ended de facto segregation, given that the Federal Extension Service, responsible for 4-H Club work, was a federal body. This meant that the National 4-H camps that continued to be held in Washington during the 1950s were, despite their focus on citizenship, civics, government, improving family, and community living, in fact segregated events. Similar events were not organized for black youngsters. The Washington encampments were regularly visited by the president or, as in 1950, a delegation, smartly turned out, visited President Truman in his office. In turn, the president, the secretary of agriculture, and the chief justice of the Supreme Court visited the encampment that took place June 14 to 21.

In 1952, the camp took place from June 18 to 25 in Washington, D.C. This was several months after the stamp was issued, and again 4-Hers met with the president and members of his cabinet. Representatives of more than 200 clubs attended, their travel being paid by public and private institutions. Many were met by their congressional delegations that, in many cases, showed them around the capital.

In 1952, it was calculated that there were more than 2 million active members and 275,000 adult volunteer leaders of the 4-H clubs. Over the years, more than 10 million rural Americans had benefited from its programs.

First-Day Ceremony

The first-day ceremony coincided with the official inauguration of "Ohio 4-H Golden Anniversary Year" by the governor. Although the idea was to celebrate 4-H clubs in general, the focus at the ceremony was on the club set up in 1902 and its founder, Albert Graham, then in his 84th year, who was in every sense the star of the show.

The proceedings were opened at 10 a.m. at a packed Springfield High School. The event was broadcast throughout the state. Members of 4-H clubs from the surrounding towns were excused from school to attend. Presiding was Herbert Lannert, the Springfield postmaster. The mayor of Springfield welcomed the guests. In places of honor sat 15 of the surviving members of the original club. In addition to the many 4-Hers, those present included representatives of the Clark County Historical Society, the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, and the Ohio State University Agricultural Ex-

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tension Service. After the reading of the 4-H pledge, under the banner displaying the 1952 theme:

"Serving as loyal citizens through 4-H," the Tecumseh High School band, together with the Springfield High School chorus, provided a musical program including "A Place in the Sun" and "Dreaming."

Graham was presented with a citation and delivered a speech full of humor, celebrating the work of several generations of 4-Hers. Glancing at the stamp, Graham announced that he would now become a philatelist in his spare time.

Assistant Postmaster General Osborne A. Pearson presented souvenir albums containing a sheet of the stamps signed by the postmaster general to Graham and to the representatives of the many organizations in attendance.

After the reading of the Lord's Prayer, the assembled guests adjourned to a lunch, where they were entertained by a marimba and a series of accordion duets.

Newspapers reported that the Springfield post office was "deluged" with outgoing mail bearing the new stamp. All county 4-H leaders throughout the 48 states were sent first-day covers, as were many civic leaders.

The biggest single mailer to use the new stamp was the Great Lakes Steel Corp., which sent more than 18,000 envelopes to farm leaders all over the country.

1950s

ADDITIONAL ONLINE ARTICLES

WWW.STAMPS.ORG/AP-ALBUM

The 4-H Clubs article is the fourth in a series by Charles M. Posner on the nearly 120 United States stamps issued from the 1950s to the mid-1980s. Because of the large number of annual stamp issues, and the detailed information provided, the articles on the stamps below are found online as bonus content on *The American Philatelist* webpage.

Battle of Brooklyn (Scott 1003)

The Revolutionary War's first major battle after the colonies declared independence — considered a victory for the British, by the way — spawned a couple more skirmishes 175 years later when two fights erupted over this 1951 commemorative stamp.

Betsy Ross (Scott 1004)

Experts debated about how our nation's first flag was designed and created as this stamp was proposed. Despite concerns about historical accuracy, Betsy Ross became one of only a handful of women through that time to be honored on a U.S. stamp.

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (Scott 1006)

Another muddled issue honored a specific company, though Post Office public relations sold it as the commemoration of rail service in general. Eyebrows rose, though, as a postal official admitted that the request for the stamp came not from the industry but from the B&O, and that it was "sympathetically received" and "promptly granted."

AAA (Automobile Association of America) (Scott 1007)

The stamp served two purposes. It honored a nonprofit now serving its third generation of motoring Americans, and the crossing guard guiding two children promoted automobile safety. Car buffs, newspapers and auto historians pointed out an error in the design on the stamp regarding the driver in the 1902-era vehicle.

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World War II Ration Stamps

The Different Varieties of Ration Stamps and Books

BY DOUGLAS K. LEHMANN

The United States was at war in early 1942 and rationing, administered largely with the help of ration stamps, quickly became a fact of life [Figure 1]. Consumers would have to use government-issued stamps in order to purchase certain goods, like coffee and canned goods. Some consumer items remained in adequate supply and were never rationed. These included eggs, dairy and grain products, fresh fish, fresh fruit and vegetables, and clothing (although the government later enacted clothing manufacturing restrictions forbidding wide belts, wool pockets, and French cuffs). Other items, however, were more directly involved in the production of war material and the domestic marketplace soon felt the impact.

Figure 1. The 29-cent Food and Other Commodities Rationed stamp (Scott 2687b) from the World War II: Events of 1942 set of 10 stamps issued in 1992.

Figure 2. Thousands of Americans volunteered at local rationing boards. These are two buttons from those boards.

It was obvious that civilian rationing was going to be a complex operation, and the government formed the Office of Price Administration (OPA) to run it.

Thousands of American volunteers went to work staffing local rationing boards, two buttons of which are shown here [Figure 2]. The administration gradually rationed many kinds of items and embarked on various rationing schemes.

Cheating was an inadvertent byproduct of rationing and criminal counterfeiting kept law enforcement officials busy. Retailers were told to reject ration coupons that were already torn out of booklets as these could have been acquired through the black market.

By 1940, one out of five Americans owned an automobile, and the family or small business car was the first item to face restrictions as the country's industrial base quickly switched to wartime priorities. On January 1, 1942, all automobile plants changed from producing civilian cars to making military vehicles and equipment, and did not return to producing civilian vehicles until 1946.

But it wasn't just the production of new cars that came to a standstill during the war. Because occupying Japanese forces were blocking the supply of 90 percent of U.S. rubber imports, a series of unusual rationing steps for maintaining existing vehicles were implemented. Gasoline was rationed, primarily to reduce wear and tear on rubber tires. The speed limit was reduced to 40 mph for the same reason. Today's car pools date back to this World War II necessity. President Franklin Roosevelt urged citizens to collect scrap rubber for recycling. The available tires were strictly rationed, and families and small businesses scrimped to make their vehicles last three years. Not every family owned a car or planned to buy a new one, but when food rationing went into effect, it was felt by every individual in the country. Over the next three years, Americans of all ages and

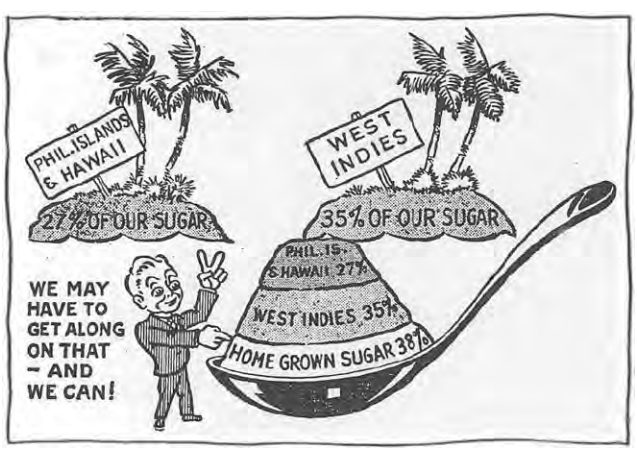
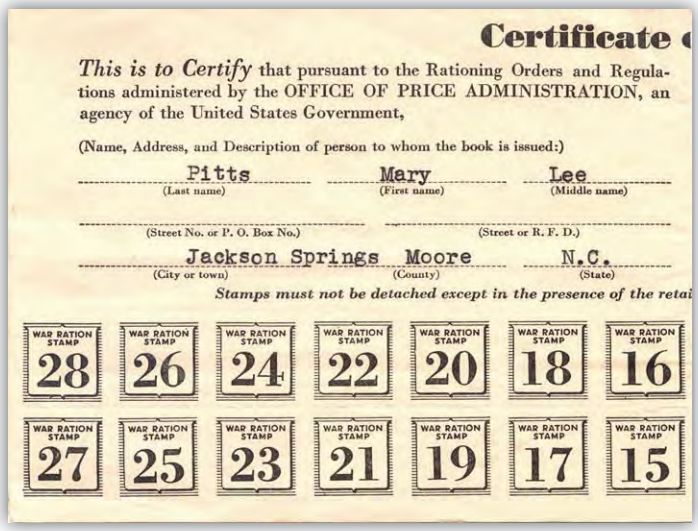


Figure 3. A World War II era cartoon that reflects the sugar realities in 1942.



Certificate of Registrar

This is to Certify that pursuant to the Rationing Orders and Regulations administered by the OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION, an agency of the United States Government,

(Name, Address, and Description of person to whom the book is issued:)

Pitts (Last name) Mary (First name) Lee (Middle name)

(Street No. or P. O. Box No.) (Street or R. F. D.)

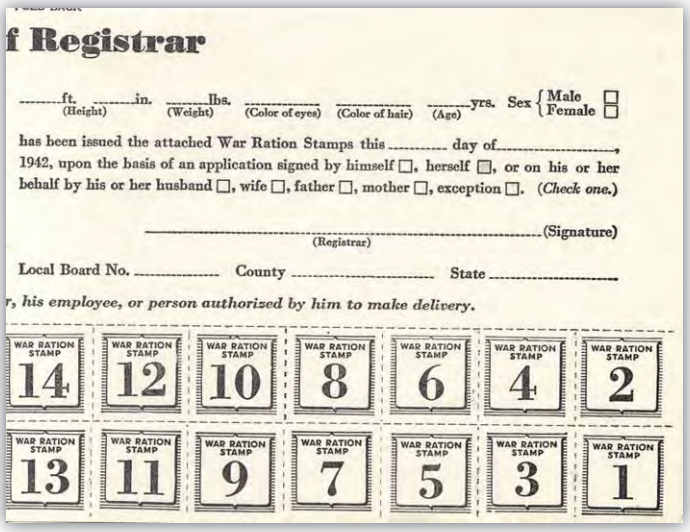
Jackson Springs (City or town) Moore (County) N.C. (State)

Stamps must not be detached except in the presence of the retai

WAR RATION STAMP 28, 26, 24, 22, 20, 18, 16

WAR RATION STAMP 27, 25, 23, 21, 19, 17, 15

Figure 4. Left inside of a used Ration Book No. 1 with rouletted stamps.



ft. (Height) in. lbs. (Weight) (Color of eyes) (Color of hair) yrs. (Age) Sex { Male ☐ Female ☐

has been issued the attached War Ration Stamps this ..... day of ....., 1942, upon the basis of an application signed by himself ☐, herself ☐, or on his or her behalf by his or her husband ☐, wife ☐, father ☐, mother ☐, exception ☐. (*Check one.*)

..... (Signature) (Registrar)

Local Board No. ..... County ..... State .....

r, his employee, or person authorized by him to make delivery.

WAR RATION STAMP 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2

WAR RATION STAMP 13, 11, 9, 7, 5, 3, 1

Figure 5. Right inside of a mint Ration Book No. 1. This pane also is rouletted but with the addition of the less-common simulated perforations (printed dashes) on top of the actual roulettes.

incomes would receive a series of four ration books for food and shoes. A family, of course, could pool its books and (usually) the housewife would shop for them all.

Sugar was the first food item to face severe shortages. By this point in the war, 62 percent of U.S. sugar imports had been interrupted by Japanese territorial conquests, while bad weather had reduced the domestic sugar beet crop by a half-million tons. And during wartime, the demand for sugar grew. Naturally, the needs of the military forces took first priority. Sugar was needed both by mess-hall cooks and for the manufacture of military rations. In addition, large amounts of sugar were being diverted for alcohol distillation needed for the manufacture of explosives. This meant that some families had no sugar, some stores had none to sell, and some people were secretly hoarding it. In an effort to get the balance right, on April 27, 1942, the government ordered all stores to stop selling sugar. Rationing was about to begin in earnest shown through the cartoon here [Figure 3].

War Ration Book No. 1

A little more than a week later, on May 5, 1942, the government issued War Ration Book No. 1, which contained 28 black-and-white ration stamps [Figure 4]. The existing panes are typically rouletted, but some can be found with additional simulated roulette perforations (printed dashes) [Figure 5].

An army of economists and statisticians figured out an equitable distribution, or ration, of all items. The goal was "a fair share for all." A local board was responsible for distributing the book, and the registrar asked (using the honor system) what amount of sugar individuals had on hand. People were allowed to keep this sugar, but stamps were removed from the book to account for how much was already owned. These deductions were divided among family member books.

Book No. 1 was printed on one side of an 8-by-10½-inch sheet and folded twice to make a four-page book [Figure 6]. The OPA issued orders indicating which stamp could purchase what item at what amount and for what period of time. In the first book, Stamp No. 1 was good for 1 pound of sugar until May 16, 1942. Stamps 2 through 16 could be used to purchase sugar through October 31, 1943. The allocation amounts ranged from 1-pound to 5-pound bags and the duration of each stamp was from two weeks to five months.

Stamps 17 and 18 were good for a pair of shoes. The first was for mail order purchase (usually Sears or Spiegel) and the latter for purchase in a retail store. Stamp 17 was valid February 13, 1943 to June 15, 1943. Stamp 18 was valid beginning June 16, 1943 (ending October 31, 1944), but word of its issuance leaked out the day before and citizens depleted many local shoe stores around the nation.

Stamps 21 to 28 were for purchasing coffee. Stamp 27 was valid November 30, 1942 for five weeks and for two pounds

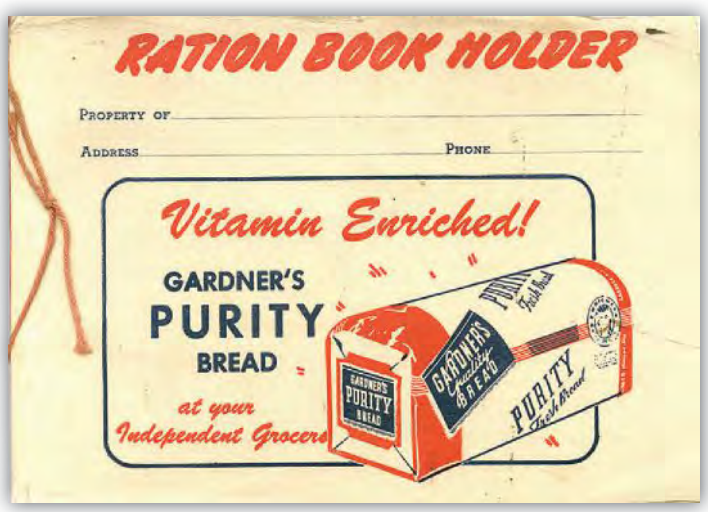


Figure 6. Ration book holder distributed by a bread company.

of coffee. All the other stamps were for 1 pound and were valid for three to six weeks until August 11, 1943. Coffee drinkers struggled to make do with this ration, reusing old coffee grounds, diluting fresh grounds with used grounds, making weaker coffee, borrowing stamps from non-coffee-drinking friends, and trying alternatives such as substituting dried and ground chicory root for part or all of the grounds.

The OPA never validated stamps 19 and 20, but did redeem 92 percent of the other 26 stamps; 190 million of these first ration books were issued.

Figure 7. Composite view of two Book No. 2 booklets, the left with roulettes, the right with added simulated roulettes. The red panes were for butter, margarine, meats, cheese, and canned fish. The blue panes were for canned, dried, and frozen fruits and vegetables, and for processed foods.

War Ration Book No. 2

War Ration Book No. 2 initiated a complex, and dreaded, point system [Figure 7]. The book was issued, starting in January 1943, for use in March. Each book contained eight panes of stamps, four red and four blue, and each pane was comprised of 24 stamps arranged in four rows of six. Stamps in the top row were valued at 8 points apiece, the second row at 5 points each, the third row at 2 points, and the bottom row at 1 point each — for a total of 384 points for each color. Each four-stamp column had a different letter designation from A to Z (less I and O, which might be confused with the numbers one and zero). The red panes were for butter, margarine, meats, cheese, and canned fish. The blue stamps were for canned, dried, and frozen fruits and vegetables, and for processed foods. Initially, 16 points of both colors could be used per week (there were some minor exceptions). The panes were valid until October 2, 1943 (red Z stamps) and November 20, 1943 (blue Z stamps). Like the stamps in Book No. 1, the panes also can be found with and without simulated roulette perforations.

As with the sugar rationing, the government preceded this new program with a one-week embargo on all canned goods. This allowed grocers to arrange and mark points on their products. Point totals would change — up and down — based on harvests, transportation, military priorities, and so forth. Some point equivalencies for the starting month were: Small can of baby food, 1 point; 1 pound of dried peas, 4 points; Frozen corn, 7 points; No. 2 can of tomatoes, 14 points; and No. 2 can of peaches, 24 points.

The point value of some fruits skyrocketed as the war progressed.

Citizens had to declare in writing every can of processed food they owned. For each can already in their home larder, consumers were docked 8 points when picking up Book No. 2. Even jars of food from your own "victory garden" were counted against you. No provision was made for returning change, so shopping became a mathematical nightmare to make the desired purchases equal to the stamps available in the book. If you lived through this rationing period, you never forgot the experience. All told, the OPA issued 126 million examples of Book No. 2.

War Ration Book No. 3

War Ration Book No. 3 [Figure 8] was primarily for fats and oils. The OPA used 12 printers to produce Book No. 3. Three of the printers used wire staples and the other nine used glue to bind everything together. Each book had eight panes; four of the panes resembled the red and blue stamps of Book No. 2, except they were brown, and like the panes in Book No. 2 these four panes also totaled 384 points. The OPA validated the brown stamps on September 12, 1943. The stamps were valid for two to five weeks for each vertical letter column. The Z brown stamps expired on March 20, 1944.

The other four panes in the ration book pictured military equipment and each had 48 small stamps [Figure 9]. Stamps 1 to 4 of the airplane stamps were validated for the purchase of one pair of shoes. Stamp 1 (issued Novem-

Society of Ration Token Collectors

There are about 10,000 U.S. collectible ration items that include tokens, other ration stamps, and a host of Office of Price Administration forms. This area of collecting is under the realm or umbrella of coin collecting. As coin collectors, many may have initially overlooked perforations or the design differences of the Book No. 4 stamps. The society recruits stamp collectors and the group's APS Cinderella and Display divisions encourages exhibits. To join the Society of Ration Token Collectors, contact the society president at dkolkman@aol.com or write him at Donald J. Kolkman, 18 Wyndhaven Court, Simpsonville, SC 29681-5289. The society collects, trades, sells paper and token home front ration items (for food, clothing, gasoline, tires, etc.); focuses on all types of rationing material from 1941 to 1945: tokens, forms, ration books, posters, coupons, etc. The society publishes the quarterly *Ration Board* and sells a comprehensive and authoritative CD on collecting WWII-era items. The group is APS Affiliate 230 and also is a member of the American Numismatic Association.

Figure 8. Center six stamps from a 24-pane booklet of Book No. 3.

Figure 9. Composite of the four Miliary Equipment panes of Book No. 3.

Figure 10. OPA mailing cards used to apply for Book No. 3. The bottom card was posted locally for 2 cents from Detroit to Detroit and the other at a greater distance for 3 cents, from Norwich, Massachusetts, to Boston.

ber 1, 1943) was followed in sequence by Stamps 2 to 4 at six- to nine-month intervals. All four stamps expired November 1, 1945. That meant that Stamp 1 was good for two years and Stamp 4 only three months. The tank, aircraft carrier, and artillery panes were never validated and are easy to collect today. The airplane panes with no stamps removed are difficult to find. The OPA issued 150 million examples of Book No. 3.

Because the brown stamps in Book No. 3 essentially were a continuation of the red stamp values in Book No. 2, families were allowed to request Book No. 3 by mail soon after Book No. 2 was issued. Although the OPA stated that the applications for Book No. 3 were to be mailed using mailing cards between June 1 and 10, 1943, eager citizens started returning them in May [Figure 10].

A cardboard application form, labeled Form No. R-129, was divided into three parts separated by roulettes, each with an identical serial number. The top inch of the application was a receipt that was torn off and kept by the person submitting the application. The remainder of the form, measuring about 5 inches by 7 inches, was filled out and sent in to the local board. The local board kept its part of the form, processed the information, and sent the third portion back to the applicant. This latter portion included the person's hand-printed address. The address portion, along with the person's copy of Book No. 3 (or, in the case of a family, all of their No. 3 books) was then placed in a window envelope and returned to the applicant by July 13, 1943.

The reverse side of the portion mailed back to the OPA is of interest to postal historians. It includes a printed message in the upper left corner: "2 CENTS POSTAGE IF MAILED IN [CITY, STATE] / 3 CENTS POSTAGE ELSEWHERE." This part of the form is slightly larger than standard postcard size and thus required the domestic first-class letter rate of 3-cents postage. However, if the cards were mailed within the same area as the local board,

they were eligible for a one-cent postage reduction.

War Ration Book No. 4

With the issuance of War Ration Book No. 4, the OPA for the first time allowed for purchasing contingencies by the introduction of spare stamps [Figure 11]. Once again, there were eight panes, each with 48 stamps; this time in two panes each of red, blue, green, and black. Note that the blue and red stamps were printed in the traditional point values of 1, 2, 5, and 8, but were authorized for use at 10 points each. Thus, the two panes of each of these colors were worth 960 points. The OPA also issued grocers 1-point red and blue tokens to be used as change. This was a major convenience as these tokens were valid at any date.

The green stamps also had the traditional range of points from 1 to 8 and were validated at those point values. For these stamps, however, grocers now were allowed to use low-point green stamps as change for higher value green items if they had them in stock.

In addition, the government printed two panes in black with individual stamp designations of coffee, sugar, or spare [Figure 12]. One of the two panes had 12 coffee stamps, 12 sugar stamps, and 24 spare stamps; the 48 stamps in the other pane all were spares.

Figure 11 Composite showing parts of three Book No. 4 panes: red, blue, and green.

Some of these books contain marginal slogans, one per page [Figure 13]. However, in the books I have seen, three of the eight slogans could not be read because of the glue holding them together. Of the nine printers contracted to produce Book No. 4, only one used wire staples. The books with slogans are not common and the readability issue may be the reason they were discontinued. The OPA printed a total of 163 million examples of Book No. 4.

Figure 12. Composite showing top parts of two Book No. 4 booklets.

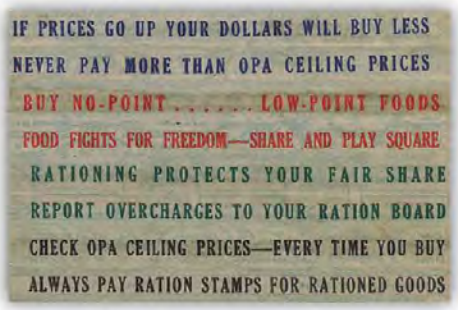


Figure 13. The eight marginal slogans that appear in some Book 4s and Book 5s.

Ending Rationing

Except for sugar, most rationing ended in late 1945. Some of the official expiration dates were extended during 1945. Citizens were left with about one-third of Book No. 3 stamps and two-thirds of Book No. 4 not validated. Sugar rationing continued, in part be-

Figure 14. Book No. 4 stamp design varieties of wheat seed hairs.

Figure 15. Book No. 4 stamp design varieties of shine on five fruits.

Figure 16. Book No. 4 stamp design varieties of torch elements.

cause it took about a year for a sugar cane crop to mature. Additionally, the sugar industry in areas controlled by Japanese forces was largely in ruin. For example, in the Philippines, about half the sugar mills had been destroyed and most of the native water buffalo (used to transport cane from field to mill) had been slaughtered for their meat.

Design Varieties

In 2007, ration stamp collector Robert Ross, with an assist from this author, completed a project to identify stamp design varieties on the Book No. 4 stamps. The blue, red and green stamps have unique differences that enable collectors to identify the nine printers [Figures 14, 15, and 16]. There are nine different designs of the blue wheat and green torch stamps and five designs of the red cornucopia design. On the wheat design, one of the seed hairs is extended to cross or touch another seed. There are five fruits in the cornucopia design with one, two, or three reflection marks or shine shown or moved about. The green torch has three or four flame segments, the handle one or two flutes, and the thumb posed in three different angles.

Serial Numbers

The ration book covers contained a unique serial number for Books 1 to 4 [Figure 17]. Each number had a number or letter suffix with a number from one to a million. Book No. 1 had number suffixes, while the other three books

Figure 17. Book No. 3 with matching serial numbers shown on cover and on the inside pane margin.

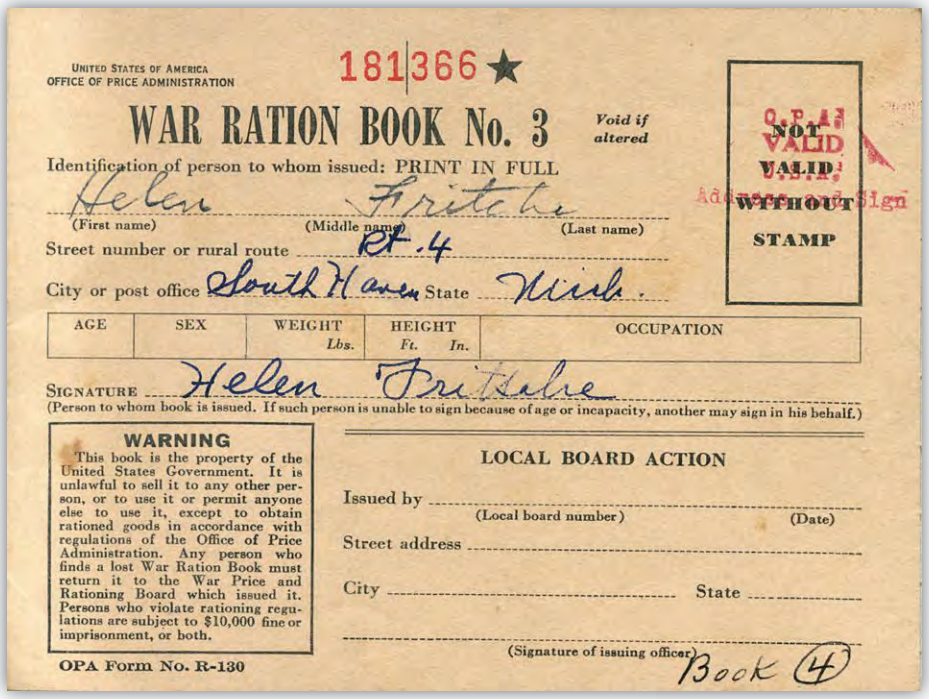


Figure 18. Replacement Book No. 3 cover with a star for a suffix.

each had a single or double letter suffix. The OPA assigned letter suffixes in sequence to the various printers. As noted earlier, the letters I and O were not used, so the first 24 million books received a single letter from A to Z. The next 24 million went from AA to AZ; the next 24 million from BA to BZ; and so on. Printers used a combination of red and black colors in various sizes and fonts, each distinct to a particular printer. Some ration item collectors specialize and collect the different book suffixes.

Books No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4 occasionally can be found with the number repeated inside, without a suffix, on the pane margin tab. All these marginal numbers are uncommon. The difficulty of matching cover to contents probably led to their disuse.

A star suffix was used to indicate replacement copies of misprinted or damaged books [Figure 18]. This system had been established previously by the BEP for banknotes. The OPA produced four sets of 1-million star covers for Book No. 4; for Book No. 3 the quantity is unknown. The Society of Ration Token Collectors reports the existence of about three dozen No. 3 books with star suffixes and one dozen No. 4 books. Used star books are much scarcer than unissued ones.

There also are cover varieties. A common find is a No. 3 book with a manuscript notation "Book 4" (usually abbreviated). This occurred because a person had to show a example of Book 3 to the local board to receive Book 4.

War Ration Book No. 5

The OPA printed 150 million examples of War Ration Book No. 5 [Figure 19], intending to issue them on January 1, 1946, but the ends of the war in Europe and the Pacific in 1945 — celebrated as VE Day (Victory in Europe) May 8, 1945, and VJ Day (Victory over Japan) August 14-15, 1945 — eliminated the need for further ration books. Copies of the unused Book No. 5 exist on safety paper and on non-safety paper. They are scarce, as most were destroyed, and the total number of surviving copies is unknown.

The books are half size and each pane has stamps. There are four colors and designs: a blue scale of justice, an orange USA shield, a brown Indian, and a green liberty bell. One green pane has 12 shoe and 12 sugar stamps. The stamps in all other panes are nonspecific. There are two slogans on the margin tabs between the same color panes

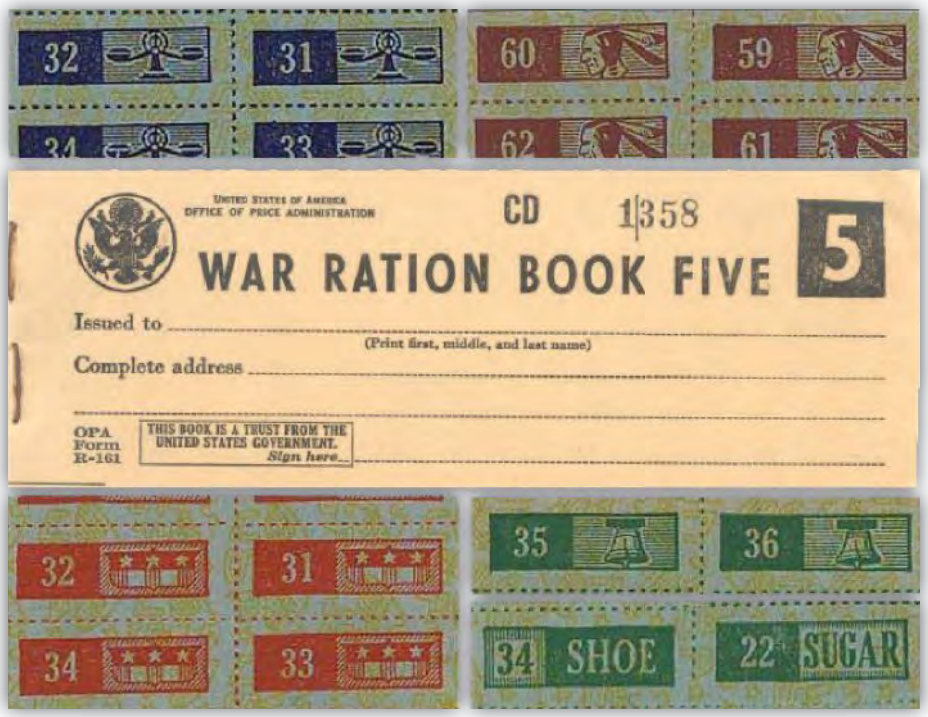


Figure 19. Unissued book No. 5 showing the cover and parts of four of its eight panes.

that are the same as those found in Book No. 4. In this instance, however, the books were bound with wire staples so all eight slogans from Figure 13 are readable: No. 4 Blue/No. 5 Red with "If prices go up your dollars will buy less" and "Never pay more than OPA ceiling prices;" No. 4 Red/No. 5 Blue with "Buy no-point . . . . . low-point foods" and "Food fights for freedom — share and play square;" No. 4 Green/No. 5 Green with "Rationing protects your fair share" and "Report overcharges to your ration board;" No. 4 Black/No. 5 Brown with "Check OPA ceiling prices — every time you buy" and "Always pay ration stamps for rationed goods."

The Society of Ration Token Collectors reports one mint star book with serial number "CD 2,181."

Collecting Ration Items

Have you ever heard collectors gloat about their successful purchases in the good old days when such-and-such was widely available and dirt cheap, although now the same items are in short supply and very valuable?

Well, these are the good old days to obtain ration stamps. During the last 20 years, I have seen stamp dealer stocks dry up that offered ration ephemera as part of their back-of-the-book offerings [Figure 20].

Figure 20. Postcard reverse with the message "There's no excuse for a shortage in your letters ... so write!" (above). A ration stamp poster design with the pledge: "I pay no more than top legal prices. I accept no rationed goods without giving up ration stamps."

However, with the onset of online auction websites, the time to obtain and buy ration stamps and items is golden. Every day, online dealers list dozens of new items, many from estate sales. Quality varies over the entire gamut, but the observant and diligent collector can find a plethora of goodies out there.

The Author

Sadly, the author of this article, Douglas Lehmann, passed away in September 2014. He was a retired U.S. Army Corps of Engineers analyst. He was part of the NAPEX organization since 1984 and a member of the American Revenue Association since 1979. He collected a variety of U.S. back-of-the-book areas, and wrote and exhibited about many of them. Illustrations here came from the author's collection or from the Society of Ration Token Collectors CD.

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Mint NH F-VF

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NEW YORK

Scott #	Year	Block/4	Shtlt./16
623a.....	1993	$1.40	$5.60
642a.....	1994	$1.40	$5.60
660a.....	1995	$1.55	$6.20
677a.....	1996	$1.55	$6.20
703a.....	1997	$1.55	$6.20
733a.....	1998	$1.55	$6.20
760a.....	1999	$1.60	$6.40
776a.....	2000	$1.60	$6.40
792a.....	2001	$1.65	$6.60
821a.....	2002	$1.65	$6.60
845a.....	2003	$1.80	$7.20
861a.....	2004	$1.80	$7.20
879a.....	2005	$1.80	$7.20
911a.....	2006	$1.90	$7.60
928a.....	2007	$1.90	$7.60
952a.....	2008	$2.00	$8.00
978a.....	2009	$1.95	$7.85
1002a.....	2010	$2.05	$8.20
1034a.....	2011	$2.05	$8.20
1045A	2012	$2.00	$8.00
1077A	2013	$4.60	$18.40
1100A	2014	$4.60	$18.40
.....	2015	$4.80	$19.20

Complete New York Set,
1993-2015 $48.75 $195.05

GENEVA

Scott #	Year	Block/4	Shtlt./16
231a.....	1993	$3.85	$15.40
249a.....	1994	$3.85	$15.40
267a.....	1995	$3.85	$15.40
283a.....	1996	$3.85	$15.40
301a.....	1997	$3.85	$15.40
321a.....	1998	$3.85	$15.40
339a.....	1999	$4.40	$17.60
355a.....	2000	$4.40	$17.60
370a.....	2001	$4.40	$17.60
389a.....	2002	$4.40	$17.60
410a.....	2003	$4.40	$17.60
421a.....	2004	$4.85	$19.40
439a.....	2005	$4.85	$19.40
456a.....	2006	$4.85	$19.40
468a.....	2007	$4.85	$19.40
483a.....	2008	$4.85	$19.40
499a.....	2009	$4.90	$19.60
516a.....	2010	$4.90	$19.60
543a.....	2011	$4.90	$19.60
552A	2012	$4.65	$18.60
575A	2013	$7.00	$28.00
593A	2014	$6.40	$25.60
.....	2015	$6.40	$25.60

Complete Geneva Set,
1993-2015 $108.50 $434.00

VIENNA

Scott #	Year	Block/4	Shtlt./16
146a.....	1993	$3.80	$15.20
165a.....	1994	$3.80	$15.20
183a.....	1995	$3.80	$15.20
199a.....	1996	$3.80	$15.20
217a.....	1997	$3.80	$15.20
238a.....	1998	$3.80	$15.20
256a.....	1999	$3.80	$15.20
272a.....	2000	$3.80	$15.20
287a.....	2001	$3.80	$15.20
311a.....	2002	$3.80	$15.20
332a.....	2003	$3.80	$15.20
345a.....	2004	$4.20	$16.80
363a.....	2005	$4.20	$16.80
379a.....	2006	$4.20	$16.80
391a.....	2007	$4.20	$16.80
420a.....	2008	$4.90	$19.60
441a.....	2009	$3.80	$15.20
468a.....	2010	$3.80	$15.20
504a.....	2011	$4.05	$16.20
514A	2012	$3.90	$15.60
537A	2013	$4.20	$16.80
556A	2014	$3.45	$13.80
.....	2015	$3.95	$15.80

Complete Vienna Set,
1993-2015 $90.65 $362.60

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Flags Mint NH F-VF

Scott #	Year Issued	Singles	Sheets
325-40	1980	$2.80	$11.00
350-61	1981	$3.50	$13.00
374-89	1982	$3.50	$13.00
399-414	1983	$3.50	$13.00
425-440	1984	$3.50	$13.00
450-65	1985	$5.00	$20.00
477-92	1986	$5.50	$22.00
499-514	1987	$5.50	$22.00
528-543	1988	$5.50	$22.00

Scott #	Year Issued	Singles	Sheets
554-69	1989	$5.50	$22.00
690-7	1997	$3.00	$11.50
719-26	1998	$3.00	$11.50
744-51	1999	$3.00	$11.50
795-802	2001	$3.00	$12.00
921-4	2007	$2.00	$7.00
1063-6	2013	$4.40	$17.60
1083-6	2014	$4.60	$18.40

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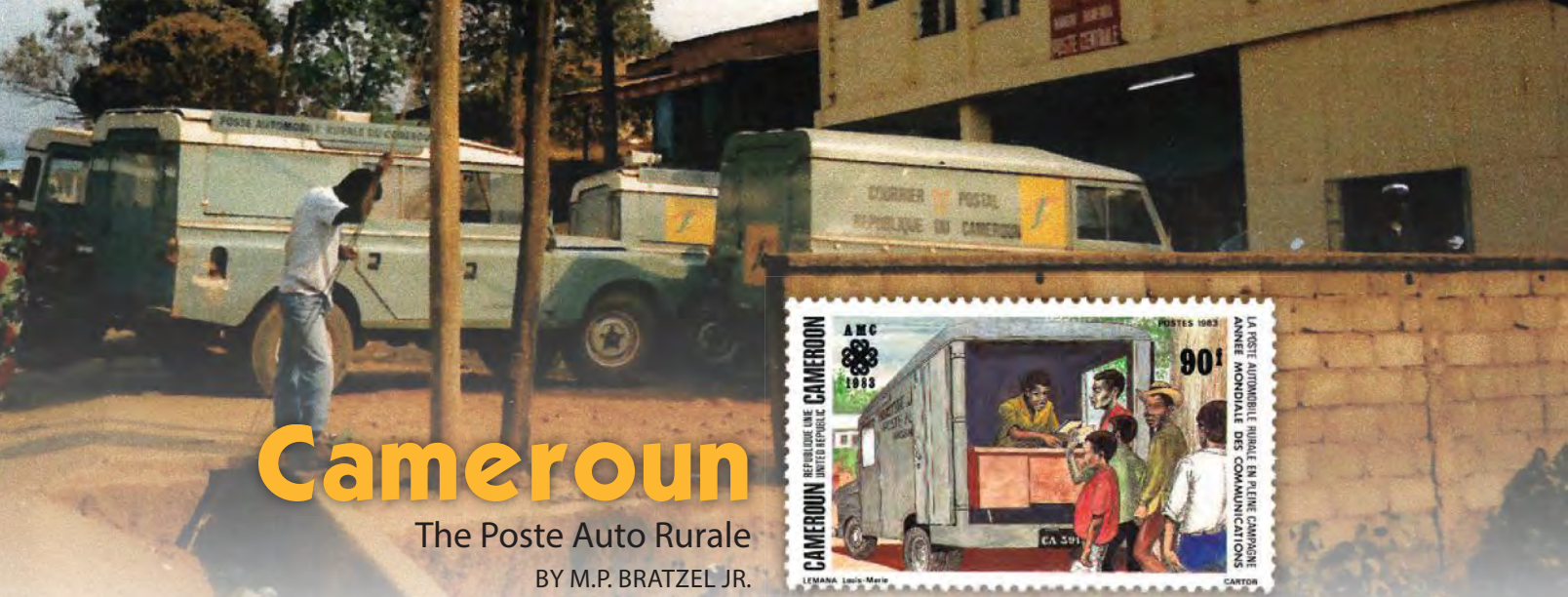

Cameroun

The Poste Auto Rurale

BY M.P. BRATZEL JR.

How appealing do you find the modern stamps and recent postal history of smaller, somewhat out-of-the-way countries? Consider taking a close look and discover how attractive they might be. Cameroun, on the Atlantic Ocean at the crossroads between equatorial and west Africa, is a case in point.

Not only are the stamps often attractive, but its postal history, cancellations and postal markings — including a group that involved a special mobile service — add nice elements to Cameroun's philatelic cachet.

Cameroun achieved independence on January 1, 1960. Over the next quarter century, Cameroun released a prolific number of stamps. Since then, though, the nation's stamp-issuing policy has been rather conservative.

As with many smaller countries, Cameroun has issued stamps on all matter of topics and persons not directly related to the nation that rests just north of the equator. For example, you will find stamps to honor renowned personages such as Kennedy, Lincoln, and Churchill; recognize various United Nations programs and organizations; and celebrate significant achievements such as space exploration. Relevance to the nation is truly stretched for some issues, such as the 1976 Winter Olympics — there is no snow in Cameroun. And there are annual Christmas sets depicting European religious art.

Despite the great number of issues, though, most of the stamps relate to Cameroun itself, displaying colorful flora, fauna, culture, politics, economy, and history.

And, almost all the stamps were available at postal counters and saw legitimate postal duty.

During the 1960s through the mid-1980s, quite a number of the stamps were also available canceled to order, the postmarks having been incorporated into the stamp printing process. Continuing a practice begun in France, and like other members of the French community, many of the stamps also were available imperforate and as attractive deluxe proof sheets. Indeed, there is considerable collectable variety to Cameroun stamps, which can be readily found for reasonable prices at stamp shows, from stamp dealers, and on online auction websites.

As attractive and diverse as Cameroun's stamps are, I want to look at its postmarks and postal history.

Bob Maddocks and I have previously published handbooks about Cameroun under British and French administration. In 2014, Michael Wright, Marc Parren, and I published *The Postmarks and Postal History of Independent Cameroun — 1960 to Date*.[1]

One sub-set of Cameroun postmarks were those used by the rural automobile postal service. To whet your appetite, let us look at this service and its postmarks a bit more closely.

The Cameroun Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications in 1973 introduced regularly scheduled rural automobile postal services, known as La poste automobile rurale, or PAR. This was done in order to bring postal services to rural populations, thereby reducing their isolation and promoting social and economic development.[2] In addition to the postal officials who traveled the routes, the PAR operated through correspondents, who represented the postal service in the communities served. The postal vehicle would make regularly scheduled visits, primarily on market days. The range of services provided included the sale of postage stamps, collection and delivery of mail, registration of letters, the sale of international reply coupons, and more.

A photograph here [Figure 1] depicts the Mankon Bamenda central post office in the 1980s. The sign atop the

Figure 1. Mankon Bamenda post office, 1980s. The sign atop the postal vehicle to the left reads "Poste Automobile Rurale du Cameroun." *Photo by R.J. Maddocks.*

Figure 2. Poste Automobile Rurale vehicle, with a postal official providing service from a desk inside the back door of the van. The stamp (Scott 743) was issued in 1983.

Land Rover reads "Poste Automobile Rurale du Cameroun." Bamenda is the principal town for the Mezam division of the Northwest Region. This vehicle therefore likely served the Mezam rural automobile route. A PAR vehicle, with a postal official providing service during a stop, is shown on the stamp [Figure 2], one of a trio issued on September 10, 1983, to commemorate World Communications Year.

The PAR service was phased out between about 1985 and 2000, as permanent post offices were opened in the areas served. The earliest recorded PAR postmark is dated 1974 and the latest 1995. Earlier and later dates probably exist and only await discovery.

Each postmark used by the rural automobile postal service has the initials PAR or, in a few cases, the words are spelled out in whole or in part. The location of the PAR is identified in one of three ways: for a principal town within the geographic area served, or for a division within one of the 10 regions (formerly provinces) comprising Cameroun, or for the region itself.

The map [Figure 3] depicts the location of 11 of the 13 PARs identified to date — there may be others, but the volume of mail was small and PAR postmarks can be challenging but most rewarding to find. One PAR was located in the rather large Adamaoua Region stretching across central Cameroun. Exactly where within the region the service operated has not been established. For one PAR, we have no idea where the service operated — the location on the postmark is only identified as "CS" and the return addresses on envelopes are of only limited assistance.

Also shown on the map is the Chanas Privat Car-Poste, a precursor to the PARs that operated in the early 1960s. Nothing is known about this service except the single example of the undated postmark [Figure 4] shown in black and white. The cancel has the appearance of having been hand carved from a block of wood. It includes the names of six towns — Nsamba, a contraction of Nkongsamba, Bafang, Bafoussam, Foumban, Mbouda, and Dschang — all of which had established post offices. This private car post likely served the extensive hinterland in the vicinity of these towns.

Figure 4. Chanas Privat Car-Poste, early 1960s. The stamp (Scott 337) issued in 1960, depicts Prime Minister Ahmadou Ahidjo.

For the 13 PARs, 15 different postmarks and one straight-line service mark have been identified to date. All the PAR cancellers were single circle handstamps with the date comprised of inserted slugs. The name of the country is presented as either Cameroun, R.U. Cameroun, or R. Cameroun. R.U. means République unie or United Republic, and R. is République. The changes on the postmarks reflected the evolution of Cameroun from the republic declared upon independence on

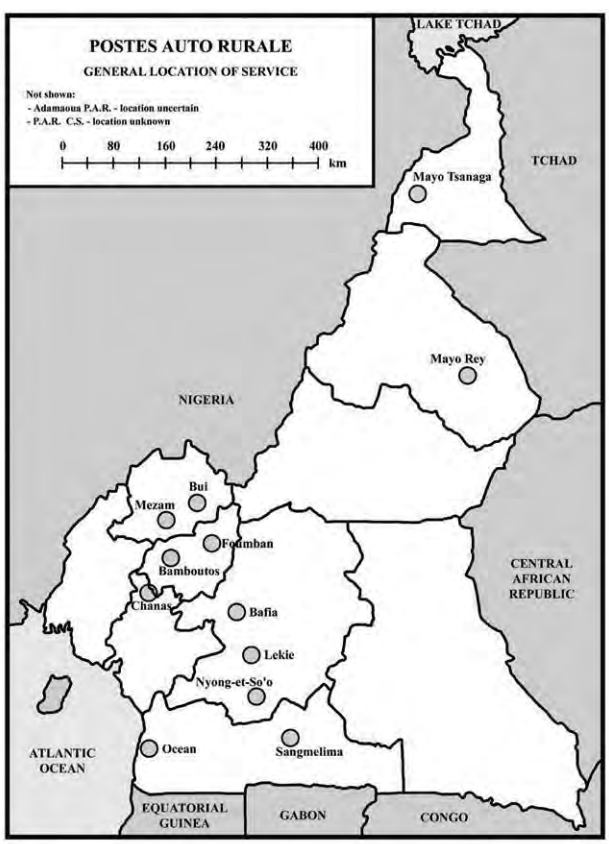

Figure 3. Location of 11 of the 13 rural automobile postal routes in Cameroun.

Figure 5. Bamboutos Poste Auto Rurale postmark, October 20, 1978. The Christmas stamp (Scott C236) was issued December 15, 1976, and depicts *Adoration of the Magi*, by Rubens.

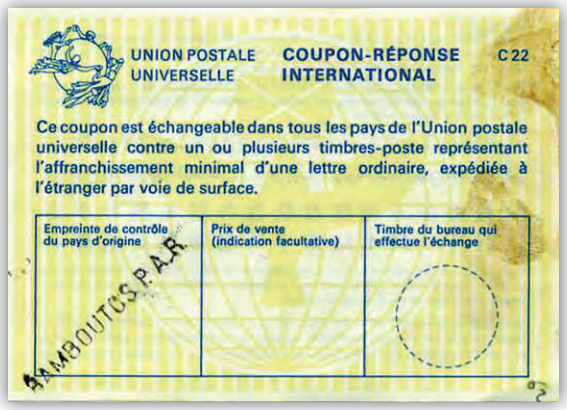

Figure 6. International reply coupon with straight-line Bamboutos P.A.R., that was enclosed in an envelope postmarked Bamboutos P.A.R., on April 4, 1985.

Figure 7. Ocean Poste Auto Rurale postmark, June 10, 1985. The stamp (Scott C317a), issued November 1984, depicts President Paul Biya.

January 1, 1960 to a federal republic on October 1, 1961, a united republic in 1972, and back to republic in 1984.

Bamboutos is a division of the West Region. On the postmark [Figure 5], dated October 20, 1978, the first two words of PAR are spelled out. The country name is simply Cameroun. A straight-line handstamp [Figure 6] reading Bamboutos P.A.R. is on an international reply coupon sent on April 4, 1985.

Ocean is a division of the South Region. This PAR route served the Socopalm and Hevecam plantations, southeast of the coastal community of Kribi. The postmark [Figure 7], dated June 10, 1985, is struck in red and the country name is expressed as R.U. Cameroun. A permanent post office was opened at Niete in the late 1980s to serve these plantations.

Mayo Rey is a large division covering much of the North Region. The postmark [Figure 8], dated February 4, 1993, is struck in violet on a souvenir postcard that depicts government buildings in the ministerial quarter of Yaoundé, the capital of Cameroun. The country name is expressed as "R. Cameroun," and the letters on the postmark are relatively broad.

Mayo Tsanaga is a division of the Extreme North Region, bordering on Nigeria. The postmark [Figure 9], dated April 29, 1988, has the country name expressed as "R. Cameroun," but the letters on the postmark are relatively narrow. More recently, the Mayo Tsanaga division has experienced incursions by the Boko Haram from neighboring Nigeria. The area within Nigeria where Boko Haram is active includes the towns of Gwoza and Bama, located in what was once part of German Kamerun and, later, the Northern Cameroons under British administration, and which voted in 1961 to unite with Nigeria.

Another PAR postmark is a mystery poste automobile rurale, identified only as "CS"

Figure 8. Mayo Rey Poste Auto Rurale postmark, February 4, 1993. The stamp, (Scott 610) issued July 21, 1975, depicts the headquarters of the Cameroun Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.

Figure 9. Mayo Tsanaga Poste Auto Rurale postmark, April 29, 1988, with four stamps (clockwise, from left, Scott 721, 646, 708, and 782). Three of the stamps are worded United Republic of Cameroun and one Republic of Cameroun.

Figure 10. Poste Auto Rurale "CS" postmark, April 1, 1974. The location of this PAR has not yet been established. The stamp (Scott C195), issued January 2, 1973, commemorates the centenary of the birth of St. Teresa of Lisieux.

[Figure 10]. This particular cover, postmarked April 1, 1974, has a return address of Sous-Prefet (sub-prefect) Saa. Saa is located in the Central Region and has had its own post office since April 1, 1938.[3] The return address provides a clue as to the location of this PAR, but the return address on another cover potentially places the PAR elsewhere. Often, the sender posted mail at a location other than where he or she lived. We have speculated on what CS might be the abbreviation for, but look to readers to perhaps one day find a cover or information that will solve the mystery.

A very recent PAR postmark was acquired on a used stamp [Figure 11] offered by a vendor online through Delcampe for 18-euro cents. All I can identify from the two partial strikes are "P.A.R." and "Sa Mani" at the top and a portion of "R. Cameroun" at the bottom. Using this limited information, I checked my maps, plus a number of online geographic and place-name resources but have not been able to identify either the name or the location of the PAR route. So, I have another mystery on my hands.

Figure 11. Partial PAR postmark reading of "Sa Mani," dated August 1986. The stamp (Scott 808), issued April 20, 1986, depicts three dragonflies.

There is a massive amount of information and examples about the postmarks and postal history of independent Cameroun, but much information remains to be found.

You have the opportunity to expand what was presented in this article and to make exciting new discoveries. All you need do is begin collecting independent Cameroun. The cost is modest and you can have lots of fun and learn a lot along the way.

Or, perhaps there is another out-of-the-way place you would like to discover through philately. You can easily find relevant material, stamps, covers, and more, with dealers at stamp bourses, through online websites, including APS StampStore, and elsewhere. Choose a country — any country — and go wild.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are extended to Nicholas Pertwee for the international reply coupon in Figure 6 and to Jean Marie Mercier for the cover in Figure 10. Mercier has investigated rural automobile postal services established in other countries comprising the French community in Africa. So, one can look for and discover PAR postmarks much further afield than just Cameroun.

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1. Bratzel, M.P. Jr., Michael St. J. Wright, and Marc Parren. *The Postmarks and Postal History of Independent Cameroun — 1960 to Date*. MPB Canada, Windsor, Ontario, 2014. viii + 58 printed pages + 571 pages on a searchable DVD. ISBN 978-0-9694026-8-8.
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The Author

Marty is a nut about Cameroun. Over the years, he has authored or co-authored definitive publications about the postmarks and postal history of Cameroun under French and British administration, the development of railroads in Cameroun, the postal tariffs of French Cameroun, and the country's wartime revenue stamps. Other publications are in the works. Through these publications, especially the most recent, discussed here, he hopes to expand and broaden the appeal of this philatelic pastime.

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BY TOM HORN

High-End Sales Circuits

Looking For Input on Potential New Service

The APS Sales Division is taking a look at a suggestion to establish an approval inventory consisting of higher value, better quality items. Some of the details to be determined include requiring a certificate from a generally recognized expert service for each item, specified minimum and maximum asking price, suggested price as a percentage of the catalog value, want list handling, layout of the selling vehicle (page or sales book), condition requirements, mailing options, and others.

Shown with this column are scans of items, with certificates, from the APS Reference Collection: a used Bolivian Type I stamp with a catalog value of $1,750, Scott 102; a United States Scott 12 used on piece with a February 1, 1857, postmark in New Orleans, Louisiana; United States Scott 118; and a United States Scott 1b in the orange brown shade with the dot in the "S" variety and blue grid cancellation. While not for sale, they do show some of the possibilities for offerings in this new service.

A used Bolivia Scott 102, Type I stamp with a current Scott catalog value of $1,750, which could be the type of material found in a high-end approval service.

We solicit your comments about whether you might be interested in this service from the buyer and or seller side of the transaction.

Please refer to any of the questions in the survey box nearby when contacting us with any thoughts you might have on us potentially offering this service.

Any other questions or suggestions outside of the items noted are also welcome. When we review the comments and make decisions, we will let you know the details.

To respond to the survey, either send an e-mail to salesdiv@stamps.org with "Survey" in the subject line or send by regular mail and address it to: Sales

High Value Sales Circuit Survey

I would be interested in this service for: ___ Selling ___ Buying

I would prefer a price range of $_____ minimum, $_____ maximum

Should we have a suggested price as percentage of catalog value? ___ Yes ___ No

If so, what is your suggested range?

For buyers ___ % to ___ %

For sellers ___ % to ___ %

What are your collecting interests for higher quality, higher priced material?

_____

As a seller, what items would you consider offering for sale in this service?

_____

When items on your want list are available, would you prefer:

___ Having pictures or scans sent first ___ Sending the item on a standing order

How long would you want to have your items available for sale? ___ Months

Would you like to have price negotiation as a benefit? ___ Yes ___ No

Number of days you need to inspect the items for making a buying decision? ____

Other feedback: _____

_____

Certificates from the American Philatelic Expertizing Service often confirm the authenticity of valuable stamps.

Circuit Survey, c/o Tom Horn, American Philatelic Society, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

Circuit Request

The latest circuit request form is on the back mailing wrapper of this issue of *The American Philatelist*.

Complete the form today to get started with the circuit system way of buying stamps for your collection or to add more categories to the want list you already have on file with us at the APS Sales Division.

Volunteers

As I am writing this, Volunteer Work Week has just ended. During the week, we had four volunteers accomplish some tasks that we do not otherwise have time to do. Including work done by two of these volunteers the week before the scheduled event, we were able to get 35 sales books of donated or insurance fund material into circulation in categories of short supply with a total of almost $6,000 asking price value. A big thank you goes to Ben Stauss, Brian Christian, Keith Christian, and Ken Krivy for all of your work.

We are happy to note that Ben, Brian, and Ken visit throughout the year to help us with tasks and Keith did this for the first time. His brother, Brian, will probably get him to visit more often now. Ben has been the workhorse on mounting sales books for us and he has enjoyed doing them for about the last five years. Ken has been sorting stamps from the insurance fund for the last six months, getting them organized for mounting in books or other offerings.

Category Emergency: Latin America

This is a call for sales books of Latin America. While there are several categories that are in short supply, the Central American sales books are at all-time lows. Some circuits are waiting nine to 12 months for a mailing, meaning that members on these circuits might receive one per year. We know prices are low for most of this material and that the demand in the market is not that high. However, the sales in each of the Latin America related categories is at or higher than the system-wide average, 32 percent per book, upon retirement.

Latin America Circuit Stats

Category Code	Percent
Argentina	43.1
Bolivia	32.2
Brazil	35.5
Chile	43.4
Colombia	58.4
Costa Rica	59.0
Cuba	48.0
Ecuador	56.2
Guatemala	53.9
Honduras	61.2
Latin America	42.3
Central America	44.8
South America	38.0
Latin West Indies	43.5
Mexico	38.6
Nicaragua	47.2
Panama	61.4
Paraguay	34.9
Peru	54.8
Salvador	57.9
Uruguay	57.9
Venezuela	54.5
Overall Percent Sales	**43.7**

It is not easy to locate this material and only a small number of dealers carry it, because the overall low value of it does not make it profitable to stock. Buyers asking for these categories buy it when they see it in the sales books. The table above shows the categories and the sales as a percentage of the total asking amount offered during the last three years. The statistics are taken from books that have been retired during this time.

These figures show that if you send it, they will buy. The depressed value of this collecting area has kept sellers from mounting books of it. As stated many times before, presentation, pricing and condition are the main factors in successful sales in the books. We want to supply members with material in single-country focused circuits, but a continued short supply may mean combining countries into the more regionally focused circuit categories in the future.

'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. As you earn coupons for free blank books, the coupons can only be redeemed if accompanied by an order for sales books and/or mounts. Last month, we printed the complete list of qualifying categories. This month, please refer to the list of Latin American categories for this special offer, along with those listed below. Single-country books usually have better sales.

U.S. Officials
U.S. Possessions
German Colonies
Israel (single stamps)

*****

Questions? Contact us via e-mail at salesdiv@stamps.org, by phone at 814-933-3803, ext. 227, or by mail at American Philatelic Society, Attn: Sales Division, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

BY JEFF STAGE APS staff

Three New Youth Fellows for 2016

Foo, Muller, and Schlosser Join Program

Three new Fellows, one senior and two junior Fellows, have been honored for 2016 by the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship (YPLF).

This is the seventh year for the program, which is aimed at helping guide philatelic leaders ages 13 to 25 by connecting them with adult leaders and offering them enriching, dynamic experiences that allow them to explore and realize their philatelic goals. The Fellows were chosen after filing formal applications and essays with the American Philatelic Society.

This year's sponsors are the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society and James Lee, in memory of his parents, Donald and Bonnie Lee, and John Hotchner, in honor of his father, Howard.

Here is an introduction to the new Fellows:

Austin Foo, Norcross, Georgia

Senior Fellow (Howard Hotchner Fellow)

Foo, 20, attends the Georgia Institute of Technology, School of Civil Engineering in Atlanta, Georgia. His collecting interests include Malaysia/Malaya, recent issues of Latin America, Trucial States/British Gulf and the topical of mail conveyance, mail carriers, post office, mail boxes, etc. He is a member of the Cobb County (Georgia) Stamp Club.

Austin Foo.

He wants to follow the Dealer Track.

Foo's first interest in stamps came as a child when he sneaked peeks at his father's extensive collection of Malaya/Malaysian first-day covers. Then, he attended a water puppets show in Malaysia. Right after, he visited a stamp dealer and saw postage stamps depicting water puppets. He bought them and was hooked as a collector. Foo soon became a customer and friends with local dealers, became involved in a school stamp club and organized two stamp shows.

Foo was born in Kansas, but returned with his parents to their native Malaysia when he was 3. Since moving back to the U.S. to attend college in 2012, Foo joined several philatelic organizations, including the APS, the American Topical Association, and the Philatelic Society of Malaysia.

Foo has a great interest in philatelic literature; he owns more than 100 catalogs that have helped him build his collection and hopes someday to edit a catalog for Malaysian stamps. He wants to become more involved in American philately and the philatelic culture in the United States, and has also branched into other international areas. He also includes mail services and Malaysia as his main topics.

"I collect anything that has to do with Malaysia," he wrote in his Fellowship application essay. "I got involved in Trucial States/British Gulf area material, but it's too expensive. Recently, I have been showing interest in Latin American new issues as they are in scarce supply, which makes them desirable to me."

Dominican Republic stamp from 1997 showing a small dog and a mail carrier.

Foo also enjoys stamps depicting action.

"My favorite items are always items that feature postal service in a lively way," wrote Foo in an e-mail in which he attached an image of a whimsical 1997 stamp from the Dominican Republic that shows a small dog yanking on a mail carrier's pants leg. "This is because they bring my thematic collection to life."

He says there are good reasons for young people to consider the hobby.

"What attracts a young person to philately is the nostalgia of the hobby," wrote Foo. "Philately [can] connect the world … with a human touch, [as opposed] to e-mails and social media."

Truth Muller, Rock Hill, New York

Junior Fellow (Donald and Bonnie Lee Fellow)

Muller, 15, is home-schooled and is in his junior year of high school. He plans to study marine biology, particularly ocean life, in college. Muller is a member of the Collector's Club of NYC and counts among his collecting interests the topics of birds, aquatic wildlife, assorted covers, full sheets, revenues, commemoratives and oddities. He wants to follow the Dealer Track.

Truth Muller.

Muller started collecting when he was 6 after an uncle gave him a packet of 100 worldwide stamps and a stock book for Christmas. He spread the word that he was a collector. A volunteer at the New York Public Library where his mother works stepped forward with guidance for Truth.

"Mr. Allen Hoffman, was himself a stamp collector, and a member of The Collector's Club of NYC," wrote Muller in his YPLF essay. "He taught me many of the basics of stamp

collecting, invited me to join the YSCA, and had me attend my first stamp show. … There were so many millions of stamps in that building. [My collection of 500 stamps] could have vanished into the incredible multitude … without a rustle."

Muller quickly connected to the hobby. "I soon saw that stamps were more than just a way to mail a letter," he wrote. "They were snapshots of dozens of currencies, hundreds of nations, thousands of people, places and events from all corners of the globe and parts of history."

Muller has chosen the Dealer Track, not necessarily because he plans to become a dealer, but so he can learn more about the hobby. He explained his choice in a phone interview.

"I have already done a lot of research and writing, both fiction and nonfiction, including long journals on nature and, naturally, on stamps. Dealers know a lot about how to take care of their stock and how to properly identify stamps.

"I am never confident in identifying stamps, even when descriptions are written out very clearly. I have inherited some large collections and I want to know how to store these stamps and how

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to properly identify them."

Muller has a growing topical collection of birds on stamps and also enjoys collecting unusual items.

Evan Schlosser, Pennington, New Jersey

Junior Fellow (U.S. Philatelic Classics Society Fellow)

Schlosser, 15, is in his sophomore year at Notre Dame High School in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. His collecting interests include French colonies, British Commonwealth, and philatelic history. Schlosser is interested in following the Fellowship's Author Track.

Schlosser also started collecting at age 6. "From an early age, I was a kid who loved to collect and organize things — rocks, shells, bugs, and most anything else that I could contain and display," wrote Schlosser in his essay. Some stamps that arrived in a Christmas stocking had him hooked on this new collecting interest.

"Stamp collecting has served as a gateway to my interests in history, geography, and politics," wrote Schlosser in his essay. "As I have collected stamps from different countries, I have noticed how world governments change, which in turn has inspired me to question the merits and drawbacks of different forms of government and economic systems."

Evan Schlosser.

In his relatively short time as a collector, Schlosser has prompted friends and relatives to find stamps for him, learned from fellow collectors and stamp dealers, attended stamp shows, learned how to soak, sort and store stamps and how to use catalogs, and, at age 13, started an online stamp business.

Nyasaland stamp from the British Commonwealth nation.

His Fellowship application included 17 pages of material related to the business, including information about descriptions, pricing, shipping, insurance rates, and a guarantee. He had to close the store before he started high school due to educational commitments.

"I had a lot of fun doing it and it was never a burden," Schlosser said in a phone interview. "I was not happy that my parents asked me to close the store at the time. But considering the amount of extracurriculars and coursework I had, it was the right decision."

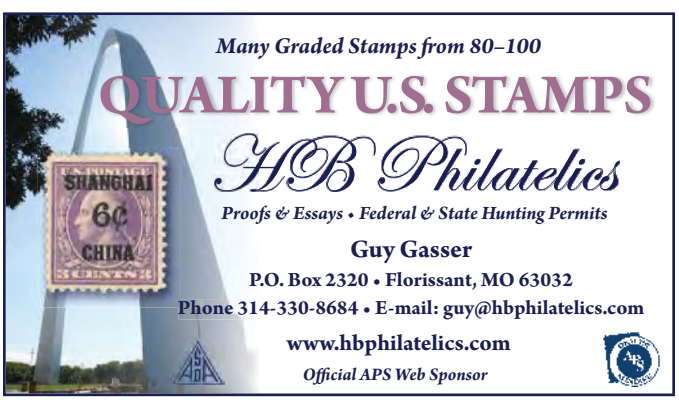
He is especially interested in African colonialism and hopes to study economics and political science in college. He has started considering what he will write about in philately.

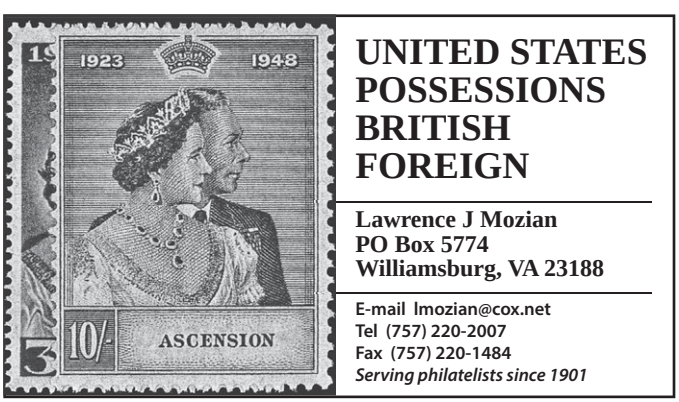
"I am fascinated by the history behind the stamps," Schlosser said. "I like to see how a stamp or set of stamps relates to the economic and political history of a place.

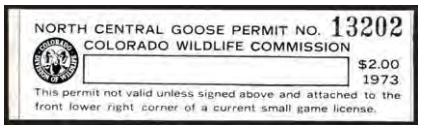
*****

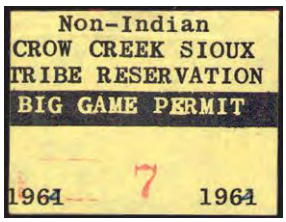
For more information on the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship program, visit its website at stampfellowship.org.

Applicants for next year's YPLF program must file applications by May 31, 2016.



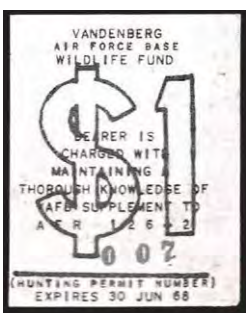






David R. Torre

Buying and Selling U.S. Fish and Game Stamps



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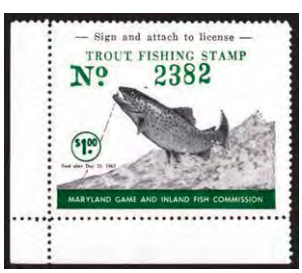

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World Stamp Show NY 2016

BY SCOTT ENGLISH

Home is Where the Stamps Are…

Philatelic Family Impresses With Dedication, Friendliness

From the moment people started gathering in Grand Rapids for StampShow 2015, anyone could see that this was more than just a gathering, it was a reunion. For some, one that carried on from one of the most recent World Series of Philately shows — for others, from a StampShow in years past. No matter how long it had been between visits, members, collectors, and dealers stopped to say hello, pass on news of someone not there, share an addition to their collection, or just catch up. While it is certainly a philatelic community, the better description is that it's more like family.

For "the new guy" (as I was affectionately called throughout the show), it is overwhelming and humbling to be so warmly welcomed by strangers that I can now call friends. This begins with the long list of amazing volunteers who dedicate so much time and energy to making your StampShow experience as great as it is. There is simply not enough space to recognize every one of them for all they do before, during, and after the show. We should thank Harry Winter for spending a good part of the show engraving medals and his wife, Dottie, who had the energy of three people for working tirelessly to recognize the award winners as quickly as possible. This would also include Rodney Juell, who offered the first welcome note I received at the APS and the first welcome in Grand Rapids — he set the bar for hospitality and so many folks lived up to it.

I would also like to recognize the staff, starting with our new shows director, Megan Orient, who did a great job right out of the gate. Barb Johnson, who kept all of us on task morning, noon, and night, including anyone who lingered a little too long on the show floor. Of course, thanks to Ken Martin, who can deliver awards, take pictures, and answer three questions, simultaneously. If you stopped by the APS booth, you probably met one or more of our great staff members, Rick Banks, Tara Murray, Jay Bigalke, Jeff Stage, Mercer Bristow, or Carol Hoffman. In total, we added 60 members to the APS family in Grand Rapids. And, let's not forget the staff and volunteers in Bellefonte, who keep

Volunteers at APS StampShow 2015 in Grand Rapids, Michigan

Gary Arnold	Jim Dimond	Rodney Juell	Andrew Shaw
Ted Bahry	Doug Drumheller	Steve Kearney	Martin Shaw
Mike Baranoski	David Eeles	David Kent	Steven Sherman
Alan Barasch	Charles Epting	Janet Klug	Van Siegling
Douglas Becker	Doug Fernlock	Kurt Kohtz	Dan Slabozeslki
Joanne Berkowitz	Austin Foo	Edward Kroll Jr.	Rich Small
Laurie Bieniosek	Helen Fowler	Dottie Kugel	Robert Smith
Thomas Bieniosek	Debby Friedman	Bob Lamb	William Sobotka
Michael Bloom	Kimberlee Fuller	Thomas Lane	Cassi Stahl
Jaimee Bloom	Roy Gelder	Bruce Marsden	Michelle Stahl
Barbara Boal	Rick Gibson	Sabrina McGill	Denise Stotts
MaryAnn Bowman	Alex Gill	David McKinney	Jean Stout
Ronald Buckmaster	Eric Glohr	Arthur Mongan	Sandy Strzalkowski
Nelene Bylsma	Ken Grant	Marcelina Moreno	Tim Strzalkowski
James Chenevert	Dana Guyer	Truth Muller	Keith Stupell
Don Chenevert	John Hardies	Ralph Nafziger	Gene Stutzenstein
Ethan Chiu	Elena Hartman	Donald Nelson	Warren Trimble
John Colasanti	Debbie Hartwick	Ken Nilsestuen	William Vance
Jim Coleman	Scott Henault	Kristin Patterson	Jack Wallin
Casey Cook	Anne Hering	Marge Perlman	Richard Walquist
John Cook	James Hering	T. Arthur Poudrier	Richard Weihle
Vincent Cosenza	Chuck Hirchert	Chuck Richard	Dottie Winter
Dick Davis	Mares Hirchert	Bruce Roberts	Harry Winter
James De Jong	Tim Hodges	Glenn Roehrig	Carol Wirth
Mike Dennany	Emily Hoffman	Robert Rufe	Milt Wirth
Aimee Devine	Jose Ibanez	Darryl Salisbury	Ted Wood
Brian Devine	Luis Ibanez	Evan Schlosser	Charles Wood
David Devine	Pedro Ibanez	Joe Scholten	Chuck Wooster
Thomas Devine	Richard Judge	Steve Schumann	John Zwyer

things going even when StampShow is happening.

What would be a StampShow if we didn't talk about stamps? My first classroom experience came from Jean Stout, who is on the board of directors for the American Topical Association. For those in Grand Rapids, you probably got a chance to see Jean's exhibit among the 200 exhibits on display in Grand Rapids. Jean and ATA director Vera Felts introduced me to topical stamps of all sorts and walked through the programs they offer members and students alike. One of the new study groups the ATA has just begun is Halloween Spooktacular Stamps & Stuff, just in time for the October edition of *The American Philatelist*. We welcomed a number of clubs and affiliates to the StampShow and thank them for all they do in helping advance the cause of philately to collectors, both new and experienced.

The great thing about collectors is they have a great passion for the hobby and want to share that love with others. Our StampBuddy booth was staffed full time with volunteers who welcomed newcomers by answering questions and taking them around the floor to meet with dealers and other collectors to grow their new collection. Michael Bloom, who now chairs our newly formed Entry-Level and Youth Committees, led the way, spending countless hours greeting visitors and organizing StampBuddy volunteers.

On a personal level, I received my first three panes of stamps from Rich Drews, a veteran collector from Chicago. Though I am not a stamp collector, I do have an extensive baseball card and comic book collection. Tying those interests to stamps, Rich shared panes of stamps with some of baseball's greatest players, classic comic strips, and superheroes. I will be looking for others to add at future shows and see where the stamps take me.

Speaking of Chicago collectors, I got a chance to visit the Collectors Club of Chicago booth and meet a great group of collectors who, without hesitation, welcomed me to the family. Jerry Miller and Jackie Alton (known as Chocolate Jackie for the great desserts she serves at Chicago events) gave me a deeper appreciation for the research side of collecting and the mission of preserving not just philatelic history, but how philately is our collective history. On the social side, I was able to join Jackie, Charles Berg, Bob Glass, and Melanie Rogers for breakfast. Hopefully, I will get a chance to catch up with each of them when I visit Chicagopex in November and hope to see a few more of you there as well.

The StampShow would not be complete without recognizing all of the exhibitors and other remarkable accomplishments throughout the year at our awards dinner on Saturday night. The recurring family theme continued as past APS Board President Janet Klug led the attendees in singing "Happy Birthday" to APS staff members Ken Martin, Tara Murray, and Jay Bigalke, all who celebrated their birthday on the last day of the show. We also graduated our sixth class of the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellows and welcomed three new participants, Truth Muller, Austin Foo, and Evan Schlosser, who will graduate at StampShow 2016 in Portland, Oregon.

Jackie Alton and Scott English.

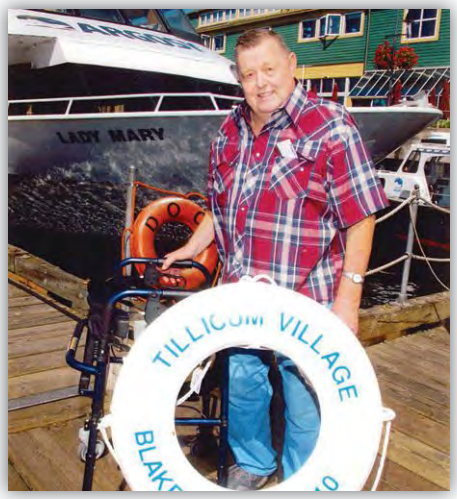
Mark Schwartz receiving the Champion of Champions award for his exhibit "Boston Postal History to 1851."

Congratulations to Mark Schwartz for winning the 2015 Benjamin and Naomi Wishnietsky World Series Champion of Champions award for his exhibit, "Boston Postal History to 1851." Mark emerged from a field of 31 WSP champions to take away the highest honor. Yamil Kouri won the Open Competition Grand and Gold for his exhibit "The First Postal Issues of Spanish Antilles (1855–1865)." The Single Frame Grand and Gold went to Barry Schwartz for his display, "St. Louis Bears Postmaster Provisional Stamps." In the Youth Category, the Bonnie and Rich Drews Grand and Gold Award went to Alexandra Fillion for her exhibit, Dairy Products of the Cow. The National Stamp Dealers Association Most Popular Award went to Edward Bergen for his exhibit, "Walt Disney Postal Commemoration of

United States Baseball Sluggers, Comic Strip Classics, and DC Comics Super Heroes stamps.

1968." In the Literature category, the Grand and Gold was awarded to the Western Cover Society for "Mails of the Westward Expansion, 1803 to 1861." For a complete listing of all the award winners, please go to stamps.org.

There was one member whose presence was felt throughout the show, even though he is no longer with us and that is Walter Weber. Walter was born in 1936 in San Diego, California, to Ernest and Lina Weber, immigrants from Bischoffzell, Switzerland. Starting



Walter Weber.

his collection in his teens, Walter would go on to put together a complete collection of Swiss postage, semipostal, and revenue stamps, along with an impressive collection of Canadian stamps and U.S. first-day covers, among other U.S. stamps. Unfortunately, Walter passed away in May 2014, but left $1.3 million to the APS. As a result of his generosity, we are now able to start the construction of our new American Philatelic Research Library in our headquarters in Bellefonte.

This barely scratches the surface of just how amazing the family of philatelists really is and I want to give thanks to the hundreds of APS members who stopped to offer advice, a handshake, and a warm welcome to "the new guy." To quote Humphrey Bogart in Casablanca, "I think this is the beginning of a beautiful friendship."

Congratulations

During StampShow we recognized APS members and show participants. The complete listing is on our website at stamps.org, but here are a few notable recipients:

50-Year Membership: Robert Baldridge, William Hatton, Stephen Schumann, Ken Trettin, and Robert Vis.

Carter Awards: Local: Paul Larsen, George Norton, Rudy Roy, Mary Ann Sandstedt, Michael Turrini, and David Wessely; National: Ian Gibson-Smith, Sandeep Jaiswal, Irv Miller, and Jean Stout.

Luff Awards (which is the highest honor to a living philatelist recognized by the APS): MaryAnn Bowman, Leo J. Harris, and Jim McDevitt.

USSS-Barbara Mueller Award (for the best annual article in *The American Philatelist*): Robert Gray.

Charlie Peterson Award (for lifetime achievements in philatelic literature): Ken Trettin.

Tom Allen Award (for the best annual submission in the Philatelic Literature Review): Christopher Cook.

Where We Are Going …

In the months to come, we are working to bring focus and energy to the task at hand, making the American Philatelic Society the flagship for philatelic activities in the United States and even on a world stage. Here is a summary of the starting points:

World Stamp Show–NY 2016: For the past 100 years, the U.S. has played host to an international stamp show. Next year, the show will be in New York City over the Memorial Day weekend. The APS will have a presence there and we are working with all stakeholders to make it a great show. Given the number of international visitors we expect to see in New York, we will be working very hard to increase our international membership.

Membership: While our membership has been on the decline over the past 20 years, we will be devising new strategies to bring more members to the APS. We cannot focus on a single type of collector and instead have identified several groups (students, new adult collectors, former collectors, seniors, non-members, and international collectors). Matt Liebson has agreed to step in as chair of our Membership Committee and as he said at our General Meeting in Grand Rapids, "We will turn this around."

Fundraising: Over the past year, the Campaign for Philately has been less active, but campaign chairman Alfredo Frohlich has begun work on reconstituting the committee and we will be working aggressively to begin the task of supporting the APS and our core mission of growing philately.

One of our first targets will be to raise funds for the APRL to retire the debt and make it the most accessible philatelic library in the world. While we do a great job now, we should not rest on our laurels and work to continue to provide philatelists and researchers access to our collection even without coming to Bellefonte. This will require an investment in technology and your generosity can help us make that happen.

Joint Strategic Plan: At StampShow 2014 in Hartford, the respective boards of the APS and the APRL agreed to devise a joint strategic plan. At StampShow 2015, we initiated the process and a written plan will be available for consideration by both boards no later than AmeriStamp/Southeastern Stamp Expo in Atlanta in January 2016. Specifically, the plan will center on four areas: space utilization of the American Philatelic Center, financing and debt relief of the library construction, enhancing accessibility of the research library, and the APS/APRL agreement signed over a decade ago. Other issues that will build a sustainable path going forward are sure to be discussed, but we will be informing members of progress as possible.

Education Director: With the departure of Gretchen Moody, we are in the process of hiring a new education director. Hopefully, by the time of this publication, we will have that position filled. Our top priority for the new director is someone who has experience at managing and developing online programs so that we can offer more online and on demand educational opportunities for students and our members.

$100,000 Reward

for the recovery of these two Inverted Jennies
Scott C3a, positions 66 and 76, missing since their theft in 1955.

Owned by Ethel McCoy, the block was being shown with her collection of the 1918 24-cent airmail stamp at the American Philatelic Society convention in Norfolk, Virginia, when the exhibit frame was pried open and it was stolen.

Over the years, the two examples on the left of the block above, positions 65 and 75, were recovered and returned to the American Philatelic Research Library, to which Mrs. McCoy deeded the stamps in 1979.

Acting on a story by Ken Lawrence about the hobby's most famous cold case that appeared in the September 2014 issue of *The American Philatelist*, Don Sundman of the Mystic Stamp Co. announced the reward offer for the benefit of the APRL. It is believed the stamps are in collections most likely formed by individuals who did not know that they were stolen property.

A sum of $50,000 is offered for the successful recovery of each stamp in undamaged condition, certified as genuine. The reward will be paid to the person(s) who transfer possession of a genuine McCoy Inverted Jenny to the research library. The APRL is also offering a $10,000 reward for information leading to the successful recovery of the missing McCoy stamps.

Information and inquiries should be made to the APRL by e-mail to jenny@stamps.org, or by phone at 800-782-9580, Extension 246.

SHOW TIME

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 affili e. 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 **September 30-October 1**
Getting the Most Out of the Scott Specialized Catalogues On the Road Course, Prior to SESCAL, Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel, Los Angeles. ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
Email: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses

California **October 2-4**
WINEPEX 2015 Redwood Empire Collectors Club, Marin Civic Center, 10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael.
Contact: Kurt Schau, 707-778-6454
Email: kurtschau@comcast.net

California **October 2-4**
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
Email: c2shaff@ao .com
Website: www.sescal.org

Indiana **October 2-4**
INDYPEX Indiana Stamp Club, Hamilton County Fairgrounds and Exhibition Center, 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville. ***WSP***
Contact: Bob Zeigler, 317-844-5200
Email: indypex@indianastampclub.org
Website: www.indianastampclub.org

Georgia **October 3**
GAPEX 2015 Greater Augusta Stamp Club, Augusta-Richard County Public Library Main Brance, 823 Telfair Street, Augusta.
Contact: Doug Walker, 803-649-5929
Email: ddougwalker@yahoo.com
Website: www.stampclubs.com/augusta/

New York **October 3**
Olepex 2015 Olean Stamp Club, B.P.O. Elks Club No. 491, 209 West State Street, Olean. ***B***
Contact: Ron Yeager, 814-362-4471
Email: cry@atlanticbb.net

Oregon **October 3**
Umpqua Valley Stempfest and Coin Show 7 Feathers Convention Center and Casino Resort, 146 Chief Miwaleta Lane, Canyonville. ***B***
Contact: Doug Holloway, 541-673-4949
Email: dough@riousa.com

Pennsylvania **October 3**
Fall Stamp Expo Cumberland Valley Philatelic Society, Eugene C. Clark, Jr. Community Center, 235 S. Third Street, Chambersburg. ***B***
Contact: Quinn Witherspoon, 717-264-1252

Vermont **October 3**
Crossroads Stamp & Postcard Show Upper Valley Stamp Club, Mid-Vermont Christian School Gym, 399 W. Gilson Avenue, Quechee. ***B***
Contact: John Lutz, 802-728-6212
Email: jalutz@gmail.com

Florida **October 3-4**
Tampa Stamp & Coin Expo Tampa Collectors Club, Holiday Inn Express, 4750 North Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa. ***B***
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
Email: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.floridastampdealer .com / www. floridastampdealer .org

Oklahoma **October 3-4**
Lawton/Fort Sill Stamp & Coin Show Lawton/Fort Sill Stamp Club, Comanche Tribal Comples, 485 Bingo Road off I-44, Lawton. ***B***
Contact: Ski Pawloski, 940-692-0266
Email: obiksp@netscape.net

Washington **October 3-4**
Tri-Cities Stamp and Coin Show Tri-Cities Stamp Club, The M Hotel, 1515 George Washington Way, Richland. ***B***
Contact: Randall Vessey, 509-837-4084
Email: randyvessey@hotmail.com

Internet Course **October 5-November 9**
Keys to Exhibiting Course Online Course (6 weeks), ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
Email: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: www.stampcampus.org

California **October 9-10**
POWPEX 2015 POWAY Stamp Club, Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road, San Diego. ***B***
Contact: Stephen Twenge, 858-368-9109
Email: jands.twenge@gmail.com
Website: www.sandiegophilatelibruary.org

California **October 10**
Visalia Stamp Show Visalia Philatelic Society, Visalia California, 1111 South Conyer Street, Visalia. ***B***
Contact: Mikell Royston, 559-738-1236
Email: gardener93292@yahoo.com

Illinois **October 10-11**
CUPEX 2015 Champaign-Urbana Stamp Club, Urbana Civic Center, 108 E. Water Street, Urbana.
Contact: Louise B. Toft, 217-359-9115
Email: ndx4031r@att.net
Website: http://custampclub.org/

Illinois **October 10-11**
MSDA Fall Show Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Comfort Inn and Suites, 600 Milwaukee Avenue, Prospect Heights. ***B***
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

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Contact: Louise B. Toft, 217-359-9115
Email: ndx4031r@att.net
Website: http://custampclub.org/

Pennsylvania **October 11**
Fall 2015 CAPEX Capital City Philatelic Society, Sara Lindenmuth Elementary School, 1201 N. Progress Ave., Harrisburg. ***B***
Contact: Marlin Wilson, 717-939-8715
Email: baronvonwils@aol.com

Delaware **October 17**
64rd Annual Dover Stamp and Postcard Show Dover Stamp Club, Camden-Wyoming Fire Hall, 200 E. Camden-Wyoming Avenue, Camden. ***B***
Contact: Melvin Nace, 302-674-0837
Email: doverstampclub@aol.com

New York **October 17**
Stamp Show and Bourse Leatherstocking Stamp Club & Tri County, Holiday Inn, 5206 State Highway 23, Oneonta. ***B***
Contact: Ellen Tillapaugh, 607-547-5646
Email: kuchtill@gmail.com

Pennsylvania **October 17**
Gettypex 2015 Blue and Gray Stamp Club, Gettysburg Fire Company, 35 North Stratton Street, Gettysburg. ***B***
Contact: Dwight L. Monn, 717-624-4864
Email: dmonn@pa.net

Wisconsin **October 17**
CENWISPEX '15 Central Wisconsin Stamp Club, Holiday Inn Convention Center, 1001 Amber Ave., Stevens Point.
Contact: J. D. Manville, 715-498-1111
Email: jadeco@charter.net

Florida **October 17-18**
Ocala Stamp & Coin Show Florida Stamp Dealers Association & The General Francis Marion Stamp Club, Ocala National Guard Armory, 900 S.W. 20th Street, Ocala. ***B***
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
Email: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.floridastampdealer .org / www.floridastampsh ws.com, www.ocalagfmstampclub.com

Indiana **October 17-18**
Evanspex Stamp and Postcard Show Evansville Stamp Club, Scottish Rite Community Center, 203 Chestnut St. (Downtown Evansville), Evansville.
Contact: Jonathon Hickman, 812-455-8463
Email: jonathon2121@gmail.com
Website: www.evansvillestampclub.com

Michigan **October 17-18**
MOTOPEX-15 Motor City Stamp & Cover Club, Sokol Hall, 23600 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights.
Contact: Robert Quintero, 248-546-0038
Email: qover@comcast.net
Website: www.motorcitystampandcover.com

Montana **October 17-18**
GLAPEX 2015 Glacier Stamp Club, Museum

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Email: glacierstampclubmt@gmail.com
Website: http://sites.google.com/site/glacierstampclub/home

New Mexico **October 17-18**
NewMexPex 2015 Stamp Show Albuquerque Philatelic Society, Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane, SE, Rio Rancho.
Contact: Paul L. Morton, 505-867-9664
Email: p.morton@att.net
Website: http://madjac.com/stamps.htm

Panama Canal & Western Caribbean **October 18-28**
APS Stamp Cruise ***APS***
Contact: CruiseWorks, Inc., 1-800-876-6664
Email: Cruiseworks@aol.com
Website: www.stamps.org/Stamp-Cruise

Connecticut **October 18**
THAMESPEX 2015 Thames Stamp Club, Clark Lane Middle School, 105 Clark Lane, Waterford.
Contact: Bill McMurray, 860-535-3668
Email: mcmurraypnc3@att.net

Illinois **October 18**
Cicero-Berwyn Coin & Stamp Bourse Sokol-Tabol Hall, 6630 West 16th St., Berwyn. ***B***
Contact: Bob Szczepawski, 708-873-9158

Internet Course **October 20-November 10**
Basic Stamp Collecting Course Online Course (4 weeks), ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
Email: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: www.stampcampus.org

New York **October 23-24**
STEPEX 2015 Elmira Stamp Club, American Legion Post, 45 S. Olcott Rd. (I-86, Exit 49), Big Flats.
Contact: Alan Parsons, 607-732-0181
Email: alatholleyrd@stny.rr.com

New York **October 23-25**
ASDA Fall Postage Stamp Show 2015 American Stamp Dealers Association, The Hilton, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York. ***B***
Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207
Email: dana@americanstampdealer.com
Website: www.americanstampdealer.com

Arkansas **October 24-25**
PINPEX 2015 Pinnacle Stamp Club of Arkansas, Jacksonville Community Center, #5 Municipal Drive, Jacksonville. ***B***
Contact: Ann Austen, 501-868-4553
Email: anniephant@aol.com

California **October 24-25**
East Bay Collectors Club 70th Annual Show East Bay Collectors Club, Civic Center Assembly Hall, 1375 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek.
Contact: Randy Tuuri, 510-653-3471
Email: tuurifam@comcat.net

Florida **October 24-25**
Sarasota Fall Stamp Show Florida Stampdealers Assoc. & Venice & Sarasota Stamp Clubs, Sahib Shriners, 600 N. Beneva Road, Sarasota. ***B***

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Website: www.floridastampsh ws.com / www.floridastampdealer .org

Indiana **October 24-25**
AWPEX 2015 Anthony Wayne Stamp Society, Concordia Lutheran High School, 1601 Saint Joe River Road, Fort Wayne. ***B***
Contact: James Mowrer, 260-422-1716
Email: stamp4@frontier.com

Maine **October 24**
MAIPEX Stamp Show and Auction Winslow VFW, 175 Veteran Drive, Winslow. ***B***
Contact: Al Tieman, 207-692-0477
Email: atieman@msad49.org

Maryland **October 24**
Richmond StampFest Holiday Inn Laurel West, 15101 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel. ***B***
Contact: Jack Ott, 888-297-3536
Email: jackottstamps@gmail.com
Website: www.jackottstamps.com

Ohio **October 24-25**
Cuy-LorPex 2015 Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, Rocky River Civic Center: Memorial Hall, 21016 Hilliard Boulevard, Rocky River.
Contact: Stan Fairchild, 440-333-2536
Email: cuylorclub@gmail.com
Website: www.virtualstampclub.com/apschap_cuylor.html

Wisconsin **October 24-25**
Tosapex 2015 Wauwatosa Philatelic Society, Inc., Gonzaga Hall, 1435 S. 92nd Street, West Allis. ***B***
Contact: Carol Schutta, 262-388-1453
Email: harryncarolschutta@gmail.com
Website: www.milwaukeephilatelic.org

Connecticut **October 25**
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. ***B***
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
Email: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Iowa **October 31**
Tri-State Stamp Expo Tri-State Stamp Club, Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC), 8342 NICC Drive, Peosta. ***B***
Contact: Sally Maier, 563-451-3196
Email: maips.mai@gmail.com

Massachusetts **October 31-November 1**
WALPEX 2015 Waltham Stamp Club, Minuteman Science-Technology High School, 748 Marrett Road, Route 2A West, Exit 30B off I-95/128 then second left, Lexington.
Contact: Norm Shufrin, 508-877-3296
Email: normshu@verizon.net
Website: www.walpex.org

Michigan **October 31-November 1**
AAPEX 2015 Ann Arbor Stamp Club, Morris J. Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor.
Contact: Harry & Dottie Winter, 734-761-5859
Email: harwin@umich.edu
Website: www.annarborstampclub.org

Pennsylvania **October 31**
Eastern PA Stamp Show (EPASS) Allentown Philatelic Society, Jordan United Church of Christ, 1837 Church Road, Allentown. ***B***
Contact: Jerry Morrow, 610-694-0397
Email: sirjun@verizon.net
Website: http://greatzymer.wix.com/aps/#!epass

Virginia **October 31**
Charlottesville StampFest Holiday Inn & Conference Center, 1901 Emmet St. North, Rt. 29, 1/4 mile North of Rt. 250 By-pass), Charlottesville. ***B***
Contact: Jack Ott, 888-297-3536
Email: jackottstamps@gmail.com
Website: www.jackottstamps.com

Pennsylvania **November 7**
Annual Reading Stamp Club Show Reading Stamp Club, Leesport, PA Auction Pavilion, State Route 61 in North Leesport. 8 Miles North of Reading, Reading. ***B***
Contact: Kent Weaver, 610-779-0175
Email: kewsr@prodigy.net

Pennsylvania **November 7-8**
PITTPEX '15 Philatelic Society of Pittsburgh, South Fayette Fire Hall, 661 Millers Run Rd., Bridgeville.
Contact: Ron Carr, 412-561-6562
Email: rgc211215@aol.com
Website: www.presidentdrive.com

New York **November 8**
Syrapex 2015 Syracuse Stamp Club, Best Western Plus Carrier Circle Exit 35, 6555 Old Collamer Road, East Syracuse.
Contact: Edward Bailey, 315-452-0593
Email: President@syracusestampclub.org

Texas **November 13-14**
28th Annual Mid-Cities Stamp Expo 2014 Mid-Cities Stamp Club, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 South Main Street, Grapevine.
Contact: Stanley Christmas, 817-656-2925
Email: elvira6@swbell.net
Website: www.mid-citiesstampclub.com

California **November 13-15**
Filatelic Fiesta 2015 San Jose Stamp Club, Santa Clara Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Road, San Jose. ***WSP***
Contact: Stephen Schumann, 510-415-6158
Email: sdsch@earthlink.net
Website: www.fila elicfiesta.o g

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Ohio **November 14-15**
MSDA Winter Show Cincinnati Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Wingate by Wyndham - West Chester, 7500 Tylers Place Blvd., West Chester. ***B***
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Pennsylvania **November 14**
Johnstown Stamp Show Johnstown Stamp Club, Johnstown Senior Activities Center (Main Hall), 550 Main Street, Johnstown.
Contact: Charles D. Holtzman, Jr., 814-532-0199
Email: chazhjr@msn.com

Illinois **November 15**
Cicero-Berwyn Coin & Stamp Bourse Sokol-Tabol Hall, 6630 West 16th St., Berwyn. ***B***
Contact: Bob Szczepawski, 708-873-9158

Illinois **November 20-22**
CHICAGOPEX Chicago Philatelic Society, Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd., Itasca. ***WSP***
Contact: Robert Glass
Email: boblglass@mac.com
Website: www.chicagopex.org

New York **November 21**
Autumn Stamp Festival Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga. ***B***
Contact: George H. Gates, 716-633-8358
Email: gghg53@aol.com

Ohio **November 21**
Black River Stamp Club Show Black River Stamp Club, St. Judes School, 590 Poplar St., Elyria.
Contact: Dennis Sadowski, 440-937-0069
Email: polisheditor@hotmail.com

Florida **November 21-22**
Tampa Stamp & Coin Expo Tampa Collectors Club, Holiday Inn Express, 4750 North Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa. ***B***
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
Email: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.floridastampdealer .com / www. floridastampdealer .org

Connecticut **November 22**
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. ***B***
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
Email: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Illinois **November 28**
SUPEX 2015 Suburban Collector's Club of Chicago, Union of Operating Engineers Hall, 6200 Joliet Road, Countryside. ***B***
Contact: Scott Mitchell, 708-254-3198
Email: scott.mitchell@advocatehealth.com

Virginia **November 28-29**
Fairfax StampFest Elk's Club, 8421 Arlington Blvd., (Rte. 50) - 3/4 miles west of I-495 Beltway), Fairfax. ***B***
Contact: Jack Ott, 888-297-3536
Email: jackottstamps@gmail.com
Website: www.jackottstamps.com

Florida **December 4-6**
FLOREX--The Florida State Stamp Show FSDA & Central Florida Stamp Club, Central Florida Fair Grounds, Commercial Exhibit Hall, 4603

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West Colonial Drive (SR 50), Orlando. ***WSP***
Contact: Francis Ferguson, 407-493-0956-Cell
Email: show@flo exstampshow.com
Website: www.flo exstampshow.com

Ohio **December 5-6**
Worthington Stamp Club Annual Show and Bourse Worthington Stamp Club, Rhodes Center - Ohio Expo Center - Ohio State Fairgrounds, 717 East 17th Ave., Columbus. ***B***
Contact: Marie Gibbs, 614-260-0952
Email: kevmar1821@gmail.com
Website: www.worthingtonstampclub.com

Wisconsin **December 5-6**
MSDA Show Milwaukee Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall, 1435 South 92nd Street, West Allis. ***B***
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574
Email: jtb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Illinois **December 12-13**
MSDA Holiday Show West Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Lindner Conference Center, 610 E. Butterfield Rd., Lombard. ***B***
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Illinois **December 20**
Cicero-Berwyn Coin & Stamp Bourse Sokol-Tabol Hall, 6630 West 16th St., Berwyn. ***B***
Contact: Bob Szczepawski, 708-873-9158

Connecticut **December 27**
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. ***B***
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
Email: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

2016

Michigan **January 2-3, 2016**
BIRPEX 2016 Birmingham Stamp Club, Birmingham Masonic Temple, 37357 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. ***B***
Contact: Chuck Daliege, 810-287-0087
Email: birpexshow@outlook.com

New Jersey **January 7-9, 2016**
Garden State Stamp and Cover Show New Jersey Stamp Dealers Association, The Bethwood, 38 Lackawanna Ave., Totowa. ***B***
Contact: Tom Jacks, 908-232-0539
Email: tjacks@verizon.net

Pennsylvania **January 22-23, 2016**
York County Stamp Show White Rose Philatelic Society of York, York Expo Center, 334 Carlisle Ave., York.
Contact: John Hufnagel, 717-235-1528
Email: glenrockotts@comcast.net

California **January 22-24, 2016**
SANDICAL San Diego County Philatelic Council, Al-Bahr Shrine Temple, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., San Diego. ***WSP***
Contact: Linda Mabin, 619-582-9311
Email: mabin7@cox.net
Website: www.sandical.org/

Georgia **January 29-31, 2016**
APS AmeriStamp/Southeastern Stamp Expo 2016 American Philatelic Society/ Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs, Hilton Atlanta, 255 Courtland Street, NE., Atlanta. ***WSP***
Contact: Barb Johnson, 814-933-3803 ext 217
Email: stampshow@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-

Florida **February 3-7, 2016**
Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition Sarasota Philatelic Club, Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. ***WSP***
Contact: Liz Hisey, 941-444-0777
Email: lizhisey@comcast.net
Website: www.sarasotastampclub.com/ sarasotastampexhibition.htm

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BY TERRY DEMPSEY

It's All About Our Hobby's Strength

Membership Matters Article Series Introduction

With this issue of *The American Philatelist*, the membership committee will begin a series of articles sharing with you why membership matters.

There are many aspects and perspectives integral to any society such as the American Philatelic Society. Everyone has their own pet projects and favorite benefits. The society serves collectors and dealers. It serves beginners, amateurs, and professionals. It serves generalists and specialists of a thousand different stripes.

But at the heart of everything the society does — all of our plans, finances, structure, the shows and benefits, our library — is membership. You. The individuals who pay their dues every year are the heartbeat of APS. Without you, all the rest of it is moot.

It is no secret that our membership rolls have declined since peaking at 57,815 members in 1988. We counted 32,020 members at the end of 2014. We are fewer today. The decline certainly adds to the long debate about the health of the hobby of stamp collecting.

Why is this? What happened? And most importantly, what can we all do together to reverse this decline?

When membership dues revenue comprises only 36 percent of the society's annual operating budget, you might be among those saying, "Who cares? We seem to be doing pretty well in spite of our membership decline."

The fact is that it's only a little bit about the money. It is all about the strength of a combined group of people who believe in something, in this case, the future of this hobby.

As we grow, we will be much better positioned to serve

PROMOTE THE APS

- Propose a member and earn $5 for every new member proposed.
- Use free business reply cards in mailings to collector friends.
- Request a recruiting kit to staff a table at a stamp show.
- Request membership forms.
- Add a signature block to your e-mail saying "Proud to be a member of the American Philatelic Society."
- Invite a friend to a chapter meeting, stamp club meeting, or a stamp show.
- Give a gift membership.
- Add a banner to your website.
- E-mail or share stamps.org webpages and share links on social networking sites.

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you and your individual needs as the society continues to serve as our hobby guardian and catalyst.

Our goal and mission is to once again return the APS to a period of long-term steady net membership growth.

People matter; you matter.

So, please watch right here for our ongoing story of why membership matters and how you can help our professional society once again have a growing and thriving membership.

Let us start right away. Please ask a friend to join. You will both be glad.

This series of articles was written by Michael Bloom, Don Chenevert, Terry Dempsey, Judy Johnson, Matt Liebson, Ken Martin, Gerry Robbins, and Michael Sales, all members of the APS Membership Committee.

NO. 8, AUGUST 31, 2015

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during August 2015. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to October 31, 2015 these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the December 2015 issue.

Adler, Donald A. (224890) **Daytona Beach, FL** US 19TH CENTURY-EUROPE-GERMANY-GERMAN COLONIES-AUSTRIA-GREAT BRITAIN; 84; Retired
Albracht, Ronald J. (224880) **Wakefield, RI** MINT US & WORLDWIDE; 71; Retired
Anderson, Arvid D. (224881) **Northfield, NH** US-WORLDWIDE; 66; Architect/Millwork Finisher/Stage Hand
Baron, Joseph (224877) **Columbia, MD** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES, COILS; 64; Retired
Belcher, Roy W. (224853) **Cobb, CA;** 73; Retired
Black, Barry D. (224981) **Barnegat, NJ** US, BACK OF THE BOOK, REVENUES; 72; Retired
Boerner, Hans (224923) **Toledo, OH;** 53; Transportation Manager
Bogucki, Joseph M. (224929) **South Bend, IN** US; 70; Retired
Brady, John R. (224856) **Frederick, MD;** 69; Facilities Manager
Brick, Michael T. (224969) **Novi, MI** US COMMEMORATIVES, BACK OF THE BOOK; 66; Retired
Buchanan, Steve L. (224948) **Midland, MI** US; 58; Engineer
Burton, Jerry (224928) **Austin, TX** US 19TH CENTURY, LOCALS & CARRIERS, CONFEDERATE STATES-GERMANY-ITALY-GREAT BRITAIN; 37
Callam, Gordon (224949) **Holland, MI;** 62; CPA
Cameron, Ronald D. (224950) **Vassar, MI** US-BRITISH COLONIES; 69; Retired
Carter, Shelia D. (224897) **Hot Springs, AR** US FDC-AFRICA-FINLAND-BIRDS-DINOSAURS-MAXIMUM CARDS; 40
Cast, Meghan (224857) **Tucson, AZ** HISTORICAL EVENTS/PEOPLE; 36; Payroll/Accounts Payable Specialist
Chiu, Martin S. (224930) **Wellesley, MA** AIRMAILS; 51; Systems Engineer
Coleman, Jim (224970) **Ada, MI** US
Collins, Michael R. (224942) **Thornville, OH** US-WORLDWIDE; 72; Retired
Conner, Nicholas S. (224931) **Novi, MI** SPAIN, COLONIES-HAWAII-US CLASSICS, REVENUES; 42; Financial Advisor
Coogle, David M. (12657-224994) **Brookfield, CT** US; 53; Professional Philatelist
Cook, Robert O. (224982) **Roseville, CA** US-GREAT BRITAIN, COLONIES; 86; Retired
Curry, Dennis (224909) **Cape Fair, MO** WORLDWIDE; 72; Retired
Darbinyan, Rem (224988) **Van Nuys, CA;** 34
Davis, Allan I. (224905) **Prescott, AZ;** 69; Accountant
DeWaard, John V. (224951) **Byron Center, MI;** 57; Retired
Dickason, Timothy (224903) **Lakeland, FL** US DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, CLASSICS, AIRMAILS; 45
Drash, Camden (224900) **Sunrise, FL** BIRDS; 31
Eichhorn, Kyle (224910) **Omaha, NE** UN-US; 65; Retired
Elworthy, Bessie M. (224916) **Fort Collins, CO** WORLDWIDE; 43; Retired
Everest, Patricia A. (224943) **Rockford, MI** US; 70; Retired
Finn, Jeffrey R. (224952) **West Bloomfield, MI;** Banking
Fisher, Carl (224921) **Virginia Beach, VA** US 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, CONFEDERATE STATES; 75
Fountaine, Lisa M. (224971) **Norton Shores, MI** US; 54; Registered Nurse
Franks, Michael J. (224882) **Fremont, OH** PRE-1960 WORLDWIDE; 49; Laborer
French, David H. (224953) **Bangor, MI;** 68; Retired
French, Roxanne A. (224954) **Athens, MI;** 53; Minister
Gifford, Richard (224870) **Audubon, NJ** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS; 66
Girard, Pierre (224851) **Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, QC** USED WORLDWIDE-PHILATELIC LITERATURE-MUSIC/MUSICIANS/INSTRUMENTS-POSTMARKS; 63; Retired
Goffinett, Kenneth H. (224932) **Grosse Ile, MI** US; 72; Retired
Gordijn, Gary (224922) **Cumming, GA**
Granell, Gary (224849) **Garden Grove, CA** US; 70; Retired
Graystone, Michael (224858) **Powhatan, VA;** 57; Attorney
Green, Clif (224883) **Coos Bay, OR** WORLDWIDE-US; 69; Retired
Gregory, Dale I. (224933) **Niles, MI;** 60; OTR Truck Driver
Gruene, Albert F. (224891) **Dortmund, NRW, Germany** FALKLAND ISLANDS-SOUTH GEORGIA-ANTARCTICA-NEW ZEALAND-GERMANY; 57; Finance Director
Gutierrez, Christopher J. (224918) **Galveston, TX** US, FDC, JOINT ISSUES, COMMEMORATIVES, DIGITAL COLOR POSTMARKS
Hamilton, Gifford E. (224846) **Clarkdale, AZ** US COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS, DEFINITIVES, AIRMAILS, COILS, SOUVENIR SHEETS-UN; 80
Hanegan, Charles (224876) **Cambridge, MA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, CONFEDERATE STATES, BUREAU ISSUES, CLASSICS, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS
Hannah, Ellen D. (224955) **Westland, MI;** 47
Hardy, Deanna D. (224879) **Martinsburg, WV;** 78; Retired
Hartson, Jerry (224874) **Manton, MI** CANADA-GREENLAND-ICELAND-SEMIPOSTALS-NEWFOUNDLAND-VATICAN CITY; 62
Heath, Frederick W. (224977) **Weeki Wachee, FL** US BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVES, CLASSICS, PLATE BLOCKS, SHEETS/SMALL PANES, MINT; 79; Attorney
Helligso, Noel M. (224850) **Astoria, OR** US-CANADA; 65; Retired
Herrick, Richard S. (224919) **Worcester, MA** US, FDC, PLATE BLOCKS-CHEMISTRY; 59; Professor
Hoisington, Nan M. (S-224944) **Battle Creek, MI** CANADA-HAWAII-MEXICO-PENGUINS-NATIVE AMERICANS; 71
Hoisington, Thomas H. (224945) **Battle Creek, MI** WEST EUROPE-CANADA-JAPAN-RYUKYU-HAWAII-MEXICO; 76; Retired
Holdener, Gary (224976) **The Woodlands, TX** US, POSTAL HISTORY-WORLDWIDE-CANADA-BRITISH EMPIRE-BRITISH EUROPE; 64
Holland, Paul M. (224904) **Santa Barbara, CA** FOREIGN CLASSICS, POSTAL HISTORY-US FDC-STAMPS ON STAMPS-ROOSEVELT; 67
Holovatiuk, Oleh (224908) **Vernon Hills, IL** US 19TH CENTURY, USED, WASHINGTON FRANKLINS, PHILATELIC/NUMISMATIC COVERS-RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-MILITARY; 35
Horvath, Anthony J. (224847) **Nazareth, PA** US COMMEMORATIVES; 73; Retired
Howard, David (224892) **Leominster, MA** PRE-1970 US & CANADA-SPECIAL EVENT COVERS-MOVIES; 74; Writer
Hudson, Sue E. (224956) **Wyoming, MI;** 55; Retired
Hutton, George D. (224957) **Watford, ON** BNA; Retired
Ivey, Norm (224906) **Columbia, SC** US COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES-TRAINS-CANADA; 54
Joyce, Donald D. (224958) **Wyoming, MI** WORLDWIDE; 76; Retired
Kalif, Will (224859) **Fall River, MA** US 19TH CENTURY; Self Employed
Katzman, Mark L. (12654-224924) **Bend, OR** US-CANAL ZONE-BNA-WORLDWIDE; 71; Retired
Kelley, Pamela B. (224907) **Essex, CT** US, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, COMMEMORATIVES, CT POSTAL HISTORY; 62
Kellogg, Leroy R. (224917) **Giddings, TX** US; 79; Retired
Kelly, Kenneth W. (224959) **Grand Rapids, MI** US, COVERS; 81; Retired
Kendrick, James (224844) **Clarksville, TN** US 19TH CENTURY; 56
Kerlick, David (224901) **Seattle, WA** US PLATE BLOCKS, 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES, FDC-USED WORLDWIDE; 66; Retired

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 224642 through 224707 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

Summary

Total Membership July 31, 2015		30,633
New Members	66	
Reinstated	115	181
		30,814
Deceased	16	
Resignations	5	21
Total Membership, August 31, 2015		30,793

(Total Membership, August 31, 2014 was 31,430 a difference of -637)

Kidd, Dean A. (224960) **Port Huron, MI** US; 68; Retired
Klein, Victor C. (224911) **New Orleans, LA** CLASSICS-FDC; 68; Retired
Klinkhardt, Gary T. (224995) **Jackson, MO** US; 48; Associate Engineer
Kosic, Walter E. (224860) **Laguna Woods, CA;** 87; Retired
Krug, John R. (224961) **Monroe, MI** WORLDWIDE; 44
Krug, Linda I. (S-224962) **Monroe, MI** USED US & AUSTRALIA; 67; Retired
Langlois, Timothy G. (224934) **Berrien Springs, MI** US PLATE BLOCKS; 69; Retired
Larin, Jan L. (224841) **Yakima, WA;** 55; Office Support Staff
Lawrenz, Steve P. (224983) **Columbus, OH** US, POSTAL HISTORY-CHINA-WORLDWIDE; 55; Stamp Store Owner
Leigh, Anthony M. (224854) **Naples, FL** WORLDWIDE-AMERICANA; 83; Retired
Lewis, Bruce (224912) **Las Cruces, NM** SAARLAND-BAVARIA-COOK ISLANDS-ZEPPELINS-AIRMAILS; 56; Consultant
Linden, Kenneth A. (224979) **Rocky River, OH** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS-USED WORLDWIDE; 68; Retired
Lumsden, Lary (224869) **Commerce Township, MI** US-CANADA; 51
Mabie, Stephen W. (224884) **San Antonio, TX** US REVENUES-HAWAIIAN; 68; Retired
Mackey, Devon M. (224920) **Irmo, SC** STAMP DESIGN ERRORS-US ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, FANCY CANCELS, SLOGAN CANCELS-LOTS & COLLECTIONS-CANCELS (FOREIGN); 29
Mancewicz, Gary W. (224963) **Grand Rapids, MI** US-UN-MINT-PLATE BLOCKS-FDC; 62; Dentist
Martin San Roque, Cristina (224987) **Madrid, Spain** SPAIN-VATICAN CITY; 41
Mascazina, John (224893) **Columbus, OH**
Mauldin, Kenneth L. (224913) **Fountain Valley, CA** US; 77; Retired
May, Donald J. (224935) **Big Rapids, MI** US; Retired
McAdams, Terry (224986) **Elk Grove, CA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS; 72
McCallum, Robert J. (224845) **Milford, PA** US DEFINITIVES, COMMEMORATIVES, AIRMAILS-CANADA-UN; 72; Retired
McCarrel, William J. (224972) **White Pigeon, MI** US-CANADA; 76; Retired
McCormic, John J. (224973) **San Jose, CA** US SHEETS/SMALL PANES; 77; Retired
McNees, Donna J. (224964) **Battle Creek, MI;** 49; Retail/Taxes
Mease, Gregory R. (224861) **Lewiston, ME;** 67; Retired
Mott, Freda C. (224936) **Holland, MI;** 84; Retired
O'Brien, F. X. (224899) **Galway, Great Britain**
Oellig, Charles B. (224927) **Harrisburg, PA** EISENHOWER-NIXON-US PRESIDENTS-AMERICAN WARS-MILITARY-CSA; 79; Retired
Olejniczak, Gary R. (224989) **Verona, WI;** 66
Olivero Montiel, Enrique G. (224996) **Talnepantla Estado de Mexico, Mexico** US 19TH CENTURY, COILS-FRANCE-SPAIN-ITALY-GREAT BRITAIN; 67
Ottesen, John (224865) **Niceville, FL** US, 19TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, COMMEMORATIVE PANELS, USED, CIVIL WAR COVERS; 44
Padilla, Lenny (224965) **Grand Rapids, MI** RUSSIA-CANAL ZONE; Journalist
Pare, Maynard (224980) **Westland, MI** US SPACE COVERS, CIVIL WAR COVERS, CHRISTMAS SEALS, COMMEMORATIVE PANELS, CUT SQUARES; 61
Petersen, Michael J. (224937) **Dowagiac, MI** US-ST. HELENA-MUSIC; 69
Petrosyan, Frunze (224867) **Clayton, NC** ARMENIA-US DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, IMPERFORATES-GREAT BRITAIN; 33
Petty, Gene (224885) **Idaho Falls, ID** US-ANIMALS-SOS; 70; Physician
Phillips, Frank G. (224978) **Lyons, NY** US, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, PRECANCELS (BUREAU/CITY), BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS; Retired
Pocius, John E. (224886) **Detroit, MI** US; 77; Retired
Presley, Charles E. (224862) **Artesia, CA** US; 85; Retired
Reynolds, Rich (224898) **Fort Wayne, IN** US, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, CANCELS, COMMEMORATIVES-USED WORLDWIDE; 46
Ringland, Robert (224863) **Middletown, OH** US-GREAT BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA-ISRAEL TABS; 69; Judge
Robinson, Byron (224947) **Indio, CA** US-CANADA-UN-TRAINS; 73; Retired
Roth, Hans (224946) **Spencerport, NY**
Royston, Claudia (224915) **Western Springs, IL** GREAT BRITAIN-WORLDWIDE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY-BRITISH EMPIRE; Travel Agency Owner
Saunders, Russell H. (224887) **Louisville, KY** FDC-PLATE BLOCKS-COMMEMORATIVES
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Serpetis, Russell (224888) **Urbana, IL** US; 66; Retired
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Shepsen, Alexander (224925) **Palo Alto, CA** LIECHTENSTEIN-LUXEMBOURG-RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS
Sherman, Samuel M. (224855) **Reinholds, PA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, USED, AIRMAILS, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING; 59
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Smith, Angus (224889) **Maumee, OH** MINT US COMMEMORATIVES, FDC
Snow, Dale A. (12656-224974) **Portage, MI** CANADA-US-GREAT BRITAIN; 68; Psychologist
Snyder, Michael P. (224842) **Vancouver, WA** NAPOLEONIC; 40; Security Management
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Spidle, Jake W. (224894) **Albuquerque, NM** US; 74; Retired
Starin, Nicholas (224926) **Portland, OR** US, OR POSTAL HISTORY-BELGIUM-GREAT BRITAIN-FRENCH AFRICA-BRITISH EMPIRE; 49
Stauffer, David (224875) **Bloomington, IL**
Stenfalt, Patrick V. (224852) **Leigh on Sea, Great Britain** BAVARIA-CHINA-ARGENTINA; Retired
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Wachholz, Steven (224848) **Fond Du Lac, WI** US, POSSESSIONS; 54; Mechanical Designer/Detailer
Wallace, Shaine C. (224968) **Norton Shores, MI;** 37; Manufacturing Supervisor
Watson, David L. (224993) **Kailua, HI** GREECE-CLASSICS; 81; Retired
Weckstein, William (224896) **Millville, NJ** US; Retired
Wei, Xiushi (224990) **Rancho Cucamonga, CA** CHINA-US CLASSICS-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH; 32
Wilson, Robert E. (224872) **Dallas, TX** US, WASHINGTON FRANKLINS, BULLS EYE/SON CANCELS-GREAT BRITAIN-GERMANY-BRITISH ROYAL FAMILY; 28
Younkins, Raymond B. (224868) **Gaithersburg, MD** US COVERS, CANCELS, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, FDC, NAVAL COVERS, SPECIAL EVENT COVERS/CANCELS-ARCTIC-FDC; 41

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Allen, David C. (9602-040610), Apopka, FL
Anderson, Roy L., Jr. (155847), Arlington, TX
Baehren, Paul F. (4935-038679), Toledo, OH
Blazel, Carl L. (206926), Honolulu, HI
Corets, Myron L. (7702–57994), Los Angeles, CA
Dorgeloh, W. P. (2752-040437), Puyallup, WA
Drewes, Richard W. (5381-042268), Thousand Oaks, CA
Gochman, John J. (10440-073504), Croton-on-Hudson, NY
Jenkins, Kenneth J. (10134-072536), Las Vegas, NV
Kelsey, John E. (5975-044548), McHenry, IL
Kilby, Michael (202984), Mount Pleasant, FL
King, Frederick J. (7788-055902), Wenham, MA
Levine, Phil J. (8375-044558), Pensacola, FL
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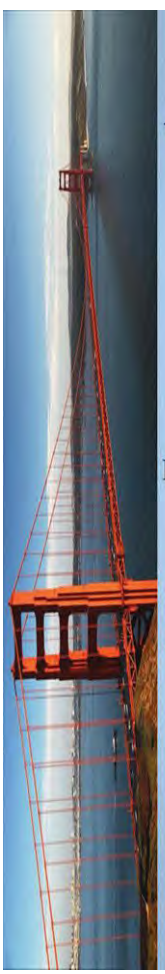

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BY JAY BIGALKE

Coast Guard, Elvis, and More

Recap of the United States Stamps Issued in August

In August, the United States Postal Service issued five commemorative stamps (four issues). Each issue is outlined in the following sections. Expanded versions for each stamp, including additional artwork, background, and photos are available in *The American Philatelist* Bonus Content section at www.stamps.org/AP-Album.

U.S. Coast Guard

The U.S. Coast Guard commemorative forever stamp debuted August 4 in Washington, D.C., and was distributed nationwide. The stamp was issued in a pane of 20 and printed by Sennett Security Products using the offset printing process. There is microprinting on the stamp.

Subject

The stamp celebrates two anniversary dates for the U.S. Coast Guard with the most recent being the 100th anniversary of its current name which was created in 1915 with the "Act to Create the Coast Guard." The stamp also marks the 225th anniversary of President George Washington signing a law formally establishing the coast guard concept.

Design

The stamp design was created by noted aviation artist William S. Phillips working with USPS art director Phil Jordan. The stamp depicts the Coast Guard cutter *Eagle* with an *MH-65 Dolphin* rescue helicopter flying nearby.

Phillips started work on the stamp project in 2011 with Jordan and details the design process in the Q&A section. The image on the stamp is an original piece of artwork that was created specifically for the stamp project.

First-Day Ceremony

In eager anticipation of the stamp's first-day ceremony, on August 3 the U.S. Coast Guard Mid-Atlantic district sent out the following tweet via its @uscgmidatlantic Twitter account: "Tomorrow the new #CoastGuard @USPSstamps will be released! Do you like our real life version of the stamp picture?"

The attached photograph is shown nearby and shows one of the Coast Guard's MH-65 helicopters flying off the coast of New York and New Jersey.

The first-day ceremony took place at the Coast Guard's Douglas A. Munro Headquarters building in Washington, D.C. Postmaster General Megan Brennan, Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, and Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Paul Zukunft, participated in the first-day event.

The U.S. Coast Guard commemorative forever stamp issued August 4.

The U.S. Coast Guard Mid-Atlantic district recreated the scene on the stamp and tweeted about it the day before the issue date. ***Photo by U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary member David Lau.***

Q&A *William S. Phillips* stamp artist

Your paintings have an almost photo-realistic look to them. Can you explain your technique for creating the artwork?

Oil on board with very thin paint lay in and very small brushes. There is lots of tight detail and copious amounts of Excedrin.

What photographic references did you use for the painting? Were both the helicopter and ship in the same photograph, or was the concept something you put together?

Phil Jordan and Photo Assist helped with photo reference. The helicopter and ship were not in the same photo. There were many photos used and then I brought the concept together.

What other items might our readers find interesting about this stamp project?

This one took a long time from submission to release. Of course, that was because of the anniversary date.

U.S. COAST GUARD COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMP

USPS Item Number: 473204
Format: Pane of 20, 120 stamps per revolution
Issue Date and City: August 4, 2015, Washington, D.C.
Artist: William S. Phillips, Ashland, Oregon
Designer, Typographer, and Art Director: Phil Jordan, Falls Church, Virginia
Modeler: Donald Woo
Manufacturing Process: Offset with microprinting
Printer and Processor: Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, North Carolina
Press Type: Alprinta 74
Print Quantity: 15 million stamps
Pane Press Sheet Quantities: 500 with die cuts, 1,000 without die cuts
Paper Type: Phosphor tagged paper, overall
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive
Ink Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Stamp Sizes: 1.42 inches by 0.84 inches, 36.07 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 1.56 inches by 0.98 inches, 39.62mm by 24.89mm (overall); 7.24 inches by 5.92 inches, 183.90mm by 150.37mm (sheet); 21.72 inches by 11.84 inches, 551.69mm by 300.73mm (press sheet)
Plate Numbers: "S" followed by four single digits
Marginal Markings: Plate numbers (front); "©2014 USPS," USPS logo, plate position diagram, barcode, promotional text, Coast Guard information

Elvis Presley

The Elvis Presley commemorative forever stamp debuted August 12 in Memphis, Tennessee, and was distributed nationwide. The stamp was issued in a pane of 16 and printed by Sennett Security Products using the offset printing process. There is microprinting on the stamp.

Subject

The Elvis Presley stamp is the sixth stamp in the Music Icons series. The stamp honors the rock-n-roll star, guitarist, singer, musician, and actor.

Design

The stamp design was created by Leslie Badani and USPS art director Antonio Alcalá. The stamp uses a 1955 black-and-white photograph taken by William Speer.

Alcalá started on the stamp project in October 2013 and recounts some details of the process in the Q&A section. He also shared that the hype surrounding the first Elvis stamp did not play into the design of the new stamp.

The back side of the pane of stamps features a different photograph of Elvis that was taken by Alfred Wertheimer.

First-Day Ceremony

The first-day ceremony took place on the front lawn of Elvis' home, Graceland. The ceremony was part of the Elvis Week celebration. Postmaster General Megan Brennan joined Priscilla Presley in unveiling the stamp.

The Elvis Presley commemorative forever stamp issued August 12. The stamp is the sixth in the Music Icons series.

Q&A *Antonio Alcalá stamp art director*

Young or Old Elvis? How did you settle on an image of young Elvis on both the stamp and the selvage photo?

Young Elvis is really the Music Icon. The portrait of Elvis on the stamp shows him as every fan wants to see him: fresh, young, handsome, with just a touch of the "danger" that represents the earliest years of rock and roll. On the verso, there is a much larger area that functions as a de facto 45 record cover sleeve. It lent itself to a performance shot, showing an iconic moment in Elvis' career when his singing and performance style transformed our culture.

Was a photographic rendition of Elvis for the stamp planned the whole time or did you consider other types of media for creation of the stamp?

When I start a project, every option is on the table. But I quickly concentrated on photography over illustration.

The stamp itself pictures a small crown. How did that design element come about?

On several of my projects, I look for ways to separate the words "Forever" and "USA". If I can think of something that is appropriate for the topic, I'll give it a try. For the 2015 Love stamp I put a little heart in between the two words. So for this issue, I thought what would be more appropriate for the King of Rock and Roll than a crown. It's subtle and adds a nice surprise element for the viewer.

For the first Elvis stamps, one just read "Elvis" and the other "Elvis Presley." This stamp uses the signature. Was typography a challenge with this design?

No, not really. I liked the way a signature can add a bit of an individual's personality to a design. Additionally, it echoes the way publicity photos of the era were sometime signed by the stars.

What other items might our readers find interesting about this stamp project?

Leslie Badani, the designer I worked with on this project, was born after Elvis died. And yet she has a great understanding of Elvis and his legend, and how to present him in a design his fans and the American public will appreciate.

ELVIS PRESLEY COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMP

USPS Item Number: 589004
Format: Pane of 16, 144 stamps per revolution
Issue Date and City: August 12, 2015, Memphis, Tennessee
Designers: Antonio Alcalá, Alexandria, Virginia, and Leslie Badani, Alexandria, Virginia
Exisiting Photo: William Speer
Typographer and Art Director: Antonio Alcalá, Alexandria, Virginia
Modeler: Joseph Sheeran
Series: Music Icons
Manufacturing Process: Offset with microprinting
Printer and Processor: Ashton Potter, Williamsville, New York
Press Type: Mueller Martini A76
Print Quantity: 100 million stamps
Pane Press Sheet Quantities: 500 with die cuts, 1,500 without die cuts
Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III, block tag applied
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive
Ink Colors: Pantone Matching System cool gray 7, black, PMS 8383 gold (stamps); cyan, magenta, yellow, black, PMS 8383 gold (back side)
Stamp Sizes: 1.09 inches by 1.09 inches, 27.56 millimeters by 27.56mm (image); 1.23 inches by 1.23 inches, 31.12mm by 31.12mm (overall); 7 inches by 7 inches, 177.8mm by 177.8mm (sheet); 21.25 inches by 21.25 inches, 539.75mm by 539.75mm (press sheet)
Plate Numbers: None
Marginal Markings: "©2015 USPS," USPS logo, verso text, proprietary text, promotional text, barcode (front); photo (back)

Ingrid Bergman

The Ingrid Bergman commemorative forever stamp debuted August 20 in Los Angeles, California, and was distributed nationwide. The stamp was issued in a pane of 20 and printed by Sennett Security Products using the offset printing process. There is microprinting on the stamp.

This stamp was a joint issue with Sweden and a similar design was issued by Sweden at its international letter rate of 14 kroner. That stamp was issued in a coil format and sold by the United States in strips of four (two designs with the other another stylized illustration of Bergman). The engraved stamp design was also issued by Sweden as a perforated souvenir sheet of six with decorative selvage.

Subject

The Ingrid Bergman stamp is the 19th stamp in the Legends of Hollywood series. The actress is known for her roles in *Casablanca* (1942), *Gaslight* (1944), *Anastasia* (1956), and *Notorious* (1946).

Design

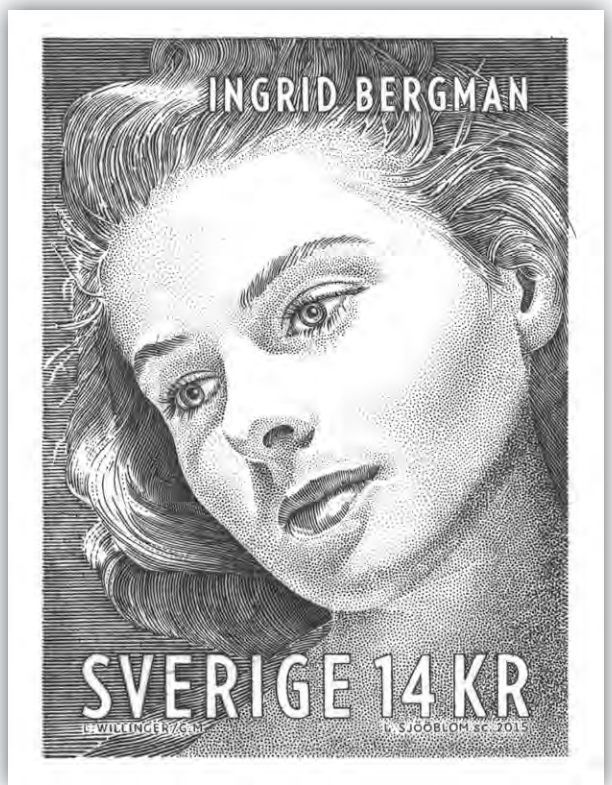
The stamp design was created by USPS art director Ethel Kessler using an existing photograph by Laszlo Willinger that was colorized by Kristen Monthei. The side of the pane of stamps features a scene of Bergman from the 1942 film *Casablanca*.

Swedish stamp engraver Lars Sjööblom shared that he started on the stamp project in February 2015 and that he did not create the final colorized version. His two favorite Bergman films are *Casablanca* and *Cactus Flower* (1969). To date, Sjööblom has engraved more than 450 postage stamp designs for multiple countries.

First-Day Ceremony

The first-day ceremony for the Swedish version of the stamp took place on August 20 in Stockholm. No ceremony was held in Los Angeles, but cancellations were offered at a special retail station at the West Hollywood Library. A dedication event was scheduled to take place in September in Washington, D.C., for the U.S. stamp.

The United States Ingrid Bergman commemorative forever stamp (left) and the Swedish Ingrid Bergman stamp (right). Both stamps were issued August 20.



The original engraving for the Swedish Ingrid Bergman stamp that was created by Lars Sjööblom.

SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 2015 U.S. STAMP SCHEDULE

September 2	Spectrum Eagle	Eagleville, Missouri
September 9	Neon Celebrate	Kansas City, Missouri
September 18	Paul Newman	Cleveland, Ohio
October 1	A Charlie Brown Christmas	Santa Rosa, California
October 23	Geometric Snowflakes	New York, New York

Dates are tentative. U.S. new issues are online at www.stamps.org/US-New-issues.

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World Stamp Show NY 2016

Established 2014

INGRID BERGMAN COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMP

USPS Item Number: 473304
Format: Pane of 20, 180 stamps per revolution
Issue Date and City: August 20, 2015, Los Angeles, California
Artist: Kristen Monthei
Designer, Typographer, and Art Director: Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, Maryland
Existing Photograph: Laszlo Willinger
Modeler: Donald Woo
Series: Legends of Hollywood
Manufacturing Process: Offset with microprinting
Printer and Processor: Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, North Carolina
Press Type: Alprinta 74
Print Quantity: 20 million stamps
Pane Press Sheet Quantities: 250 with die cuts, 500 without die cuts
Paper Type: Phosphor tagged paper, block
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive
Ink Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Stamp Sizes: 0.84 inches by 1.42 inches, 21.34 millimeters by 36.07mm (image); 0.98 inches by 1.56 inches, 24.89mm by 39.62mm (overall); 8.47 inches by 7.17 inches, 215.24mm by 182.09mm (sheet); 25.92 inches by 22.01 inches, 658.42mm by 558.98mm (press sheet)
Plate Numbers: "S" followed by four single digits
Marginal Markings: "Legends of Hollywood" header, plate numbers (front); "©2015 USPS, USPS Logo, barcode, promotional text, Ingrid Bergman biography, proprietary information, plate position diagram

The World Stamp Show-NY 2016 forever stamps.

World Stamp Show-NY 2016

The two World Stamp Show-NY 2016 commemorative forever stamps debuted August 20 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and were distributed nationwide. The stamps were issued in a pane of 20 and printed by Ashton Potter using the offset printing process without microprinting.

Design

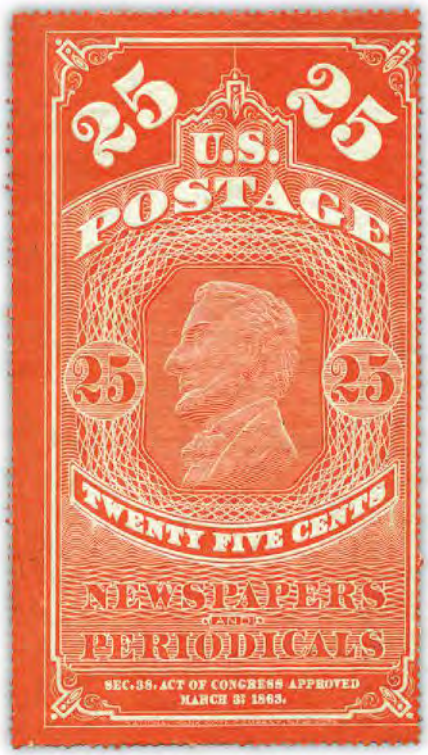
The stamp design was created by artist Mike Dyer working with USPS art director Antonio Alcalá. The same design was used in red for one stamp and blue for the other. According to the U.S. Postal Service the stamp designs show "intricate patterns of lines and ornamentation inspired by the U.S. Newspaper and Periodical stamps of 1865."

Pictured nearby is a 25-cent Abraham Lincoln Newspaper and Periodicals stamp (Scott PR3) from the APS Reference Collection that is not shown to scale with the new stamps.

The pane of 20 stamps features a header that reads: "Join Us For A Wonderful Week At World Stamp Show-NY 2016, May 28–June 4, 2016, New York City, NY."

First-Day Ceremony

The first-day ceremony took place during the American Philatelic Society's Stampshow 2015 held at the DeVos Place Convention Center. World Stamp Show-NY 2016 president Wade Saadi was among the participants in the unveiling of the stamps.



United States 25-cent Abraham Lincoln Newspaper and Periodicals stamp (Scott PR3) that was issued in 1865. *Stamp courtesy of the APS Reference Collection.*

WORLD STAMP SHOW-NY 2016 COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMPS

USPS Item Number: 589904
Format: Pane of 20 (two designs), 240 stamps per revolution
Issue Date and City: August 21, 2015, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Designer, Typographer, and Artist: Michael Dyer, Brooklyn, New York
Art Director: Antonio Alcalá, Alexandria, Virginia
Modeler: Joseph Sheeran
Manufacturing Process: Offset
Printer and Processor: Ashton Potter, Williamsville, New York
Press Type: Mueller Martini A76
Print Quantity: 12 million stamps
Pane Press Sheet Quantities: 1,000 with die cuts, 1,500 without die cuts
Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III, block tag applied
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive
Ink Colors: Pantone Matching System 647C blue, PMS 7626C red
Stamp Sizes: 0.84 inches by 1.42 inches, 21.34 millimeters by 36.07mm (image); 0.98 inches by 1.56 inches, 24.89mm by 39.62mm (overall); 5.92 inches by 7.5 inches, 150.37mm by 190.50mm (sheet); 11.84 inches by 22.75 inches, 300.76mm by 577.85mm (press sheet)
Plate Numbers: "P" followed by two single digits
Marginal Markings: header, plate numbers (front); "©2015 USPS," USPS logo, plate position diagram, verso text (back)

CANADA
FRANKLIN EXPEDITION

Canada Post, on August 6, issued three stamps in different formats honoring the lost sailors of the Franklin Expedition and as a tribute to those who discovered the 1840s ship that was captained by Sir John Franklin in search of the Northwest Passage.

GREAT BRITAIN
BEES

On August 18, Great Britain issued 10 new stamps depicting bees. "The plight of bees is in the press every week and this stamp issue is to educate as to the huge variety of British bees ..." stated Royal Mail in a press release about the multi-stamp issuance.

MONACO
RUGBY WORLD CUP

Rugby was featured on a single perforated-to-shape oval stamp in Monaco issued August 17 in a pane of 10. The stamp marks the eighth Rugby World Cup to take place September 18–October 31, in Great Britain, with the final game in London.

CHINA
MOON EXPLORATION

On August 20, China issued a single stamp for Moon exploration with the Chinese Lunar Exploration Program logo in the design. The pane of 12 stamps have decorative labels to the left of the stamp that show a second view of the moon.

UNITED NATIONS
UNICEF

The United Nations, on August 20, issued six End Violence Against Children stamps with six different designs and denominations. The stamps raise awareness of the United Children's Fund campaign for children's rights and safety.

NEW WORLDWIDE STAMPS

A quick peek at stamps issued in August from 10 different countries around the world.

NEW ZEALAND
UNESCO HERITAGE

New Zealand's postal service issued six stamps on August 5, showing photographs of different World Heritage sites: the Emerald Lakes, Franz Josef Glacier, Enderby Island, Mount Ngauruhoe, Lake MacKenzie, and Campbell Island.

JAPAN
NATIONAL SPORTS FESTIVAL

On August 28, Japan issued 10 stamps for the 70th annual National Sports Festival. The festival largely takes place during the fall months of the year and is one of the premier sporting events in the country.

SINGAPORE
INDEPENDENCE

Singapore on August 5 issued a single gold foil stamp in a souvenir sheet to celebrate 50 years of independence. Six stamps of different denominations, titled "A Brighter Future Together," honor the same anniversary celebration with the same issue date.

GERMANY
FISH

Germany issued three semipostal stamps, on August 6, at different denominations showing three fish. The surcharge from the stamps is going toward child and youth services. The stamps were also issued in a souvenir sheet of six format.

CAMBODIA
ASEAN COMMUNITY

Ten nations participated in an omnibus stamp issue, on August 8, celebrating the 48th anniversary of the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) member countries. The 10 different stamps feature the same piece of artwork.

BY BOB LAMB

Liechtenstein

Status: Principality in central Europe
Area: 62 sq mi
Population: 37,313 (2014 est.)
Currency: Swiss Currency is used. 100 Rappen = 1 Franc., CHF1.00 = US$1.05 (2015)

5-heller Prince Johann, Scott 1, 1912.

2-rappen on 10-heller Coat of Arms, Scott 51, 1921.

2-franc Princess Gina, Scott 357, 1960.

35-rappen Mount Nospitz, Scott 933, 1990.

Liechtenstein takes its name from Castle Liechtenstein in lower Austria. Through the centuries, the family owning the castle acquired great land holdings and served as close advisors to the Hapsburgs. Though wealthy and influential, the family did not have a seat in the Diet of the Holy Roman Empire because it did not own land, which was directly under the imperial throne. Their other land holdings were held in fief under more senior feudal lords.

The Hapsburg emperor enabled the family to buy the miniscule Lordship of Schellenberg in 1699 and the County of Vaduz in 1712 and on January 23, 1719, decreed that Vaduz and Schellenberg be united and elevated to the status of a principality. Liechtenstein thus became a member of the Holy Roman Empire and its owner became the prince of Liechtenstein. With their seat in the Diet secured, the princes resided in Vienna. None bothered to visit Liechtenstein until 1818.

When Napoleon defeated the Holy Roman Empire in 1806, he organized Liechtenstein into the Confederation of the Rhine eliminating its obligations to any feudal lord. After Napoleon's defeat, Liechtenstein in 1813 joined the German Confederation, which was under Austrian hegemony.

Modern Liechtenstein's postal system began in 1817, when the Austrian post office opened a letter collection station in Balzers. The office closed about two years later, presumably because the economy-conscious postal authorities did not deem the volume of mail from this poor area to justify the cost of the service. Also, the Liechtensteiners were watchful lest the Austrian post become an encroachment on the prince's authority.

In 1827, the Balzers office was restored with proper accommodation to the sensitivities of the prince's sovereign authority. In 1845, a second collection station was opened in Vaduz. As it grew and expenses mounted, there was persistent disagreement over allocation of costs for the post. Vaduz asked for a Postal Treaty and also began to press for its own stamps, primarily it would seem as a source of stamp collector income.

When Austria introduced postage stamps in 1850, all its stamps and postal stationery became valid, at least in theory, in Liechtenstein. The Austrians resisted the idea of Liechtenstein stamps, but in 1911 finally agreed to special stamps for Liechtenstein. Three stamps were placed on sale in Liechtenstein and Vienna about February 1, 1912. Austrian stamps continued to be used along with Liechtenstein stamps until January 31, 1921.

Following Austria's defeat in World War I, Liechtenstein took over the control of its own postal operations. Lacking experienced civil servants for the task, Liechtenstein turned to a consortium dominated by stamp dealers to arrange its stamp issuance. The arrangement lasted less than a year but produced about 46 major varieties, numerous errors, and it did serious damage to Liechtenstein's reputation among philatelists.

Liechtenstein then turned to Switzerland for help. A Swiss postal agreement, signed in late 1920, came into effect on February 1, 1921. Stamps denominated in Swiss currency were placed on sale February 1, 1921. All stamps issued prior to 1921 were demonetized. Since that time Liechtenstein has produced attractive, high quality stamps. Stamps remained a major source of national revenue for many years.

50-heller Madonna and Child, Scott 47, 1920.

2-franc Hereditary Prince Alois, Scott 864, 1987.

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

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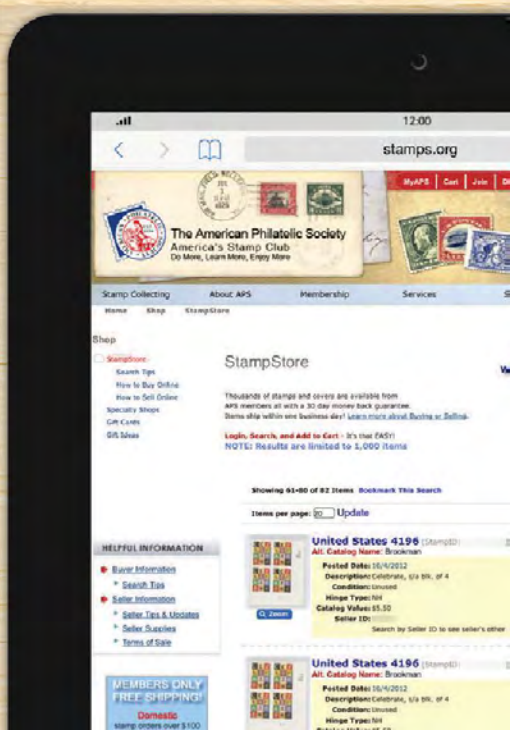

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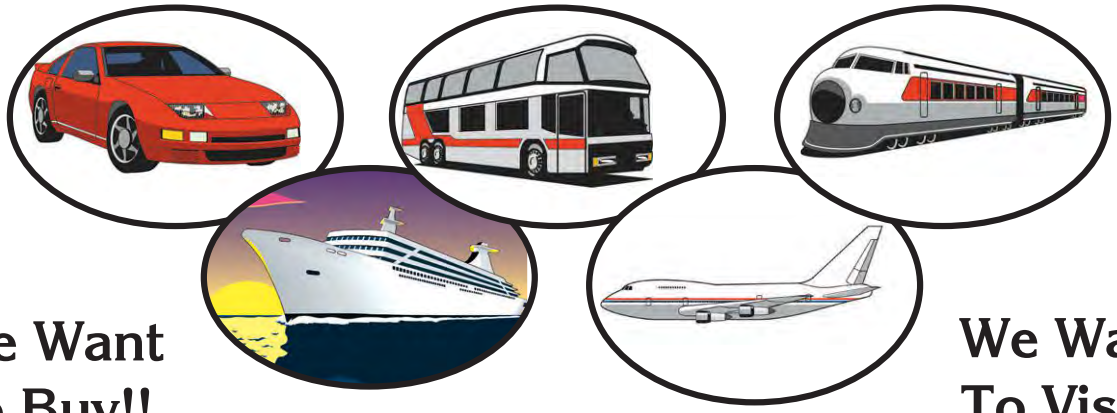

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British Middle East
British Oceania
British Oceania Mint
Australia
Australia States
New Zealand
Topicals (General)
Animals & Flora
Art and Painting
Europa
Space*
Sports
Transportation
Africa
Air Mails World-wide*
Argentina
Asia
Austria
Balkans
Baltic States*
Belgium
Benelux
Bolivia
Brazil
Central America
Central Europe
Chile
China
Colombia
Costa Rica
Cuba
Czechoslovakia
Danzig*
Denmark
East Germany
Eastern Europe
Ecuador
Egypt*
Ethiopia
Europe
Europe(1840-1940)
Far East
Finland
France
France & Colonies
France 19th Century
French Africa
French Colonies
German Colonies*
German Covers
German States
Germany
Germany Pre-1945
Global (1840-1940)
Global Covers
Global General (Mint & Used)
Global Used Only
Greece
Guatemala
Honduras
Hungary
Iceland-Greenland
Iran (Persia)
Israel
Italian Colonies*
Italy
Japan
Korea
Latin America
Latin West Indies*
Lebanon
Liberia
Liechtenstein
Luxembourg
Mexico
Middle East
Miniature Sheets
Monaco
Netherlands
Netherlands Colonies
Nicaragua
Norway
Panama*
Paraguay*
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Portuguese Colonies
Romania
Russia (USSR)
Saar
Salvador
San Marino
Scandinavia
Siam (Thailand)
South America
Southeast Asia
Southern Europe
Spain
Spanish Colonies*
Sweden
Switzerland
Trieste*
Turkey
United Nations*
Uruguay
Vatican
Venezuela
West Germany
Yugoslavia

* These circuits may incur long delays due to frequent shortages of material. We urgently solicit books for these areas.

Circuit Request Form

❒ Check here if currently receiving circuits or awaiting them, based on a previous request. Members presently receiving circuits may have more than six categories listed with us.

❒ If you are requesting circuits for the first time, we recommend that you do not enter more than three (3) categories. You may request more categories after 12 months once you are familiar with how the process works and feel you can handle them comfortably.

Enter up to **SIX CIRCUITS** below and send to:
APS Sales Division, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823

Your Circuit Selections

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____
5. _____ 6. _____

APS No. _____ Date _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ ZIP _____
Daytime Telephone No. _____
E-mail address: _____

If you wish to receive circuits at other than the above address, please list below:

_____
_____