

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

JANUARY 2017 \$4.95



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Hawaii #24 1864 Numeral
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Graded 95 Jumbo. Est \$1,150



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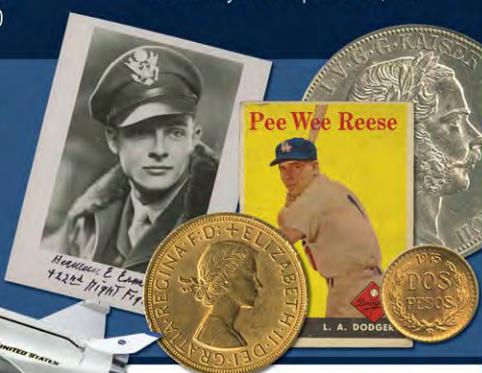
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THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

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Philatelic Magazine in the Nation

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THE ART OF EXHIBIT PREPARATION: START TO FINISH *Steve Zwillinger*

Can stamps tell a story? Find out how to arrange, display and describe philatelic material to tell a coherent and engaging story.

MASTERING POSTAL HISTORY: HOW TO READ AND INTERPRET A COVER *Gary Wayne Loew*

Each cover tells a story. Reveal rates, routes, and historical details while deciphering and evaluating cover markings.



U.S. EXPERTIZING *Irv Miller*

Reference collections and libraries are important tools to utilize when identifying stamps. Develop evaluation skills needed for detecting faults, alterations, fakes and forgeries.

EFO-CSI: UNDERSTANDING EFOS AND HOW THEY RELATE TO YOU *Wayne L. Youngblood*

Investigate the fascinating world of postal blunders. Become a stamp detective; as you look for fake errors, determine cause and evaluate items for potential significance.



UNITED STATES TAXPAID REVENUES: THE FORTHCOMING SPRINGER CATALOG, 11TH EDITION *Ron Lesher*

Explore the specialty-area of taxpaid revenue stamps. Learn about the stamps used in the taxation of tobacco, spirits, margarine, butter, meat, and more.

INTRODUCTION TO ASTROPHILATELY

David S. Ball, RPSL

Experience the conquest of space while exploring space-event postmarks, cachets, and autographs.

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Steven Zwillinger

Develop an understanding of how to arrange, display and describe philatelic material to tell a coherent story.

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Steven Zwillinger

Acquire a toolbox of techniques and methods for improving a stamp exhibit.

COLLECTING FROM A GERMAN VIEWPOINT

Keith Stupell

Uncover numerous practical possibilities for organizing a collection. Elevate your skills during an immersion into German philately.

INTRODUCTION TO CONFEDERATE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY

Patricia (Trish) Kaufmann

How did the Civil War impact the handling of the mails? Identify Confederate General Issue stamps and common fakes.

ZEPPELINS AND THE UNITED STATES

Cheryl R. Ganz

What role did zeppelins play in U.S. postal transport? Engage in a study of stamps and mail related to various types of airships.

EARLY GREAT BRITAIN LINE ENGRAVED STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY: AN INTRODUCTION

Lawrence Haber

Why did penny blacks evolve into penny reds, and then to penny stars? Discover the answer to this question, and more.

Additional information at:

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2-DAY COURSES



BY MICK ZAIS president
mzais@newberry.edu

A Successful Recipe Well Worth Sharing

World Series of Philately Shows are an Opportunity for Involvement

In October, I had the pleasure of traveling to Indianapolis for the World Series of Philately stamp show, Indypex. It was a terrific show. Forty dealers were on hand to offer a vast array of material to eager collectors. Dealers traveled from as far away as North Carolina and Delaware to support the show.

The venue was perfect. The show was held at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds, just a few miles north of downtown Indianapolis and right off the interstate. The bourse and exhibits had ample space. The associated facilities were good. And there was lots of close parking.

Indypex had excellent exhibits to capture the interest of beginner to advanced collectors, as well as non-collectors. Twenty-two noncompetitive exhibits comprised of 51 frames celebrated Indiana's statehood bicentennial, all with Indiana-themed material. There were an additional 30 competitive exhibits with 149 frames of fascinating stamps and covers.

A remarkable assemblage of postal artifacts from the Michael W. Schrapp Post Office and Postal Museum were on display. The museum is in Marshall, Michigan, in the basement of the Greek Revival post office. The museum has everything from a mail truck to a mail buggy,



Display by the Michael W. Schrapp Post Office and Postal Museum during the Indypex stamp show held in October.
Photos by Ken Martin.

from a bearskin mailman's coat to a 1890s storefront post office.

Several seminars were offered, covering diverse topics from "Indiana Postal History," to "How to Collect the World."

Saturday evening, a very nice no-host reception and awards buffet dinner was held at the show venue. It was well organized and awards were presented quickly and efficiently.

Any successful World Series of Philately show requires dedicated volunteers who organize and coordinate the myriad details that go into making a show a rewarding experience for collectors, dealers and exhibitors. Sponsored by the Indiana Stamp Club, this show had it all.

Many club members deserve special recognition for their contributions, including Michael Schweitzer, the club president; Grant Dyer, the vice president; and the show directors, Randy Marcy, Tom Chastang, and Dennis Danielson. Chuck Jordan organized the bourse and Tony Brooks the banquet. Exhibits and awards were managed by Sharon Newby, Randy Marcy, Tony Brooks, and by APS Vice President Bob Ziegler. Publicity was handled by Chuck Slagle, Tom Chastang,

and Rick Nelson. Many others were responsible for varied aspects of the show, from cachets to security.

Aside from the well-deserved praise, my point is this: It takes a lot of people and a lot of work to put together a WSP show. But people around the country do it every year because the rewards are worth the effort.

Just having the opportunity to work with people who share and appreciate your hobby is always fun. The sense of achievement at the end of a successful show is significant. And shows with bourses and exhibits not only help build the hobby, but provide opportunities to recruit new members to a hobby which gives us all so much pleasure.

If there's a WSP show near you, I encourage you to volunteer. I think you'll have fun, and be glad you did.

NEW BOOK ON 1950 STAMPS

Cataloging U.S. Commemorative Stamps: 1950
112 pp, hb, 2016 (APS member price \$19.99+shipping)
Extra illustrations of press sheets and die proofs, additional details, and much more — building upon *The American Philatelist* articles by Charles Posner.

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...including Maurice Burrus, whose name ranks among the most famous philatelists of all time. As a young man Burrus entered his family's tobacco business, which provided him the resources to assemble a collection which spanned the entire world and included countless rarities. It is estimated that a quarter of Ferrary's collection was purchased by Burrus.

Amongst the most important sections of Maurice Burrus's collection was his holding of early Hawaiian material, which included no fewer than 15 examples of the famed "Hawaiian Missionaries."

On the evening of May 27, 1963, the Maurice Burrus collection of Hawaii

realized in excess of \$103,000 (well over \$800,000 in 2016). The unique unused example of the 2c Missionary, one of the greatest rarities in all of philately, hammered for an astonishing \$41,000. With the sale of his Hawaiian collection through H.R. Harmer, Maurice Burrus joined the ranks of philatelists who have entrusted the firm with their world-class collections.

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The catalogue for H.R. Harmer's sale of Maurice Burrus's Hawaii collection



New Column Debuts

Stamp Classics to Showcase the World

Stamps issued prior to 1900 have always interested me, especially the ones attainable on a reasonable budget. Engraved designs, overprints, varieties — all icing on the cake when looking at early worldwide classic stamps.

This month we debut a new column called "Stamp Classics" written by an APS member in the United Kingdom, Joseph Iredale, who is 28 years old and has an excellent collection of worldwide stamps. After learning of his collecting interests over conversation, I thought it would be great to share his knowledge further.

The first column, starting on page 24, discusses the first five stamps of Thailand and we hope to explore the world moving forward, touching on areas that haven't recently been explored in the pages of *The American Philatelist*. If you have suggestions for future stamps you'd like to see highlighted, feel free to e-mail me at jbigalke@stamps.org.

APS Web Blog

In September, the American Philatelic Society launched a web blog publishing the latest information about the society, news about stamps from the United States and worldwide, and other hobby events. It can be found online at the URL <http://blog.stamps.org> or there is a newsfeed link off of the main stamps.org website.

You can also subscribe via the blog to receive e-mail notifications when a new post goes live. Recent discussions have featured new 2017 U.S. stamps and highlights of upcoming World Series of Philately stamp shows.

When new blog posts go online we also share them via our Facebook and Twitter sites. Some news stories have had a reach recently of nearly 20,000 people.

This issue of *The AP*, also showcases a number of other features, including interrupted mail in Alaska, the Civil War, and a number of new books and catalogs that have recently been published.

So far this year is off to a great start — keep on collecting!

Editor,
The American Philatelist



Early stamp of Thailand.



APS blog at <http://blog.stamps.org> that was launched in September by the American Philatelic Society.

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February 16 prior to Aripex

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EFOs and You: How Your Collection, Knowledge Base, and Exhibit Can All Benefit From Postal Blunders

with Wayne L. Youngblood

March 2 prior to AmeriStamp Expo

Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, Nevada

Ghosts of the Glory Trail: Nevada Revenue-Stamped Documents 1863–1873, a Geographic Analysis

with Michael Mahler

March 4 during AmeriStamp Expo

Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, Nevada



Western Expansion: As Illustrated Through Postal History

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Additional on-the-road courses to be announced! Check website for updates.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why Is Tagging Needed On Nonmachineable Stamp?

In the November issue of *The American Philatelist*, page 1260, Jeff Stage reminds us that oversized or square envelopes, "cannot pass through the automated Postal Service processing system and have to be hand-canceled." Because such envelopes are the reason for the issuance of the nonmachineable rate butterfly stamps, why do these stamps need tagging? If they can't be canceled by the automated equipment that detects tagging, isn't the application of tagging completely unnecessary?

Duncan Teague

Arlington, Tennessee

Editors note: While true, it's likely the stamp will also be used for many other rates, like the 2-ounce rate, and not for nonmachineable items. The tagging also serves as a security feature to prevent counterfeiting. And lastly, on this stamp, the Postal Service took a fun approach with the tagging with



United States nonmachineable rate butterfly stamp.

it only placed over the shape of the butterfly itself. The butterfly looks glossy in normal light because of the tagging.

Can Collectors of Different Sorts Successfully Unite?

In the November 2016 edition of *The American Philatelist*, the American Philatelic Society's energized and enthused executive director, Scott D. English, writing in his column complimented and commended the Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA) for its invitation and having

him participate in an effort to open communication and to explore collaboration between "the worlds of stamps and coins." Scott's commentary noted that "coin collecting world, like us [APS], is wrestling with the health of local shows and clubs."

Scott's theme was simple and candid: "Since we have the same issues, and confront the same difficulties, why not join and work together for solutions," and, as he amply stated, "it is not what you collect, it is that you collect." Collecting, that

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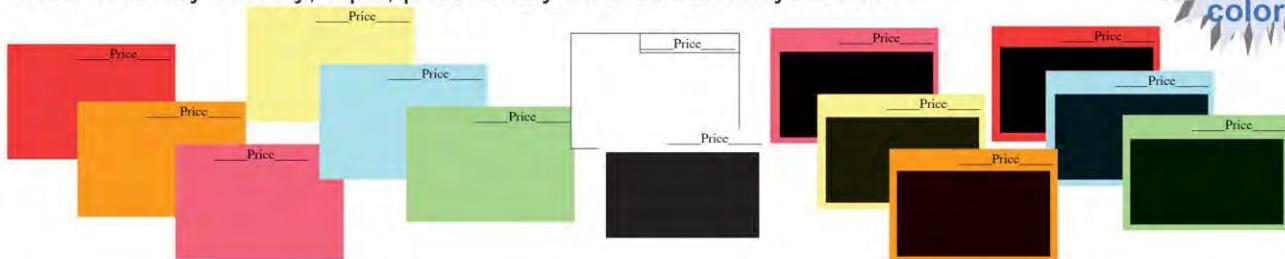


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102C (Blank) or 102CA, C colors	4¼x2¾"	3⁵/₈x2"	56.98	6.27	34.19	38.19
102CK or 102CAC Colors	4¼x2¾"	3⁵/₈x2"	61.73	6.79	37.04	41.04
104C (Blank) or 104CA, C colors	4⁷/₈x3¼"	4¼x2½"	71.24	7.84	42.74	48.53
104CK or 104CAC Colors	4⁷/₈x3¼"	4¼x2½"	80.74	8.88	48.44	54.03
106C (Blank) or 106CA, C colors	5¹/₂x3³/₈"	4⁷/₈x2⁵/₈"	82.62	9.09	49.57	55.07
106CK or 106CAC Colors	5¹/₂x3³/₈"	4⁷/₈x2⁵/₈"	90.22	9.92	54.13	59.63
107C (Blank) or 107CA, C colors	6x3¾"	5³/₈x2⁵/₈"	82.62	9.09	49.57	55.07
107CK or 107CAC Colors	6x3¾"	5³/₈x2⁵/₈"	90.22	9.92	54.13	59.63
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most universal passion, needs to unite us, not divide us.

On behalf of NCNA, its current President Fred G. van den Haak, plus Alexander B. "Xan" Chamberlain and James H. Laird, both primary benefactors, we thank Scott for his presence and participation, and we equally appreciate his efforts to advance and to enhance philately plus the whole world of collecting.

NCNA remains willing to fund Scott's return in a few years, and continue the dialogue.

Least it is overlooked, commendation and gratitude is acknowledged to the San Jose (California) Coin Club under the great leadership of Brian Jones for its organization and gathering in September that included (our guest), Scott.

As the legendary Helen Keller once remarked, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Michael S. Turrini

Vallejo, California

A Wee Bit More on Chic Sale

I am writing about the article, "The Power of One in Stamp Collecting," by Tom Horn in the October edition of *The American Philatelist*.

Charles (Chic) Sale (1885–1936) was a comedian, Vaudevillian, movie star, and author of *The Specialist*, a tongue-in-cheek treatise on fine points of outhouse construction. He first published *The Specialist* in 1929, and it is still in print (26th printing) 87 years later. Unfortunately, the American

Philatelic Research Library does not seem to have a copy of this compact 27-page text. A best-selling book in the 1930s, it became well established in popular culture, so much that "chicsale" became a euphemism for an outhouse, thus in Horn's story, Unkle Rube's reference after comparing the Peugeot on a Monaco stamp to an outhouse.

Thomas Bieniosek

Litchfield, Ohio

More on Pre-WWII Censoring

Stanley Sandler's letter in the October edition of *The American Philatelist* (pp. 1084–5; a follow-up to an article in the August edition), regarding the application of the rubber stamp "Supposed to ..." warning is essentially correct that it was under the control of the postal service. One notable exception is where the Post Office station was located in a foreign country.

The Post Office in Cali, Colombia directed the routing of airmail from South America to: either flights to Panama and the West Coast, or to Pan-Am FAM 5 for the East Coast. FAM 5 passed through Kingston, Jamaica, and the imperial censors were vigilant to review the contents of letters bearing such markings. One Brazilian bank cover had the rubber stamp applied in Columbia, but when opened in Jamaica, the British censor obliterated the marking since the letter did not contain financial material, and was addressed to Chubb Corporation, a maker of vault doors, related to finance, but not a financial institution. This was a means for the United States to censor without censoring, since it was the British who did so. [The United States] did not begin to censor until late 1941.

Ray Murphy

St. Petersburg, Florida

Hungary's Dove Stamps; A True Numbers Challenge

As an avid collector and exhibitor of Hungary's hyperinflation 1945–1946 postal history, when I saw the 500,000 billió Pengő Dove stamp on the cover of the October issue of *The American Philatelist*, it peaked my interest and I could not wait to read Thomas W. Broadhead's very interesting article.

There are honest misconceptions about the Dove issue and I would like to clarify the facts. Those were turbulent times in Hungary and the hyperinflation reached unmanageable proportions for the postal department. Here

is a quote from the postal service's official publication, the *Postai Rendeletek Tára* (The Gazette of Postal Regulations), of June 24, 1946 (No. 235.971/3):

"From now on when writing the milliard numbers, for example 10,000,000,000 instead

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Stanley H. Smith
Shelburne, Vt.



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Laurence Davis
Evanston, Illinois

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Chuck Whitney
Rockport, Texas

"I would recommend Dr. Bob with any transaction involving philatelic material. He deals in a very up front manner and truly pays a fair price. I was reluctant to sell my stamp collection, but he made the whole process so enjoyable and his offer even exceeded what I thought I would receive. Thanks, Dr. Bob!!"

Brad Peterson
Waterloo, Iowa

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write 10md etc. also, instead of 1,000 md just write 1 bl for billió.”

Some confusion exists on the Hungarian translation of numbers. The terminology for large numbers at that time was different in Hungary and in England than in the United States.

[As an example, 1,000,000 was “1 millio” in Hungary and a compatible “1 million” in the United States. However, 1,000,000,000 was “1 milliard” in Hungary and “1 billion” in the United States. After that, the sequential rise was billio for Hungary; trillion for the United States.]

To set the stage for the Dove stamps, the stamps with “millions,” Scott 738–745, were followed with the “milpengő” (millio Pengő), Scott 746–756, and that followed with the “milliards,” Scott 757–759, which set was issued on June 27, 1946, in the 21st rate period. But, by July 1, only four days later, the new 22nd rate period started with a new rate schedule and the required postage rates were in billions (with 12 zeroes) and the Dove stamps were ordered to be printed.

The Dove stamps, Scott 760–774, were issued on six different days, as the printers completed them:

July 3, (on the last day of the 22nd rate period) the 1, 2, 5, and 10 billio Pengő denominations;

July 5, (the second day of 23rd rate period) the 20 billio Pengő denomination;

July 7, (the last day of 23rd rate period) the 50, 100, 200,

and 500 billio Pengo denominations;

July 10, (the third day of 24th rate period) the 1,000 billio Pengo denomination;

July 11, (on the fourth and the last day of the 24th rate period) the 100,000 billio Pengo denomination was issued.

This last stamp was valid for one day only because on July 12, 1946, Regulation No. 239.300/4 declared: “Beginning with July 12, 1946, on the first day of 25th rate period changing the Postal Department’s official monetary unit from pengős to adópengős (tax pengős) and all postal remittances can be accepted only in adópengős (tax pengős). No pengő denominated stamps can be accepted anymore for payment of any postal charges.”

New stamps were ordered in adópengő denominations.

On July 13 (the second day of the 25th rate period, with adópengő valuations) the printers delivered the 10,000,

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50,000, and 500,000 millio Pengö denomination Dove stamps. These three stamps (Scott 771–773) were no longer valid for postage and to date no valid postal use has been recorded. These three denominations were later sold to collectors by the postal department's philatelic arm, Philatelia Hungarica.

The 500,000 billio pengo Dove stamp featured in Broadhead's article was not the largest denominated stamp issued during Hungary's hyperinflation. That dubious honor goes to Scott 784, the 5 millio adópengö definitive issued on July 26, 1946, during the 27th rate period. When translated from adópengö to pengö: 10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000. In the United States, it reads 10 octillion!

All the above information and more in detail can be found in my book: *The Hungarian Hyperinflation of 1945–1946* (2003), published by the Collectors Club of Chicago.

Robert B. Morgan

Los Angeles, California

Corrections

- The mailing address of a cover shown in the "When the Post Office Branched Out" article on Page 1210 of the November's edition was listed incorrectly. The cover was sent to Raymertown (not Raghertown), New York.

- An editing error placed Waxahachie, Texas in the wrong location in November's Philatelic Happenings column. Waxahachie is south of Dallas.

- The November issue article about the new U.S. Star Trek stamps noted that actor Walter Koenig was at the first-day ceremony in New York City.

Koenig played the character Chekov in the original series. One reference to the character gave his first name as Anton (as in the playwright); the Star Trek character's name was Pavel.

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Jan., Feb., Mar.	\$36.75	\$44.25	\$51.75	\$20.00	\$36.75
Apr., May, Jun.	\$25.50	\$30.00	\$35.50	\$14.25	\$25.50
Jul., Aug., Sept.	\$14.25	\$16.75	\$19.25	\$8.75	\$14.25

¹ Join October–December & membership is valid through December of the following year.

² Join January–September & membership is valid through December of the current year.

³ Associate Membership — A spouse or dependent under 18 of a current regular APS member living at the same address may apply for Associate Membership that does not include a separate additional magazine subscription.

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[OUR STORY]



BY SCOTT ENGLISH executive director
scott@stamps.org

Philatelist Leaves Legacy to Embrace Barbara Mueller Taught and Encouraged Us to Move Forward

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we know we could be." Many of us are fortunate to have someone like this in our lives that have pushed, coached, and cheered us to better things. In November, the stamp collecting world lost someone who embodied that for so many people individually and the hobby at large, Barbara Mueller. She joined the American Philatelic Society in 1944, not just as a dedicated collector, but one who loved to share knowledge with others. In 1956, Barbara authored *Common Sense Philately*, a book that made the hobby accessible to collectors just beginning



Barbara Mueller.

their journey or those who needed some encouragement along the way. That same year, Barbara earned the Luff Award, the highest recognition for a member of the APS, for Distinguished Philatelic Research.

One could have easily stopped or slowed down, but Barbara not only kept going, her impact to individual collectors and the hobby continued to grow with it.

"Barbara is, and was, in a class by herself. Period," former APS Vice President Steven Rod shared with me. "What a role model! What a source of inspiration! What passion! What commitment! What fun! What laughter! What scholarship!" That enthusiasm



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does not belong to Steven alone. In 2007, the United States Stamp Society began sponsoring the Barbara R. Mueller Award to recognize the best article published each year in *The American Philatelist*. The aim of the award is to encourage our members to embrace that same love of research and sharing knowledge by promoting new research or previous works with new and interesting ideas that are relevant to today's collectors.

Unfortunately, I never had the pleasure of meeting Barbara personally, so those who did know her could truly do her justice. There will be countless tributes to Barbara in our journal and many others. These tributes are a reflection of the meaningful life she lived and the generous spirit of sharing her passion with others. Our hobby is at its best when we can take what we know and share it with others, and hopefully, all of us can take a moment to do just that this year.

Meeting the Education Challenge

In this column, a year ago, I discussed the Education Challenge and how necessary it was to give our members a chance to learn from some of the best in the hobby. With Stamps Teach, Young Stamp Collectors of America, and the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship, we have a very active set of programs aimed at young collectors.

Our goal was to make our adult programs just as active and we asked for help, and we had a great response. You will see some of the education offerings we are planning this year, both at shows and here at the American Philatelic Center.

On the Road Courses

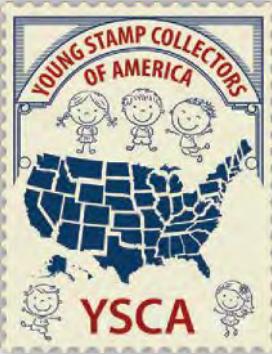
In the Strategic Plan, our goal for 2017 was to offer five courses in hopes of attracting at least 80 participants. On the Road courses take place at, or in connection with, stamp shows around the country or are sponsored regionally by local chapters.

So far, we have seven courses planned for this year and several others possible. For these classes to be successful, we need three things: local chapters to support the class, instructors willing to give of their time, and eager students



ready to sign up. Thanks to the call to action, we have the first two taken care of and now we are looking for the students.

We invite you to go to our website, stamps.org/on-the-road-courses, and look at the great courses being offered and find one that catches your interest. You will not only get a chance to learn more about the hobby, but will be able to



Three of the APS programs aimed at young collectors.

visit one of our great World Series of Philately shows and meet fellow collectors from around the country. We welcome all collectors, but one of the great APS member benefits is getting a significant discount on the class. Please join us for one of these courses and invite a friend. If you have ideas for a great location or topic for an On the Road course, please contact our Education Department at education@stamps.org.

Summer Seminar on Philately

If you've been to a Summer Seminar in Bellefonte before, you've met some of the most knowledgeable collectors as both instructors and participants. Summer Seminar is a week-long series of classes on various topics for anyone looking to learn something new or brush up on a topic they love. While learning and talking about philately is the reason to come, you will meet an enthusiastic group of fellow collectors who add a great social experience for collectors and non-collectors.

Now that our new library is completed, you can also get a chance to walk and search the stacks of the world's largest philatelic library and meet our fantastic staff ready to help with the most obscure questions.

We also have tours, circuit books waiting, and great finds in the Stamp and Cover Store, thanks to the hardest working volunteer in Bellefonte, Richard Nakles.

Mary-Anne Penner, director of Stamp Services for the U.S. Postal Service, was kind enough to join us last year and has already committed to coming to speak to our guests again this year and answer questions.

One of our students last year commented, "Being here is like Disney World for Stamp Collectors!" I can tell you the June weather in Bellefonte is much more agreeable than Orlando, so hopefully, you'll join us. Enrollment has opened and you can see the courses and instructors in this issue and online at stamps.org/summer-seminar. Make your plans today.

Ambassadors Program Launched

In my September column, I introduced the Ambassadors program, a new pilot program to strengthen the grassroots of the hobby. In November, Tom Horn, formerly the director of Circuit Sales, moved over to become director of Special Projects, focusing on getting the Ambassadors program launched. Our goal was to start with a pilot program of 25 Ambassadors to create a network and develop best practices. Thanks to some enthusiastic chapters and Tom's work, we have Ambassadors for 26 chapters (a couple of clubs have elected two Ambassadors). While we thought 25 chapters were ambitious, we may not be able to contain the leadership

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173 [399] XF/LH APS cert.....	\$175.00
249-51A +275 [476-8c] XF/NH Fresh.....	\$325.00
251 var [478] VF/NH Broken Stem.....	\$240.00
286-89 [509-11] NH.....	\$65.00
J34-38 [D35-39] NH.....	\$45.00
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226 var/Mi 1 1935 "This war is a Jewish war" € 170.00.....	\$150.00
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125 a + b [171,171a,171b] NH 3 shades 125 Plate #.....	\$27.00
149-57a [100-13] LH set of 17.....	\$60.00
Bahrain	
20-37 [20/37 (1b)] LH-NH 20, 34-6 LH rest NH.....	\$500.00
20-1,23-27,30,32-7 [20/26] Used missing 9p, 4p # 12 (CV £13.00).....	\$170.00
38-51 (13) [38/50] LH/NH 38-40, 43-6 LH.....	\$60.00
Barbados	
145 var [206w] VF/NH inverted wmk.....	\$35.00
194b [249] VF-NH 1d Scar.P 13 1/2 x 13.....	\$195.00
216-27 [271-82] VF/Used.....	\$45.00
Bermuda	
125a var [118] LH Green, red & yellow.....	\$60.00
125a var [118a] NH Pale green, red, yellow.....	\$195.00
125a var [118b] NH P14 1/4, Top margin pos.....	\$160.00
125a var [118d] LH P 14 Pale blue-green on pale yellow HPF 54.....	\$50.00
126a [119] LH Green on deep lake.....	\$175.00
126 var [119b] NH P 14 1/4 Line Yellow green/carmine.....	\$295.00
127 var [120] LH P 14 Deep grey on brown/orange.....	\$195.00
127 var [120c] Very LH P14 Ordinary paper, Broken Scroll LR.....	\$825.00
127b [120d] LH P14 Yellow.....	\$435.00
128a [121] NH APS Cert.....	\$160.00
128b [121b] NH P14 Pale purple/pale red.....	\$55.00



128a var [121CF] NH P14 Gash in chin, Reddish purple on pale red-Bf17, HPF17	\$1,000.00
British Guiana	
230-41 [308a-19] NH All original perf except 3 R	\$75.00
236a, 38-41a [314a,16b,17a,18a, 19n] NH Margin examples	\$425.00
Brunei	
62-75 [79-92] NH.....	\$85.00
83-93 + var [100-13 + 5'a"] NH Shades	\$85.00
Burma	
18A-33 [18b-33] LH + few extra shades.....	\$95.00
043-55 [044/53] LH 1 / 2a & 4a NH.....	\$90.00
Canada	
60 NH APS Cert for blk.....	\$400.00
61 NH/XN.....	\$1,850.00
62 LH-Fresh.....	\$700.00
65 XF/LH.....	\$900.00
89-95 F/VF- Used....\$80.00	\$80.00
158 XF/Used.....	\$50.00
Cape of Good Hope	
6a F+/Used Dark green.....	\$95.00
Ceylon	
289A [R10] NH Revenue.....	\$100.00
67-71 [78-80] LH.....	\$235.00
124A-6C [121-6] NH Set of 6 cheapest wmk.....	\$375.00
126c [136w] NH inv. wmk.....	\$220.00
Egypt	
103 [122] LH Bottom Margin Single.....	\$140.00
224 [27] XF/NH Superb Bottom Margin Single.....	\$195.00
Falkland Islands	
6b [12] LH APS Cert.....	\$150.00
25a [46b] LH APS Cert.....	\$195.00
44a LH APS Cert. 1 Sh. Prussian Blue.....	\$225.00
94a [161b] LH Indigo-blue on pale yellow brown.....	\$495.00
95a [162] NH Orange-brown.....	\$110.00
95c [162c] LH Deep reddish orange.....	\$290.00
107-20 [172-85] NH.....	\$105.00
11I-8 var [69-16] NH exc 2 1/2d + Dot in "T"!.....	\$75.00
G1-8s [G2-8s] F-VF/NH Perfin "Specimen" Rare.....	\$750.00
Fiji	
117-131B +132-35 [249-66b] NH set of 22.....	\$125.00
131A, 131B [266a-b] NH.....	\$60.00
Gibraltar	
109b [123a] LH P 13 1/2 short perf.....	\$75.00
110d [124ab] LH P13 1/2 sideways wmk.....	\$350.00
111a [125a] NH P 14.....	\$100.00
113a [126a] NH P 14.....	\$90.00
Gold Coast	
115a-29a [120a-28a, 130a-31] LH P 12.....	\$125.00
126a [131] NH P 12.....	\$60.00
Grenada	
142 var [163a] LH P14 Steel blue Narrow.....	\$75.00
142a [163c] LH P 12 1943 ex Gibbons.....	\$375.00
Hong Kong	
103 VF/LH.....	\$160.00
154-66a [140-62] Set of 23, NH exc 14c, 150, 159-60-P 14 Most orig. shades.....	\$750.00
155a NH 1938 1/2 pane of 60 w/ Control #, Pos.1, Short "R" Row 3. Some gum toning often seen on \$1. value £180, + (8.50 x 59).....	\$225.00
159 var [146a] NH Broken character in pr.....	\$95.00
165A shade 160a LH Yellowish-green.....	\$225.00
128a [121] NH APS Cert.....	\$160.00
128b [121b] NH P14 Pale purple/pale red.....	\$55.00
166 [161] Used.....	\$70.00
166a var [162a] LH Deep bright lilac.....	\$110.00
India	
150-67 [247-64] NH.....	\$495.00
163 var [260] NH Missing Pearl top Value of tablet.....	\$65.00
203-06 [305-08] NH Gandhi -206 really tiny gum bend.....	\$200.00
206 [308] NH Really tiny gum bend.....	\$170.00
India-Chamba	
89-100 [108-28] NH exc 1/2 LH-2 centered left.....	\$140.00
India-Gwalior	
71-84 [105-6, 108, 110-17] NH 1R, 3R, 10R-25R somewhat darker gum 2/3rd set.....	\$350.00
India-Jind	
133-50 [109-26] NH 10-20,124-25, LH 121-3,126 =80% value.....	\$585.00
164 [136] XF/NH.....	\$70.00
055-60 [066-71] LH Set to 5 Rupee.....	\$195.00
061 [072] NH.....	\$450.00
062-75 [073-86] LH exc 10 R NH=50% value.....	\$250.00
India-Nabha	
69-86 [77-94] NH/LH 77,79-80 LH = £30.00.....	\$800.00
87-90 [95-98] NH.....	\$140.00
India-Patiala	
80-97 [80-97] Mostly LH.....	\$425.00
Jordan-Palestine	
N8-11 [P7a-10a] LH Inv. Ovp't.....	\$110.00
N8, N10 [P7b/P9b] NH Double ovpt'.....	\$60.00
NJ1a,3a, 5a-6 [PD17-21] LH.....	\$120.00
NJ2 [PD2b] NH Blk of 4 Double ovpt'.....	\$175.00
Kuwait	
45-56 [36-50] LH exc 2R & 5R NH.....	\$125.00
57 var [51w] NH inv. wmk.....	\$90.00
Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika	
80 var [145ac] LH/Fine Mountain retouch.....	\$625.00
85a [150] LH P 11 3/4 x 13.....	\$200.00
89 var [154] NH Block of 4 UR - crescent moon flap.....	\$100.00
Kuwait	
45-56 [36-50] LH exc 2R & 5R NH.....	\$125.00
57 var [51w] NH inv. wmk.....	\$90.00
Leeward Islands	
83 [80] XF/NH.....	\$295.00
103/15A LH 1938 printings exc.....	
105a 2p.....	\$325.00
111, 111a, 111 var [10, 11b, 11a] NH 3-shades all.....	\$75.00
114a [113] LH 1938 printing.....	\$80.00
115a [114] NH 1938 printing.....	\$200.00
Malaya-Kedah	
46-54 [60-68] LH.....	\$125.00
Malaya-Kelantan	
29-41 [40-52] NH \$1.00 corner crease cv \$40.00.....	\$100.00
42 [53] NH.....	\$260.00
43 [54] LH \$5.00 Key Value.....	\$595.00
Malaya-Pahang	
50-70 [53-73] NH set of 25.....	\$75.00
Malaya-Selangor	
72-73 + 5 unissued [6-87 + \$5 unissued] NH Slightly toned gum.....	\$150.00
80-100 + 95 shade [90-110 + 94+] NH exc 5.00 = £48.00.....	\$60.00
Malaya-Trengganu	
23,28,38 [29,34,44] NH 3c, 8c, \$5 = \$75 as LH ~\$900.00 NH.....	\$625.00
26var [32a] LH Rare shade, nat.inking law left of "revenue".....	\$120.00
38 [44] XF/LH.....	\$375.00
Mauritius	
211-22 var [252-63] NH High values + 25b shade are chalky paper 3 low values LH.....	\$195.00
211-22 var [252-63 + 255a] LH 1938 set High values chalky paper.....	\$125.00
211a,214a,215a-16a [252a,255b,256c, 257a] NH P 15 x 14 comp. set of 4	\$120.00
Montserrat	
21 [23] NH.....	\$115.00
31 [33] NH.....	\$115.00
92a-10a [101-110] LH P 13 set	\$90.00
Nauru	
17a-30 [26B-39B] LH Shiny white paper	\$125.00
New Guinea	
C1-12 [137-48] LH-C2,3 & 10-rest NH.....	\$125.00
C4-4 NH.....	\$200.00
C46-59 [212-25] VF/LH.....	\$400.00
New Hebrides	
J6-10 [D6-10] NH.....	\$135.00
New Zealand	
203-7,9-13,15-16 [577-90 w/o 3d+L1] NH.....	\$60.00
244 [630] NH single wmk.....	\$69.00
078-86 [0141-51] NH.....	\$95.00
081-84 a [0149-6+a] NH Setenant pairs.....	\$300.00
Niue	
13c [15] H 1 Sh Orange Red Surcharge Error Tahoe BPA Cert.....	\$25.00
[66w] LH Inverted overprint.....	\$80.00
70 var LH Blk 4 narrow "E" George.....	\$375.00
89A-D [83-86] NH.....	\$70.00
North Borneo	
205-07 [315-17] XF/NH \$1-\$5	
Key Values.....	\$675.00
208-22 [320-34] NH exc \$2.....	\$160.00
244-59 [356-70] LH/NH 4c & \$2 NH 40% val.....	\$65.00
244-59 [356-70] VF/Used.....	\$95.00
Northern Rhodesia	
25-45 [25-45] LH/NH set of 21 + 12 extra listed & unlisted shades.....	\$140.00
25-45 [25-30,32-5,37-45] Used missing 31,36.....	\$90.00
Nyasaland	
66 var [142] LH Blue green shade.....	\$150.00
68-81 [144-57] NH.....	\$65.00
J1-5 [D1-5] NH.....	\$62.50
Oman-Eastern Arabia	
41a var [41a] NH Type II overprint.....	\$250.00
Pakistan	
21-45 [21-45] LH winged set of 21 + 12 3d+L1 original margin.....	\$100.00
251 [251] NH.....	\$36.00
Sudan	
63-78 [81-95] NH LH 2p, 3p, 5p, 10p LH = £12.50.....	\$150.00
79-94 [96-11] Very LH.....	\$40.00
036-43 [051-58] LH.....	\$48.00
Swaziland	
27-37 [28a-38a+] LH + Shades + P 14 varieties.....	\$110.00
27-37 var [28-34,36-38] LH P 13 x 1 no 1/.....	\$100.00
Tonga	
31b [34a] H scarce P 11.....	\$260.00
50-51 [52-53] Very LH.....	\$47.50
Transvaal	
232-4 Used Schweizer Reneke- 233-34 on piece-Scarce!.....	\$800.00
Trinidad & Tobago	
50-61 [246-56] LH -some NH.....	\$38.00
50-61 [246-56] NH exc #59, (254) cv \$10.00.....	\$65.00
Tristan Da Cunha	
#1-12 [#1-12] LH-NH 4-10 NH.....	\$50.00
#1-12 [#1-12] VF/Used.....	\$55.00
Turks & Caicos	
78-89 + [194-205+] LH + 4 shade varieties.....	\$75.00
111-17 [228-33] NH 6d - 10/.....	\$45.00
MR1a NH/LH Blk of 4 Top 2 stps H, toned gum.....	\$300.00
St. Kitts	
79-83,8-9,8-8a [68-76] LH P13x12 original set to 5/1.....	\$80.00
84 var [73e] NH P 14 Chalky Deep purple/scarlet.....	\$60.00
St. Lucia	
110-26 [128-41] LH/NH inc some better NH + Perf & Shade varieties.....	\$80.00
Samoa	
176-77 var [194a-b] LH Wiggins paper.....	\$125.00
195-98 [207-10] LH exc 198 NH.....	\$75.00
St. Vincent	
1+1a [4+4a] VF/LH Strip of 3-no period on center stamp.....	\$125.00
Prince Edward Island	
1H-Rare! Very Fresh.....	\$500.00
St. Kitts	
79-83,8-9,8-8a [68-76] LH P13x12 original set to 5/1.....	\$80.00
84 var [73e] NH P 14 Chalky Deep purple/scarlet.....	\$60.00
Virgin Islands	
5a [15] H Lake or Rose-Dist, OG.....	\$25.00
42d, 42dc H-blk of 4 UL stamp-long tailed "S".....	\$700.00
76-85 [110a-19a] LH mostly-Ordinary paper.....	\$30.00
76, 78, 80, 83,85-87var [110,12,14,17, 19-21] LH Chalky paper.....	\$60.00

TERMS OF SALE: Condition: Stamps are accurately described condition and priced in U.S. Payment Methods: US\$; cash, check, money order, bank transfer, Paypal, credit cards (Visa, M/C AmEx, Disc - please add 3 or 4 digit security code). Sales Tax: All orders shipped to New York addresses must add sales tax. Please indicate county of residence. Shipping/Handling Chart: U.S. under \$100, \$3.50; U.S. \$100-\$499.99, \$6.50; U.S. \$500 and over, \$8.50; Foreign, under \$100, \$5.50; Foreign \$100-\$499.99, \$15.00; Foreign \$500 and over, \$19.50. Special shipping requests such as UPS, FedEx, EMS may be extra. Alternates: Please include alternate selections when possible to avoid refunds.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED! Any item that does not please you may be returned for a prompt refund or exchange.

we are seeing from across the country.

Here are the first Ambassadors as of this printing:

Austin Philatelic Club, Joe Sedivy

Chicago Philatelic Society, Melanie Rogers

Collectors Club of Akron, Ken Nilsestuen

Collectors Club of Chicago, Melanie Rogers

Collectors Club of San Francisco, Stephen Schumann

Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Matt Liebson

Germany Philatelic Society, Chap. 5, David Witkosky

Great Bay Stamp Club, Betty Jane Meulenbroek

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society, Jeffrey Boyarsky

Indiana Stamp Club, Robert Zeigler

Knoxville Philatelic Society, James Pettway and Tom Broadhead

Mid-Cities Stamp Club, Ray Cartier and Michael A. Smith

Nevada Stamp Study Society, Paul D. Glass

N.S. Savannah Chapter No. 109, USCS, Arthur J. Cole

Oregon Stamp Society, Michael Bloom

Ozark Mountain Stamp Club, Don Chenevert

Rochester Philatelic Association, Tom Fortunato

San Jose Stamp Club, Brian Jones

Scandinavian Collectors Club, Chap. 4, Ron Collin

Sequoia Stamp Club, Kristin Patterson

Shenandoah Valley Stamp Club, Gretchen Moody

Southern Nevada Stamp Club, James E. Capelle

Tri-County Stamp Club of Central New York, Steve McCarthy

Tuscora Stamp Club, Floyd Swinderman

Westfield Stamp Club, Henry A. Laessig and Nick Lombardi

Wyoming Valley Stamp Club, Tom Bowman

Tom is already developing a regular newsletter to share with the Ambassadors so they have information to share with fellow club members about what's happening at the APS. He has also slated several visits to shows and is organizing Town Hall meetings with the local Ambassadors to give APS members a chance to share their thoughts on growing the hobby and our membership and improving the way we do business.

Several of the Ambassadors have also volunteered to organize Town Hall meetings to be our eyes and ears in places we can't visit this year. Of course, Tom and the Ambassadors will also be meeting collectors who have not yet joined the APS and recruiting them to join us.

There will be more updates in future issues, because the response has been overwhelming. If you would like more information about the Ambassadors program, you can contact Tom at twhorn@stamps.org or call him at 814-933-3803, ext. 227.

As always, thank you for the letters, calls, and e-mails sharing your thoughts on the APS and the hobby. I try to respond to each one as quickly as possible and hope you will continue to reach out to me at scott@stamps.org or 814-933-3814. Traditional mail is also welcome at 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

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New United Kingdom Stamp Auction Record

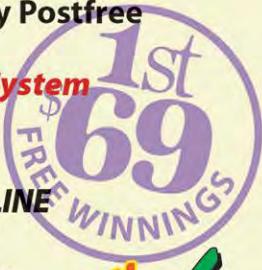
The Results for UPA #63 Auction 11th October 2016:

Different bidders:	NEW UK RECORD	2,311
Lots Sold:		9,690
% Successful bidders:		90%
New Bidders: (<i>First \$69 Free</i>)		268
Postfree qualified bidders (<i>Excl Heavy lots</i>)		2,307
Packages despatched: (<i>Including unsold lot sales</i>)		2,324
Bidders from different Countries:		57

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The First Stamps of Thailand

From Provisionals to the First Five Issues



Thailand King Chulalongkorn stamps (Scott 1-5).

Thailand, once known as Siam, is an historic anomaly among the nations of Southeast Asia and that is directly reflected by its postal history.

Thailand, in the center of the Indochina peninsula, is the only country in that region that was never colonized by a modern European power. This is due in large part to approximately four centuries of strong and savvy ruling monarchs and families that kept Thailand as a type of buffer to neighbors such as Myanmar (Burma), Laos, Cambodia, and Malaysia.

That means, though, that there was little modern influence on the postal system, postal history, and thus, philately, from those early years. Most correspondence was conducted by royalty with conveyance showing seals and markings. When foreign powers did establish headquarters there, they made do. For example, in the 1860s, British mail was conveyed from the Consulate with the use of stamps from India, and later, the Straits Settlements (1867 to 1882).

King Chulalongkorn (1853–1910) — also known as King Rama V — was 16 in 1868 when his father died. A Regency ruled until he became of age. The future king took advantage of the interim time to learn about Western civilization and to begin

the process of modernization, which included the development of a postal system.

The first stamps from Siam were provisionals, including some created by Prince Bhanurangsi (1859–1928), the king's younger brother, and 10 other princes, who printed a newspaper called *The Court* (later known as *Official News*).

In 1875, two years after the king's coronation, the group oversaw the printing of Siam's first provisional stamps, which are known as the Palace Locals and were printed by the newspaper in Bangkok. The design features the royal's portrait re-created from the newspaper's masthead. They were intended for use on newspapers and by letters from palace schools, and could be carried by messengers who carried official news.

The adhesive stamps, known as "tickets," were denominated at 1 att, feature rough perforations, and are of varying size on various colored papers. There were two types, the first with the words

"Rising P" in English in the lower part of the oval. On Type 2, the portrait was modified, the words "one att" in Thai script were added above the image, and the Thai words "Payment for Delivery" beneath. The English letters "B" and "P" are on



Two Palace Local stamps from 1875–1876. Images courtesy Pre-National Stamps and Early Stamps of King Chulalongkorn's Reign (left) and The Prakaipet Indhusophon Collection of Siam (right).

Issue Date: August 4, 1883

1917 Mint/Used Set Value:
\$130 mint, \$180 used

2017 Mint/Used Set Value:
\$125.50 mint, \$118 used

Hard to Find?:
(scale of 1 easy and 5 difficult)



On StampStore.org? Yes

Paper and Format:
Unwatermarked paper in sheets of 80

Quantity:
500,000 of each stamp

Printer:
Waterlow & Sons Ltd.

Designer:
William Ridgeway

Specialty Societies:
Society for Thai Philately
APS #AF0078

Journal: Thai Philately; 3 times yearly.

Dues: Cyber=\$10.

Purpose: To promote the study of the stamps and postal history of Thailand (Siam).

Contact: H. R. Blakeney,
P.O. Box 950686, Oklahoma
City, OK 73195
E-mail: hrblake@gmail.
com

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the left and right sides of the oval, respectively. After being served by these, and a few other provisionals — including a revenue stamp depicting the king's monogram — and stamps adapted from the British Empire, the Siam government in 1881 sought to establish a local post office in Bangkok. The king appointed his younger brother, Prince Bhanurangsi, who is known as the founder of the Thai postal service. H.A. Gardner, the honorary British postmaster, highlighted the need for the retention of revenue for postage from mail sent to foreign countries. This resulted in Straits Settlements issues given an overprint of "B" for Bangkok (in use from September 1, 1882 to July 1, 1885).

After a series of essays by Waterlow & Sons Ltd., the left-facing profile portrait of King Chulalongkorn within a frame was chosen and issued August 4, 1883. The stamp was designed by William Ridgeway and printed on unwa-



Thai numeral for "1" inside the circle of the four corners of the 1 att stamp.

termarked paper in sheets of 80. A total of 500,000 of each denomination were printed. A sixth issue, a 1 fuang red, was prepared but unissued, reportedly due to its lateness in printing.

Here is the technical review of the first five stamps (Scott 1-5):

- 1 solot (indigo), 1 att (rose carmine), 1 sio (deep rose to scarlet vermillion). All are 20 millimeters horizontal and 25½mm vertical, with the Thai numeral for 1 in the four corners of the design with a top central oval stating the denomination. One solot equals ½ att; 1 sio equals 2 atts. The 2017 Scott *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* notes three types of the No. 1 (1 solot).

- 1 sik (bistre brown and cinnamon).

It is 18mm horizontal by 22mm vertical and has its denomination in text on the scroll at the bottom of the stamp. One sik equals 4 atts.

- 1 salung (brown-ochre; brown-orange). It is 22½mm horizontal and 27mm vertical. It has its denomination on a tablet toward the top of the stamp. 1 salung equals 16 atts on a brown-ochre stamp; or 12 atts on a brown-orange stamp. The brown-ochre was issued first and replaced by brown-orange when the rate changed in 1885.

Additionally, the 1-solot design was used for the first pre-paid postcard rate of ½ att. From 1885 to 1887, it was overprinted in red (Type II) and exists in black and is unissued, with five varieties of the "1 tical." The series of April 1, 1887 brought a new portrait design and a cost

Specialized Catalog for Reference:

130 Years of Thai Postage Stamps, 1883–1983, plus supplements (2013), published in four softcover volumes by Thailand Post, in Thai and English. First three volumes — "1883–1983" (335 pp.), "1983–2003" (535 pp.), "2003–2013" (383 pp.) — present Thai postage stamps chronologically with full color images, plus details, including first day of issue, stamp and sheet sizes, printing process, printer, and designer. Uses unique numbering system, so unlike Scott, the unissued 1-fuang red of 1883 is No. 5 and the 1-salung is No. 6 (5 in Scott). Volume 4 is "Creation of Timeless Legends" (230 pp.), fully color illustrated, a coffee-table style book with philatelic and historical background information, milestones, plus bibliography.

saving of a radically smaller stamp.

Resources

Stamps of the Siamese Kings, 1876–1948 (2003), by Michael A. Jones. Published by Silkworm Books, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

The Prakaipet Indhusophon Collection of Siam (1989), by the author, Bangkok, Thailand.

"Early Uncatalogued Stamps of Thailand," EBAY website of franklystamps2000, www.ebay.com/gds/Early-Uncatalogued-Stamps-of-Thailand-/1000000002462874/g.html.

The Postage Stamps of Siam to 1940 (1980), by Richard Frajola, Postilion Publications, Southland, Michigan.

The Author

Joseph Iredale is a 28-year-old collector of world classics, Spanish American War U.S. Mail, postmarks of Sardinia, and more. He lives in the United Kingdom and is a partner at Addisson Bryden & Co.

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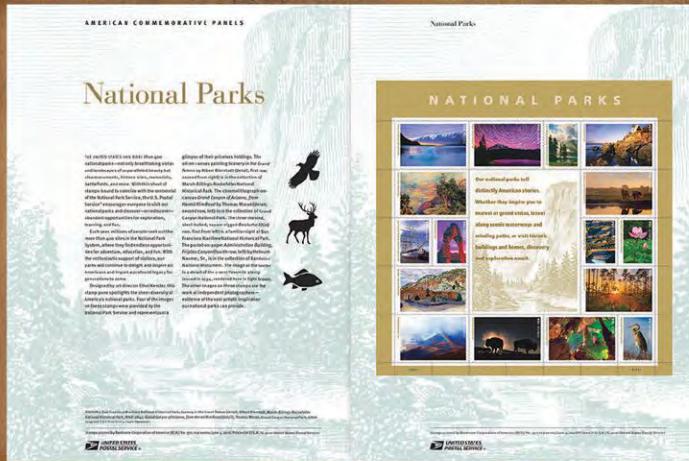
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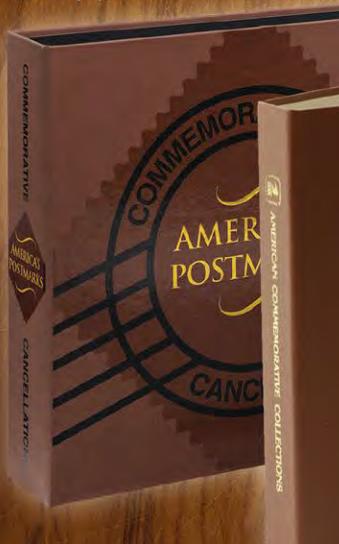
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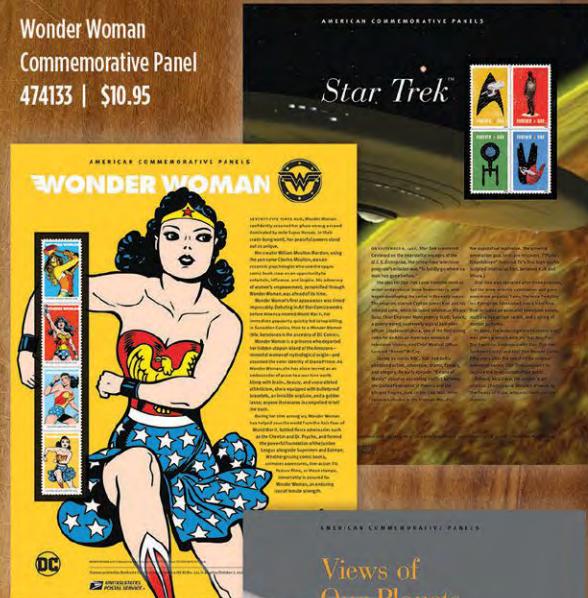


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A Little Something Extra On That Cover

Private Auxiliary Markings on Covers Come in Many Forms

During the last couple of months we've examined several types of private (non-postal) auxiliary markings, including instructional ones used to aid mail handling and transport, and those used for explaining why a mail piece wasn't deliverable as planned. This month, we'll close with a number of interesting internal company markings, general (which can include promotional) and propaganda markings, some of which can be offensive. In both cases, these markings can either stand alone as interesting forms of postal history or can actually aid understanding a mailpiece.

Keeping in mind that every auxiliary marking exists for a reason (not always for the purpose of moving the mail), it's sometimes easy to mistake an internal company marking for one related to postal purposes. I remember several years ago encountering a number of covers marked "Test Mail," which referred specifically to "testimonial" letters for a hernia device — not what we envision when we think of test mail! Similarly, the somewhat ragged cover shown [Figure 1] bears a rubber-stamped marking that reads "This Let-

ter Will be Held Until Nov 30," which could be confusing if one is thinking of it as a postal marking. The cover was mailed locally in St. Louis, Missouri on November 24, 1907. In this case, the letter mailed to the *Post Dispatch* newspaper was in answer to an ad.

It and several others in the same correspondence with similar markings revealed that they had been marked by the newspaper, not by the post office.

An early example of a private filing auxiliary marking (representative of thousands of others) is shown on an 1876 postal card [Figure 2]. The card, mailed July 16, 1876, from Ipswich, Illinois (with an unusual purple postmark) is able to be dated only because of the county clerk marking, because no other year date appears on either side of the card.

Others simply add visual interest to an item, such as the 1941 example of a postcard to Blatz Brew-



Figure 2. Many types of private auxiliary markings relate nothing more than a correspondence filing date that — in this case — allows proper dating of the postal card.

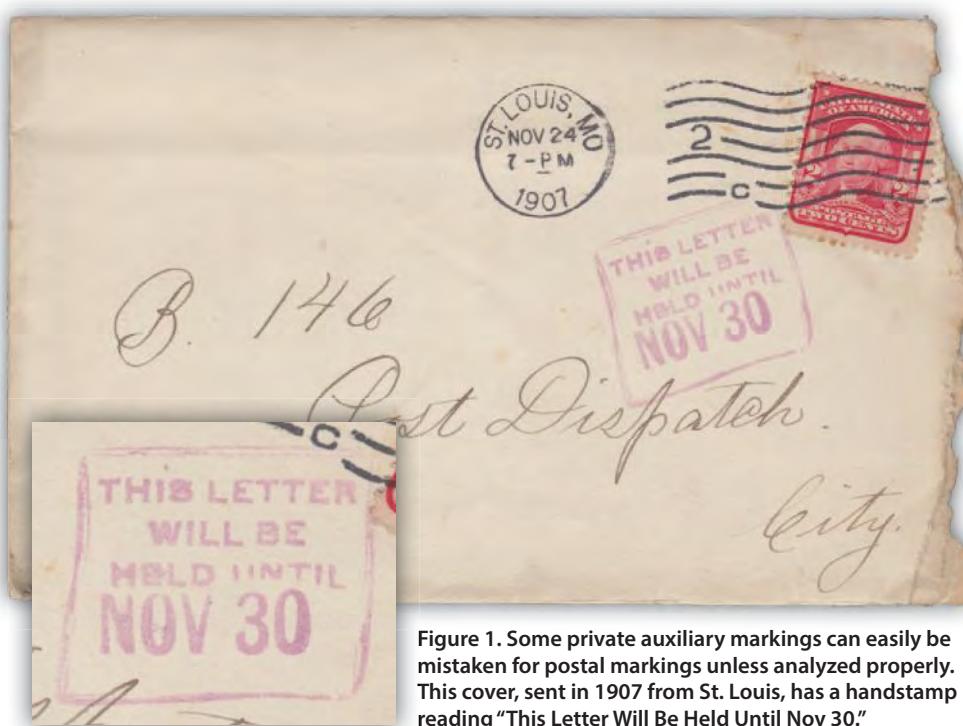


Figure 1. Some private auxiliary markings can easily be mistaken for postal markings unless analyzed properly. This cover, sent in 1907 from St. Louis, has a handstamp reading "This Letter Will Be Held Until Nov 30."

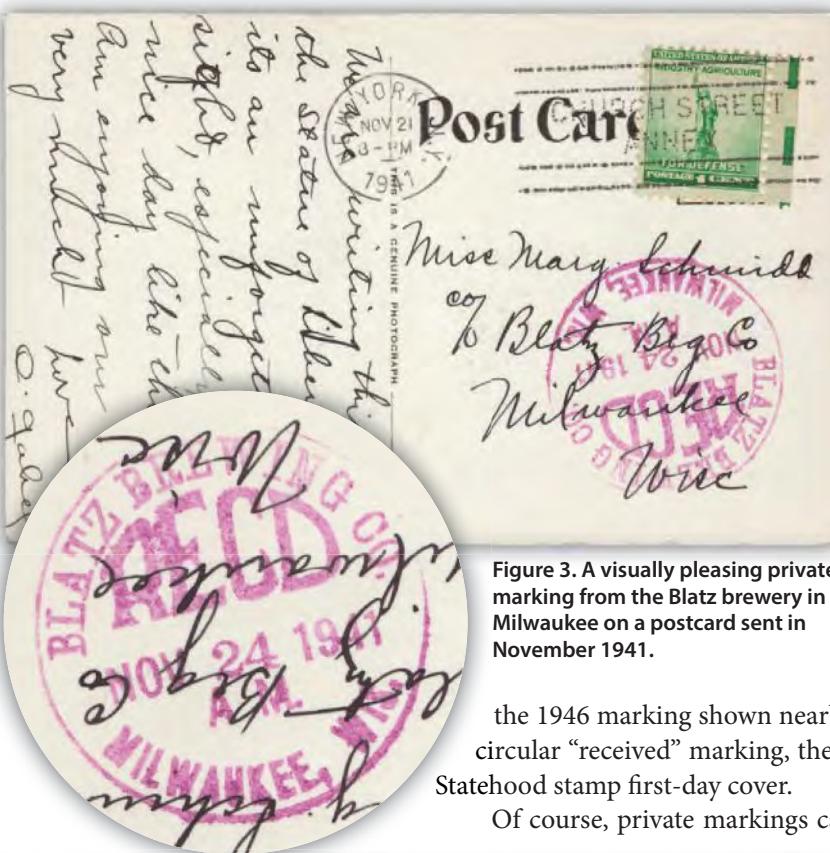


Figure 3. A visually pleasing private marking from the Blatz brewery in Milwaukee on a postcard sent in November 1941.

ing Co. in Milwaukee, Wisconsin [Figure 3].

A cover mailed April 14, 1923 from New York City and delivered the same day in Washington, D.C. is most interesting because of the private marking [Figure 4]. The cover, mailed by special delivery, likely enclosed a patent application. The sender noted in the lower-left corner: "Deliver to Watchman F street Entrance before midnight Apr 14th." The auxiliary marking is that of the "Captain of the Watch" and is duly noted and marked as having been received at 8:50 p.m. on April 14, 1923.

Another entire class of private auxiliary markings includes those from hotels. Many hotels of the late 19th and early 20th centuries marked incoming mail to guests with a host of different types of markings, ranging from manuscript to ornate handstamps.

Among the more interesting of these to me is the 1946 marking shown nearby [Figure 5]. Despite the fact it's a fairly standard circular "received" marking, the Hotel Winona marking adds interest to the Iowa Statehood stamp first-day cover.

Of course, private markings can occasionally link with covers tied to historical



Figure 4. This 1923 special delivery cover includes an oval handstamp by the "Captain of the Watch" at the U.S. Patent Office.



Figure 5. Hotel markings are among the most common of private auxiliary markings. This one adds interest to an otherwise common first-day cover.

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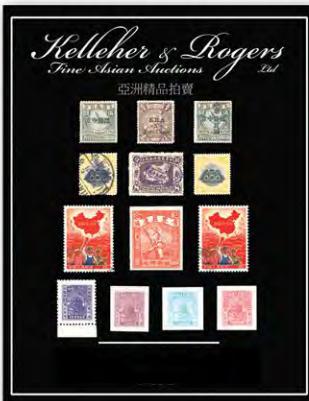
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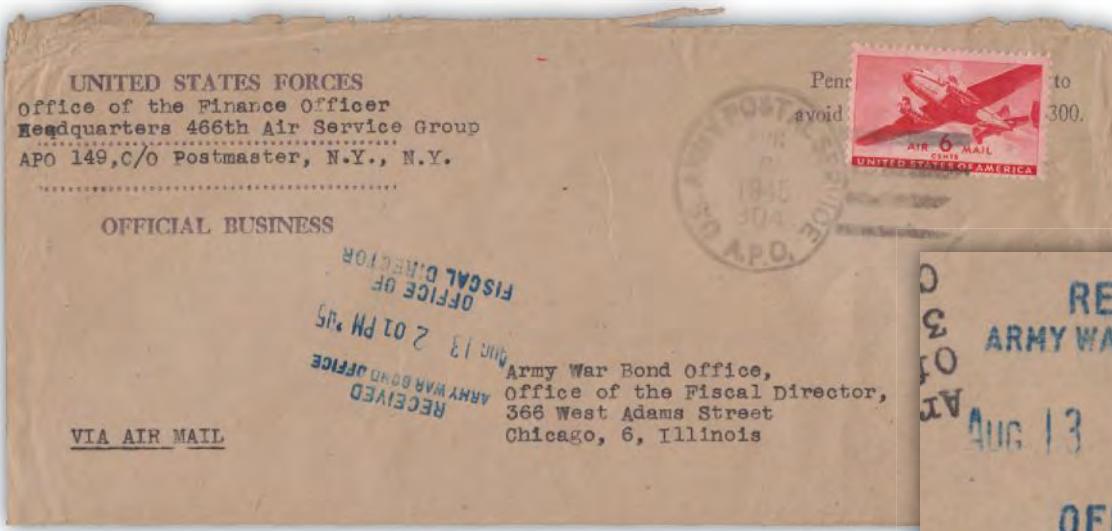


Figure 6. The War Bond Office marking adds interest to the military cover mailed the day the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.

events. The military cover [Figure 6] was mailed by a finance officer (from APO 149) to the Chicago War Bond office, noted as received August 13, 1945. While the private "Office of Fiscal Director" marking is of interest (both visually and historically), it is simply icing on the cake. Because the com-

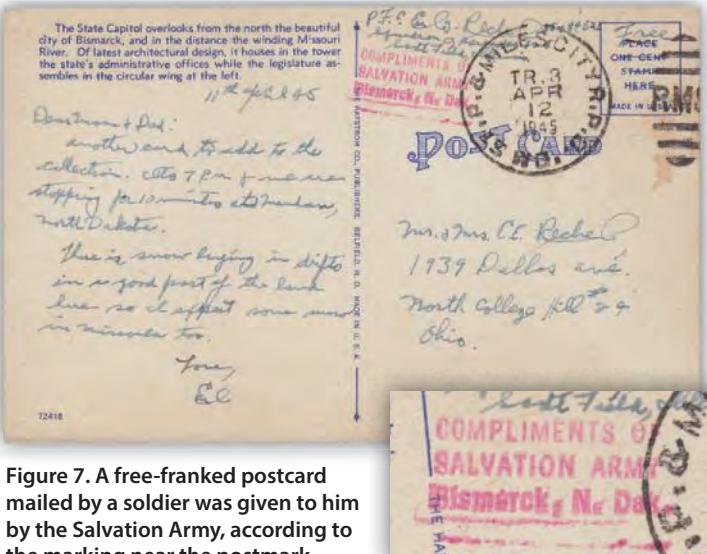


Figure 7. A free-franked postcard mailed by a soldier was given to him by the Salvation Army, according to the marking near the postmark.

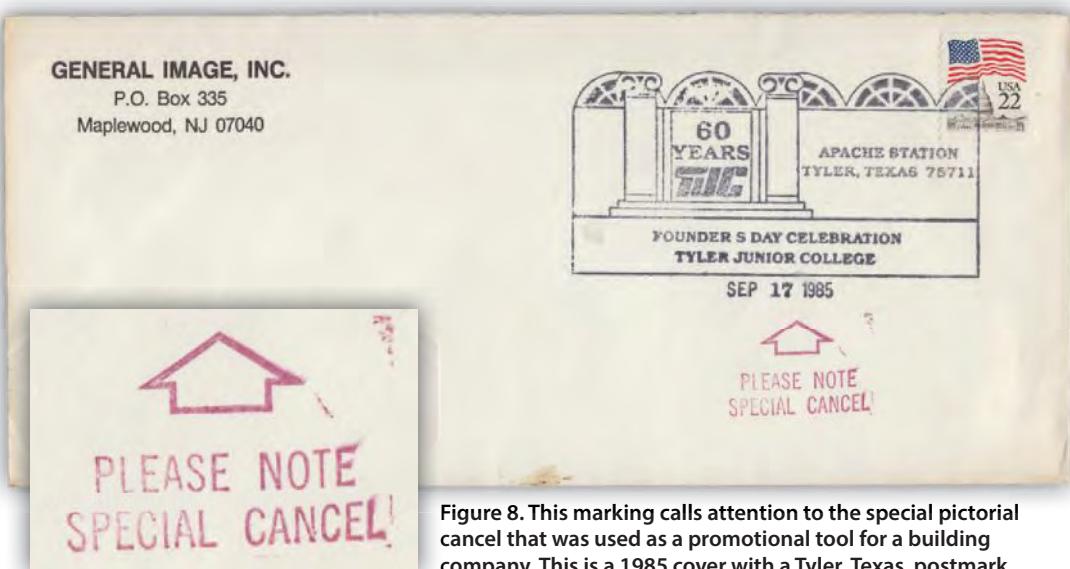


Figure 8. This marking calls attention to the special pictorial cancel that was used as a promotional tool for a building company. This is a 1985 cover with a Tyler, Texas, postmark.

munication did not qualify as official correspondence, a stamp was applied by the sender and received an "804 APO" marking (at that time located in Amiens, France) on Monday August 6, 1945, the day the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Covers bearing this date are uncommon, but those with military connections are fairly scarce.

The final group of private auxiliary marking types we will briefly examine includes those used for promotional and/or propaganda purposes. These are among the most entertaining of all.

The postcard shown [Figure 7] was mailed near Mandan, North Dakota on April 12, 1945 from a westbound train via free frank by a World War II serviceman, PFC E.L. Rechel to his parents. The card bears an RPO marking "St. P. & Miles City R.P.O." The private marking on the linen card depicting the state capitol (near the free-frank) reads "Compliments of Salvation Army, Bismarck, N. Dak."

For a number of years, companies saw the value of using first-day and special-event covers for direct mail advertising opportunities, not always realizing, of course,

that condition plays a major part in a collectible item's value. A cover [Figure 8] bearing a large pictorial cancel marking a founder's day celebration at a Texas junior college also bears a private corporation auxiliary marking. That marking, applied by a builder, calls attention to the cancel, but inadvertently reduces its perceived collectible value.

Finally, let us take a brief look at private

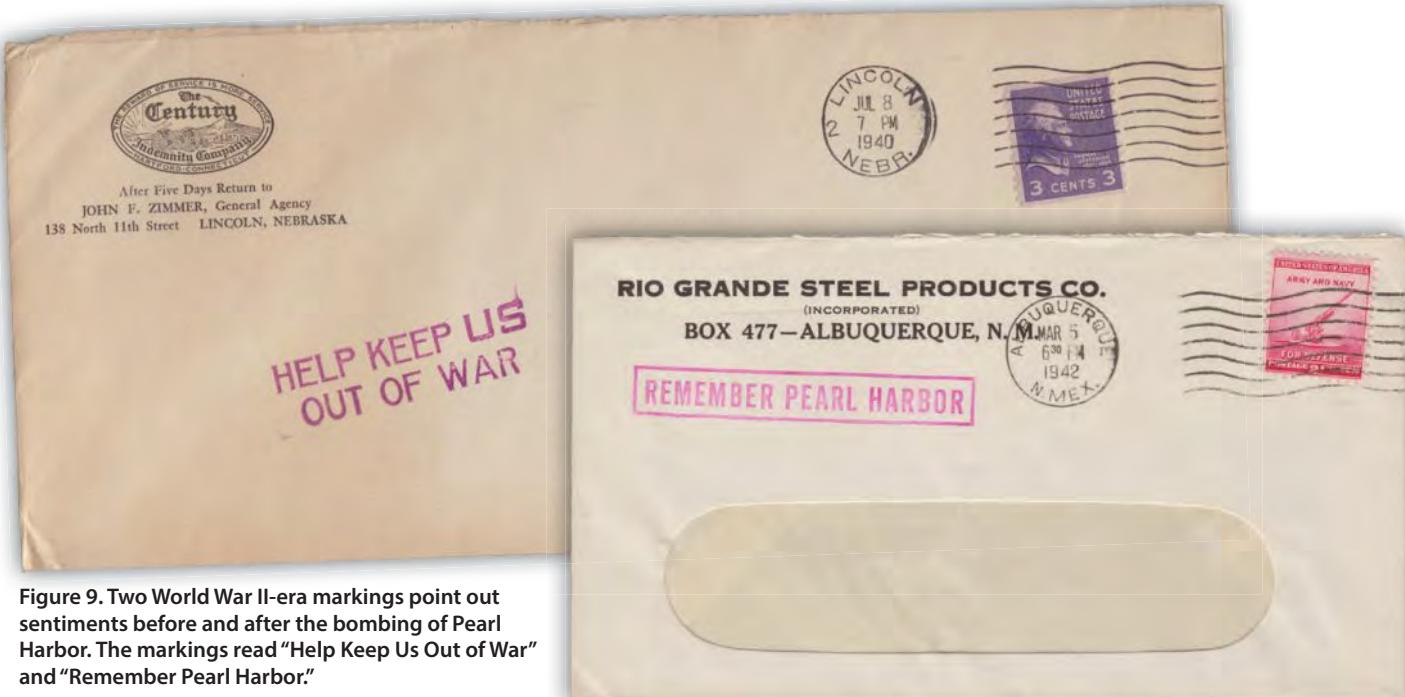


Figure 9. Two World War II-era markings point out sentiments before and after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. The markings read "Help Keep Us Out of War" and "Remember Pearl Harbor."

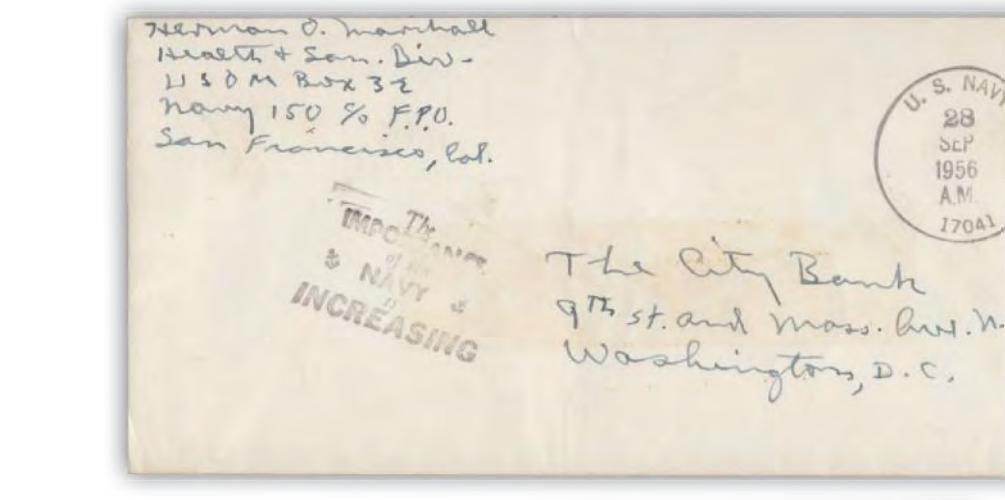
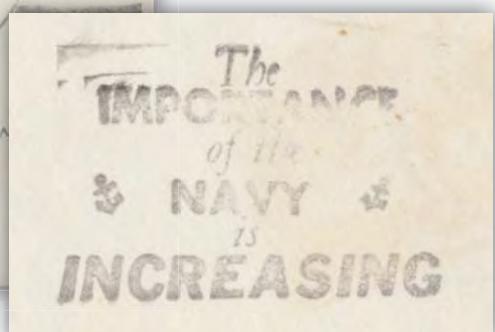


Figure 10. A puzzling marking from this September 1956 cover tells us the "importance of the Navy is increasing."



propaganda markings. The two commercial covers shown [Figure 9] are both related to WWII. The first, on a cover mailed July 8, 1940, simply states "Help Keep Us Out of War." The second, mailed less than two years later (March 5, 1942), informs the recipient to "Remember Pearl Harbor," after we had leapt into the war with all resources.

The next cover [Figure 10] is a little more confusing. Mailed Sept 28, 1956, from Fleet Post Office (FPO) 150, part of a group of advisers in Vietnam after "Operation Free Passage," the cover's marking tells us that "The Importance of the Navy is Increasing."

Many people purchase rubber stamps to apply endorsements of their personal beliefs on outgoing mail. Two covers [Figure 11] pictured show the conservative side of the abor-

Figure 11. Two covers illustrating a distinct anti-abortion position.

tion and anti-abortion dilemma. The first of these, from 1989, pictures a fetus, along with the slogan, "Abortion kills babies choose life."

The second, from 1994, is even bolder (if not nonsensical): "Want to die for your cause? Do you believe in abortion? Then prove it to the world by sacrificing your own life upon



Figure 12. The "No Hate, Stop the OCA" marking on this 1992 cover calls attention to an interesting chapter of Oregon's political history.

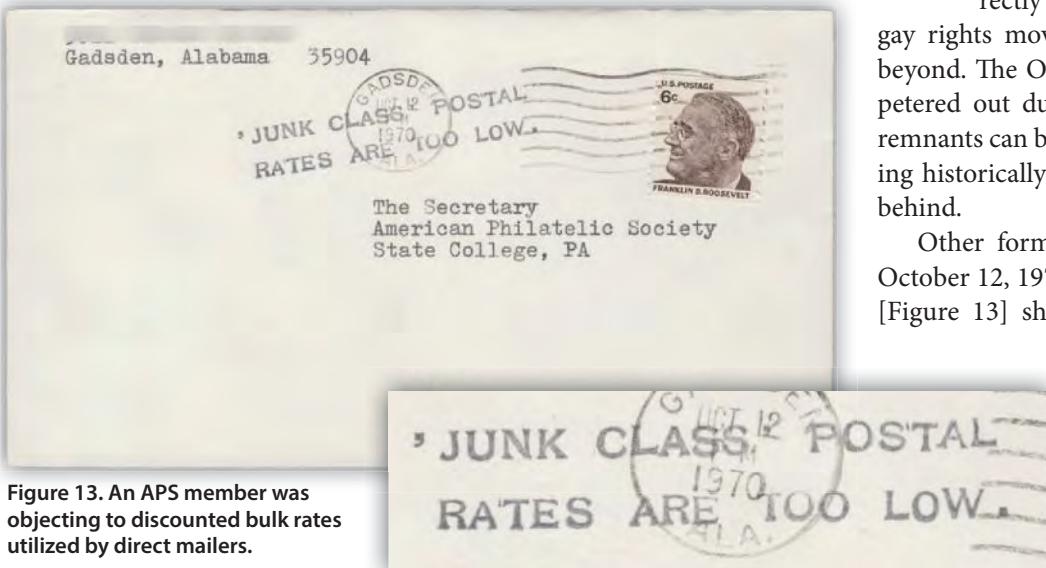


Figure 13. An APS member was objecting to discounted bulk rates utilized by direct mailers.

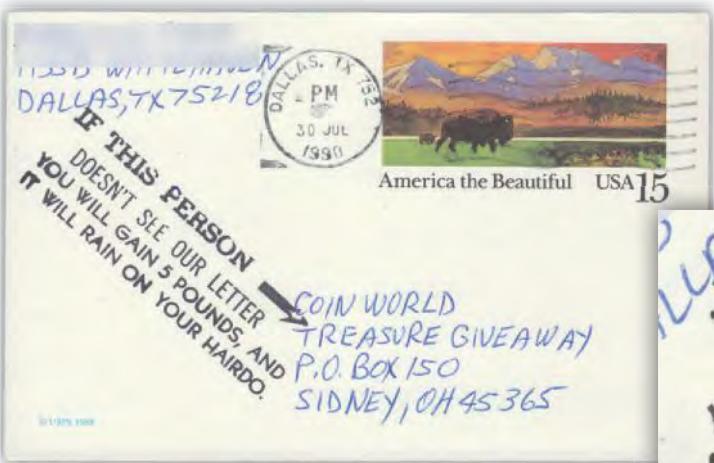


Figure 14. A lesson in how to get your contest entry noticed — even if you aren't a winner. This postal card was sent in July 1990 from a person in Dallas, Texas to Sidney, Ohio.

the abortion altar and become a martyr for your cause."

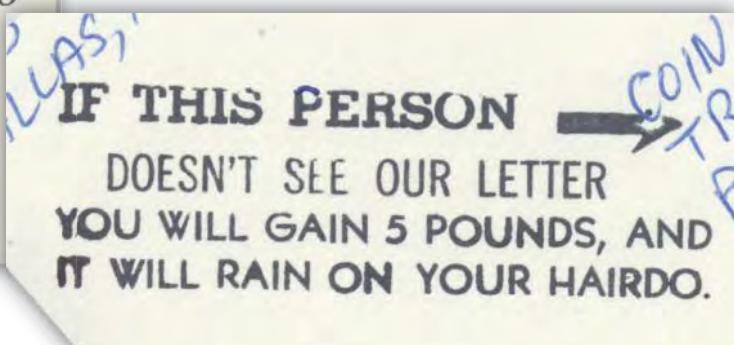
Conversely, an additional cover [Figure 12] is from the more liberal side, is a bit more elusive, with its bold "No Hate Stop the OCA" slogan. "OCA" stands for a number of organizations, including Organization of Chinese Americans, Orthodox Church in America, Oregon Court of Appeals and other things. The tip-off here is the fact this May 1992 cover originated in Oregon, just before its elections that year.

In 1986, Lon Mabon founded the Oregon Citizens Alliance (OCA), a political activist organization to — at first — challenge Sen. Bob Packwood (R-Ore.) in the primaries, but soon moved on to proposing anti-abortion legislation and — specifically — introducing several initiatives intended to target the gay community.

It was open opposition of the OCA in Oregon's May 1992 election (such as this marking) that led directly to Oregon's strong lesbian and gay rights movement during the 1990s and beyond. The OCA, for all practical purposes, petered out during the late 1990s, although remnants can be found in local elections, leaving historically significant items like this one behind.

Other forms of propaganda, such as an October 12, 1970, cover addressed to the APS [Figure 13] shown are a bit more straightforward, objecting to discounted so-called "junk mail" postal rates.

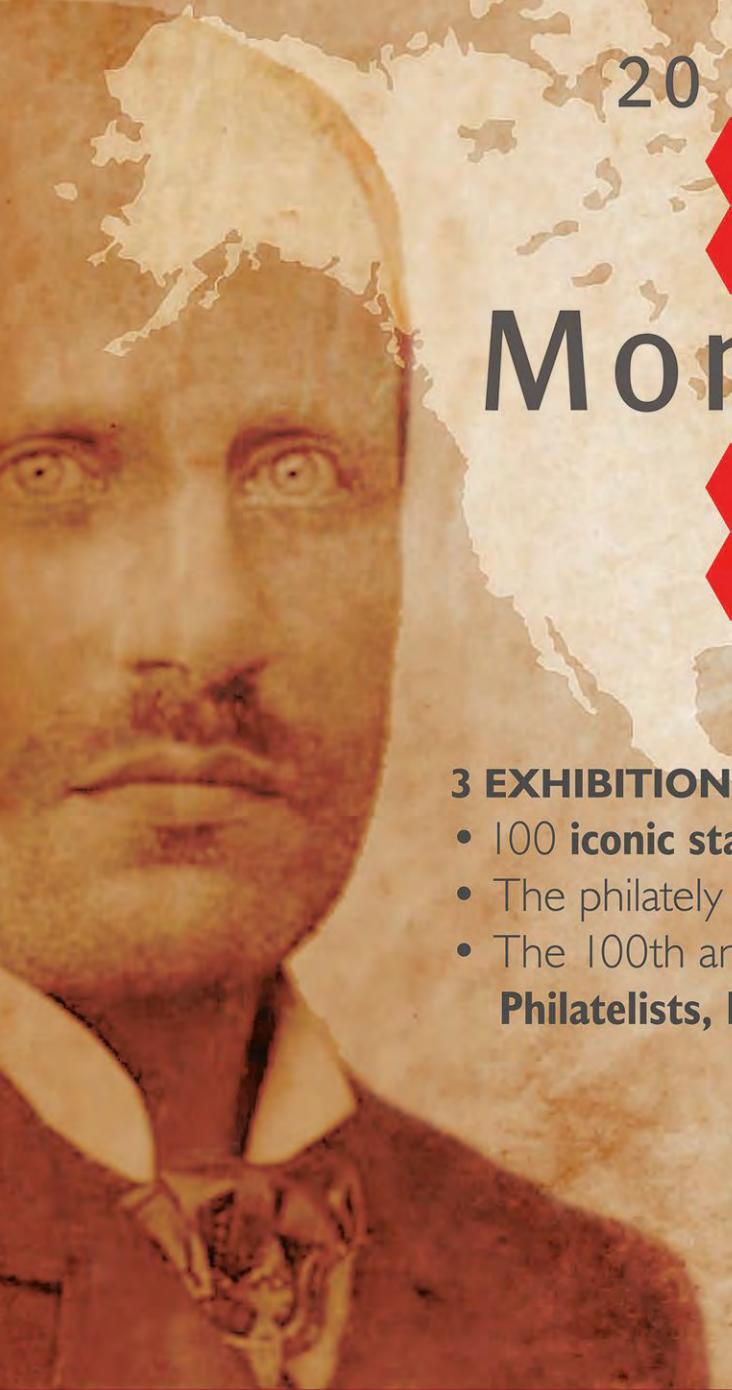
Finally, if you are entering a contest and really want to get your entry noticed, why not threaten the recipient — at least in a humorous manner? The rubber-stamped marking on the July 30, 1990, postal card shown [Figure 14] reads: "If this person (with arrow to the address) doesn't see our letter you will gain 5 pounds, and it will rain on your hairdo."



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alaskan interrupted mail

Rare Items Include Those Delayed by Floods, Earthquakes, and More

BY STEVE BERLIN



Most mail today gets delivered properly, relatively promptly and in good condition. In modernized countries in times of peace, it's pretty much been that way since the beginning of standardized postal services, and has become even more so with advances in technology, transportation, processing, and delivery systems.

But, occasionally, items go off the rails, off the roads, off the ships, or out of the pouches; sometimes due to human or mechanical error, or sometimes when Mother Nature gets nasty, tossing everything from ice storms to earthquakes in the path.

Alaska is geographically our largest state and least populated by density. With mountains, volcanoes, thousands of islands, average annual temperatures ranging from the 70s to -20s, 34,000 miles of tidal coastline, endless days in summer and endless nights in winter, bears, and moose, and bald eagles, it has some of the most picturesque, along with wildest, roughest, and uninhabited, land- and waterscapes in our hemisphere.

So with so much wide-open spaces, few roads, and plenty of nature to present challenges, it's no surprise that Alaska has had more than its share of interrupted mail, and philatelic evidence of this can be found in regards to letters traveling via dog sled and emergency airmail delivery. But there are philatelic objects from rarer mail interruptions, including those involving ships, crashes, and, of course, Mother Nature.

Perhaps one of the earliest disasters in Alaskan postal history involved the steamer *SS Yucatan*. On February 6, 1910, the *Yucatan* was sailing south in a snowstorm, and hit an iceberg. The ship's hull was ripped open near Goose Island, Icy Strait, but was able to limp into Mud Bay about two miles from the accident. The passengers and mail [Figure 1] were salvaged and taken to Seattle, Washington. The mail arrived 18 days after the disaster.

A letter that had been on the *Yucatan* bound for West Lynn, Massachusetts was postmarked January 19 in Deadwood, Alaska. This letter was placed in a separate official Post Office envelope that collectors sometimes called an "ambulance cover." This cover, postmarked March 17, was forwarded on to West Lynn, Massachusetts. The ambulance cover was created special for this event, as shown by the boxed statement at the lower left. The text states that the item inside was delayed and damaged

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
POST OFFICE, SEATTLE, WASH.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
(No. 13)

THE mail in this envelope was delayed and damaged by the sinking of the steamer "Yucatan" at Goose Island, Icy Straits, Alaska, on Feb. 18, 1910. This mail reached Seattle Feb. 24, 1910.
W. J. VICKERY,
P. O. Inspector in Charge,
Spokane, Wash.



Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Rogers,
13 Belmont Ave.
West Lynn.
Mass.

Figure 1. The wreck of the SS Yucatan in 1910 in Alaska caused mail to be delayed, including a cover postmarked January 19 in Deadwood, Alaska. The cover was recovered from the wreck, placed in an official envelope, and sent on to West Lynn, Massachusetts, nearly two months after it was first mailed.

because of the mishap, and reached Seattle on February 24. It notes that W.J. Vickery was the postal inspector in charge.

Shown is a postcard written on September 27, 1913 from Solomon, a mining camp 31 miles east of Nome on the Solomon River, just north of Norton Sound [Figure 2]. The card was destined for Oakland, California, though it was not mailed until October 3, 1913. It was then delayed by a severe flood that occurred during a 100-year storm. A straight-line purple auxiliary marking, "Damaged By Flood" was applied. A partial postal cancel around the box where the stamp should have been placed indicated the card originally had postage. Perhaps the stamp washed away in the flood; or was dampened and disappeared during transit.

A storm of October 5, 1913 included 60 mile-per-hour winds, a 10-foot

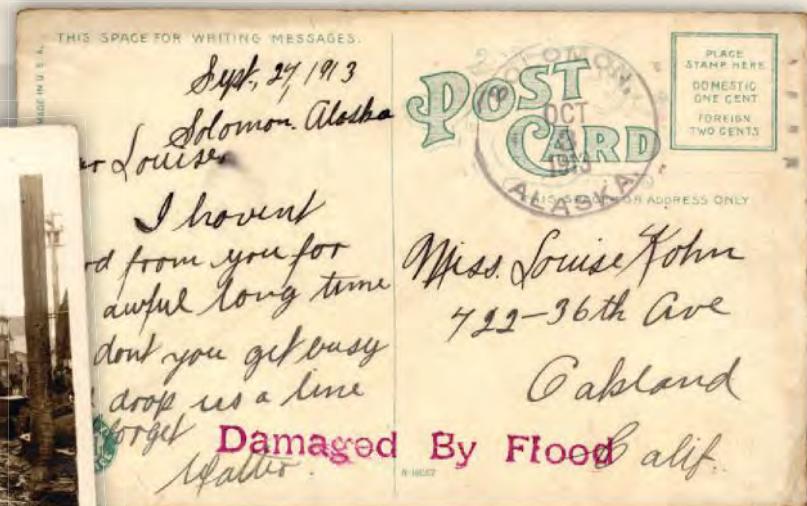


Figure 2. A postcard sent from Solomon, Alaska in 1913 (above) was delayed by a fierce storm and flooding. A postcard sent in 1923 (left) shows the 1913 damage.

sea rise, and a mammoth wave that washed over businesses on Nome's Front Street on the waterfront. Buildings were torn from their foundations and thrown across streets. A nearby native village disappeared entirely. It took two days after this storm to get the postal service up and running. All the mail that could be salvaged was sent off by the next available steamer.

The flood destroyed the businesses at the Solomon camp,

and swept away the miners' equipment.

In 1914, the mail at Solomon was reduced to weekly delivery due to the sharp decrease in the population and this post office closed in 1925. It reopened in 1928 until it was shuttered again in 1956. A picture postcard dated October 10, 1923 reveals the damage to Nome, Alaska also due to that same flood 10 years earlier. The card states that "the river looks rough and I have on borrowed clothes and we are alright."

Floods in Alaska are often due to the warming of temperatures in the spring when river ice starts breaking up, river banks become unstable and ice jams form. Major recorded floods in 1905, 1937, and in 1967 occurred along the Chena River, a tributary of the Tanana River, which flows through Fairbanks, which sustained heavy damage in those disasters.

By May 13, 1937, spring melt, rain, and ice jams caused major flooding in and around Fairbanks. By May 17, officials reported more than

\$650,000 in damage in Fairbanks, which was 75 percent under water. The Alaskan railroad had been stopped. Roads, bridges, and buildings were heavily damaged. Residents feared a typhoid epidemic. About 150 miles northeast of Fairbanks lies Circle, 50 miles south of the Arctic Circle. It, too, was affected by flooding.

A cover, franked with an airmail stamp and postmarked May 19, 1937 [Figure 3], is likely a philatelic cover created by "S. June." While preparing this story, the editor discovered two more similarly prepared 1936 covers from and to "S. June" sent within Alaska that were being sold online by an Alaska specialist dealer. Many collec-



Figure 3. This 1937 cover (upper left) was delayed due to flooding caused by the spring ice break. Photo (bottom left) of the 1937 breakup flood of a man standing in flood waters. Woodrow Johansen Papers, UAF-2007-64-90, Archives, University of Alaska Fairbanks.

tors over the years have created their own misdirected mail covers for various reasons, including a desire to capture dates or places via postmarks, show evidence of ancillary postal markings, or documenting times of calamities. Sometimes these philatelic items are the only mail items found following disasters.

The 1937 flood cover is addressed to S. June in Fort Yukon, about 350 miles north of Circle. The return address also is S. June, but with an address in Springfield, Massachusetts. Both of these appear to be in the same handwriting. Also on the front is a message written in pencil, which is similar to the other writing. It states: "Damaged in Circle's flood — during breakup."

The Fort Yukon address has been scratched out in red pen, likely by a postal employee who recognized that the cover could not be delivered to the right person in Fort Yukon. The back of the cover shows a Fort Yukon cancel date, damage due to water, and a Fairbanks circular datestamped May 21, 1937.

If you look closely, there is erased writing visible beneath the final writing on the cover. First, there is a return address and addressee, both the same as the final writing: "S. June" of Springfield and Yukon. However, another message had been written and was erased. This says in part: "(Emergency ... carried by plane; From – Alaska.)"

Why were the original addresses erased and replaced by the same ones? Why was the "Emergency" message erased?

At the time the cover was addressed, regular first-class mail sent within Alaska carried the usual 3-cent rate, even if it could only be delivered by airplane. However, regular airmail was charged the standard airmail rate of 6 cents per first ounce. The 1936 S. June covers for sale online are sent from and to towns in Alaska, but carry regular 3-cent postage. Considering there is a 6-cent airmail Winged Globe stamp on the 1937 cover, and presuming that the writer was a phi-

alist, is it possible that "S. June" originally intended to send the cover by airmail? To where? Did S. June alter thoughts when the flood hit? Also, both 1936 covers are written in a hand distinctively different from my 1937 cover. Perhaps S. June was never really in Alaska and friends prepared these covers. We'll likely never know for sure.

Crash Covers, An Aerophilatelic Challenge (1979), by Joseph L. Eisendrath, published by American Air Mail Society; 210 pages, illustrated.

Maritime Disaster Mail: A Study of Mail Salvaged from Maritime Disasters (2003), by Norman Hoggarth, published by the Stuart Rossiter Trust Fund; 352 pages, illustrated.

Recovered mail: Airplane Accidents and Incidents, 1937-1988 (1995), by H.L. Nierinck, self-published in Belgium; 496 pages, illustrated, text in French and English.

[HTTP://CATALOG.STAMPLIBRARY.ORG](http://CATALOG.STAMPLIBRARY.ORG)

Severe storms and lightning can occur almost anywhere at any time. A few of these dangerous storms took place in Solomon City in September 1900. Cooks Inlet experienced such a storm in June 1912 and another occurred in Nome in October 1913. These are only a few of the significant storms in Alaska. I have not seen any postal history from these dates or places, but assume they may exist.

Another cover presented a unique experience when a collector tried to obtain a Pilot Point, Alaska postmark. In August 1943, he sent a cover to the postmaster of Pilot Point for a cancellation, but there was a big storm. His cover was being carried on the tugboat *Sprig*, a boat owned by the Red Salmon Canning Company. The tug was carrying mail from Naknek on Bristol Bay to Ugashick Village and Pilot Point farther down the Alaska Peninsula, when it went aground in the storm and broke up. Of the four pouches and three sacks of mail weighing 102 pounds, only one pouch survived.

This cover [Figure 4] survived, but the stamps had washed off. The postmaster affixed six cents postage, an airmail franking, and a cancellation, and returned the cover with an explanation about the wreck and the franking. A postmark dated August 31, 1943 was applied along with a black script stating, "Salvaged from Pouch lost in wreck of M.S. Sprig, August 17th 1943 outside mouth of Ugashik River."



Figure 4. Mail washed off a tugboat during a storm in the area of Pilot Point, Alaska. This cover survived, though the original postage washed away and was replaced by the postmaster.

Ugashik River."

Alaska has a significant colder climate and during the winters the roads may freeze. There are many small towns in difficult locales where mail is often delayed because of weather. Some have no roads and get their mail on small boats contracted by the postal service. Here is a cover [Figure 5] that was sent from Saint Mary's, a village in western Alaska near the sea, on November 6, 1962 to New York City. It was delayed due to the freezing of the roads and rivers. St. Mary's is a small village with no roads. It had a population of 225 in 1960; 500 in 2000, according to Census figures. Mail is delivered by small planes that do not fly in bad weather conditions. All waterways in that area of Alaska are frozen during the winter months. A black two-line auxiliary marking is applied stating: "Delayed Mail Due Freeze-up Period, No Mail Service."

Weather is probably the number one cause of mail disasters around the world. It interferes with all forms of transportation including air travel. The next cover [Figure 6] represents such a problem. It was mailed September 3, 1971, by the state of Alaska's Department of Highways. It was placed on Alaska Airlines Flight 1866 flying from Anchorage to Seattle, Washington, and had already made three stops before approaching Juneau Municipal Airport on the night of September 4. With poor visibility, the aircraft had to make an



Figure 5. A cover sent in November 1962 from St. Mary's, Alaska to New York City was delayed because of a "freeze up." There is no indication of when the cover was actually delivered.

instrument landing, but the airport lacked the most important instruments to keep the pilot on the correct approach. The plane struck the side of Mount Fairweather and disintegrated, killing all 111 persons on board. The wreckage, spread over a square mile, was not found for two days. The Postal Service applied the auxiliary marking on covers from the crash with magenta ink reading, "Damaged in Handling In The Postal Service."

Pamela Doto, a reporter for the Anchorage *Daily News*, wrote about mail lost after it fell from a plane. This was a most unusual airplane incident that occurred when a twin engine Piper Cheyenne was carrying about 62 pounds of mail and packages. It seems that, on July 24, 1992, for some strange reason the storage area doors on the aircraft suddenly opened and the mail fell out, scattering over the Kenai Peninsula. Southcentral Air Inc. was hauling the mail for the Postal Ser-

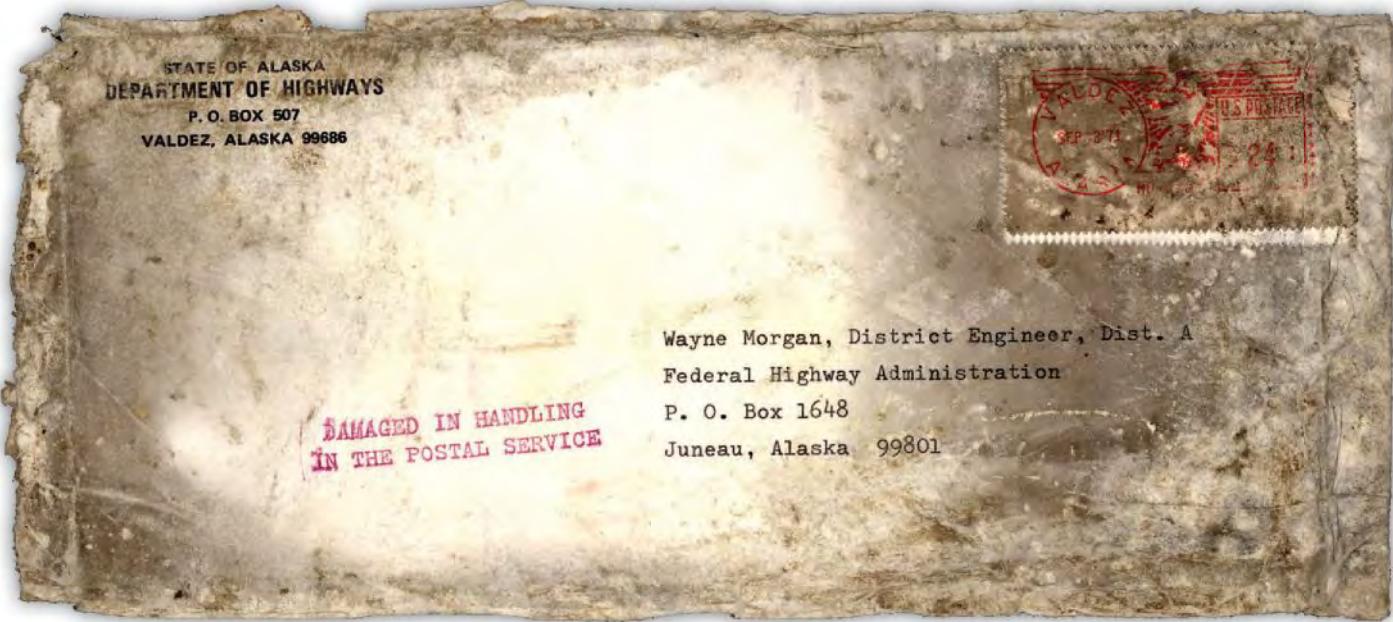


Figure 6. This cover survived an air crash in 1971 in Juneau. The marking is Type No. 710904, according to the American Air Mail Catalogue.

vice when this accident took place. Much of the mail was from Homer on its way to Anchorage. I am not aware of any of this mail ever being recovered, but thought it was interesting.

A massive earthquake hit Alaska on Good Friday, March 27, 1964. It was the most damaging and costly disaster to ever take place on the Alaskan peninsula. It had several names associated with it, including the Good Friday Earthquake as well as the Great Alaskan Earthquake.

The earthquake lasted four minutes and thirty eight seconds. It was the most powerful recorded earthquake in the

United States and North American history, measuring 9.23 on the Richter Scale. Anchorage received severe damage to buildings, roads and the utilities.

Two hundred miles Southeast near Kodiak, permanent buildings were even destroyed. At Port Valdez, in Prince William Sound, an underwater slide killed 30 people, and in the village of Chenega, 23 out of the population of 68 were killed. There were at least 139 deaths in Alaska. The Alaskan quake created tsunamis affecting many Alaskan communities as well as areas in British Columbia, Oregon, Washington, Cali-

Philatelic Expedition Cover a Provides Mystery of Its Origin

By Steven J. Berlin

Collecting and researching crash, wreck, and interrupted mail can be a real challenge. Nobody plans for these events to happen and a lot of mail is destroyed or damaged under these circumstances. In the aftermath, especially before the 21st century, little mail is sent or delivered and it might take a long time for damaged mail to be delivered.

Particularly in the cases of older items or minor mishaps, facts are often lost. This sometimes leads to mysteries, such as one I have with the cover shown.

The information I received with this cover was interesting enough for me to consider it as an element for the story of Alaskan interrupted mail. But a lot of facts may have been lost to time and perhaps someone out there can fill in some missing details.

The cover commemorates the ill-fated Sir John Franklin expedition of 1845 sponsored by the North West Passage Co. Two ships — the *HMS Terror* and *HMS Erebus* — and their crew of Franklin and 128 others disappeared. The modern Canadian souvenir cover is franked with a 5-cent Sir Martin Frobisher (Scott 412) of 1963. It is postmarked September 13, 1965 in Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories.

The information sup-

plied with the cover said the following:

"The *Northland Princess* (with a prefix of MV or MS) carrying the souvenir mail was apparently blown ashore on the Alaskan coast and suffered damage which prevented her continuing with the voyage."

But I have been unable to confirm the ship, the wreck, or who even created the cover.

Checks with specialty collectors and several searches of online historic sites about ships and wrecks could not confirm the ship or that any Canadian ship wrecked in September 1965 in Alaska. One site about the Northland Navigation Co. of British Columbia said the company existed from 1944 to 1976, doing business as the British Columbia Steamship Co. until 1954. The nine ships listed on the website were all named as a derivative of *Prince* and no

wrecks were noted for 1965. The city of Vancouver online archives includes an image, possibly from July 1964, of an "MS *Northland Princess*" (formerly *MS Nimpkish Princess*) but offers no other information about the small ship.

Some online sites have newspaper stories from May 1965 saying that two Canadian naval officers had possibly found the sunken wreck of one of the missing ships (they actually didn't), but the stories offered little information of the modern search, not naming the officers or their ship. Could the souvenir cover, postmarked four month later, come from that expedition? We don't know.

For the record, modern searches for the two missing British ships led to the discovery of the sunken wreck of the *Erebus* in 2014; the *Terror* was discovered in 2016.

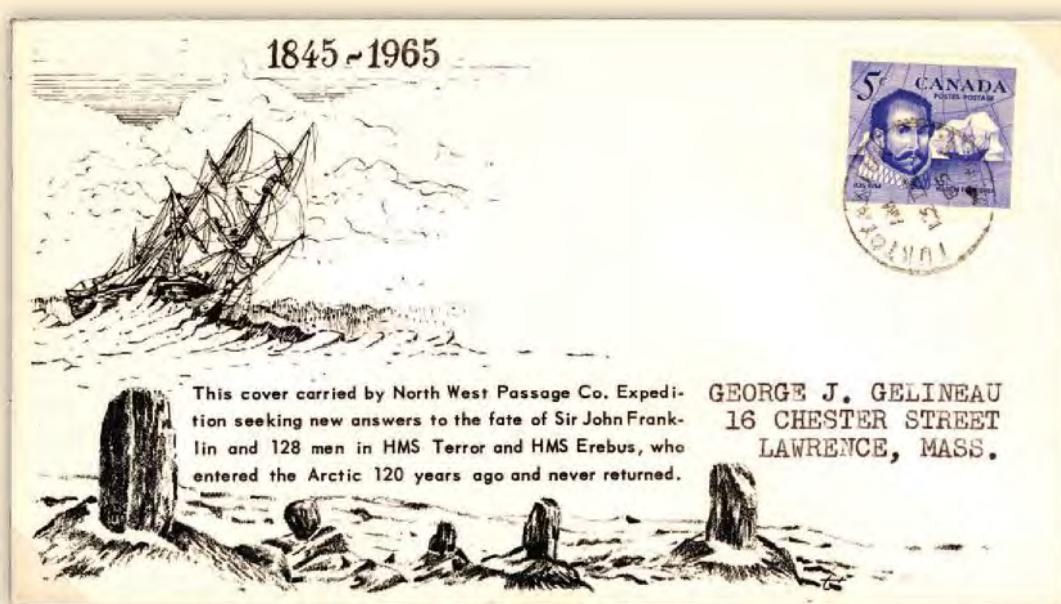




Figure 7. Two covers postmarked March 29, 1964, two days following the Good Friday Earthquake, were auctioned in 2005 by H.R. Harmer. Close-ups of the postmarks, one on each cover, are shown at right

fornia, and as far away as Hawaii and Japan. There were even several deaths reported in Oregon and California.

You would think that such a disaster would have produced many forms of interrupted mail. However, only two such covers are known by this author. An H.R. Harmer auction of February 23, 2005 offered both of them as Lot No. 1263. It was described as a cover dated March 29, 1964 with an original letter [Figure 7]. The letter-writer described their "house as a total loss. It was plain hell — all the Waterfront is gone." The cover was sent from Seward to San Francisco with no stamps being applied; only the postmark.

Another area of mail interruptions is mail robbery, a particular interest in my collection. This area is extremely rare coming from Alaska but having the robbery on a ship makes

this the first-known modern mail robbery at sea to be reported. The early 1900s saw major gold rushes to areas in Alaska and the Yukon Territories. Thefts of gold from prospectors are well known but not on a ship post office sailing the waters.

A registered cover sent from Dawson, Yukon is dated September 20, 1910, revealed by the marking in the upper right corner [Figure 8].

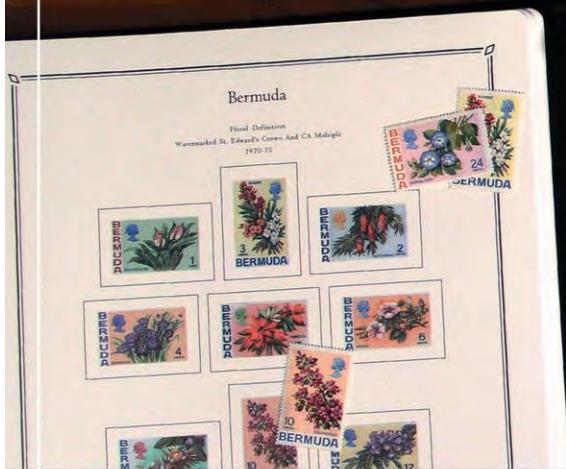
The cover was sent to The Comptroller, North-West Mounted Police, Ottawa. The cover was placed on the steamship *City of Seattle* in Alaska.

While traveling from Alaska to Seattle, the mailroom was broken into by three crew members who stole more than \$5,000 in bank notes and more than 30 pounds of gold. Most all the mail was broken into looking for money. A three-line purple auxiliary marking was applied to the back of this cover, stating "Damaged



Figure 8. This 1910 cover — destined for a headquarters of the Mounted Police — was delayed because of a steamship robbery.

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in Mail Robbery/Steamship City of Seattle/Oct. 3 1910."

The discovery of this robbery became evident before the steamship docked in Seattle, thereby giving the ship captain time to investigate and find the robbers. I find this cover extremely interesting due to the fact it was also directed to the Canadian Mounted Police in Ottawa and it possibly is the only mail robbery cover from a ship post office.

In 2015, four defendants were indicted in Anchorage on federal charges that ranged from mail theft and stealing credit cards to cashing stolen checks and other illicit activity. It would be interesting to see if any recovered mail re-enters the mailstream, but I have yet to see a cover from these robberies.

Interruptions of mail often have very interesting histories, and in most instances the covers are not in the best philatelic condition. Perhaps that is why I like messy covers; they may not even have the stamps attached but certainly tell interesting stories. You would think that with all the natural and unnatural disasters around the world we would see more of these storytelling covers. This article probably only touches a small part of Alaskan postal history and some of the known covers. With more than 60 air crashes, train wrecks, severe fires, storms and mining explosions and accidents in Alaska, I hope to find others in my pursuit of collecting.

References

The Fairbanks, Alaska, *Daily News-Miner* on Weds, July 23, 1924 reports that Postmaster Charles H. Scheffler of Cordova was arrested for robbing \$6,000 in postal funds as he tried to say that the post office had been entered and

APS SPECIALTY SOCIETIES

Collectors interested in interrupted mail might consider joining the Wreck & Crash Mail Society (APS #AF0259). The society is devoted to collecting and the study of all aspects of delayed and/or damaged mail and interrupted mail services. The group offers study groups, a handbook, and the quarterly journal, *La Catastrophe*. Website is wreckandcrash.org. Annual dues are \$25. Contact: Ken Sandford, 613 Championship Drive, Oxford, CT 06478-3128; e-mail: kaerophil@gmail.com.

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robbed. Evidence produced by a new postmaster revealed he had tampered with the books. (Ref: *The Alaskan Philatelist*, Vol. 29, No. 4, May-June 1993). *Cornell Daily Sun*, May 17, 1937. "Flood Causes Typhoid Scare."

Seely Hall Jr. describes the great earthquake as possibly only two covers being recorded. Both these letters were sent by the same family to other individuals and there were no stamps available at the time the mail was sent. (Ref: *The Alaskan Philatelist*, pages, 44-45, Vol. 30, No. 2, March-April 1994).

A Pan American Flight flying from Ketchikan to Sitka, Alaska on April 10, 1959 was delayed earlier due to weather. This flight was carrying mail from New York that was placed in the mail on April 8, 1959. The plane caught fire and crashed at Juneau, Alaska. A cover is described in *The Alaskan Philatelist*. (Ref: *The Alaskan Philatelist*, pg. 13-14, Vol. 31, No. 1 January-February 1994).

Wreck and Crash Mail Society and *La Catastrophe*.

Wikipedia, various entries.

The Alaskan Philatelist, pg. 25, Vol. 29, No. 1, November-December 1992.

Monthly Weather Review journal, pub. by American Meteorological Society. Article by Blier, Keefe, Shaffer and Kim; Volume 125, 3094.

Northwest Passage (2013), online blog.

KTUU-TV, Channel 2 News, January 26, 2015. "Feds indict 4 in Anchorage for meth-for-mail theft ring."

"Alaskan Ship Mail Robbery." Reference: *Nevada State Journal*, October 5, 1910; *Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette*, October 6, 1910, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Reno Evening Gazette, October 29, 1910, Reno, Nevada.

The Evening Telegram, December 10, 1910, Elyria, Ohio.

The Washington Post, October 4, 1910, Washington, D.C.

Margaret Schulzke, FRPSC, executive assistant, Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

The Author

Dr. Steven J. Berlin is a podiatrist and currently the medical director of Ogenix Corp., a company that has developed a special wound care device known as EPIFLO for treating chronic diabetic and other hard-to-heal wounds. He is a life member of the APS, a member of the Alaskan Collectors Club, treasurer of the Wreck and Crash Mail Society, a member of the Postal History Society, and numerous other philatelic organizations. He would welcome any information on other mail interruptions and mail robbery. He is currently planning to complete a book titled "The Devil's Mail." His e-mail address is drstevenjberlin2916@gmail.com. He would like to thank his assistant, Becky Duvall, and his wife, Eileen Berlin, in helping to prepare this article.

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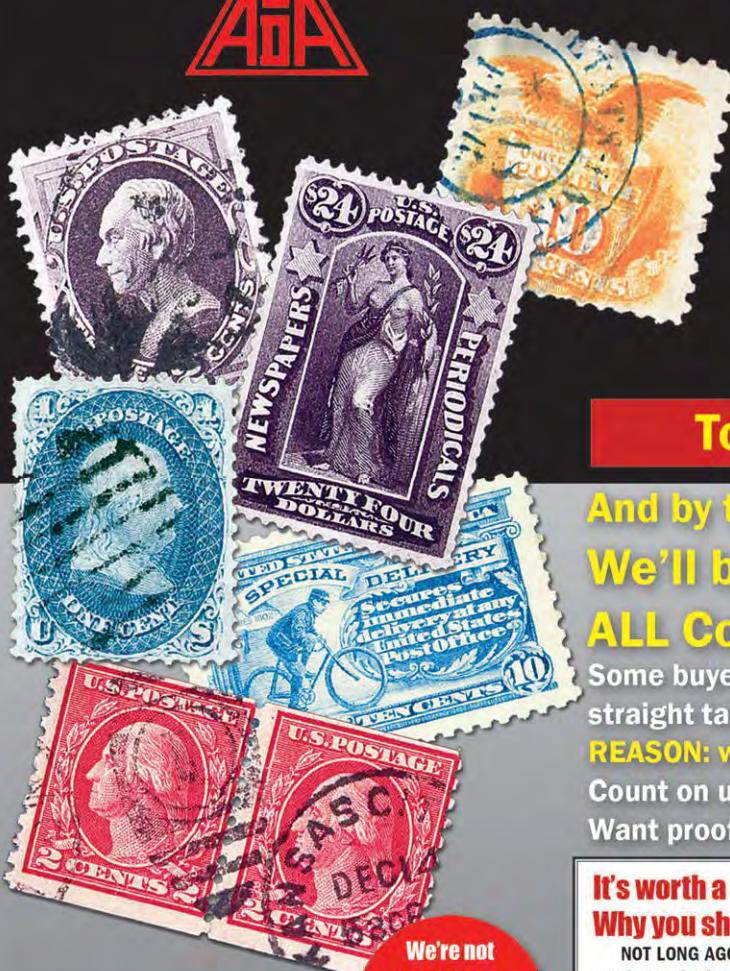
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This envelope was printed (and made) in New York City for a Southern bookseller before hostilities between the states began in 1861, but failed to be delivered until after the war

FEDERAL USE OF CONFEDERATE DESIGN PATRIOTIC COVERS OF NORTHERN MANUFACTURE

BY JAMES W. MILGRAM, M.D.

There is little doubt that some Confederate patriotic covers used during the U.S. Civil War era in southern states were printed in the North. Shown here [Figure 1] is an example of one of the many types of seven-star flag envelopes that were printed after February 4, 1861 when the

Confederate States of America was established. The design is patriotic, but this particular envelope also bears a written message: "This envelope was printed (and made) in New York City for a Southern bookseller before hostilities between the states began in 1861, but failed to be delivered until after the war. Presented by Dr. B. H. Teague, Aiken S.C. Nov. 21/91," the date referring to 1891.

When considering the seven-star patriotic cover designs as a group, there are certain designs with known southern state postal use that may also exist unused, which I call Group A; other designs with used and unused uses that bear imprints from southern printers or booksellers, in my Group B; and a large group of covers with different designs that are known only as unused designs, my Group C.

A cover with what I call the "long shaft" from Group A is shown [Figure 2]. This is a design known with southern state uses both as a cover and as a lettersheet. The accompanying letter-

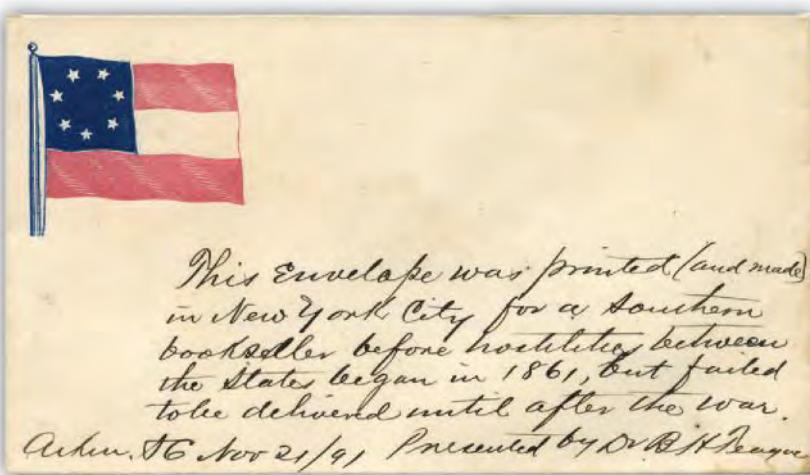
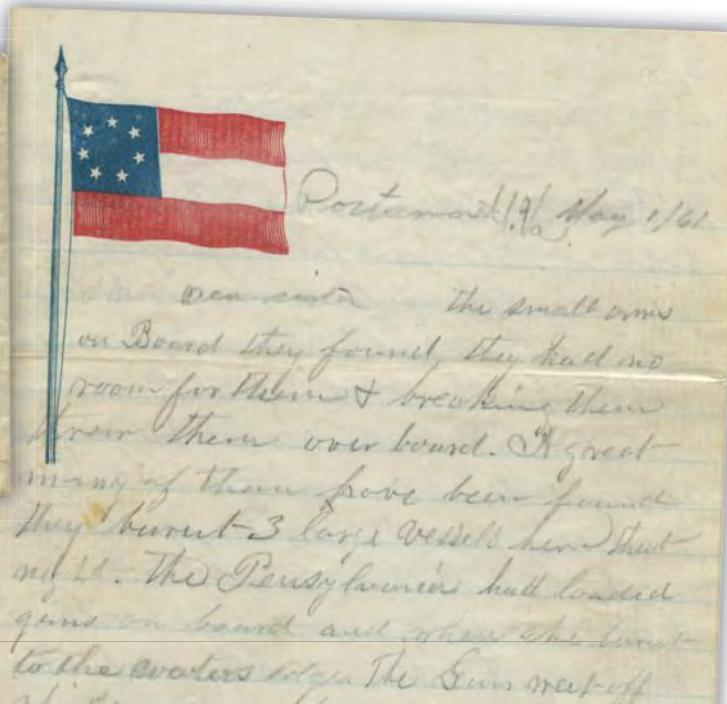


Figure 1. An unused seven-star Confederate flag envelope with an 1891 written message that stated the envelope had been made in New York, in 1861 before the outbreak of war for sale to southern booksellers.



Figure 2. A seven-star flag envelope with federal 3-cent 1857 stamp tied "Baltimore MD Apr 11" (1861), a day before the Civil War began. Also, a similar lettersheet written from Portsmouth, Virginia by a southern writer. This likely is a northern printing sold in the South as well as some border cities.



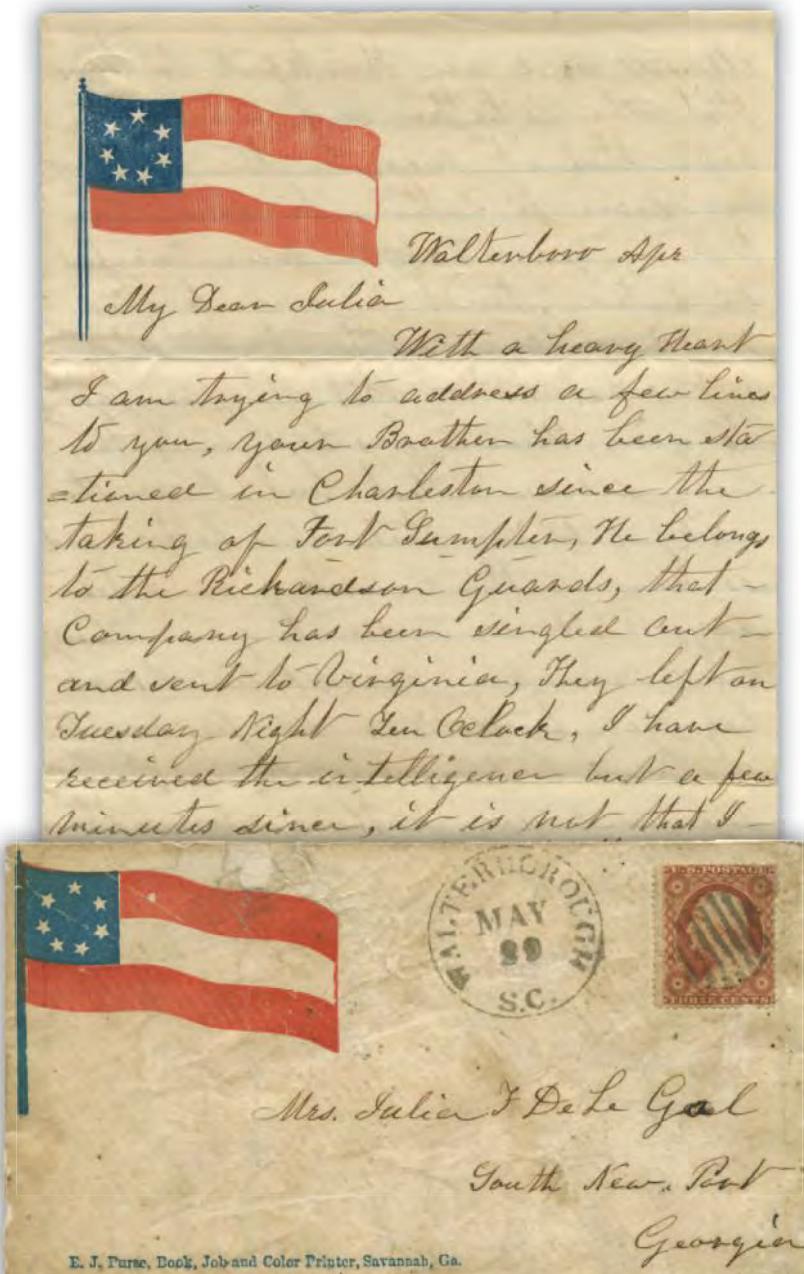


Figure 3. A seven-star flag design of an unusually long flag on a lettersheet and envelope with a 3-cent 1857 stamp canceled "Walterborough S.C. May 20." The envelope has an imprint of "E. J. Purse, Book, Job and Color Printer, Savannah, Ga."



Figure 4. An envelope with an overall design of a Confederate flag with seven stars with "Baltimore MD May 14" and "Held for Postage." It was sent to New York City with a "Due 3" notation. The imprint is "Jas. L. Gow, Printer, Augusta, Ga."

sheet was written at Portsmouth, Virginia on May 1, 1861 and describes the seizure of the Gosport (Norfolk) Naval Base by the Confederates.¹ But the April 11, 1861 cover shows federal use from a southern sympathizer in Baltimore just before the war. So the likelihood is that this is a design of northern manufacture, made for a southern bookseller, but also sold in the North and which exists with both southern and northern postal uses.

A matching seven-star flag lettersheet and envelope with federal usage at Walterborough, S.C. is postmarked May 20, 1861, after the war had begun [Figure 3]. The envelope bears the imprint "E.J. Purse Book, Job and Color Printer, Savannah, Ga." This southern printing would be an example of Group B designs.

Of considerable rarity is a cover that bears the imprint "Jas. L. Gow, Printer, Augusta, Ga." [Figure 4]. This southern-produced envelope was mailed without a stamp in Baltimore on May 14, 1861. It was sent to New York with "Due 3" notation. The receiver wrote the name of the sender across the middle of the envelope. This cover came from an

old collection made during the Civil War. There are a number of similar overall flag designs, some showing the names of the Confederate president and vice president. Such envelopes are known with Confederate usages from many towns, even with Confederate stamps, but they are also known with postmarks from a number of northern cities.

Finally, a considerable number of unused envelopes bearing different seven-star flag designs can be found that are only known unused, which I call Group C. Shown are two such covers [Figure 5]. Many of these designs resemble covers with known postal usage, so particular care must be taken to differentiate between the seven-star flag designs.

There is controversy as to when patriotic



Figure 5. Designs of two unused envelopes showing seven-star flags. These designs are not known postally used.

covers showing southern themes and images were manufactured in the North. It is well documented that patriotic envelopes were collected during the Civil War and stored in albums, some as early as 1861.² In *Abraham Lincoln Illustrated Envelopes and Letter Paper 1860–1865* (1984), I illustrated the cover to a printed album and also the title page to an 1861 scrapbook collection of more than 1,000 cut-up envelopes.³

All three groups of seven-star patriotic envelopes were most likely produced in 1861, many with the intent to be sold in southern states. The remainders were sold to northern collectors of patriotic envelopes. I know of no evidence for the printing or reprinting of patriotic covers after the war ended. There were plenty of remainders available for collectors, and it is likely that the urge to collect these envelopes lessened after 1865.

Additional states joined the original seven Confederate states in 1861. There are used patriotic envelopes and lettersheets that depict eight, nine, 10, 11 and even 12 and 13 stars in the flag designs.^{4, 5} While some of the envelope designs may have been printed in the North, it seems quite certain that others were printed in the South. It is likely that we will never know where particular designs originated.

The unused patriotic cover design depicting a 10-star Confederate flag can be found in many old collections of patriotic envelopes and, as such, is quite common. However, in the example shown, the June 28, 1862 Baltimore postmark would have to be considered an example of a northern design that was postally used in the North by a southern sympathizer [Figure 6]. Ten and even 12 stars are also found in the flags of some of the Confederate cannon and flag designs, but all of these appear to be genuine Confederate usages. However, some 12-star flag designs are only known as printings for souvenir collectors. The violet flag design here [Figure 7] is one found in the majority of holdings of unused patriotic covers. But the federal postal usage, from north to north, is exceptional.

In the end, 11 states joined the Confederate States of America. Several of the few items of patriotic stationery that show 12 and 13 stars seemed to have been southern printings showing a hoped-for ending; others are obviously souvenir envelopes made by northern printers. Nevertheless, there is little doubt that many of the 11-star designs were printed in the South. The 11-star motif can be found in the flags of two other groups of Confederate patriotic covers: the cannon and flag designs, and the designs showing Jefferson Davis flanked by two flags.

However, a second large group of 11-star designs appears to have been printed in the North after commencement of the



Figure 6. A 10-star flag envelope known to be northern by the existence of many remainders. However, this is a genuine postal use from Baltimore on June 28 (1862), probably from a southern sympathizer.



Figure 7. A 12-star flag envelope known to be northern by the existence of many remainders. This cover shows a postal use from Lawrence, Massachusetts to Boston, probably on October 11, 1861, and perhaps from a southern sympathizer. Illustration from Siegel, December 1995.



Figure 8. An overall design envelope with an 11-star flag from a northern printer, which is fairly common as an unused envelope. However, this example shows genuine postal use at Philadelphia. A postal clerk showed his disapproval of the design by striking it with a black grid three times.

war with intent to be sold to collectors. This subject of northern printing of Confederate designs was studied by George Malpass in 1948.⁶ A recently sold cover [Figure 8] said to have been in Malpass's own collection is shown. This overall



Figure 9. An envelope with blue flag of South Carolina, a northern printing showing postal use later during the war with "Bath N.H. Jul 16" and "paid" also in blue, tying a 3-cent 1861 stamp.



Figure 10. A "blue" flag of South Carolina cover is a well-known northern printing made for collectors after commencement of hostilities. This is a rare postal use with "Boston Mass Oct 22" in red and a black "paid" on a 3-cent 1861 stamp. Illustration courtesy Joseph Holleman.



Figure 11. An unused envelope with overall design of 11 stars in spherical blue arrangement and three bars in red and white with black overprint, "These Colours Dont Run," a northern printing not intended for postal use.

flag design is again common as an unused envelope, but this particular cover, addressed to "John Wyman, Ventriloquist, Washington, D.C.", shows federal use at Philadelphia, likely postmarked on November 19, 1862. Interestingly, someone, probably a postal clerk, wrote "No Go" in pencil and canceled the flag with three strikes of his postage stamp killer.

In addition to flags with stars, there are a series of en-

velopes showing blue flags with a palmetto tree, the flag of South Carolina. Postal use of certain designs of this style are known from federal to southern states before the war. It is my opinion that the majority of these South Carolina flag designs are federal printings that were sold to southern booksellers. There are many designs known only as unused envelopes. Even some of the ones showing imprints in the South may have been printed in the North. But the remainders were probably sold to the northern patriotic envelope collectors.

A quality printing with the seven tack-style flag (these designs show three or seven tacks to the pole) is illustrated [Figure 9]. It resembles the design shown as Figure 156 in Wishnietsky's *Confederate Patriotic Covers and Their Usages* (1991), but close inspection shows that all parts of the design are different. Postal uses of this design envelope are very rare; the cover shown may be the only known example. The usage of the 1861 stamp in July establishes 1862 as the probable date of usage, so this cover was mailed in the North at Bath, New Hampshire during the war.

Another well-known unused design is represented by a second cover from the "John Wyman, Ventriloquist" correspondence. This blue-on-orange envelope is different from anything produced in the South and it is fairly common as an unused envelope. The depicted envelope is a rare federal postal use of a northern printing of a Confederate design [Figure 10].

Malpass listed many other designs that are known only as unused envelopes in his *Stamp Specialist* article. Many of the designs are quite common and are today offered for sale as Confederate envelopes, but they are in reality northern printings of souvenir envelopes not intended for postal use.⁷

Another subject reviewed by Malpass was patriotic covers with black overprints that describe strong southern sentiment against the North.⁸ However, all of these covers were made in the North. They were printed after the war began and were not intended for postal use. It seems likely that most, if not all, were printed in 1861. Many of these designs are very rare and none are common. Shown [Figure 11] is one of the two common red and blue overall 11-star

flag designs with a "These Colours Dont Run." overprint.

Both the envelope and the overprint are Union printings, presumably by the same printer. Such overprints appear as both pro-Confederate and anti-Confederate. For instance, one example of the other 11-star overall three-bar envelope design has an overprint that reads, "The Pirate's Pride. The Stars and Bars In the Dust Shall Fall, and the Flag of Colum-

bia Shall Wave Over All."

One interesting group of Union patriotic envelopes shows pro-South designs in violet or blue. These same designs were

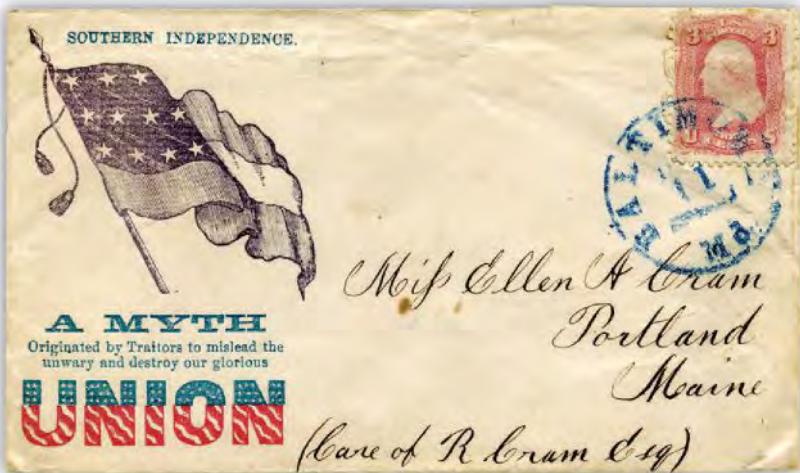


Figure 12. An 11-star Confederate flag cover printed in purple, and a dual color printing in blue and red with Union slogans. There is postal usage with a 3-cent pink shade Washington tied "Baltimore MD Oct 11" in blue.



Figure 13. Several items from correspondence to brothers in the Careins family are in Figures 13–17. An envelope shows the violet great seal of Maryland with states' rights slogan and addition "In the Union" in red and blue. It's postally used with a stamp tied with a cancellation on November 27 from Jarrettsville, Maryland.

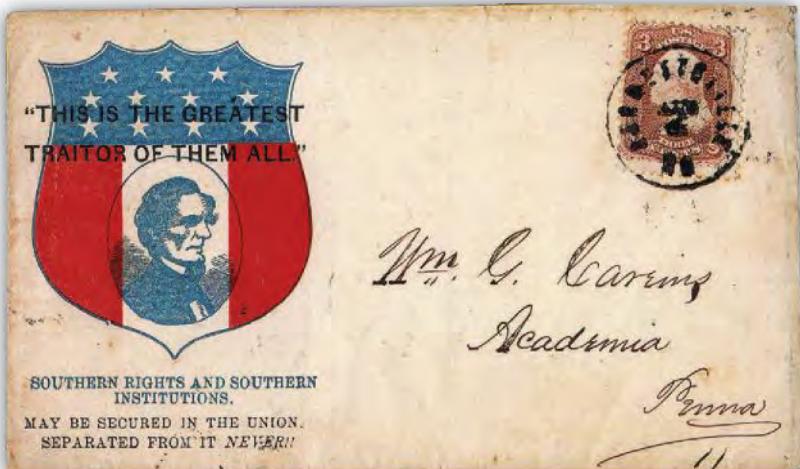


Figure 14. The next cover features a shield and Jefferson Davis' image in red and blue with a black overprint of strong anti-South nature. An 1861 3-cent stamp is canceled in Jarrettsville in August, unknown date. The design is one of a series showing this image of Davis, almost always seen as unused envelopes.

then overprinted with red and blue pro-North sentiments. Most of the series are shown in the Weiss catalog.⁹ Illustrated is an 11-star Confederate flag in purple beneath the words, "Southern Independence." Below this image is additional text in blue and red reflecting pro-Union sentiment: "A Myth Originated by Traitors to mislead the unwary and destroy our glorious Union" [Figure 12]. Both the design in violet and the design with the additional blue and red printing were intended for sale to collectors of patriotic envelopes living in the northern states. Because the overprints showed Union sentiment, federal postal uses of this series exist, although they are quite uncommon.

One series of historic covers consists of correspondence between two Careins brothers. One brother sent letters in patriotic envelopes from Jarrettsville, Maryland to his brother, William, who attended school at Academia, Juniata County, Pennsylvania¹⁰ and at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania.

First [Figure 13] is a cover with the great seal of the state of Maryland which, in this series, is meant to be a pro-South design. However, it has been overprinted in blue and red "Marylanders Know Their Rights, and Knowing, Dare Maintain Them in the Union," to establish that this is a pro-Union sentiment.

Another cover from the correspondence [Figure 14] shows Jefferson Davis superimposed on a red, white and blue shield with strong pro-South sentiment "Southern Rights and Southern Institutions." The shield has been overprinted in black "This is the greatest traitor of them all," while beneath the original "Southern Rights" imprint, words have been added: "May Be Secured In the Union. Separated From It Never!!"

A third piece of correspondence was written

STAMP LIBRARY RESOURCES

Those interested in the topic of Confederate Civil War mail might consider these resources found in the American Philatelic Research Library.

Patriotic Envelopes of the Civil War, The Iconography of Union and Confederate Covers (2010), by Steven R. Boyd. Published by Louisiana State University Press. 132 pages with color illustrations.

Confederate States of America Catalog & Handbook of Stamps and Postal History (2012), by Patricia A. Kaufmann, Francis J. Crown and Jerry S. Palazolo. Update and expansion of the August Dietz classic work on Confederate postal history. Published by the Confederate Stamp Alliance. 516 pages, color illustrated.

[HTTP://CATALOG.STAMPLIBRARY.ORG](http://CATALOG.STAMPLIBRARY.ORG)

on a lettersheet [Figure 15] with an image of Jefferson Davis, cannons and southern flags above the words, "Hon. Jefferson Davis, the champion of the South." However, it was sent in

an envelope with Union modification of the seal of Virginia [Figure 16]. Below the state motto, "So be it ever to tyrants," has been added: "Who would destroy our Union."

There are two other designs in this series that show an image of Davis with overprinting to commemorate Major General William S. Rosecrans, "the hero of the West."

Three other covers in the Careins correspondence show northern printings with southern sentiment that were not sent through the mails. In the example shown, the canceled stamp is one removed from a different cover from Jarrettsville, Maryland. The handwriting of the address is that of the first brother [Figure 17].

The final illustration shows an envelope with both the text and the design showing southern sentiment, yet this envelope is a northern printing meant to be sold to northern Civil War envelope



Figure 15. A Careins correspondence item features a northern-printed lettersheet showing Davis in black, red and blue.



Figure 16. A Union-type envelope with the Virginia seal in purple, the Union slogan in red and blue, and a 3-cent 1861 stamp canceled November 18, 1861 in Jarrettsville, Maryland.

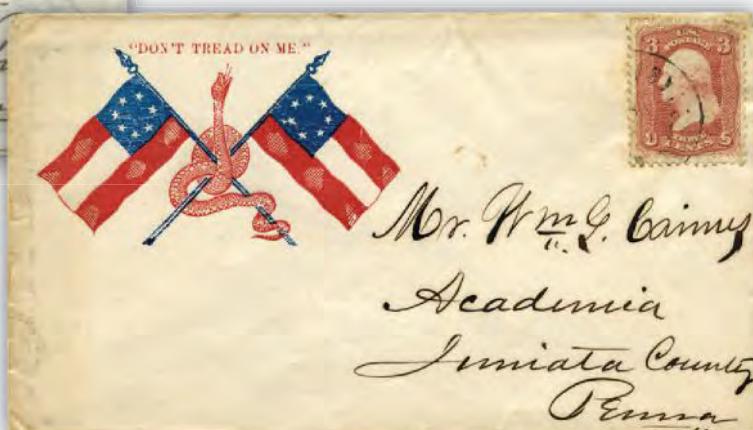


Figure 17. A Careins correspondence cover with a very common design showing crossed 7-star Confederate flags with a snake and slogan, "Don't Tread On Me." While addressed similar to other envelopes in the correspondence, any original stamp, if it existed, is missing. This stamp was removed from another envelope and placed on this one. Thus, this pro-South design was likely not sent through the mail.

APS SPECIALTY SOCIETIES

Stamps and covers of the Confederate States of America are studied by members of the Confederate Stamp Alliance (APS #AF0073). The society offers a quarterly journal, the *Confederate Philatelist*, and expertizing, handbooks, exhibition and special awards. Dues for members living in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico are \$32 annually. The group's website is: www.csalliance.org; contact: Richard F. Murphy, 1489 Oakhurst Drive, Mount Pleasant, SC 29466-9191; or e-mail: richardmurphy167@gmail.com.

STAMPS.ORG/SPECIALTY-SOCIETIES



Figure 18. An unused envelope with a camp scene and two Confederate flags and wording in yellow, red, and blue that appears to be Southern sentiments. The envelope likely was printed in the North after the war began and is intended to be a souvenir envelope for northern envelope collectors.

collectors. Most of these types of envelope were probably printed in 1861, possibly some in 1862 [Figure 18].

Endnotes

1. James W. Milgram, "Long-shaft, Seven-star Patriotic Design," *Confederate Philatelist* (Nov-Dec 2004): 233–238.
2. James W. Milgram, *Federal Civil War Postal History* (Lake Forest, IL: Northbrook Publ. Co., 2007).
3. James W. Milgram, *Abraham Lincoln Illustrated Envelopes and Letter Paper 1860–1865* (Lake Forest, IL: Northbrook Publ. Co., 1984), pp. 217–218.

4. Benjamin Wishnietsky, *Confederate Patriotic Covers and Their Usages* (Miami, FL: N. Philips, 1991).
5. *Civil War Used Patriotics, Featuring the Collection of Professor Jon E. Bischof*, Nutmeg Stamp Sales, June 21, 2000.
6. George N. Malpass, "A Checklist of Uncatalogued Envelopes Bearing Patriotic Designs of Southern Sentiment," *The Stamp Specialist*, Vol. 20 (1948): 40–64.
7. James W. Milgram, "Confederate Patriotic Cover Designs," *Confederate Philatelist*, Vol. 45 (Nov-Dec 2000): 205–216; Vol. 46 (Jan-Feb 2001): 5–19; Vol. 46 (Mar-Apr 2001): 41–51.
8. George N. Malpass, "'Anti-Confederate' Overprints," *The American Philatelist*, Vol. 68 (1955): 723–726.
9. William Weiss Jr., *The Catalog of Union Civil War Patriotic Covers* ([s.l.]: the Author, 1995), page 410.
10. The village of Academia, Pennsylvania grew up around the Tuscarora Academy, founded in the late 1820s by a local minister to educate young men. According to the school's catalog, "Every student applying for membership is expected to exhibit satisfactory testimonials of good moral character, to have attained at least a tolerable familiarity with the elementary English branches, and to have completed his twelfth year." A single small stone building is all that remains of the larger campus that continued in operation until 1911.

The Author

Dr. James W. Milgram is an author and frequent contributor to several philatelic journals, including *The American Philatelist*, with more than 550 published works. He collects postal markings and illustrated stationery of the early United States. His most recent book, published in 2016, is *American Illustrated Letter Stationery, 1819–1899*.

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Superheroes on Stamps

Collecting World's Collide With Stamps and Comics

BY TIMOTHY M. BERGQUIST

I have two hobbies: collecting United States and United Nations mint stamps and collecting Superman and related comic books. Both provide a lot of enjoyment. And now that I am retired from full-time teaching, they are even more enjoyable. But it is really fun when these two hobbies overlap.

I think that many of us grew up with comic books. But we put them aside for other life activities, such as attending college, marriage, raising children, and work. Many people have come back to these hobbies later in life, like I did. I started collecting stamps at age 30 in 1979 (to explore the history and geography depicted) and Superman comics at age 40 in 1989 (my sons got me a subscription at a local comic store). Now many of those who collect comics are older adults who have the money to spend (very similar to the stamp collector demographic). But, thanks to movies and television shows, many young people are starting to collect comic books.

My two collecting worlds have collided more than once, especially in recent years with U.S. stamps. There are a relatively few number of stamps featuring superheroes, so collecting them is not too expensive, but they are colorful and rich in meaning.

The first true superhero was Superman, who appeared in *Action Comics* No. 1, issued in April 1938, though it is dated June. Superman quickly became the icon against which all other superheroes are measured. Before we dive into the stamps, let's explore the comic books.

About Comic Books

For stamps, of course, the main guides in the United States are the Scott catalogs and its numbering system, published by Amos Media Co. For comics, the guide is *The Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide*, which, like Scott, is updated annually. The most recent is

the 44th edition, published in 2016 by Gemstone Publishing Inc. [Figure 1]. The numbering system is determined by the comic publishers themselves, unlike stamp catalogs, whose numbering systems are controlled by the catalog publishers. Each comic is numbered and dated, including its series. *Action Comics* and *Detective Comics* are in the 900s.

There are three main publishers of comics: DC Comics Inc., Marvel, and Dark Horse. DC started as National Allied Publications in 1934. It got the name DC from its series called *Detective Comics*, in which Batman first appeared in 1940 (issue No. 37). Now the comics are part of DC Entertainment, a division of Warner Brothers, which itself is owned by Time Warner. Some of the DC superhero characters include Superman, Supergirl, Batman, Wonder Woman, Green Lantern, Flash, and Aquaman. Marvel Comics started in 1939 as Timely Publications. It got its name from its first publication, *Marvel Comics*. As of 2009, Marvel Entertainment became a division of The Walt Disney Company. Some of its characters include Spider-Man, the X-Men, the Fantastic Four,

Iron Man, Captain America, and the Avengers, among others. Dark Horse Comics started in 1986 in my hometown of Milwaukie, Oregon, a suburb of Portland. It publishes many licensed comics and used to have the *Star Wars* comic franchise until Disney bought it in 2012 from LucasFilms. Some of its comics include Hellboy, Sin City, Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Conan, Aliens, and Predator, among others. There are also many independent publishers, who publish a variety of comics, including Japanese Manga.

Just like stamps, comics have grades, ranging numerically from 0.5 (poor) to 10.0 (gem mint). Among the interim grades are, in order of high to low: 10.0 (gem mint), 9.0 (very fine/near mint), 8.0 (very fine), 7.0 (fine/very fine), 6.0

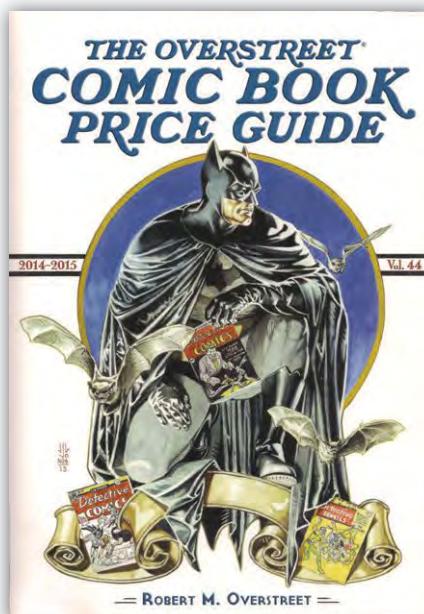


Figure 1. The 44th edition of *The Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide* shows Batman.

(fine), 5.0 (very good/fine), 4.0 (very good), 3.0 (good/very good), 2.0 (good), 1.0 (fair), and 0.5 (poor).

Two companies do most of the grading: Certified Guaranty Company, known as CGC, which started in 1999, and Comic Book Certification Service, also called CBCS, which just recently started. Once a comic book receives a high grade, it is usually encapsulated; that is, put in a plastic protective case. Most comic collectors place their comics in 3-mil polyethylene bags (1 mil is .001 of an inch) with backer boards and put them in long or short boxes for storage.

Again, just like stamps, comic books have their high value ones. An *Action Comics* No. 1 in a grade of 9.0 sold for \$3.2 million on eBay in August 2014 [Figure 2].

There are very few of these early comics around, since many of us as kids, me included, read comics for the stories and were not thinking of preserving them. For example, I had a copy of *Action Comics* No. 252, issued in May 1959, which had the first appearance of Super-



Figure 2. A 1996 reprint of the cover of *Action Comics* No. 1, which introduced the character Superman.

girl (Superman's cousin from Krypton), but it disappeared in a move. Now that comic in good condition goes for more than \$5,000. Oh, well. I still read for the stories and illustrations (an art form in itself) but also like to keep them as close to mint as I can.

Comic books are classified into time periods, similar to stamps: Golden Age (1938–early 1950s), Silver Age (mid-1950s–1970), Bronze Age (1970–1985), and Modern Age (1985 to present). There are also some who use a Copper Age and a Platinum Age but these are not generally accepted. At various times, some of the major publishers have done a rebooting of their comics, like DC Comics did in 1986 (after Crisis) and 2011 (New 52) and 2016 (Rebirth), which involved renumbering many of their comic titles.

United States Superhero Stamps

There have been two general issues of Superhero stamps by the U.S. Postal Service. These are both panes of 20 stamps, with 10 superheroes shown along with an image from their comic book cover. The first shows superheroes from DC Comics and was issued on July 20, 2006 at the San Diego Comic-Con with a denomination of 39 cents [Figure 3]. The 10 superheroes depicted are, in order: Superman, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman, Green Arrow, Batman, The Flash, Plastic Man, Aquaman, Supergirl, and Hawkman. Many of these heroes are also a part of the Justice League story line. This is a group of superheroes who work together to fight injustice and supervillians.

The back of the stamp pane has brief descriptions of each character. For example, for Superman it says "Art by Curt Swan & Sheldon Moldoff. Ever since his debut in the pages of *Action Comics* No. 1 (June 1938), the Superman character created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster has been an icon. The big red 'S' on his shirt is among the most recognized symbols in American pop culture." A set of 20 picture postal cards (Scott UX458 to UX477) was issued in conjunction with the pane. In addition, the USPS issued a folio that provided information on each stamp and included a full pane of the stamps.

On July 26, 2007, the USPS issued a Marvel Comics Super Heroes pane of 20 stamps with a denomination of 41 cents,



Figure 3. The DC Comics Super Heroes stamp in a pane of 20 with 10 superheroes and their comic book covers, Scott 4084. Also issued companion picture postal cards.



Figure 4. The Marvel Comics Super Heroes stamp pane of 20 with 10 superheroes and their comic book covers, Scott 4159. It was issued at San Diego Comic-Con.

again at the San Diego Comic-Con. The 10 superheroes featured are, in order: Spider-Man, The Hulk, Sub-Mariner, The Thing, Captain America, Silver Surfer, Spider-Woman, Iron Man, Elektra, and Wolverine [Figure 4].

Again, there were brief descriptions about each character on the back of the pane. Many of these characters were created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby. The Thing is a part of the Fantastic Four, while The Hulk, Captain America and Iron Man are members of the Avengers, and Wolverine is a among the X-men.

A similar set of postal cards (Scott UX509 to 528) was also issued with the pane. Again, the USPS issued a folio, but this time called it a creativity kit, which included not only

information on each stamp and a full pane, but also material to create a comic book with instructions.

No supervillains have been featured on U.S. stamps, but each superhero has his or her own set of bad guys that consistently cause them problems. For Superman, these include Lex Luthor, the Parasite, and the occasional invader from outer space like Darkseid and Brainiac, among others.

In October 1985, Canada issued a set of five 45-cent stamps in booklet form [Figure 5] picturing five Canadian-related superheroes, including Superman, Johnny Canuck, Nelvana, Captain Canuck, and Fleur de Lys. Joe Shuster, who created Superman along with Jerry Siegel, was born in Toronto, Canada, so there is a Canadian connection.

Superman Stamps

As mentioned earlier, Superman is considered the first true and quintessential superhero. He was born on the planet Krypton as Kal-El and sent to earth as a baby by his parents Jor-El and Lara just before the planet exploded. He was raised by Jonathan and Martha Kent in Smallville, Kansas and later became a reporter for the *Daily Planet* newspaper in Metropolis in his secret identity guise as mild-mannered reporter Clark

Kent. Some of his fellow reporters are Lois Lane and Jimmy Olsen, each of whom had their own comic book series at one time. Supergirl, born Kara Zor-El, is Superman's cousin (their fathers are brothers) and came from Krypton much later as a teenager. In the comic book story, the "S" emblem each wear is actually the symbol for the House of El, and does not mean Superman as commonly thought.

The Superman website, supermanhomepage.com, is the place to learn about Superman. In June 2016, Metropolis, Illinois, the "Home of Superman," held its 38th annual four-day Superman Celebration.

The community, we'd like to note, did give Superman his philatelic due before all others by issuing souvenir covers



Figure 5. A strip of five superheroes from a Canada booklet includes Superman, Scott 1579–1583).

Figure 6. Metropolis, Illinois celebrates Superman every year with a celebration, which includes souvenir event covers. These 1988 covers marked Superman's 50th anniversary. Image courtesy of Jeff Stage.



honoring the superhero [Figure 6]. The Superman Museum in town holds all kinds of memorabilia about him (supermuseum.com).

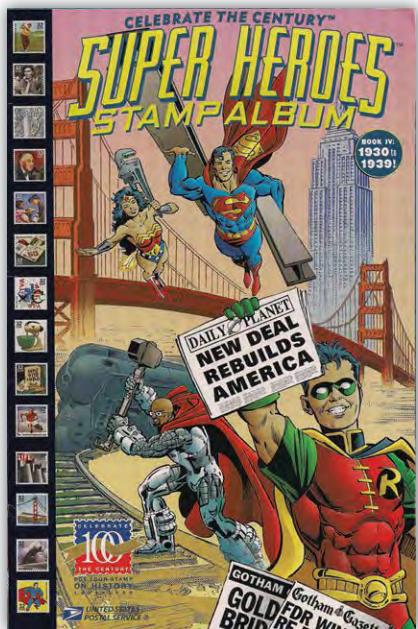


Figure 8. *Celebrate the Century Super Heroes Stamp Album* comic book for the 1930s, published by USPS and DC Comics.

books highlighting the 10 sheets (one for each decade) titled *Super Heroes Stamp Album* [Figure 8]. The 1930s book features Superman, Wonder Woman, and Robin.

Besides the DC Comics pane, there has been only one other USPS stamp to show Superman. This was on the *Celebrate the Century 1930s* sheet of 15 (Scott 3815f) issued in 1998 [Figure 7]. In conjunction with this series, the U.S. Postal Service collaborated with DC Comics to publish a series of 10 comic

While the USPS snubbed Superman for his 75th anniversary (a fact that is a sore point with this Superman fan), Canada did not [Figure 9]. In fact, Canada issued several stamps on September 10, 2013, all nondenominated permanent stamps (63 cents at that time). The coil stamp (Scott 2678) shows the "S" symbol in a vertical format. The booklet shows five different images of Superman (Scott 2679–2683), while the same images are on a souvenir sheet.

The stamp designs come from covers of comics issued in 1939, 1945, 1971, 2004, and 2012. The booklet was issued with five different covers. Ten international rate picture postal cards also were is-

Figure 9. Canada issued Superman stamps for the character's 75th anniversary in 2013, including the "S" shield of Superman in a vertical coil-pair format, Scott 2678. Five images of Superman over the ages appear on a souvenir sheet [cropped to show the stamps], Scott 2677. The same designs were issued in a booklet format.



Figure 7. The first appearance of Superman on a U.S. stamp is in the 1930s *Celebrate the Century* sheet, Scott 3815f.





Figure 10. A set of six Jersey commemorative stamps show actor Henry Cavill portraying Superman in the movie, *Man of Steel* (2013). Here are two of the stamps, Scott 1682, 45 cents; Scott 1686, 80 cents.

sued at the same time, five with the booklet cover images and five with the stamp images. Unfortunately, at the time of issue, none of the stamps could be sold outside of Canada by Canada Post because of a licensing agreement.

The Island of Jersey issued several stamps on June 7, 2013 showing actor Henry Cavill (a native of Jersey), in his role as Superman in the movie *Man of Steel* (2013). Six single stamps and a souvenir sheet show Cavill in various poses wearing the costume [Figure 10]. The single stamps were printed in denominations of 45, 55, 60, 68, 80, and 88 cents while the souvenir sheet is denominated at £3. Each stamp has a special finish that relates to Superman's powers. The souvenir sheet is lenticular, showing Superman in flight.

Batman Stamps

While Superman was not celebrated on his 75th anniversary by the USPS, the Postal Service did issue a pane of Batman stamps on October 9, 2014 for his 75th anniversary. The pane has 20 stamps in eight different designs. Four costumes with four different bat emblems are shown, each from a different comic age [Figure 11]. Batman, created by Bob Kane and Bill Finger, first appeared in *Detective Comics No. 27* issued in May 1939. He later had his own series, starting with *Batman No. 1* in spring 1940. Just like Superman he has gone through much iteration and currently has several titles. Unlike Superman, Batman has no special powers but relies on his physical and detective skills to combat crime in Gotham. Other characters in the Batman universe include his crime-fighting partner, Robin, and Batgirl. Villains include the Jok-



Figure 11. The Batman pane of 20 stamps with eight different designs, including four bat emblems and four costumes, from the four comic eras, Scott 4928–4935.

er, Two-Face, Poison Ivy, and the Penguin, among others.

Wonder Woman Stamps

The U.S. Postal Service issued a pane of 20 stamps in four designs on October 7, 2016, at the New York Comic-Con to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Wonder Woman [Figure 12]. Each design depicts her in a different comic-book era. She first appeared in *All Star Comics No. 8* in December 1941. On the front page of the early comics, she was said to be “beautiful as Aphrodite, wise as Athena, swifter than Hermes, and stronger than Hercules.” She was co-created by William Moulton Marston and his wife, Elizabeth. Marston also was the creator of a systolic blood-pressure measuring apparatus that led to his invention of the polygraph.

Wonder Woman and Batman, along with Superman, have been the three main comic book characters of DC Comics since the beginning of superheroes. They are the principle characters in the Justice League and have appeared together in several comic series, like *Trinity*.

Bogus/Fake Stamps

Of course, with the popularity of today’s superheroes, it figured that someone would try to make a buck off of it illegally through stamps. Two bogus panes of nine stamps each were issued in 2001 depicting Superman, supposedly by Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Much of the artwork was pirated without permission by whoever fabricated these stamps. While they are pretty and easy to acquire on eBay, they are not worth the money. The same people likely issued a sheet of nine stamps for Batman as part of a History of Cinema series in 2016.

Benin issued two souvenir sheets with four stamps each in 2014, one of which showed Christopher Reeve, who played Superman in four movies and is considered by many to be the best representation of him and Clark Kent. Benin also issued a souvenir sheet of four for the movie *Batman* (1989) and another souvenir sheet of two showing Batman.

The Central African Republic has issued several souvenir sheets of six stamps each, many in 2016, depicting Christopher Reeve as Superman, Adam West as Batman (from the 1960s TV series), the recent *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* (2016) movie (two sheets), and a Wonder Woman sheet.

I hear that Tonga has issued multiple sheets showing Superman in 2016 from the four movies with Reeve (who died in 2004), the two movies with Brandon Routh, and three from cartoons.

Finally, someone in Australia has printed some stamps as a local post that shows Reeve as Superman. One set has four stamps and the other two sets have three stamps each.

All of these bogus stamps are easy to find on the Internet and very popular on eBay, but are not listed in any catalog. Even the presentation of names of the issuing countries are often bogus.

Other Comics Characters on Stamps

Aside from superheroes, there are many other characters appearing on U.S. stamps that have their own comic book



Figure 12. The Wonder Woman pane of 20 stamps with four different designs, representing the four eras of comic books, Scott 5149–5152.

series. These include Lassie and the Lone Ranger (from the Early TV Memories pane of 20 issue in 2009; Scott 4414), the Looney Tunes characters Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck (Scott 3137 and 3306, respectively), and numerous Disney characters such as Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck (the four Art of Disney series of four stamps each: Friendship in 2004, Celebration in 2005, Romance in 2006, and Magic in 2007). Even Star Wars characters have appeared in several comic book series (Scott 4143 pane of 15 from 2007; and the Yoda stamp, Scott 4205).

It has been fun to research and see how many superheroes have been depicted on stamps by the United States, Canada, and other countries. What was surprising was the vast number of bogus/fake stamps that are out there.

I welcome feedback from readers. I especially want to hear about any stamps that I have missed or other superheroes that have been shown on stamps. This is a fun topical area and I have really enjoyed being able to connect my two hobbies.

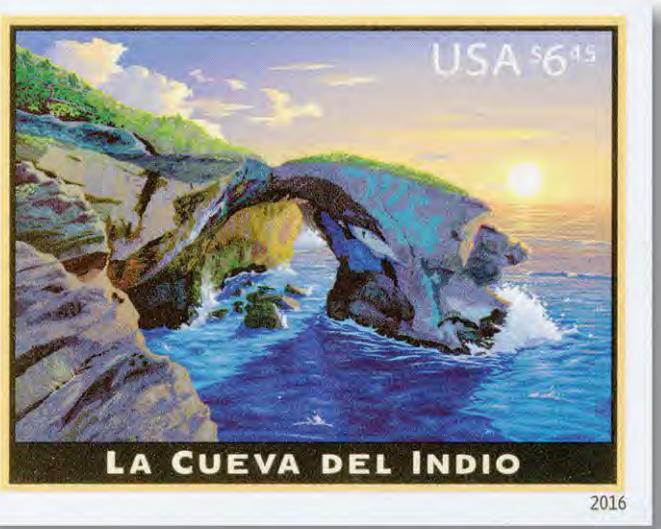
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The Author

Tim Bergquist is professor emeritus of quantitative analysis. He is now retired from 19 years of full-time teaching and previously retired from 20 years of active service in the U.S. Air Force. He is a Life Member of the American Philatelic Society and a member of the Greater Eugene Stamp Society.

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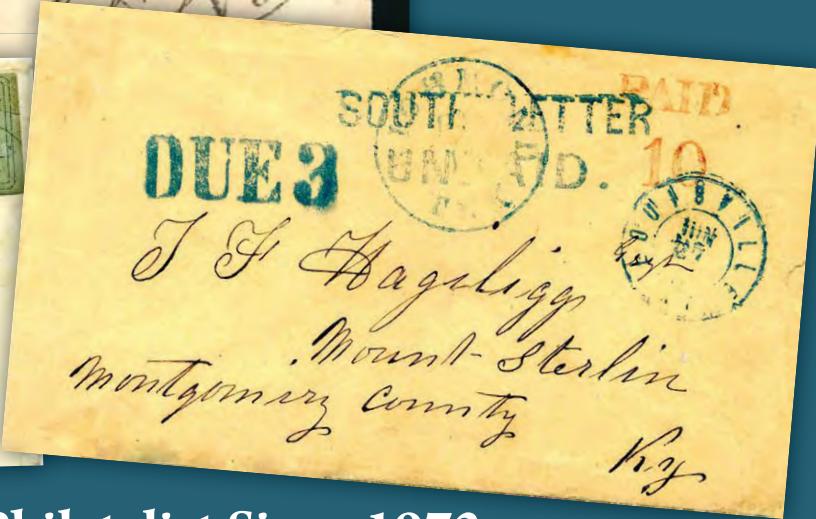
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Lone Surviving Event Cover Evidence of a Major Military Recruitment Drive

BY DON JONES

In July 1919, a recruiting drive with a 15,000-man goal was held across the country to try and fill the ranks which had been depleted at the close of World War I by personnel discharges from the United States Army.

Publicity was done well in advance of the event in various parts of the country. One of the advertising efforts provided by the post office in Galveston, Texas for this effort was a special envelope cachet for the upcoming event. These covers were either authorized by the local postmaster or the U.S. Post Office Department.

Although it was likely heavily advertised, there is only one cover known that advertised the "Ellington Field Recruiting Frolic" of 1919 [Figure 1]. The cover is franked with a 3-cent George Washington stamp and postmarked July 2, 1919.

The magenta rectangle cachet handstamp was lightly struck. It reads: "Ellington Field Recruiting Frolic, Aerial Mail To Houston, 15,000 Men Wanted For The Air Service."

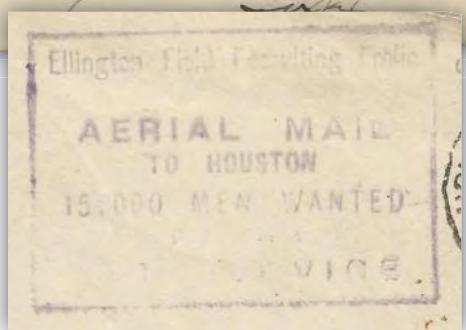
In Houston, Texas, the recruiting drive was highlighted by various attractions. One of the featured events was for the residents to have the opportunity to take a ride in an airplane. City officials and other dignitaries led off the festivities by flying over the area in a Handley Page aircraft that could carry 10 to 12 passengers. The trip lasted 90 minutes and covered about 115 miles.

For most of the men who went up in the Handley Page on July 9, 1919, it was their first time to ever be on board an airplane. Tales of the thrilling adventure were captured in the local press, as evident by the headlines of the day [Figure 2].

The envelope is known as a "special event,"



Figure 1. A cover advertising a 1919 military recruiting event in Texas. This may be the only surviving cover from the drive that had a goal of enlisting 15,000 soldiers.



Nothing Unpleasant at All
On First Airplane Voyage
Says Editor of The Press

MAYORS SEE CITIES
FROM NEW ANGLE,
LOOK SHEER DOWN

Amerman and Sappington,
With Newspaper Men,
Take a Flight

Figure 2.
Newspaper
headlines
from the
"Recruiting
Frolic" in
Texas.

AIRPLANE PARTY
SHIVERS WHILE
CITY SWELTERS

Freezing Weather Encountered as Mayors and Editors Pass Over Houston in Great Handley-Page.

Civilian Party Guest of Ellington Field Commander in 90-Minute Flight Over Two Cities.

or just an “event” cover. These kind of covers are often linked to specific one-time events, such as this recruiting drive, or perhaps an annual event, such as a modern air show. These covers have been created by both philatelists and non-collectors, usually to promote, advertise, or commemorate an event.

Among those who took part in this historic flight from Ellington Field were members of the local media and the mayors of Houston and Galveston, Almeron Amerman and A.O. Sappington, respectively.

“I hardly knew that I was moving,” said Amerman, as quoted in the *Post*. “It was just fine, and you might add that it was my first sight of the entire city of Houston. I never knew it was so big and never before really saw its possibilities for expansion.”

“The thing that struck me most was the wonderful color effects as we passed over Galveston, Texas City and Houston,” said *Post* publisher Roy G. Watson. “At Texas City, sulphur was being loaded and some of it fell into the water giving a beautiful color effect.”

The aerial tour was done mostly for recruiting purposes and to familiarize the media with the experience of flight.

“After my first air voyage, my advice to everybody is: go up in an airplane at your first opportunity,” said G.V. Sanders, editor of the *Press*. “It is an experience that nothing else can equal.”

Sanders and Chronicle City Editor Max Bentley sat at the front of the plane and had little protection from the wind.

“I had a peculiar feeling the first time I shouted something at my seatmate and as loud as I could yell and failed to hear the slightest sound of my voice,” Sanders said. “After that, I communicated with him in pantomime.”

According to the *Houston Chronicle*, the plane took off at 3 p.m. and headed for Harrisburg, crossing over Eastwood School (later, Lantrip Elementary), the Bristol Hotel, the Southern Pacific

roundhouse on Houston Avenue, back through Harrisburg, and over the Ford plant. From Harrisburg, the plane flew over Texas City and Galveston, and then over the Gulf for a few minutes before turning back.

A Short History of Handley Page

World War I saw the birth of strategic air power. Unlike tactical air power that focused on the support of ground troops, strategic bombing was aimed at the enemy’s ability to wage war with targets such as factories, rail yards, ship-



Figure 3. The Handley Page Bomber, O/400.

ping, military complexes and communication centers. This required planes to carry a large bomb payload and enough fuel to get them to their target and return.

The Handley Page 0/100 started the company on its way. It was built as a biplane, and led to two larger successors: the 0/400 and the V/1500. The 0/400 was selected for production in the United States and was designed to attack the enemy’s capital. Fully loaded, the plane weighed more than 30,000 pounds.

The initial version of the Handley Page Bomber, the O/100 (Type H.P.11), first flew on December 17, 1916 and was, at the time, the largest aircraft to be built in the United Kingdom. The first Handley Page Bomber squadron was formed in August 1916 and was deployed to France around the beginning of November 1916. It first saw combat on the night of March 16–17, 1917, when it was used to attack a German railway station.

The second version of the Handley Page Bomber, the O/400 (Type H.P.12),

was first deployed in early 1918 and had the more powerful Rolls-Royce Eagle piston engines. They remained in service until late 1919, when they were replaced by the Vickers Vimy bomber.

The Handley Page 0/400 came into service only a few weeks before the war was over, so they were never used for their intended mission. It only remained in squadron service for a short while after the Armistice, when it was replaced by the Vickers Vimy heavy bombers and Airco DH 10 Amiens medium bombers.

After World War I, about 10 of the Handley Page O/400 bombers were converted to 12-seat airliners, which were designated the Handley-Page O/10 or O/11. Handley Page Transport used them on their London to Paris, France route. A total of 663 HP O/400s were built, including 107 that were built under license in the United States by the Standard Aircraft Corporation.

Author’s Note: The majority of the newspaper account information was researched by J.R. Gonzales of Houston, Texas, dated September 6, 2007, and to him a vote of thanks for recording this event in airmail history.

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- Handley Page* (1999), by Alan Dowsett, Tempus Publishing Limited, Gloucestershire.
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The Author

A.D. (“Don”) Jones of Virginia is a retired senior weapons system engineer and nationally and internationally qualified philatelic judge emeritus. He collects and exhibits pioneer and U.S. government airmail, Latvia, and the topical areas of scuba diving, and out-houses. He was the recipient of the 2010 Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research. He has also contributed articles to a variety of philatelic journals.



Solved: The Oldenburg Mystery

The Stamp Authentication Cover Story

It's real! Last month's cover story of *The American Philatelist* presented a step-by-step process of identifying a stamp — possibly Oldenburg, Scott 4 — that we hoped could be added to the APS Reference Collection.

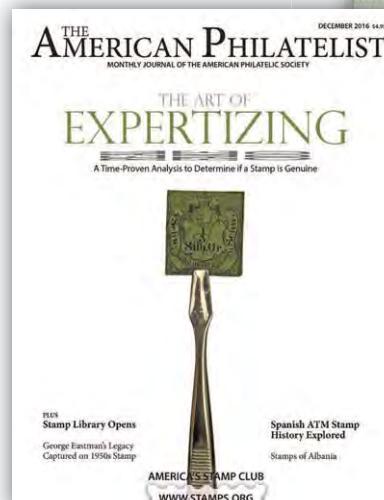
We felt confident that it was real (six other examples of the same stamp were rejected for features that made their genuineness suspicious), but to be sure, we sent it to our German States experts of the American Philatelic Expertizing Service. We held our collective breaths a little when the application was returned. Four of the 29 boxes were notated and 25 were not marked. Those missing checkmarks included reprint, bogus, counterfeit, fake cancellation, reperforated, regummed, cleaned, and creased. We smiled.

Boxes that had checkmarks were: properly identified, genuine in all respects, used, and thinned. The handwritten comments include: "Oldenburg, Sc 4 ...used ... 'Atens' box cancel in blue ... genuine ... several thins noted." (Atens is a borough of Nordenham, near Oldenberg)

We can happily live with this result and have added the stamp to our Reference Collection.

Quick I.D.

Do you want to buy a stamp on the internet, but aren't sure it is properly identified? Do you have a question about a stamp you already own? The society's Quick I.D. can help identify that



The APEX certificate certifying the society's latest addition to its Reference Collection: Oldenburg, Scott 4. The stamp was featured on the cover of the December issue of *The American Philatelist*.

American Philatelic Society

Expert Committee Report

Members of the American Philatelic Expertizing Service have examined the item submitted and it is their opinion that it is: Oldenburg, Scott No. 4, Michel No. 1, used, 'ATENS' box cancel in blue, genuine, several thins.



stamp. This is a quick identification service for items not normally listed in the standard postage catalogs, such as foreign revenue stamps, charity labels, local stamps, etc. Please note that it is not an official opinion of authenticity as offered by our American Philatelic Expertizing Service (APEX).

Forged or Genuine?

By Bill Dixon

British North Borneo, Scott 35–43

One of these stamps is genuine, the other fake.

Hints: The North Borneo Scott 35–43 genuine have perforations of 14, while the forgeries have varied sizes of perforations. The forgeries show less detail and the perforations are not as regular.

stamps.org/forged-or-genuine



A.



B.

"A" is genuine and "B" is forged.

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SMQ \$700 Our Price \$850



#129. 15¢ Brown & Blue Re-Issue, Original Gum, Wide Margins, Deep Rich Colors, Almost Perfectly Centered, Exceptionally Fresh, Perfectly Centered Vignette! VF-XF, a Gorgeous O.G. 15-Cent 1869 Pictorial. With a Philatelic Foundation Certificate Graded VF-XF 85 PH; "Should Have Been a 95."

SMQ \$2,250 Our Price \$2,000



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SMQ \$2,000 Our Price \$1,750

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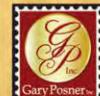


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BY JEFF STAGE editorial associate
jstage@stamps.org

A Collector's Notes and Comments on the Rare and Mysterious Colombian Airmails 1919–1923, compiled by Barry P. Fletcher

The author says right up front that this book on slick paper with plenty of text and sometimes larger-than-life-sized images, is not a catalog. It is more of a promotion, defense, and chance to expose a little recognized set of philatelic rarities and mysteries.

"This is a fascinating area, with stamps and philatelic material comprising experimental, official, and unofficial materials," Fletcher writes in an Overview. "If any series of airmail stamps and covers have extraordinary interest, mystery ... this is an area requiring an Agatha Christie degree of investigation."

Goodie, I love a mystery!

Fletcher proceeds to cover usages of Colombian airmail stamps of 1919–23 (Scott C1–C24B and C36–C37), some of which draw six-figure realizations at auctions. In nine chapters, a few with some subchapters, the author offers an in-depth look at the stamps, their proofs, varieties, and interesting usages.

The book is filled with technical details about the stamps, along with histories of auction realizations. (I found all of it a little disorganized and a little overwhelming, but the illustrations are gorgeous and anyone who is truly motivated can surely dig out the information they seek.)

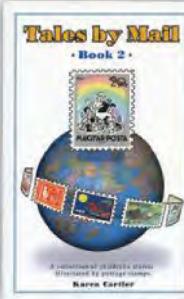
Along with the stamps and covers are chapters on the handsome, vintage 1919 air flight-labels from the Curtiss (misspelled "Curtis") Aeroplane and Motor Car Co. of Buffalo that were often sold or given as promotional material. At some point, someone overprinted some labels with "Compania Colombiana de Navegacion Aerea," and stuck them on airmail pieces. These seem to be quite rare, but very interesting.

Fletcher, a graduate of the University of Cape Town (South Africa) and a resident of Singapore, is a specialist in international taxation and economics. His other specializations include Basutoland Officials, and the French occupation of Togo, the Seychelles. He previously published *The Rare Basutoland Officials* (1997).

Self-published in Singapore 2016. Softbound with card covers, 8½ inches by 11¾ inches, 128 color pages. \$28 postpaid to U.S. addresses from Philatelic Bibliopole, PO Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233.

Tales by Mail, Book 2, by Karen Cartier

This is a revised collection of 25 children's stories illus-



trated by postage stamps and is aimed at parents and grandparents who want to share stamps and literature with their offspring.

Cartier has collected postage stamps for the past 50 years that portray fairy-tales, folktales, legends, and mythology from around the world. This new collection is a sequel to Book 1 published 16 years ago.

"[Karen's] diligent search for beautiful, story-related stamps and her meticulous researching of the folktales they depict result in an irresistible merging of visual art and fine writing," says Gwendolyn Jones in an unsolicited Foreword. Jones is a Professor Emerita at the College of New Jersey and founder of the Garden State Storytellers League.

Among the diverse collection of stamps — and their stories — featured are those from Austria ("Legend of the Last Basilisk"), Greenland ("The Girl Who Was Abducted by an Eagle"), Ireland ("The Children of Lir"), Japan ("The Mice Paradise"), Palau ("Pele, the Volcano Goddess"), Zambia ("How the Tortoise Got His Shell"), and the United States ("Tall Tales of Pecos Bill.")

None of the stories are particularly long and all are easy to read (and listen to.) Names and words that might not be familiar with English readers have phonetic guides: Uaripi (Oo-a-rippy) and Oamukapo (Ohm-mook-a-po) from "The Legend of the Morning Star" (Papua & New Guinea). Here's a passage from it:

"He and his wife paddled off toward the horizon. After a long time, the canoe reached the edge of the earth as (the) stars arose. He saw that the stars were close enough to stand on. Morning Star helped his wife and children step on the stars and he followed them..."

Cartier even rates the stories, so you may find a G on most; a PG on a handful meant for older children.

Included is a full-sized Mercator map of the world noting the 24 countries represented in the book.

(One note about the book. It's possible a few folks saw a

The Children Of Lir

[PG]



© Stamp issued May 14, 1997. The right to reproduce this stamp was given by written permission of the Ireland Postal Service. Alteration of this image in any way is forbidden.

Geography: Ireland is located in the Atlantic Ocean, near the United Kingdom. Main products are machinery, transport equipment, food and chemical products.

A sample page with an Irish stamp from *Tales by Mail, Book 2*.

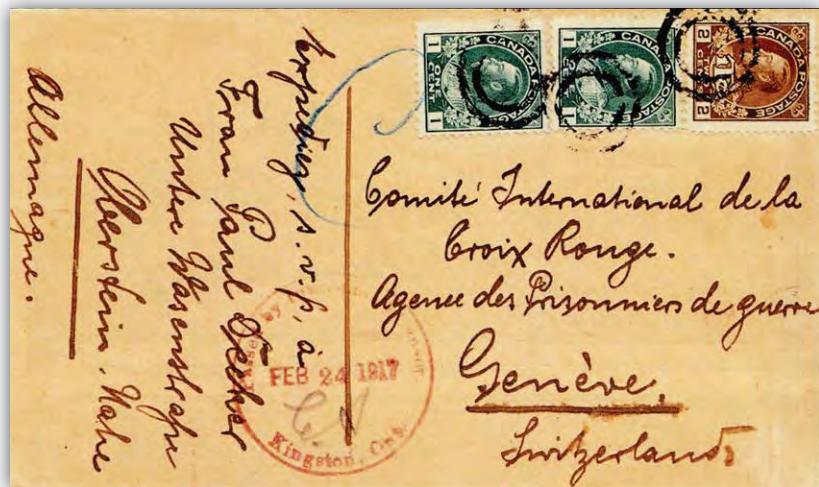
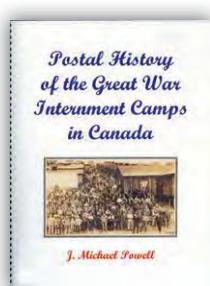
version of this with 35 stories printed in 2006. The new version has full proper-use rights from the appropriate postal services to reproduce the included stamp images.)

Self-published 2016 by Legend Lady Press, softcover, 5 ½ inches by 8½ inches, 140 pages, with color illustrations. \$12.95, plus shipping; APS members, \$11, plus shipping through APS website.

British North America Philatelic Society Postal History of the Great War Internment Camps in Canada, by J. Michael Powell.

This massive volume presents a rich and detailed historical account and the postal history of prisoners held at 25 locales, spread from coast to coast, in Canada during World War I.

After combining his own collection of pertinent material with those of several prominent collectors, the author embarked on an incredible research effort. In addition to the large number of letters and postcards to and from internees — mostly enemy alien civilians but including some prisoners of war — the book features excellent reproductions of hand-stamps and postmarks and extensive use of contem-



A cover sent from the internment camp at Kingston, Ontario — Fort Henry — to the Red Cross Prisoner of War Agency in Switzerland. It is canceled February 24, 1917 and has a March 3, 1917 receiving cancel. Postage was used, though, the cover should have been sent for free because it was mailed to an aid organization.

porary postcards and photographs of the various camps, adding tremendous additional context to the philatelic material.

In a few introductory chapters we learn the basics:

• Internment Operations was established November 6, 1914 (three months after the war started), with Major General Sir William Dillon Otter in charge. The headquarters was at the Banque Nationale Building in Ottawa, 25 camps were established, and 8,579 POWs and civilian combatants (plus 81 women and 156 children accompanying them) were held.

• A four-page section fills us in on censorship background and practices: all correspondence to and from those held was examined, London's chief postal inspector was especially looking for information about submarine and zeppelin activities; prisoners were allowed to write two letters home a week, limited to two pages, 25 lines on a page.

• More than 40 known postal markings — "Passed by Internment Censor" in a circular cancel, "Dominion Police Ottawa" in an oval, and "Fernie, B.C." in italics — are shown, whether common or rare. And two pages explain postal rates for those interned.

Both sides of many covers are shown along with full letters, photographs from the camps, historic newspaper clippings, and some maps. Mixed in with the philatelic information are interesting details about camp commanders, buildings, and camp life.

A thorough review of this material is impossible, but here's a sample.

The author shows an envelope mailed from Fort Henry (Kingston, Ontario) to Germany. The text of the letter from G. Moser is presented in book text in both German and translated into English. The envelope, which required no postage, shows a standard circular Kingston censor cancel dated September 16, 1915, indicating it was reviewed in Canada. Markings also show how the cover moved through the United Kingdom and received a British censor mark. There are no censor marks on the actual letter.

In the letter, the prisoner tells his brother, Karl, that he had previously written to their sister, Marie. "... On May 15, I was arrested and transported immediately to the camp. To give the reasons would be totally pointless as the

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censor would only hold back the letter. ... At present, I am dutifully studying Spanish, and I read a lot as well. For exercise, we have organized different sports teams ... For general entertainment we have a good choir of which I am a member as second solo tenor, and we also have a pretty chapel."

The author notes that the collection might not be complete to tell the whole story, but we all benefit from him telling so much so thoroughly and with incredibly rich details and objects.

Powell is an actuary and long-time philatelist who took up the hobby under the tutelage of his father at a young age. After retiring early from professional practice due to health reasons, he took up the study of postal history and has exhibited at the national level on several occasions. In 2011, BNAPS published Powell's study, *Notes Through Barbed Wire*, which covered internments in Canada during World War II.

Published in September 2016 by the British North America Philatelic Society, Ottawa, Canada. Spiral bound, 8½ inches by 11 inches, 676 color pages. \$105 Canadian (approximately \$78), plus shipping for BNAPS members, \$175 Canadian (approximately \$130), plus shipping for non-members.

Follow-up: *History and Postal History of Nova Scotia*, by Martin Eichele

In November, we reviewed this wonderful volume, No. 89 in the BNAPS Exhibit Series. The pages are filled with images of outstanding pieces representing the postal history of Nova Scotia, from the beginning through modern stamps with Nova Scotia connections.

Collectors owe much thanks to the author and BNAPS for creating this book because this is the only place you'll ever see this complete collection again. That's because much of the entire collection, known as "The Skywalk" collection, was sold by Schulyer Rumsey Philatelic Auctions on September 23, 2016, during the Sescal stamp show. The auction house



This Mourning Cover sent in 1853 from Sydney, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia to India drew the highest bid, \$90,000, during an auction of Martin Eichele's Nova Scotia collection in September. *Image courtesy of Schulyer Rumsey Auctions.*

sold 183 of the 427 lots at a price of more than \$556,000, plus 15 percent buyers' fees. The highest price paid was \$90,000 (plus buyer's fee) for an 1853 mourning cover to India that carried a 6-cent yellow green (Scott 4) and a horizontal pair of the 1-shilling dull violet (Scott 7).

Another interesting cover was a Mulready envelope franked with 13 Penny Blacks postmarked May 16, 1840 in London going to Nova Scotia. That sold for \$60,000. Other blockbusters included a 1735 stampless cover from Louisbourg to Rochefort, France for \$30,000; an 1860 Canning, N.S. to Waterville, Maine with a 1-shilling bisect (Scott 6a) for \$20,000; and an 1859 Halifax to Paris franked with three stamps (Scott 1, 2, and 5) \$16,000.

Published in June 2016 by the British North America Philatelic Society, Ottawa, Canada. Spiral bound, 8½ by 11 inches, 276 color pages. \$57 Canadian, plus shipping, for BNAPS members; \$95 Cdn., plus shipping, for non-members

BNAPS publications: Available from Sparks Auctions, 1550 Carling Ave., Suite 202, Ottawa, ON K1Z 8S8, Canada, or bnaps@sparksauctions.com. Or, order on the web via sparks-auctions.com/bnapsbooks.

Catalogs

Scott

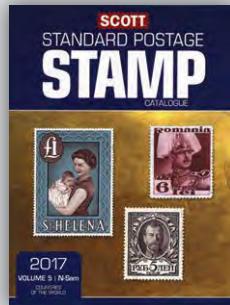
Scott Publishing, a division of Amos Media Co., published the final two (of six) volumes of its 2017 Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue and its 2017 Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps and Covers, 1840–1940.

Volume 5, published in August, covers countries beginning with the letters N through Sam while **Volume 6**, published in September, includes countries San through Z.

This is the last time the catalogs will be presented in this weighty format. Amos announced in 2016 that it

will keep the basic format the same, but each of the six volumes — each now approximately 1,700 pages — will be divided in two, but sold as a single unit. So, based on the 2017 volumes, Volume 5 might have countries N through the Philippines (ends on Page 848) in the first book and Pitcairn Islands to Samoa in the second book.

Each catalog includes the same helpful material up front, including guides to grading and reading the listings, from abbreviations to values;



basic stamp information, from watermarks and perforations to printing processes and terminology; and illustrations and listings for common designs (especially helpful for those who collect the British Empire).

Here's a capsule look at the final two standard 2017 catalogs:

Volume 5: More than 9,100 value changes with most countries showing a mix of upward and downward trends. Paraguay received a close look by editors which is reflected by 3,800

changes, mostly among stamps after 1940; most are downward among stamps between 1950 and 1999. St. Vincent Grenadines also received a line-by-line review resulting in 1,400 changes, with most stamps prior to 2002 moving downward. Pitcairn Island's 1,000 changes also were mostly downward. There were only 100 changes in Portugal, 100 in the Philippines, and 48 in Romania, but most of them were upward. Countries with mixed changes include Palestine (58 changes), Nicaragua (360), and Pakistan (65).

Volume 6: More than 5,900 value changes occur in this volume with the leaders being Uruguay (2,100) and Trinidad & Tobago (1,100), each of which received close editorial reviews. Uruguay received a downward value

trend in stamps from the 1960s to 1980s, but mostly increases from 2000 to current. Trinidad & Tobago saw increases among its classics and most modern stamps with a down-

ward trend those from the 1940s to 1980s. San Marino saw a downward trend among 200 changes, while countries having mixed changes include Spain (150 changes), Sweden, and Thrace (80). Countries with more increases than decreases include Turkey (200), Trinidad (128), Tobago (55), Slovakia (200), Zanzibar (50), and

South West Africa (70).

Published in 2016. Softcover, 10½ inches by 8½ inches. Each weighs about 7 pounds, with more than 1,700 pages and thousands of color illustrations. \$124.99 each (\$30 discount for belonging to Amos Advantage; digital copy, \$75). www.amosadvantage.com.

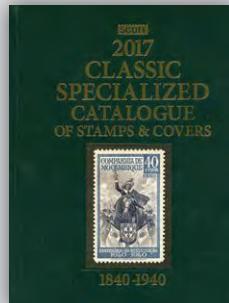
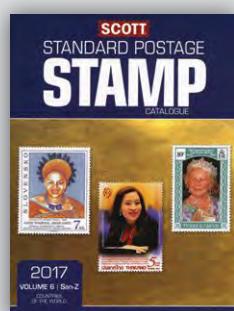
2017 Classic Specialized, 1840–1940: This is the bible for what has been anointed as the classic period of stamps and collecting, the first 100 years, ending just as World War II begins. The Scott editors note that the

edition, in its 23rd year, includes 19,000 value changes and 677 number changes and additions. Also promised: "myriad editorial improvements, includ-

ing many hundreds of revised and expanded listings."

Canada stayed relatively flat, though special attention was made to early covers from Newfoundland and semi-official air posts, which saw 68 changes, including some significant increases.

Some of the major changes are found in France, Montenegro, Guatemala, and Serbia. There are almost 2,000 Specialized-only changes for France — most of them softening in values — and another 544 value changes from the Scott *Standard Catalogue*. However, these other three also saw a general increase in values.



The 1872 sets from Germany also saw a lowering in value, but the editors added values for no gum; and values for multiples of Scott 1–26.

Among the major editorial changes are enhancements to the Newfoundland section, including clarifying notes. In Canada, shade varieties have been added for King Edward VII issues, Scott 89–95. Collectors of Switzerland will find many on-cover and never-hinged listings added. And overprints listed as Scott 1–63 for Jordan are now expanded.

Published in 2017. Hardcover, 10½ inches by 8½ inches. 1,200 pages and thousands of color illustrations. \$174.99. (\$20 discount for belonging to Amos Advantage; digital copy, \$125). www.amosmedia.com.

Stanley Gibbons

Stanley Gibbons Publications of the United Kingdom has released its *2017 Commonwealth and British Empire Stamps, 1840–1970* and *Canada and Provinces* catalogs. Stanley Gibbons, which also sells stamps and philatelic supplies, is the leading English-language producer of specialized catalogs in Europe.

For those familiar with Scott catalogs, there are similarities and differences between the two. Both offer full-color illustrations, listings for major issues of postage, airmail, revenue, and specialty stamps, plus their varieties, stamp descriptions and first-day-of-issue dates. Both companies use their own copyrighted catalog numbers, also color descriptions may vary.

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Stamps, 1840–1970, 119th Edition

This annual standard for collectors of British Commonwealth stamps from across the world, offers listings for 130 years, from the Penny Black of Great Britain to Abu Dhabi to Zanzibar.

The volume, of course, covers the majority of years that Great Britain

was an active participant in creating and maintaining colonies. More than 100 colonies are included, from Africa to North and South America, the Caribbean, to the Pacific to Antarctica, Asia and Europe.

The volume includes “new and improved illustrations, helpful new notes on subjects as diverse as the early lithographs of British Guiana and the 1962 Emancipation overprints of Tonga,” the editors write.

A page up front includes a listing for a few dozen “stamps added” and “catalog numbers altered.” For many colonies, illustrations of early postmarks are included.

More than 20 pages filled with text and illustrations up front cover everything from “The Importance of Condition” and general philatelic information to technical collecting information (watermarks, printing, papers) to a glossary and specialty societies.

Editors reviewed pricing throughout and made many changes, with notable increases in India and its states,

Australia, Canada, and New Zealand.

Published in 2016. Hardcover, 8½ inches by 12 inches, 639 pages with thousands of color illustrations. £85.95 (approximately \$107.50 U.S.), plus shipping. www.stanleygibbons.com.

Canada and Provinces, Sixth Edition

This color-illustrated catalog, last published in 2014, includes early colonial stamps of British Columbia and Vancouver Island (1860–71), the colony of Canada (1851–64), New Brunswick (1851–63), Newfoundland (1857–1949), Nova Scotia (1851–63), and Prince Edward Island (1861–72), along with Canada stamps from 1868 to 2016.

The editors note that prices have been revised throughout, with increases in provinces and Canada up to 1950, errors and recent varieties.

Other listings include booklets, registration stamps, special delivery, postage due, and officials, including the OHMS perfins. Included are listings for watermark varieties, shades, plate flaws, and major errors.

A design index helps aid in identifying stamps since 1942, though I am not sure this is of great use to topical collectors. For example, I checked for “locomotives”; nothing. I checked “trains”; only three listings. (I know

there are more.) I had to look under the individual names of the locomotives to find singular listings. Parks? I know there are several stamps issued for individual parks, but only a 2011 general Parks stamp is listed under “parks.”

On the positive side, there are plenty of details under many, many listings. For example, beneath the basics for the 1995 Christmas stamps, you will find this: On (the 40-cent Sprig of Holly stamp), the left-hand third of the design area is taken up by a barcode which has fluorescent bands between the bars. This value was only available from \$4 stamp booklets, which had the vertical edges of the pane imperforate. It was intended for use on greeting cards posted before January 31, 1996.

For cover collectors, there are on-cover multipliers for all stamps to 1945 to allow calculation of prices for stamps on cover.

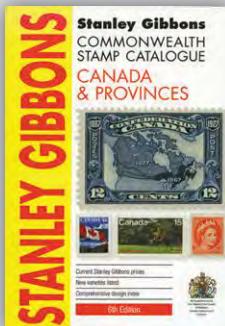
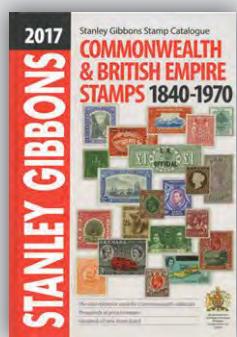
Listings up to 1970 are extracted from the previously noted *2017 Commonwealth and British Empire Stamps, 1840–1970*.

Published in 2016. Softcover, 6¾ inches by 9½ inches, 193 pages with thousands of color illustrations. £25.95 (approximately \$32.50 U.S.), plus shipping. www.stanleygibbons.com.

Renniks Stamps of Australia

Renniks, a prime retailer of stamp and coin collecting materials in Australia, has published the 15th edition of *Stamps of Australia*.

The catalog is similar to those we are more familiar with, such as Scott’s



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or Stanley Gibbons and includes mint and used values for all postage stamps through May 2016.

All stamps are color-illustrated with many full sets shown.

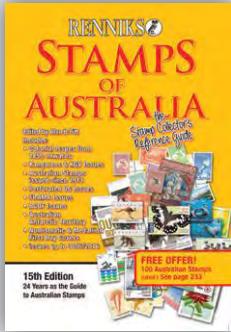
Also included are dozens of colonial stamps, including those from New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, and Victoria. Watermarks of early stamps are shown.

There are sections devoted to Frama vend-

ing machine labels, British Commonwealth Occupation Forces, Australian Antarctic Territory, philatelic numismatic covers, and philatelic medallion covers.

Topical collectors might be frustrated as there is no topical or design index.

Published in 2016. Softcover, 5½ inches by 8¼ inches, 259 pages with full color illustration. \$27.50 Australian (approximately \$20.50 U.S.), plus shipping. renniks.com.



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PHILATELIC HAPPENINGS



BY KEN MARTIN chief operating officer

kpmartin@stamps.org • Share your photos of your stamp show, club, or affiliate activities with us via e-mail at aparticle@stamps.org for possible use online and in print.

We were delighted to hear from member **Robert Baltzell**, from Missouri. He took up our challenge to promote the hobby and contacted his local newspaper in late September asking if they would be interested in publishing an article on stamp collecting to publicize October as the National Stamp Collecting Month.

Bob reports that "**Dale Smith**, the president of the American Topical Association and fellow member of our local stamp club, the Midwest Philatelic Society, and I met at the offices of the Independence Examiner, a daily newspaper that has a circulation of about 6,000 in eastern Jackson County, Missouri (outside of Kansas City). We spent about an hour being interviewed that resulted in a very nice article appearing in the October 14 issue."



Article in the October 14 issue of the *Independence Examiner* discussing stamp collecting.

Great job, Bob! I would love to have a National Stamp Collecting Month success to share in every column to provide more ideas for our membership.

Visitors From Near and Far

In 2016, the society's National Stamp Collecting Month focus at the American Philatelic Center was the library grand opening, which I reported on last month. However, we work to promote the hobby year-round, and during November we were delighted to host several groups, from young to old. Nine months of the year we sponsor a youth stamp club that meets at the American Philatelic Center. In November, we also hosted local Brownie Troops 40429, 40421, 40047. The

offices of the Independence Examiner, a daily newspaper that has a circulation of about 6,000 in eastern Jackson County, Missouri (outside of Kansas City). We spent about an hour being interviewed that resulted in a very nice article appearing in the October 14 issue."

Great job, Bob! I would love to have a National Stamp Collecting Month success to share in every column to provide more ideas for our membership.



Local Brownie Troop visiting the American Philatelic Center.

Brownies visited the Tuesday evening before Thanksgiving. It was a good choice of dates as the children did not have school the next day, so parents were willing to let the girls (and their siblings) linger a bit on stamp activities that we provided. At the other end of the spectrum we also provided a tour and information on stamp collecting to a bus load of residents from the Village at Penn State, a continuing-care retirement community.

Having event space available at the American Philatelic Center not only generates income, but also often allows us to expose many others to our hobby.

For example, in early November we hosted history day for this year's Leadership Centre County class of 49, which included a tour of the American Philatelic Center and the historic (1860–1914) Headsville Post Office, an opportunity to view our two examples of the iconic Inverted Jenny, and to view early airmail archives. To lesser degrees we also educated members of the Bellefonte Intervalle Area Chamber of Commerce who came to our facility for their annual meeting, members of the County Bar Association, business leaders involved with the Bellefonte Main Street Program, local Relay for Life Committee members, and select members of two wedding parties. All this in the holiday-shortened month

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Your American Dealer in Britain

of November. In December, we were anticipating an opportunity to expose our hobby to a couple hundred folks during Bellefonte's annual Victorian Christmas celebration.

We always enjoy visits from members. Members who traveled considerable distances to visit during November included **Tom Dennis**, from Arizona; **Dave Warfel**, of Tennessee; **Stevan and Chris Cady**, of Eagle River, Alaska; **Thomas Heifner**, from Florida; **David Heberling**, of Texas; and **Chris Lundberg**, of Vermont. The Wednesday before Thanksgiving was particularly busy as several individuals stopped by on their way to visit relatives for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Several of the visitors including member **Lawrence Hausman**, of Virginia, who used the opportunity to drop off in-kind donations of philatelic material. Members clearly care about the future of our hobby as seven such donations were dropped off that single day.

WSP Shows in San Jose and Chicago

There were two excellent national World Series of Philately shows in November, and the APS was well represented at both.

Filatelic Fiesta in San Jose moved to a new venue this year and switched from a three- to a two-day show. Despite the challenge, organizers reported an increased attendance. I was impressed by the show's use of non-collector family members. The spouses of APS Secretary **Steve Schumann** and United Postal stationery

Society President

Wayne Menuz

staffed the registration area.

Awards chair and APS Youth Philatelic Leader Fellow **Jessica Rodriguez** recruited her mother, father, and grandmother to help.

Kudos to show chair **Brian Jones**, who arranged for a large group of Scouts to get merit badge training, and **Ed Laveroni**, who coordinated the exhibits and frame set-up and take-down. Menuz served as bourse chair, installed special lighting, and helped with free appraisals. And, a shout out to the San Jose Stamp Club for providing a hospitality area for all attendees. A third of the American Philatelic Research Library's board was at the show, with Trustee **Kristin Patterson**, a member of the San Jose Club, on hand, along with Trustee **Steve Zwillinger** and Treasurer **Ken Nilsestu-**



Stevan and Chris Cady, of Eagle River, Alaska, during their November visit to the American Philatelic Center.



APS Young Philatelic Leader Fellow Jessica Rodriguez at the Filatelic Fiesta stamp show in San Jose, California.



APS Chief Operating Officer Ken Martin working the APS table at the Filatelic Fiesta show in November.



Call for APS 2017 Winter Meeting

Pursuant to Article 3, Section 3.4 of the Bylaws, I hereby issue this official call for the 60th Winter Meeting of the American Philatelic Society for transactions of such business as may be legally brought before it. The convention will assemble at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502, from March 3–5, 2017.

All meetings of the American Philatelic Society will be held at the convention center. Proposed resolutions shall be submitted to APS National Headquarters at least 30 days prior to the general membership meeting, which will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 4.

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Les Lanphear III (top left) received the multiframe grand award at Filatelic Fiesta and H. James Maxwell (bottom left) received the single frame grand award.

en, who both served on the jury. Much thanks to Schumann, who took good care of the jury and extended the same courtesy to me.

The show's multiframe grand award went to **Les Lanphear III** for his exhibit titled "US Departmental, 1873–1884." **Alfredo Frohlich** received the reserve grand for "Chile The Roulettes Issues 1877–1899" and **H. James Maxwell** the single frame grand for "China's U.S. Constitution Commemoratives: Through the Line Usages."

Chicagopex was held the week after Filatelic Fiesta and attended



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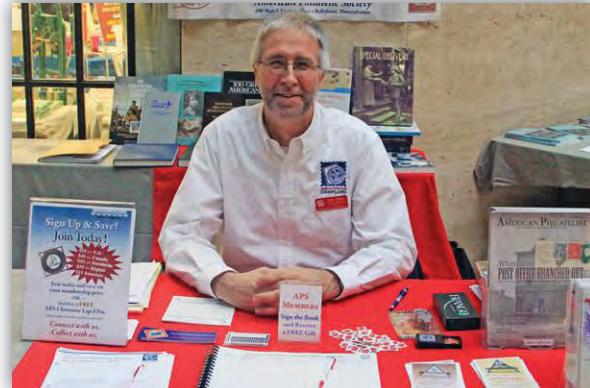


Chicagopex bourse floor scenes at two different booths.

by APRL Reference Assistant **Scott Tiffney** and *The American Philatelist* Editor **Jay Bigalke**. This year, the show celebrated its 130th anniversary, which included two convening societies: the American Air Mail Society and the Scandinavian Collectors Club. In addition to a very large bourse and competitive exhibits, the show included a



Regency-Superior Auctions held a sale at Chicagopex.



APRL Reference Assistant Scott Tiffney working the APS booth at Chicagopex stamp show.

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40-44	180	306a	180
45-50	900	311a	180
55-67	1,300	422a	130
68-71	200	425-436	500
75-84	490	456	150
91-108	400	479a	170
113-114	1,400	498a	120
115-125	1,000	509-521B	600
127-147	1,100	C1-2	550
152-154	500	C3-7	100
Used	200	C8	1,000
163-166	200	Used	600
171a-176a	350	C9-13	130
188-189	400	C14-24	300
		C25-38	225
		1-14	1,200



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Regency Superior auction and, for the 50th consecutive year, the show also included a literature exhibition.

Patrick A. Walters won the multiframe grand for his exhibit "United States Governmental Flights (1918–1927)." The Felix Ganz Reserve Grand went to **John H. Barwis** for "Carrying the Mail from Victoria." **Gregory Shoultz** won the single frame grand for "Washington and Franklin Rotary Press Coil Waste 1919–1922." And, the literature grand went to the American Air Mail Society *American Air Mail Catalogue, 7th Edition, Vol. 2* (which is available for sale from the APS website).

Chicagopex regularly offers other awards for service to philately and this year the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Bernard Hennig Award was also given at the show. **R. Timothy Bartshe** became only the eighth individual to receive this award, which recognizes excellence in philatelic judging.

Show News From Overseas

An international show also was held in Jerusalem in the week between Filatelic Fiesta and Chicagopex. Several U.S. exhibitors participated. Two of the show's three multiframe large golds went to Americans. **Robert Pildes**, from the Chicago area, won a grand prix and large gold for "The 1948 Doar Ivri Issue of Israel." **Paul Allen** won a large gold and special prize for "Victorian Outgoing Indian Mail to Great Britain."

Seven of the 22 multiframe gold medals awarded went to exhibitors from the United States. Congratulations to **Michael Bass**, **Jonathan Becker**, **Janet Klug**, **David McNamee**, **Henry Nogid**, **Nestor Nunez** and **Akthem Al-Manaseer**. Nunez and Al-Manaseer also helped at Filatelic Fiesta.

U.S. exhibitors receiving large vermeils included **Iris Adair**, **Colin and Pamela Fraser**, **Lawrence Haber** and **Behruz Nassre**. **Dan Blau**, **Don Chafetz**, **David Held** and **Yohanen May-Raz** received vermeils. **Sid Morginstin** and **Benedict Termini** received large silvers.

U.S. exhibitors receiving medals for single frame exhibits included **Andrew Urushima**, **Vesma Grinfelds**,



Patrick A. Walters (top right) received the multiframe grand award at Chicagopex and Gregory Shoultz (bottom right) received the single frame grand award.

Tom Mazza, Phil Stager and Don Chafetz. The only literature large gold went to the Collectors Club of Chicago for *Soviet Clandestine Mail Surveillance 1917–1991*. Chafetz, Zwillinger, Al-Manaseer, **Peter Elias**, **Michael Roberts**, **Mark Maestrone**, and **Philip Hughes** also brought home literature medals. Thanks to Colin Fraser who served as United States Commissioner for the show.

We hope stamp collecting helps make 2017 your best year yet.

Sad Losses

The hobby loses dedicated collectors every month but November seemed particularly harsh with the loss of several very prominent members.

Nine of these deaths have already been recognized with memorial gifts to the APS or APRL in the memory of **Robert Dilhy** (Illinois), **Werner Graba** (New Jersey), **Don Green** (California), **William Harris** (Ohio), **Tom Kensey** (Pennsylvania), **Robert Lambert** (New Jersey), **Barbara Mueller** (Wisconsin), **Jonathan Rose** (California), and **Rich Sandowski** (Illinois).

Thanks very much to the clubs and members who made gifts in their memory. I was privileged to know four of

these folks fairly well.

Don Green had been an APS member for 60 years. He assisted with founding the Western Philatelic Library in 1969 and the Sunpex regional stamp show, and participated in the organization of Westpex. A philatelic judge, he received emeritus status in 2006 and was an active member of the American Revenue Association and the Arizona Philatelic Rangers.

Jon Rose had been an APS member for 47 years. He was best known for his exhibit and book on the United States 1869 issue. William Harris was a 55-year member of the American Philatelic Society. He helped with the Garfield Perry March Party and served on the local organizing committee for StampShow 1999 when it was held in Cleveland.

While Don, Jon, and William were relatively well known, Barbara Mueller was a legend. She received number 18937 when she joined the APS in 1944. She was barely 30 years old when she won the Luff Award, the society's highest award for living philatelists 60 years ago in 1956.

For many years, Mueller was the member with the lowest number who closed the general membership meeting at APS shows. A member of the Hall of Fame of both the United States Stamp Society and APS Writers Unit 30, in 2007 the United States Stamp Society funded an annual award in her name for the best article in *The American Philatelist*.

Future Shows

We look forward to meeting many of you at shows. Over the first couple months of the year Show Manager Megan Orient will be at the Southeast Stamp Expo in Atlanta (January 27–29), I'll be at Sarasota (February 3–5) and Aripex (February 17–19). We will also be bringing the APRL Inverted



Inverted Jenny stamp.

Jenny stamp to the Aripex show in Arizona and APS AmeriStamp Expo show in Reno, Nevada.

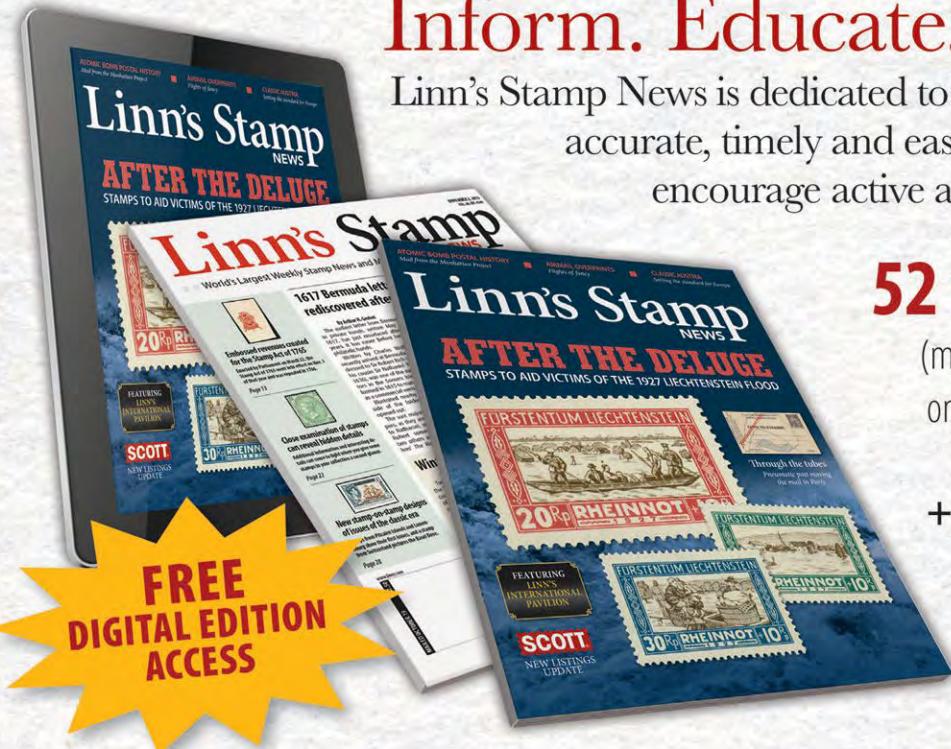
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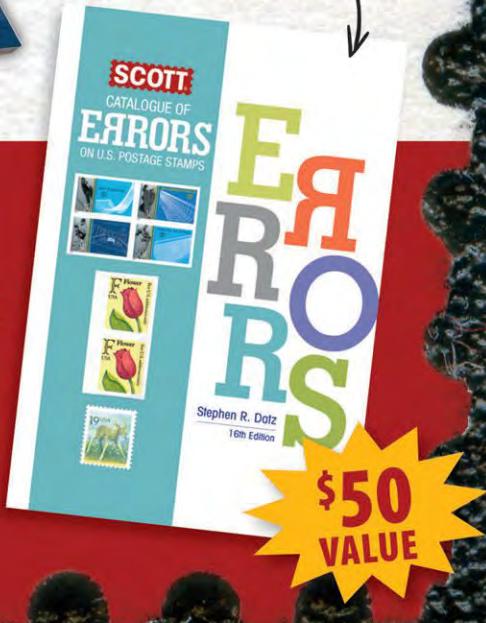


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HOW I BECAME A STAMP COLLECTOR

BY JOHN R. IACOVINO

I would have never become a lifetime philatelist without parents who supported my interest in the hobby and several mentors each of whom inspired me to higher levels of sophistication.

In elementary school most of my friends collected stamps. We sorted through the waste baskets in the post office, received stamps from friends and relatives, and traded with each other. We anticipated the arrival of our inexpensive approvals. Our collections were exciting, offering us a window into the world beyond our small town.

Occasionally, my parents would drive me to a stamp store in Ithaca, New York. I would browse endlessly before making my special purchase; the first being the MacArthur stamps



Pacific Theater World War II hero General Douglas MacArthur appears on a 1948 set of three from the Philippines (Scott 519–521).

from the Philippines. I still have these as a fond memory.

As a Boy Scout, I achieved my stamp collecting merit badge. The counselor introduced me to perforations, watermarks, and other subtleties of collecting. He introduced me to a collector with a classic United States collection. My mother would bring me to the man's office where he very patiently would show and describe his stamps. I was in awe. As a gift, he gave me a 1945 U.S. Scott *Specialized Catalogue*. With that catalog I moved forward to another level of collecting.

High school, college, graduate school, marriage, children, and finances all interrupted my active collecting, but could not quell my continued interest.

Finally, with life stability, I resumed collecting and ex-

panded my specialized U.S. collection. I worked part time for a dealer cataloging his United States acquisitions he sold in exchange for stamps.

A trip to the Soviet Union in 1971 completely changed my collecting focus. On the trip I purchased a large, mounted, Imperial Russian collection out of pure curiosity. I was given additional stamps by people to whom I was introduced. My collecting interest thereafter focused exclusively on Russian stamps of the Imperial and immediate, post-revolution eras.



Czar Nicholas II appears on the high-denomination stamp of a 17-stamp set from 1913, Scott 104.

I met my most influential mentor quite accidentally. I was referred to a Russian collector in a nearby city by his physician who knew of our mutual collecting interest. This collector was a master philatelist, both in knowledge and thoroughness of the collection. Through him, I met several other master Russian philatelists of the time at a regular show-and-tell at his home. He and I met regularly reviewing

his collection, talking about stamps and his life in Russia. Progressively, his eyesight failed. He then depended on me to sort, classify, and reclassify his large collection. In kindness, he would give me additions to my collection. Unfortunately, he died, ending a wonderful relationship. His expertise and knowledge stimulated my collecting and enjoyment.

Unfortunately, mentoring is a lost art. Over the past seven years I have had only one Scout enter our Council's stamp collecting merit badge program. Parents, friends and other collectors are too busy and/or not interested in inspiring young students into the hobby of stamp collecting; nor, it seems, are other young people interested due to many other life opportunities.

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Year Range:	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-1900 <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1940 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After 1940
Condition: Please mark only one in each section:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unused <input type="checkbox"/> Used <input type="checkbox"/> NH <input type="checkbox"/> H <input type="checkbox"/> HR <input type="checkbox"/> NG <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Seller Item No. (optional)	<input type="text"/>
Categories:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cinderella <input type="checkbox"/> Complete Set(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Event Cover <input type="checkbox"/> EFOs <input type="checkbox"/> First-day Cover <input type="checkbox"/> Lots/Collections <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple <input type="checkbox"/> Plate Block <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Stationery <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Souvenir Sheet
Other Catalogue (optional):	Name: _____ Number: _____
Catalogue Value (U.S. Dollars):	\$ <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> 5 <input type="text"/> 7 <input type="text"/> 0
StampStore Sale Price (U.S. Dollars):	\$ <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> 2 <input type="text"/> 9 <input type="text"/> 7 <input type="text"/> 5

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[SHOW TIME]



BY MEGAN ORIENT shows and exhibitions manager
meganorient@stamps.org

Letter Carriers' Group at AmeriStamp

Additional Updates for March 3–5 Reno Show

While 2017 marks the 60th annual winter meeting of the American Philatelic Society, it also marks the 25th anniversary of the National Association of Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. The food drive effort is the nation's largest single-day drive. In 2016, 80.1 million pounds of food were collected, which brought

the grand total of donations to more than 1.5 billion pounds of food collected since the drive began in 1992. We are pleased to have this national food drive participating at AmeriStamp Expo, March 3–5, in Reno, Nevada as the carriers association builds excitement leading up to its 25th event, scheduled for May 13.

Auto Museum

Also in Reno, in partnership with the National Automobile Museum, we will host a special display on the show floor of a 1929 Ford Model A mail truck from the Harrah Collection.

According to the museum, "as recently as 1952 much of the nation's mail was still being carried in the fleet of rickety, wooden-bodied Model A Fords. Their longevity was a credit to their durable Government specifications, bodies and excellent maintenance." Drop by the auto museum while in Reno; AmeriStamp Expo attendees will be given special



1929 Ford Model A Mail Truck in the Harrah Collection of the National Automobile Museum.



discount admission.

Reno Show Volunteers Needed

There are a variety of tasks needed each day; friends and family are welcome as many positions do not require stamp knowledge. For each day that two or more hours of service are provided, the

APS will reimburse reasonable out-of-pocket costs, such as parking at the show venue. Volunteers able to provide eight hours or more will be eligible to receive a free ticket to the awards banquet Saturday evening. If you can help, please let us hear from you by early

February. A good way to contact us is online at stamps.org/ase-volunteers.

Partnerships

As we reflect on 2016, we are continually grateful for the partnership with the U.S. Postal Service, at APS shows as well as other national, regional, and local shows. We appreciate the generous sponsorships, first-day-of-issue ceremonies, retail presence, and partnership alliances at the local and national levels.

We look forward to new and creative ways of working together in cooperation with the Postal Service's brand marketing department.

We are also grateful for long-standing relationships with the American Stamp Dealers Association and the National Stamp Dealers Association, and new-found alliances with the U.S. Postal Service Federal Credit Union.



Show Department Changes

With the new year, comes a new change to the Shows and Exhibitions Department.

Long-time assistant Barb Johnson has accepted a position in the APS Sales Unit. She will be widely missed in our department, but will continue her excellent service to members in new ways.

Kathleen Edwards, who will continue to work in the Education



Barb Johnson (above) and Kathleen Edwards (below).

Department, will be joining us at the Shows and Exhibitions assistant. Please join me in welcoming her to the team.

Show Awards

A brief reminder to shows and awards committees: There is a wealth of information available to you on the APS Shows Department web pages. From the homepage of the APS website stamps.org, look specifically to the Events/Shows menu under the Show Preparation and Forms section. Recently we asked societies to provide an updated list of awards available to eligible exhibitors at your show. This list is available online for easy reference.

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

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

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

New Jersey **January 5-7**
Garden State Stamp and Cover Show; New Jersey Stamp Dealers Association, The Bethwood, 38 Lackawanna Ave., Totowa. *B* Contact: Tom Jacks, 908-419-9751; tjacks@verizon.net

Louisiana **January 6-7**
New Orleans Winter Stamp Fest; Crescent City Stamp Club, La Quinta Inn, 2610 Williams Blvd., Kenner. *B* Contact: Eric White, 504-715-9538; ericwhitegypsoph@yahoo.com; www.ccschno.org

Michigan **January 7-8**
BIRPEX 2017; Birmingham Stamp Club, Birmingham Masonic Temple, 37357 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. *B* Contact: Chuck Daliege, 586-863-7934; birpexshow@outlook.com

Indiana **January 14-15**
MSDA Indianapolis Winter Show; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Lawrence Parks

District Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin Rd., Lawrence. *B* Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676; jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com

Pennsylvania **January 20-21**
York County PA Stamp Show; White Rose Philatelic Society of York, York Expo Center, 334 Carlisle Ave., York. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: John Hufnagel, 717-235-1528; glenrocktots@comcast.net

South Carolina **January 21-22**
2017 CPS Winter Stamp and Postcard Show; Columbia Philatelic Society, Spring Valley High School, 120 Sparkleberry Lane, Columbia. *B* Contact: Mark Postmus, 803-309-2534; mapostmus@yahoo.com

Wisconsin **January 21-22**
MSDA Milwaukee Stamp Show; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 S 13th Street, Milwaukee. *B* Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574; jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com

California **January 27-29**
SANDICAL; San Diego County Philatelic Council, Al-Bahr Shrine Temple, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., San Diego. *WSP* Contact: Linda Mabin, 619-578-9112; lcstamps@pacbell.net; www.sandical.org/

Georgia **January 27-29**
Southeastern Stamp Expo; Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs, Hilton Hotel Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Norcross. *WSP* Contact: Scott Mark; sestampexpo@gmail.com; www.sepsc.org

Utah **February 3-4**
Utah Winter Stamp Show; Utah Philatelic Society, Sons of Utah Pioneer Bldg., 3301 E. Louise Ave., Salt Lake City. *B* Contact: Dave Blackhurst, 801-580-9534; dblackhu@gmail.com; www.utaphilatelic.org

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Florida February 3-5

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

Florida February 10-12

ASDA Stamp Show; American Stamp Dealers Association, The War Memorial, 800 NE 8th St., Ft. Lauderdale. ***B*** Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207; dana@americanstampdealer.com; www.americanstampdealer.com

South Carolina February 11-12

Myrtle Beach Stamp & Postcard Show; Myrtle Beach Stamp Club, Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 101 Fantasy Harbour Blvd., Myrtle Beach. ***B*** Contact: Donna M. Ebert, 843-347-0087; liffort@scccoast.net; http://sites.google.com/site/myrtlebeachstampclub/

Ohio February 12

Hudson Stamp Bourse; Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway, Hudson. ***B*** Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992; lincolnway@ssnnet.com

Arizona February 17-19

ARIPEX; Arizona Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Mesa Convention Center, 263 N. Center St., Building "C", Mesa. ***WSP*** Contact: Kevin Lesk, 480-240-0388; ariplex2017@gmail.com; www.ariplex.org

Florida February 18

Annual Stamp Show; West Volusia Stamp Club, Sons of Italy, 1270 Doyle Rd., Deltona. ***B*** Contact: Mike Daley, 407-417-7818; miked129e@gmail.com; http://floridacsp.com/wvstamp/

Kansas February 18-19

The Cessna Show; The Cessna Stamp & Coin Club, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita. ***B*** Contact: Ralph E. Lott, 316-683-6593; ralphlott@sbcglobal.net

Ohio February 18-19

MSDA Cincinnati Area Stamp Show; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Four Points by Sheraton Cincinnati North, 7500 Tylers Place Blvd., West Chester. ***B*** Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676; jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com

Michigan February 19

Lansing Stamp Show; Lansing Area Stamp Club, Royal Scot Golf and Bowl, 4722 West Grand River, Lansing. ***B*** Contact: Jim Adams, 517-394-5953; 48jim15@comcast.net

Texas February 24-26

TEXPEX 2017; Texas Philatelic Association,

Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center, 1800 HWY 26 E, Grapevine. ***WSP*** Contact: Vince King; entech.design@verizon.net; www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex.htm

Nebraska February 25-26

LINPEX 2017; Lincoln Stamp Club, Country Inn & Suites, 5353 N. 27th St., Lincoln. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Kenneth Pruess, 402-464-6939; kpruess2@unl.edu; www.lincolnstampclub.org

Ohio February 25-26

Toledo Stamp Expo 2017; Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, Holland Gardens, 6530 Angola Rd., Holland. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Clifford Campbell, 419-874-6241; www.toledostampclub.org

Nevada March 3-5

APS AmeriStamp Expo 2017; Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno. Contact: Kathleen Edwards, 814-933-3803 ext 217; stampshow@stamps.org; stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE

Florida March 4

13th Annual Stamp and Coin Show; Flagler County Stamp and Coin Club, Elk's Lodge #2709, 53 Old Kings Road, Palm Coast. ***B*** Contact: David Rosenthal, 386-437-0368; www.stampandcoinclub.com

New Jersey March 4

Westfield StampShow; Westfield Stamp Club, Westfield Municipal Center, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Ed Grabowski, 908-233-9318; edjg@alum.mit.edu; www.westfieldstampclub.org

New York March 4-5

BUFPEX 2017; The Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: George Gates, 716-633-8358; gghg53@aol.com

Ohio March 4-5

McKinley Stamp Club Show; McKinley Stamp Club, St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW, North Canton. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: David Pool, 330-832-5992; lincolnway@ssnnet.com; http://mksc.webs.com

California March 11-12

Frespx 2017; Fresno Philatelic Society, Veterans Memorial Building, 435 Hughes Ave., Clovis. ***B*** Contact: Dick Richardson, 559-431-5013; starstamps@thegrid.net

Illinois

March 11-12
Rockford Stamp and Cover Show 2017; Rockford Stamp Club, Forest Hills Lodge, 1601 West Lane Rd. (Hwy 173), Loves Park. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Tim Wait, 815-670-5869; t.wait@comcast.net; www.rockfordstampclub.org

New Mexico

March 11-12
Mesilla Valley Stamp Show; Mesilla Valley Stamp Club, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 East University Ave., Las Cruces. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Richard Hiss, 575-202-1937; RHiss@comcast.net; www.meetinlascruces.com

Illinois

March 17-19
ASDA Stamp Show; American Stamp Dealers Association, Linder Conference Center, 610 East Butterfield Rd., Lombard. ***B*** Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207; dana@americanstampdealer.com; www.americanstampdealer.com

Wisconsin

March 18
BAYPEX '17; Green Bay Philatelic Society, St. Matthew's Church Multi-Purpose Room, 2575 South Webster Ave., Green Bay. ***B*** Contact: Ray D. Perry, 920-469-8925; fiveperrys@athenet.net.

Florida

March 18-19
BAYPEX Stamp & Coin Show; Clearwater Stamp Club, Honeywell Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Avenue North, Largo. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897; h.rogg@verizon.net; www.floridastampshows.com / www.floridastampdealers.org

Virginia

March 18-19
SPRINGPEX 2017; Springfield Stamp Club, Robert E. Lee High School (Cafeteria), 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Gerry Frazier; frazierg@cox.net; www.springfieldstampclub.org

Ohio

March 23-25
Garfield-Perry March Party; Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, La Villa Conference and Banquet Center, 115000 Brookpark Road, Cleveland. ***WSP*** Contact: Roger Rhoads; rrroads@aol.com; www.garfieldperry.org

Alberta

March 25-26
Edmonton Stamp Club Spring National Stamp Show; Edmonton Stamp Club, Edmonton Central Lions Centre, 111 Ave & 113 Street, Edmonton. ***WSP*** Contact: David Piercy, 780-437-2771; dpiercy@telus.net; www.edmontonstampclub.com

Ontario

March 25-26
National Postage Stamp and Coin Show; Canadian Stamp News, Hilton Mississauga

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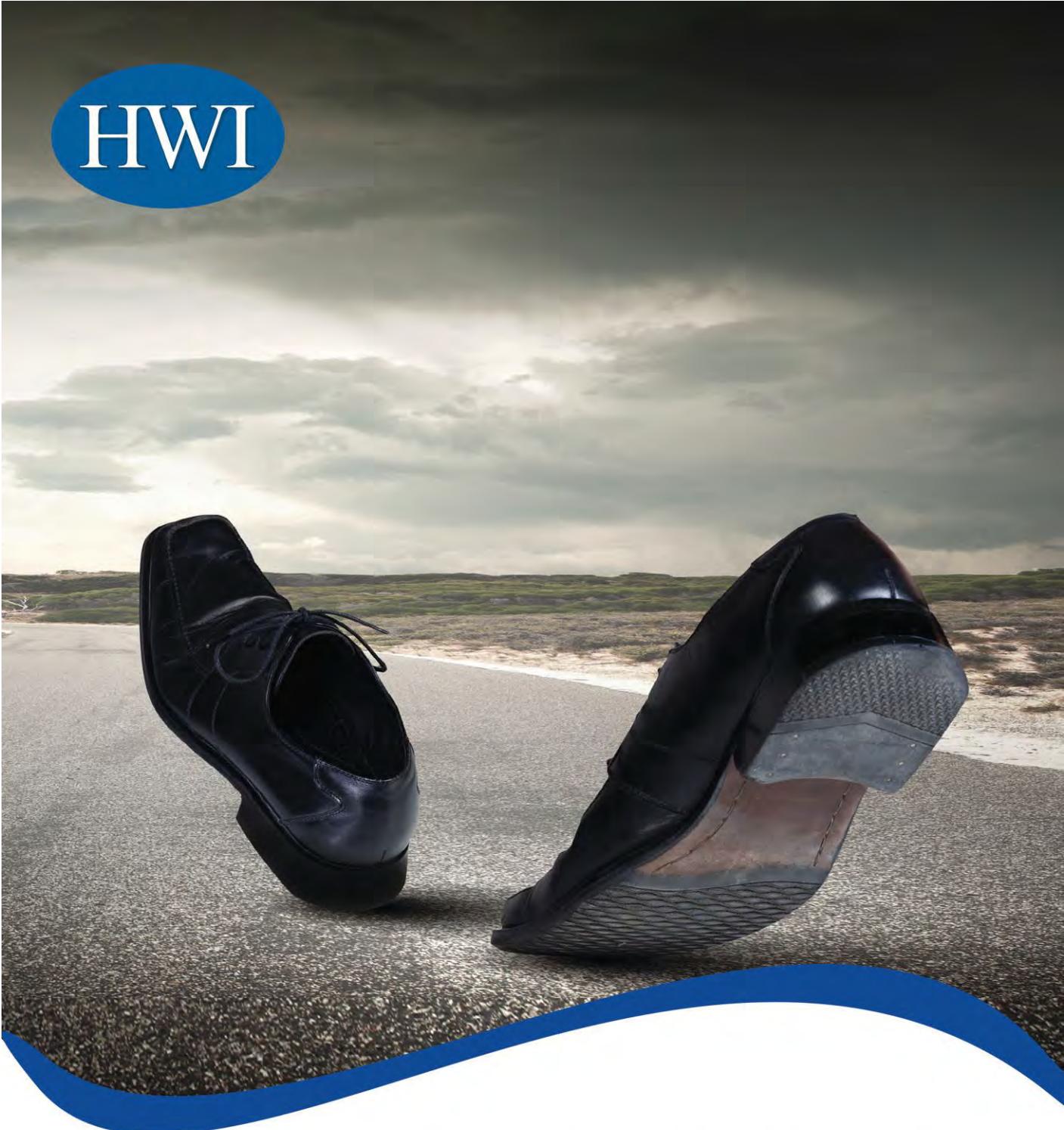
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Meadowvale, 6750 Mississauga Road, Mississauga. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Michale Walsh, 800-408-0352 Ext 228; mwalsh@trajan.ca; www.stampandcoinshow.com

Missouri March 31-April 2

St. Louis Stamp Expo; Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. *WSP* Contact: David Kols, 800-782-0066; expo@regencystamps.com; www.stlstampexpo.org

Vermont April 1

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; jalutz@gmail.com

Illinois April 8-9

MSDA Spring Show North; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Country Inn and Suites, 600 N. Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Hgts. *B* Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676; jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com

Wisconsin April 9

DANEPEX '17; Badger Stamp Club, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave., Madison. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Bob Voss, 608-838-1033; lestamps@charter.net; www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger

New York

April 13-15

ASDA Stamp Show; American Stamp Dealers Association, The Hilton, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York. *B* Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207; dana@americanstampdealer.com; www.americanstampdealer.com

Delaware

April 22

DELPEX 2017; Brandywine Valley Stamp Club, Nur Shrine CenterTemple, 198 S. Du Pont Hwy (US Routes 13 & 40), New Castle. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Bill Clark, 302-322-2719; kmc4076@aol.com; www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com

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Denali Stamp Co.	Mountainside Stamps, Coins and Currency	www.mountainsidestamps.com
	Mowbray Collectables Ltd.	www.washpress.com
		www.waterfowlstampsandmore.com

Pennsylvania	April 22-23	Mountain Phil. Exhibition, Inc., Crown Plaza Denver International Airport Convention Center, John Q. Hammonds Trade Center, Chambers Rd & I-70, Denver. *WSP* Contact: Steve McGill, 720-529-5942; steve.mcgill@comcat.net; www.rockymountainstampshow.com	jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com
WILKPEX 2017; Wilkinsburg Stamp Club, Gateway Firehall, 4370 Northern Pike, Monroeville. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Tom Donohue, 412-373-8697; wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com; www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com			
California	April 28-30	NOJEX; North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, Inc., Empire Meadowlands Hotel, 2 Harmon Plaza, Secaucus. *WSP* Contact: Robert G. Rose, 908-305-9022; robertrose25@comcast.net; www.nojex.org	
WESTPEX; WESTPEX, Inc., San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame. *WSP* Contact: Edward Jarvis, 415-387-1016; ejarvis@westpex.com; www.westpex.com			
Michigan	April 29-30	NAPEX; National Phil. Exhibitions of Washington D.C., McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean. *WSP* Contact: Darrell Ertzberger, 703-548-3366; mteton@aol.com; www.napex.org	
Plymouth Show; West Suburban Stamp Club, Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland. *WSP* Contact: Tim Strzalkowski, 313-533-7737; mywssc@msn.com; www.plymouthshow.com			
Massachusetts	May 5-7	Ohio	June 2-4
Philatelic Show; Northeastern Fed. Of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn Boxborough Woods, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough. *WSP* Contact: Jeff Shapiro; coverlover@gmail.com; www.nefed.org		Colopex; Columbus Philatelic Club, Rhodes Center Ohio State Fairgrounds, 717 East 17th Avenue, Columbus. *WSP* Contact: Marie Gibbs, 614-260-0952; kevmar1821@gmail.com; www.colopex.com	
Ohio	May 6	Oklahoma	June 9-11
Trumpex 2017; The Warren Area Stamp Club, St Demetrios Community Center, 3223 Atlantic St., NE, Warren, Trumbull County. *B* Contact: Howard Lutz, 330-282-2860; howrex2@aol.com		OKPEX; Oklahoma City Stamp Club, Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Road, Midwest City. *WSP* Contact: Joe Crosby, 405-749-0939; joecrosby@cox.net; www.okcsc.org	
Wisconsin	May 6-7	Wisconsin	June 16-17
WISCOPEX 2017; Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs & Central Wisconsin Stamp Club, Holiday Inn Convention Center, 1001 Amber Avenue, Stevens Point. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Larry Glenzer, 715-341-6767; jadeco@charter.net; www.wfscstamps.org		National Topical Stamp Show; American Topical Association, Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 South 13th Street, Milwaukee. *WSP* Contact: Vera Felts, 618-985-5100; americantopical@msn.com; www.americantopicalassn.org	
Pennsylvania	May 12-13	Pennsylvania	June 23-25
BUTLERPEX; Butler County Philatelic Society, Tanglewood Senior Center, 10 Austin Ave., Lyndora. Regional/Local Show with exhibits; Contact: Tom Sivak, 724-287-1931; tomsstamps@zoominternet.net; www.butlercountyphilatelicsociety.com		APS Annual Summer Seminar on Philately offers instruction in specific areas through a combination of lectures and hands-on workshops. APC, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. *APS* Contact: Cathy Brachbill; cbbrachbill@stamps.org; stamps.org/Summer-Seminar	
Oregon	May 12-14	Illinois	June 25-30
PIPEX; Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach, 909 N. Hayden Island Drive, Portland. *WSP* Contact: Tony Wawrukiewicz, 503-244-8223; tonywaw@spiritone.com; www.pipexstampshow.org		MSDA Summer Show North; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Country Inn and Suites, 600 N. Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Hgts. *B* Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676; jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com	
New York	May 19-20	Indiana	July 8-9
ROPEX; Rochester Phil. Assoc., The Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 North Bloomfield Rd, Canandaigua. *WSP* Contact: Tom Fortunato, 585-752-6178; stamptmf@frontiernet.net; www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html		MSDA Indianapolis Stamp Show; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Lawrence Park and Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin Rd., Lawrence. *B* Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676;	
Utah	May 19-20	July 15-16	
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MILCOPEX; Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Inc., Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 South 13th St., Milwaukee. ***WSP*** Contact: Mary Ann Bowman/ Dona Fagan, 262-251-0617; maryann15b@mac.com; www.milwaukeephilatelic.org

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

No. 11, November 30, 2016

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during November 2016. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to January 31, 2017 these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the February 2017 issue.

Aizenberg, Isidoro (226942) **New York, NY** JUDAICA; 77; Retired
Alexander, Susan D. (S-226964)

Colville, WA; 65; Retired

Bard, Anthony S. (226941)
London, Great Britain KOREA-MILITARY-MILITARY MAIL-HIMALAYAN EXPEDITIONS; 63; Company Director

Batten, Michael (226957)
Oklahoma City, OK OLDER MINT US; 54; Cashier

Bauerlein, George (226914)
Winter Haven, FL US 19TH CENTURY, REVENUES/TAX PAIDS (FEDERAL), FDC-CANADA-ASIA-EUROPE

Beecher, Henry (226906) **Vallejo, CA** US, COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES, IMPERFORATES-TRIANGLES/ODD SHAPES-WORLDWIDE; 54

Bell, Scotty M. (226947) **Aubrey, TX** 1847-1990 US; 66; Retired

Blanchette, Mark (226975)
Worcester, MA LUXEMBOURG-VATICAN CITY-ITALY; Accountant

Blevins, Timothy (226963)

Beaverton, OR US CLASSICS, ESSAYS & PROOFS, CONFEDERATE STATES-FRANCE-MAURITIUS-BRITISH COLONIES; 56

Booth, Paul (226944) **Hagerstown, MD** USED WORLDWIDE; 51

Brainerd, Harold G. (226986) **Bend, OR** US; 87; Retired

Brean, Luke T. (226916) **Portland, OR** US 20TH CENTURY; 37; Attorney

Burke, John (226945) **New York, NY**; 54

Chambers, Warren D. (226905)
New Hartford, CT US 20TH CENTURY; 73

Cinbiz, Mahmut N. (226956)
Knoxville, TN; 34

Crilly, John R. (226965) **Fort Wayne, IN** US; 52; Marketing Director

Daskalakis, June (226919) **Davis, CA**; Artist/Elementary School Instructor

Deveny, Steve L. (226952)
Las Vegas, NV US, COMMEMORATIVES-AMATEUR/HAM RADIO-ASTRONOMY-LIGHTHOUSES-SPACE; 55; Land Surveyor

Dilday, Steven R. (226974) **Yuba City, CA** US, PARCEL POST, SPECIAL DELIVERIES-WORLD WAR II-WAR COVERS/STAMPS-ZEPPELIN COVERS/STAMPS; 53

Dougherty, Lewis S. (226920)

Camp Hill, PA US PLATE BLOCKS-COVERS; 86; Retired

Dudley, Kevin (226946) **Arlington, VA** US AIRMAIL, CIVIL WAR

COVERS, PATRIOTIC COVERS-ZEPPELIN COVERS/STAMPS-AVIATION; 57

Duncan, Ken (226921) **West Linn, OR** RAILROAD ROLLING STOCK; 74; Retired

Erins, Janis J. (226984) **Three Rivers, MI**

Farkas, Monica (226933) **Caba, Argentina** ARGENTINA-PHILATELIC LITERATURE-FOREIGN POSTAL HISTORY & POSTAL STATIONERY-PICTURE POSTCARDS-19TH CENTURY; 55

Filz, Larry (226922) **Portland, OR** WORLDWIDE; 66; Retired

Foltyn, Deborah L. (S-226923)
Pittsburgh, PA US SINGLES, PLATE BLOCKS; 66

Forsberg, Brian A. (226931)
Duluth, MN US, FDC, FLIGHT COVERS, COMMEMORATIVES-WORLDWIDE-SPACE; 62; Retired

Gagneur, Harry (226973) **Lehigh Acres, FL** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAIL; 48

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 226622 through 226773 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership
October 31, 2016 30,547

New Members 152

Reinstated 61 213

Deceased 46

Resignations 106 152

Total Membership,
November 30, 2016 30,608

(Total Membership, November 30, 2015 was 31,185 a difference of -577)

Gertner, David (226903) **Charlotte, NC** US 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAIL-CANADIAN AIRMAIL-GREAT BRITAIN

Gilbert, Kenneth B. (226935)
Columbus, OH GERMANY-SOCCE; 60; Technical Editor

Giordano, Doug (226972) **Boca Raton, FL** US CLASSICS; 59

Gnebba, Neil (226912) **Sterling Heights, MI** US CONFEDERATE STATES, 19TH CENTURY, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, REVENUES/TAX PAIDS (FEDERAL), HAWAII; 35

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- Ingram, Anthony C.
 (226936) **Lenore, ID** US,
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 Engineering Technician
- Janarius, Francis B. (226948)
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- Klyver, Brett M. (226918) **Newport**
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- Latimer, Kenneth S. (226987)
Toano, VA VA & GA POSTAL
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- Lindemann, James
 (226926) **Industry, TX** US
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- Massa, Robert (226979) **Port**
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- McCready, Mark R. (226938)
Glen Rock, NJ US
 COMMEMORATIVES; 65; Paper
 Industry Consultant
- McGarrah, Eric (226932) **San**
Antonio, TX WAR COVERS/
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- McGee, Jerry (226959) **Salem, OR**
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- Morrison, Steve (226909) **Morton**,
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- Newman, Marsha V. (226967)
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- Roberts, Morton (226904) **Fort**
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- Rutkowski, Iva (226917) **West**
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- Salisbury, Darryl A. (226939)
Vicksburg, MI SALISBURY
 CANCELLATIONS-RHODESIA-US;
 73; Retired
- Samuel, Dharmaraj (226901)
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 GUIDELINE BLOCKS; 43
- Samuel, Lee (226961) **Las Vegas**,
NV CONFEDERATES-PRE-1930
 EARLY US-DUCKS; 69; Publicist
- Santi, Mario (226907) **San Rafael**,
CA US, AIRMAIL, CLASSICS,
 COMMEMORATIVES-ITALY-
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- Shaw, Thomas F. (226940)
Jeannette, PA AIRLINES; 58;
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- Shell, Rick A. (226934) **Missouri**
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 CENTURY, AIRMAIL, COIL LINE
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- Silva, Dennis M. (226962)
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 PAIRS; 72; Retired
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- Snow, Spencer L. (226981)
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 FRANCE-BRITISH-GERMANY; 67;
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- Stent, Rodney (226985) **Dallas, OR**
- Swenson, Mark (226950) **Point**
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 Processing Manager
- Tomkins, Martin L. (226951) **Cedar**
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 Retired
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- Van Derwerken, Michael (226929)
Sebring, FL US; 66; Retired
- Wappes, Timothy W. (226927) **Fort**
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 Worker
- Welch, Joyce P. (226983)
McCordsville, IN US; 74; Retired
- Wethal, Chad W. (226928)
Edgerton, WI MINT EARLY US-
 GIBRALTAR-ISRAEL, REVENUES-
 CHAD; 46; Guitar Teacher
- Yang, Jiacheng (226910)
Hillsborough, NJ CHINA-
 HONG KONG-SOUTHEAST ASIA;
 Research Scientist
- Yong, Han (226969) **Clackamas**,
OR; 52

NEW CHAPTER

COMPEX Show Committee (1599-226671), Chicago, IL **CONTACT:**
 Charles Berg, 7139 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago, IL 60656.

CHANGE IN NAME

Member 157752 from Glenda
 Crabtree-MacErvan to Glenda
 Tindell-Corban

DECEASED

- Austin, Georgia Belle (10809-074917), Shawnee, OK
- Barrett, Charles P. (9077-066394),
 Forest Hill, MD
- Bucher, James L. (9753-067993),
 Pewaukee, WI
- Cahn, Frank (8782-060125),
 Laguna Hills, CA
- Clogston, Thomas L. (191837),
 Bothell, WA
- Coakley, Richard W. (6083-044414),
 Williamsburg, VA
- Datschefski, John W. (225257),
 Independence, MO
- Erikson, Carl (218193), Dillsburg,
 PA
- Essman, Harold A. (165043),
 Appleton, WI
- Farrant, Leona E. (11890-132974),
 Wakefield, RI
- Flippin, David P. (9635-196878),
 Vancouver, WA
- Frerick, David J. (183437),
 Cincinnati, OH
- Gibson, Kenneth E. (191490),
 Indianapolis, IN
- Goldberg, Sol A. (11226-082482),
 Chandler, AZ
- Gordon, Gary N. (08300), Morris
 Plains, NJ
- Hadley, Raymond S., Jr. (140490),
 Ester, AK
- Hagerthey, H. Lee (7563-051989),
 Egg Harbor Twp., NJ
- Harris, Overton T. (170151), Fulton,
 MO

Harris, William F. (6137-040662),
 Cleveland, OH

Herbert, Barbara (199819),
 Alameda, CA

Hicks, Norman W. (162426),
 Winchendon, MA

Hue, Douglas T. (116533), Daytona
 Beach, FL

Jordan, Frank R. (9101-150783),
 Woodbridge, VA

Kershaw, Blair E. (215303), Erie, PA

Lonyay, Laszlo (8956-049752),

Aurora, IL

Mettam, Allan D. (8948-061645),
 Parkville, MD

Miller, Charles J. (192459), Lower
 Gwynedd, PA

Morton, Anselm H., III (117085),
 Greenville, AL

Mueller, Barbara R. (3212-018937),
 Madison, WI

Ritter, Jack R. (6587-047547),
 Hawthorne, NJ

Rohrbaugh, Stephen B. (101840),
 Hallowell, ME

Rose, Jonathan W. (6118-056222),
 San Ramon, CA

Sayan, Manuel (220709), Silver
 Spring, MD

Schoon, Carol (181153), Fairfield, CA

Sebastiani, Ricardo A. (176798),
 Kennesaw, GA

Seth, Timothy M. (163828),
 Olympia, WA

Siirola, Donald A. (106068), Tulsa, OK

Surine, James E. (10226-073724),
 Clinton Township, MI

Thomas, Oscar (4852-135045), El
 Toro, CA

Trimble, George C. (6215-039903),
 Laurel, MD

Weinberg, Irwin R. (6936-048220),
 Wilkes Barre, PA

Winser, Leigh (206545), New York, NY

Woods, Phillip C. (109239), San
 Leandro, CA

Wright, Howard L. (10939-075668),
 Mineral, VA

Youngerman, Sidney (3944-025055), Flushing, NY

Ziegler, Raymond J. (10233-074118), Lakeland, FL

APPLICATIONS RETURNED

Lewis, Hannah (226443)

Smith, Michael T. (226140)

DEALER LISTING

The following have been approved
 for classification as a full-time
 (D) or part-time (P) stamp dealer
 according to qualifications
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 Presidents.

RASLAD Enterprise's (Davidson-
 Stroh, Lynn A., 140109-D) P.O.
 Box 3675, Gallup, NM 87305,
 (505) 879-2395.

Croakers Collectibles (Croak,
 Martin F., 213592-P) P.O. Box
 76, McFarland, WI 53558, (608)
 577-1087.



2016 NEW STAMPS

BY JEFF STAGE

Hanukkah and Nativity

Recap of United States Stamps Issued in November

The United States Postal Service finished up its 2016 new stamp program in early November with two more holiday stamps — one for Hanukkah and a second religious Christmas stamp, the Nativity.

Both are non-denominated forever stamps and are valued this year at 47 cents each. These culminated a five-week stretch in which 13 new face-different stamps were issued honoring five holidays: Halloween, Kwanzaa, Diwali, Christmas, and Hanukkah.

For additional details about the 2016 U.S. Stamp Program, updated when new information is made available, visit online at stamps.org/us-new-issues.

Hanukkah

The U.S. Postal Service's 2016 Hanukkah forever stamp features a warm, purplish background. The eight nights and days of Hanukkah begin on the 25th of Kislev in the Hebrew calendar, a date that falls in late November or December. In 2016, Hanukkah began at sundown December 24.

The stamp was formally dedicated November 1 at Temple Beth El in Boca Raton, Florida.

"The Hanukkah stamp we're dedicating today honors a religious observance that is more than 2,000 years old — and how appropriate that the word itself — Hanukkah — means 'dedication' in Hebrew," said U.S. Postal Service Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President David Williams in

a news release. "This beautiful stamp depicts a warm, elegant illustration of a holiday menorah in the window of a home. The white window trim is visible through the branches of the menorah, which echo a tangle of snow-covered tree branches beyond the glass."

Hanukkah is a transliteration or change of letters of the Hebrew word as written in the Roman alphabet. There are various spellings, though the most widely used in the United States are Hanukkah and Chanukah.

Joining Williams in dedicating the stamp were Temple Beth El of Boca Raton Rabbi Jessica Brockman, Senior Rabbi Dan Levin and Rabbi Greg Weisman. U.S. Postal Service South Florida District Manager Jeffery Taylor served as master of ceremonies.

Artist William Low, of Huntington, New York worked under art director Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, Maryland, who designed the stamp.

Traditionally, the menorah is displayed in a doorway or window to proclaim the miracle of Hanukkah. The menorah is viewed as if from inside a room, looking through a window to the outside. The candles — one for each of the eight nights



The Hanukkah forever stamp issued November 1.

Q&A

William Low artist

When did you start working on this stamp?

I began research and sketches in the summer of 2014.

What media did you use for the original artwork?

The painting was created digitally, using Photoshop to create textured, dimensional brush strokes.

All the candles are lit meaning it is the end of the eight-day holiday (and creates a lovely fully lit scenario).

Was there any consideration to have the menorah only partially lit?

The composition for early versions of this stamp were quite different, because the stamp orientation was vertical. I did not include all of the candles in one of these early versions, but in all cases every candle was lit.

The simplicity and the colors seem to work perfectly, so I cannot imagine another combination, but did you consider something like a more elaborate menorah, such as a more elaborate silver one?

The size of the stamp limited the complexity of the scene. To make the image clearer, I used contrast-

ing warm and cool colors. The menorah is dark and relatively simple, to keep the focus on the candles and flames.

Is there anything else we might find interesting about the design process for this stamp?

I love collaborating with Ethel Kessler, the designer for this stamp and the rest of the folks from the USPS.

I always find these projects to be a design challenge and I enjoy the "back and forth" of the creative process!

and days of Hanukkah, and the ninth, the shamash or “servant,” used to light the other candles — are a creamy white and have all been lit.

Low added visual interest to the scene by highlighting the contrast between the hot candle flames and the cool snow, the vertical candles and the horizontal window frame, and the dark menorah with the brightly lit candles.

The artist also illustrated the Holiday Windows set of four stamps issued October 6, which are stylistically similar to the new Hanukkah stamp. Low previously illustrated the two 2013 Poinsettia forever stamp and the 2014 Winter Flowers set of four forever stamps. In an e-mail interview, Low said that the basic design for the Hanukkah stamp was originally



Hanukkah forever stamp unveiling in Boca Raton, Florida.
Screen capture from U.S. Postal Service video.

part of the Holiday Window Views set.

“In the early version, only part of the menorah is in view to accommodate the stamp orientation. When the decision was made to create a separate Hanukkah stamp, the scene was expanded to include the entire menorah.”

This is the sixth face-different design for U.S. Hanukkah

stamps. The first U.S. Hanukkah stamp was issued in 1996, featured a menorah and was denominated 32 cents. It was issued in 1999 (33 cents), 2001 (34 cents), and 2002 (37 cents). The next design featured a dreidel and was issued in 2004 at 37 cents. It also was issued at new denominations in 2006 (39 cents), 2007 (41 cents), and 2008 (42 cents). New Hanukkah designs were issued in 2009, 2011, and 2013.

HANUKKAH SPECIAL FOREVER STAMP

USPS Item Number: 559904

Format: Pane of 20, 320 stamps per revolution

Issue Date and City: November 1, 2016, Boca Raton, Florida

Art Director, Designer, and

Typographer: Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, Maryland

Artist: William Low, Huntington, New York

Modeler: Sandra Lane/Michelle Finn

Manufacturing Process: Offset with

microprinting

Printer and Processor: Banknote Corporation of America, Browns Summit, North Carolina

Press Type: Alprinta 74

Print Quantity: 15 million stamps

Paper Type: Phosphor tagged paper, overall

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, Pantone Matching System 7443 lavender

Stamp Sizes: 1.05 inches by 0.77 inches,

26.67 millimeters by 19.56mm (image); 1.19 inches by 0.91 inches, 30.22mm by 23.11mm (overall); 5.64 inches by 5.43 inches, 143.12mm by 137.79mm (pane); 22.54 inches by 10.85 inches, 572.52mm by 275.59mm (press sheet)

Plate Numbers: “B” followed by five single digits

Marginal Markings: plate numbers (front), “©2015 USPS,” USPS logo, barcode, plate numbers, promotional text

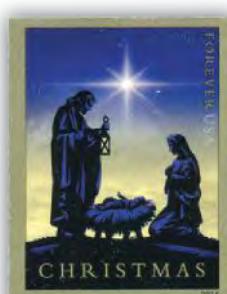
Nativity

The U.S. Postal Service, on November 3, issued its sixth Christmas stamp of 2016: a Nativity forever stamp. The stamp joined the previously issued set of four Holiday Window stamps and single Madonna and Child stamp, which were issued in October.

The Nativity stamp is similarly designed to two previous Christmas stamps: the traveling Holy Family with a donkey in 2012, which was issued also in 2013; and the Magi, released in 2014. All three stamps have a similar look and feel, showing the figures in low light on hilly ground beneath a single star. The vibrant color of each stamp is indicative of skyscape changes at dusk or dawn.

The Nativity forever stamp, sold in double-sided panes of 20 (convertible booklet format), was dedicated at historic St. John’s Episcopal Church on Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C.

“Today we honor one of the most symbolic images in the world,” said U.S. Postal Service Corporate Communications Vice President Janice Walker at the dedication. “An



Nativity forever stamp
issued November 3.

image that for Christians from all walks of life celebrates the story of the Nativity — the birth of Jesus Christ. This beautiful stamp includes a brilliant star that stands out in both its illustration and in its meaning of Christmas. There are no greater traditions than those of the holidays, and the Postal Service is happy to help you celebrate and honor your traditions.”

Joining Walker in dedicating the stamps were former U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors member Louis Giuliano; St. John’s Church Rector Rev. Dr. Luis León; and Florida Avenue

Baptist Church Pastor Adamio Charles Boddie. U.S. Postal Service Shipping Solutions Manager John Samuels III served as master of ceremonies.

“During my time with the Board of Governors I witnessed the launch of a stamp series that spoke deeply to my Christian faith,” said Giuliano. “The first stamp, aptly named Holy Family, was issued in 2012 and illustrated the journey of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus into Egypt. In 2014, I was honored to stand here in Saint John’s Church to help dedi-

cate the second stamp in the series, Christmas Magi, which illustrated the story of the Three Wise Men."

"It is with great pleasure that I welcome the United States Postal Service back to St. John's Church for the unveiling of the 2016 Nativity Forever stamp," said León. "Our ceremony today celebrates the remarkable mystery of the Incarnation, the world's most widely observed holiday. This new stamp reminds us of God's gift of his son as our savior; his continuing gift of grace in our lives and the possibility for us to receive the power to become his children."

Art director Greg Breeding of Charlottesville, Virginia, designed the stamp with original artwork by Nancy Stahl of New York City. The same duo created the previous two stamps in the set.



Nativity forever stamp unveiling in Washington, D.C. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Postal Service.

Q&A *Nancy Stahl artist*

When did you start working on this stamp? Was it at the same time as the Holy Family (2012) and Christmas Magi (2014) stamps of similar design?

No, they weren't drawn at the same time. The latest, the Nativity scene was begun in September 2015. The first of these three (the Holy Family) was begun four years prior to that with the Magi between the two as I got the call to start in February 2013.

The first two in the group had kind orange and purple-red hues. This one is on the blue side. Is the coloring meant to be symbolic?

No, it was simply to give variety but also to set a mood. I did think that the beginning rays of light were appropriate as a symbol for birth in this version of the night time sky.

For clarification, I didn't create the skies in these

stamps. They are photographs as far as I know and were chosen by the art director, Greg Breeding. I did provide my input on color to him.

Was the Christmas star purposefully meant from the beginning as a design element for all three stamps?

[Answer from Bill Gicker, USPS art director]: As the art director for the original stamp, Holy Family, I did choose for the star to be prominent. With the ensuing popularity of that issuance it was decided to continue on with the theme and I did recommend that the star be a dominant element in each to help tie them together.

Are these three stamps now considered a complete series or will there be more to come?

[Answer from Gicker]: I am afraid we have nothing new to report at this time.

NATIVITY SPECIAL FOREVER STAMP

USPS Item Number: 681204

Format: Double-sided pane of 20 (convertible booklet format), 880 stamps per revolution

Issue Date and City: November 3, 2016, Washington, D.C.

Art Director, Designer, and

Typographer: Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset with

microprinting

Printer and Processor: Ashton Potter, Williamsville, New York

Press Type: Mueller Martini A76

Print Quantity: 400 million stamps

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III, block tagging

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, Pantone Matching System 8520 gold

Stamp Sizes: 0.77 inches by 1.05 inches,

19.56 millimeters by 26.67mm (image); 0.91 inches by 1.19 inches, 23.11mm by 30.23mm (overall); 5.76 inches by 2.38 inches, 146.30mm by 60.45mm (pane); 23.29 inches by 4.76 inches, 591.57mm by 120.90mm (press sheet)

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by five single digits

Marginal Markings: Header "Nativity," plate numbers, "©2015," "USPS," promotional text, bar code



AUSTRIA CHRISTMAS COMIC STAMPS JIGSAW

On November 11, Austria issued this block with each stamp in the shape of a jigsaw puzzle. It shows a scene: children looking on secretly as an angel, symbolic of the Christ Child, and Father Christmas deliver toys.



INDIA CHILDREN'S DAY DESIGN CONTEST

On November 14, India issued two stamps showing artwork by children from its annual Children's Day stamp design contest. The theme of the competition was "Picnic." It was the second public stamp design contest in India in 2016.



GREAT BRITAIN HIBERNATION

On November 14, Great Britain issued four Post & Go stamps (for vending machines) featuring animals that hibernate in winter: grass snake, dormouse, brown long-eared bat, and hedgehog, the last three the only British mammals that hibernate.



CANADA CHRISTMAS

On November 1, Canada issued Christmas stamps: a religious stamp showing the Madonna and Child and a set of three featuring whimsical designs, each showing a Christmas tree. The tree stamps were inspired by the works of Rolf Harder (1929–2013).



JERSEY WINTER

On November 4, Jersey issued eight stamps in eight denominations with winter scenes of the island, including its countryside, seaside, and villages. This stamp shows hail showers passing over a golf course. This is the third in a series depicting seasons.

NEW WORLDWIDE STAMPS

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



PHILIPPINES AIRLINES ANNIVERSARY

The Philippines, on November 7, issued a commemorative stamp marking the 75th anniversary of Philippine Airlines, historically the nation's flag carrier and the first commercial airline in Asia.



NETHERLANDS KINDERPOSTZEGELS

The Netherlands, on November 7, issued 12 stamps on a sheet for Kinderpostzegels, an annual program in which children sell the semipostals. The 2016 sheet features well-known figures from illustrator Fiep Westendorp (1916–2004).



SWEDEN OH, DEER

On November 10, Sweden issued a strip of five stamps showing different kinds of deer, including the reindeer. Of the 40 species of deer, reindeer is the only species that to any considerable extent has been taken into service by humans.



LATVIA LIGHTHOUSE

Latvia, on November 10, issued the 11th stamp in a series of lighthouses, this one dedicated to Oviši Lighthouse, the nation's oldest such structure. The 125-foot tall Oviši Lighthouse is on the Baltic Sea coastline. Its light can be seen for 15 nautical miles.



ISRAEL SOLOMON'S SHIPS

On November 13, Israel issued a souvenir sheet of one with King Solomon's ships. Solomon was said to have a large navy and promoted trade throughout the world. Baboons, an exotic bird, and a cache of traded goods are being off-loaded onto the dock.



WORLDWIDE IN A NUTSHELL

BY BOB LAMB

Antigua and Barbuda

Status: Independent State within the British Commonwealth

Area: 171 sq. miles

Population: 93,581 (2016 estimate)

Currency: Eastern Caribbean Dollar (100c = EC\$1) EC\$1 = U.S. \$0.37



CARIBBEAN SEA

ANTIGUA



REDONDA



MONTSENNAT



The 4-cent blue stamp of 1879, Scott 10.

The nation of Antigua and Barbuda consists of three islands. Antigua, the largest, is 108 square miles and volcanic in origin. It is distinguished from other Leeward Islands by its lack of mountains or forests. It includes the capital of St. John's and the overwhelming majority of the population. Barbuda is a coral island 25 miles to the northwest, about 62 square miles in size with roughly 2,000 inhabitants. The third, Redonda, is about 30 miles to the west, one-half square mile in area, and populated by a handful of people engaged in phosphate mining.

Columbus named Antigua after a church in Seville when he visited the island in 1493. Spanish and French settlement failed because of Carib attacks and the arid climate. The first British settlers arrived in 1632 from St. Kitts. Barbuda was settled in 1678 and in 1685 the British crown granted it to the Codrington family. The islands were agricultural, initially producing tobacco and later sugar. The abolition of slavery in 1834 created labor shortages and economic problems. Barbuda reverted to the crown in the 19th century and was made a dependency of Antigua.

The British policy of merging colonial administrations led to the establishment of the Leeward Islands colony in the 17th century with its administrative seat in St. John's. The federation was never popular with the islands and was abolished in 1956.

On February 27, 1967, Antigua was granted internal self-government and in 1978 it sought full independence. There were negotiations with Barbuda, which wanted its own independent status. On November 1, 1981, Antigua and Barbuda became independent.

A GPO Branch post office was opened in St. John's in 1850. In May 1858, the GPO allowed British stamps to be used for packet mail to England. In February 1859, usage was extended to local mail.

In April 1860, the post office was handed over to the local officials and the use of British stamps discontinued. In August 1862 the first Antiguan stamp was issued, a 6-cent denomination produced by Perkins Bacon depicting Queen Victoria. In October 1890, Antigua's stamps were replaced by stamps of the Leeward Islands. In July

1903, separate Antigua issues were resumed. They were sold and used concurrently with the Leeward Islands issues until 1956.

Barbuda issued overprinted stamps from 1922 to 1924. Special Barbuda issues were resumed in 1968.

In the independence negotiations it was agreed that stamps for the new country would be inscribed "Antigua and Barbuda," a practice that continues to this day. The separate issues for Barbuda lasted until 2000, though it appears that these stamps were produced primarily for the philatelic marketplace.

From 1979 to 1991, Antigua issued stamps and souvenir sheets inscribed Redonda, often overprinted on Antigua & Barbuda issues. These are not listed by major catalogs.

The stamps of Barbuda (after 1968), Antigua, and Redonda were valid throughout the country.



A King George VI 1-shilling stamp showing St. John's Harbor, Scott 91.



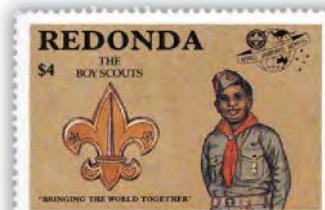
The 45-cent commemorative stamp from the 19-stamp Antigua and Barbuda Butterflies set of 1988–90, Scott 1155.



Antigua and Barbuda has produced several stamps with Disney characters. This is part of the 1993 nine-stamp Nutcracker Christmas set, Scott 1746.



Henry II appears on the Barbuda English Monarchs set of 37 from 1970–71, Scott 47.



There are stamps from Redonda, a mostly uninhabited tiny island that is part of Antigua. The stamps are not listed in Scott catalogs. Among the issues is one for the Boy Scouts.

AMERISTAMP EXPO PRE-REGISTRATION

March 3–5, 2017

Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502
Register online by February 3 at stamps.org/ASE-preregister.



Name _____ APS No. _____
 Names of other adults attending _____
 Youth attending _____
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Note: All attendees should complete a pre-registration form, even if not ordering tickets. Name badges and tickets are prepared in advance, and should be picked up at the pre-registration desk.

Quantity	Amount
Seminars & Meetings — Attend dozens for free!	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please send me information about Reno. Details will be available online in January.	
Volunteer — Help at the show on these days: <input type="checkbox"/> Wed. Mar. 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs. Mar. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Fri. Mar. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Mar. 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Sun. Mar. 5 (Volunteers who work 8 hrs. or more receive a free awards banquet ticket.)	
On-the-Road Courses	
<input type="checkbox"/> EFOs and You, Thursday, March 2 , 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Presented by Wayne Youngblood. How Your Collection, Knowledge Base, and Exhibit Can Benefit from Postal Blunders	APS Member \$95 \$ _____ Non-Member \$145
<input type="checkbox"/> Ghosts of the Glory Trail, Saturday March 4 , 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Presented by Mike Mahler. Nevada Revenue-Stamped Documents 1863–1873, A Geographic Analysis	
Stamp Collecting Beginners' Series — Friday, March 3	FREE
<input type="checkbox"/> 11 a.m.–12 p.m. — Learning philatelic lingo <input type="checkbox"/> 1 p.m.–2 p.m. — Utilizing tools of the hobby <input type="checkbox"/> 3 p.m.–4 p.m. — Tips for preservation and storage	
Awards Banquet — Saturday, March 4, 6:15 p.m. cash bar; 7 p.m. dinner	\$45 \$ _____ After Feb. 3 \$55
Choice of Entrée*: Each includes: Salad w/vegetables, fruit, nuts; freshly baked rolls; NY cheesecake w/fruit topping	
<input type="checkbox"/> Roast Pork Tenderloin — Sautéed shallots, wild mushrooms, marsala; mashed sweet potatoes; cornbread stuffing, garden vegetables	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Tropicale — Citrus marinated chicken breast, papaya mango salsa, jasmine rice, snow peas, carrots	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian — Grilled portabella mushroom, herb potato gnocchi, roasted vegetables, tomato marinara	
*Please attach a note indicating any special dietary needs.	
Boy Scout Merit Badge — Saturday, March 4, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.	\$20 \$ _____ After Feb. 3 \$25
A 6-hour session for Boy Scouts ages 10–17 interested in completing the requirements for the stamp collecting merit badge.	
Sponsor a Boy Scout	\$ _____
I would like to make a donation to sponsor a Boy Scout to attend the Merit Badge Workshop.	
Tickets and name badges are prepared in advance, and should be picked up at the pre-registration desk at the show. Advance prices valid until February 3, 2017. Limited tickets may be available on site.	Total \$ _____

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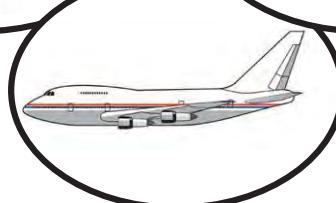
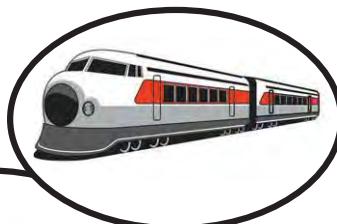
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