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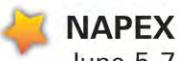


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THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

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THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

Since 1887 — The Premier Philatelic Magazine in the Nation

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FEATURED COLUMNS



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Section dedicated to those whose gifts of money, in-kind donations, and volunteered time and talents, that help keep the American Philatelic Society thriving.



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Riverside Wonderful

APS AmeriStamp Expo Show Drew Big Crowd



I have been back from APS AmeriStamp Expo for about two weeks at this writing. When I left Riverside (California) on February 15, it was 85 degrees. You see, Riverside is in the desert, about fifty miles east of Los Angeles. Upon getting off the plane at LaGuardia Airport in New York City that evening, the pilot informed us that it was *three* degrees. What a shock.

The weather in Riverside wasn't the only thing that was wonderful. The show itself drew bigger crowds than I have seen in several years of attending many of our National shows. On Friday one could hardly navigate the aisles — and forget about finding a seat at a dealer's table. Saturday morning was equally busy, with a slight drop-off in attendance in the afternoon. I had to leave early on Sunday, so I cannot add that day to my report.

While Riverside has always been an excellent location for our shows (this was the fourth APS-run show held in Riverside), there had to be a reason for the better-than-usual attendance. Personally, I think that we can thank the United States Postal Service for this. For the first time ever at an APS Winter Show, the USPS provided us the ability to mail 750,000 postcards announcing the show to every residence in the surrounding areas, using their own postal permit. What that means is that the USPS paid for the postage. APS provided the printed cards. We have benefitted from a similar relationship for APS StampShow in the summer for a number of years, aiding us in keeping that attendance high. Obviously, what works in the summer also works in the winter. Thank you, USPS!

Excellent competitive exhibits were also evident in the hall that housed them. About 90 percent of the exhibits were "single-frame," meaning that exhibitors needed only to show sixteen pages of material, which induced, I believe, many more exhibits being prepared. Part of the exhibition was the single-frame "Champion of Champions" annual competition, where the single-frame grand award winners from our thirty-plus national exhibitions, and those from our Canadian counterparts, go head-to-head in an effort to be crowned the best of the best. I am happy to tell you that this year's winner is Larry Lyons' extraordinary exhibit titled "America's First Stamp Design, The United States City Despatch Post."

At AmeriStamp Expo there is also a single-frame open competition. The Grand Award went to "The First Postal Cards of Persia," exhibited by Behruz Nassre-Esfahari. There were two runners-up, or Reserve Grand Award winners. One was "The 50c Zeppelin Issue: A Study in Design," entered by Cheryl Renee Ganz, and the other was "U.S. Civil War Era \$200 and \$500 Revenues: Their Purpose Illustrated," by Michael T. Mahler. Congratulations go to all of our medal winners!

I was privileged to be able to attend the Dealers' Breakfast Sunday morning before leaving for the airport. Most of the approximately seventy dealers with sales booths at the show were present. You could feel the excitement of a strong weekend for most of the dealers. There was certainly, for at least this weekend, a very positive feeling for the future of the hobby. We need to take this success and build on it. Thank you, dealers, for your support. Without it there would be no AmeriStamp Expo!

Lastly, for now, I must thank our wonderful staff and volunteers who together made this a very enjoyable show. I especially wish to thank Dana Guyer, our director of shows and exhibitions, who was putting on her last show as a member of our staff. We will miss her.

There were several other very positive things that came out of this weekend. I intend to expound on them next month. Until then, keep on enjoying our wonderful hobby.



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A total of 750,000 postcards announcing the AmeriStamp Expo show were sent to every residence in the Riverside area.

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HOW I BECAME A STAMP COLLECTOR

BY VALERIE JEAN KRAMER

My Uncle Ray got me started collecting stamps. He collected Roosevelt on stamps, but I was just a kid and collected any stamp that came my way. Over the years, I left and returned to the hobby several times, finally putting most of my effort into my cat collection but still accumulating all sorts of material. I enjoyed sorting, cataloging, and organizing it into albums. I had no intention of changing my ways.

The change began when Marci Jarvis, editor of *Cat Mews*, the journal of the Cats on Stamps Study Unit (COSSU), e-mailed me an image of a stamp with a nice two-tailed lion on it that wasn't listed in the *Scott Catalogue*. What was it? Why wasn't it listed? Were there any more? I soon learned that other values and colors of the stamp existed and that the stamp was a revenue stamp. I also discovered that many other revenue stamps from Czechoslovakia, Belgium, and other countries have cats on them, but that most catalogs don't list foreign revenue stamps.

I needed more information and I discovered that J. Barefoot Ltd. had a catalog of Czechoslovak Revenues, which

answered many of my questions. There were quite a few stamps in the 1919 and 1938 series. And, yes, there were other revenue stamps with cats on them! Lots of them!

My e-mail friend, Jiří, in the Czech Republic helped too. He explained the different denominations and the language mystery. "Kolek" ("stamp," particularly a revenue stamp) is the Czech word, and "Kolok" is the Slovak word. The two languages are very similar but not identical. Having two languages also explained some of the different denominations. I found all this fascinating and wrote an article for *Cat Mews* about cats on Czechoslovak revenue stamps.

Meanwhile I was getting more involved with the Society for Czechoslovak Philately (SCP). I borrowed two more revenue stamp catalogs from its lending library. One was in English and German, but the other two-volume set was in Czech, which I read with the help of Google Translate. I also wrote an article about Czechoslovak revenue stamps for *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, the journal of the SCP.



Two different Czechoslovak revenue stamps that feature a cat in the design, a lion rampant.

I'm afraid I've lost interest in being a stamp collector. I find it is much more rewarding to be a philatelist. Researching the stories behind these stamps and solving their mysteries has proven to be far more fun than just sorting the stamps and sticking them in albums (though I still get to do that too!).

It has led me to learn far more about geography, history, language, and Czechoslovak culture than I ever imagined knowing.

I am now writing a book about Czechoslovak revenue stamps and am enjoying my stamps more than ever.

I would be more than happy to correspond with anyone interested in these stamps. My e-mail address is valerie@mydfz.com.

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Thank You, Philately

Here's to the People Who Contribute to the Philatelic Conversation



This year marks the 128th year of publication of *The American Philatelist*. It's wonderful to celebrate that we've been going strong since 1887.

This month's *AP* contains a special section — Philately and Philanthropy — that celebrates our members who have done wonderful things to promote our hobby through gifts of all kinds.

Our editorial team would like to give special recognition to our wonderful authors, columnists and advertisers for their support. We would also like to thank our letter writers and our social media followers for helping keep the philatelic conversation moving along. Your comments are always welcome.

The April issue debuts a couple of new features to the magazine:

- A new series of articles by Charles M. Posner will start with sharing details on stamps issued in the 1950s.

- Another section, titled "Philatelic Happenings," will look at various events and items that took place recently in our hobby. This month there are a number of highlights from our recent AmeriStamp Expo show and other World Series of Philately shows. I encourage anyone who is at any stamp-related function to share a photo from it with us. We might include it in this section in the future.

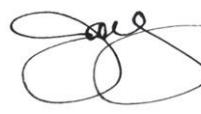
- Also, we've been running "How I Became a Stamp Collector" vignettes for a while now, but this month it's broken out into its own column.

Lastly, be sure to check out that photograph of former Postmaster General James A. Farley on the cover and in the inside article on page 320 — that sure is a serious post office dedication

scene, to say the least! This photograph accompanies a piece on post office dedication covers written by Charles Epting, one of the current Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship members.

I hope you enjoy this issue as much as I enjoyed putting it together. Thank you again for all of your support.

"The April issue debuts a couple of new features to the magazine."



Editor,

The American Philatelist



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AmeriStamp Expo 2015

I waited a couple of days to let my entire experience at the February AmeriStamp Expo 2015 in Riverside, California, to soak (pun intended) before writing this letter. First, I want to thank the Young Friends of the APS (YFAPS) for reaching out to me. I may not have even attended a stamp show if I had not received that letter notifying me of the newly formed social alliance in philately. I greatly appreciated YFAPS Kimberlee Fuller e-mailing me to introduce herself, share her philately interests, and answer my questions before I ever left for the expo.

I am certain my experience at my first stamp show without the YFAPS would have fallen way short of the wonderful experience that it was.

Friday, February 13th, I was at my first philatelic show on the bourse floor for about 30 seconds before I was greeted by YFAPS James Weigant. I was then introduced to several YFAPS before I started browsing the bourse floor. I also met up with Fred Kuntz, my unofficial philately mentor and lifetime member of the APS. Thank you, Mr. Kuntz, for evaluating multiple pages of stamps with me and walking me through how to view auction lots. All of the above assisted in making the bourse and auction less intimidating.

Friday evening, I attended my first YFAPS dinner event, which facilitated connections with several new philatelic friends. The YFAPS event was well organized, a ton of fun, and a complete success. I enjoyed sitting next to Wade Saadi and his wife Gail during dinner. I am fairly certain I did not converse with everyone who attended the event, but I hope to do so at future events. I am filled with gratitude for having the opportunity to meet so many philatelic friends during the event. A special thank you to Brandon Nugent who traveled from Bosnia to make it to the YFAPS event for the second time. I shall not complain about philatelic travel distance while in your company. Thank you, Kelly Rose, for driving 6+ hours to make it to the dinner and expo. I enjoyed hearing your philatelic album page ideas, which also sparked ideas of my own. A very special thank you to all of the supporters and organizers of the YFAPS event, especially James Weigant and Alex Haimann. I immensely look forward to future YFAPS events.

Saturday, February 14th was another day of firsts as well. I went to my first USPS first-day ceremony, for the Vintage Rose Forever and the 70-cent Vintage Tulip engraved stamps. The ceremony was very nice, and I enjoyed getting autographs from



Young Friends of the APS show-and-tell event at the AmeriStamp Expo.

the ceremony members on my program and the first day cover.

My first philatelic show-and-tell with the YFAPS was very enlightening. Some items shared even broadened my horizons and sparked my interest in other philatelic areas. On Sunday, the last day of the expo, I went to my first APS education course, "Stamp Collecting 101." The instructors, Gretchen Moody and Jay Bigalke, were very informative. This course is a great place to start if you are new to the hobby or returning after a 15+ year hiatus like me.

The entire weekend vastly expanded my philatelic collection as well as my collection of first-time experiences. Thank you to all who made a euphoric philatelic state of mind possible.

Christina Price

Huntington Beach, California

China Stamp Society Lives

As President of the Junk Chapter of the China Stamp Society as well as being a collector and frequent exhibitor of the Martyrs stamps of China, I took great interest in the article titled "The Legacy of Zhu Zhixin" by Michael Soper in the March 2015 issue (page 224). Given my association with the Junk Chapter, I was of course delighted to see the Chapter mentioned, if only in conjunction with the circuitous route by which the author arrived at the topic of his article. I was also excited to learn of the existence of the *Biographical Dictionary of the Republic of China*, a resource I did not know was available.

However, I was troubled by several statements made in the article. The episode in which "senior members of the Junk Chapter" were amused by the author's collecting interests may have happened a number of years ago, since his name does not appear on our current chapter roster or on the Society's roster. This comment does not sound like any of our current members. But the point with which I am most troubled is the incorrect

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Robert F. Skillings
Brunswick, Maine

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George Zelwinder
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statement on page 229 that the “chapter had disbanded.” This reminds me of the story of Mark Twain’s stating that “Reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated.” I can attest that the Junk Chapter of the China Stamp Society is very much in existence, and I would not want to leave readers with the impression that we have disbanded. The Chapter comprises members of the China Stamp Society who live in the Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D.C., area. Anyone interested in membership can get information by going to www.chinastampsociety.org.

William P. Winter

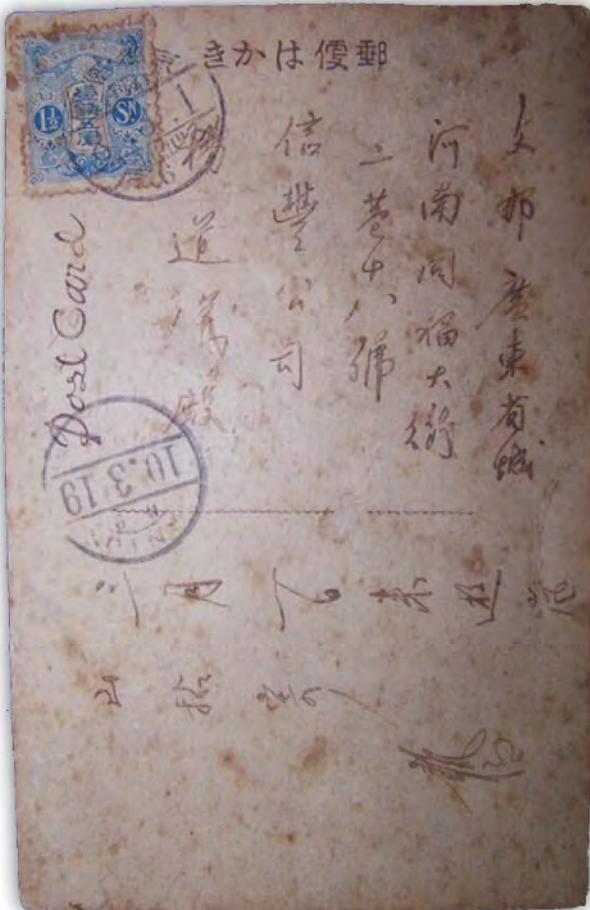
Silver Spring, Maryland

Postcard Signature

I thoroughly enjoy reading “The Legacy of Zhu Zhixin” Michael Soper (March AP, page 224). It is well researched and illustrated. The author lamented that he has not been able to find any of Zhu’s correspondence.

Under www.chinamuseum.org.cn I found a picture of a postcard mailed by Zhu Zhixin to his wife Yang Dao Yi from Japan on March 10, 1919. It was mailed to an address in Canton. The signature of Zhixin is the last two words in the postcard (that is, the lowest two words in this postcard picture).

The entire 2013 article was in English at one time but can



Postcard mailed by Zhu Zhixin to his wife.

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probably still be read with the help of Google or another online translator.

Hope this might help.

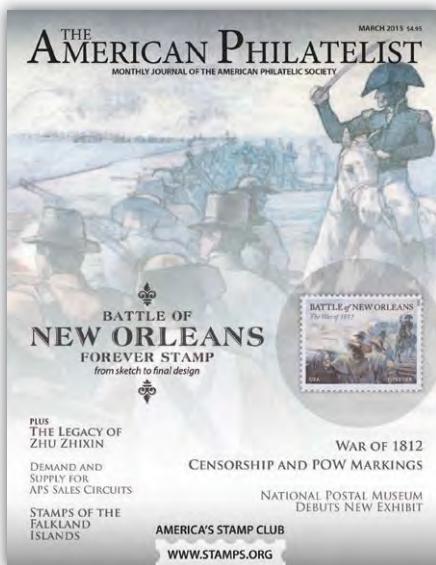
Wilson Chang
Kitchener, Ontario

New Look

I am writing to let you know that I find the new look of the AP to be a significant improvement. The layout is much cleaner and sleeker, while retaining the good organization of the magazine. I also like the fact that the main features are listed on the cover.

Thanks very much for your hard work and improvements to the publication.

Maj. Almyr L. Bump
Ridge, New Hampshire



Cover of the March *American Philatelist*.



A Common Virtue

Thank you for Maj. Ted Bahry's article in the February AP, "Uncommon Valor Revisited: Iwo Jima & the Stamp" (page 144). I wish every American could read it.

I've made a point of giving the Iwo Jima flag-raising stamp to all of my grandchildren. I would add only the balance of the statement by Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander in Chief of Pacific Forces during World War II: "Among the Americans serving on Iwo island, uncommon valor was a common virtue."

Charles Jacobson
Fancy Gap, Virginia

Combat Photographers

Major Ted Bahry's "Uncommon Valor Revisited: Iwo Jima" brought back memories of challenges for combat photographers that are unknown to today's point-and-click digital picture takers.

My friend of forty-four years and most

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Ad 1/5

frequent dinner companion, Bernie Moser, then a skinny, 125-pound 23-year-old, received the Bronze Service Star as an Army combat photographer at two of World War II's bloodiest battles: Anguar and Iwo Jima.

He saw both Iwo Jima flag raisings, but nothing could prepare him for the horrors endured by U.S. Marines. Artillery, rocket, and small arms fire punctuated the air as he waded ashore amid dead Marines and body parts floating in the surf. With one arm he balanced a five-pound Speed Graphic press camera atop his helmet to keep it dry, and with the other arm he carried a wooden camera case containing a tripod, film holders, and flash bulbs. A rubberized knapsack on his back held eighty-four sheets of 4x5-inch film. Each film holder required two sheets of 4x5 film and a slide that prevented double exposures. The slide had to be pulled out before the second picture could be taken, a painfully slow method of capturing action under fire.

The rubberized knapsack also contained two non-GI items: a six-pack of Philadelphia's Optimo cigars and a loaf of bread. (Army combat photographers weren't attached to a specific unit, and there wasn't any food except what you carried.)

Moser's only weapon was a .45-caliber automatic pistol in a shoulder holster. He jettisoned an M-3 carbine during his first amphibious landing a year earlier. Army regulations required issuing him a rifle, but Moser soon realized he couldn't take combat photos and carry a bulky weapon.

Once on Iwo's beach, Moser turned his camera to take a pho-

to of Paul Levitt, an Army movie cameraman from Brooklyn, New York. The two men, one a still photographer and the other a movie cameraman, had been teamed together since landing with the first assault wave at Anguar five months earlier. The photo would be the last ever taken of Levitt. A few hours later, Levitt fell victim to a Japanese land mine — the third combat photographer to die in the Pacific campaign. Back home, Moser's photograph of Levitt appeared in New York City newspapers. While Moser's camera chronicled hundreds of deaths, his photo of "my buddy" still haunted him fifty-eight years later.

Moser's Iwo Jima photographs recorded the routing of 21,000 Japanese defenders from well-concealed bunkers, pillboxes, and tunnel-linked caves. Other pictures showed Pvt. Emmanuel Goldberg, a Bronx Jew, speaking Japanese to coax defenders out of a cave, and Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief, U.S. Pacific fleet, talking with the victorious Marines.

At the end of the 35-day battle for Iwo Jima, Moser was air-lifted to Hawaii. On one leg of his journey his pilot was Errol Flynn, the swashbuckling movie actor. Moser began training with a Speed Graphic, the ubiquitous World War II still camera, at the former Paramount movie studio in Astoria, New York. His bunk mates included Academy Award-winning actor William Holden and author-playwright William Saroyan.

After the war, Moser started Dufor Studio, a commercial photography and portrait studio in center city Philadelphia. His works were on permanent display at the Federal Reserve

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Bank in Philadelphia. His candids of U.S. presidents and Hollywood stars lined the walls at Philadelphia's famed Old Original Bookbinders restaurant. Moser also gained recognition for action pictures of the Philadelphia Flyers as well as his portraits of celebrities ranging from Academy Award-winning actress Joan Crawford to Philadelphia Eagles star Pete Retzlaff.

Moser, a stamp collector, died in 2004. He was 83.

Warren Weiner

Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey

Now You See It...

Now you see it, now it's gone! Another philatelic website disappears into the ether.

The first web page went live almost twenty-four years ago on August 6, 1991. I bet that the first philatelic web page wasn't far behind.

A wealth of invaluable philatelic research and information is now available only on websites. The danger is that, unlike books, these websites are ephemeral. Stamp websites are likely to disappear when the owner dies or fails to keep up the payment for the web address (more correctly the URL = uniform resource locator).

How many stamp websites are there? Who knows? I have more than a hundred in my bookmarks on which I depend for my research, writing, and collecting. I'm also webmaster for several stamp websites.

I know of two cases where useful stamp websites bit the dust. In one case the webmaster disappeared — literally. No one else had the passwords. We waited until the web address expired and immediately captured it. We then painstakingly recreated the website. In another case the webmaster suddenly died and much the same thing happened.

One solution is every so often to convert the website's content to print form and place it into the traditional philatelic library system.

Yes, philatelic books continue being published, but valuable information and research is appearing on an ever-increasing number of websites. Is there

an APS committee that is studying this problem? If so, I would very much like to be made aware of it.

Michel Houde

Toronto, Ontario

U.S. C1 Used on Mail

The January Letters to the Editor column carried a letter from David Drach about a mailing he received from the APS franked in part with a "nicely centered example" of a U.S. 6-cent Curtiss Jenny airmail stamp (Scott C1) ("Sell Mint Examples," page 21).

Drach regretted the use of this mint stamp on his mail, and he opined that the APS would be better served by selling such stamps to collectors.

Of course, I don't know for certain, but unless our staff at the APS knows little or nothing about U.S. stamps, I doubt that the stamp used on his cover was "mint." While a mint never-hinged example has a catalog value of \$120, and an unused hinged example is valued at \$60, I think it likely that this stamp had seriously disturbed gum or a thin. As such, it might have a theoretical value of \$5 or \$10, but I

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doubt you could find a buyer for it.

In buying odd lots and collections, I have often come across unused damaged U.S. stamps with high catalog values, but little or no actual collector value. Such stamps wind up on my outgoing mail. If nothing else, a beautiful old stamp might interest someone who sees it to consider collecting stamps.

Rick Miller

Bedford, New Hampshire

NPM Improvements

Several years ago, I wrote to *The American Philatelist* complaining that the National Postal Museum was heavily focused on mail delivery and the postal service rather than on postage stamps. As a philatelist, I was very disappointed. To his credit, Allen Kane called me and said that many of the museum's board members had read the letter and were concerned that I was not aware of their plans. At the time, I think hardly anyone was aware that a second level would be opened to focus on stamps. I recently visited the museum and was very impressed by the new, second level, and I am very grateful that the museum's board recognized the need to exhibit stamps on a permanent basis beyond the national stamp salon and the special exhibition gallery.

I still would appreciate having permanent exhibits that show how stamp subjects are selected, developed, and printed, including art work and examples of the different printing methods. The permanent exhibit might also include several examples of what philatelists collect, such as essays, perforates/imperforates, coils, blocks, booklets, covers, souvenir sheets, postal stationery, presentation folders, etc., a few of which currently are in the temporary A0150 exhibit. Perhaps these items might appear permanently in a further expansion of the museum. However, I am satisfied that the new level does showcase stamps in a manner that any philatelist will enjoy. The Gross Stamp Gallery is a great addition that makes this truly a philatelic museum.

Lawrence M. Katz

Providence, Rhode Island

Upright Jenny Invert

In the unsigned piece in the March issue titled "Scott catalog editors list Upright Jenny Invert Souvenir Sheet" (page 216), it is stated that the "upright variety will be [Scott] 4806a." That is



not correct. In fact, the Scott editors have not publicly stated that the Scott number will be 4806a or any other Scott number. Scott 4806a is already assigned to a single stamp from a normal Jenny Invert pane. The actual Scott number for the upright Jenny Invert pane has not yet been assigned.

Charles "Chad" Snee

Linn's Stamp News

Sidney, Ohio

Jenny Invert Pane

The sheet should be footnoted only for its *existence*. It was NOT available through Kansas City or at local post offices.

Bruce L. Hecht

New Hyde Park, New York

Real Villain

Want to know the villain in the decline of interest in philately in young people? The answer came in today's mail. A mailing had a plate block of four of U.S. 1205 and a commemorative. I can just picture a little kid running to the post office to get the new Christmas stamp and being lucky enough to get a plate block. Flash ahead to fifty years later and seeing it on a mailing. To add insult to injury, the stamps were not cancelled. God bless them!

Peter Bergas

Sarasota, Florida

Prison Mail

The article by Wayne Youngblood in the January issue of the AP, "Some Prisons Have Serious Stamp Collectors, Exhibitors" (page 24), was very interesting and informative. I enjoyed reading it very much. It reminded me of a letter I have in my collection (accumulation?).

My late father, Harlan W. Miller, was a well-known philatelic magazine printer for almost sixty years. One magazine he printed, his own publication, *The Kaw Chief Stamp Journal*, ran from January 1932, when he was only seventeen years old, until into the 1950s.

Wayne's article mentions inmate stamp clubs from about 1972 forward. I'm not sure if these gentlemen belonged to prison stamp clubs or not, but Dad had a number of prison inmates as subscribers to his *Kaw Chief Stamp Journal*. I have a letter dated January 6, 1938, sent to Dad from Mr. Lewis E. Lawes, Warden of Sing Sing Prison in Ossining, New York, advising him to forward *The Kaw Chief Stamp Journal* for prisoner N. Williams #87-961 to Clinton Prison in Dannemora, New York, where the prisoner had been transferred.

So prison philatelists aren't very new!

Harlan L. Miller

Lawrence, Kansas

Upright Jenny Invert variety.

Selling on eBay

Over the years I have read letters from members who related their experience selling on eBay. I thought I would return the favor and describe my own experiences using eBay to sell my collection of covers from various French colonies plus a few covers from other parts of the world.

First, I decided to reduce my collection to a manageable size before I started selling. I had a lot of covers acquired over the years (many obtained on eBay and others direct from postal agencies), but most of them were not really valuable. I did an inventory and separated those covers that I felt I really had a good chance of selling (about 25%) from those I felt were not worth my time and investment required to sell on eBay (75%).

So, the majority of covers (75%) were then donated to APS. On one of my trips north, my wife and I drove to Bellefonte and dropped off the donated covers. It was my first visit to APS headquarters and Bellefonte, and we spent the night and also enjoyed seeing the area. A nice visit.

That left me with an inventory of covers that I have been selling via eBay over the last 1½ years. Both eBay and PayPal are very good with creating reports for you that are very handy. Since all of my eBay sales require payment via PayPal, I let PayPal accumulate my sales information. For example, according to PayPal, I had 120 sales transactions in 2013 (to buyers in fifteen different countries plus the U.S.) and 167 in 2014 (to buyers in twenty-one different countries plus the U.S.). Many transactions actually involved multiple covers to the same buyer so the number of actual covers sold is greater than the number of transactions. Most of my buyers have been in France, the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States.

When listing items on eBay, I try to remember where most of my possible buyers live and try to accommodate them. Consequently, I list items via auction for seven days and always start the listings around early evening in Europe so the lots will end the same time the next Sunday when most of my buyers are still awake after the weekend is drawing to a close. So my auctions start around noon PST (about 9 p.m. in France) and end the same hour a week later on Sunday night. I do not want my lots to close when everyone is normally asleep in Europe.

I make front and back pictures (using a scanner) of all covers included in the lot (eBay allows up to twelve pictures per listing), and I always pay the additional 35-cent fee for the "Gallery Plus" feature, which allows the potential buyer to closely examine each cover by zooming in to the picture. In addition, I also choose to pay the additional small fee to list the lot in the U.K. portion of eBay; I get a lot of U.K. buyers that way.

I am honest when describing lots as to condition, and I always mention flaws that usually can be seen in the pictures anyway. I charge a fixed shipping charge for the U.S. and another fixed charge to anywhere in the world. Keep in mind that eBay will keep about 10% for its services and PayPal will charge about 3–4% for its services. So if you sell a lot to a U.S. buyer for \$10 and charge \$1 for shipping for a gross total of \$11, you will receive a net total of about \$9.57 (\$11 x 87%). eBay usually allows 100–150 free listings a month, and since I never go over that



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number, I am not usually charged the eBay insertion fees.

Since all of my shipments include covers, I usually use either a 6x9-inch heavy-weight envelope or a No. 12 heavyweight brown kraft 4½x11-inch envelope. I also protect the covers using two 8½x11-inch 90 or 110 lb. cardstock, which fold nicely into either envelope. Since most of my international shipments require at least \$2 postage, I usually use one of the \$2 Jenny Invert stamps. At the postal counter, I always ask for a receipt and frequently underpay the postage and ask the postal clerk to apply the additional postage-paid label to confirm the date that the lot was mailed.

Right after the lot is mailed, I immediately leave feedback for the buyer that includes information about when the lot was mailed. I have never had any complaints about non-receipt (although most shipments are regular mail and are not registered), which was a concern when I started. Ebay does not want you to mail a lot to a buyer until you have been paid. I have had only one person not pay. Since I still had the cover, no loss. This process has worked well for me and perhaps has given you some thought about whether or not it is the right way for you to go.

Othan Gilbert

Ozark, Alabama

Philatelic Demographic?

I am dismayed that younger people, ages 10 to 30, do not generally collect stamps, but I'm wondering if we're barking up the wrong tree by focusing so much time and effort on this group.

The post office recently issued its 2014 stamp yearbook including a "limited edition" clown souvenir sheet, in an attempt to lure collectors back to their annual yearbooks. For a mere \$132.70, you can purchase this book with *all* the year's stamps; that is, the "collectibles," the so-called "mail use" and "high value mail use" stamps (as if the "collectibles" weren't for mail use). How many kids, or parents of young children, can afford that? Well, I can. I'm 79½ and have no debts or financial obligations (and do have excess financial resources). Most retirees, likewise.

It's worthwhile to devote some resources to younger people, but could it be that the *best* source of future collectors really lies in cultivating interest by the increasing population of *older* people? After all, this is the demographic that has, by far, the most money and time! Also, even those elders with relatively little extra money to spend can be avid collectors. My stamp club consists of many collectors who typically spend less than \$20 a month on stamps but love buying a big box containing a myriad of common appearing stamps in envelopes, in old beat-up albums, or on old approval sheets, all for a few bucks. It's a treasure hunt to find a few stamps for their collection, and perhaps one or two worth five or ten bucks (or more). It's fun! I still do it myself, occasionally. That's what should be emphasized to potential new collectors: Stamp collecting is fun and doesn't need a lot of money!

David H. Mallalieu

Springfield, Massachusetts

In Memoriam: Richard Pyznar

It is with sadness that I mention the passing of Richard Pyznar, a longtime specialist and dealer in German philately. Richard died on November 19, 2014, from complications of lung cancer. Although I had never met him, I had a relationship over many years as a result of my purchases of German stamps. He was a kind, accessible, and very honest person with whom one could discuss a myriad of subjects, apart from his expertise in every aspect of German stamp collecting.

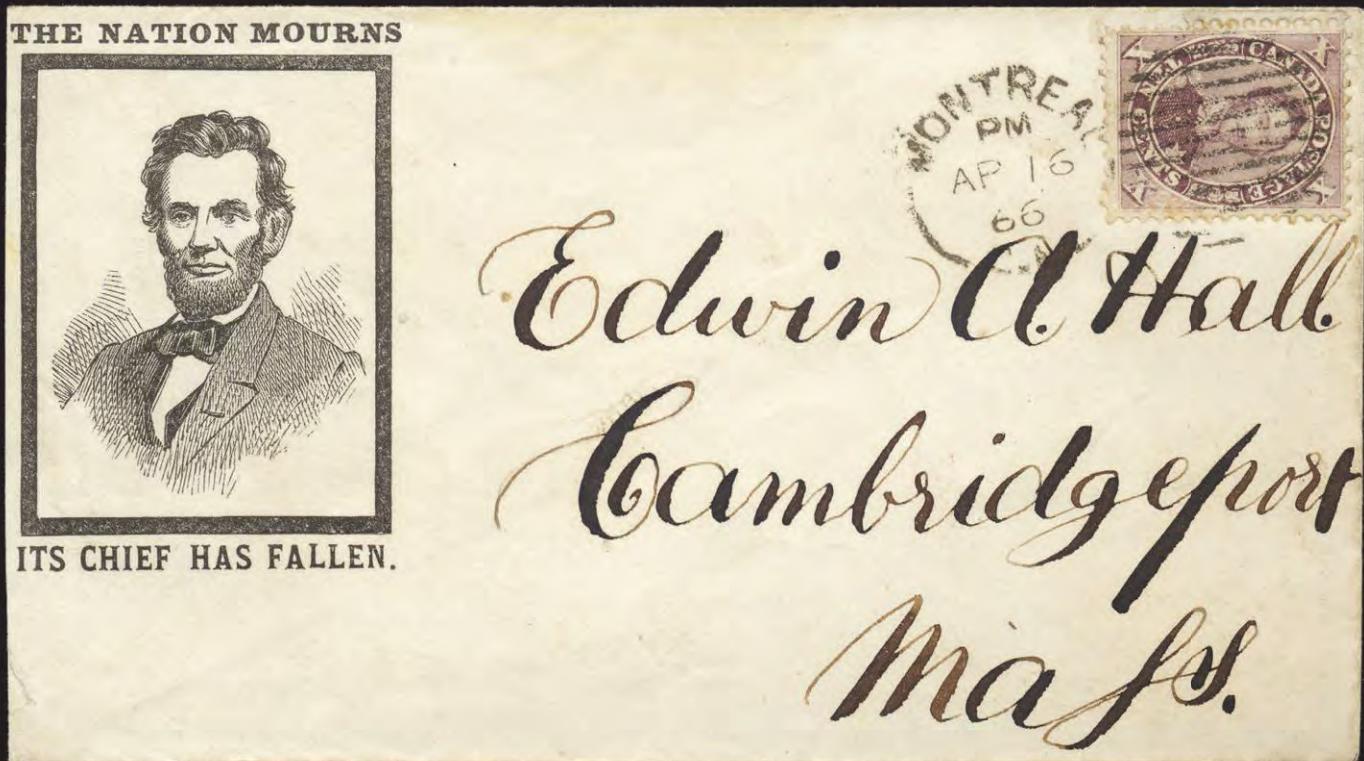
Richard also had a great sense of humor, with a quick wit and the ability to make me feel that I had been his friend from the first time I spoke with him. He was also a master at quoting limericks, and he seemed to have an endless supply of them to offer, resulting in tearful laughter. I shall miss him terribly.

Aron Green

Los Osos, California

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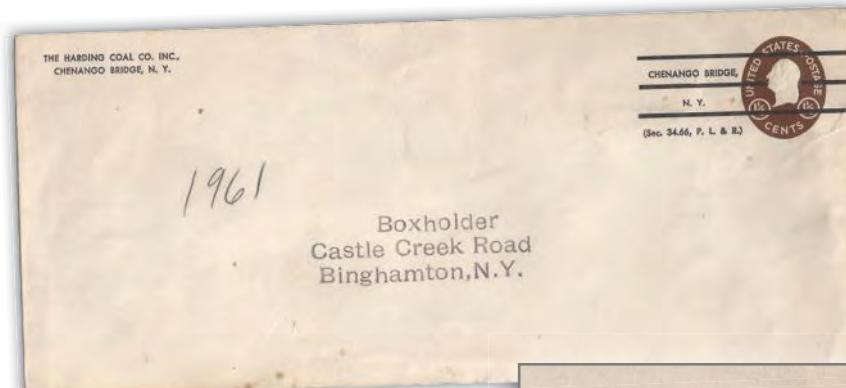
PHILATELIC HAPPENINGS

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

Chenango Bridge, New York, Precancel

A previously unreported precancelled envelope from Chenango Bridge, New York, was discovered by Richard Nakles of the APS in a cover mixture recently donated to the American Philatelic Society. A small town in Broome County (2010 Pop. 2,800), Chenago Bridge established its post office in 1870.

The corner card from the Harding Coal Company is a 1½-cent Washington brown on white legal-size envelope (Scott U535), first issued in 1952. The discovery was confirmed by local postal stationery expert Bill Lehr and *Precancelled Envelopes of the United States* catalogue editor David Smith. The item will be listed in the next edition of the *Precancelled Envelope* catalogue under a listing "3a3 x 30 43."



This precancelled envelope from Chenango Bridge, New York, is a recent new discovery found at the APS.



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Walske Presentation at the Royal

APS member Stephen Walske provided members of the Royal Philatelic Society London an opportunity February 26 to view his display of North American blockade mail from 1775–1815.

The Royal stated: "The period embraced two wars of the Americans against the British: the Revolutionary War of 1775 to 1782, and the War of 1812 that lasted until 1815."

The covers on display passed through both American and British blockades.

The meeting was also broadcast to more than 400 people through the Internet, with the Royal touting it as "probably the largest evening meeting of the Royal in the Society's history."

For more information on the Royal, visit its website at www.rpsl.org.uk.



APS member Stephen Walske at his February 26 presentation to the Royal Philatelic Society London.

Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition February 6-8



Mark Schwartz with his winning grand award exhibit titled "Boston Postal History to 1851" at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition.
Photo by Tom Horn.

Tom Horn working the APS booth at the show.
Photo by Dawn Hamman.

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AmeriStamp Expo 2015, February 13-15



American Philatelic Society town hall and general meeting held on Saturday morning.



Presentation by Scott R. Trepel, titled "Philatelic Exhibiting: Ideas for a Future," during the APS judges roundtable.



APS youth coordinator and assistant to the director of education Janet Houser discussing postal stationery during the Scout stamp collecting merit badge workshop.



World Stamp Show New York 2016 booth with show executive director Donna Richardson (right) and Westpex show chair Ed Jarvis and his wife Judy.



Just inside the show entrance, attendees were greeted by APS staff, including Jay Bigalke, Scott Tiffney, and Doris Wilson.



Collectors busy looking for the perfect items for their collections.



A Gorgeous “New York Postmaster” Cover



Corner margin pair of Scott 9X1 on cover. Ex. Lehman, Grunin, and Hill. 2012 P.F. Certificate.
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AmeriStamp Expo 2015 Continued



David McNamee, chairperson of the Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges (CANEJ), announcing the exhibit awards.



The unveiling of the Vintage Rose and Vintage Tulip stamps on Valentine's Day.



Jean Stout speaking during the American Topical Association meeting.



Larry Lyons won the single frame Champion of Champions award with his exhibit "America's First Stamp Design, The United States City Despatch Post." Pictured is the title page of the exhibit.



Rosalie Bock won the most popular Champion of Champions award with her exhibit "All in the Family."



James Bowman receives his 50-year APS member medal from president Stephen Reinhard.



APS board of vice presidents member Alex Haimann introducing the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship members during the APS general meeting.

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ARIPEX 2015, February 20-22, Mesa, Arizona



Busy bourse floor on the opening day of the show.



Title page of Richard Malmgren's Aripex grand award winner titled "Hawaii Postal History." *Aripex photos by Chris Lazaroff.*



The Native American Indian Art Fair and Market area of the Aripex show.



Jim Stever won the grand award at Texpex with his multiframe exhibit titled "Republic of Texas Rates." *Upper-left and lower right photos by Nancy Clark. Upper right photo by Tom Koch.*

TEXPEX 2015, February 27-March 2, Grapevine, Texas



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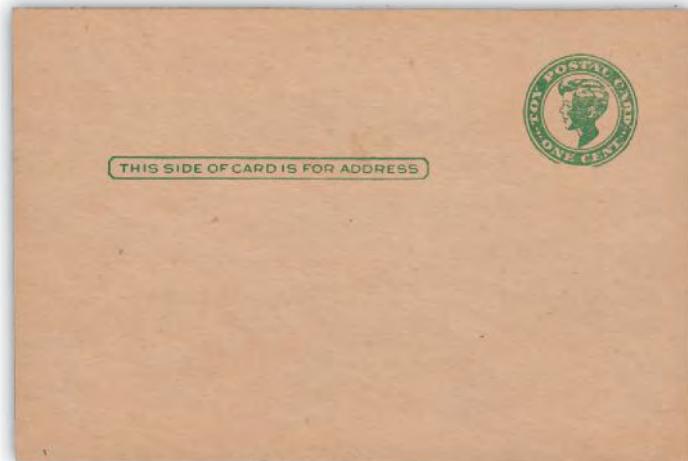
Tiny Town Post Office Offers Huge Pleasure

When Playing Post Office Was Innocent

Most of us at one time or another have encountered miniature mail items, such as the mock postal card shown nearby (about 4"x2½"). The generic name we tend to use for these miniature bits of postal history is "Kinderpost," a specific type of child's game that was produced in Germany for more than 100 years. In this case, I saved the card because it ties in with one of my main collections: the 1-cent Jefferson postal card of 1914, which remained in use until well into the 1950s (Scott UX27). But there are other postal games, including older types produced by Milton-Bradley and more modern versions produced by Fisher-Price (these bear little resemblance to real postal items).

One postal game that exists both in several versions and iterations has particularly caught my attention and is the subject of this month's column. This is the "Tiny Town Post Office" (and its various versions), produced by the J.W. Spear & Son Co. of Germany, later of London, England.

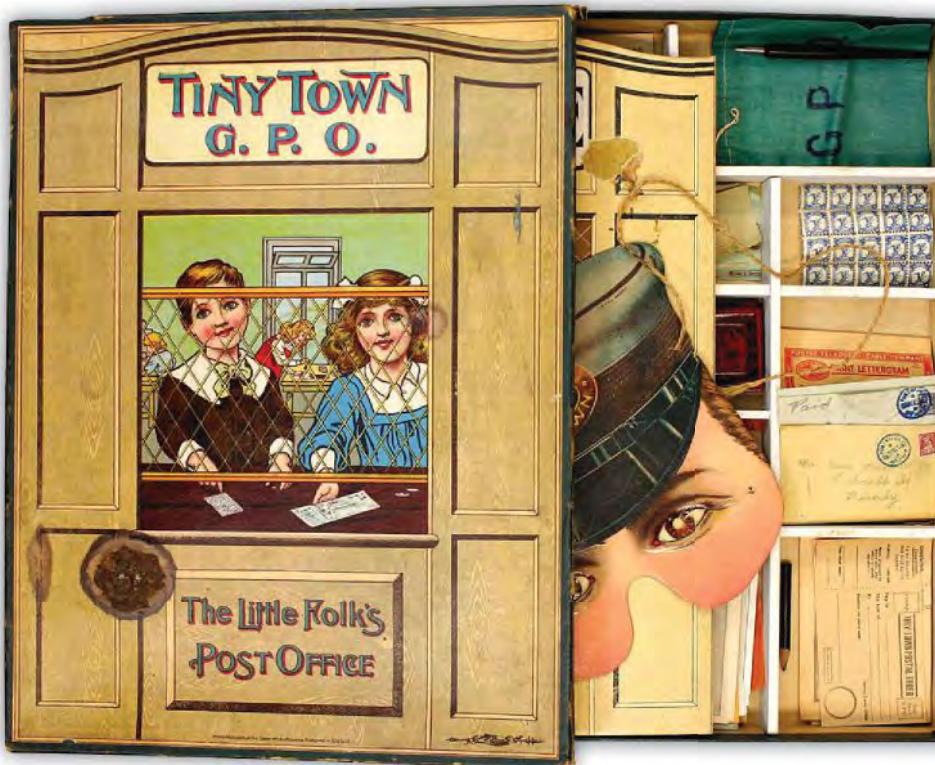
The company, founded by Jacob Wolf Spier (who emigrated to the United States in 1852 and returned to Germany in 1861 when Civil War broke out), opened its doors in 1879 (in Germany), manufacturing waste paper baskets, household products and, later, games. In fact, by the dawn of the twentieth century, Spear & Sons had a workforce of nearly 600 people and had become one of the foremost producers of games in the world. Spier



This "Kinderpost" 1¢ postal card resembles the actual 1¢ Jefferson item collected by the author.

himself never saw all this. He committed suicide in 1893.

In 1932 the company opened a second factory in Great Britain to avoid customs, which was a fortunate occurrence, because the primary plant was bombed by the Royal Air Force during World War II. The company, which bought the European rights to Scrabble in 1955, continued to do well and was eventually sold to Mattel Toys in 1994 (which continues to distribute the word



Tiny Town G.P.O., ca. 1915, with most of its accessories still present, including postmaster's mask and partial sheet of Scott F1 Eagle registration stamps.



A properly franked *Tiny Town* registered cover, with Scott F1 Eagle and red first-class "Punch" stamp. The cover measures 3½" x 2".



The *Tiny Town* G.P.O. postmark (½-inch diameter).

POST CARD

This side for Correspondence

|| This side for Address

Place Stamp Here



Front and back of a *Tiny Town* picture postcard (3½" x 2").

game overseas). Most other traces of Spears have since been erased, but not without leaving behind a fascinating group of products, not leastwise those of interest to philatelists.

One of the primary drives of being a child is to somehow interact with — and try be a part of — the adult world. This is one of the reasons why it's not difficult, at least initially, to interest children in philately. This limited form of entering into the adult world and mimicking adult behavior is not only fun, it is an important part of learning and developing. This is one reason why stamp collecting programs that pander to children (rather than giving them a bridge to the adult world) are doomed to failure. Children need to be allowed to reach up to the adult world, not have it bend down to them. But I digress.



Tiny Town stationery with dog imprint, including paper (2½" x 3½") and envelope (2½" x 2¼").

During the early part of the twentieth century, a number of different games allowed children to mimic adult activities. These games were not plot driven. They were simple activities, including everything from engaging in simple commerce to school, railroad, and even fishing activities. There were no winners or losers, just cooperative participants and learning opportunities.

In the case of the *Tiny Town* G.P.O. (as it was then named), one player served as postmaster, wearing a mask that identified him or her as such. Other players could then transact business at the post office, writing letters and postcards and then stamping them with miniature play stamps. The postmaster had a postmarking device, and the "mail" could then be processed and delivered. The complete set, contained in a 9"x14" box, included miniature stamps in sheets, envelopes, postcards, mail bag, checks, money orders, telegraph forms, telegram envelopes, postal money orders, stamp pad, cancellation device, pen, paper money, checks, and a mask with the upper part of a postman's head (with cap) with eyeholes. One version, the *Tiny Town Parcel Post* game, dealt with packages.

One of the reasons the *Tiny Town* post office game, specifically, has captured my attention is because there are several different versions known, with changing contents over the years, not to mention that the reproductions are the smallest I've seen in any toy set.

The earliest *Tiny Town* G.P.O. of which I'm aware is from about 1915. This set includes (among other things) the only miniature depiction of the short-lived U.S. Registry stamp released in 1911, Scott F1. The set also has a nice representation of the 10-cent Bicycle special delivery stamp, stationery, and even a *Tiny Town* "Reply Coupon" (exchangeable for a stamp at the *Tiny Town* post office). "First-class" stamps were various colors of Punch (the



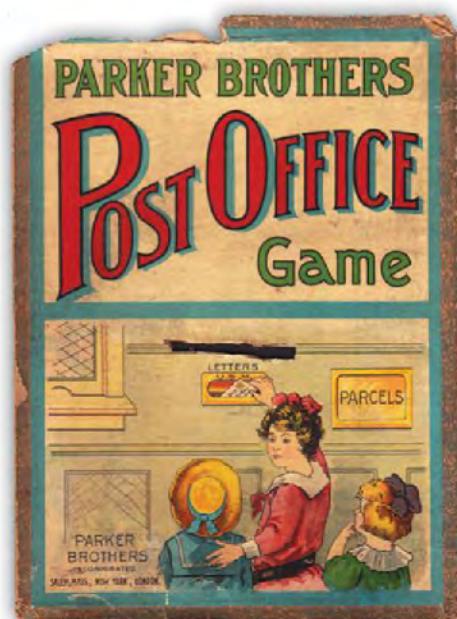
Example of a *Tiny Town* letter postmarked by another toy device (with "Santa" franking).



The *Tiny Town* Reply Coupon, which can be exchanged "for a stamp from any 'Tiny Town' Post Office."



Items from the 1915 *Tiny Town* set, including UPU coded 1¢, 2¢, 3¢ and 5¢ stamps, as well as 10¢ Bicycle special delivery and 10¢ Eagle registration stamps.



The box top of a post office game from Parker Brothers (later known for *Monopoly*).



Accessories from the 1915 *Tiny Town* game, including postmarking device and partial sheet of 10¢ Eagle registration stamps.



The Postmaster mask from the 1915 *Tiny Town G.P.O.*

The mail bag, stamps and postmarking device from a 1930s-era *Tiny Town* game, all slightly more simplified than the 1915 set.

puppet) issues, which (without denominations) correspond with Universal Postal Union color guidelines (1-cent green, 2-cent red, 3-cent violet).

There are also picture postcards picturing real scenes (from the heyday of that hobby) and stationery (paper and envelopes) that could be used to write letters. One even finds telegraph forms and envelopes. The box also contains a mail slot where game players could deposit letters.

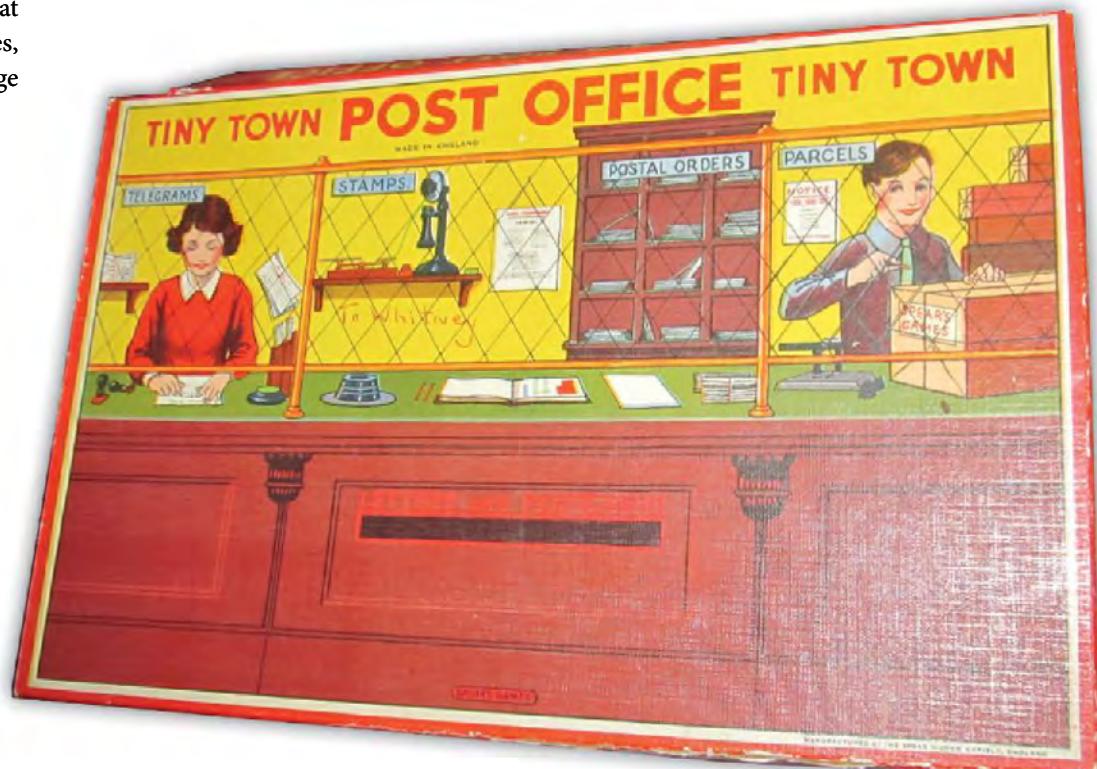
The game notes on the box that it was manufactured in Bavaria but was designed in England. Yet all the component parts (except for the Punch stamps) mimic products and services of the U.S. Post Office Department (the inside box lid does denote it is the "U.S. Edition"). There's even a section of the rules that gives then-current letter rates so that players can introduce anomalies, such as unpaid mail (you can charge

double the rate), shortpaid mail, or even overcharged postage!

There is a large warning note that accompanies the game: "These letters must not be thrown in real letter boxes as they would not be delivered, because all our stamps are not real and we must not forget that we are only 'playing' at post office."

The next version of the game I've been able to locate is not nearly as elaborate. While the stand-up counter is better made, it is smaller. It would appear there are fewer accessories (types of forms and postcards), and the stamps are no longer perforated. They are slightly more crude depictions of Punch and are simply rouletted.

The final version of the game, released in 1993 (and apparently existing only as a British version), no longer has a fancy



The box lid of the 1930s version of the *Tiny Town* game.

staffed postal window. Instead it features the return of a large number of accessories. There are now bank forms, including bond applications, deposit and withdrawal forms, currency and coins of the realm, and even dog license forms and car tax discs. The postal aspects are fairly crude, with stylized childlike postcard designs and rouletted (but denominated) doll, sailboat, and teddy bear stamps that no longer follow UPU color guidelines. There are also stickers, such as "Recorded Delivery," "Airmail," and "Fragile."

I find the game's evolution interesting as well, going from an elaborate reproduction of things found in the adult world to highly simplified designs that in my opinion trivialize the nature of what was intended to be a learning game.

We'll never know, of course, what ultimately killed the *Tiny Town* post office. The 1994 takeover of Spears by Mattel pretty well gutted the product line. But with the introduction and

meteoric rise of e-mail not too many years later, the game would have pretty well run its course anyway.

In any case we are left with some very interesting and rather cute artifacts of a world that no longer exists. *Tiny Town* has now joined the ranks of discontinued post offices.



The contents of the 1993 *Tiny Town Post Office* reveals it is more of a toy bank than a post office. Many of the educational aspects of the game (as well as aesthetics) have been lost.

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In 1994 the Canadian Parliament turned down a proposed rate hike planned by Canada Post. The first class letter rate would have been increased from 50¢ to 52¢, the overseas rate from 88¢ to 90¢.

Canada Post had assumed that the rate increase would be approved automatically, so sure in fact that they had already printed the new Christmas stamps! Vast quantities of 52¢ and 90¢ stamps had to be destroyed. A few escaped destruction, and it is now known that one pad of 50 sheets of the 52¢ value was sold (a mere 2,500 stamps in all).

I have a few singles and blocks available. I feel that they have an excellent future, for no Canadian collection is really complete without one. Condition is very fine mint unmounted and prices are as follow:

• Single stamp	\$195.00
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• Imprint block of four	\$950.00

I do also have a small stock of the 90¢ unissued value. Only singles are known of this, and less than a thousand exist. A nice mint single is \$495.00.



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A NEW DEAL FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Collecting Depression-Era
Post Office Dedication Covers

BY CHARLES EPTING



Even before I began collecting stamps, I found myself spending a lot of time in post offices. One of my main research interests is the art work associated with President Roosevelt's New Deal, so it's not unusual for me to drive out of my way to see a post office mural from the 1930s. I like to think that this penchant for visiting post offices is at least partially responsible for getting me seriously started in the world of philately.

Some background on the subject: in 1932 Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected to the presidency on his promise of a "new deal for the American people." These two words, New Deal,

would go on to become the collective name for the numerous relief programs he created throughout the rest of the decade.

A major facet of the New Deal was the large number of post offices constructed across the nation. Although the exact number of offices built during this period is unknown, researchers estimate that the figure is around 1,100. These buildings represent a wide variety of architectural styles, often conforming to local styles, and they provided many communities with much-needed infrastructure at a time when such assistance seemed unlikely.

These post offices were often decorated with murals fund-



This cover commemorates the dedication where James Farley is seen speaking (page 320). The pictorial rubber-stamp cachet is typical of many post office dedication covers from this period.

ed by the Treasury Relief Art Project (TRAP). Even though they are often referred to as "WPA murals," TRAP was an entirely separate entity from the Works Progress Administration's Federal Art Project, although similarities in style between the two agencies make such confusion inevitable.

In many instances, special cachets were created in order to commemorate the dedication of the New Deal post offices. The practice appears to have become widespread in 1932, when an initial wave of post office construction began under President Herbert Hoover and continued on a much larger scale during the Roosevelt administration.

Often, it was a local philatelic club or fraternal organization that sponsored the design. The cachets range in complexity from simple text to line drawings to photographic images. Each was designed by a different person or group, and I have yet to find two different cities that feature the same design template.

Another practice that began at this time was having the local postmaster autograph the envelope on the day of the office's dedication. Approximately half of all New Deal

post office dedication covers I have seen include such a signature. On rare occasions, Postmaster General James A. Farley himself would be present at post office dedications during his tenure, although covers with his signature are relatively scarce.

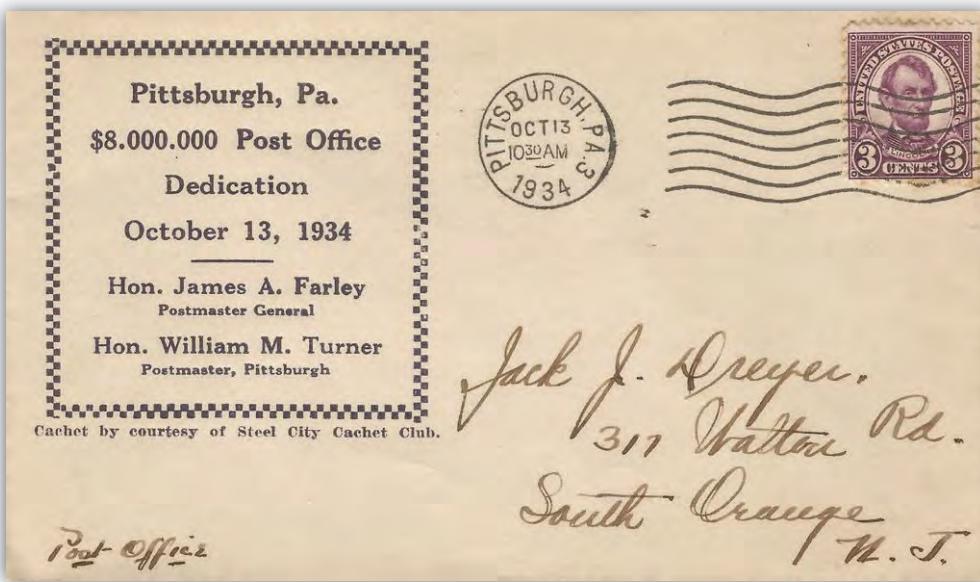
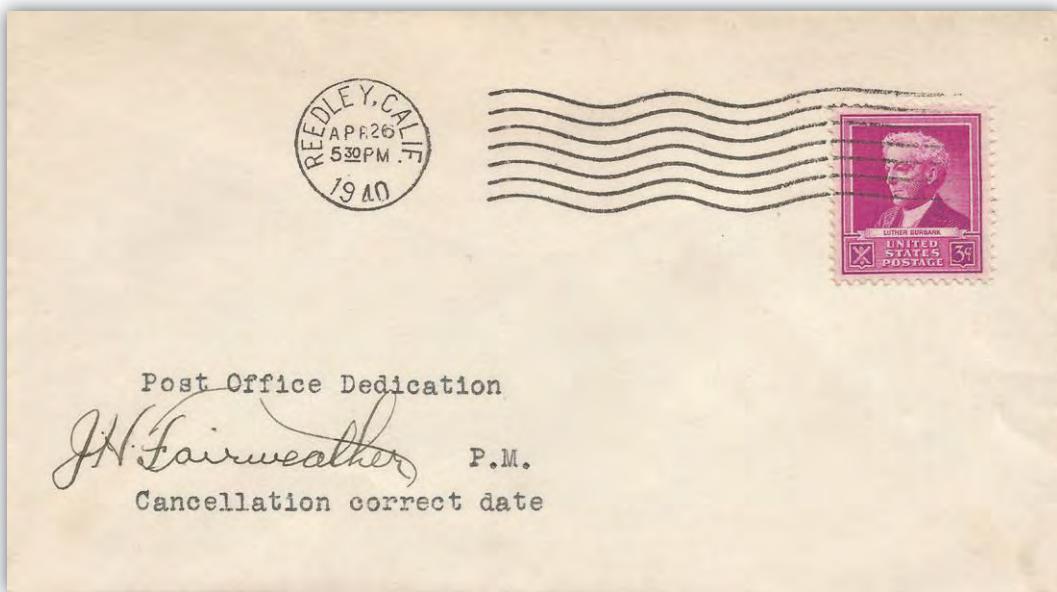
At the time of this writing, I have identified ninety-eight different post offices that had special cachets designed for their dedications. This represents only approximately 9 percent of all post offices built dur-

At left: Postmaster General James A. Farley (1933–1940) speaks at the dedication of the new Washington, D.C. post office (now the William Jefferson Clinton Federal Building) on June 11, 1934. Many post office dedications during the Great Depression were commemorated with speeches, parades, concerts, and other forms of civic celebration.



Although the cachet on this cover is not particularly remarkable, what makes the piece special is the signature of Postmaster General Farley at the upper-left hand corner. Farley himself was present at a number of dedications along the East Coast.

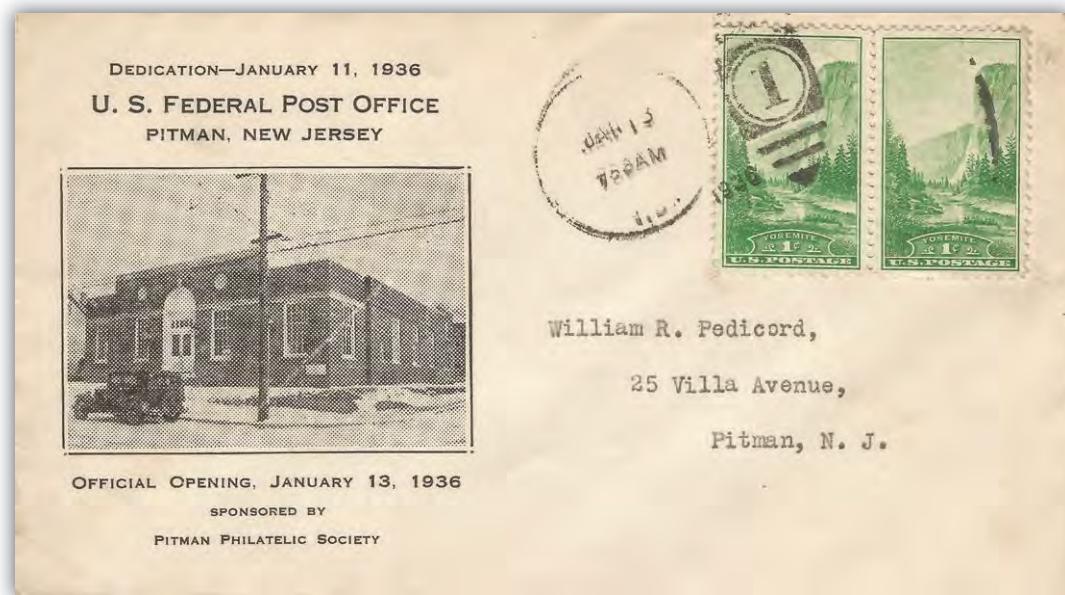
Perhaps the least ornate New Deal post office dedication cover, this hand-typed cover from Reedley, California, has a signature from the local postmaster — a characteristic of approximately half of all dedication covers from this era.



This Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, cover represents a small percentage of cachets that have handstamped non-pictorial text, usually promoting the cost of the new structure and featured speakers. It also advertises the sponsor of the cachet (in this case, a local stamp club).



Although it has an imperfect cachet, foxing, and an incomplete cancel, this cover from the 1937 dedication of the Paris, Missouri post office is the only example the author has found.



Another category of post office dedication covers are those with machine-printed photographic images on them, such as this one from Pitman, NJ. Compared to hand-stamped cachets, machine-printed examples are relatively scarce.

ing this time. I would expect the true number of cachets to be considerably larger, but a lack of research on the subject prevents more than speculating about the actual figure.

Today, New Deal post office dedication covers are typically relegated to dealer dollar-boxes at shows because they do not have enough value to warrant separating them from the mix. Occasionally you will find a dealer who has a separate pile of general event covers, but these instances are few and far between.

What is interesting is that, despite a lack of philatelic interest in such covers, interest in New Deal post offices is at an all-time high among preservationists and researchers. As the Postal Service faces budget crises and privatizes some of its unneeded offices, there arises the potential for New Deal structures (and the murals they contain) to be lost. Groups such as Living New Deal, a branch of UC Berkeley's Department of Geography, are fighting to prevent such closures from happening, or at the very least to ensure that historically significant buildings and works of art remain accessible to the public.

New Deal post office dedication covers represent an incredible resource for learning about the Depression era, and particularly how the Great Depression impacted individual communities on a small-scale. It is one thing to hear about 25 percent national unemployment, or to read that the WPA spent \$13.4 billion over the course of its existence. These numbers are nearly incomprehensible because of their magnitude. But it gives an entirely new perspective on the Great Depression to see the hope and promise many towns felt when they were granted a new post office (and the jobs and funds that came with it) by the federal government during

such a dark and hopeless time.

Dr. Jonathan Healey of Oxford University said in a 2012 lecture that "local history is not just a wonderful tool for understanding the past, it is the people's history: *this* is why it matters." This is particularly true in the case of New Deal post office dedication covers. The covers consolidate one of the largest events in modern American history down to a local scale. As awareness of the fruits of the New Deal becomes more widespread, these covers should become appreciated not only for their philatelic value but also for their larger historical importance.

The Author

Charles Epting is a 2014–2015 Young Philatelic Leaders Fellow, the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society Fellow and research associate for the Living New Deal program. He is a recent graduate of the University of Southern California and is pursuing a doctoral degree in history. In addition to the New Deal, his collecting interests include the early postal history of Los Angeles, World's Fair commemoratives, and silent film stars on stamps.



The Stamps of Haiti

Exploring The Selection of Collecting a Specific Country

BY BURTON SELLERS AND UBALDO DEL TORO JR.

This article, first written by Burton Sellers in 1957, is an updated and edited version by the Haiti Philatelic Society. Mr. Sellers was a former president of both the American Philatelic Society and the Haiti Philatelic Society. He was a well-known Haiti specialist who won numerous gold medals at international and national philatelic exhibitions. Catalogue values and details have been updated, but the points he made remain true to this day. Anyone interested in the Haiti Philatelic Society and membership can view the website www.haitiphilately.org or write to the HPS Secretary, 5709 Marble Archway, Alexandria, VA 22315.

Whenever I have shown my collection of Haiti to other philatelists, invariably someone asks why

I collect Haiti. Often I fear my answer to that question has not been lucid or complete — I had never really thought out all the possible answers, for there are many.

However, now that I have put the reasons on paper, I find there are even more than I had originally imagined.

Perhaps the most cogent reason for collecting Haiti can be found in a casual inspection of the Gibbons or Scott catalogs — the low catalog values. With only a couple exceptions, there are few major varieties of Haiti that presently have a catalog value in excess of \$250, used or unused. Even the three rarities are modestly priced by the usual monetary standards for rarities: Scott 176, of which there are only ten, rates a \$10,000 valuation (SG 180a); Scott 108a (SG 115a) and Scott 161 (SG 156a) carry \$950 and \$150 valuations, respectively. However, the last few years have seen price increases in a good number of issues that were really underpriced by Scott.

To the collector of modest means — and most of us are in this category — the foregoing is of major importance. It means a good collection of Haiti can be built with nominal



"Lady Liberty," Haiti's first stamp design, 1881, Scott 1.



François-Dominique Toussaint L'Ouverture (1743–1888), inspirational genius of the revolution, 1903, Scott 84.



President Louis Etienne Félicité Salomon, President 1879–1888, 1887, Scott 23.



Postally used forgery of Scott 6 (Lady Liberty, 1881). Perforation of the genuine stamp is 13½. This stamp is perforated 16.



Coat of Arms (Drooping Leaves), 1896, Scott 39: (L to R) genuine and crude forgery. Genuine stamps of this issue are engraved. The forgery is a lithograph.



Coat of Arms, 1898, Scott 49. This is one of a set of six issued with a watermark. No other Haitian stamps have watermarks.

expenditure. Perhaps more importantly, it means that a substantially complete collection of the major varieties is within the means of most collectors. They must only exclude two, at the most three, from their collection because of price and/or unavailability. There are not many current stamp-issuing countries that can make this claim.

Anyone who has struggled with the 1908–1917 issues of the United States, the Full-face Queens of New Zealand, or with the issues of Argentina or Brazil, to name a few, will rejoice in the absence of watermark varieties in Haitian philately. Haiti has only one issue of six stamps on watermarked paper, and the watermarks can be seen just by looking at the reverse of the stamp. Oh fabulous joy — collect Haiti and be emancipated from the black tray and the benzene fumes!

Do you now collect a country where you must be continually be on your guard against counterfeits and forgeries? Haiti has some too, but they are not really much of a problem. The fakes of the common stamps are crude and cheap — they assault the eyes and cry out their fakery — not even a novice could mistake them. The counterfeits of the first perforated issue are rarer than the genuine stamps! Why? Because they are postal counterfeits made to defraud the government of postal revenue and not directed to a philatelic market. They are much sought after by Haiti specialists, particularly used copies, and command premium prices. Here is a case where you can *rejoice* if a counterfeit is foisted on you. The surcharged issues of 1902 and 1906 are the only real flies in the fakery ointment.

But how about present-day Haiti? This is a common problem with many countries, but Haiti comes to the collector with



Old Map of West Indies showing Haiti, 1924, Scott 317.

generally clean hands. Most stamps are generally available and commercially used.

Stamp issues, for the most part, were printed by well-known companies with reputations for integrity and a complete absence of back-door deals. Most of the twentieth century issues were printed by the American Bank Note Company, which is so zealous in guarding the interests of their clients that it would not even tell me how many stamps were in a sheet of some of the Haitian issues printed in the 1930s! More recent issues have been the work of Waterlow & Sons of London (1852–2009) or Courvoisier of Switzerland (1880–2001), both firms of international repute in the printing of postage stamps.

In the late 1950s, Haiti, along with most other countries, set up a philatelic bureau and began issuing colorful commemorative sets with the occasional imperforates and minisheets. Yet right up to the 1980s those specialty items also remain relatively inexpensive. During the 1960s and 1970s, Haiti overprinted many unsold commemoratives and here

we see the hand of an enthusiastic philatelic bureau. In the early 1990s, several special sets with high face value appeared. But no new issues at all have appeared since 2003, and Haiti now holds the record for a stamp-using country by not issuing any new stamps for so long.

Another pleasure in collecting Haiti has come to me as an unexpected dividend — Haiti has a fascinating history. As I studied the scenes or people depicted on Haiti's stamps my curiosity was aroused. I checked on this and that, read a little here and there, and soon found myself so engrossed in the developing history of Haiti that I read everything I could find. You too will be amazed when you dip into



First anniversary of the 1958 inauguration of President François Duvalier (1907–1971), Scott 428. "Papa Doc" was president 1957–1971.

Haiti's turbulent history.

The Western Hemisphere's second republic, which was proclaimed on January 1, 1804, by General Jean-Jacques Dessalines, was named "Haiti" (or *Ayiti* in Creole), a name given to the land by the former Taino-Arawak people who had lived there. It means "mountainous country."

Did you know that a Haitian contingent aided the United States in its struggle for independence? Or that the country has been a kingdom and empire as well as a republic — and sometimes two of these at the same time? Have you read about the events that led up to the occupation of Haiti by the U.S. Marines in 1915 — an occupation that continued until 1934 and has a postal history of its own? But enough of historical tidbits. I will leave that pleasant investigation to you after your collection is underway.

If you are the collector who is interested in virgin territory for collecting, again Haiti is recommended. The opportunities to be a trailblazer are manifold. So little is known about the postal history of Haiti that much remains to be explored and reported. If you have a talent for research or reporting, you can be assured of lots of material for study and leads to be followed, plus a host of unanswered questions and big and little mysteries — enough to keep you engrossed for a lifetime.

Does the collecting of 1,500-plus varieties of Haitian stamps hold no appeal for you because it is too simple? Are you the collector who wants to specialize? If you are in that class, Haiti has much to offer you as well. Let me mention a few sidelines to which you can devote your specializing bent. How about stampless covers? They go back to the mid



Second airmail post issue, 1933-40, Scott C9: Plane over Henry Cristophe Citadel.

1700s or earlier and continue up to 1881, when the first stamps appeared. You can even find them addressed to such famous Frenchmen as Generals Leclerc and Rochambeau. Do you like plating? Then you can tackle the reconstruction of the sheets of fifty of the first and second issues — no simple job, I assure you.

Maybe you would be interested in British and French

stamps used in Haiti. Both of these countries operated postal services in Haiti from 1865 until 1881, using distinctive postmarks that indicate Haitian usage of their stamps. These are quite rare and much sought after, not only by Haitian specialists but also by specialists in British and French philately. To this you could add the famous Hapag (Hamburg-American Steam Packet Company) and Royal Mail Steam Packet Company stamps used in Haiti. Both of these companies operated in Haiti prior to 1881, and their stamps are among the rarities of Haitian philately.

If your specializing interests do not run to such rare items, attention can be given to packet boat cancels. Haitian stamps abound in these cancels, and an extensive showing of the many varieties can be assembled by a little assiduous searching and with a minimum of expenditure. Both the Dutch West Indies and Hamburg American lines used several varieties of packet boat cancels, and there are at least a half dozen other types of markings that can be found on Haitian stamps.

Perhaps some of the sidelines of yesterday are more your meat. Then why not collect revenues or postal stationery? Haiti has a good variety of both, enough to test any specialist. And to these could be added a long series of pioneer and First Flight covers for those who might have an aerophilatelic leaning. It is quite a difficult trick to assemble the point-to-point covers that originated in Haiti on FAM-5, -6, and -10 air routes.

One could go on listing specialists' items — U.S. Marine Corps cancels, town cancellations, essays and proofs — but you can now see that Haiti could be a specialist's paradise as well as an interesting country for a collector who just wishes to get an almost complete showing of attractive stamps from a fascinating country at modest cost.

Did someone ask me why I like to collect Haiti? Why not join me? You can't beat it!



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"Golden Dragon"
Scott 45



Scott 28



Scott 59



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—CATALOGING U.S. STAMPS—

BY CHARLES M. POSNER

Honoring Railroad Engineers of America (Scott 993)



United States 3-cent Honoring Railroad Engineers of America commemorative stamp.

The Making of the Stamp

For the second time in 1950, the first was the Samuel Gompers stamp, U.S. postal authorities decided to honor a trade union that abjured strikes in favor of negotiations and accommodation. An obvious choice was the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE) founded in 1863. It was the oldest trade union still in existence and boasted an organization of loyal, devoted, and highly professional drivers (called engineers).

The choice was a popular one. Railroad engineers have always been universally admired for their rectitude, competence, and proficiency. Even today it is rare to find a child who at some time does not proudly announce that they want to be an engineer when they grow up.

However, honoring the Brotherhood presented difficulties. The year 1950 did not correspond to a centennial year or even a 75th anniversary. There is nothing traditional or memorable about issuing a stamp marking the 87th anniversary of the founding of the BLE.

Fortunately, the Post Office Department discovered that the mid-century marked the fiftieth anniversary of the death of a famous railroad engi-

nner and folk hero: Jonathan Luther Jones (1863–1900), better known through song and story as "Casey" Jones, the only fatality of a terrible accident. What better choice, they reasoned, than a person who sacrificed himself in the line of duty to save the lives of passengers and fellow workers? It had come to be universally accepted that Jones was the epitome of dedication that characterized the vocation of the railroad engineers. As Jesse Donaldson, the postmaster general said: "His name has been immortalized in railroad annals and his courage, loyalty and faithfulness to duty have been an inspiration...."

Charles Chickering was assigned the task of producing a suitable design for a postage stamp that commemo-

rated the trade union and at the same time made reference to its personification, "Casey" Jones. Such a difficult balancing act proved impossible. It was unavoidable that the symbolic embodiment of the Brotherhood would eclipse the organization itself. Despite the inscription affixed to the stamp affirming its purpose of celebrating railroad engineers, it quickly — and probably inevitably — became known as the "Casey" Jones stamp. Even Postmaster General Jesse Donaldson in his presen-

3-CENT HONORING RAILROAD ENGINEERS OF AMERICA COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

Date of Issue: April 29, 1950
First-day site: Jackson, Tennessee
First-day covers serviced: 420,830
Scott catalog number: 993
Designer: Charles Chickering
Vignette engraver: Charles Brooks
Frame engraver: Axel Christensen
Letter engraver: Axel Christensen
Color: Violet-brown (Scott); Maroon (U.S. Post Office Department)
Format: Electric eye plates of 200 divided into four post office panes of 50 by horizontal and vertical gutters — arranged 10 horizontally by 5 vertically
Perforation: 11 x 10.5
Size: 0.84 x 1.44 inches (21.3 x 36.58mm)
Printing: Bureau of Engraving and Printing on Stickney rotary presses
Quantity: 122,315,000



Photoessay of the Honoring Railroad Engineers of America stamp. Image courtesy Forrest Ellis Files, American Philatelic Research Library.

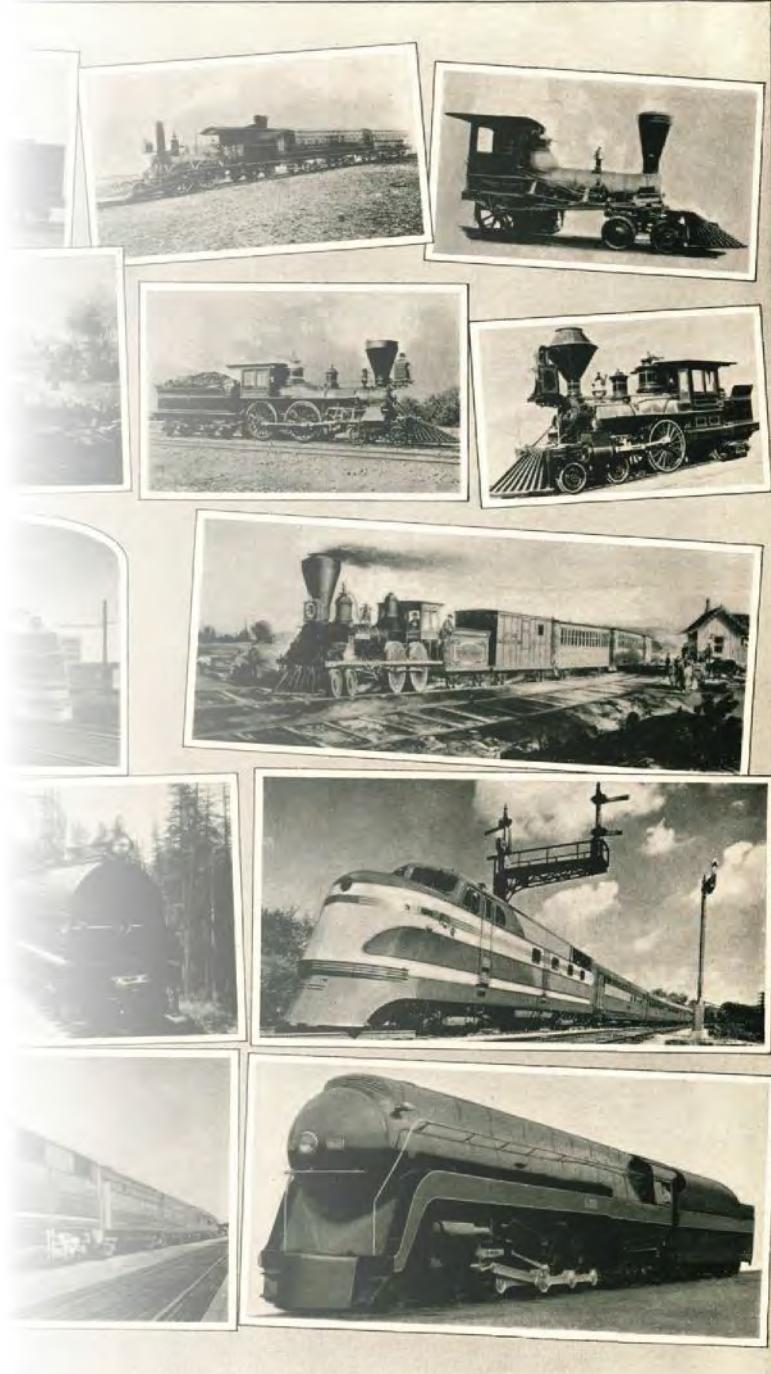
tation of the stamp concentrated his remarks on "Casey" Jones to the near exclusion of the BLE. Indeed, when the Bureau presented its design proposal to place an image of Jones at the center of the stamp, he approved it on the very day it was submitted for his judgment.

The Design

Charles Chickering worked from a photograph of "Casey" Jones that appeared on the frontispiece of the biography written by Casey's friend Fred Lee, *Casey Jones — Epic of the American Railroad* (1939). To emphasize the importance of the engineer, Chickering placed his adaptation of the photograph at the very center of the stamp, superimposed on a locomotive wheel around which the name "Casey" Jones appears in white. To the left of the image is an illustration of Illinois Central Railroad 4-6-0 engine No. 382 being used by the driver at full throttle. To the right we find a modern diesel locomotive and passenger car known as the *Rock Island Rocket*. At the top of the stamp is a lightly shaded panel upon which are inscribed in dark Gothic the words: "Honoring Railroad Engineers of America." Across the bottom panel in a reversed Roman font is the wording "United States Postage" and just above that the word "Cents." The number "3" in dark Roman type is found on either side of the word "Cents." Each number is enclosed in a shaded circular background ornamented with laurel leaves.

The Subject

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE) was founded as the Brotherhood of the Footboard by Michigan



The second photograph from the bottom in this collage of trains was used as the reference for the illustration of the modern diesel locomotive shown on the stamp. Image courtesy Forrest Ellis Files, American Philatelic Research Library.

PLATE NUMBER REPORT

Plate No.	Impressions	Printed
24191	109,598	April 12, 1950
24192	109,598	April 12, 1950
24193	96,797	April 19, 1950
24194	110,450	April 14, 1950
24195	110,450	April 14, 1950
24196	96,797	April 19, 1950

Central Railroad engineers in 1863. The union was conciliatory in nature, usually preferring negotiations to strikes, despite the pressure of its ordinary members. A bitterly contested strike against the Chicago Burlington & Quincy Railroad in 1888 nearly destroyed the union when it was forced to accept company conditions, which included giving preferential promotions to scab engineers hired by the CB&Q during the strike. The Brotherhood preferred working closely with the owners of the railroads to cooperating with the trade unions that represented workers of a lesser grade and manual laborers.

Conscious of the need not to overwork its members, the BLE was wholeheartedly behind the passage of the Adamson Act of 1916 (the "8-Hour

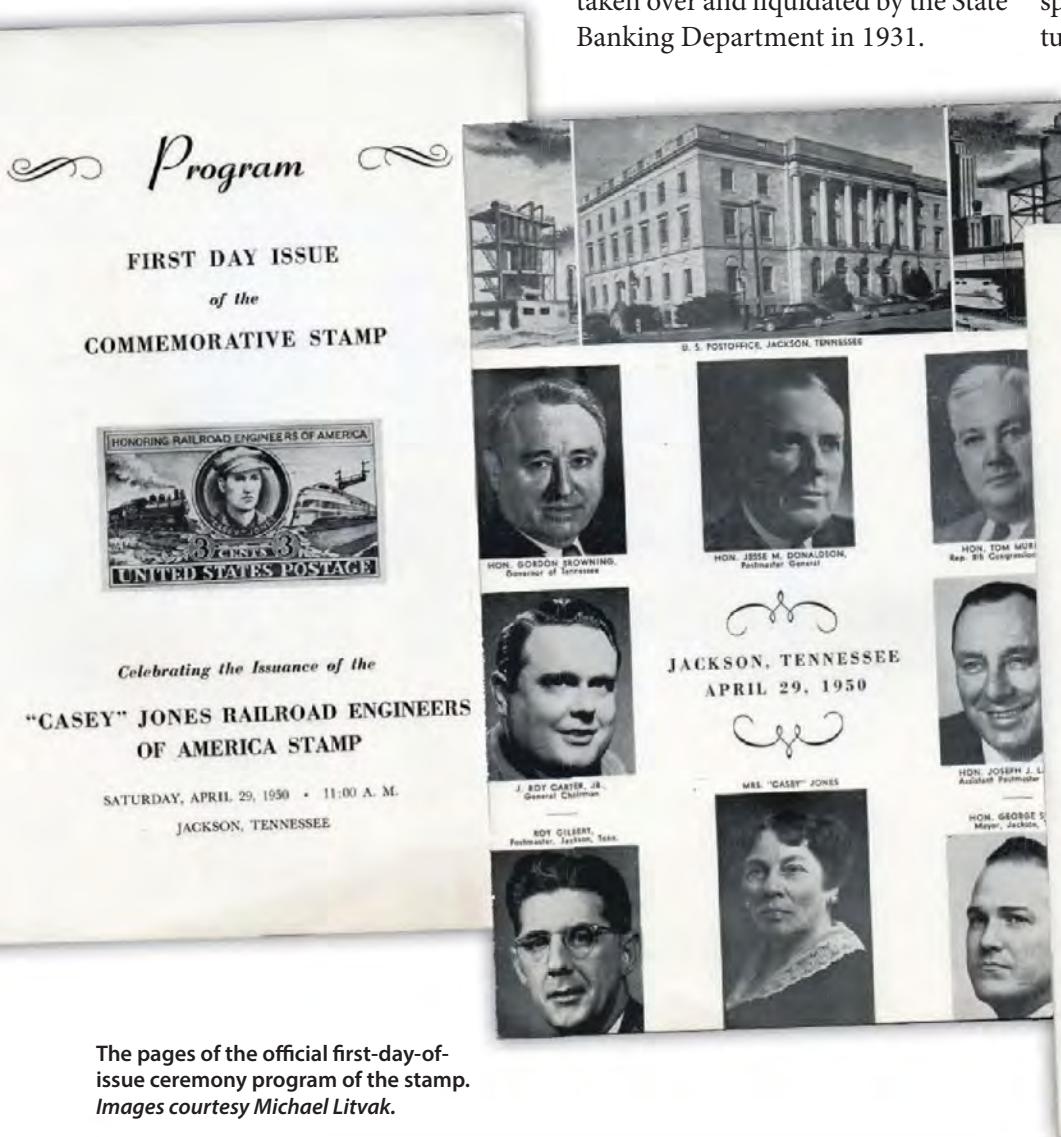
Day Law"), signed by President Woodrow Wilson as the basis for determining overtime in interstate commerce.

By 1925 the BLE had accumulated significant investments to support what at the time were generous benefits for its members, along with a relatively handsome pension scheme. The Brotherhood prospered and by 1925 it owned two banks, one holding company, property developments, a building construction firm, and a coal company. Most notable of these holdings were the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Cooperative National Bank and resort developments in Venice, Florida. Financial mismanagement, however, forced the union to rethink its activities and to undergo considerable restructuring. In 1930 the union's bank merged with the Standard Trust Bank, which was taken over and liquidated by the State Banking Department in 1931.

However, as stated, the BLE was not the true subject of the stamp: *that* was Casey Jones and the wrecking of the Illinois Central Railroad express train, engine No. 382.

Casey Jones was born in the town of Cayce, Kentucky, from which he got his nickname. At the age of 15, the ambitious teenager got his first job working for the Mobile & Ohio Railroad as a telegrapher. Three years later he became a fireman. When he was eighteen, Casey moved to the larger Illinois Central where, within two years, he achieved his goal of becoming a steam locomotive engineer, first driving freight trains, then local expresses, and then both freight and passenger trains.

The adult Jones was physically imposing. He was 6'4" in height and was known for his good looks and high spirits and was famed for his punctuality. He was also addicted to high speeds. As his brakeman put it: "Running on time was his hobby." This obsession led his



employers, occasionally and reluctantly, to suspend him. During the time he worked for the Illinois Central, he was suspended a total of 145 days. His flamboyance extended to his six-tone calliope whistle upon which he played his signature tune, the "whippoorwill call."

There are two possible versions of what befell Casey Jones on the night of April 29, 1900. The first is a tale of unmitigated heroism and the second a tale of folly, but nonetheless one of heroism and reckless bravery. Both appealed to the imaginations of his time and those of following generations.

The facts appear to be as follows: On April 29, 1900, Casey Jones was chosen to drive the company's premier Chicago-New Orleans passenger train, the *New Orleans Special*, also known as the "Cannonball." Jones' assistant on that final ride was the African-American fireman Sim Webb. In line with his orders, Jones had to make the 188-mile run to Canton, Mississippi, in ninety-five minutes. By the time the train reached Granada,

about 100 miles into the run, he had made up about sixty minutes of the deficit. After a further twenty-three miles, they were only fifteen minutes behind the tight schedule that had been set and they were approaching the little depot at Vaughan, Mississippi. "The old girl's got her high-heeled slippers on tonight," Casey shouted to his fireman.

Two freight trains had been ordered off the mainline tracks to give priority to the "Cannonball." However, one of the trains broke its air hose, and some of its rear cars could not be moved off the main line. There were no automatic signals in those days, so a flagman was sent to warn the fast-approaching "Cannonball" to stop well short of the blockage on the track. Jones did not heed or did not see the flagman's lantern signal and approached the curve at 70–75 mph. He only began to brake when his wheels exploded a warning "torpedo" that the flagman had placed on the track. Within seconds, Fireman Webb saw the lights of the freight cars around the bend and shouted: "Look out! We're gonna hit something."

Jones told Webb to jump and engaged the emergency brakes, managing to reduce the speed to somewhere between 35–50 mph. It was not enough. The noise of the impact could be heard quite some distance away when the big ten-wheeler tore through the caboose and one boxcar. Jones was the only fatality of the wreck.

In the company's subsequent enquiry into the accident, Casey Jones was found to be "wholly to blame for the collision by reason of having disregarded the signals given by Flagman Newman." Speaking in his defense, Webb and others argued that Jones could not have seen the flagman and that the first time he was aware that the tracks had not been cleared as promised was when Webb shouted out

the warning.

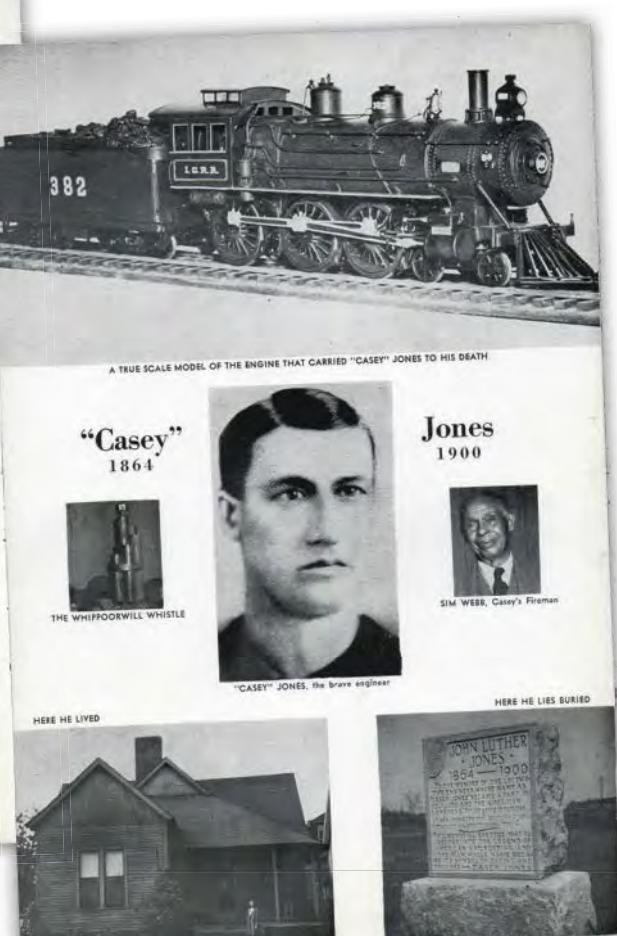
What captured the public's imagination was *The Ballad of Casey Jones* written by his close friend, Wallace Saunders, an African-American engine wiper, the most junior member of the engine crew. Once immortalized in song, the legend of Casey Jones, the heroic driver who sacrificed his life to save passengers, quickly grew. Almost immediately, Saunders' ballad was picked up by music hall artists T. Lawrence Siebert and Eddie Newton. Their colorful and highly embellished version presented a Casey Jones quite foreign to the man who died in the accident and gave such a derogatory image of Mary, his widow, that she vehemently protested. Her protest was in vain as a gramophone record of the newly elaborated ballad sung by Bill Murray sold over two million copies.

In 1947 a memorial was erected on Jones' previously unmarked grave in the presence of his widow Mary and Sim Webb. The monument reads: "Erected to perpetuate the legend of American railroading and the man who became its symbol of daring and romance."

First-day Ceremony

Prior to the official first-day ceremony launching the postage stamp, Jeff Keenan on behalf of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Oregon Division of the Union Pacific Railroad, conducted a brief and solemn ceremony at the grave of "Casey" Jones in the presence of his widow, who placed a wreath on the grave itself. The ceremony involved the planting of a rose tree in the name of the newly organized Casey Jones Rail Road Unit (CJRRU), whose purpose was the study of everything railroad-related on stamps. Keenan was instrumental in getting the new philatelic group off the ground.

At the same time, the recently made Walt Disney cartoon *The Brave Engineer*, based on the *Ballad of Casey Jones*, was being shown in



cinemas throughout Tennessee and Mississippi. It compounded the myth by taking further liberties with events and people, including a happy ending with Casey emerging heroically and undamaged from the wreck. The film also left out Jones' real-life friend, fireman Sim Webb, and its portrayal of Casey's wife also was less than generous. The film has since been edited to make it correspond more to reality.

The official ceremony attended by about 6,000 people gathered in the main street of the town of Jackson. Jones' famed "whippoorwill whistle" shrieked out as a miniature engine, seemingly driven by a cheerleader, rolled down Jackson's main street. The Jackson High School band played a jazzed up version of the ballad. According to the American Press stringer who witnessed the event, Mrs. Jones (who loathed the chosen version of the ballad) noticeably grimaced and was supported by Sim Webb.

The procession reached the post office where the first-day ceremony took place, presided over by the mayor of Jackson. There were a series of speeches led off by the governor of Tennessee, Gordon Browning, followed by the sitting congressman, Tom Murray, who had sponsored the stamp in the U.S. congress. There also were speeches by railway executives who were lavish in their praise of Jones, despite having found him guilty of causing the accident. The assistant postmaster general, Joseph Lawler, presented the usual signed souvenir albums to the dignitaries. He echoed the words of Jesse Donaldson by declaring that the least they could do was to fully honor and remember "Casey Jones who sacrificed his life in the performance of his duty."

Because the proceeding were judged to be less than acceptable by its membership, the following year in January 1951 the CJRRU held another graveside ceremony during which the rose tree on the grave was replaced. As part of the proceedings, Mrs. Casey Jones was given a life membership in the new organization, and the president of the Gulf Mobile and Ohio Railroad, where Casey Jones began his career, spoke.

Finally, in 1956, Mary Jones (then 82) cut the ceremonial ribbon stretched across the porch of their former home that was henceforth the main section of a museum established in his honor. In his remarks Governor Frank Clement honored "that breed of men who made railroading a distinct American institution," adding, "Such a man was Casey Jones."



— ADDITIONAL ONLINE ARTICLES —

WWW.STAMPS.ORG/AP-ALBUM

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

American Bankers Association (Scott 987)



On November 1, 1949, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury John W. Snyder addressed the annual meeting of the American Bankers Association, held that year in San Francisco, during which he announced that the post office would print a postage stamp for the 75th anniversary of that organization.

Samuel Gompers (Scott 988)



On July 14, 1949, Congressman Augustine Kelley, a pro-labor, successful mining engineer from Pennsylvania, presented a resolution to Congress calling for a stamp to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Gompers (1850–1924), the founder and first president of the American Federation of Labor.

National Capitol Sesquicentennial (Scott 989-992)



The sesquicentennial of the founding of the city of Washington, one of the first purpose-built capitals, was a cause for celebration.

Four different commemorative stamps were issued throughout 1950. The stamps depict the Statue of Freedom on the U.S. Capitol dome, the White House, the Supreme Court, and the United States Capitol.



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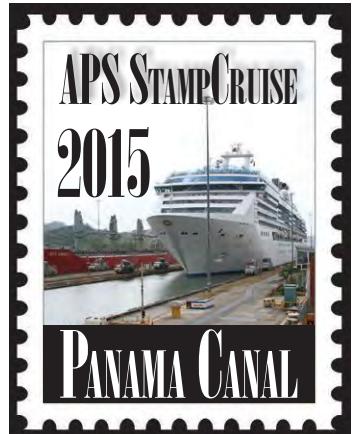
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Danzig Cover

Discovery of a Rare Mixed Franking From 1932

BY STANLEY R. SANDLER

A well-known Polish stamp dealer,¹ who was familiar with my interests,^{2,3} brought to my attention a mixed franking Danzig cover that appeared to him to be unusual and one not seen before from this time period. After acquiring this cover, I immediately set out to determine if it was truly rare.

A brief review of Danzig's postal history between 1920 and 1939 reveals that the Free City of Danzig at one time had *two* postal authorities, one German (which handled all Danzig mail to all locations and required Danzig postage stamps) and the other a Polish post office (located at Hevelius Square in 1925 and which handled only mail from Danzig to Poland using Polish stamps overprinted "Port Gdansk"). Mixed-franking covers at Danzig post offices were not permitted, and Polish stamps could not be added. However, the German-run Danzig post offices probably permitted German

The cover has both a 5-pfennig Danzig stamp (Scott 179) and a 10-groszy Polish stamp (Scott 269). It has a cancellation date of 4 3 32 (March 4, 1932), and the stamps are tied by a German slogan cancellation (*Kinder Hungern – Hilf durch Spenden* = Children Going Hungry – Help by Donations). Thus, it is obvious that the cover was handled by German postal authorities at the Danzig post office, whose clerks failed to notice that it included a 10 Gr Polish stamp rather than the required 10 pf Danzig stamp. The letter was allowed to be mailed to Wien (Vienna, Austria), presumably because the clerk focused only on the total of "15" in the denominations and mistakenly thought it met the proper 15 pf postage rate for an international letter mailed from Danzig at that time.⁴

To check whether this Danzig cover with a Polish stamp is rare, a well-known Polish postal history expert⁵ was contacted by Bieniecki Int'l Inc. The expert said that he was not aware of such a cover existing and being used in the mails from Danzig. To confirm his conclusion, a thorough literature search was then carried out at the American Philatelic Research Library. There were no articles on this subject in the back issues of either *The American Philatelist* or the *Bulletin* of the Polonus Philatelic Society. Nor were there any articles in the German Philatelic Society journals dealing with Danzig.

A search of selected stamp auction catalogues uncovered several other examples of mixed-franking covers from Danzig, but none with Polish stamps. These included:

- A 1931 mixed-franking Danzig cover that was mailed from Danzig to Hamburg, Germany. It was franked with a 15pf Danzig stamp and a 15pf German stamp showing President Paul von Hindenburg.⁶ It is interesting to note that it includes the same German slogans shown in the first illustration. This cover might be another rarity.

- Covers from 1940 with Danzig stamps overprinted "Deutsches Reich" affixed alongside a German stamp. This was more common after the German invasion of Danzig and Poland on September 1, 1939. In fact, following the German invasion, the mail from occupied Danzig was allowed with Danzig stamps that were overprinted with "Deutsches Reich." These mail pieces also could include additional German stamps.



Front and back of a rare Mixed Frank Danzig Cover, which has both a 5pf Danzig stamp (Scott 170) and a 10Gr Polish stamp (Scott 269).

stamps to be used along with Danzig stamps for mail sent to Germany and to the rest of Europe such as Vienna, Austria.

The dual postal system was setup in 1919 after World War I by the terms of the Treaty of Versailles under the sponsorship of the League of Nations. From the start, this dual postal system was the source of conflict between Poland and Germany. After the Third Reich came to power in 1933, this and other conflicts eventually led to the invasion of Danzig (and Poland) by Germany on September 1, 1939, and the start of World War II.



• Danzig stamps after September 1, 1939, that were overprinted with "Deutsches Reich" were allowed to be used anywhere in Germany as regular postage stamps. These covers did not have to be mailed from Danzig.

In summary, all the evidence to date indicates that my Danzig cover, bearing both a Danzig stamp and a Polish stamp and mailed from a German post office in Danzig to Vienna, is a rarity and potentially unique.

Acknowledgments

I would like to acknowledge Hank Bieniecki, a well-known Polish stamp dealer of Bieniecki Int'l Inc. for his bringing this cover with a Danzig and a Polish stamp to my attention, and for his generous help in contacting his associates and a Polish postal history expert in Poland for his opinion. I also want to thank him for his comments and useful suggestions.

I also want to acknowledge the help of Scott Tiffney of the American Philatelic Research Library for his detailed search in the area of mixed-franking Danzig stamp covers.

The opinions of Ralph Schneider, a well-known German stamp dealer, about this subject also were very helpful.

Endnotes

1. Hank Bieniecki of Bieniecki Int'l Inc., P.O. Box 760, Maryville, IL 62062 (www.biistamp.com/).
2. Stanley R. Sandler, "The Story Behind an 1898 Picture Postcard from Danzig/Gdansk," *The American Philatelist*, Vol. 127, No. 7 (July 2013): 652–654.
3. Stanley R. Sandler, "German Propaganda Against 'The Polish Corridor' in 1931," *The American Philatelist*, Vol. 128, No. 5 (May 2014): 458–459.
4. For postal rates for Danzig from 1919–1945 see: <http://sjitzereurich.com/>.
5. Zbigniew Korszen, Expert of the Polish Philatelists Union, P.O. Box 82, 00-950 Warsaw 1, Poland.
6. Gothic Stamps, P.O. Box 365, Brush, CO 80723 and <http://www.german-postalhistory.com/php/viewitem.php?itemid=56681>.

The Author

Dr. Stanley R. Sandler is the president of the Havertown Stamp Club in Havertown, Pennsylvania. He has a strong interest in the postal history of Danzig/Gdansk and Poland as well as in U.S. airmail, fakes & forgeries worldwide, and fancy postmarks & cancellations of the U.S. 1860s. He is a 27-year member of the APS and a member of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

Front and back of a mixed-franking Danzig cover from 1931 that was mailed from Danzig to Hamburg, Germany. It includes a 15pf Danzig stamp (Scott 176) and a 15pf German stamp (Scott 374) showing President Paul von Hindenburg.

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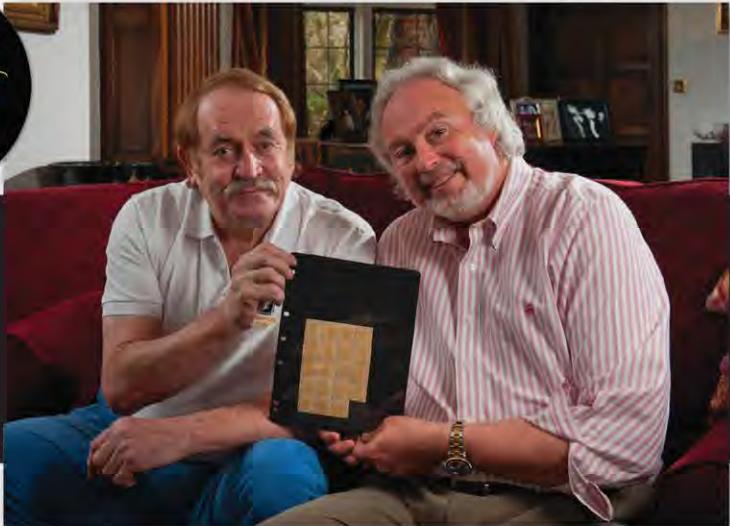
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“The Lady Cotswolds Missionary Find”



Kelleher Co-Chairman Larry Gibson (right) with British dealer Allan Grant holding the block of 19 of the extremely rare China 5 Candarin Yellow Ochre (Scott #6)—part of the greatest find of major rarities in the history of Chinese philately.

After communicating with British stamp dealer Allan Grant (Rushstamps Ltd.), Kelleher & Rogers Co-Chairman Larry Gibson flew to the United Kingdom in quest of a major discovery. One of the top authorities in Chinese classic stamps, Gibson arrived there to inspect and verify a group of classic 1880s Chinese stamps. They had been found in an old Chinese tea caddy and were about to be offered in a country estate auction. Grant had made the discovery at the auction's pre-sale viewing.

Specifically, the stamps were found in an ornate wooden tea caddy as three unused multiples of China *Scott Catalogue* number 6: a block of 19, a block of 10 and a block of six. An unused single of Number 6 is valued at \$16,000 in the current *Scott Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps and Covers 1840-1940*. They are known as the China 1882 5-candarin orange yellow Imperial Dragon stamp.

Grant and Gibson then decided to work together to buy the stamps, which non-philatelic auction house British Bespoke

Auctions had as lot No. 94—described as “A Cigar Box of Early Chinese Stamps”—in its Jan. 31 auction. They succeeded in the purchase and the first of the blocks will be offered to world philately this spring in a Kelleher & Rogers public auction in Hong Kong.

“This is, in fact, the most outstanding find in the history of Chinese philately, and a once in a lifetime opportunity to unveil to the philatelic marketplace one of the greatest jewels of the China specialty,” explains Larry Gibson, an internationally recognized authority and dealer in Chinese rare stamps.

A relative of the owner of the Cotswolds house where the stamps were found was a missionary in China who used the 5c Imperial Dragon stamps, among others, for postage. “The stamps remained in the family, safely tucked into little brown church donation envelopes since the late 1890s, when the missionary returned to the UK,” Gibson explained. “They were stored in the attic of their old family house and remained there for 125 years — amazing!”

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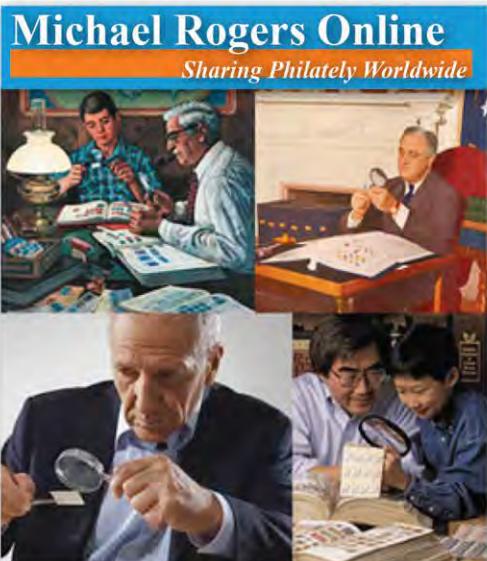
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APC Kiosk Conversion

Monitoring an Automated Postal Center Conversion in Texas

BY PETER ELIAS

The end was near! According to the original USPS information release, all of the old Automated Postal Center (APC) kiosks were to be converted to "Self-Service Ship & Mail Center" (SSSMC) kiosks on or before September 30, 2012. The Plano, Texas main post office, however, wasn't scheduled to have its APC converted until October 8, 2012, well past the original deadline. Since there had to be a supervisor present when the APC was converted and October 8 was a federal holiday (Columbus Day), eventually the conversion date was moved to Friday, October 5.

After the conversion, the old-style small postage labels would be gone, replaced by new small labels sporting one of six user-selectable black-and-white designs. The large labels also would be slightly different and the ATM booklet stamps would no longer be available. (This latter change clearly did not sit too well with the general stamp-buying consumer, because they've since become available again at some kiosks, starting in December 2013.)

Around the same time (late September 2012), the Plano APC kiosk was starting to show signs of age. Small labels did not want to print, although large labels and ATM stamp booklets were still available. On September 20, the kiosk couldn't sell anything at all because the network connection was down (the clerks at the counters couldn't sell anything either, not even for cash, which frustrated many patrons that day). So every couple of days I bought at least a few large

labels, since I had no idea of when the true "last day of sale" would be for this aging kiosk.

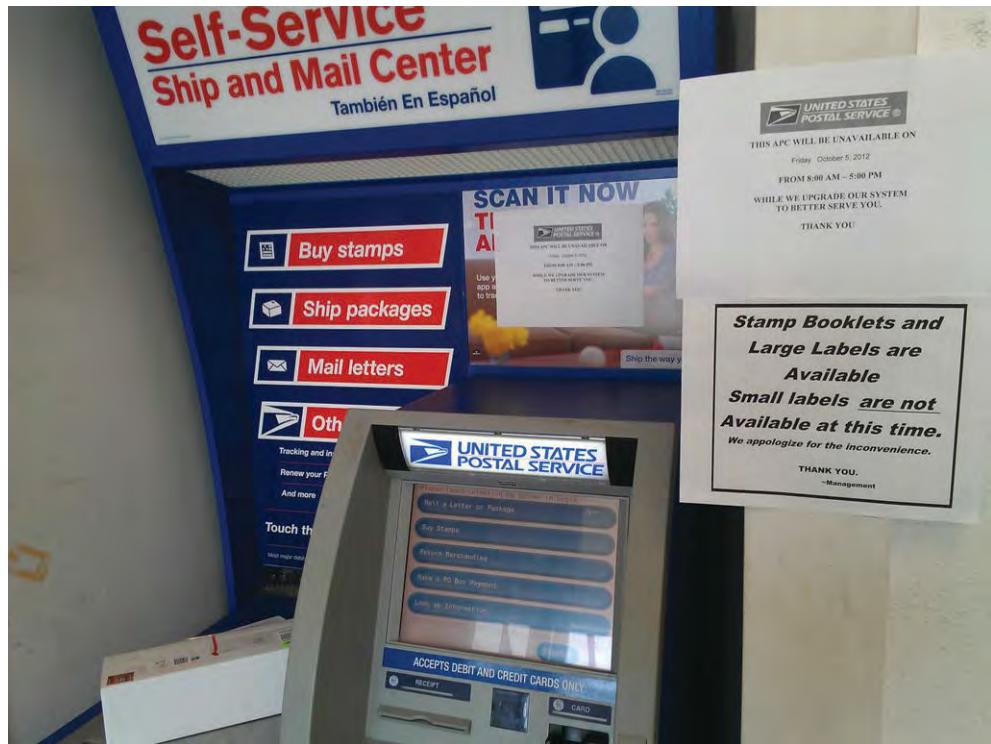
Once in a while, the technicians apparently tried to fix the kiosk, judging by the "test" labels I found in the trash can nearby, but with no success. One day I did manage to buy a



This 85-cent IM label has a downward vertical shift printing error.

couple of labels, but the machine broke down again after the first transaction and did not print any more, despite five minutes of whirring and buzzing sounds.

On Monday, October 1, an IBM technician arrived and he said that the problem was a transport belt for the small label printer. Over time (this machine had been in use since 2004), adhesive from the self-adhesive labels would deposit on the belt and create problems, but now that most of the kiosks



Plano post office kiosk with sign advertising the October 5, 2012, upgrade.

have been converted, getting spare parts for the older machines would be difficult. Apparently, a spare part was found and the machine was able to issue small labels again. What a relief. At least I could get a few small labels the day prior to the conversion.

On the last day, Thursday, October 4, around 5 p.m. (my usual time to visit this post office), I started to buy some labels. After buying the prerequisite \$1 minimum (via five 45-

cent labels), I was going to buy a set of rate-inscribed small labels and various large labels. But the machine was slow, I mean s-l-o-w. It took five minutes just to get one label out. Screens would slowly repaint and it was running like molasses. After thirty minutes and only getting about eight labels (including the first five 45-cent ones), I was getting frustrated and left. A gentleman behind me had four packages to mail. I wished him good luck and suggested that he go mail the packages at the counter instead.

The post office supervisor had to run some reports from the machine prior to the shutdown, and I asked if they could please run some test labels as well. They were nice enough to oblige. In addition to the usual test and diagnostics labels (plus one for the large variety), I also got a test print of the return receipt card/certified mail label combo. This particular item isn't seen that often. Most collectors seem to ignore that particular item being sold from the kiosk, but it is an important part of postal and post office history.

Once the conversion/upgrade process was started, I couldn't really do much, and standing around the post office lobby for five or six hours wasn't my idea of fun, so I went back home. When I returned around 1:30 p.m., the technician was still busy. She had some issues with the large label printer not being aligned properly (the paper was feeding at a slight angle, causing misprinting and feeding issues). All

This 45-cent label also has a printing shift error.

cent labels), I was going to buy a set of rate-inscribed small labels and various large labels. But the machine was slow, I mean s-l-o-w. It took five minutes just to get one label out. Screens would slowly repaint and it was running like molasses. After thirty minutes and only getting about eight labels (including the first five 45-cent ones), I was getting frustrated and left. A gentleman behind me had four packages to mail. I wished him good luck and suggested that he go mail the packages at the counter instead.

The next morning, Friday, October 5, was the day. There had been a sign on the kiosk for a few days advertising the October 5 upgrade. The sign stated this would happen at 8 a.m. and I doubted that the IBM technician would be there any sooner than that, so I managed to be at the kiosk about 7:30 a.m., figuring that I would have at least a half hour to buy some last-minute postage labels. Luckily, when I got there, the kiosk must have gotten rid of its gremlins since the previous afternoon — it was actually functioning at a normal speed.

I tried to buy as many labels as possible, and I got some nice surprises: printing errors. Two, in fact. When printing the 85-cent international mail coded labels (accessible only when choosing to print a one-ounce international label, then choosing the option "enter the country name," the resulting label begins with the code "IM"), the label had an interesting downward vertical shift of about one-quarter inch. I bought two of these, but only the second label had the printing error. Then I discovered that one of the five stamps in the series of 45-cent labels also had a printing shift.

When the IBM technician arrived around 8:20 a.m., I



This 45-cent label also has a printing shift error.



"Test" label from the old APC machine prior to shut down.



"Diagnostics" label from the old APC machine prior to shut down.

items for the conversion are shipped to the post office beforehand in "APC Refresh" boxes. The IBM technician primarily brings a toolset.

Included in the refresh set is a set of new labels to be used. These come wrapped in black plastic bags. The identifying product labels are attached to the label rolls and sheets. The



Seldom collected return receipt card/certified mail label combo from old APC machine prior to shut down.

large label roll contains 514 feet of continuous label stock and the box of small fan-fold labels contains 13,000 labels — 1,300 sheets of 10 labels stacked two across.

I left again for a brief while and came back around 2:15 p.m. The IBM technician was still busy trying to get the large labels to print properly, using a special menu choice to do so. This time I stuck around, since I wanted to make sure I was there to be able to buy the first items off the newly converted SSSMC kiosk. At around 4:21 p.m., I was finally able to do so.

The Post Office supervisor was not around at that moment and the technician had not run the usual test labels yet, so I implored the technician to see if I could buy labels anyway, since 5 p.m. was not too far away and I needed some items to mail in order to get first-day-of-sale cancels. The first set of items I was able to buy was six 23-cent labels, which was identified as transaction No. 9. This tells me that the kiosks track sales information remotely, as it was simply continuing the count from the APC from earlier in the day (I was thinking that it might have reset the counter for the new configuration, but I didn't). The transaction number

at the bottom of the receipt is reset each day, and I know that I was the first live purchase from the new SSSMC machine (all APC conversions include a brand new computer and new touch-screen). Since my last transaction on the APC was No. 6 and someone behind me with two packages used that APC after me, and prior to the final shutdown, those would have been transactions Nos. 7 and 8.

Why did I buy 23-cent labels as my first items? Since I had purchased several 22-cent APC labels earlier that morning, I wanted to create several covers showing both APC and SSSMC stamps with the same date and same ZIP code. This way I had a proper 45-cent first-class envelope to mail out. I

was able to get this envelope to the counter in time to have it postmarked (standard red ink circular postmark). It then went out to the North Texas mail processing facility (about forty miles away) and was returned to me the next morning at my post office box (which is only about thirty feet away from the where the originating kiosk is located) — an eighty-mile round-trip to go thirty feet. In the old days, they simply would have put local mail directly into the appropriate box,

but now, with all the automation, it has to go to the main processing facility to be sorted first.

The other main item I was interested in finding out about was whether the "02 1P" (the "P" is for Pitney Bowes) inscribed labels still would be issued at the newly converted kiosk. Alas, no more. Some time after mid-August 2012, the procedures were changed and now kiosks do their final updating when starting up. This means "06 2S" (the "S" is for stamps.com) inscriptions and, of course, Forever labels being available immediately.

The problem with the large label stock feeding correctly also meant that I was able to get a couple of nice large diagnostics labels that were printed at various angles.

I was told that there were three other APCs waiting to be converted in the Dallas-Fort Worth area the following week (October 9, 10



Sales receipt for transaction #9 on the converted APC machine.



Cover with 22-cent stamp from the old APC machine and a 23-cent stamp from the new SSSMC machine, postmarked October 5, 2012.

& 11). At least one of these was a sixty-mile round-trip from my house. The other two were located a bit closer to me, but I never had a chance to go to them. This represents only the Dallas area. More than likely, other parts of the United States might not have had all of their APCs converted by the end of September, so if you were lucky enough, you might have been able to be a part of the conversion. It would have been nice to know which APC was actually the last one to be converted (for the Dallas area, that would probably have been represented by a label printed on October 11, 2012, in the early morning).

Thus ended, the highly anticipated APC-to-SSSMC conversion. The effort it took to gather data and samples from the different APCs was considerable: From April 18 to mid-October 2012 I made fifty-five trips to APC kiosks, covering some 900 miles. (This meant approximately twenty-five hours of driving and using forty-five gallons of gas.) Since then, I've probably covered the same amount of miles, visiting APCs in other parts of Texas and in other states, all just to document information about these bits of thermally printed, self-destructing postage labels. Yes, sadly, these will all self-destruct because of two main factors: 1) the self-adhesive gum on the labels, which dries out, and 2) the thermal printing, which invariably fades.

But the fun part has been that I was able to be a witness to postal and post office history and to document my experience. It is much easier to do this when it is happening as opposed to many years later. To me, all of this is great fun.

My next task was to turn all of the information about these items into an exhibit. My 96-page (six frames) exhibit was entered in the 26th Annual Expo of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club (greater Dallas/Ft. Worth area) on November 9–10, 2013 and won the show grand award. A shorter version (five frames) of the exhibit was shown earlier in 2013 at Texpex 2013, where

it received a Silver award and the APS Research Medal. The new 96-page exhibit was shown at Texpex 2014 (February 28–March 2, 2014). For those who might wish to view this exhibit, it can be downloaded as a PDF file from the following Microsoft SkyDrive link: <http://sdrv.ms/1dpMzRk>. (That is the short link; the full link is <https://skydrive.live.com/redir?resid=E543FD343EC536C6!352&authkey=!AFQHvQRMaJ-AgWk&ithint=file%2c.pdf>.)

All kiosks around the United States were converted by the end of October 2012, to the best of my knowledge. Early November 2012 saw several changes, including the addition of a month/year inscription (MM*YY) to the Forever labels and switching to new color holiday mailbox labels. Various minor changes took place in early/mid-2013 and the APCs had been electronically converted again at the end of 2013. This conversion eliminated the six black and white designs, switching to a general USPS Eagle design. For the 2013 holiday season another short-lived color label, was introduced, this time a Reindeer. Finally, the red facing stripe was replaced with a clear facing stripe. The APCs keep evolving and it will be interesting to see what happens next.

The Meter Stamp Society (www.meterstampsociety.com) is the group that covers these types of stamps and labels. It publishes an excellent quarterly journal, the *MSS Bulletin*.

The Author

Peter Elias has been collecting stamps since age 8. He started specializing in St. Vincent philately as a teenager and now additionally collects and exhibits APC and ATM stamps, the history of Audi, airports on stamps, and worldwide revenue stamps on document. He has several philatelic websites, is the editor of *Stamping Around* (the 10-page monthly newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club), and is on the board of directors of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group and of the Texas Philatelic Association. Contact him at peter@pcelias.com.



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by Andrew McGavin, Managing Director, Universal Philatelic Auctions (UPA)

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PHILATELY AND PHILANTHROPY

APS/APRL ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT TO OUR VALUED MEMBERS

Since our founding in 1886, the American Philatelic Society has faced many challenges but has remained a solid organization, dedicated to serving our members' needs while promoting the growth and development of philately in general.

The Society over the years has been blessed with countless people who have accepted the challenge to help the Society and Library keep pace with an ever-changing hobby.

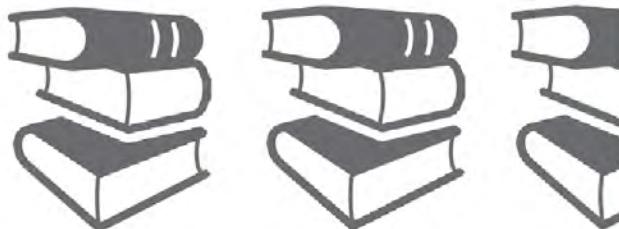
This 2014 Roll of Honor publicly acknowledges our members and friends who made an investment in the future of philately through their contributions during the year. We deeply appreciate their support.



2014 BY THE NUMBERS

\$2.2 million
in cash gifts

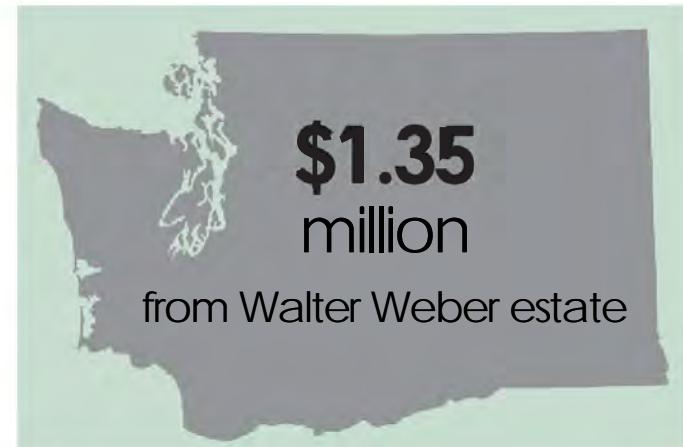
 **\$79,369**
from sale of donated stamps



250 in-kind gifts to the library

49
volunteers
at Volunteer Work
Week
in July

donated hours by volunteers at the APC



More than
\$2,500 through
eBay sales

16,500



MEMBERS VERY GENEROUS

The Society and Library received about \$2.2 million in cash from gifts during 2014. This is by far the most ever, exceeding our previous best by about \$850,000. A total of 13.75 percent of the membership made a cash gift, our second best percentage trailing only 14.13 percent in 2012.

By far the largest 2014 gift was about \$1.35 million from the estate of Walter Weber. A twenty-five year APS member, Mr. Weber, of Bellingham, Washington, passed away in May and designated the American Philatelic Society as the sole beneficiary of his IRA. A private investor, Mr. Weber collected the stamps of the United States, Canada, and Switzerland. He was also particularly interested in revenues.

Mr. Weber's gift surpasses the estate of past APS president William Bauer, who passed away in 2009 and previously left \$1.2 million for the American Philatelic Society and American Philatelic Research Library. Other major gifts to the APS and APRL have come from the estates of George Fisher of Langhorne, Pennsylvania (\$600,000 in 2004), Osborne Morse of Leawood, Kansas (\$300,000 in 2001), and Horace Harrison of Ruxton, Maryland (\$300,000 in 2002).

During 2014 we also benefited significantly from the estates of Roger Ruth, Steven Rodin, Roger Schnell, Allen Kreitzer, and William Bauer, which combined provided nearly \$140,000. For the second year in a row the David T. Beals Foundation provided significant funds with a grant of \$37,000 supporting both a mobile application for *The American Philatelist* and our Stamps Teach program. We also received \$50,000 from Anida and Dan Wishnietsky to permanently endow the multi-frame Champion of Champions award in honor of their parents Benjamin and Naomi Wishnietsky.

Carol Giles-Straight made two very generous gifts: \$12,000 to endow an award for best paper presentation at the Postal History Symposium and \$10,000 as the first payment of a five year \$50,000 commitment to name the online philatelic library catalog. Both gifts were made in memory of her late husband David Straight who served on both the APS and APRL boards. Other major gifts were made by Keith Stupell and Lamar Stout. Stupell purchased park benches in memory of Bud Hennig and Bob Gibson as well as making a significant payment on his \$50,000 commitment to name the Gift Shop in the new Library space. Stout paid \$9,000 on a five year \$35,000 commitment to name the Librarian's Office. Hugh Wood continued his long support of the Society with a \$20,000 personal gift.

We received 42 additional gifts in memory of members who passed away, seven gifts in honor of members, and 12 gifts that were matched by employers. In addition the Society and Library received more than 2,500 in-kind gifts that helped our Library, improved our Reference Collection, and provided material to help promote the hobby to youth and adults. The Society saved nearly \$30,000 by using donated mint U.S. stamps it received from members.

Although not treated as donations, two sponsors provided invaluable support in 2013. The United States Postal Service which continued its assistance with our August StampShow, and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, which sponsored all the major awards for our winter show.

Arthur Cole, Jack R. Dykhouse, Hugh Lawrence, and Ken Martin completed \$5,000 pledges to become Vooy's Fellows of the Library. Many donors made significant commitments to support a Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship. Thanks especially to the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, which has now given \$5,000 each of the last five years to support a Fellow.

About 25 donors have current multi-year pledges, which are accepted for as little as \$100. We also have more than 30 Future Builders who make regular monthly gifts to the APS/APRL, which are charged to their credit card or deducted from their checking account.

Gifts of all size are important. For example, it just takes a few relatively small gifts to fund the APS Stamp Talk internet radio show. Many members are incredibly faithful. Roger S. Cichorz and Robert P. Odenweller have made gifts for 41 consecutive years, Ernest L. Bergman for 37 consecutive years, Drew A. Nicholson for 36 years, and Robert C. Merrill for 35 years.

We also should not forget the invaluable volunteer support provided by a few hundred APS members, at both the American Philatelic Center and from a distance. During 2014 more than 16,500 hours of volunteer support were provided at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte. This is the equivalent of eight full-time employees.

The recognition pages chronicle the year 2014 gifts totaling \$25 or more and in-kind donations valued at \$100 or more. This includes nearly 1,500 members who support us as contributing or supporting members. We appreciate the confidence of the many members who provide unrestricted gifts that allow us maximum flexibility to put the money to the best use. At the same time we thank those members who chose to support specific activities such as our youth programs, the Library, our Expertizing Service, and our endowment funds. These donor-directed contributions help us to achieve and maintain the quality programs and services members have come to expect from your APS and APRL.

A special thanks to the Campaign for Philately Committee, which provides assistance with the Society's fundraising. The Committee, chaired by Alfredo Frohlich, includes Michael Dixon, Ken Grant, Alex Haimann, Kurt Lenz, Gordon Morison, Steve Reinhard, Steve Rod, Wade Saadi, and Mick Zais.

We welcome your suggestions and questions. Please contact Executive Director Ken Martin, kpmartin@stamps.org or 814-933-3817, with your inquiries. Thank you for your continued support.

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\$100,000-\$250,000

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Dan Wishnietsky

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\$5,000–\$9,999

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Collectors Club of Michigan
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Westpex

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Cape Cod Area Philatelic Group • Chevron Humankind
Coryell's Ferry Stamp Club • Cumberland Valley Philatelic Soc.
Cuyahoga Falls Stamp Club • Evanston-New Trier Philatelic Society
Fidelity Charitable Funds • Florida Stamp Dealers' Association
GE Foundation • Germany Philatelic Society, Chapter 5
Glen Ellyn Philatelic Club • Indiana Stamp Club
Jockey Hollow Stamp Club • Merchantville Stamp Club
Mid-Florida Philatelic Society • Milwaukee Philatelic Society
Plymouth Rock Stamp Club • Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo
Thrivent Financial • William C. Stone Chapter

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Dearborn Stamp Club • Greater Philadelphia Stamp/Collectors Club
Gulf Coast Stamp Club • Motor City Stamp & Cover Club
Palo Duro Philatelic Society • Pasack Stamp Club
Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa • Pontiac Stamp Club
Rubber City Stamp Club • Springfield Philatelic Society
Tidewater Intl. Topics Society

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Germantown-Chestnut Hill Stamp Club • Maplewood Stamp Club
Montgomery Area Stamp Club • Sullivan County Philatelic Society

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EBAY: ANOTHER OPTION TO SUPPORT THE APS & APRL



The most common type of gift received by the APS and APRL is cash paid through a check, credit card — sometimes as a recurring monthly donation automatically deducted from a bank account. A smaller but significant number of members provide in-kind gifts of philatelic material such as stamps, literature and supplies.

eBay offers two additional options. Members who sell through eBay may choose to designate a portion of the proceeds of their sales (anywhere from 10% to 100% with a minimum of \$1 except for motor vehicles, which may be as low as 1%) to the APS. This is not restricted to the sale of philatelic material but is an option for any type of item being sold. Additionally, using "Give at Checkout," APS and APRL supporters can add as little as \$1 each time when they purchase an item on eBay to benefit the APS.

Between August 2008 and December 2014, members designated a percent of the sales of about 1,800 items sold on eBay for the APS. This has generated about \$12,500 to support our Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship program.

A total of \$1 has been added to about 1,600 eBay sales at checkout to generate nearly \$1,500. The APS also directly sells some in-kind gifts through eBay seller name american_philatelic_society.

Thanks to the following individuals who designated a percentage of sales of their items to the APS/APRL during 2014:

Michael & Carolina Bethmann
Kevin Blackston
Lewis Burchett
Alexander Haimann
Terry A. Harrison
Toni Heisey
Rodney Juell
Michael E. Lowell
William Schneider
Stephen S. Washburne
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The feedback from the first two years has been very positive and included comments such as:

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\$1,000+

Scott Publishing Company
St. Vincent DePaul Society
Stamps for the Wounded
Trajan Investments
Vincent Graves Greene Foundation

\$500-\$999

Dayton Stamp Club
Eagle Coin & Stamp Exchange

\$250-\$499

National Duck Stamp Collectors Society
The Philatelic Freemason
Regency Superior Ltd.
WFLA Lodge 69

\$100-\$249

American Legion Auxiliary
ATT&T Telcom Pioneers
E & M Graded Stamps
Hope Lutheran Church
Hotchkis Emblem Club No. 306
Mobile Post Office Society
Royal Philatelic Society London
United Postal Stationery Society

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 Harry K. Charles Jr.
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 Bill Chase
 Edward Chayet
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 William J. Gerow Jr.
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 Carol Golby
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 Joseph H. Levie
 Rolin G. Lewis
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 Lance Powers
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 Myron Xenos
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Thank You! Mighty Buck Club

Where \$1 a Month Can Make a Difference!

Mighty "Dollar" Bill is the founder of the Mighty Buck Club. He represents the power of the dollar. More than 3,000 members have joined the Mighty Buck Club, where one buck at a time adds up to make big things happen!

To join the Mighty Buck Club, see the back wrapper of this issue.

Thank you Mighty Buck Club members.

Over the first four years the results of your generosity include:



Auto Folder



Touch-Screen Scanner for APRL



Letter Sealer



Two LaserJet Printers
Color & Black-and-White



Two Laptops



Long-Short Wave Light



Defibrillator

Other items purchased include:

Archival Storage Boxes, Desktop Computers (4), Digital Camera, Display Case, DVD Duplicator, LCD Projector Screen, Camtasia Screen Recording & Video Editing Software, Video Camera, & a WorldCat Database Subscription

www.stamps.org/Mighty-Buck-Club

THE LEGACY SOCIETY

Membership in the Legacy Society is provided to individuals who have included the American Philatelic Society or the American Philatelic Research Library in their wills. Please notify us if you should be included in this list.

Our thanks to the following individuals who have included the Society or Library in their will

Ted E. Ashworth	David E. Gillis	R.S. McDowell	Frederick C. Skvara
L. Stephen Brace	Alexander Hall	Ted Moxham	Dennis E. Stark
Richard A. Colberg	Donald Kelley	Ralph H. Nafziger	Harlan F. Stone
C. David Eeles	John A. Krantz	Robert P. Odenweller	Herbert A. Trenchard
Lois Evans de Violini	David C. Lingard	Don David Price	plus two members who prefer not to be listed
Ingeburg Fisher	Kenneth P. Martin	George S. Robinson Jr.	
Gerald J. Gallagher	Robert A. Mason	Frank L. Sente	
John J. Germann	Wilton E. Mason (Tony)	Marjory J. Sente	

2014 SPECIAL GIFTS

Memorials

Sadly, 412 members of the Society passed away during 2014. Cash gifts were received in memory of a number of these members from family, friends, and other APS members. A few chapters also remember their fellow members, regardless of whether they were APS members, by making gifts to the Society. In total, 42 memorial gifts totaling more than \$12,500 were received in 2014 in memory of the following individuals:

Sophia Anderson	David Bushard	Walter Hees	James Richmann
Sharon Apperson	Dan Curtis	Bernard Hennig	Bill Salisbury
Henry J. Applegate	Douglas D'Avino	Joseph Jaskulsky	Dave Schaaf
Fred Atwood	Victor Degutis	Michael R. Kauffman	Marilyn Shirley
Louis Beck	Dudley Dewhirst	Henry Kowalczyk	Ronnie Spafford
Joseph Bell	Roland Essig	Douglas K. Lehmann	Dora Sylvester
Elmer Bjerregaard	Constance Hart Feibusch	Charles Malachosky	Walter Vonnegut
Carl Blazejewski	Geoffrey Flack	Eileen Meier	Sandy Ziegman
Antoinette Ives Bristol	Harvey Minter Gelder	Elizabeth Nettles	
Robert Brown	Dolf Hatcher	David B. Phillips	

Matching

Companies listed below matched recent gifts made to the APS/APRL by their current or retired employees. If you don't know if your employer has a matching gift program, please ask your personnel office. More than 1,000 companies in the United States match charitable donations.

Aetna Foundation Inc.
Chevron Humankind
ExxonMobil Foundation
Fidelity Charitable Fund
GE Foundation
Charles Schwab Foundation
Thrivent Financial

In Honor

Each year a few gifts are received in honor of members. Such gifts have typically been made in recognition of a fantastic job as a summer seminar instructor or to recognize extraordinary service.

C. Ross Blackshaw
David D'Allesandris
Jean Firstenberg
Bruce Hazleton
Wade E. Saadi
Otto Walke

BEQUESTS ARE IMPORTANT TO THE APS

A bequest is a gift made through a Will or Codicil that takes effect when an estate is settled. Although bequests provide no immediate income, their impact can be great. A bequest to the APS or APRL can be written into a Will or added to an existing Will by amending it through a Codicil.

Bequests remove assets from the taxable estate and may take several forms:

- A percentage bequest allocates a fixed percent of your estate:

I give, devise, and bequeath to the American Philatelic Society, a non-profit organization located at 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823, _____ percent of my estate, both real and personal property of whatever kind and whatsoever situated.

- A residual bequest grants the residue, or portion of

the residue, of your estate to the APS after explicit bequests have been made:

I give, devise, and bequeath to the organization, all (or _____ %) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal property of whatever kind and whatsoever situated.

- A specific or explicit bequest for a stated dollar amount or securities:

I give, devise, and bequeath to _____, the sum of _____ dollars (or describe the specific property or security you intend to bequeath).

- A contingent bequest in case one or more of your bequests cannot be fulfilled:

If any of the above-named beneficiaries should predecease me, I hereby bequeath his/her share of my estate to _____.

You may also wish to include our Federal I.D. number. For the APS it is 24-0772797 and for the APRL 25-1213435.



For more information on planned giving opportunities, please contact Ken Martin — American Philatelic Society 100 Match Factory Place Bellefonte, PA 16823 Telephone 814-933-3817 E-mail kpmartin@stamps.org

FUTURE BUILDERS

A small group of members help provide a steady income stream to the APS by making monthly gifts. Most opt to have the gifts automatically charged to their credit card or deducted from their bank account. They are:

Joan E. Anderson
Keith W. Bantz
Alan R. Barasch
Richard W. Boosey Jr.
Peter Butler
John M. Conklin
Jason A. Drake
Robert Dalton Harris
Steven Heaney
Gary G. Hendren

Thomas W. Horn
William R. Johnston
Edward J. Kroll
Luca Lavignino
Joann and Kurt Lenz
Kenneth P. Martin
Michael McCabe
Dana A. Middleton
Irving R. Miller
Foster Miller

Gunther Monteadora
Louis W. Ricker
Wade E. Saadi
William R. Schultz
Bill Strauss
Joseph K. Thoman
Kenneth H. Trettin
David Wessely
Ronald J. Yeager



THE CAMPAIGN FOR PHILATELY

The Campaign for Philately is the banner under which the APS and APRL jointly conduct fundraising activities. The purpose of our Campaign is to provide additional resources for the Society and Library to better serve the membership and to promote stamp collecting. Donors may direct gifts for specific purposes. Undesignated gifts are utilized consistent with the purpose of the campaign, including current programs and services.

Along with our priority to finish our permanent library space, other services and initiatives that will benefit from the Campaign include: membership promotion; technology upgrades; youth and education programs; advertising and public relations promoting the hobby; and the creative use of emerging digital and Internet resources.

2014 FUNDRAISING SNAPSHOT

Cash Received

Estates (6)	\$1,489,116
Sale of Donated Stamps	79,369
Naming Gifts (8)	91,800
Use of Donated Postage	29,454
Pledge Payments (73)	25,930
Matching Gifts (12)	2,333
Sale of Donated Library Material	11,695
Memorial Gifts (42)	12,721
Honorary Gifts (7)	730
eBay Giving Works	2,526
eBay Give at Checkout	376
Other Cash	345,735
Total	\$2,196,265

2014 Fund-Raising Costs

Personnel	\$47,297
Credit Card Costs	2,627
Postage	4,040
Other Office Expense	7,318
Travel	393
Campaign for Philately Reception	8,035
AP Donor Recognition	10,304
Inter Office Services (Accounting, Mailroom, etc.)	24,238
Total	\$104,252

% Cost of Fund Raising — 4.7%
(based only on cash received)

Cash by Designation (excludes non-cash gift proceeds)

American Philatelist	\$ 400
APRL Acquisitions	871
APRL Construction	48,235
APRL Endowment	17,600
APRL General	117,363
APS Endowment	58,033
APS General	1,492,360
Building	6,534
Circuit Sales	455
David Straight Award	13,520
Debt Reduction	3,504
Education	2,227
Employee Appreciation	2,321
Executive Director Search	30,500
Expertizing	3,979
Fundraising	1,000
Mighty Buck	53,873
Publications Fund	350
Show	4,030
Stamp Buddies	217
Stamps Teach	18,754
Technology/Website	30,294
Unrestricted	127,341
Young Friends of APS	2,398
Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship	30,904
Young Stamp Collectors of America	1,332
Youth	4,460

For more information on how you or your organization can support the Campaign for Philately
please contact Ken Martin, kpmartin@stamps.org, or 814-933-3817.

VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE CRITICAL SUPPORT



Both the Society and Library have always relied on volunteer support to maintain their high level of member services. Both of our boards and all our committee chairs and members are volunteers. In recent years, additional volunteer support has become increasingly important to the APS and APRL, and we are delighted to report an increase in volunteer assistance in 2014 during which more than 16,500 hours were provided in person at the American Philatelic Center. And this does not include the many volunteer hours provided by individuals working from their homes nor the dedicated service of our 100 nationally accredited judges whose honorariums typically cover a small fraction of their out-of-pocket expenses. This is the equivalent of eight full-time employees.

Our fifth Volunteer Work Week was held in 2014 with 49 volunteers spending at least part of the week at the APS at their own expense. We extend special thanks to those volunteers: Irving Adams, John Baillis, Charles and Paula Belair; Mary Ann and Joe Bell; Laurie and Tom Bieniosek, Susan and Peter Butler; Brian Christian; Debbie Cleton; Richard Colberg; Julie Coons; Peg Donor; Bill Donovan; Robin Gates-Elliott; Dennis Gilson; Peggy and John Gonzales; Reinhard Graetzer; Dale Green; Don Heller; Jose, Marcelina and Pedro Ibanez; Richard Judge; Clark Lobenstine; Bernard Lodge; Bill Melver; Betty Meulenbroek; Richard Nakles; Calvin Osman; Wendy Pacheco; Merle Peters; Jo Roesner; Richard Romig; Bill, Georgeann and Pamela Salisbury; Donna Shawley; Rusty Smith; Richard Sprankle; Ben and Janet Stauss; Jeff Thompson, Scott Troutman, and Steve Walsh.

We look forward to the 6th Annual Volunteer Work Week, July 27–31, 2015. Register now at stamps.org/volunteer.

Volunteers also allow the American Philatelic Research Library to accomplish many things we could not do otherwise. Julie Coons, Jordan Corman, Christina Hinton, Jim Marshall, Veronica Shaw, Terry Spencer, Jeff Thompson, Michael Wilson, and a few others together provided just shy of 2,000 hours of volunteer service to the Library.

The APRL benefits from the work of volunteers from afar as well. Gene Fricks continues to provide his philatelic journal indexing to the Philatelic Union Catalog, with contributions from Alan Warren, David Crotty, and Randy Woodward. Paul Bondor, Tony Croce, Richard Judge, and Chris Steenerson also index journals for the APRL.

We are dependent on volunteers for book reviews in *Philatelic Literature Review* and occasionally for *The American Philatelist*. Thanks especially to Giorgio Migliavacca, Ken Sanford, and Alan Warren.

John Baillis, Joe and Mary Ann Bell, Debbie Cleton, Peg Donor, Bill Donovan, Elizabeth Eisenhower, Jerry Gill, Ronnie Houser, Jim Koncz, Joanne Roesner, Donna Shawley, Nancy Shawley, Rusty Smith, Colleen and Terry Spencer, Jeff Thompson, and others provided 6,000 volunteer hours for our education and youth efforts. Doug Drumheller helps us convert slide programs to DVDs.

Richard Nakles put in more than 2,500 hours helping us to process in-kind donations and putting donated mint postage on envelopes. Richard is assisted by volunteers John Baillis, Rusty Smith, and Debbie Cleton. Their efforts resulted in about \$90,000 to help offset the costs of Education and Youth projects.

Circuit Sales benefits from the assistance of Brian Christian and Ben Stauss who organize material that was lost in the mail and recovered after the owners have been paid. Dennis Gilson, Peg Donor and Ben Stauss assist Internet Sales with scanning, and Terry Spencer prepares envelopes for mailing.

Our two annual stamp shows often use more than one hundred volunteers to help staff the registration booth, Stamps by the Bucket, the youth area, and to help with mounting and dismounting of exhibits. Regular show volunteers include Parker and Hilda Bailey, Tom and Laura Bieniosek, Chris Calle, David Eeles, David Kent, Dottie Kugel, Harry and Dottie Winter, and Charlie Wood. These volunteers provide more than 200 hours of support at our winter show and about 600 hours of assistance at our summer show. Richard Nakles helps with badge and preregistration preparation.

Since January 2010, members of our local community also have provided regular assistance. The Retired and Senior Volunteers of Centre County, Pennsylvania, have donated more than 3,000 hours during 2014 either at the American Philatelic Center or from home, preparing in-kind stamp donations to be used in programs with children and adult beginners. We also thank weekly community volunteers: Julie Coons in her third year, Ron Houser in his fourteenth year, and Merle Peters in his fifth year.

Dennis Gilson is another APS member who volunteered on a weekly basis in 2014, helping with Expertizing, scanning Internet Sales orders, proofreading *The American Philatelist*, and nearly anything else we need.

We understand that not every member is financially able to assist the Society and Library, but we will do our best to find a way that every member can help us! With an organization and membership as diverse as the APS/APRL, there is always a job to be done. Information on volunteering is available on our website at stamps.org/volunteer.

2014 APS RECRUITING HONOR ROLL

The complete list of 2014 recruiters and the number of applications sponsored (all one each unless otherwise noted) is as follows. Help us grow the hobby and the APS by inviting your friends and customers to become APS members. We pay \$5 for each new member you sponsor and add a free year's dues for every five new members sponsored in a calendar year. If you sell over the Internet or have a shop, business reply cards offering more information on APS membership are free on request.

TOP RECRUITERS



Donald J. Sundman	202
Michael Bloom	42
Alexander T. Haimann	28
Christopher Diaz	20
John R. Winkel	17
Marios Theodossiou	12
Calvin R. Osman	11
Lester M. Yerkes	9
William P. Athens	8
Gary M. Goldstein	7
Marc S. Bedrin	6
Peter Balner	5
Dale R. Davis	5
David F. Hoover	5
Mark M. Leon	5
Bruce McKinney	5
James A. Willms	5
Irving R. Miller	4
Betty J. Meulenbroek	4

PHILATELY AND PHILANTHROPY
Ace, Myron
Ades, Leroy P.
Alex, David G.
American Topical Association,
Chapter 5
Apfelbaum, Kenneth P.
Appleby, Joan
Ash, Thomas J.
Ashworth, Ted E.
Athens, William P. (8)
Bailey, Edward J.
Baird, W. Charles
Balner, Peter (5)
Barasch, Alan R.
Basler, James (2)
Baton Rouge Stamp Club
Bay County Stamp Club
Beall, Robert A.
Becker, Douglas D.
Bedrin, Marc S. (6)
Ben Franklin Stamp Club
Bermuda Collectors Society
Bernstein, Jordan M.
Big Lick Stamp Club
Birmingham Philatelic Society
Blair, Steven K.
Blando, Hannelore
Bloom, Michael (42)
Bonanno, Peter D.
Bourassa, Donald J.

Breen, Stephen
Bridgman, Howard A.
Burchett, Lewis (3)
Burr, Robert M.
Bush, Alan
Camolli, Garry L.
Campman, Glen G.
Canal Zone Study Group (4)
Canupp, Richard W.
Cape Coral Stamp Club
Capparelli, Alfred F. (2)
Cats on Stamps Study Unit
Chattanooga Stamp Club
Chenevert, Donald J.
Chenevert, Sarah E.
Clarke, Calvin J.
Copp, Mark
Corn Belt Philatelic Society
Cropp, Lawrence E.
Daly, Chris
Dangremont, Bruce E.
Darnell, James R.
Davidson, Edward L. (3)
Davis, Barry R.
Davis, Dale R. (5)
Day, William E.
Dempsey, James T.
Devaney, Timothy J. (2)
Dewey, Albert G.
Diaz, Christopher (20)

Donnelly, John W. (3)
Dresher, Allen M.
Dumaine, Robert F. (2)
Edgcomb, Cheryl B.
Edwards, Duane L.
Elias, Peter C.
Ettinger, Leonard (3)
Evans, Michael
Eyles, Brian G.
Francis, Michael A. (2)
Frazier, Clark (3)
Friedman, Deborah I.
Gaglione, Joseph
General Francis Marion Stamp Club
Generali, Michael J.
Georgia Postal History Society
Gessell, Gregory D.
Glen Ellyn Philatelic Club
Goebel Senior Center Stamp Club
Goldstein, Gary M. (7)
Gollhardt, Ronald W.
Gonzales, John B.
Gouda, Joseph Farag
Great Bay Stamp Club
Green, Brian M.
Hawaiian Philatelic Society
Heart of Georgia Philatelic Society
Heitmann, Tina
Hendricks, Albert J.
Hirchart, Charles K.
Holston Stamp Club
Hoover, David F. (5)
Hosking, Richard J.
Hotchner, John M. (2)
Houston Philatelic Society
Howe, Arthur J.
Hunter, John A.
Hutter, J. Jeffrey
Jackson Philatelic Society
Johnson, David
Johnson, Paul W. (2)
Johnson, William J.
Jordan, James T.
Kassel, Anthony R.
Keiser, Richard
Keller, Robert C.
Kennebec Valley Stamp & Collector
Club
Kennel, Byron E. (2)
Kennell, Annamarie I.
Kerr, Donald R.
Kiser, Paul
Knoxville Philatelic Society
Kols, David
Komatsoulis, Angelo E.
Krumholtz, Jay A.
Lazorow, Richard L.
Leon, Mark M. (5)
Lloyd, Randy W.
Mackie, Tad
Manchester Philatelic Society (2)
Marsden, Robert Bruce
McCabe, Brian F.
McKinney, Bruce (5)
McLean, Michael L.
Memphis Stamp Collectors Society
Menz, Arthur M.
Meulenbroek, Betty J. (4)
Mid-Florida Philatelic Society (2)
Midwest Philatelic Society (2)
Miller, Irving R. (4)
Montesano, Lou
Morgan, Edward C.
Morginstin, Sidney D.
Moyer, Bruce M.
Murphy, Scott K.
North Penn Stamp Club
North Suburban Stamp Club
Oklahoma City Stamp Club
Oregon Stamp Society
Osman, Calvin R. (11)
Ozark Mountain Stamp Club
Palazzo, Donald V.
Palo Duro Philatelic Society
Pascack Stamp Club
Passamono, Michael
Patkin, Robert Z.
Pelaez, Eugene M.
Perez, Felix L.
Perez, Rafael E.
Perry, Joan S.
Pettway, James B.
Phillips, Drew M.
Picard, Joseph A. (2)
Piker, Dewayne
Pioneer Valley Stamp Club
Plate Number Coil Collectors Club
Pope, Robert N.
Postal History Foundation
Postal Order Society
Poway Stamp Club
Pratuch, Thomas G.
Precancel Stamp Society
Puerto Rico Philatelic Society
Pyle, Robert N.
Quillin, Philip D.
Rejent, C. S.
Reynolds, Robert R.
Richards, Sarah E.
Rind, Joel M.
Roberts, Martin S.
Rockford Stamp Club
Rodgers, Rodney W. (2)
Rudine, Robert C.
Rusch, Ken C.
Sacramento Philatelic Society (3)
Sainio, Garrett
San Antonio Philatelic Association (2)
San Diego County Philatelic Council
San Francisco-Pacific Philatelic
Society
San Jose Stamp Club

Santa Rosa Stamp Club (2)
Savedow, Michael R.
Scouts on Stamps Society
International (2)
Semsrott, David O.
Sheffield, William J. (2)
Shurfin, Norm
Shull, Lewis F.
Simi Valley Stamp Club (2)
Smith, Lenore A.
Smith, Roy
Snyder, James R.
Sports Philatelists International
Springfield Stamp Club
Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo
Steinke, Bernard P.
Stempinski, Paul
Stillions, Clarence A.
Strachan, William J.
Strait Stamp Society
Stunz, John H.
Summerell, Bob
Sundman, Donald J. (202)
Teague, Thomas F.
The Perfins Club
Theodossiou, Marios (12)
Thomas, Kip L.
Todd, Matt
Tomisek, Steven J.

"I have been a stamp collector for about 55 years and an APS member for 10 or 12. I had never used APRL. But this past week after looking at APRL's online catalogue I called them regarding two articles on the 1897 stamps from Sudan. I found the person I talked to not only helpful but also very knowledgeable about stamps and what materials APRL had. That same day he sent me a PDF file containing images of the two articles I had asked for but more importantly he sent me an image of another article that turned out to be the one that I really needed. He discerned that need from our brief conversation. Overall, it was a good experience for me. The small amount of money involved was money well spent. I would encourage all APS members to become familiar with APRL and make use of that fine resource." — Michael R. Bishop

Turechek, Frank	Weinhofer, Ludwig J.	Wolf, Philip
Tyrrell, Chester C.	Weiss, William R. (2)	Worthington Stamp Club
Unkrich, Steven R.	Wessely, David C.	Yerkes, Lester M. (9)
Vary, Robert E. (2)	Wheatley, Ronald L.	Zec, Joseph (3)
Venice Stamp Club	Wichita Stamp Club	Zeller, David M.
Vervaeke, Mark	Wilkinsburg Stamp Club	Zink, James B.
Virtual Stamp Club (4)	Williams, Harold V.	Zupancic, John M. (3)
Warren, Richard S.	Willms, James A. (5)	
Waukesha County Philatelic Society	Winkel, John R. (17)	
Weinberg, Irwin R.	Witkosky, David	

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

These are the people that participated in Volunteer Work Week 2014. These individuals worked in different departments to work on projects during the week in July.





The Postage Dues of Zanzibar, 1875–1964: The Stamps, the Covers and Their Story by John Griffith-Jones. Published 2014 by The BPA Expertising Educational Charity, 65 Manor Park, Redland, Bristol BS6 7HW, U.K. Hardcover, 539 pp., color illus., ISBN 0-9542032-4-0. Available for £90 plus postage from the Corresponding Trustee: robert.johnson83@hotmail.co.uk.

The Introduction provides an overview of the author's intent and clearly explains his choice of terms as well as the rationale behind his decisions. It concludes with an invitation to readers to contact him with questions or comments and provides both his e-mail and postal addresses.

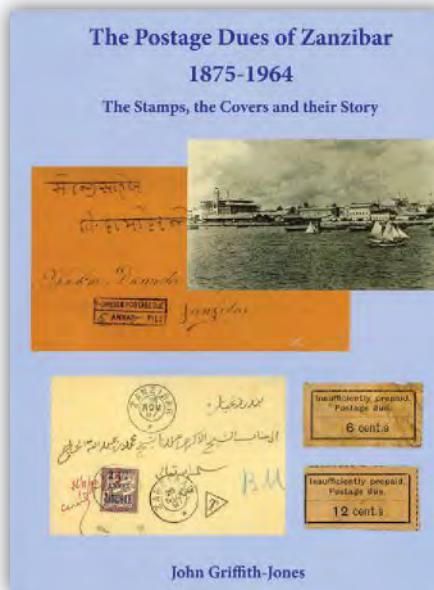
Zanzibar's first post office was established under Indian administration in 1875, followed by a French post office from 1819 to 1904, and a short-lived German post office from August 1890 to July 1891. Zanzibar became a British protectorate in 1890 and established a permanent postal administration of its own in 1895. This lasted until Zanzibar joined Tanganyika to form the United Republic of Tanzania in 1964.

The volume takes a comprehensive look at "the stamps and postal history of Zanzibar seen through the lens of its unpaid mail and postage dues," as the fourteen chapter titles quickly indicates:

Chapter 1: Zanzibar — History of the Island. This provides a well-written and informative account of the island's political and economic history. A substantial section subtitled "Postal Development" provides a quick overview of the various postal administrations.

Chapter 2: Prepaid, Unpaid and Underpaid Mail. The chapter discusses the reasons for the existence of unpaid mail, including cultural preferences and the need to create practical means for processing unpaid mail and collecting fees. The story of this type of mail in Zanzibar is fascinating reading.

Chapter 3: Rules, Rates and Regula-



tions. This provides information on reconciling international accounting and the GPU/UPU simplified arrangements for international uniformity. It includes details on the creation of standardization rates for international mail and looks at UPU rules for mail transmission and for handling unpaid and underpaid mail, with a special emphasis on Zanzibar's participation and practices.

Chapter 4: The Indian Handstamps: the Indian Post Office 1875–95. This a complex topic and required two chapters to incorporate all the details of their use.

Chapter 5: The Indian Handstamps: the Zanzibar Post Office 1895–1929. The use of Indian handstamps endured past Zanzibar's taking control of the post office in November 1895. The last recorded use is May 1929.

Chapter 6: The French Post Office 1889–1904. France was one of Zanzibar's principal trading partners, and there are numerous overprints on record. The chapter includes a discussion of a final (and controversial) provisional overprint issue on definitives and postage dues in 1904.

Chapter 7: The German Post Office 1890–91. This is an exceptionally brief chapter as no postage due covers have been recorded.

Chapter 8: The Local Typeset Issues

1926–35. The local production of postage dues began to correct the use of Indian handstamps, which were still denominated in annas and pies. However, the stamps were not submitted to the UPU, and there is little information available as to when these local issues were produced and in what quantities. The chapter also provides an overview of the Zanzibar Post Office at the time.

Chapter 9: The First Local Typeset Issue of 1926–30. The quality of the stamps deteriorated by early 1929, and the chapter covers plating details and difficulties, including a discussion of variations.

Chapter 10: The Second Local Typeset Issue 1930–35. A fresh design was introduced, but while there was a current postal need for all the values printed, the government provided no real explanation why a new design was necessary. Unlike the complicated first typeset issue, the author notes that "almost all examples of this issue are plateable with a little perseverance," and offer details in support of his assertion.

Chapter 11: The Local Typeset Issues: Commercial Covers 1926–35. Fortunately, the number of surviving covers is large enough to allow meaningful analysis of territorial origin, the rates used, and the various reasons for underpayment.

Chapter 12: The Local Typeset Issues: Philatelic Covers 1930–35. According to the author, some 55 percent of the recorded local typeset issue covers are philatelic in nature. Some of these are striking, and they frequently are the source of the earliest recorded dates of use.

Chapter 13: The De la Rue Issue 1936–64. The currency conversion on January 1, 1936, required an adjustment in postal rates and thus a new definitive issue. A new postage due issue was commissioned from De La Rue at the same time.

Chapter 14: Outbound Postage Due Mail 1875–1964. The final chapter explores Zanzibar's outbound postage due

mail (surface and air mail), the markings used by the Zanzibar post office, applicable rates, and the treatment of mail at its destination.

A four-page Conclusion asks and answers three questions: What are the common threads to the story? What methodologies have helped? What further work could usefully be done?

This is followed by ten appendices of varying lengths: Postal Rates for Selected Countries; UPU Foreign Mail Conversion Rates for Selected Countries; Census Schedules: Guidance Note; Census of Indian Handstamp Covers; Census of French Post Office Covers; Census of De La Rue Issue Covers; Zanzibar: Sultans, British Consuls and British Residents; Zanzibar Taxe Marks; The Indian Post Office: Extract from the 1866 Indian Post Office Act; and The French Post Office: Governing Documents. There is an 11-page Bibliography and a 12-page Index.

As the author notes, "While framed by Zanzibar's various postage due issues, the study gives equal weight to stamps, postal history and contextual background." In truth, this makes for a much more satisfying examination of postal history than an overview of the stamp issues alone could provide.

There is a copious amount of clear, appropriately sized illustrations, as well as a generous use of contemporary quotations, plus helpful maps and tables throughout. A reader does not have to have a particular interest in either postage dues or even Zanzibar to find this a compelling volume of postal history.

Holography and Philately: Postage Stamps with Holograms by Hans I. Bjelkhagen. Published in 2014 by Hansholo Consulting Ltd. Available in various formats; 362 pp., color illus. Hardcover: ISBN 978-1493-13050-4, £125.91. Softcover: ISBN 978-1493-13049-8, £119.26. E-book: ISBN 978-1493-13051-1, £3.99 Available from Xlibris Corporation, c/o Marketing Services Department, Victory Way, Admirals Park, Crossways, Dartford DA2 6QD, United Kingdom; www.xlibrispublishing.co.uk; e-mail Orders@Xlibrispublishing.co.uk.

A hologram is defined in the book

as an image created by the diffraction of light, which "upon correct illumination" results in a "holographic 3D image or 2D/3D images or a random pattern of repeated features." The earliest philatelic hologram reported in the book can be found in a 1987 presentation folder from the Peoples Republic of China featuring a hologram for the Year of the Rabbit. It was Austria, however, that released the first stamp with a hologram in 1988 (Scott 1441). Up until the book's publication in 2014, about 80 countries have issued hologram stamps, for a total of approximately 450 stamps — an activity that peaked during the 1999/2000 millennium celebrations.

The author provides a thorough introduction for the collector curious about this new field of topical interest and offers a chronological review of worldwide hologram postage stamps and souvenir sheets with holograms. Included is a description of each stamp plus a color photograph. The book also looks at FDCs with hologram cachet.

There are six chapters and four indexes:

Chapter 1: Introduction, which presents basic terminology for new collectors and brief discussion of holography (invented in 1948) and holograms (first successfully created after invention of the laser in the early 1960s).

Chapter 2: Early Philately-Related Holography, which offers a short historical overview.

Chapter 3: Holograms on Postage Stamps is the longest section of the book (pp. 13–290). The layout is not great — lots of white space has been employed in an effort to keep text and illustrations on same page. Of course, a 3D image does not translate well to a flat-print page, but the generous color illustrations employed give a reasonable sense of what the original looks like. There is, however, a strange and often disconcerting use of italics in this section.

Chapter 4: Hologram Stamps in Germany Year Book of Stamps is a four-page look at the annual publication describing stamps issued in Germany during that year; hologram stamps were included as of 1993.

Chapter 5: Additional Postal and Philatelic Items with Holograms. This chapter covers prepaid postal cards, parcel labels, international reply coupons, souvenir sheets, limited edition issues, and albums.

Chapter 6: 3D Imaging Techniques, Holograms and Hologram Stamps provides a good discussion of basic technical details and variations that can arise during production of hologram images.

These chapters are followed by a paragraph of "Concluding Remarks" (page 330) and two pages of "References."

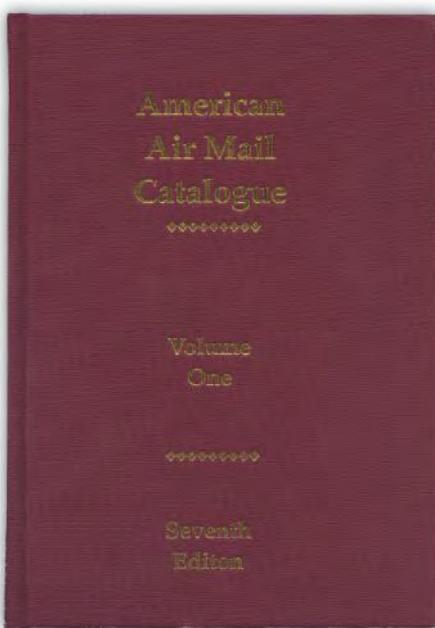
The four Tables cover *Chinese New Year Stamp Presentation Folders with Holograms* (page 333); *Postage Stamps and Souvenir Sheets with Holograms* (chronological worldwide, pp. 334–348); *Hologram Stamps Issued by Country* (pp. 349–358); and *Hologram Producers* (pp. 359–360).

Catalogues Received and Noted

American Air Mail Catalogue — Volume One (7th edition)

Published in 2014 by the American Air Mail Society. Hardcover, 8" x 11", 690 pp., color illus., ISBN 0-939429-27-6. Available for \$75 (\$65 for APS members) + \$4 shipping from APS Publications, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte PA 16823, www.stamps.org.

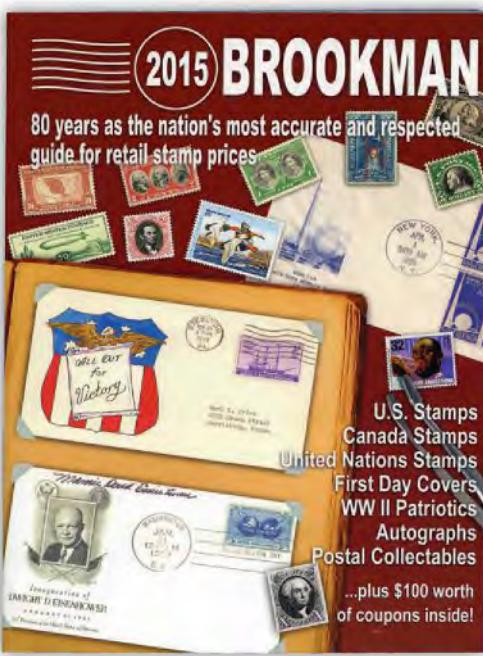
As noted in the Introduction, "Volume 1 of the Seventh Edition begins where the Sixth Edition stops. This new volume is comprised of three major sec-



tions, or partial sections, that last appeared in the Fifth Edition ..." These are: **U.S. Contract Air Mail (CAM) Flights:** CAM Routes 1–34 (214 pages, to "be continued in a subsequent volume of the Seventh Edition"); **Philippine Islands 1911–1946** (143 pages, including a concordance of new numbers with Fifth Edition catalog numbers); and *Foreign Flag Flights: A History of First Flight Covers to and from the United States by Airlines of Other Nations* (290 pages, organized by airline and date). The book features hundreds of color illustrations, route maps and revised valuers throughout. There is no index.

— Reviewed by Frederick Baumann

2015 Brookman: United States, United Nations & Canada Stamps & Postal Collectibles. Published 2014 by Brookman/Barrett & Worthen. Softcover, 416 pp., full color. Available in two versions: Perfect Bound, ISBN 978-0-936937-82-3, \$35.95; Spiral Bound, ISBN 978-0-936937-79-3, \$39.95. Postage is regularly \$5 but is only \$2.50 for



APS members. Available from Brookman/Barrett & Worthen, 167 South River Road No. 3, Bedford, NH 03110; telephone 603-472-5571/1-800-332-3383; website www.coverspecialist.com.

For more than 80 years, the Brookman Price Guide has been the standard North American price guide for stamps, covers, and postal collectibles. The 2015 edition is Brookman's fourth year to appear in full color. It reflects more than 10,000 price changes and includes hundreds of new photographs.

There are four articles: "Welcome to Stamp Collecting" (American Philatelic Society), "The Beginning of State Duck Stamps" (Michael Jaffe), "Welcome to First Day Cover Collecting" (Lloyd de Vries), and "Welcome to Autograph Collecting" (Arlene Dunn).

There are also \$100 worth of coupons and a free, one-year subscription to the quarterly magazine, *The Brookman Times*, which is included if the Price Guide is ordered directly from the publisher.

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Team Work and Competition

Key Roles to a Successful Stamp Show

In last month's column I mentioned the importance of working with other philatelic organizations. We recently returned from a very successful AmeriStamp Expo in Riverside, California, where three other groups played a key role in the success of the show. The **American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors** not only provided many of the exhibit awards, its members also organized a team competition, in which fifty exhibitors in ten teams of five competed. One of the ten teams was an all-youth girls team. Bonus points available for new exhibits resulted in thirty-seven of the fifty exhibits being shown for the first time, while five of the fifty exhibitors were novices. It took a tie-breaker, but in the end the "Oldies but Goodies" team composed of Rich Drews, Tim Bartshe, Liz Hisey, Kathy Johnson, and Ron Lesher won the team competition. The popular event encouraged established collectors to attend.



The **United States Postal Service** and **National Stamp Dealers Association** (NSDA) provided major help to encourage attendance by less experienced collectors. With USPS support, we were able to mail postcards to 750,000 households in the vicinity of the show. One of the show attractions was "Stamps in Your Attic," which provided free collection reviews and was staffed primarily by NSDA members. The postcard mailing and Stamp Buddy booth for beginning collectors also helped us sign up more than thirty new APS members — the best February for member applicants in five years.

We look forward to working with many other philatelic organizations at our August 20–23 StampShow in Grand Rapids, Michigan. APS affiliates are encouraged to staff a booth to promote their organization, to offer an exhibit award, and to take advantage of free meeting and seminar space to talk about their specialties.

At AmeriStamp Expo coupon books and a free bag were given to APS members. We expect to have another coupon book and other exclusive benefits for APS members at StampShow. Information on the show is available from our website at stamps.org/StampShow-SS. We hope you will be able to attend.

Spellman Museum Symposium

For several years the APS and APRL have worked with the **Smithsonian National Postal Museum** to sponsor an annual Postal History Symposium. Our next Symposium won't be until 2016, but another group is helping to fill the void. The **Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History** will be offering its third one-day symposium prior to the Boston, Massachusetts, area Philatelic Show. The event is scheduled for Thursday, April 30, on the campus of Regis College in Weston, Massachusetts.

The theme of this year's Spellman symposium is "The Challenging 20th



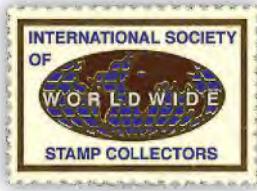
Stamps in Your Attic area at the AmeriStamp Expo 2015 show.



The postcard mailing and Stamp Buddy booth for beginning collectors also helped us sign up more than thirty new APS members."

Century: Men, Machines and Modernization." Presenters include Rodney Juell, "The Men Who Made the Stamps of the 1920s"; Edward Grabowski, "Philately and International Mail Order Fraud"; George S. Norton, "Technology in the Envelope: Use of Microfilm and Voice Recordings in the Mail During World War II"; and Roger S. Brody, "The Bureau Leaves the Field."

The Spellman Museum's galleries also will be open to the public. Admission to the symposium is free, but the museum asks that attendees register at stamps.org/Spellman-Registration.



During 2014 members sent out 1,519 packets of stamps to 232 individuals and 45 youth stamp clubs, schools, and boys/girls scout troops. The ISWSC is the only APS



Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History in Massachusetts.

Youth Outreach

We also would like to thank the **International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors** (ISWSC) for its youth outreach.

During 2014 members sent out 1,519 packets of stamps to 232 individuals and 45 youth stamp clubs, schools, and boys/girls scout troops. The ISWSC is the only APS

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affiliate I'm aware of that requests a donation of stamps — 250 worldwide commemorative stamps — as part of its member dues.

Donna Boggs, a teacher at the White Oak Academy in Leesville, South Carolina, was one of the beneficiaries of this generosity. She wrote, "I had a group of high school students in my French class roll their eyes at me when I asked if they had any interest in stamps. But once I brought out the stamps, their attitudes changed. They were fascinated and could not stop looking through them." Student comments included:

"Ceylon? Is that a country?"

"Who are these people I never heard of on these U.S. stamps?"

"All Asian writing looks the same. How do you know which Asian country these stamps are from?"

Robert Cohen, a teacher at Francis Scott Key Elementary School in Philadelphia took advantage of the outreach efforts of both the APS and ISWSC. He wrote, "Thank you so much for the stamps. I used them with three classes of sixth graders yesterday. They used them

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in conjunction with lesson plans and worksheets from the APS. The students loved it. I believe that I actually recruited some new stamp collectors."

Adult Outreach

Although teachers today seem to have less flexibility in their curriculum, schools still offer a comparatively easy way to expose kids to postage stamps. Adults, however, especially those ages 50 and over, are better targets for building membership. Our Stamp Buddy Committee is creating presentations that members can give to retirement communities, historical groups, genealogical associations, etc.

We are willing to try to identify potential groups and make initial contacts, but we need volunteers to give the presentations. If you would be willing to help us out, please let us know by providing your name, contact information, and availability (weekdays, evenings, weekends, geographical area). Send an e-mail to me at kpmartin@stamps.org or call us at 814-933-3803.

Show News and Volunteers

Congratulations to the **Seattle Philatelic Exhibition**, Seapex, which was recently approved by the APS board as a new national-level World Series of Philately stamp show. The first event as a WSP show will be September 11–13, 2015.

Speaking of shows, APS does not just need volunteers to help run its own winter and summer shows — we can use volunteers at most WSP shows. Our budget only allows us to send a staff representative to each WSP show every third year (although generous gifts by donors have allowed us to staff a few shows more frequently). We would welcome volunteers to staff an APS booth at other national shows. We also encourage WSP shows to have a Stamp Buddy booth to cater to beginning collectors, and we need volunteers to help with the staffing.

If you are not up to either of these, perhaps you could take photos and share them with us. We have begun posting more show photos on our Facebook page. We also seek photos from first-day ceremonies and other events. We've also expanded our boards on Pinterest. Check out pinterest.com/source/stamps.org and like or repin favorite items.

Jack Flannery

We recently learned of the passing of a former member of both our APS and APRL boards. Jack Flannery joined



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the APS in 1990 and attended about fifteen summer seminars, with the last being in 2013.

I spoke with him last year when I telephoned, concerned that he had not renewed his dues.

At that time he acknowledged he had health issues and would miss the Summer Seminar for the first time in many years, but he was hopeful that he could attend Volunteer Work Week or StampShow in Hartford.

Unfortunately, I don't believe he was able to make either of these events.

Jack was a director at large for the APS in 2003–2005

and served on the Library Board in 2007–2013, including serving as Treasurer for a portion of his Library term.

Like most of the hundreds of APS members listed in this special recognition issue of *The American Philatelist*, Jack loved stamp collecting and the APS.

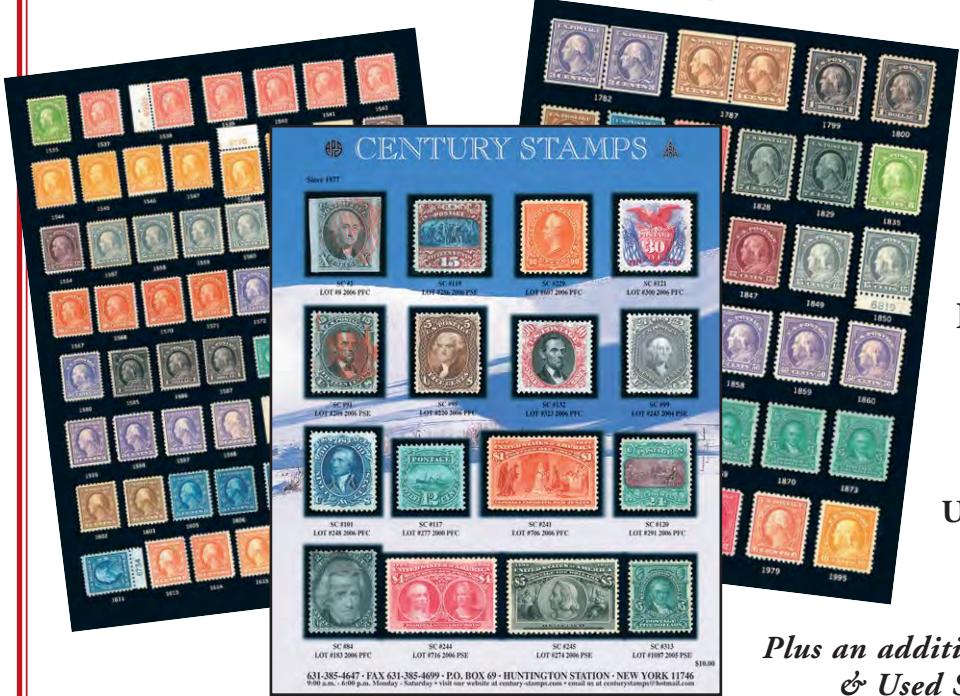
Philately is a great hobby that benefits from the hard work and contributions of many selfless individuals.

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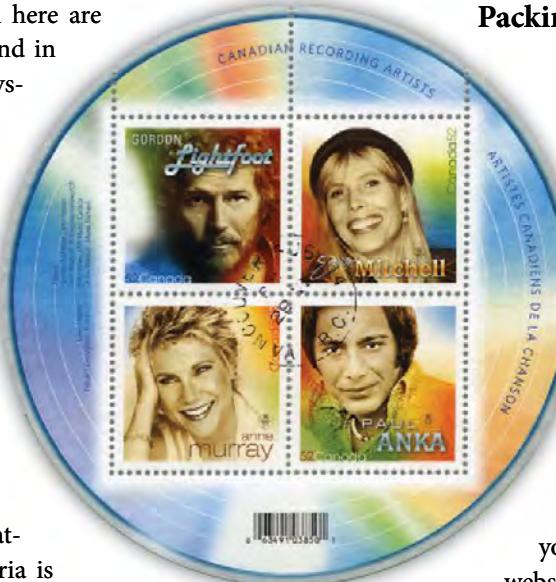
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Sales Circuit Book Teasers

Vast Material Found in APS Sales Books

The stamps and covers shown here are examples of what can be found in the sales books of our circuit system. We estimate that there are about 1.5 million to 2 million stamps and covers in the active sales books at any one time. Tell us what your interests are, and we can let you know if we regularly receive it in sales books. While we cannot service individual catalog number requests, we do have a wide variety of material in each of our offered categories most of the time. However, there are droughts in time periods occasionally within several categories. Presently, for example, Austria is short in nineteenth-century stamps but well supplied in post-1980 used items. The items pictured probably will be circulating in the mail by the time you read this. Contact us to start receiving sales books in the mail to begin your search for filling holes in your collection.

... we do have a wide variety of material in each of our offered categories ..."



Used Canadian souvenir sheet of four stamps.

Packing and Mailing Circuits

We have had reports from around the country concerning limited availability of the small Priority Mail flat-rate boxes and the Priority Mail flat-rate padded envelopes at local post offices. Most post offices are carrying the boxes, although they run out of them once in a while. The padded envelopes are considerably scarcer. If you must wait for your post office to re-stock these items, do not worry about paying fines for the delays. If your post office does not stock the padded envelopes, you may order them from the USPS.com website.

They do not cost you anything, and they are sent to your address without a shipping charge. If your local post office is frequently short of these items, you might want to order both types of packing materials to have them on hand for your next circuits. To order, visit www.usps.com, click on Mail & Ship, Order Stamps & Supplies and look for Flat Rate on the left side. Click on it and order the padded envelope 9½ inches by 12½ inches and/or the box 5¾ inches by 8⅓ inches by 1⅓ inches. You also will need to register on the site.

You may use other types of packaging to mail the circuits, but take a look at the costs, as the weight of the circuit will determine the postage. Just make sure you can have a tracking number for the mailing in case we need to have a copy of it.

We began allowing the use of USPS Tracking for circuit mailings in May 2013. Please note that you **do not** need to purchase additional services from the



Used Lord of the Rings souvenir sheet from New Zealand and a mint single from the same series.



Imperforate error block of four United States 15-cent stamps.

U.S. Postal Service when mailing circuits to the next address in the United States. Before that date, members had to buy Signature Confirmation in addition to the base postage cost. You will save between \$2.35 and \$2.90 per mailing by switching to USPS Tracking, which is included in the cost of flat-rate Priority Mail. Signature Confirmation may still be used, if you so choose.

We did not experience more losses as a result of the switch. We do see more moisture damage now, but the dollar value of the damaged items is considerably less than the previous losses of whole circuits.

'5 for 10' Categories (Needs)

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

- U.S. Coils
- U.S. Cut Squares
- U.S. Mint Only (pre-1950)
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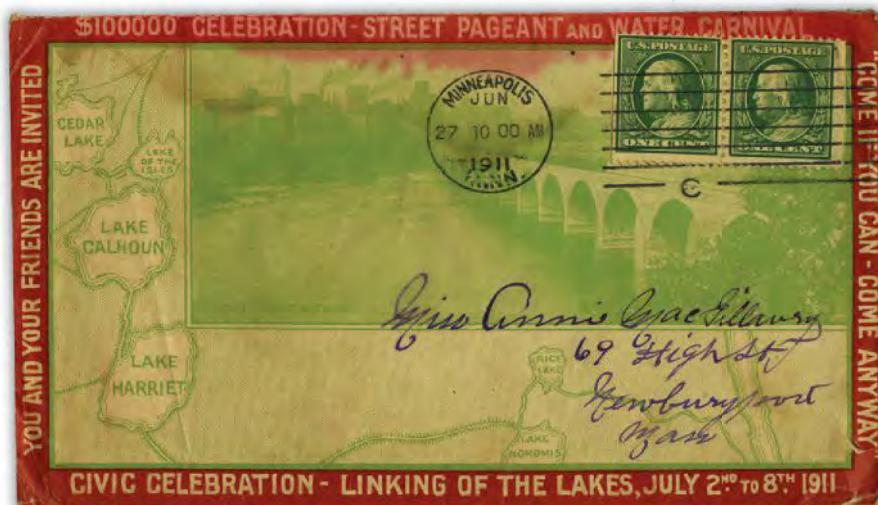
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SHOW TIME

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

The listings are free to World Series of Philately and other shows that are sponsored by an APS chapter or 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.

Vermont **April 4**
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
 E-mail: jalutz@gmail.com

Quebec **April 10-12**

LAKESHORE 2015 Lakeshore Stamp Club,
 Sarto Desnoyers Community Center, 1335
 Lakeshore Drive, Dorval.

Contact: Gary Misener, 514-426-0432
 E-mail: gmisener@sympatico.ca
 Website: www.lakeshorestampclub.ca

Pennsylvania **April 11**

Spring Stamp Expo Cumberland Valley
 Philatelic Society, Eugene C. Clark, Jr.
 Community Center, 235 S. Third Street,
 Chambersburg. ***B***

Contact: Quinn Witherspoon, 717-264-1252
 E-mail: rspran32@gmail.com

Indiana **April 11-12**

Spring Stamp Fair Indiana Stamp Club,
 Lawrence Community Center, 5301 N.
 Franklin, Lawrence. ***B***

Contact: Tom Chastang, 317-913-9319
 E-mail: tchas5@sbcglobal.net
 Website: www.indianastampclub.org

Oregon **April 11-12**

SOPEX 2015 Southern Oregon Philatelic
 Society, Jackson County Expo/Fairgrounds, 1
 Peninger Lane, Central Point.

Contact: Jerry Shean, 541-772-5536

E-mail: geraldshean@yahoo.com

Internet Course **April 13 to May 18**

U.S. State, County and Municipal Revenue Collecting Online Course (6 weeks), ***APS***
 Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
 E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
 Website: <http://stamps.org/Courses>

Internet Module **April 13 to May 18**

U.S. State, County and Municipal Revenue Collecting Six individual online sessions through GoToMeeting, ***APS***
 Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
 E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
 Website: <http://stamps.org/Modules>

New York **April 16-18**

ASDA Spring Postage Stamp Show 2015 American Stamp Dealers Association, The Hilton, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York. ***B***
 Contact: Mark Reasoner, 800-369-8207 ext 3
 E-mail: asda@asdalonline.com
 Website: www.americanstampdealer.com

Delaware **April 18**

DELPEX 2015 Brandywine Valley Stamp Club, Nur Shrine CenterTemple, 198 S. Du Pont Hwy (US Routes 13 & 40), New Castle.
 Contact: Bill Clark, 302-322-2719
 E-mail: kmc4076@aol.com
 Website: www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com

Ohio **April 18**

TUSCOPEX 15 Tuscora Stamp Club, Tuscora Park Pavilion, 161 Tuscora Avenue, NW, New Philadelphia. ***B***

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E-mail: jimhelenshamel@hotmail.com

Illinois **April 18-19**
MSDA Spring Show Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Comfort Inn & Suites, 600 N. Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Hgts.. ***B***
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574
E-mail: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Iowa **April 18-19**
CERAPEX 2015 Cedar Rapids Stamp Club, Machinists Union Hall, 222 Prospect Place, SW, Cedar Rapids.
Contact: Chris Dahle, 319-693-6020
E-mail: chris-dahle@fastermac.net

Oklahoma **April 18-19**
Lawton/Fort Sill Stamp & Coin Show Lawton/

Fort Sill Stamp Club, Comanche Tribal Complex, 485 Bingo Road off I-44, Lawton. ***B***

Contact: Glen Stebleton, 580-355-7135

Pennsylvania **April 18-19**
WILKPEX 2015 Wilkinsburg Stamp Club, Gateway Firehall, 4370 Northern Pike, Monroeville.
Contact: Tom Donohue, 412-373-8697
E-mail: wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com
Website: www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com

Wisconsin **April 19**
DANEPEX '15 Badger Stamp Club, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave., Madison.
Contact: Bob Voss, 608-838-1033
E-mail: lestamps@charter.net
Website: www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger

California **April 22-23**
Collecting Western U.S. Postal History On the Road Course, Prior to WESTPEX, San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront, Burlingame. ***APS***

Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses

Pennsylvania **April 24-25**
LANCOPEX 2015 Lancaster County Philatelic Society, Farm & Home Center/Lancaster County, 1383 Arcadia Rd., Lancaster. ***B***
Contact: Lou DiFelice, 717-572-3419
E-mail: loudfelice@gmail.com
Website: www.lcps-stamps.net/

California **April 24-26**
WESTPEX WESTPEX, Inc., San Francisco Airport

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Connecticut **April 25**
MANPEX 2015 Manchester Philatelic Society, East Catholic High School, 115 New State Road, Manchester.
 Contact: John Bereuter, 860-978-7856
 E-mail: jrberreuter@cox.net
 Website: <http://manchesterphilatelic.webs.com/>

Michigan **April 25-26**
Plymouth Show West Suburban Stamp Club, Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland. ***WSP***
 Contact: Tim Strzalkowski, 313-533-7737
 E-mail: mywssc@msn.com
 Website: www.plymouthshow.com

Mississippi **April 25-26**
GULFPEX 2015 Gulf Coast Stamp Club, St. Martin Community Center, 15004 LeMoyne Blvd., Biloxi.
 Contact: Michael Kayes, 228-864-3601
 E-mail: bullbat@cableone.net
 Website: www.gulfcoaststampclub.org

New Jersey **April 25-26**
Clifton 2015 Spring Stamp, Coin, Cover, Currency and Postcard Show Clifton Stamp Society, Inc., Clifton Community Recreation Center, 1232 Main Avenue @ Washington Ave., Clifton. ***B***
 Contact: Thomas Stidl, 973-471-7872
 E-mail: stidl@verizon.net
 Website: www.cliftonstampsociety.org

Connecticut **April 26**
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. ***B***
 Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
 E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net

Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Massachusetts **May 1-3**
Philatelic Show Northeastern Fed. Of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn Boxborough Woods, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough. ***WSP***

Contact: Jeff Shapiro
 E-mail: coverlover@gmail.com
 Website: www.nefed.org

Ontario **May 1-2**
ORAPEX 2015 RA Stamp Club, RA Centre, 2451

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Riverside Drive, Ottawa. ***WSP***

Contact: Peter MacDonald

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Delaware

May 2

The Sussex County Stamp Club Annual Stamp Show Sussex County Stamp Club, Milton Fire Hall, 116 Front Street, Milton. ***B***
Contact: Bruce McKinney, 302-684-1864
E-mail: sussexcostampclub@inbox.com
Website: www.sites.google.com/site/sussexcountystampclub

Georgia

May 2

GASC Spring Bourse Greater Augusta Stamp Club, Augusta Public Library, 823 Telfair Street, Augusta. ***B***
Contact: Alexander J. Loungeway, 706-860-8898
E-mail: ajle9@comcast.net

Ohio

May 3

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

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Keys to Exhibiting Course Online Course (6 weeks). ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stampcampus.org

Indiana

May 8-9

CALUPEX 2015 Calumet Stamp Club, Saint James Parish Hall, 9640 Kennedy Ave., Highland.
Contact: Jerry Emerson, 219-662-1296
Website: http://calumetstampclub.org

Pennsylvania

May 8-9

BUTLERPEX Butler County Philatelic Society, Tanglewood Senior Center, 10 Austin Ave., Lyndora.
Contact: Tom Sivak, 724-287-1931
E-mail: tomsstamps@zoominternet.net

Oregon

May 8-10

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
E-mail: tonywaw@spiritone.com
Website: www.pipexstampshow.org

Louisiana

May 9

Baton Rouge Stamp Show Baton Rouge Stamp Club, East Baton Rouge Council on Aging, 5790 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge. ***B***
Contact: Zbigniew Cypel, 225-802-7919
E-mail: mrbretired@aol.com

Ohio

May 9

Warren Stamp Fun at TRUMPEX 2015 The Warren Area Stamp Club, St Demetrios Community Center, 3223 Atlantic St., NE, Warren, Trumbull County.
Contact: Howard Lutz, 330-282-2860
E-mail: howrex2@aol.com

Colorado

May 15-17

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (ROMPEX) Rocky 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, 330-594-7029

E-mail: Gbccolorado@gmail.com

Website: www.rockymountainstampshow.com

New York

May 15-17

ROPEX Rochester Phil. Assoc., The Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 North Bloomfield Rd, Canandaigua. ***WSP***
Contact: Tom Fortunato, 585-752-6178
E-mail: stampmf@frontiernet.net
Website: www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html

Virginia

May 16-17

Fairfax StampFest Elk's Club, 8421 Arlington Blvd., (Rte. 50), Fairfax. ***B***
Contact: Jack Ott, 1-888-297-3536
E-mail: jackottstamps@gmail.com

Wisconsin

May 16-17

WISCOPEX '15 Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, Retlaw Plaza Hotel, One North Main Street, Fond du Lac.
Contact: Karen Weigt, 608-836-1509
E-mail: kweigt@tds.net
Website: www.wfscstamps.org

Utah

May 22-23

Salt Lake Spring Stamp Show Utah Philatelic Society, Sons of Utah Pioneer Bldg., 3261 East Louise Avenue, Salt Lake City. ***B***
Contact: Dave Blackhurst, 801-580-9534
E-mail: dblackhu@gmail.com
Website: www.utahphilatelic.org

Ontario

May 22-24

Royal 2015 Royale Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, London Convention Center, 300 York Street, London. ***WSP***
Contact: John Sheffield, 519-681-3420
E-mail: john@johnsheffield.com
Website: www.royal2015.com

Connecticut

May 24

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

New Jersey

May 29-31

NOJEX North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, Inc., Empire Meadowlands Hotel, 2 Harmon Plaza, Secaucus. ***WSP***
Contact: Robert G. Rose, 908-305-9022
E-mail: robertrose25@comcast.net
Website: www.nojex.org

Alabama

May 30-31

HUNTSPEX 2015 Huntsville Philatelic Club, University Center, University of Alabama In Huntsville, 1410 Ben Graves Drive, Huntsville.
Contact: Michael O'Reilly, 256-527-4601
E-mail: mcoreilly@yahoo.com
Website: www.sefsc.org/huntspex.html

Internet Module

June 3

Exhibiting 101: Writing a Solid Title Page and Synopsis Online session through GoToMeeting. ***APS***

Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Modules

Kentucky

June 5-6

LOUIPEX 2015 Metro Louisville Stamp Society, St. Leonard's Catholic Church (The Gym), 440 Zorn Avenue, Louisville. ***B***
Contact: German Dillon, 502-558-0046
E-mail: german.dillon@twc.com

Website: www.louisvillemetrostampsociety.org

Virginia

June 5-7

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
E-mail: mteton@aol.com
Website: www.napex.org

Ohio

June 12-14

COLOPEX Columbus Philatelic Club, Rhodes Center Ohio State Fairgrounds, 717 East 17th Avenue, Columbus. ***WSP***
Contact: Mark Reasoner, 614-579-6526
E-mail: reasonerstamps@yahoo.com
Website: www.colopex.com

Oklahoma

June 19-20

OKPEX Oklahoma City Stamp Club, Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Road, Midwest City. ***WSP***
Contact: Joe Crosby, 405-749-0939
E-mail: joecrosby@cox.net
Website: www.okcsc.org

Pennsylvania

June 20-21

SCOPEX 2015 Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society, American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte.
Contact: Don Heller, 814-861-5720
E-mail: dheller5720@yahoo.com

Pennsylvania

June 21-26

Summer Seminar 2015 Annual APS Summer Seminar on Philately offers instruction in specific areas through a combination of lectures and hands-on workshops. American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Summer-Seminar

Ohio

June 22-25

PMCC Convention Post Mark Collectors Club, Hampton Inn, 2492 SR 231, Tiffin.
Contact: Ron Woods
E-mail: woodsrh@ambt.net
Website: www.postmarks.org

Pennsylvania

June 25

Eastern PA Stamp Show (EPASS) Allentown Philatelic Society, Asbury Church, 1533 Springhouse Road, Allentown. ***B***
Contact: Paul Sienicki, 610-694-0397
E-mail: pk346us@yahoo.com
Website: http://greatzvmer.wix.com/aps/

Wisconsin

June 27-28

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

Connecticut

June 28

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

Internet Module

July 9

Searching the U.S. Postal Bulletin Database Online session through

GoToMeeting, *APS*
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/Modules>

Internet Module **July 10**
Searching the U.S. Postal Laws and
Regulations Database Online session
through GoToMeeting, *APS*
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/Modules>

California **July 10-12**
ASDA Northern California 2015 Postage
Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers
Association, The Westin Hotel, 1 Old Bayshore
Hwy., Millbrae. *B*
Contact: Mark Reasoner, 800-369-8207, ext. 4
E-mail: asda@asdaonline.com
Website: www.americanstampdealer.com

Illinois **July 11-12**
MSDA Summer Show Midwest Stamp Dealers
Association, Comfort Inn & Suites, 600 N.
Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Hgts. *B*
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574
E-mail: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Minnesota **July 17-19**
Minnesota Stamp Expo Twin City Philatelic
Society and Various Local Clubs, Crystal
Community Ctr., 4800 Douglas Dr., N.,
Minneapolis. *WSP*
Contact: Randy A. Smith, 952-431-3273
E-mail: rasmay4@frontiernet.net
Website: www.stampsmnnesota.com/MN%20Stamp%20Expo.htm

Indiana **July 25-26**
MSDA Summer Indianapolis Show Midwest
Stamp Dealers Association, Lawrence Park
and Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin Rd.,
Lawrence. *B*
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574
E-mail: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Nevada **July 25-26**
2015 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover
Show Nevada Stamp Study Society,
National Bowling Stadium Museum, 300 N.
Center St., Reno.
Contact: John Walter, 775-851-7968
E-mail: nvstampssociety@gmail.com
Website: www.renostamp.org

North Carolina **July 25-26**
CHARPEX 2015 Charlotte Philatelic Society,
Worrell Bldg, Central Piedmont Community
College, 1228 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte.
Contact: Gene Zhiss, 704-553-8110
E-mail: signup@charpex.info
Website: www.charpex.info/

Connecticut **July 26**
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New
Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall,
554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. *B*
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Pennsylvania **July 27-31**
Volunteer Work Week Hosted at the
American Philatelic Center, 100 Match
Factory Place, Bellefonte. *APS*

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E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week>

Oregon **July 31-August 2**
National Topical Stamp Show American
Topical Association, Monarch Hotel and
Conference Center, 12566 SE 93rd Ave,
Clackamas. ***WSP***
Contact: Vera Felts, 618-985-5100
E-mail: american topical@msn.com
Website: www.americantopicalassn.org

Ohio **August 1-2**
CINPEX 2015 Greater Cincinnati Philatelic
Society, Greenhills American Legion Hall,
11000 Winton Rd., Cincinnati. ***B***
Contact: Jim Siekermann, 714-759-5580
E-mail: jims150320@aol.com
Website: www.freewebs.com/gcps

Washington **August 8**
Strait Stamp Show Strait Stamp Society,
Sequim Masonic Lodge, 700 N. 5th Ave.,
Sequim. ***B***
Contact: Cathie Osborne, 360-683-6373
E-mail: rickcath@wavecable.com

Singapore **August 14-19**
SINGAPORE 2015 General World Philatelic
Exhibition,
Contact: Kees Adema

E-mail: kees13adema@gmail.com
Website: www.singapore2015.com

Ohio **August 14-16**
AMERICOVER American First Day Cover
Society, DoubleTree by Hilton Columbus
- Worthington, 175 Hutchinson Avenue,
Columbus. ***WSP***
Contact: Chris Lazaroff, 520-321-0880
E-mail: showinfo@afdc.org
Website: www.afdc.org/americonver/
americonver.html

Kansas **August 15-16**
The Wichita Show Wichita Stamp Club, Cessna
Activity Center, 2744 George Washington
Blvd., Wichita. ***B***
Contact: Ralph Lott, 316-683-6593
E-mail: berndfr@cox.net
Website: www.wichitastampclub.org

Michigan **August 18-19**
U.S. 1861 - 68 Series On-the-Road Course,
Prior to APS StampShow, Amway Grand
Hotel, Grand Rapids. ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses>

Michigan **August 20-23**
APS STAMP SHOW DeVos Place, 303 Monroe
Avenue, NW, Grand Rapids. ***WSP***

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

Connecticut **August 23**
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven
Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554
Woodward Ave., New Haven. ***B***
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Pennsylvania **August 29**
The Erie Stamp & Coin Show 2015 Erie Stamp
Club, Quality Inn, 8040 Perry Highway, Erie.
B
Contact: Gary Diley
E-mail: hingerem@gmail.com

Maryland **September 4-6**
BALPEX Baltimore Phil. Soc., Baltimore Hunt
Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., I-83 Exit 20 E.,
Hunt Valley. ***WSP***
Contact: Robert E. Gibson, Sr., 410-465-5712
E-mail: balpex@verizon.net
Website: www.balpex.org

Internet Course **September 8-22**
Worldwide Fakes and Forgeries Online
Course (3 weeks). ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/Courses>

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NO. 2, FEBRUARY 28, 2015

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during February 2015. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to April 30, 2015 these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the June 2015 issue.

Adkinson, J. L. (224199) **Woodbridge, VA** US; 74; Retired
 Adlington, David J. (224277) **San Bernardino, CA** US-CANADA; 53; Teacher
 Alspaugh, David W. (224245) **Three Lakes, WI** US-CHINA-AUSTRIA; 87; Retired
 Anderson, Darwin (224197) **Smithtown, NY** US-UN; 66; Retired
 Anderson, Norma L. (224266) **Torrance, CA** LUNAR NEW YEAR-OLYMPICS-EUROPA-CANADA; Retired
 Austin, Douglas L. (224206) **Oceanside, CA**; 61
 Austin, Lee S. (224278) **Upland, CA** GENEALOGY-DERMATOLOGY-AUSTRIA-HUNGARY; 68; Retired
 Ball, Steve (224212) **Houston, TX**; 62; Project Manager
 Barton, Larry E. (224279) **Riverside, CA** US-WORLDWIDE; Retired
 Belisle, Michael (224213) **Bethesda, MD** EARLY US-GREAT BRITAIN; 63; Architect
 Brandt, Bob (224261) **Gillett, PA** POLAND-VATICAN CITY; 65
 Brown, Jeffrey (224187) **New Smyrna Beach, FL** IRELAND; 68; Retired
 Brown, Sandra (224231) **Gaithersburg, MD** AUSTRALIA-SPACE-JAPAN-ISRAEL-BIRDS-ART; Retired
 Bruskin, Leo (224194) **Seattle, WA**; 90; Retired
 Burleson, Joyce (224223) **Newland, NC** USED WORLDWIDE & US-CHRISTMAS & SEALS; 67; Retired
 Busch, Lawrence (224319) **Ann Arbor, MI** PRE 1970 WORLDWIDE; 69; Sociologist
 Butler, Ray W. (224280) **Riverside, CA** US-PRE 1940 WORLDWIDE-TAIWAN; Retired
 Carazo, Daniel L. (224195) **Syosset, NY** PRE 1930 US, BACK OF THE BOOK, REVENUES, DEPARTMENTS; 65; Marketing
 Carlson, James R. (224320) **Green Valley, AZ** FDC-SPACE-NATURE; Retired
 Cash, Kathy (224267) **Lake Elsinore, CA**; Notary Public
 Chalfin, Marc (224309) **Bradenton, FL** US; 69; Retired
 Chandler, Robert J. (224191) **Lafayette, CA** US EXPRESS COVERS, CA POSTAL HISTORY, WESTERN COVERS-MEXICO-TRANSPORTATION; 72; Historian

Chapman, Douglas E. (224265) **Sioux Falls, SD** US SD POSTAL HISTORY, POSTAGE DUES, TERRITORIAL COVERS, PREXIES, 19TH CENTURY

Chicuorka, David J. (224281) **Murrieta, CA** US-RUSSIA-PORTUGAL-POLAND-CZECH REPUBLIC-SLOVAKIA-GREAT BRITAIN; 45; Engineer

Cohen, Irwin A. (224321) **Surprise, AZ**; 81; Retired

Coleman, Sonya M. (224268) **San Bernardino, CA**; 66; Retired

Combe, Gerald L. (224308) **Resaca, GA** WORLDWIDE; 71; Retired

Cook, Stephen A. (224315) **Columbia, MO** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIR MAILED, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, CANCELS, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES; 61; Retired

Croft, Jeannette (224181) **Henderson, NV** US AIR MAILED, CANCELS, HI POSTAL HISTORY, BUREAU PRECANCELS-AVIATION-BACK OF THE BOOK; Retired

D'Angelo, Daryl (224305) **Amherst, NH** FORMER/DEAD COUNTRIES-GREAT BRITAIN-OVERPRINTS & SURCHARGES-FAKES & FORGERIES; 53

Davenhill, Noel (224323) **Papamoa Beach, Tauranga, New Zealand** BRITISH COMMONWEALTH; 80; Retired

Davis, Scott P. (224188) **Saint Cloud, MN** US 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES, INAUGURATION COVERS; 56

DeMarco, Guy (224317) **Bohemia, NY** US AIR MAILED, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, DEFINITIVES, CIVIL WAR COVERS, CLASSICS; 74; Retired

Dempsey, Mary T. (224260) **Brooklyn, NY** US, CLASSICS, CANCELS, NY POSTAL HISTORY, SLOGAN CANCELS, COMMEMORATIVES; Lawyer

DeRudder, Kaitlyn S. (J-224283) **Rolling Hills Estates, CA**; 15; Student

DeRudder, Louis (224282) **Rolling Hills Estates, CA** GERMANY; 49; Project Manager

Descoteaux, Robert A. (224329) **Biddeford, ME** US, COMMEMORATIVES, USED; 76; Retired

Desforge, Ronald (224246) **Martinsburg, WV**

Dogan, Pamela Y. (224269) **Perris, CA** QUEEN VICTORIA; 41; Office Assistant

Dominguez, Doreen R. (224284) **Beaumont, CA** DISNEY-LOONEY TUNES-KIDS; 54; USPS

Everett, Kevin J. (224227) **Temecula, CA**

Feuelstein, Abram S. (224299) **Riverside, CA**; Attorney

Flores, Elizardo (224322) **Arroyo Seco, NM** WORLDWIDE; 50; Landscaper

Franklin, Terry (224232) **Topeka, KS** US, PLATE BLOCKS, FDC, COMMEMORATIVES; 67

Gamboa, Rachel (224285) **Corona, CA** US

Gilbert, USMC, Ronald (224214) **Oceanside, CA** RYUKYU IS; 75; Retired

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 223969 through 224037 and 224039 through 224064 and 224065 through 224071 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

Summary

Total Membership, Jan. 31, 2015	32,094
New Members	100
Reinstated	30
	130
	32,224
Deceased	43
Resignations.....	39
	82
Total Membership, Feb. 28, 2015	32,142
(Total Membership, February 28, 2014, was 32,788, a difference of -646)	

Giller, Worth C. (224286) **Lake Forest, CA** MINT US; 74; Retired

Hall, Jack (224201) **Bowling Green, KY** US, USED, COMMEMORATIVES-CANADA

Hall, Michael D. (224186) **Dracut, MA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIR MAILED, COILS, COMMEMORATIVES, REVENUES/TAX PAIDS (FEDERAL); 57

Harnden, David M. (224287) **San Bernardino, CA** CONCORDE-BUILDINGS-SPACE-FORMER COUNTRIES-UN; 45; Office Assistant

Harp, Charles H. (224307) **Lexington, NC** US COMMEMORATIVES, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, FDC; 71; Attorney

Harris, Eugene (224310) **Meridian, MS** POST 1930 MINT US, BLOCKS; 54; Mechanical/Electrical Contractor

Hartman, Christopher (224247) **Wakefield, MA** US PLATE BLOCKS, SHEETS; 53; Editor

Havnoonian, Frank (224324) **Drexel Hill, PA** US GREECE-CANADA-TIN CAN MAIL-BICYCLES; 59; Bicycle Retailer

Heffron, Elaine (224330) **Albany, NY** US POSTAL HISTORY, COMMEMORATIVES, NY POSTAL HISTORY, FDC, INAUGURATION COVERS, AIR MAILED; 75

Heid, Wolfgang M. (224204) **Conyers, GA** WORLDWIDE; Computers

Hesse, Richard S. (224325) **Oro Valley, AZ** MINT US; 64; Analyst

Hoge, Miles C. (224189) **Richmond, VA**; 41

Hoglund, William S. (224300) **Woodland, CA** WORLDWIDE PRE 1940; 63; Retired

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Huczel, Deanna (224233) **Flushing, NY** ISRAEL, TABS-SOUVENIR SHEETS-AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL

Huston, Brad (224311) **Hutchinson, KS** MINT-COVERS-FDI; 56; Department Manager

Iancu, Constantin (224288) **Beaumont, CA** AMERICAN FLAG; 67; Retired

Jacobs, Joe (224316) **Vernon, AZ** US AIR MAIRS, COILS, NAVAL COVERS, AZ & WV POSTAL HISTORY, CANCELS; 74

Jacobsen, Elinore (224221) **Ketchikan, AK**; 86

Jantz, Keith (224248) **Leawood, KS** US PLATE BLOCKS; Physician

Jarvis, Philip M. (224205) **Windsor, VT**; 47

Kahn, Serge (224209) **Menthon Saint Bernard, France** POLAR POSTAL HISTORY; 64

Kaleta, Patsy J. (224215) **Milwaukee, WI**; 79; Retired

Kalinowski, Walter (224312) **Ojai, CA** US STATIONERY; 69; Retired

Katzenstein, Mary P. (224289) **Riverside, CA** CIVIL WAR; 85; Retired

Keener, Phil (224249) **East Berlin, PA** US USED CLASSIC; 62; Retired

Keller, Hans (224250) **Jim Thorpe, PA**; 79; Retired

Kermanshahi, Kaveh (224229) **Broken Arrow, OK** IRAN; 53

Kinney, Joyce (224326) **Mechanicsburg, PA**

Kitchen, Keith (224290) **Murrieta, CA**; 35

Klaus, Mark F. (224327) **Glendale, AZ** USED US; Quality Manager

Klein, Gabriela (224270) **Greenbelt, MD** US; 37; Support Specialist

Krasnakevich, John R. (224306) **Manchester, MA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COIL LINE PAIRS, COMMEMORATIVES-UN-GERMANY-LITHUANIA; 75

Kreisler, Jerrold (224328) **Wayzata, MN**; 62

Kries, Melville L. (224196) **Washington, NJ**; 83; Retired

Lange, George O. (224291) **San Diego, CA** US POSSESSIONS-FRENCH-BRITAIN-ITALY-PORTUGAL COLONIES, OFFICES; 51; Police Officer

Laupus, William (224262) **McKinney, TX** US, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES, AIR MAIRS, COVERS, POSSESSIONS

Lawton, Clifford (224190) **West Granby, CT** US

Lea, Frankie (224224) **Hilham, TN** US, REVENUES/TAX PAIDS (FEDERAL), 19TH CENTURY, FANCY CANCELS, OFFICIALS/OFFICIAL MAIL; 54

Levesque, John (224228) **North Andover, MA** GERMAN THIRD REICH/OCCUPATIONS-CANADA-FRANCE; 50; Teacher

Lipson, Sheldon R. (224251) **Bethesda, MD** PRE 1947 WORLDWIDE CLASSICS; 82; Retired

Littlejohn, Terri (224226) **Alameda, CA** US 19TH CENTURY, ADVERTISING COVERS, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING; 56

Long, Alison (224192) **Shaker Heights, OH** USED WORLDWIDE-SCANDINAVIA-GREAT BRITAIN-GERMANY-GREECE-AUSTRALIA; 61

Lord, Ken (224184) **Sanford, FL** GILBERT & ELLINE ISLANDS/KIRIBATI/ TUVALU-UN-US, AIR MAIRS, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES-GREAT BRITAIN; 65

Lounsbury, Marina H. (224332) **Carlsbad, CA** USED WORLDWIDE-FOREIGN CANCELS

Maddux, Larry D. (224200) **Vancouver, WA** US, OR POSTAL HISTORY, RPO/HPO/TPO/STREETCAR CANCELS; 64; Land Surveyor

Manning, Adrian (224292) **Torrance, CA** PENGUINS; 27

Matthews, Grant R. (224301) **Tustin, CA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY; Engineer

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McDonald, John (224237) **Helmetta, NJ** US AIR MAIRS, PLATE BLOCKS, CLASSICS, COVERS-JAPANESE OCCUPATIONS-USED WORLDWIDE; 59

McDonald, John W. (224331) **Greenwood, LA** US DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, COMMEMORATIVES, FDC; 70; Stamp Dealer

McHenry, Dean E. (224302) **Clairemont, CA**; 75; Retired

McIntyre, Martin J. (224216) **Whiting, NJ** LIGHTHOUSES-AMERICAN REVOLUTION; Driver

Meggelin, David B. (224293) **Pomona, CA** WORLDWIDE; 62; Programmer Analyst

Melton, Ernest Edward (224252) **Shallotte, NC** US; 69; Retired

Miller, Ronald E. (224313) **San Angelo, TX** WORLDWIDE; 78; Retired

Mosher, Jessica R. (224263) **Redlands, CA** US POSTAL HISTORY-PUERTO RICO-DISNEY-AUSTRIA-CATS-CANAL ZONE; 32

Munsch, David (224208) **Wellsville, PA** US COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES; 66

Nawrocki, Timothy J. (224253) **Sterling Heights, MI** US-WORLDWIDE; 65; Dentist

Newheiser, Caroline B. (224271) **Escondido, CA** MINT US; 56; Homemaker

Nield, Crystalyne (224294) **Riverside, CA** PAGES; 33

Noah, Stanley M. (224185) **Dallas, TX** GERMANY-US, PARCEL POST; 73

Nyirady, Kenneth (224207) **Vienna, VA** US, SHEETS/SMALL PANES-HUNGARY-GERMANY-ROMANIA-WORLDWIDE; 63

Olander, Michael (224235) **Sacramento, CA** US COVERS, FANCY CANCELS-FOREIGN POSTAL HISTORY; 55

Owens, Ron (224295) **Temecula, CA**; Meeting Planner
 Page, Calvin O. (224272) **Riverside, CA**; 23; Student
 Patrick, Justin (224222) **Carbondale, CO** CO POSTAL HISTORY-AUTHORS/LITERATURE/LIBRARIES; 30; Writer
 Pechota, Diane M. (224273) **Henderson, NV**; 62; Retired
 Polen, Richard L. (224274) **Corona, CA** WORLDWIDE-POLAND-IRAN; 69; Retired
 Porter, Sharon D. (224254) **San Bernardino, CA**; 67; Retired
 Postmus, Mark A. (224203) **Elgin, SC** CZECHOSLOVAKIA-WORLDWIDE USED-US; 54; Computer Analyst
 Raymond, Chris (224318) **South Hadley, MA** US 19TH CENTURY, BUREAU ISSUES, CANCELS, CIVIL WAR COVERS-BERLIN-JAPAN; 43
 Rindfleisch, Alan R. (224217) **Milwaukee, WI**; 80; Retired
 Rodriguez, Jessica C. (224183) **San Jose, CA** US, AIRAILS, COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS-COSTA RICA; 23
 Rodriguez, Esteban G. (224258) **Saint Paul, MN** ANTARCTIC TERRITORIES; 29; Student
 Rodriguez, Marjorie (224296) **Rancho Cucamonga, CA**; 51
 Routon, Sophie E. (224275) **Glendale, CA** WORLD COSTUMES-DISNEY
 Schaeperkoetter, Charles (224238) **Ladson, SC** US-GERMANY, STATES
 Schneider, Gary J. (224218) **Bemidji, MN** US-WORLDWIDE-TRAINS-CANADA-WWII; 74; Retired
 Schulte, Mark J. (224210) **New York, NY** US, AIRAILS, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, MO POSTAL HISTORY-GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, THIRD REICH/OCCUPATIONS; Investment Banker
 Shannon, Corey (224242) **Pekin, IL** US; 35
 Shore, Don E. (224255) **Lady Lake, FL** US; 63; Retired
 Singer, Lovella (224297) **Perris, CA** BLACK HERITAGE
 Slick, Curt N. (224314) **Lewistown, PA**; 51; Government/Logistics
 Small, Cynthia M. (224276) **Sun City, CA** US-BRITISH ROYALTY-CANADA; 68; Retired
 Smith, Kevin (224333) **Seattle, WA**
 Smith, Tuhi (224303) **Riverside, CA** US; 61; Housewife
 St. Onge, Sidney (224240) **Medford, OR**; 64
 Stanley, Michael (224211) **Chester, NY** LIGHTHOUSES-RAILROADS-SPACE/JET/ROCKET COVERS-GEOGRAPHY-SHIPS/BOATS-GERMANY; 52

Starkey, Kurt A. (224259) **Oakhurst, CA** US 19TH CENTURY, AIRAILS, CLASSICS, CONFEDERATE STATES, CIVIL WAR COVERS, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS; 59
 Steinbrueck, Kathryn (224264) **Saranac Lake, NY** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS-WESTERN HEMISPHERE; 63
 Stoughton, Harry W. (224182) **Cincinnati, OH** US, FDC-ROMAN STATES-GREAT BRITAIN-BRITISH COLONIES-ITALY; 59
 Sun, Karen (224239) **Pomona, CA** CHINA-US, BOOKLETS/PANES; 25
 Taylor, Johnny (224243) **Oklahoma City, OK** US AIRAILS, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY-CUBA-FRANCE-GERMANY
 Taylor, Julie (224219) **Gilcrest, CO** US, PLATE BLOCKS, FDC; 48; Business Owner
 Thomas, Joseph L. (224202) **Harrisonburg, VA** US 19TH CENTURY, CANCELS, CLASSICS; 71; Principal
 Torsrud, Ross (224257) **Milwaukee, WI** BRITISH COMMONWEALTH-INDIAN STATES-GERMAN COLONIES-SWITZERLAND; 73; Retired
 Turner, T. R. (224220) **Santa Fe, NM**; 62; Retired
 Uhl, Malcolm (224244) **Reno, NV** US AIRAILS, CIVIL WAR COVERS, CONFEDERATE STATES, PLATE BLOCKS, CUT SQUARES, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES; 70
 Van Nimwegen, Jason (224241) **Riverside, CA** ASTRONOMY-ARCHEOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY-19TH CENTURY-US CIVIL WAR COVERS; 39
 Vasquez, Justin L. (224298) **Lake Elsinore, CA** US-WORLDWIDE; 28
 Verma, Brajesh K. (224225) **Kabul, Afghanistan** AFGHANISTAN-INDIA-ASTRONOMY-GANDHI-PAINTINGS-USDA USED WORLDWIDE; 53; Social Entrepreneur
 Walters, Lanny (224193) **Charlotte, NC**
 Wells, Ernest (224256) **New Orleans, LA**; 60; Letter Carrier
 Whitaker, Les (224304) **Riverside, CA**; 76; Retired
 Whitcomb, John (224236) **Elm Grove, WI** BRITISH ASIA-INDIA, STATES-US BUREAU ISSUES, PLATE BLOCKS; 63; Physician
 Zdrojowiy, Frank (224230) **Renton, WA** US AIRAILS, COIL LINE PAIRS-ISRAEL TABS-KING GEORGE VI; 64; Professor
 Zisko, Peter (224234) **Auburn, CA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COVERS, AZ POSTAL HISTORY-OVERPRINTS & SURCHARGES-OCCUPATION ISSUES; 65

DECEASED

Amonette, Wilbur F. (5062-026561), Radford, VA
 Armstrong, Robert B. (182172), Kenmore, Australia

Bock, Richard F. (154563), Vineland, NJ
 Chapin, June R. (1565-060812), Menlo Park, CA
 Cook, James B., Jr. (6634-046461), Chester, VA
 Craven, Lawrence S. (221966), Northvale, NJ
 Delohery, Martin J. (219745), Monument, CO
 Egensteiner, Arthur G. (084063), Mount Vernon, NY
 Fettinger, Phyllis M. (096694), Smyrna, DE
 Follett, Melville F. (176134), Olean, NY
 Goeckler, Willard H. (190816), Warminster, PA
 Gott, David F. (100569), Wadsworth, OH
 Guth, Barbara E. (7692-050113), Portland, OR
 Heller, Ralph M. (8990-062057), Warrington, PA
 Hoffman, Harry, (192486), Sykesville, MD
 Hollander, Joshua (158909), Rochester, NY
 Johnson, George F., Jr. (9793-069176), Lawrenceville, NJ
 Kuhn, George E. (147862), Leesburg, FL
 Lawrence, John K. (110770), Whispering Pines, NC
 Levich, Calman (7023-048904), Pentwater, MI
 Lowen, Michael Owen (176962), Charlotte, NC
 Main, George G. (5387-037869), Issaquah, WA
 Makuch, Paul M. (092315), Lawrenceville, NJ
 Morris, John C. (077633), Kansas City, MO
 Ouellette, A. D. (160460), Glendale, CA
 Peters, Suzanne (216018), Chicago, IL
 Plumer, Alvin H. (8366-058927), Cherry Hill, NJ
 Reesman, Alan R. (199763), Slippery Rock, PA
 Reiber-Davis, Mary Anne (149783), Bemus Point, NY
 Reiss, Dan E. (6317-044836), Dover, OH
 Rosene, Russell D. (106553), Shell Beach, CA
 Sable, Richard C. (160012), Avoca, PA
 Sakaguchi, Thomas Y. (090470), Riverton, NJ
 Schafheitie, Walter (9280-063242), Redwood City, CA
 Schroeder, Clarence H. (117615), St. Petersburg, FL
 Stockner, J. Robert (100228), Naperville, IL
 Teter, Charles S. (223172), Washington Court House, OH
 Troutman, Scott M. (135068), Duncansville, PA
 Unglaub, Gordon B. (7981-053968), Elk Grove Village, IL
 Wald, Fritz V. (177610), Wayland, MA
 Ward, Thomas E. (5627-031885), Seattle, WA
 Zarne, Robert D. (083414), Milwaukee, WI

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2015 NEW STAMPS

BY JAY BIGALKE

Ram, Taylor, Vintage Flowers, and More

Recap of the United States Issues Issued in February

In February, the United States Postal Service issued two commemorative stamps, two special stamps, and four definitives.

Each stamp issue is outlined in the following sections. Expanded versions for each stamp, including additional artwork, background, and photos are available in *The American Philatelist* Bonus Content section at <http://www.stamps.org/AP-Album>.

Year of the Ram stamp

The Year of the Ram commemorative forever stamp is the eighth stamp issue in the Lunar New Year series designed by artist Kam Mak. The stamp debuted February 7 in San Francisco and was distributed nationwide.



Two rough concept sketches by stamp illustrator Kam Mak for the Year of the Ram commemorative stamp.

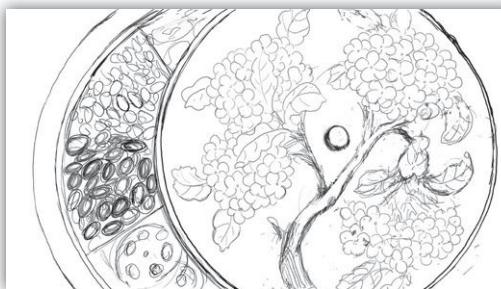
The stamp was printed by Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products using the offset printing process. There is a microprinted "USPS" located in the upper-right corner of the stamp design. The pane of 12 stamps does not include roulette cuts on the reverse that would permit smaller numbers of stamps to be sold. The selvage design includes a large paper-cut ram design by Clarence Lee.

Stamp Subject

The Year of the Ram is celebrated from February 19, 2015, through February 7, 2016. This stamp depicts a "chuen-hop" or "tray of togetherness," which is a candy tray used in New Year celebrations.

Design

The painting used for the stamp was created by artist Kam Mak, who has also created the illustrations for the previous seven stamps in this series. Mak worked with U.S.



Year of the Ram commemorative stamp with "USPS" microprinting.



Postal Service art director Ethel Kessler in developing the series of stamps. He said that the series tells "a more rich and robust story of the Lunar New Year celebration.

First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place at the Chinese Cultural Center in San Francisco. The event was attended by Mak, along with San Francisco Major Edwin M. Lee and many other dignitaries.

LUNAR NEW YEAR: YEAR OF THE RAM COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMP

USPS Item Number: 588904

Format: Sheet of 12 (1 design), 144 stamps per revolution

Series: Lunar New Year

Issue Date and City: February 7, 2015, San Francisco, CA 94188

Designer, Art Director, and Typographer: Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, MD

Artist: Kam Mak, Brooklyn, NY

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset with

microprinting

Printer and Processor: Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, NC

Press Type: Alprinta 74

Print Quantity: 17,600,400 stamps

Press Sheet Quantities: 500 with die cuts, 500 without die cuts.

Paper Type: Phosphor-tagged, overall

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, Pantone Matching System 872 gold

Sizes: 1.42 inches by 0.84 inches, 36.07

millimeters by 21.34mm (image);

1.56 inches by 0.98 inches, 39.62mm by 39.89 mm (overall); 7.24 inches by

5.92 inches, 183.90mm by 150.36mm (sheet); 24.05 inches by 21.87 inches, 611.00mm by 555.50mm (press sheet)

Plate Numbers: None

Marginal Markings: "Celebrating Lunar New Year" (front); "©2014 USPS," USPS logo, plate position diagram, barcode, promotional text.

**Q&
A**

Kam Mak stamp artist

What family memories of candy trays as they relate to New Year celebrations do you have?

During the New Year, you can find many kinds of dried fruits, sweets candies, pistachio nuts and specially red watermelon seeds in every Chinatown market. These are the most popular things my grandma would fill inside our tray of togetherness. During the New Year, guests would visit us and my grandma would take out the beautiful red tray of togetherness to offer to the guests to provide a sweet beginning to the New Year. My fondest memory as a kid was raiding this tray of togetherness with all the wonderful sweets inside. My grandma would complain to my sisters and I for eating all the sweets and leaving red shells from the watermelon seeds all over the table. I guess it is similar to kids here going through all the different candies they get during Halloween. I love the second day of the New Year, because I get to go with my family to visit relatives and that gives me opportunities to raid their tray of togetherness and fill my pocket with candies, especially those gold coins with chocolate inside.



Mak shared these two preliminary paintings that use different background colors.

Robert Robinson Taylor stamp

The Robert Robinson Taylor commemorative forever stamp is the 38th stamp issue in the Black Heritage series. The stamp was issued February 12 in Washington, D.C., and distributed nationwide.

The stamp was printed by Ashton Potter USA Ltd. using the offset printing process. There is a microprinted "USPS" located on Taylor's collar under his chin. The pane of 20 stamps has two plate numbers in the bottom corners and a header "Black Heritage, 30th in a Series" at the top.

Stamp Subject

Taylor (1868–1942) was an architect and, according to the Postal Service, "believed to have been both the first black graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the country's first academically trained black architect." After his time at MIT, Taylor taught at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. His influence on the architecture at the school was notable, with dozens of campus buildings being designed by him.

Design

The stamp was designed by U.S. Postal Service art director Derry Noyes, who started working on the stamp project in the spring of 2013. The stamp uses a photograph of Taylor taken circa 1890, at around age 22, during his time as a student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Robert Robinson Taylor commemorative stamp with "USPS" microprinting found under his chin on his shirt.

First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum in conjunction with the opening of a new exhibit titled "Freedom Just Around The Corner: Black America from the Civil War to Civil Rights." White House senior advisor Valerie Jarrett, Taylor's great granddaughter, spoke at the ceremony. "He believed that with a good education, hard work, relentless determination and a dedication to family, there were no limits to what he could accomplish," said Jarrett at the event. The ceremony also marked the first stamp that new Postmaster General Megan Brennan dedicated.

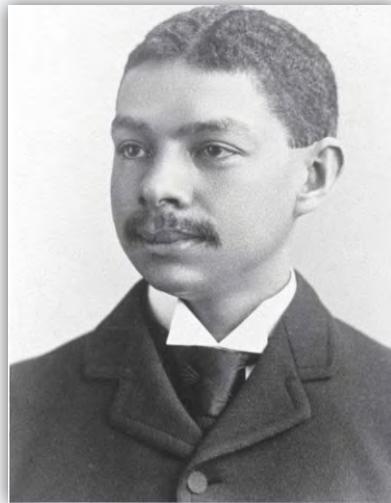
Derry Noyes art director

How many photographs did you pore over before selecting the one used for the Robert Robinson Taylor stamp?

The challenge was that I had so little to work with. The quality of the photographs were not very good, except for the one I ended up using for the stamp. I thought of using an illustrator but decided that the photograph was distinctive and striking as is. I didn't have any reference material in color. Black-and-white photography is powerful. And there's an intensity and dignity that is portrayed in this photograph of the man. That's what I was after.

Did you contemplate adding in architectural sketches/etc., into the stamp design?

I really didn't have enough background material to work with. Had there been good quality line drawings, I might have considered using them. I had some poor photographs of buildings at Tuskegee. His favorite one, the chapel, has since burned down. In keeping with the Black Heritage series, I decided to stick with his portrait and to keep it uncluttered. It's tempting to tell the whole story at stamp size, but the end result can be visually unclear if there is too much going on.



The original uncropped photograph that Derry Noyes used to create the Robert Robinson Taylor stamp design.

ROBERT ROBINSON TAYLOR COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMP

USPS Item Number: 472904

Type of Issue: Commemorative

Format: Pane of 20 (1 design), 240 stamps per revolution

Series: Black Heritage

Issue Date and City: February 12, 2015, Washington, DC 20066

Designer, Art Director, and Typographer: Derry Noyes, Washington, DC

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset with microprinting

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

Press Type: Muller Martini A76

Print Quantity: 30 million stamps

Press Sheet Quantities: 250 with die cuts, 500 without die cuts.

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III, block tag applied

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black

Sizes: 0.84 inches by 1.42 inches, 21.34mm by 36.07mm (image); 0.98 inches by 1.56 inches, 24.89mm by 39.62mm

(overall); 5.95 inches by 7.24 inches, 151.13mm by 183.90mm; 11.90 inches by 21.72 inches, 302.26mm by 551.69mm (press sheet)

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by four single digits

Marginal Markings: Header "Black Heritage — 38th In A Series," plate numbers (front); "©2014 USPS," USPS logo, plate position diagram, barcodes, promotional text, verso text.

Vintage Rose and Vintage Tulip stamps

The Vintage Rose special forever stamp and the 70-cent Vintage Tulip special stamp are part of the Weddings stamp series. The engraved stamps were aptly issued February 14, Valentine's Day, in Riverside, California. No automatic distribution was made for either stamp, and post offices had to place an order to have them for sale.

The stamps were printed by Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products using the intaglio printing process. There is no microprinting in the designs. Each stamp was issued as its own separate pane of 20 stamps with selvage strips in between all of the stamps to allow for the bleed of the illustration off the edge of the perforations.

Design

Stamp artist Jeanne Greco designed the two stamps by using modified engraved plates originally created by artist Maria Sibylla Merian (1617–1717). Greco worked with U.S. Postal Service art director Greg Breeding on the stamp project. She removed the insects from the images "so that they would be more appropriate as wedding stamps" and told Breeding "I think it is best to reserve the birds and bees for a later love stamp." This is the second stamp issue that she has created, the first being the 2009 King and Queen of Hearts stamps.

First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place at the Riverside Convention Center in Riverside, California, during the American Philatelic Society's AMERISTAMP EXPO stamp show held February 13–15.



The Vintage Rose forever stamp and the 70-cent Vintage Tulip stamp.



Photograph by
Jean-Luc Fievet.

Jeanne Greco stamp designer

Greco shared her story with *The American Philatelist* of the Vintage Rose and Vintage Tulip stamps. An excerpt of that story follows:

When you are asked to design a stamp, you think it would be nice to be able to capture the essence of the subject without too many “bells and whistles.” In this instance, to design a stamp destined to grace the envelopes of a wedding invitation, the style requires an elegance the subject requires something ubiquitous enough to relate to all the many weddings without being too specific. A simple flower came to mind. One that had been beautifully engraved in an historical book about nature was the solution.

I had been interested in a collection of engravings called *Erucarum Ortus*, the full name: *The Miraculous Transformation and Unusual Flower-Food of Caterpillars* by German artist and naturalist Maria Sibylla Merian. A year before the design of this stamp, we acquired a country house in the Hudson Valley. I found myself literally sitting on the ground, sifting through soil, contemplating the variety and wonder of nature, and most specifically, the insect world. This book to me is a celebration of all things small and alive and possibly found in your backyard. It was this recent fascination with entomology and my admiration for the detail and beauty with which the engravings were rendered that inspired me to bring these images to stamps. They have a timeless quality. These botanicals are more than 300 years old.

Of course, I would like to say that this design was my one and only vision for these stamps. But as with other design projects, I feel compelled to flush out all the ideas that could call themselves “wedding stamps.” I did begin designs with wedding rings, ampersands, brides and grooms, for instance, but they fell to the wayside. The simple flower had a universality that the others did not. After all, a USPS stamp is to be used by millions. The challenge is to bring something fresh to an already well-used stamp image: the flower. The depiction of a flower that had already been translated to graceful lines seemed the solution. A simple crop of the image and addition of a crimson heart was all that was needed. It is a departure from the usual colorful or photographed flowers that are normally used.

I hope that I have brought something new to the world of stamp design, although I realize that what I have done is to bring back what is old in such a way that it is new. A designer is someone who can do that. But it is not limited to us. I worked many years for Francis Ford Coppola designing wine labels and the like. He used to say: “The people want authenticity.” By using the traditional flower engravings by Maria Sibylla Merian for a modern postal stamp, I brought to the foreground an authentic beauty and genius of a woman who was before her time.



The two original Maria Sibylla Merian prints used for the Vintage Rose and Vintage Tulip stamps.

VINTAGE ROSE SPECIAL FOREVER STAMP AND 70-CENT VINTAGE TULIP SPECIAL STAMP

USPS Item Number: 587704 (Vintage Rose), 587804 (Vintage Tulip)

Type of Issue: Special

Format: Two separate panes of 20 (1 design each), 240 stamps per revolution

Series: Weddings

Issue Date and City: February 14, 2015, Riverside, CA 92501

Designer: Jeanne Greco, New York, NY

Art Director, Typographer: Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, VA

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Intaglio, offset

Printer and Processor: Banknote

Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, NC

Press Type: Alprinta 74

Print Quantity: 150 million Rose stamps, 30 million Tulip stamps

Press Sheet Quantities: 500 with die cuts, 1,000 without die cuts.

Paper Type: Phosphored tagged paper, overall

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Pantone Matching System 433 black, PMS 207 magenta (stamps), offset black (back printing)

Sizes: 0.77 inches by 1.05 inches, 19.56mm

by 26.67mm (image); 0.91 inches by 1.19 inches, 23.11mm by 30.22mm (overall); 5.55 inches by 5.76 inches, 140.97mm by 146.30mm (pane); 16.65 inches by 23.04 inches, 422.91mm by 585.22mm (press sheet)

Plate Size: 240 stamps per revolution

Plate Numbers: “S” followed by two single digits

Marginal Markings: plate numbers (front); “©2014 USPS,” USPS logo, plate position diagram, barcodes, promotional text.

Bobcat stamp

A 2015-dated 1-cent Bobcat definitive coil stamp was issued February 21 in Mesa, Arizona. No automatic distribution was made for the coil stamp, and post offices had to place an order to have it for sale.

The stamp was printed by Ashton Potter USA Ltd. using the offset printing process. There is a microprinted "USPS" located on the top of the bobcat's leg. The stamp was issued in a coil of 10,000 and is not tagged. A plate number P1111 appears on every 27th stamp, and a counting number is printed on the back liner every 10th stamp.



The 1-cent Bobcat definitive coil stamp with "USPS" microprinting found on the top of the bobcat's leg.

Design

Illustrator Nancy Stahl

worked with former U.S. Postal Service art director Carl T. Herrman on the stamp design that first debuted in 2012 in a smaller coil roll of 3,000 self-adhesive stamps. A water-activated coil stamp version of this design was issued in 2013.

First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place at the ARIPEX Stamp Show in Mesa, Arizona, February 21–23. The featured guest at the event was the official mascot of the Arizona Diamondbacks baseball team, D. Baxter the Bobcat, who unveiled the stamp.



**The unveiling of the 1-cent Bobcat stamp at the ARIPEX stamp show in Mesa, Arizona.
Photograph by Chris Lazaroff.**

1-CENT BOBCAT DEFINITIVE COIL STAMP

USPS Item Number: 786904

Type of Issue: Definitive

Format: Coil of 10,000 (1 design), 594 stamps per revolution

Series: Wildlife

Issue Date and City: February 21, 2015, Mesa, AZ 85201

Artist: Nancy Stahl, New York, NY

Designer, Art Director, and

Typographer: Carl T. Herrman,

Carlsbad, CA

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset with microprinting

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

Press Type: Mueller Martini A76

Print Quantity: 500 million stamps

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Black, cyan, magenta, yellow

Sizes: 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54mm by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall)

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by four single digits, plate number every 27th stamp

Marginal Markings: None.

Stars and Stripes stamps

The three nondenominated (10-cent) Stars and Stripes Presorted Standard coil definitive stamps were issued February 27 in Grapevine, Texas. No automatic distribution was made for the coil stamp, and post offices had to place an order to have it for sale.

The stamp was printed by Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products using the offset printing process. There is a microprinted "USPS" located in different places on each stamp. The stamps were issued in a coil of 3,000 and a coil of 10,000 and are not tagged.

Plate number S111 appears on every 27th stamp, and a counting number is printed on the back liner every 10th stamp.



The three Stars and Stripes definitive coil stamps with "USPS" microprinting on each.

Design

The stamps were illustrated by Nancy Stahl working with U.S. Postal Service art director Greg Breeding. Stahl started on the project in May 2012. The stamp uses a stylized rendition of the American flag that stretches across the three stamps. Stahl indicated that the first idea was creating an actual embroidered version, "a celebration of crafts in America." Along the way, the stamp project developed to two stamp designs, but after receiving the go ahead for three, she roughed out a sketch for what it might look like with that layout in mind.

First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place at the Texpex stamp show in Grapevine, Texas, held February 27–March 1.



The unveiling of the Stars and Stripes stamps at the Texpex stamp show. From left to right are Norman A. Cohen, past president, Collectors Club of Dallas; Daniel J. Mata, postmaster, Grapevine, Texas; Chris Lazaroff, immediate past president, American First Day Cover Society; and Tom Koch, Texpex chairman emeritus. Photograph by D.A. Lux.

Q& A

Nancy Stahl stamp illustrator

Was this project part of a larger plan of developing other patriotic-theme stamp issues?

Well, I had heard that the USPS was always looking for flag stamps, so I decided to try my hand at doing some without a contract to start. To my great excitement, two were chosen. This and the 46¢ Patriotic Star that came out in 2013.

These stamp issues are a slight departure from the Wildlife series of stamps you have done for the Postal Service. What drew you to wanting to tackle this project?

I draw all subjects. It happens that the Postal Service has enjoyed my animals, but other clients know me for portraiture, still life, fashion, transportation ... I don't specialize.

Did you use a photograph for reference?

I didn't use a photo for this. I looked at my own flag that I bought at a flea market but it had 48 stars. So I went online to check out the general configuration of stars that is used now but I just wanted the schematic. There was no photographic reference on this occasion.

What inspired the dot pattern you used in the design?

It's a technique that I have used to add interest to my more graphic work. I was a little worried about it reading at stamp size but the art director, Greg Breeding, helped me solve that issue.

Any other details about these stamp design you would like to share with our readers?

It's a deceptively simple-looking design, but because I was determined that it be a perfect repeat so that it is a continuously undulating flag around the entire coil, there were many tricky moments in its creation.

Getting both the dots and the graphic flag imagery set was difficult, but the challenge was to do it every time there was a slight change to the placement across the three stamps, and remembering how to do it months later each time. Sometimes I didn't remember and had to re-invent how to accomplish the task I had set.



Illustrator Nancy Stahl first considered an embroidered version of the flag as the stamp design.



Rough sketch by Nancy Stahl for the Stars and Stripes stamp issue showing the layout as three stamps across a continuous design.

NONDENOMINATED (10-CENT) STARS AND STRIPES PRESORTED STANDARD DEFINITIVE STAMPS

USPS Item Number: 783104 (coil of 3,000), 783204 (coil of 10,000)

Type of Issue: Definitive

Format: Coil of 3,000 and 10,000 (3 designs), 540 stamps per revolution

Series: None

Issue Date and City: February 27, 2015, Grapevine, TX 76051

Artist: Nancy Stahl, New York, NY

Designer, Art Director, and

Typographer: Greg Breeding,

Charlottesville, VA

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset with microprinting

Printer and Processor: Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, NC

Press Type: Alprinta 74

Print Quantity: 60 million stamps (coil of 3,000), 1 billion stamps (coil of 10,000)

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Pantone Matching System 186 red, PMS 570 cyan, PMS 662 blue

Sizes: 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54mm by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 18.54mm by 21.34mm (overall)

Plate Numbers: "S" followed by three single digits, plate number every 27th stamp

Marginal Markings: None.



Preview of the two Civil War: 1865 stamps to be issued April 9 in Appomattox, VA.

MARCH-APRIL 2015 U.S. STAMP SCHEDULE

March 20	Water Lilies	Cleveland, OH
March 26	Martin Ramirez	New York, NY
March 27	Ferns	Kansas City, MO
April 1	From Me to You	Washington, DC
April 7	Maya Angelou	Washington, DC
April 9	Civil War: 1865	Appomattox, VA
April 10	Gifts of Friendship	Washington, DC
April or May	Special Olympics World Games	Los Angeles, CA

Dates are tentative. U.S. New Issues Online at www.stamps.org/US-New-issues.



Applications Due April 30 for Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship

Junior Fellows, ages 13–17 • Senior Fellows, ages 18–25

This amazing program takes young people with a real philatelic spark and then bestows upon them the knowledge, experience, skills, and networking to turn that spark into something that will carry them and the entire hobby forward, all at little to no cost to them. Perhaps you know a young person in your house of worship, the Scouts, or the local YMCA whom you can recommend to us.

Application forms at www.stamps.org/Fellowship-Details. Contact Gretchen Moody, APS Director of Education, 814-933-3803.

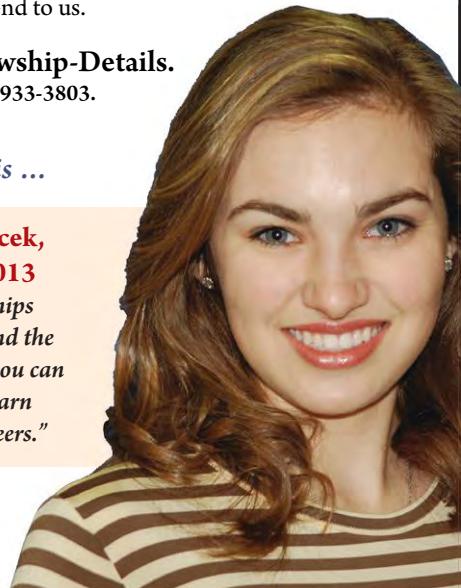
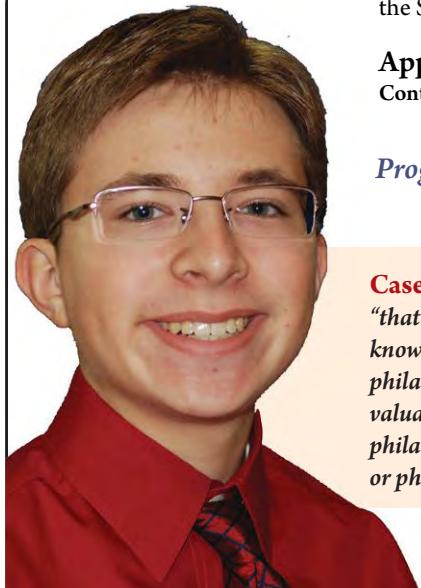
Program alumni say the best part of the YPLF is ...

Casey Cook, Class of 2013

"that it allows you to expand your knowledge of the hobby, build philatelic relationships, and build valuable skills in stamp dealing, philatelic exhibiting, or philatelic writing."

Katie Vasicek, Class of 2013

"the friendships you make and the knowledge you can share and learn from your peers."





FALKLAND ISLANDS

BIRDS AND YOUNG

Four stamps were issued February 11 showing different Falkland Island birds and their young. The stamps picture the pied oystercatcher, the gentoo penguin, the black-browed albatross, and the Falkland skua.



CANADA

FLAG

50TH ANNIVERSARY
Canada issued on February 14 two different stamps celebrating the 50th anniversary of Canada's current flag. One stamp was issued as a permanent stamp and the other was manufactured as a \$5 souvenir sheet using rayon fabric.



ICELAND

BICYCLES IN ICELAND

Iceland marked the 125th anniversary of bicycles in the country with this circular stamp that focuses on the chain and spokes area of the wheel. The magazine *Fjallkonan* in 1887 was the first to detail reports of the use of bicycles in Iceland.



MALAYSIA

GIANT PANDA

On February 25 Malaysia issued four stamps depicting giant pandas, recognizing the International Cooperative Project on Giant Panda Conservation. Two of the stamps were issued in separate panes of 20 and the other two as a souvenir sheet.



ITALY

ALDO MANUZIO

Italy marked February 6 the 500th anniversary of scholar and printer Aldo Manuzio's death with this single 80-euro stamp. The vignette of the stamp uses a 19th-century engraving created by S. Maffeis. The frame also includes his birth year of 1449.

NEW WORLDWIDE STAMPS

A quick peek at stamps issued in February from ten different countries around the world.



UNITED NATIONS

COIN AND FLAG

Twenty-four new Coin and Flag stamps were issued February 6 by the United Nations. The stamps show the flag and a representative coin from the country honored. This year marks the eighth installment in this continuing series.



BRAZIL

WORLDSKILLS

Brazil issued February 3 a stamp for the WorldSkills Sao Paulo 2015 event. People from more than 60 countries compete in this professional education event. The design pictures the logo and the Octavio Frias de Oliveira cable-stayed bridge.



GREAT BRITAIN

INVENTIVE BRITAIN

On February 19 Royal Mail honored eight different British inventions from the last decade with eight different stamps: Colossus, World Wide Web, Catseyes, Fibre Optics, Stainless Steel, Carbon Fibre, DNA Sequencing, and i-limb.



ASCENSION ISLAND

GREEN TURTLES

Six different Green Turtles postcard-rate stamps were issued by Ascension Island February 14. The island has a nesting population of more than 25,000 turtles annually. The stamp designs feature photographs.



VATICAN CITY

YEAR OF LIGHT

The United Nations proclaimed 2015 to be the International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies. This stamp, issued February 19, shows a section of the Sistine Chapel fresco by Michelangelo on the creation of the stars.



WORLDWIDE IN A NUTSHELL

BY BOB LAMB

Montenegro

Status: A republic in the southwestern Balkans

Area: 5,333 sq mi

Population: 650,036 (2014 est)

Currency: 100 cents = 1 Euro. 1€ = US\$1.13 (2015)

Montenegro or Crna Gora became an independent state after the breakup of the Serbian empire in the mid-fourteen century. Settled in the rugged valleys around Mount Lovćen, the “Black Mountain,” the Montenegrins were able to maintain their independence even during the Ottoman period. Although the Ottomans sacked the capital, Cetinje, several times, they were never able to subjugate it. After the Berlin Conference of 1878, the Ottomans formally recognized Montenegro’s independence.

In 1860, the nineteen-year-old Prince Nikola Petrović became the country’s ruler. A Francophile, educated in Venice, Nikola was a reformer who expanded Montenegrin territory and introduced free elementary education, granted freedom of the press, built a network of roads and railways, and reformed the postal system. In 1874 he introduced the country’s first postage stamps. In 1910, in the last decade of his 58-year reign, he was proclaimed King Nicholas I.

When World War I broke out, Montenegro declared war on Austria in support of its Serbian neighbor. However, Montenegro was overrun by Austria and the king was forced to take refuge in Rome. Austrian occupation stamps

were issued in 1917. After the war, the Serbian army entered the country and declared it to be part of the new Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. The Montenegrins rebelled against the occupation by their former ally, but the uprising was quickly suppressed and in April 1919 a Serbian civil governor took over. Stamps of the kingdom were used after 1921. The kingdom changed its name in 1929 to Yugoslavia, and two years later that name appeared on postage stamps.

With the Axis partition of Yugoslavia in 1941, Montenegro was re-established, albeit under Italian occupation. After the Italian surrender in 1943, it came under German control. Stamps were issued by both occupying powers. After the war, the Yugoslavian stamps returned, along with Tito’s personal brand of communism.

In 1991, a decade after Tito’s death, ethnic tensions fragmented Yugoslavia, and by the end of 1992 only Montenegro remained united with Serbia in a rump Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In 2003 this federation became the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro. Montenegro adopted the euro, while Serbia retained the dinar. Montenegro’s stamps were inscribed “Serbia and Montenegro” but were denominated in euros. In 2006 Montenegro became an independent republic, with membership in the United Nations and candidate status to the European Community.



Prince Nicholas I,
Scott 38, 1898 15n.



Monastery at Cetinje,
Scott 52, 1896 25n.



Prince Nicholas I, black
overprint Constitution
issue, Scott 67, 1905 2h.



King Nicholas I in 1910,
Scott 94, 1910 35pa.



Postage Due, Scott
J25, 1913 25pa.



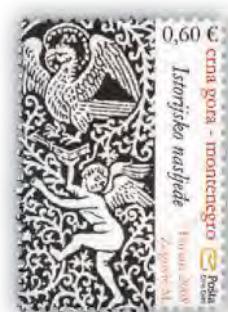
Issued under Austrian Occupation, 1917:
Austrian Military Stamps of 1917 overprinted,
Scott 1N1 (10h) and 1N2 (15h).



Issued under Italian
Occupation, 1943: Peter
Petrovich Nyegosh,
Scott 2N42 20l.



Hourglass with Map
of Montenegro,
Scott 198, 2008 50c.



Eagle and Angel,
Scott 199, 2008, 60c.

\$100,000 Reward

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



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

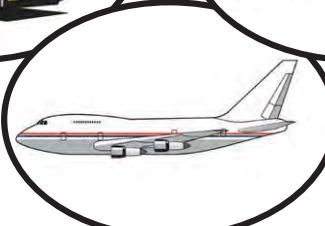
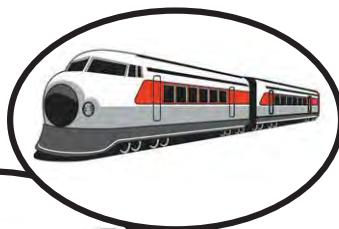
Over the years, the two examples on the left of the block above, positions 65 and 75, were recovered and returned to the American Philatelic Research Library, to which Mrs. McCoy deeded the stamps in 1979.

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

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

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

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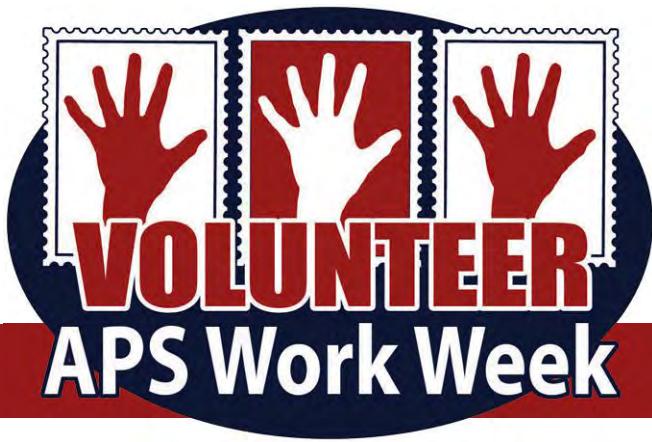
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6th Annual APS Volunteer Work Week

July 27–31, 2015

Volunteer Work Week is becoming a tradition for some APS members and their families. Please join them and the APS staff at the American Philatelic Center to work on projects for both the Society and the Library.

The week includes a kickoff breakfast on Monday, a tour and overview of each department and programs, and ends with a thank-you pizza party on Friday.

Travel, lodging, and most food will be the participants' responsibility, but your out-of-pocket expenses are tax deductible. Although the principal purpose of the week will be to accomplish tasks, volunteers will have evening opportunities to use the American Philatelic Research Library, peruse Circuit

Sales and donations materials, and view the Reference Collection.

Individuals may spend the entire week on one project or help with several different projects by spending as little as half a day on a single project. Many tasks do not require special skills and are open to spouses or other non-member guests.

Come for the week, come for a day — we look forward to working with you!

If you can't make it to the APC but still would like to be an APS Volunteer, please get in touch with Gretchen Moody at 814-933-3803, ext. 239 or gretchen@stamps.org.

Administration

- Apply stamps/pictorial permits
- Prepare member mailing

Circuit Sales

- Organize, identify, and prepare Insurance Fund holdings of stamps for sale*
- Digital imaging of new circuit books

Development

- Help sort/organize donated materials
- Filing

Education

- Duplicating audiovisual programs
- Development of lesson plans**

Internet Sales

- Preparing material to be returned
- Scanning

Library

- Inventory archives*
- Sort periodicals & donations*
- Label and shift books
- Read shelves to make sure books are in the correct order
- Create finding aids*
- Training to index publications (half-day)**
- Cleaning and dusting

Shows

- Prepare badges for APS STAMP SHOW

- Assist with sign preparation

- Assemble show notebooks & banquet programs
- Exhibit frame repair*

Youth

- Make packets for give aways**
- Trim stamps from envelopes**
- Write article(s) for YSCA Newsletter**
- Prepare Youth Area supplies for STAMP SHOW**

* Projects not likely to be accomplished without volunteer help.

** Tasks that could be continued after the week from home.

Name (as desired on badge) _____ APS # _____ T-Shirt Size _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Preferred Task(s) _____

Please send information on housing options. Please send information on area attractions

For more information contact Gretchen Moody at volunteer@stamps.org or call 814-933-3803, ext. 239

or visit Volunteers online at www.stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week

Return this form to Gretchen Moody • APS • 100 Match Factory Place • Bellefonte, PA 16823

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More than 3,000 Mighty Buck Club members have joined “Dollar Bill” in supporting APS and APRL programs and services (see page 367 of this issue).



“Dollar Bill” and friends at StampShow.

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For more information on the Mighty Buck Club
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