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AMERICAN PHILATELIST

January 2007

APS AMERISTAMP EXPO

February 9–11
Riverside Convention Center
Riverside, California



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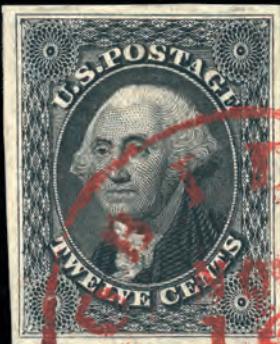
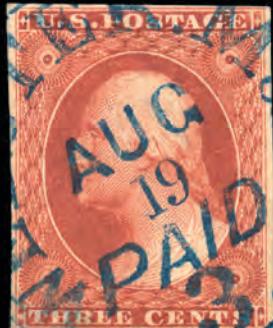
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recorded the February 21 *Linn's Stamp News*, which saluted him for "both strengthening and stabilizing the organization's financial situation during precarious economic times."

Wagner was a Life Member of the APS and a Patron Member of the APRL. His family has asked that memorial contributions be made to the American Philatelic Society.

Joe Foley

A 2006 recipient of the John N. Luff award for exceptional contributions to philately — the highest recognition accorded by the American Philatelic Society — Joe Foley's long and varied history of service to the stamp hobby began when he joined the APS in 1956. The following year, Foley proposed recruiting by giving APS memberships as holiday gifts, and he went on to become founding chairman of both the Awards & Honors and the Affiliate Coordinations committees. In addition to sixteen years of service on the APS board, Joe was a member of more than two dozen philatelic clubs and societies, often writing or editing for them as well. He edited the Collectors Club Philatelists, served in all offices of the Eire Philatelic Association and Baltimore Philatelic Society, and edited *The Baltimore Philatelist* and *The Philatelic Communicator* of APS Writers Unit #30. Accredited as a judge by APS, FIP, and the Germany Philatelic Society, Foley served on the expert committees of both the

Philatelic Foundation and American Philatelic Expertizing Service. He also formulated criteria for judging Cinderella exhibits and worked to revise judging of literature exhibits, giving seminars on both subjects.

Clyde Jennings

A 1989 Luff Award recipient, Clyde Jennings was a life member of APS, an accredited judge and a perennial exhibitor. Famed for his sartorial splendor — his flamboyant wardrobe of more than 100 sports coats was as colorful as his Southern drawl and sunny personality — Clyde was president of the Society of Philatelic Americans and a member of the board of directors of the American Academy of Philately. Active in many of the nation's leading philatelic organizations, Clyde was one of the most often-requested members of the APS Speakers Bureau, with entertaining slide shows on U.S. errors, freaks, fakes and varieties. Ever able to find humor in the hobby, in later years he undertook philatelic research and writing with his son Jay, and was an articulate advocate for bringing the pleasure of the stamp hobby to a new generation of young collectors.

Mary Ann Owens

A proud native of Brooklyn, NY, APS and American Topical Association Life Member Mary Ann Owens was acclaimed in her 1991 Luff Award citation for extending "her

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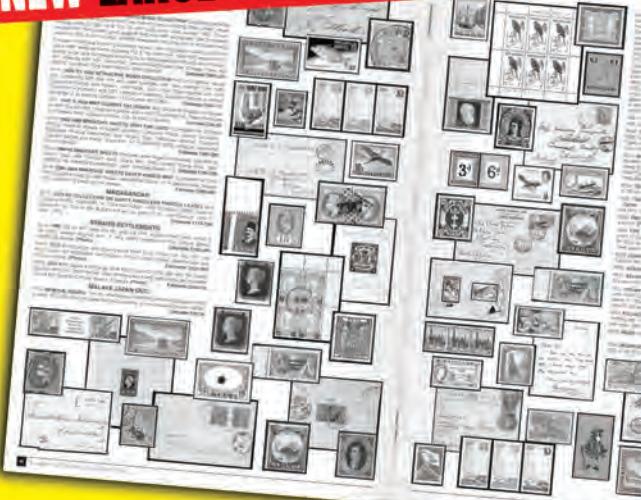
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When President John E. Foxworth Jr. introduced Wagner to the APS membership twenty-five years ago, he hailed Wagner as an experienced manager and philatelist whose legal education and background commended him as the best candidate for the important job of executive director. A native of the small town of Cecil, Pennsylvania, just southwest of Pittsburgh, Wagner held Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Jurisprudence degrees from Duquesne University, and was a graduate of the Judge Advocate General's School and the Army Command and General Staff College.

Keith Wagner began collecting stamps when he was nine years old, beginning with United States stamps, then moving on to trees and animals, and finally concentrating on air mail stamps of the world and U.S., Canadian, and French stamps. He was encouraged to collect by his father, who was himself an avid collector. Wagner was also a dedicated model railroad buff, whose well-loved trains filled his home, eventually required an addition, and frequently decorated APS Headquarters during the holidays.

One of many great stamp stories about Keith concerns one of his most prized philatelic acquisitions. In September 1952, his grandmother gave him \$2,500 to purchase a car, he instead took it to the stamp auction firm Harmer, Rooke & Co. in New York City and bought a 24-cent Jenny invert. Delighted at having a hunted down the key piece in his collection of U.S. airmails, Keith made a day of it, riding around that afternoon with America's best-known error tucked into his pocket on the roller coaster at Coney Island. (When George Amick came to the American Philatelic Research Library to gather information for his best-seller on the error, *Jenny!*, Keith marched over to the plating diagram that George had laid out, pointed to position 22 and proudly stated, "That's mine!")

While at APS, Keith was notorious for spending quite a bit of time on the phone. His philatelic phone friends spanned the globe. One day, at the end of one of his conversations, the staff heard Keith's booming voice, "It's a hobby, damn it. It's supposed to be fun!" Keith will always be in the halls of APS headquarters because many of us frequently use that quote.

Wagner served as APS executive director for thirteen years, until his retirement in 1994. Then-APS President Randy Neil praised Keith for his capable handling of APS affairs and finances. "In everything he has ever done over thirteen years of service," said Neil, "he has continually put the Society and our hobby first. His shoes will be very hard to fill."

During his watch, APS grew from 49,000 to 57,000 members, maintaining one of the highest retention rates among any national organization. Over the same period, the Society modernized its managerial operations and established new staff positions in education and development. At the Society's membership meeting on February 5, 1994, in Sarasota, Florida, Neil called for an official resolution to express deep gratitude to Wagner and to his wife, Barbara Wagner. "The resolution was unanimously passed by a standing ovation,"

Happy New Year!

The celebrations are nearly over, friends and family have traveled home, resolutions have been made (and some already broken), and now it is time to get back to collecting. Speaking of resolutions, did you make any philatelic ones for 2007 — like attending at least one show this year, supporting a local club, trying an APS service that you have never used, recruiting a new member, or sharing the hobby with someone? It's not too late make one!

The philatelic bar was set high in 2006 with the show in Washington, DC. and STAMPSHOW in Chicago, but we hope to surpass that excitement with the events planned for 2007. Check the listing below for dates and locations, and watch future issues of the *AP* for more information on these events.

APS 2007 Calendar

Save these Dates!

- **APS AmeriStamp Expo**
February 9–11
Riverside, California
- **Summer Seminar on Philately**
June 17–22
American Philatelic Center
- **APS StampShow**
August 9–12
Portland, Oregon
- **Aerophilately 2007**
October 19–21
American Philatelic Center
- **Second Annual Postal History Symposium**
October 21–22
American Philatelic Center

Plan to attend!

APS AmeriStamp Expo

APS AMERISTAMP EXPO 2007 is just around the corner and is the first of many exciting philatelic events for year. The show will run February 9–11 at the Riverside Convention Center and the hours are Friday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Aside from great exhibits, seventy-five dealers, meetings, and seminars, Riverside, California, offers warm weather. I hope that you have made plans to attend. While you are at the show, stop by the APS booth to say hello, and if you present your membership card, you will receive a small gift. More information about the show is found on page 26.

We Remember

The new year also is a time for reflection. Each year APS says good by to some of its members. And 2006 was no different. More than 750 members are no longer with us, including former APS Executive Director, Keith Wagner. We appreciate their years of supporting the hobby, their local clubs, and the Society. We pause to remember them.

Keith A. Wagner

Keith A. Wagner, 75, former Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society, passed away December 6, at Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania. He is survived by his wife of forty-eight years, Barbara, of State College, Pennsylvania; a daughter, Ann-Margaret Wagner of Virginia; two brothers, James L. Wagner of Kansas, and John E. Wagner of Virginia; an honorary daughter, Melissa Korkner; and granddaughter, Madison Symmons. He was preceded in death by a son, K.J., in 1992.

At age 49, Mr. Wagner was chosen from more than thirty applicants to replace James T. DeVoss as APS executive director in State College, Pennsylvania, when DeVoss retired from that position after twenty years of service in 1981. Prior to that, he was a career U.S. Army officer of twenty-six years service, having served in Germany, Korea, Okinawa, and Japan before spending the last five years of that career as Staff Advocate General at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.



Dec 15, 13:38:10 EST

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19th Century Used (3296)

1901-1940 UnUsed (7007)

1901-1940 Used (3554)

1941-Present UnUsed (10861)

1941-Present Used (4792)

Back of Book (8756)

Confederate States (9)

Covers (4897)

Errors, Freaks & Oddities (206)

Plate Blocks / Multiples (5993)

Plate Number Coils (2272)

Possessions (247)

Revenues (14741)

Sheets (1825)

Collections (349)

Other (US) (1248)

Non United States

Africa (1451)

Asia (2626)

Australia (875)

British Commonwealth (6254)

Canada (7145)

Europe (12467)

Great Britain (UK) (1294)

Latin & South America (1877)

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Worldwide (3717)

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Topicals (11568)

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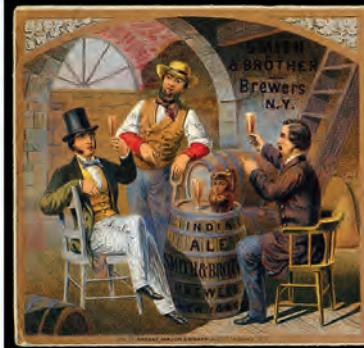


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table of contents

January 2007 • Volume 121 • No. 1 • Whole No. 1,272

26 California, Here We Come!

A preview of the activities awaiting visitors to APS AMERISTAMP EXPO 2007 in Riverside, California.



48 The Oil Crisis of the 1970s; A Turning Point of the 20th Century

by Saleem Al-Ani Stamps tell the story of the beginning of OPEC and the growing concern for developing alternative energy sources.

56 Argentina; Discovery and Disappointment

by René Jacobsohn Is it a genuine Argentina Scott 18A bisect on cover or a clever forgery?

60 Canada Looks to Hollywood

by Jesse I. Spector, M.D. Discovering letters sent to early American movie stars from Canada proves an entertaining find.

FEATURED COLUMNS

36 Collecting Coast to Coast — Wayne Youngblood

A Celebration of Printing in America — A look back at the roots of fine stamp printing in the United States.

40 Exploring Back-of-the-Book — David Straight

Stamp, Envelope, and Postcard Shipments — A short history of Post Office receipt forms for stamps and other official shipments.

74 Inside the NPM — Allen Kane

New Exhibit Looks at the Exciting Lives of Postal Inspectors — A new exhibit examining the history of "Postal Inspectors: The Silent Service" opens the beginning of 2007.



Page 26

Page 48

Page 56

Page 60

APS News

Advertisers Online	83
APS Affiliates	71
APS Candidacies Announced	18
APS Snapshot	7
Book Reviews	93
Classifieds	90
From the Executive Director	68
Index of Advertisers	82
Letters to the Editor	14
Membership Report	86
President's Column	66
Sales Talk	69
Show Time	76

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When it comes to selling treasures like this, we're the key buyers.



Many philatelists over the years have remarked that the black \$1.00 "Cattle in Western Storm" Trans-Mississippi stamp is the most beautiful U.S. stamp ever issued. But imagine if the stamp had been issued as it was originally intended: as a bicolor such as the trial color die proof shown here. Few stamps could ever be so striking.

Essays and proofs are some of the rarest and most sought after collectables in the stamp hobby. They represent the finest examples of the art of producing the postage stamp—and they occupy a very specialized area of philately.

If you have this kind of material in your collection, you should, of course, be very careful when it comes time to sell them. You will need to work with a buyer who has a consummate knowledge of them—someone who knows, for instance, all about a trial color die proof of the \$1.00 stamp from the U.S. 1898 Trans-Mississippi issue (above).

This same buyer must also have a broad knowledge of the marketplace and what people are paying for even the most obscure, yet valuable stamps and covers. How else could he make successful purchases?

The person who wants to buy your stamps must also understand the significance (and value) of unusual material like that shown here—and recognize an especially unusual and rare piece for what it is. You have taken great care in acquiring the fine material for your collection—you should be equally as discriminating when you sell.

Whether you have a lifetime multi-volume collection you are going to sell—or you are ready to dispose of a highly specialized award-winning philatelic exhibit, the wisest thing you can do is to trust not only an experienced buyer, but one who is also a lifelong expert philatelist.

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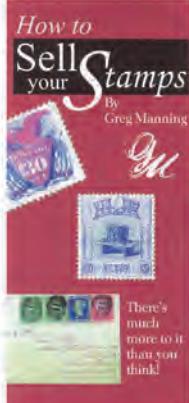
Things I've Learned About Stamps

Many of the world's leading dealers and collectors participate in our regular Collections of the World public auctions—sales with a reputation for offering some of the most beautiful and rarest treasures in philately.

Whether it is the fabulous sale of the United Nations Postal Administration archives which included unique never-before-seen essays and proofs of the earliest U.N. material, or rare items like the Trans-Mississippi trial color proof shown on this page, our record of going after, and acquiring, such outstanding material is formidable. We're able to do this because we employ some of the world's finest professional philatelists—people with the same kind of discriminating taste as our universe of clients. If you have major material to sell, by all means, come to us for the best offer.



Greg Manning



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personal love of philately into uncommon voluntary service over several decades, from the local to the international level." An outstanding topical exhibitor here and abroad, Mary Ann represented the APS for many years on the Thematic Commission of the FIP. In 1979 Postmaster General Bolger appointed Mary Ann to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, advising the Postal Service on U.S. stamp design. She was a recipient of ATA's Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award. She served on many APS committees, and was an APS- and ATA-accredited judge, frequently serving as a U.S. commissioner at international exhibitions. Her articles appeared throughout the philatelic press, she wrote several handbooks, and was on the Scott Publishing Co. advisory board in the 1970s. She played important roles in many other

philatelic organizations too numerous to mention, yet Mary Ann was always generous in answering questions, helping newcomers and offering practical advice, with a kind smile and a genial attitude.

Harry Sutherland

A member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada for more than half a century, Harry Sutherland became its longest-serving president and one of its guiding lights. Canada's pre-eminent philatelist, Sutherland was chairman of that nation's prestigious Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, an International Federation of Philately (F.I.P.) accredited International Judge and a signatory to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

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Some collectors may not be aware that we are very active buyers of United States stamp and cover collections. If you have such material for sale, you might be surprised at the prices we're paying.

There are certainly many stamp firms currently buying United States collections—but before you thumb through the pages of this magazine, consider this: Because our turnover is extremely high, we traditionally buy U.S. material at prices that often even surprises our competitors. Call us!

For over 30 years many thousands of good people have placed their trust in Dr. Bob Friedman when it was time to sell. We will buy it all! You'll not only appreciate our friendly, personal way of doing business, but you can place your confidence in someone who has an established worldwide reputation for integrity. *Our relationships are personal and confidential between you and Bob Friedman, himself. Here's something important to keep in mind: over 95% of our offers for collections have been accepted.*

Whether you have a small old collection you inherited from your grandfather—or 40 crates of albums and shoeboxes that would fill a trailer truck—we are prepared to give you **full market value** for whatever you have to sell. We have \$1,000,000 available for this purpose right now.

Special Note from Dr. Bob: "I love looking at stamp collections. I am a retired doctor who really enjoys stamps and am willing to do free appraisals if it will help collectors."

Here are some especially important factors to consider when choosing how to sell your philatelic material to Dr. Friedman:



Dr. Bob Friedman and his sons, Steve and Ken, are quite interested in every conceivable kind of U.S. philatelic item from covers of all kinds to specialized collections and exhibits. We are quite cognizant of the current market and willingly pay the seller actual market value for his material.

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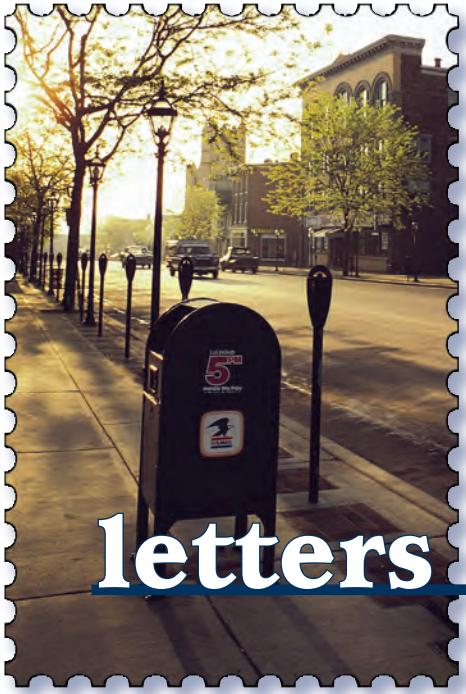
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STAMPS





letters to the editor

Customer Relations

I'm a very small dealer and have not yet applied for APS status; however, as a collector also, I do see many improvements dealers can make, from a customer's standpoint. I agree with Roger B. West's suggestions in his October letter ("Stamp Dealer Attitude," page 898), but feel there are some additional ones:

1. At least acknowledge a person's inquiry vs. just dismissing it. I state an interest for my clients, but and

it's rare that a dealer even replies back.

2. Be up front and don't assume that everyone knows you're selling an item "As Is" or are offering it with no return. I see this happening a lot on eBay where I sell.
3. Don't overcharge people for boxes and supplies. eBay wants you to use labels via PayPal to make more money. Personally, I don't care about a stupid self-adhesive label or new box. I recycle boxes. The important thing is that people want their stuff.
4. From a dealer's standpoint, don't abuse eBay's "Ask Seller a Question." If your question isn't related to the item for sale, use their e-mail address (if given) to contact the seller. For example, I get questions about topical stamps with respect to a postal history item I'm selling.
5. Offer discounts for your repeat buyers. I'm not saying give the house away, but it builds loyalty.
6. Have a correspondence system. How hard is it to write a letter? If something happens, I have an e-mail or a letter that says which lots a customer won, how much he paid, etc., and the eBay sales record as well, so I can find things faster.
7. PayPal seems to be the favorite system of payment. If someone won lots of things, give them a PayPal printout

8. This is optional, but insure the package if the value is over \$50 for domestic customers.
9. Refund if there's overpayment on postage when a customer has paid online. PayPal is faulty when it comes to payments for multiple items.
10. State faults up front in your ads or eBay listings. If you overlooked something and someone wants a refund, try to compromise first or reimburse the whole purchase. You made the error, they didn't!

Mike Maniurski
Hoffman Estates, Illinois

Why Use Mailing Labels Instead of Stamps?

Would someone please explain to me why our Society, dedicated to the collection of stamps, uses these abominable, homemade labels on its own correspondence instead of real collectible stamps? The Sales Division urges us to be sure that at least some of the postage on stamp circuits is in actual postage stamps because the recipient is a stamp collector. The society would do well to heed its own advice. The recent mailing encouraging members to contribute to the Headville Post Office Project says that with the project in place, "we will be able to can-



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17 Announce Candidacy for APS Election 2007

Nominations for individuals running for election to the APS Board for the 2007–2009 term and as the elected APS representative to the American Philatelic Research Library Board opened December 1 and close March 31, 2007. Below is a list of nominees as of December 1, 2006.

To be placed on the ballot that will be included in the May 2007 issue of *The American Philatelist*, an individual must receive a nomination and ten seconds by March 31, 2007. One individual is elected for each position except the Board of Vice President, for which one team of three will be elected, and Director-at-Large, for which four positions will be filled.

Nominations may be made in two ways: by APS chapters, signed by both the chapter's president and secretary, and by petition, signed by at least ten APS members, not affiliated with a chapter who has made a nomination for the same position. Nominations must be seconded by ten or more chapters, by ten or more seconding endorsements each signed by ten or more members who are not members of a nominating or seconding chapter, or by a combination of ten chapters and such seconding endorsements. All nominations and seconding endorsements must be sent directly to the APS Headquarters, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823, to be received by March 31.

Forms, rules and other election information is available from the APS website at www.stamps.org or by contacting the Society at 814-933-3803.

* Indicates the candidate has received the required nomination and ten seconds.

cel our mail once again." What will be canceled — more non-philatelic labels? We live in age when scarcely one piece of mail in ten comes with a real postage stamp on it and it turns out that one of the offenders is the APS itself! Of course the obvious answer is cost but I would suggest that the Society examine its policies and priorities in light of its central mission.

William P. Winter
Silver Spring, MD

Ken Martin, Deputy Executive Director, replies: We recognize that many more of our members collect postage stamps than pictorial permits, and we use traditional postage stamps on all but mass mailings. However, it is not economical for us to apply stamps individually to mass mailings that are sent to all or large portions of the membership. If we want to take advantage of the nonprofit bulk mailing

rate (for the Headsville or dues mailing this is about 13 cents versus the first class rate of 39 cents) we have limited options. We could use a meter; we could use a permit; we could use a pre-stamped envelope; or we could use the nonprofit rate stamp. For a number of years we did use stamps. The stamps were applied by automatic mailing equipment, which more often than not cut the perforations off the stamp. Our members complained about this.

Subsequently we moved to using the nonprofit mail prestamped envelopes. As with the stamps, often only one design is available and thus members may receive the same envelope mailing after mailing. Six years ago we began using the pictorial permits. Postal regulations allow for customized permits so that we can use a different label each year. Most of our pictorial permits have been produced in

a quantity of only 50,000, compared to the millions or billions produced of the nonprofit stamp and nonprofit stamped envelopes. Many of our members have expressed thanks for the pieces of "postal history" they have received. And enough of our members have asked for mint copies of the pictorial permits that we have had packets made up to sell in order to fill member requests.

The Society takes a broad definition of philately and does not prescribe to its members what is or is not collectible. In my personal opinion many envelopes that go through the mail without normal postage stamps are collectible. I certainly don't turn down free franks, stampless covers, or envelopes with personalized postage.

However, we will reevaluate the use of pictorial permits. We plan a membership survey next year and it seems like

2007 APS Election Nominees

President

Nick Carter (Bethesda, Maryland) *
Ken Lawrence (Bellefonte, PA)

Vice Presidents (run as a team of 3)

Nancy B. Clark (Marstons Mills, MA), Robert E. Lamb (State College, PA), Jeffrey Shapiro (Fayville, MA)
Steven J. Rod (South Orange, NJ), Wade E. Saadi (Brooklyn, NY), David L. Straight (St. Louis, MO) *

Secretary

Wayne Youngblood (Scandinavia, WI)
Steve Zwillinger (Silver Spring, MD)

Treasurer

Dan Walker (Lisbon, MD)

Director at Large (four to be elected)

Michael D. Dixon (Potomac, MD)
Joann Lenz (Sterling Heights, MI)
Denise Stotts (Houston, TX)
Kent Wilson (Billings, MT)

APRL Trustee

John Flannery (Webster, NY)
Rob Haeseler (Bellefonte, PA)

— The APS Vision Team for 2007 —

Completing the Vision: the Way Forward for APS

By Ken Lawrence

The APS Vision Team's candidates are seeking election to serve APS members as your representatives. We want to assure that the project we embarked on five years ago is carried through to completion. I presented that plan in a document titled "Reverence for Our Past; A Vision for Our Future" in the May 2002 *American Philatelist*, but I also cautioned that difficulties might lie ahead:

"Steering an established, conservative culture in a new direction cannot occur if its leaders cling to habits of mind that collide with stubborn new realities. But those who regard the new situation as a challenge will make the most of opportunities that arise."

Over the course of three years beginning in 2002, the American Philatelic Research Library purchased the historic Match Factory in Bellefonte and completed the first three phases of restoration and renovation of the property, dedicating each stage with a ceremonial gathering that celebrated our achievement and undertook the next stage.

Then in 2005, with the vision about halfway to completion, a majority of our current Boards shifted gears and "put on the brakes," with the APRL still in its temporary home and a large portion of the library holdings confined to cold storage under poor conditions apart from the main reading room. The most architecturally interesting and the most potentially valuable and useful buildings in the Match Factory complex remain as eyesores, in unfinished, dilapidated condition. Works of fine art hanging in the newly completed Kramer gallery were damaged by moisture that seeped in from the adjacent structure after new construction was stopped.

We are gratified that the APS and APRL Boards recently approved a plan to begin Phase IV of the development (to renovate rental space, not space to meet our needs), but that decision came only after a year had passed with no additional progress. Meanwhile, Project One, the fund appeal dedicated to fulfilling our headquarters acquisition and development program, has been abandoned in favor of the Campaign for Philately, a so-called "capital campaign" that diverts some of the un-designated income from donations to other programs (which ought to be paid by dues and fees) even though most donors think they are supporting the renovation.

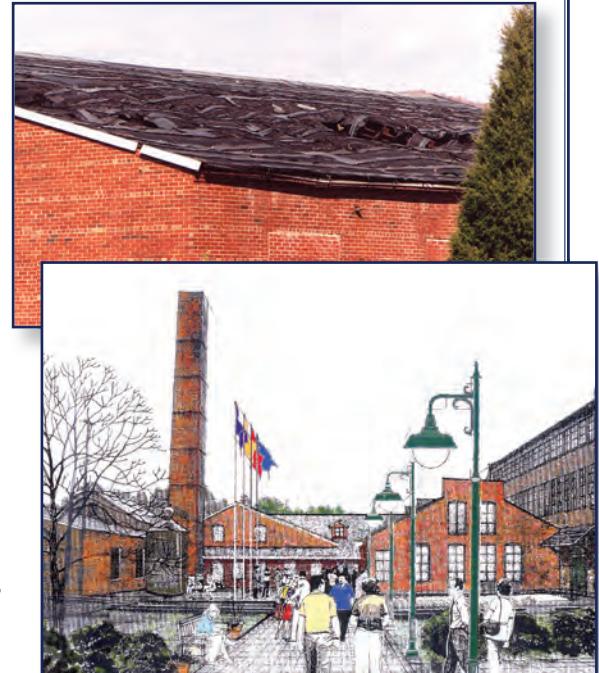
Our leaders have not carried forward the vision. Some never agreed with it; others were elected without ever taking a stand, but then sided with the opponents. The consequence is that we have taken a wrong turn. It's time to get back on the right path and finish the job.



**Support the APS Vision Team: Ken Lawrence for APS President
Nancy Clark, Bob Lamb, and Jeff Shapiro for APS Vice Presidents
Wayne Youngblood for APS Secretary • Joann Lenz for APS Director-at-Large
Rob Haeseler for APRL Trustee**

We'll provide up-to-date opinions and discussion about all the issues on the Virtual Stamp Club chat board, www.virtualstampclub.com. For more information write to the APS Vision Team, Post Office Box 210, Bellefonte, PA 16823-0210, or apsken@aol.com. Watch this space next month for more of our program.

Ada M. Prill and John M. Hotchner, co-chairs, APS Vision Team. Stephen L. Suffet, consultant.



The American Philatelic Center building is on the National Register of Historic Places, but the State of Pennsylvania won't promote it as a tourist destination as long as the first part that visitors encounter is a dilapidated eyesore with holes in the roof. Architects have shown how wonderful it will be after renovation, but a majority of today's APS and APRL leaders halted the project in 2005, and let it languish while some un-designated donated funds are being diverted to the operating budget.

Some of Us Are Unhinged

Everyone needs a hobby. I'd like to recommend stamp collecting as a pastime, but first let's take a look at what qualifications you need to become a philatelist of note.

First off, good eyesight is an asset. Not only do you need to be able to see the difference between Edward VII and George V, but you also must be accurate in identifying what is Prussian blue and what is ultramarine.

It will help if you're a shallow breather; otherwise, you're apt to blow away Eire, Iran, and Kuwait with one deep sigh. While there may be no international repercussions, it can make vacuuming the diningroom a real pain.

A good licker is handy (any year will do). A pointed, wet tongue beats the sponge as a moistener for the hinges used to hold stamps in your albums. Note that the odd mint stamp must be kept unhinged. This rule applies as well to uninvolved wives and husbands, particularly those of the unsympathetic variety.

A memory for history is certainly an attribute. Remember Montenegro? Remember when Newfoundland was a colony? Remember Bethune in China? Remember Michelangelo's work in the Sistine Chapel? Remember Walt Disney? See, al-

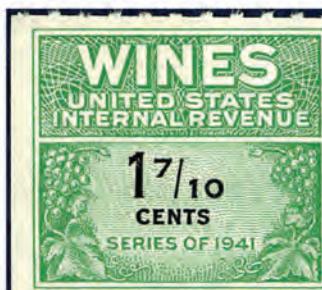
ready your interest has been piqued!

There are many, often overlooked, side advantages to stamp collecting as well. For instance, albums can be used as effective insulation if stacked along the cold north wall of your house. You'll also find that you will develop a whole new jargon. Your friends will be dazzled to discover that a "corner block" has nothing to do with real estate; that a "first day cover" is not your Sunday duvet; and that "Gibbons" are not swingers from southeast Asia.

The perennial seducer may legitimately invite an eager young woman to come up and see his Constables, Pissarros, Turners, and Van Goghs. This is an impressive gallery, provided she doesn't mind peering through a jeweler's lens at gum-backed miniatures edged with perforations.

The final perk is that, in a pinch, you can always raid your collection for enough postage to mail a letter. However, if this ultimate sacrifice is disclosed, you might find yourself stamped out as a philatelist.

Margaret Lyons
Islington, Ontario



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a reasonable question would be whether members would prefer us to use the non-profit rate stamp, a stamped envelope, or the pictorial permits for the mass mailings.

Hinged 'Mint' Stamps

I am a relatively new member of the APS. The quality magazine you produce is one of the reasons I joined, but I've recently began to receive the APS circuits, and this is a nice member benefit.

However, I have a real pet peeve with some of the circuit sellers, and that is the way they handle mint stamps. My pet peeve is not concerned with the current fad/debate about mint hinged or mint never hinged. It is about the sellers who put a hinge on a mint stamp, and then price it as a mint stamp with a Scott mint value when the *Scott Catalogue* explicitly states that the CV is for the stamp NEVER hinged. Too make matters worse, these same guys use the most horrible hinges imaginable. It's like they are using a white tape that you can't get off without soaking, and then you have a mint stamp with no gum. The types who use those green-tinted hinges are no better.

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325 Very Fine+ OG NH	\$120.	421 Extremely Fine OG NH w/PFC.	\$1000.		
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327 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	\$275.	423 Extremely f ne Gem OG NH Jumbo!	\$800.		
327 Superb Gem OG NH Top Imprint Copy Exceptional!	\$675.	423 Very Fine+ OG NH	\$575.		
327 Choice Very Fine OG NH photocopy of '04 PFC showing stamp in block.	\$350.	423 Superb Gem OG VLH Jumbo!	\$675.		
327 Very Fine+ OG NH	\$300.	429 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH	\$500.		
328-30 Extremely Fine OG NH Set	\$450.	430 Extremely Fine OG NH	\$250.		
328-30 Choice Very Fine OG NH Set	\$350.	432 Superb Gem OG NH	\$275.		
328-30 Very Fine+ OG NH Set	\$300.	433 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH	\$250.		
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337 Superb Gem OG NH Top Plate# Copy	\$250.	434 Superb Gem OG NH Bottom Plate#	\$200.		
340 Superb Gem OG NH Pristine! '98 PFC	\$500.	434 Extremely Fine OG NH	\$150.		
340 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH	\$300.	434 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	\$250.		
340 Extremely Fine OG NH	\$225.	438 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$375.		
343-47 Superb Gem OG NH Set	\$250.	439 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$350.		
343-47 Superb Gem OG NH Horizontal Line Pairs	\$500.	440 Superb Gem OG NH Spectacular UR Corner Margin Copy	\$1500.		
343-47 Superb Gem OG NH Vertical line Pairs	\$500.	440 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins w/PFC.	\$1250.		
348 Superb Gem OG NH	\$150.	440 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH Top Margin Copy w/PFC.	\$950.		
348 Very Fine OG NH Line Pair	\$550.	440 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH	\$875.		
351 Extremely Fine OG NH Line Pair w/PFC.	\$2000.	441-2 Very Fine+ OG NH Line Pairs	\$135.		
355 Superb Gem OG NH	\$750.	443-47 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$1250.		
357 Extremely Fine OG NH	\$200.	448,50 Very Fine+ OG NH Line Pairs	\$1500.		
357 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$150.	452 Very Fine OG NH Line Pair	\$300.		
357 Very Fine+ OG NH	\$130.	454 Choice VF OG NH	\$150.		
358 Superb Gem OG NH	\$300.	454 Extremely Fine OG NH Line Pair	\$175.		
358 Extremely Fine OG NH	\$200.	459 Superb Gem OG NH	\$1000.		
358 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	\$125.	460 Superb Gem OG NH '91 PFC	\$875.		
366 Superb Gem OG NH Perfectly Centered w/PFC	\$3000.	460 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$500.		
366 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	\$1400.	461 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	\$250.		
369 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH	\$300.	461 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$200.		
369 Extremely Fine OG NH	\$250.	465 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH	\$225.		
369 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$225.	466 Extremely Fine OG NH	\$225.		
371 Superb Gem OG NH Top PB of 8	\$500.	467 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH Error in Strip of 3 '92 PFC	\$2000.		
371 Superb Gem OG NH Bottom Arrow Block of 32	\$1200.	467 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH Error in Strip of 3 '99 PFC	\$2000.		
373 Superb Gem OG NH Top Plateblock of 6	\$575.	467 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH Error in Strip of 3 '99 PFC	\$2000.		
380 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	\$250.	468 Superb Gem OG NH Incredible Huge Jumbo!	\$2000.		
381 Very Fine+ OG NH	\$200.	468 Superb Gem OG NH '95 PFC.	\$875.		
382 Superb Gem OG NH w/PFC.	\$500.	470 Extremely Fine OG NH	\$765.		
382 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$300.	470 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$765.		
388 Fine-Very Fine+ OG VLH Line Pair w/PFC. Scarce!	\$3750.	470 Choice Very Fine OG NH Bottom PB of 6	\$675.		
390-1 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$175.	471 Superb Gem OG NH '97 PFC	\$765.		
390-1 Extremely Fine OG NH Line Pairs Exceptional!	\$700.	472 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$765.		
392 Superb Gem OG NH Line Pair	\$450.	473 Choice Very Fine OG NH	\$765.		
396 Choice Very Fine OG NH Line Pair '92 PFC	\$1000.	476 Extremely Fine OG NH	\$765.		
397-404 Extremely Fine OG NH Set	\$1750.	476 Very Fine+ OG NH Fresh!	\$765.		
397-404 Overall a Very Fine Set OG NH	\$1350.	477 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH w/PFC.	\$1875.		
397-404 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH Set	\$1175.	478 Superb Gem OG NH Perfectly Centered!	\$1250.		
397-404 Fine-Very Fine OG Lightly Hinged Set	\$875.	478 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH w/PFC.	\$1000.		
399 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	\$300.	478 Fine-Very Fine+ Used Bottom Plateblock of 6 Scarce!	\$750.		
399 Superb Gem OG NH	\$250.	479 Superb Gem OG NH	\$800.		
400 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk margins!	\$350.	479 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH	\$675.		
400 Superb Gem OG NH	\$300.				
400A Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	\$650.				
400A Superb Gem OG NH '02 PSE Cert	\$600.				
400A Superb Gem OG NH	\$550.				

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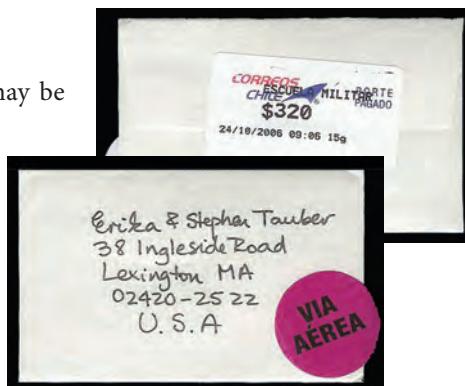
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'Unmailable'

To some postal historians it may be of interest that "unmailable" is a relative term. Since April 1978 it has not been possible to mail a letter in the United States that is smaller than 3½ inches by 5 inches. Nevertheless, the U.S. Postal Service delivered, without quibble, a letter measuring 2¾ inches by 3¾ inches mailed from Chile. Note that the postage had to be affixed on the reverse and that there was scarcely room enough for the air mail label on the front.



Stephen Tauber
Lexington, Massachusetts

lack of a consistently good hinge in the marketplace. Since Dennison stopped making their hinges more than thirty years ago, there have been few, if any, good peelable hinges available. We can suggest that sellers use care when buying hinges and to test them before using them in their sales books.

We also can inform them about the pricing in *Scott's Catalogue*, but we have to ride a fine line when determining the acceptance of material for our circuits. Sellers who ignore our suggestions and advice find that they sell very little and are charged the minimum commission when their books are retired. We offer suggestions when books are submitted for sale, particularly when material is priced rather high for its condition.

With more than 700 sellers in our system, there are bound to be varying styles of presentation, pricing, mounting, legibility, etc. Each case is handled individually and we regularly give advice on selling through our service. Some of the advice can be applied to selling in other venues, including online sites.

ter. I find the GK brand to work pretty well, and perhaps they should be required.

Anyway, I love being in the APS, especially the convenience of buying through the circuits. But I really think that the circuit sales division needs to

crack down on the practices of some sellers.

Carl Barna
Arvada, Colorado
Sales Division Director Tom Horn replies: Thank you for your comments. The pet peeve many collectors have is the

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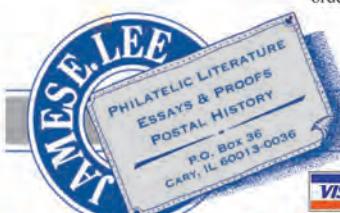


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Post-World War II Used

When I read Wes Kent's article in the November AP ("The Road to Shangri La — Philatelically Speaking," page 1034), I thought about all the post-World War II worldwide stamps that I have bought. The circuit books at our local club only include stamps to, I think, 1940.

When you find dealers who only sell these stamps in mint condition, you start to think "Could the APS attract younger collectors by offering circuit books with mint and used stamps of the post-World War II era?"

I spend hundreds of dollars on mint stamps that I would be happy to buy used, and the availability of such stamps at the American Philatelic Center would make a trip to Shangri La a lot more interesting!

Luis Greiff Jr.
Rochester, New York

Be a Mentor

The November issue of the AP carried a very nice article by James N. Dod-

Inspiring

Recently, at a local stamp club auction, I purchased a stack of back issues of the AP. I checked my issues at home and found that there were thirteen earlier issues that I didn't have. I purchased the lot for the princely sum of \$1.

While reading the older issues, I ran across several articles relating to Abraham Lincoln and one describing a postal history poster produced by Tom Keesling of Indianapolis, Indiana ("Postal History as Art," September 2004, page 806). I was impressed and inspired by Tom's poster. As I am a Lincoln collector, I started scanning Lincoln-related covers, and produced the enclosed poster, which is now proudly framed in my stamp room. And I intend to make another one on another subject.

I really enjoy your magazine and thought I would like to tell you how inspiring it can be.



Ron Demery
Joplin, Missouri

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Bad Cancels

With reference to Anne White's letter in the October AP ("Discouraging Cancels," page 908), here is another example. This is one reason philately is dying.

Donald Brooks
Cypress, California



Stamp Dealer Stationery

The October issue of *The American Philatelist* brought the very interesting article on stamp dealers by Wayne Youngblood ("Collecting Stamp Dealer Covers," page 918). In it he mentions on page 919 his purchase of covers of a German dealer, Ernest Petritz. Enclosed is a copy of a letter that Petritz wrote to one of his customers in 1893. Interesting indeed are the last few lines in the bottom left corner where he advises that if the reader finds difficulty in getting to his premises, he may either

take the horse-drawn omnibus or take the river boat to Blasewitz. Of course, nowadays this locality is within the town.

It is also interesting to note that Petritz supplied everything from albums, catalogues, stock books, and, most important, hinges for approval sheets and approval booklets. Truly very much ahead of his time.

Peter C. Rickenback
London, England

son about the process of recruiting and retaining novice collectors ("Step One Project," page 989).

The author is certainly aware of the distractions facing new collectors today: t.v., cell phones, computers, video games, CDs, etc. Learning how to use these items for our hobby is a great step forward and should be encouraged.

Another item that should be encouraged is knowledge and honesty within our hobby. We so-called "seasoned collectors" should be mentors for new collectors as well. I know not of a single collector who didn't make huge mistakes in time and effort that, with mentoring, could have been avoided.

How many of us started out with non-expandable type albums? How many of us have wasted a large amount of cash purchasing USPS stickers that pass for postage stamps? (I firmly believe that, down the road, the era of self-adhesive stamps will become known as the "Dark Ages" of collecting.) How many of us tell the new collector that the best bang for the buck comes from collecting used singles of XF grade? How many of us actually take the time to show a new collector what we do, how we do it, and why we do it? We should never lose a potential collector due to ignorance — not one!

Another item I'd like to see would be the expansion of the survey questions suggested by Mr. Dodson. I would include the following:

- Were you guided into your area of collecting, or did you just fall into it?
- Do you keep your favorite philatelic items in albums?
- Were you guided in choosing an album style or did you make early mistakes?
- Do you freely share your knowledge and expertise with new collectors?

In my opinion, we have a duty to guide the new collector through the pitfalls of ignorance. If we fail to do so, we have no one but ourselves to blame for a decrease in the number of tomorrow's collectors.

Peter G. Ladron
Rock Falls, Wisconsin

Saadi — Rod — Straight

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Professional Experience

Wade E. Saadi — I bring considerable leadership, financial, management and real estate experience to the APS board, at a critical time for the Society; the completion of the American Philatelic Center.

- 1973–Present, Founder, President and CEO of 600-employee conglomerate, with offices in nine states and Canada.
Spun off a division and led it to public offering as a NASDAQ listed corporation.
- Chairman and CEO of a NASDAQ listed corporation; Very familiar with corporate finance and governance.
- Entrepreneur of the Year Award®, 1996 in NYC. Ernst & Young annual award for technology.
- 1984 – Present, Licensed real estate professional; managed several full and partial building rehabilitations.

Steven J. Rod — I bring intensive and successful not-for-profit management experience. I have overseen new construction as a CEO and am eager to see the completion of the American Philatelic Center.

- 1980–1986, and 1986–1988, CEO of two not-for-profit organizations;
- 1988–Present, VP Professional Development. Consult with and train 3,000 professional employees of 250 not-for-profits on personnel matters, as well as governance and management.
- Develop and oversee these training programs throughout the year.
- Member of the American Society of Training Directors (ASTD); train others on “how to be an effective trainer.”

David L. Straight — The American Philatelic Research Library is one of our greatest member assets; I bring widespread experience managing libraries and modernizing their services.

- 1993–Present, Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. Librarian for a 750,000-volume facility.
- 1980–1993, Managed library's A.V. & micrographic collections; established video collection; and computerized finding aids to microform collections and built extensive web-based finding aids for government documents.
- Masters of Library and Information Science; taught at University of Missouri School of Library and Info.Sci.
- Consult to libraries, manufacturers and movers on storage, retrieval, and moving of library materials.



wade@aps-vp.org



steven@aps-vp.org



david@aps-vp.org

California, Here We Come!



The American Philatelic Society and stamp collectors from around the world will converge on Riverside, California, February 9–11, for APS AMERISTAMP EXPO 2007. The annual APS winter show will be held at the Riverside Convention Center at Raincross Square, located at 3443 Orange Street in downtown Riverside. Admission is free — come join us!

APS AMERISTAMP EXPO will host get-togethers by at least a dozen other national philatelic organizations. Meetings and seminars have been planned for the three-day event by the APS Chapter Activities Committee, APS Writers Unit, American Ceremony Program Society, American First Day Cover Society, American Philatelic Research Library, American Plate Number Single Society, Canal Zone Study Group, Chess-On-Stamp Study Unit, Errors, Freaks, and Oddities Collectors Club, National Stamp Dealers Association, Prexie-Era Study Group, and Virtual Stamp Club.

Show Highlights

Aside from the more than seventy-five dealers participating and the aisles of award-winning exhibits to peruse, the show will host the Tiffany Dinner, the Awards Banquet, a variety of seminars and society meetings, and much more.

- Catch up on the latest Society news at the APS General Membership Meeting and learn about all of the exciting things ahead for the Society this year. The meeting will convene Saturday morning at 9 a.m.
- Attend the Candidates Forum to meet those running for office in the 2007 APS Election.
- Learn how to use the tools of the hobby at "Stamp Saturday," an adult workshop for beginners. Two sessions are available — one in the morning and one in the afternoon.
- Bring the kids to the show on Sunday for Family Day — games, activities, prizes, and more!
- Meet international stamp designer Chris Calle.

Along with conventional competitive single- and multi-frame exhibits, and thematic, Cinderella, display, illustrated mail, postcard and youth categories, AMERISTAMP EXPO will offer a new challenge for exhibitors: an innovative single-frame team competition. Each exhibitor in the five-member teams will display a new one-frame exhibit not previously shown at any national or international show. In addition, each one of the five



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frames shown by a team must be of a different type than those submitted by the other team members. Types include traditional, postal history, postal stationary, thematic, display, revenue, aerophilately, astrophilately, illustrated mail, Cinderella/poster/promotional, and special studies exhibits. Complete team rules for this special competition are available online in pdf format at <http://www.stamps.org/Ameristamp/Images/Teamrules.pdf>.

The floor plan for the event at the Riverside Convention Center has been laid out to accommodate booths for a bourse of approximately seventy-five dealers and as many as 4,400 pages of exhibits in sixteen-page frames.



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There also will be postal administrations in attendance, and special booths where all covers will be priced at \$1 or less, and all stamps at 10¢ or under. In addition, Harmer-Schau Auction Galleries Inc. of Petaluma, California, <http://www.harmerschau.com>, will conduct a special auction, with pre-sale viewing on site during the show.

The show and bourse will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. A detailed APS AMERISTAMP EXPO floor plan layout can be viewed online in pdf format at <http://www.stamps.org/Ameristamp/Images/Floorplan.pdf>.

For additional information about APS AMERISTAMP EXPO visit the APS website at <http://www.stamps.org/Ameristamp/intro.htm>.

Accommodations

The Riverside Marriott, adjacent to the Riverside Convention Center, is the headquarters hotel for AMERISTAMP EXPO. The special group rate is \$115 single/double, plus 11% tax (be sure to mention "American Philatelic Society AMERISTAMP EXPO"). To make reservations as early as possible, call 1-800-228-9290 or 1-951-784-8000. On-site dining options at the Riverside include the Espresso & More Deli, Martini's Lounge, and Olio Ristorante. The Riverside Marriott has high-speed internet access, a large outdoor pool with sundeck, and a fitness center open twenty-four hours a day. Parking is \$5 to \$15 for twenty-four hours.

The Riverside Marriott asks guests arriving at Ontario National Airport to call at least seventy-two hours in advance with their flight information, in order that the complimentary hotel shuttle can be waiting to meet them when they arrive. (Again, be sure to mention "American Philatelic Society Ameristamp Expo.") The Marriott also offers guests complimentary shuttle service to destinations within five miles of the hotel, subject to availability, and asks that patrons call the Bell Desk in advance if they wish to arrange such a trip. For Riverside Marriott shuttle service, call 1-951-784-8000, extension 7180.

Additional rooms within one block of the Convention Center are available at the Mission Inn Hotel at a single/double rate of \$119 plus 11% tax (again, be sure to mention "American Philatelic Society AMERISTAMP EXPO"). It offers self-parking at \$8 a day for guests in the parking garage located at the back of the Mission Inn on Sixth Street. To make reservations, call 1-800-843-7755 or 1-951-784-0300. On-site dining options at the Mission Inn include Duane's Prime Steak and Seafood, Las Campanas Restaurant and Cantina, Mission Inn Restaurant and Spanish Patio, the Presidential Lounge, and the new Bella Trattoria Italian Bistro. The Mission Inn asks that guests arriving at Ontario National Airport call at least twenty-four hours in advance with their flight information, in order that the complimentary hotel shuttle can be waiting to meet them when they arrive. For this Mission Inn shuttle service, call Desk Services at 1-951-784-0300, extension 5036.

In addition to the Riverside Marriott and the Mission Inn Hotel, eight additional hotels and motels are located less than five miles from the Riverside Convention Center, and at least twenty-seven more are within ten miles of the show.

Getting There

Just seventeen miles from Riverside, Ontario National Airport (ONT) receives flights from thirteen airlines, and has shuttle service available to many area hotels. A one-way cab ride from Ontario National Airport to the Convention Center and adjacent hotels costs about \$35.

Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is sixty-two miles east, and John Wayne Airport (SNA) at Santa Ana in Orange County is forty-five miles east. Bus or cab fees to the Convention Center and nearby hotels from either of these airports are roughly \$75 to \$90.

You'll find detailed instructions on how to drive to the Convention Center using your choice of any of seven routes at <http://www.riversidecb.com/site/contact/directions.html>, along with a stylized, small-scale map showing the location of the Center relative to other regional points of interest.

For more information on APS AMERISTAMP EXPO 2007 visit the APS website at <http://www.stamps.org/Ameristamp/intro.htm> or call 814-933-3803, ext. 212.



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Riverside Local and Regional Attractions

Riverside began as the center for the cultivation of navel oranges in the United States in the 1870s. Although it went on to become the cornerstone of the state's citrus industry, today the city has a large and diverse economy. Riverside's population of more than 305,000 makes it one of the fifty largest cities in America. In addition to the Mission Inn, a designated National Historic Landmark, other civic structures of note include the 102-year-old Riverside County Courthouse, based on French Beaux-Arts designs popularized by the Paris Exposition of 1900, and the Fox Theater, where the first showing of *Gone with the Wind* took place.

The city is home to the University of California at Riverside, and the UCR Sweeny Art Gallery and UCR/California Museum of Photography are among the many attractions you'll find within five blocks of the Convention Center. A complete list of downtown events, ranging from theater to concerts to ballet, as well as a comprehensive guide to downtown restaurants and businesses, is available from Inland Arts at <http://www.inlandarts.com>.

The forty acres of UCR's Botanic Gardens (<http://www.gardens.ucr.edu>) are home to more than 3,500 plant species from around the world, and have four miles of walking trails. Beaches, ski slopes, and desert resorts are within an hour's drive of the city, as is Castle Amusement Park (<http://>

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www.castlepark.com). To the west are such well-known family attractions as Disneyland in Anaheim (<http://disneyland.disney.go.com>) and Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park (<http://www.knotts.com>), and to the northeast is Pharaoh's Lost Kingdom (<http://www.pharaohslostkingdom.com>).

During February 9–11, 2006 — the same three-day period as the 2007 show — Riverside had temperatures ranging from 38° to 86° Fahrenheit, with average daily temperatures of 58° to 64° F. Less than one inch of rain fell during the first eleven days of February 2006, and the average wind speed was a moderate three to five miles per hour.

Other Regional Events During APS AMERISTAMP EXPO

The following events are currently scheduled to coincide with the February 9–11 dates of APS AMERISTAMP EXPO. Please be sure to check with the organizers just before the show to avoid disappointment due to unanticipated scheduling changes.

The Will Rogers Follies: A Life in Revue

(Landis Performing Arts Center, Riverside Community College / Feb. 9–10 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 10–11 at 2 p.m.)
<http://www.performanceriverside.org/season.php?pg=2&id=63>

This musical is described as "a wonderful depiction of the great American hero and humorist Will Rogers, presented with all the flash and dazzle of the Ziegfeld Follies! Memorable songs of the musical include "Will-a-mania," "Never Met a Man I Didn't Like" (employing the famous motto on the 1948 3-cent Rogers stamp), "No Man Left for Me," and the torch song "11 O'clock Number." In 1991 the original production won Tony Awards for Best Musical, Best Score, Best Costume and Lighting Designers, Director of a Musical and Choreographer. Tickets: \$24 to \$42. Call 951-222-8100 Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Orange Empire Railway

Museum (Perris, California, Feb. 10–11, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
<http://www.oerm.org>

Explore the West's largest collection of railway locomotives, passenger and freight cars, streetcars, inter-urban electric cars, buildings and other artifacts dating from as far back as the 1870s. Ride streetcars, inter-urban cars and trains on the museum rail-

way. Trolleys and trains operate 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended because "The Museum grounds are quite large and there's a lot to see." Tickets: Museum access is free. An all-day pass to ride the trains is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children 5–11, free for kids under 5. Parking is free. Call 951-657-2605 (recorded information) or 951-943-3020 (live).

March Field Air Museum

(Riverside, California, February 9–11, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
<http://www.marchfield.org>

Located next to the March Air Reserve Base in Riverside, the March Field Air Museum houses displays on the history of March Field, and serves as home to more than sixty historic aircraft, from the World War II-vintage B-17 Flying Fortress and B-25 Mitchell to the Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird. Visitors also can watch modern military aircraft as they land and take off daily. Tickets: \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 5–11, free for kids under 5. Call 951-697-6602.

Todd Green — Inland Empire Community Concert

Association (Chaffey High School Gardiner Spring Auditorium, Ontario, CA / Feb. 10, 2:30 p.m.)
<http://www.inlandarts.com/?app=eventDetail&id=1573>
This matinee concert is described as "A unique musical journey featuring instruments from around the world!" Tickets: \$15, children 18 and under free. Call 909-987-6456.

UC Riverside Chancellor's Carillon Concert

(UC Riverside Bell Tower / Feb. 10, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.)

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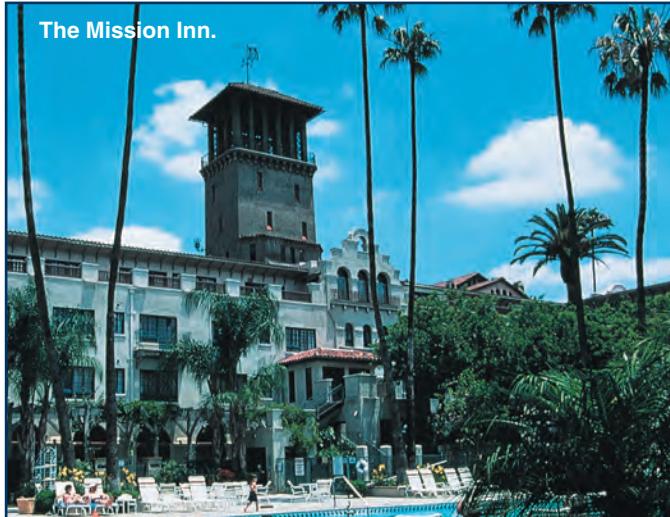
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Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Bell Tower at the University of California Riverside, this free concert will feature Carillonneur Hans Hielscher from Wiesbaden, Germany, on the forty-eight-bell, 30,000-pound carillon housed in the tower, a campus landmark. (The carillon is a musical instrument consisting of cast bronze cup-shaped bells, arranged chromatically and precisely tuned so that several bells can be sounded harmoniously together.) Tickets: Admission is free. However, parking permits for visitors must be purchased at the Information Kiosk located at the western entrance to the campus. Call 951-827-3245 for details.

Yin Mei's "Nomad: The River"

(University Theater, Riverside / Feb. 10, 8 p.m.)

<http://www.inlandarts.com/?app=eventDetail&id=1627>

Based on her own experiences during China's tumultuous Cultural Revolution, contemporary dance choreographer Yin Mei combines artistic and spiritual themes of East and West in her multi-media dance theater piece "Nomad: The River," described by UC Riverside Presents as "a luminous creation that invokes the powerful imagery of two fabled rivers — China's Yellow River and the Ganges in India — to represent the forces of memory, history and cultural traditions." Tickets: \$26 General Admission; \$24 Senior. Call 951-827-4331.

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A Celebration of Printing in America

The Press

Early colonial printing presses — all letterpress (or relief) — differed very little from the fairly crude press used by Johannes Gutenberg to print the Bible back in the 1500s (shown on Scott 1014, released in 1952). The working parts of the press were iron, but all other construction was of wood. Early lead type was imported from England until Benjamin Franklin was able to figure out how to cast type in the United States. Each letter was cast in hand-cut brass molds.

A letterpress printer set up his plate by arranging the lead letters upside-down and backwards in a small brass pan called a “stick.” He then could check his accuracy by lightly inking the letters and “pulling” a crude “proof.” Next a printer would wedge the arrangements of letters and words into an iron frame called a “form,” using spacers to help. The type form was placed on the bed of the press and inked with a filled leather dauber. Paper was then laid on the inked plate and the iron platen was lowered by screw-action to pick up the impression from the form.

Because the Continental Congress was unable to levy taxes to pay for the Revolutionary War, it relied on the printing press to issue nearly \$250 million in paper money (so-called Continental dollars). This early paper money was backed only by the good faith of the Continental Congress. There was too much money competing for too few goods, and the result was uncontrolled inflation.

In early 1780, the Continental Congress confessed that its money was essentially worthless (something the colonists had known for a long time, as evidenced by the popular saying, “not worth a Continental”).



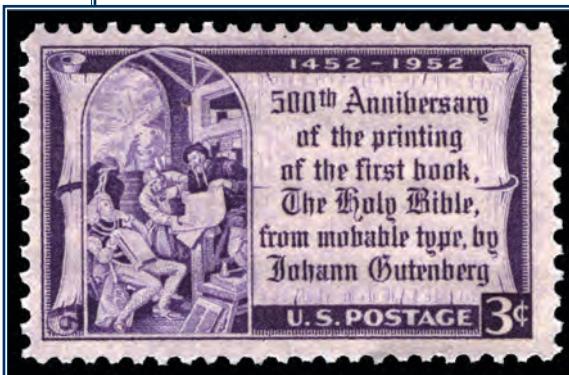
The Stephen Daye press, shown on this 1939 commemorative, was the first printing press in the American colonies.

With the plethora of cheaply printed stamps, postal stationery, and other postage and revenue items made possible by modern technology (including those produced by computer), we often fail to remember just why the early stamps of the United States were so ornate and finely crafted.

With few exceptions, the first fifty years of U.S. stamp production were typified by extremely well-executed, line-engraved intaglio designs that were a pleasure to behold. Was this necessary? To some extent, yes. Certainly, security concerns and revenue protection were important considerations, as was the fact that engraved steel printing plates lasted longer than lead, wood or other materials commonly used for printing. But there was a lot of pride taken in the production of stamps. They could have been produced by the cheaper letterpress process used for most other types of contemporary commercial printing.

By the time the first U.S. postage stamps debuted in 1847, the U.S. commercial printing trade was pretty well established. But — with our nation less than a century old — the importance and power of the press as a tool of freedom was still keenly felt, and this carried over into the security documents produced for the young country, including stamps and currency.

Arguably, by the time of the American Revolution, the printing trade was the most important of all colonial industries — not because it was the largest

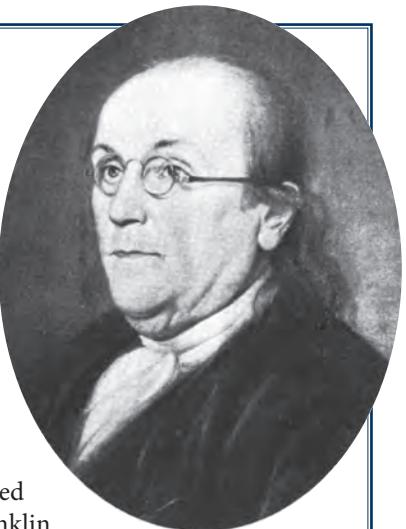


Scott 1014 celebrates the Gutenberg Bible and the 500th anniversary of its printing.

Founder of a Nation

During the early eighteenth century, young Benjamin Franklin spent eighteen months in London. During this time he observed and learned how to do many different things that enabled him to rise to meet the challenges facing his emerging country. One of the skills he learned — casting type — literally made Franklin a founder of our nation. The term “founder” not only means to establish the basis of, as in a foundation, but also refers to one who casts in metal.

In the colonial printing trade, printers used metal type to create printing plates. Until Franklin devised a way to cast, or found, lead type, after observing the process in England, all type had to be imported to the American colonies as a finished product. With his innovation, Franklin became the first letter-founder in America, ending total reliance on England. His keen sense of observation while in England also led to his multiple contributions as a political founding father during the American Revolution.



Ben Franklin, Printer, is recalled on one of a set of four stamps 39-cent stamps issued in 2006 to mark his 300th birthday.

or the most profitable (it wasn't), but because of the power it wielded in gaining our independence from Britain.

During the early years there were no printing presses in the American colonies, and the industry was slow to materialize. Any need for printed goods — generally government documents or religious tracts — was handled by Britain (with the inevitable delays in waiting for two transatlantic passages). Newspapers didn't exist in the colonies, and news was passed person-to-person or by the town crier.

However, educated men who saw the need for printing presses were present in the colonies from an early date. One of these individuals, Jesse (Jose) Glover, was responsible for our first printing press, although his name is not known to most. Glover was a minister who returned to England to obtain a printing press for the colonies, and an operator to run it. Unfortunately, he died on the return voyage.

In 1638 Glover's widow returned to Cambridge, Massachusetts, with 18-year-old Stephen Daye, a locksmith by trade, and set up the first American press near the newly established Harvard College. There he printed the first book in the colonies, *The Freeman's Oath*. That volume was followed by numerous legal, religious, and scholarly works. The Stephen Daye press, named for its first operator, was commemorated in 1939 on the 3-cent stamp honoring the tercentenary of printing in colonial America (Scott 857).

Soon after Glover's press was imported, a few other presses were established. Each was dependent upon the printing of mundane works, such as government papers, forms, almanacs, alphabet primers, sermons, and other bits of commercial paper, for its financial survival.

There was another problem with early colonial printing. There was as yet no such thing as freedom of the press. Governors and other leaders feared criticism. Thus, these individuals feared printers — and the potential influence they wielded — and consistently attempted to censor their products.

The establishment of newspapers to inform and help shape public opinion gave printing a permanent place in national life. Between 1690 and 1820, more

than 2,000 different newspapers appeared in America, indicating the great desire of people to have access to news. However, only about 400 of these newspapers had life spans greater than ten years.

By 1763 there were established print shops in all thirteen colonies, the last having been established in Savannah, Georgia, in 1762. At that time there were about forty active presses in the colonies.

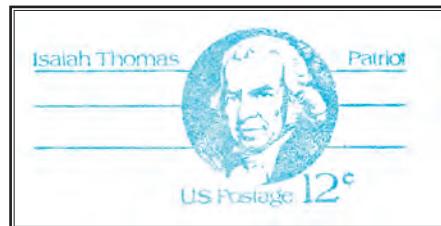
As the colonies drifted towards war with Britain, one very important principle was established by the press — one that many argue may be all but lost today. Despite the fact that most printers supported the patriot effort, they realized that a nearly equal number of Tories, or British loyalists, read their papers as well. To serve both audiences fairly, these printers had to remain as objective as possible in their reporting of news, taxes, and other developing situations, allowing their readers to form their own opinions, based on the facts.



Thomas Paine's Common Sense, a pamphlet extolling the need for an independent republic, was America's first best seller. Paine is pictured on the 40-cent Prominent Americans issue.

Even a number of years before war broke out there were significant struggles to avoid censorship and to establish a free press. John Peter Zenger, a New York printer, was jailed and tried for libel by the colonial governor. A jury later found him innocent. As a result, the definition of libel (printed untruths) was changed, and other printers realized that freedom of speech was no longer limited to the elite and powerful.

Later, in the heat of the Revolution, America produced its first best-seller: Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*, which was published January 17, 1776. Paine was featured on the 40-cent Prominent Americans series definitive (Scott 1292). His pamphlet, dealing with British tyranny and the need for an independent republic, quickly sold more than 150,000 copies, at a time when the circulation of most newspapers didn't exceed 2,000. Demand for Paine's passionate pamphlet soon exceeded the capacities of colonial printers and it began to be read aloud in the streets. Within a year, the pamphlet



Courageous Revolutionary printer Isaiah Thomas is depicted on a 12-cent postal card released in 1981. Thomas produced the first written account of the Battle of Lexington and Concord, the bloody beginning of the Revolutionary War.

had gone through twenty-five printings and many parts of it had been reproduced in colonial papers from Maine to Georgia. Years later, British historian George Trevelyan wrote that "It would be difficult to name any human composition which has had an effect so extended and so lasting."

The popularity of printer Isaiah Thomas' newspaper, the *Massachusetts Spy*, marked him as a troublemaker to the British. In the dead of night, Thomas shipped his press to Worcester, Mas-

sachusetts, where he produced the first printed account of the bloody beginning of the Revolutionary War at Lexington and Concord. The large headline read: "Americans! — Liberty or Death! — Join or Die!"

After the war, Thomas went on not only to establish the most successful printing operation in the young country, but also to produce the first illustrated Bible in the United States, which was hailed by Benjamin Franklin as "the most beautiful book produced in America." Thomas was honored on a 12-cent postal card (Scott UX89), released in 1981.

As a result of the importance of the printing press during the Revolution, printing became a revered trade in the United States. This pride in printing led to many important scholarly works as well as well-produced products. Ornate, well-printed postage stamps and other security documents were a natural outgrowth of this enduring esteem.

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Stamp, Envelope, and Postcard Shipments

"HEED THIS!" The blue-gray post office form with the bold heading is the top half of the receipt form that accompanied a shipment of stamps to the postmaster at Wallingford, Pennsylvania, in March 1907. The instructions remind the postmaster of the correct procedures for receiving and accounting for the stamps, including how to report a shortage or damaged stamps in the shipment. The first instruction is particularly interesting, "You are directed IMMEDIATELY UPON THEIR RECEIPT to count the postage stamps herewith in the presence of a disinterested witness."

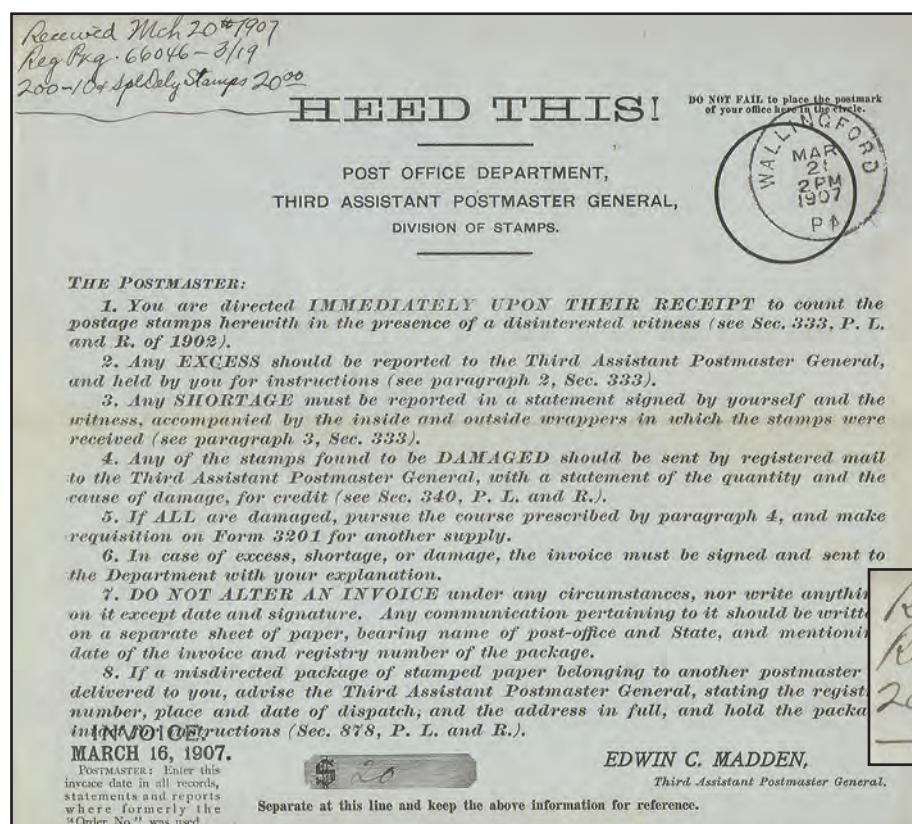
In Wallingford, a fourth-class post office in Delaware County, southwest of

Philadelphia, the only employee besides the postmaster was the RFD carrier, who was probably out on his route. Did this instruction mean the postmaster was to employ a customer as a witness? In the nineteenth century, before RFD, when most post offices had no employees beyond the postmaster, customers were no doubt asked to fulfill this witness function for the postmaster.

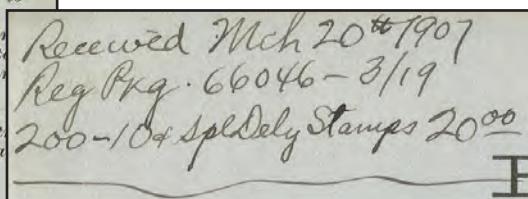
Along with the introduction of stamps in 1847 — and later with stamped envelopes in 1853 and postal cards in 1873 — came the need for secure distribution of this accountable paper to the individual postmasters who would sell postage to the public. Although this is a very preliminary study, surviving ex-

amples of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century forms used when ordering, shipping, and receiving stamps, envelopes, and postal cards provide insight into postal operations and complete the discussion of registered mail forms.¹

The postmaster's docketing in the upper left corner of this receipt reveals that the package contained four sheets (200) of the 10-cent Bicycle Messenger special delivery stamp. As postmasters were expected to order three months worth of stamps at one time, this would suggest that approximately 800 special delivery letters per year originated from Wallingford. Similar information about local mail volumes can be gleaned from copies of form No. 1511, "A detailed Statement of Stamps and Stamped Envelopes, Newspaper Wrappers, and Postal Cards received..." on which each postmaster tallied his or her receipt of accountable paper. For example, during the three-month period ending September 30, 1884, the postmaster at Middletown, in Orange County, New York, received twelve shipments of postage worth a total of \$2,801.50. This can be broken down into \$1,725 in postage stamps (no denominations given); \$318 in newspaper stamps; 25,000 1-cent postal cards; 6,500 1-cent envelopes of various sizes; 19,000 2-cent envelopes of various sizes, and 500 2-cent newspaper wrappers. Extrapolating from this quarterly statement, the second-class post office at



The position of Postage Stamp Agent having been abolished June 30, 1906, this form and the shipment of 10-cent special delivery stamps were sent from the Division of Stamps, under the Third Assistant Postmaster General.



Close-up of the upper left corner to show docketing

(No. 1511.)

Post Office: *Middleton*
 County of *Orange*
 State of *New York* *Sept 30th*, 1864

A DETAILED STATEMENT of Stamps and Stamped Envelopes, Newspaper Wrappers, and Postal Cards received during the quarter ended *Sept 30th*, 1864, and acknowledged in Article 20 of the Account-Current for that quarter.

DATE OF RECEIPT.	NUMBER OF RECEIPT.	DESCRIPTION. (Whether stamp, envelope, newspaper wrapper, or postal card.)	AMOUNT. (Dollars, Cents)
<i>July 5</i>	180	500 - 2 ^y <i>Card</i> ch 3	X 11
"	"	500 - 2 ^y "	.48
9	182	500 - 2 ^y "	.48
11	185	Postage Stamps	1725
14	186	3000 - 2 ^y <i>Car</i>	.48
"	"	5000 - 1 ^y "	.6
"	"	500 - 2 ^y <i>Newspaper Wrapper</i>	10.80
"	"	20,000 <i>Postal Cards</i>	2.50
"	"	500 - 1 ^y <i>Car</i>	6.10
26	184	500 - 2 ^y "	.48
<i>Aug 2</i>	170	500 - 1 ^y "	.48
15	181	500 - 2 ^y "	.48
"	"	5000 - 2 ^y "	.48
14	186	3000 - 2 ^y <i>Car</i>	.48
"	"	5000 - 1 ^y "	.6
"	"	500 - 2 ^y <i>Newspaper Wrapper</i>	10.80
"	"	20,000 <i>Postal Cards</i>	2.50
"	"	500 - 1 ^y <i>Car</i>	6.10
26	184	500 - 2 ^y "	.48
<i>Aug 2</i>	170	500 - 1 ^y "	.48
15	181	500 - 2 ^y "	.48
"	"	5000 - 2 ^y "	.48
28	194	1000 - 2 ^y "	.48
"	186	<i>Newspaper Stamps</i>	3.18
30	196	500 - 1 ^y <i>Car</i>	6
"	"	500 - 2 ^y "	11
<i>Sept 3</i>	199	1000 - 2 ^y "	.48
10	"	500 - 2 ^y "	.48
"	"	500 - 2 ^y "	.48
22	"	5000 - 2 ^y "	.5
		<i>+ chg'd 20.90</i>	
		<i>280150</i>	
		<i>277940</i>	
		<i>280150</i>	
		TOTAL.....	280150

I CERTIFY the above statement to be correct.

Jas R. Mellock *acting Postmaster.*

ELASTIC.

Form 1511, listing accountable paper shipments received, accompanied the Quarterly Return each postmaster filed. Out of the thousands of these forms filed each quarter, comparatively few completed examples have survived.

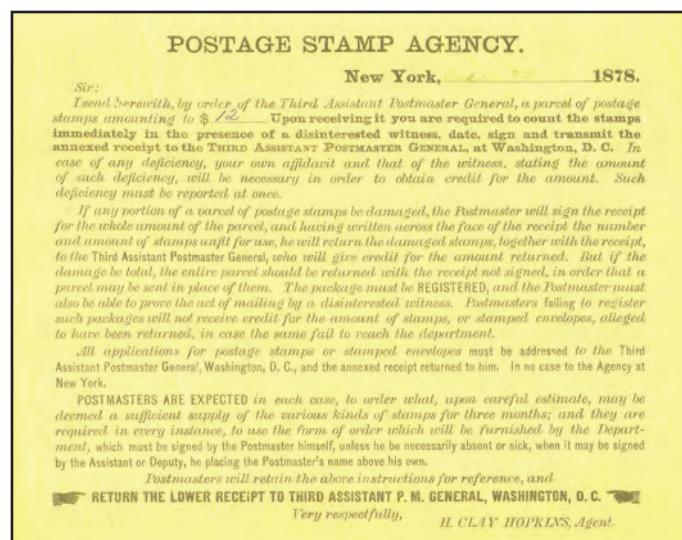


This was probably an 1873 or 1874 shipment, since the Official Seals were used rather than the Stamp Agency Seals, to Millbrook, in Dutchess County, New York.



A registered envelope that contained stamps for the Post Office at Hurley, in Ulster County, New York. The "NEW YORK JUL 7" datestamp is a style used during the 1862–1864 period. The manuscript registry number "323 1/2" probably denotes this as the first of two packages sent to this post office on that date. The number "323" would be appropriate for the 7th day of a quarter.

The green embossed seal on the reverse reads "ENSIGN, BRIDG. & FANNING MANUF.R.S., N.Y." in the outer ring of a garter belt, with "PATENT CONGRESS TIE ENVELOPE. PATENTED APRIL 8th 1862" in the central portion. Two of the metal tie rings can be seen and two more are under the top flap.



Receipt for \$12 worth of stamps shipped December 24, 1878 by H. Clay Hopkins, the Postage Stamp Agent in New York.



Names of the agents responsible for distributing accountable paper can be useful when dating the related forms and documents if they are found with only a day and month, but not a year. From: *Register of Employees in the Post Office Department* (Washington: GPO, 1907) p. 5 & 13.

Third Assistant Postmaster General

Appointed

Daniel Coleman	1836
John S. Skinner	1842
N. M. Miller	1845
John Marron	1846
A. N. Zevely	March 5, 1859
W. H. H. Terrell	May 22, 1869
E. W. Barber	March 17, 1873
Abraham D. Hazen	July 1, 1877
Henry R. Harris	April 1, 1887
Abraham D. Hazen	March 18, 1889
Kerr Craigie	May 19, 1893
John A. Merritt	April 20, 1897
Edwin C. Madden	July 1, 1899
Abraham L. Lawshe	March 22, 1907

Postage Stamp Agents

Jesse Johnson	May 18, 1855
Daniel M. Boyd	March 30, 1861
George G. Pride	August 31, 1875
Henry A. Chambers	April 16, 1877
H. Clay Hopkins	March 25, 1878
Horatio N. Sherwood	April 4, 1881
James C. Reed	February 26, 1883
John Barclay Fassitt	February 26, 1885
Jacob H. Dimmick	March 4, 1886
Thomas A. H. Hay	April 22, 1889
Wesley R. Davis	July 24, 1893
John P. Green (position abolished)	August 2, 1897
	June 30, 1906

Stamped Envelope Agents:

Andre Froment	June 28, 1853
Daniel M. Boyd	March 30, 1861
Henry T. Sperry	January 2, 1875
J. Burnham Kinsman	September 1, 1876
Henry T. Sperry	March 16, 1877
William L. Eaton	April 21, 1885
Bernard F. Blakeslee	February 27, 1890
Charles Henry Field	April 26, 1893
Silas W. Stone	August 19, 1904

Postal Card Agents:

George N. Tyner	April 3, 1873
Dwight O. Judd	April 21, 1881
Alfred Tanner	January 4, 1882
Charles C. Lodewick	July 24, 1885
Charles M. Newton	February 1, 1890
Alvin E. Hewitt	June 12, 1893
John B. Hagerty	December 10, 1893
Edgar H. Shook	December 28, 1897

Middletown, New York, did more than \$11,000 worth of business in 1884.²

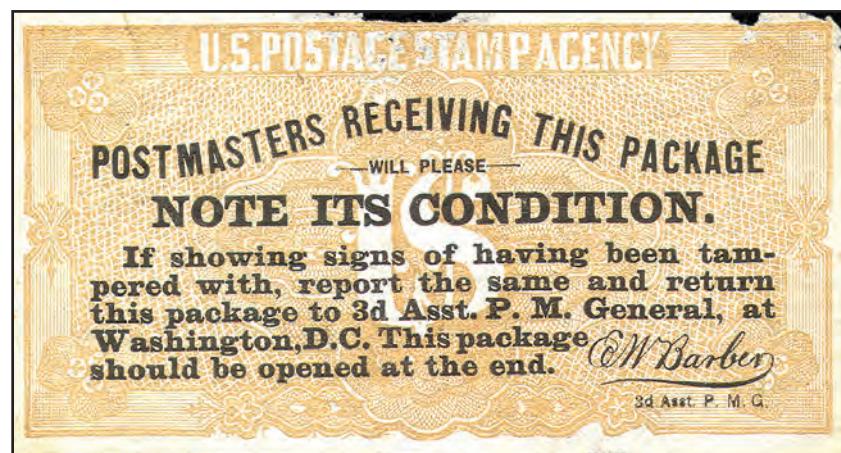
While many post offices (especially the small fourth-class post offices) received fewer stamp shipments than Middletown, the quarterly ordering requirement suggests that even the smallest post office would receive at least four registered stamp shipments per year. Around 1900, when the Post Office Department reached its highest numbers, there were more than 76,000 post offices in operation. Clearly, hundreds of thousands of registered shipments of stamps, envelopes, and postal cards were sent each year. Evidence for this volume of registered mail also can be found in the numbering on registered package envelopes and receipts. Each office sending registered mail, including the Stamps Division, began numbering its registered packages with "1" at the start of each quarter. The stamps sent to Wallingford were in Registered Package #66046, mailed on March 19, 1907. Knowing that more than 66,000 packages of stamps had been sent by the seventy-eighth day of the first quarter provides a gauge for the volume of postage stamp shipments.

Our first two stamps initially were distributed to only the largest post offices; afterwards, other postmasters could request them. While I have seen no related forms, the 1847 stamps were almost certainly distributed from Washington, DC. In 1851 the new printing contract (for the 1-cent, 3-cent, and 12-cent stamps) called for a Special Agent to represent the Postmaster General at the Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear &

Company printing plant in Philadelphia.³ This Special Agent was largely concerned with providing security for the printing plates and dies; stamp distribution was still handled by the Third Assistant Postmaster General.

In keeping with the Postmaster General's orders, "one or more of the principal Postmasters in each county" received a shipment of the new stamps and a receipt (Form No. 5)⁴ without having made any request. These "principal Postmasters" were required "to supply the other Postmasters in their respective vicinities, upon being paid for the amounts furnished."⁵ Those receiving direct shipments amounted to fewer than 2,000 of the 19,796 post offices in operation on June 30, 1851.

The remaining postmasters, more than ninety percent of the total, received Form No. 24 from John Marron, Third Assistant Postmaster General, which read, "The Postmaster General having assigned to the Post Offices at [a large blank space] the duty of supplying Postmasters and other persons in their respective vicinities with postage stamps and stamped envelopes, you can obtain them from the Postmaster of either of the offices mentioned by transmitting to him the money for the quantity you desire." While the principal postmasters accounted for the stamps they received when they rendered their quarterly accounts and could therefore remit money after the stamps had been sold, the postmasters in smaller offices had to prepay for stamps if they wanted to offer them for sale in their post offices. This two-tiered distribution system no doubt par-



The first Stamp Agency Seal (Scott OXF4) introduced in 1875 with the signature of E. W. Barber, Third Assistant Postmaster General.

Forms related to Stamp, Envelope, and Postal Card Distribution

Number	Date	Likely Use Date	Title, or Office of Origin (3rd Asst. PMG)	Function
(No. 3)	185	1851–1860	Post Office Department, Finance Office	Tracer for a stamp shipment not received
(No. 5)	185	June, or July 1851	Post Office Department, Finance Office	Receipt for initial shipment of 1¢, 3¢, and 12¢ stamps
(No. 23)	185	1853–1860	Post Office Department, Finance Office	Tracer for a stamped envelope shipment not received
[No. 24]	185	June, or July 1851	J. Marron, 3rd Asst. PMG	Informing postmasters where to obtain stamps
(No. 51-a)	187	1873–1877	Division of Postage Stamps... (Barber)	Requisition for stamps, envelopes, and postal cards
(No. 51-d)	187	1877–1879	Division of Postage Stamps... (Hazen)	Requisition for official stamps
(No. 51-f)	187	1877–1879	Division of Postage Stamps... (Hazen)	Requisition for newspaper stamps
(No. 3203)	187	1877–1879	Division of Postage Stamps... (Hazen)	Requisition for newspaper stamps
(No. 53)	187	1873–1877	Division of Postage Stamps... (Barber)	Instructions for ordering stamps, envelopes, postal cards
(C)	187	1877–1879	Division of Postage Stamps... (Hazen)	Instructions for ordering newspaper stamps
(No. 3266)	187	1879– 1880s	Division of Postage Stamps... (Hazen)	Instructions for ordering newspaper stamps
(No. 54)	187	1873–1877	Division of Postage Stamps... (Barber)	Stamp Order suspended until bond & oath of office are filed
(No. 56)	187	1873–1877	Division of Postage Stamps... (Barber)	Stamp Order suspended until Quarterly return is filed

tially accounts for the lack of stamps used from many smaller post offices and their continued use of stampless covers after the introduction of postage stamps.

Three Post Office reforms in 1855 were directly related to the distribution of accountable paper. Compulsory prepayment of postage required that stamps and stamped envelopes be supplied directly not just to the largest post offices, but to all post offices nationwide. This rapidly growing number reached 24,770 in November 1855. On May 18, 1855, Jesse Johnson was appointed the first Postage Stamp Agent⁶ and stamp distribution appears to have begun from Philadelphia where the stamps were printed. Finally, with the establishment of registered mail service on July 1, 1855, shipments of accountable paper were integrated into this tracking system based on signatures each time a package changed hands. The forms and envelopes used for shipping accountable paper often paralleled other registry forms and were at times identical.

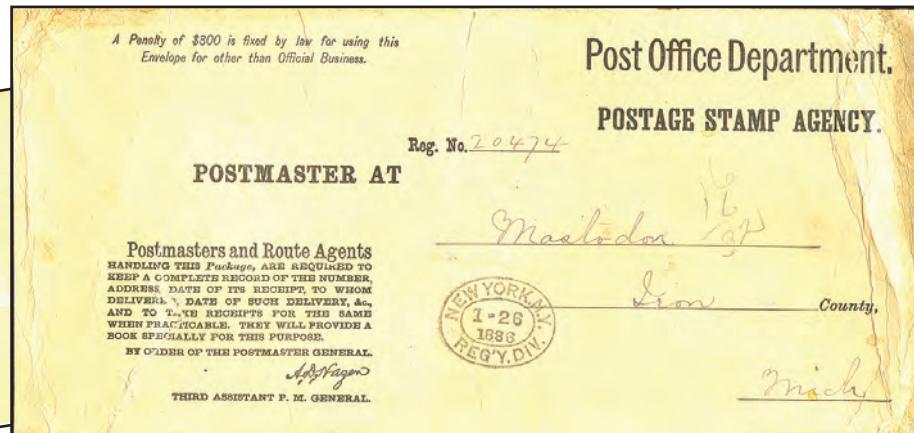
The 1857 *Postal Laws & Regulations* instructed postmasters "to order such quantity as, upon a careful estimate, may be deemed a sufficient supply of the vari-

ous kinds of stamps and envelopes for three months." All orders for accountable paper were sent to the Third Assistant Postmaster General for review and approval before being forwarded to the agent at the appropriate printing plant. The Postage Stamp Agent (or the Envelope or Postal Card Agent) enclosed a receipt with the shipment. Upon receipt of the stamps, envelopes, or postal cards, the postmaster retained the top half for use when rendering his quarterly accounts and returned the bottom half to the Third Assistant Postmaster General to complete the transaction. The earliest Postage Stamp Agency receipt that I have seen is dated November 5, 1858, and covers a shipment of \$9 worth of stamps to Hyco, Virginia.⁷

In 1861, with the change in printing contract, the Postage Stamp Agency moved to New York where it remained until 1894 when the Bureau of Engraving and Printing took over stamp production. I have seen the top halves of the receipts for several of the Stamp Agents and presume that all would be represented. The position was eliminated June 30, 1906; a complete list of the Postage Stamp Agents

appears on the previous page.

When the Stamp Agent in New York supplied sheets of stamps to local postmasters, they were folded to fit inside large, stiff envelopes approximately 250 mm by 117 mm. These envelopes predate and were perhaps the inspiration for the registered package envelopes adopted in 1867. The earliest example recorded, patented in 1862, was manufactured by Ensign, Bridgeman & Fanning in New York with four metal eyes through which a ribbon could be passed and secured with paper seals and wax. When Official Seals (Scott OXF1) were introduced in 1872 they were adopted for securing stamp shipments as well as ordinary registered package envelopes. In 1875 the Registry Division switched to the new patented envelopes, having the interlocking teeth that did not require seals, for registered package envelopes. However, Daniel Boyd, the Postage Stamp Agent did not find these patented envelopes to be heavy enough or secure enough for stamp shipments. When the supply of the large green seals was exhausted, he petitioned E.W. Barber, Third Assistant Postmaster General for new, less expensive seals



Stamp Agency registered package No. 20474 sent January 26, 1886, to Mastodon, in Iron County Michigan. The town lasted only five years, 1883–1888, until the iron mines ran out.

5220.

U. S. STAMPED-ENVELOPE AGENCY,
HARTFORD, CONN.

L36

THE POSTMASTER:

1. Under my order received from the Post Office Department, I send you, by REGISTERED MAIL, STAMPED ENVELOPES, as indicated below, amounting to \$.....

2. Open these envelopes in the presence of a disinterested witness (Sec. 335, P. L. and R. of 1893).

3. Date, sign, and forward the annexed invoice to the THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL, WASHINGTON, D. C. Do not inclose papers relating to any other subject in the same envelope.

4. Do NOT ALTER AN INVOICE under any circumstances, nor write anything on it except date and signature. Any communication pertaining to it should be written on a separate sheet of paper, bearing names of post office, county, and State, and mentioning date of the invoice and registry number of the package.

5. Any EXCESS should be reported, and held for instructions (Paragraph 2, Sec. 333, P. L. and R.).

6. Any SHORTAGE must be reported in a statement signed by yourself and the witness, and the box in which the envelopes were received must be held intact for instructions from the Department (Paragraph 3, Sec. 333, P. L. and R.).

7. Any of the envelopes found to be DAMAGED should be sent by registered mail to the Redemption Division of the Department, with a statement of the quantity and cause of damage, for credit (Sec. 340, P. L. and R.).

8. If an envelope is damaged, report it to your agent, and make requisition on Form 3209 for another supply.

9. In case of excess, shortage, or damage the invoice must be signed and sent to the Department with your explanation.

10. If a misdirected package of stamped paper belonging to another postmaster is delivered to you, advise the Third Assistant Postmaster General, stating the registry number, place and date of dispatch, and the address in full, and hold the package intact for instructions (Secs. 376, P. L. and R.).

11. Do not address this Agency unless specially instructed to do so.

12. The numbering of invoices has been discontinued, and you will enter the DATE of invoice in all records, statements, and reports where the number was formerly used.

(Carefully detach receipt at perforation, and keep this part.)

U. S. Envelope Agent.

Receipt for \$63.60 worth of stamped envelopes shipped June 13, 1904 from Hartford, Connecticut.

exclusively for use with Stamp Agency shipments. Between 1875 and 1915 a series of sixteen different seals, all having instructions and most bearing the name of the Third Assistant Postmaster General, were used to secure Stamp Agency envelopes.⁸ Even the smallest post offices

in the country would receive at least four of these Stamp Agency registered packages each year.

Agents also were appointed to postal stationery printing plants when new formats were introduced — stamped envelopes in 1853 and postal cards in

1873. These agencies moved about the country as printing contracts changed. The distribution process for stationery paralleled that of stamps, with orders being placed with the Third Assistant Postmaster General and the receipts for shipments being returned to that office. These agents continued to function long after the role of Stamp Agent ceased, no doubt because the printing plants were not in Washington, DC. Naturally, boxes of envelopes and postal cards would not fit into envelopes, so they were wrapped and sealed with registered labels.

In addition to the receipt forms from the Stamp Agents, in the 1870s there were forms titled "Registered Stamp Bill" and "Registered Stamped Envelope Bill" that are similar to the Registered Letter Bills used with ordinary registered mail. Presumably a similar form also existed for the Postal Card Agency. Scans and photocopies, appear to show the left halves of two-part forms, which, like the Registered Letter Bills, had right halves to be returned to the sending office. If the Stamp Agency did not receive the return half in a timely manner, it was thus alerted that a shipment of accountable paper had been lost or stolen.

When the Receipt for Registered Packages (Form No. 1541 and, later, No. 1556) was introduced to track the handling of registered packages there were separate columns for ordinary regis-

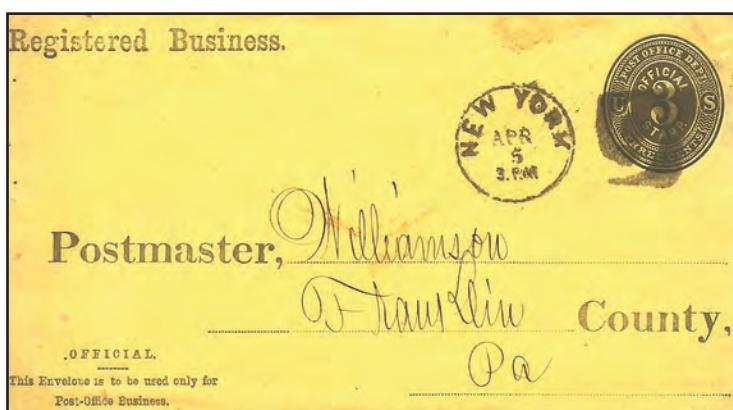


Registered Package label for a 1907 shipment from the Stamp Envelope Agency in Dayton, Ohio to Eureka, Nevada. Note the two Pittsburgh & St. Louis Railway Mail markings — the circular date stamp with the agent's name and the straight line along the right margin "From Pitts. & St. Lou. W.D."

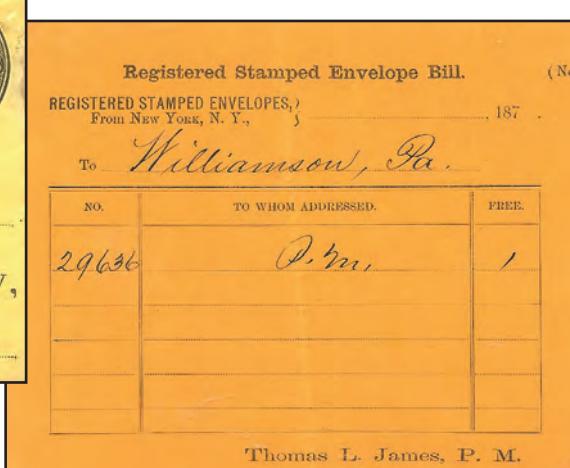
**1882 Receipt for Registered Package
with four columns: ordinary
registered packages, stamps,
stamped envelopes, and postal cards.
(A close up the headings.)**

tered package envelopes and for shipments of accountable paper. At its most detailed, there were separate columns for stamps, envelopes, and postal cards. When the Receipt for Registered Packages form was reduced in size to fit on a yellow penalty card, there was a single column with a choice of four letter codes to be used; this eventually was simplified to the use of "R" to designate ordinary registered package envelopes and "S" for shipments of accountable paper. To date, I have not seen a Receipt for Registered Packages used for accountable paper.

Stamp, envelope, and postal card agency forms, seals, labels, and envelopes are a field open to much additional research. In addition to the items illustrated here, I have seen a variety of other forms related to the accountable paper requisition process in auction catalogues, libraries, and museum collections. These include blanks for ordering postage as



Registered official postmaster-to-postmaster envelope and
Registered Stamped Envelope Bill for a shipment to Williamson,
Pennsylvania, in the 1870s.



well as postage due, newspaper, and official stamps; special forms for ordering the 1893 Columbian issue; and forms to address problems with requests for stamps. For example, orders for stamps would be suspended rather than filled if the newly appointed postmaster had not yet filed his bond and oath of office (No. 54); or if a postmaster had "failed to render returns to the Auditor" from the previous quarter (No. 56). I have listed these forms on the adjoining table. No doubt many forms still remain to be uncovered; scans or photocopies will be welcome. Please send to David L. Straight, P.O. Box 32858, St. Louis, MO 63132; or e-mail dls@wustl.edu.

The assistance of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, the United States Postal Service Library, Regency-Superior, Nutmeg Stamp Sales, Howard Ness, John Donnes, Marc Achterhof, and Ellen Peachey is gratefully acknowledged.

Other sources for illustrations of Stamp Agency, Envelope Agency, and Postal Card Agency forms and envelopes include:

Alexander, Thomas J. Alexander, "Postage Stamp Agency," *Chronicle* Vol. 41, No. 2 (May 1989): 104–106.

Robert Dalton Harris and Diane DeBlois, U.S.

Postal History Documents, No. 1 Registry & Stamped Paper (Wynantskill, NY: aGatherin', 1980).

Warren S. Howard, "A History of Post Office Department Official Stamps, 1873–1874," *Chronicle* Vol. 54, No. 4 (November 2002): 278–88.

Jim Kotanchik, *Post Office Seals of the United States and Possessions* (Author, 2006).

Tad Mackie, "Use of the Green Registry Seal on Postage Stamp Agency Envelopes," *The Official Seal Newsletter* Issue 4 (October 2004): 18–27.

Joe McDonough, "Registered Stamp Bill," *New Jersey Postal History* Vol. 14, No. 2 (March 1986): 19–21.

James W. Milgram and Lester C. Lanphear III, "Registration of Official Mail to 1900," *Chronicle* Vol. 57, No. 3 (August 2005): 211–24.

Arthur Van Vlissingen, "Furnishing Supplies of Stamps, Postal Cards and Stamped Envelopes to Postmasters," *Chronicle* Vol. 28, No. 1 (February 1976): 46–47.

References

- For additional background on registry forms see my two articles published last year "An Introduction to Collecting 19th-Century Registry Blanks," *The American Philatelist* 120.7 (July 2006): 622–29; "More Blanks & Forms," *The American Philatelist* 120.11 (November 2006): 1012–19.
- The Postmaster General's Annual Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1884 supports this by showing that Middletown, New York had Gross Receipts of \$14,413.31 against total expenses of \$5075 (broken down into postmaster's salary \$2325; clerk hire \$1750; rent, light, and fuel \$1000) leaving a Net Revenue of \$9338.31, and a ratio of expenses to gross receipts of 35%.

3. The contract is quoted in Thomas J. Alexander, "Postage Stamp Agency," *The Chronicle* 41 (May 1989) 104–106.

4. A note about form numbers will help reduce confusion. By at least 1798, the Postal Law & Regulations (PL&R) contained examples of numbered forms. But, forms without numbers assigned are known at least into the 1870s. Until approximately 1879, each Assistant Postmaster General and sometimes each bureau or office under an Assistant Postmaster General had their own numbering scheme. Therefore form numbers are frequently repeated. With the publication of the 1879 PL&R, the confusion was reduced by the introduction of a single scheme of 4-digit numbers for all Post Office forms. However, the numbers were not always printed on the forms until the late 1890s.

- "Regulations Concerning Postage Stamps" June 10, 1851, N.K. Hall, Postmaster General in *The United States Postal Guide and Official Advertiser*, reprint edition (Muskegon, MI: Wierenga, 1982) vol. I, p. 362. For a full discussion of the 1851 initial shipments read W. Wilson Hulme, II "July 1st 1851 Usages of the U.S. 1851 Issue" in *The 1851 Issue of United States Stamps: a Sesquicentennial Retrospective*, ed. Hubert C. Skinner and Charles J. Peterson (New Orleans: U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, 2006) pp. 94–111.
- Register of Employees in the Post Office Department (Washington: G.P.O., 1907) p. 13.
- In the Smithsonian National Postal Museum Library.
- Jim Kotanchik, *Post Office Seals of the United States and Possessions*, (author, 2006) pp. 45–57.

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#17 PAIR APS SCARCE
OG \$5,500



#570 PSE GEM 100
OG-NH \$12,000



#1053 PSE GEM 100
OG-NH \$1,250



#211B PSE & PF
XF-OG-NH \$2,500



#400 PSE PB/16 OG-NH \$6,250



#232 PSE XF-SUP 95
OG-NH \$2,250



#277 PF XF-
OG-NH \$5,000



#39 PF XF-OG-LH
\$5,000



#166 PSE & PF
XF-OG \$5,000



#478 PSE & PF XF-
90 OG-NH \$7,000

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The Oil Crisis of the 1970s

A Turning Point of the 20th Century

by Saleem Al-Ani

Sometimes, in the world of stamp collecting, a collector's career and his philatelic interests seem to go hand in hand. Because I am a petroleum engineer, the importance of fossil fuels as reflected on the world's stamps is of particular interest to me. In addition, I am very aware of the political role oil production in the Middle East has played since the last quarter of the twentieth century. During the period 1999–2002, Belgium issued four stamp sheets commemorating the major events of the twentieth century. The fourth sheet in the series (issued October 28, 2002) illustrated important events related to society and daily life (Belgium Stanley Gibbons (SG) MS3731). The first stamp from the right in the fourth row was dedicated to the oil crisis. An earlier sheet (the third, issued October 22, 2001) illustrated events related to technology & science and the human sciences (Belgium SG MS3656). It also includes a stamp that can be considered relevant to the oil industry. The second stamp from the left in the top row is described as follows in the official documents of the Belgian post:¹

Alternative energy: This term saw the light during the oil crisis of 1973, in fact it designates the production of energy from natural, durable and environment friendly elements (solar heat, water, air, etc.).

Alternative energy: This term saw the light during the oil crisis of 1973, in fact it designates the production of energy from natural, durable and environment friendly elements (solar heat, water, air, etc.).

During roughly the same time period (1998–2000), the United States issued ten stamp sheets in its "Celebrate the Century" series. The text describing the events of the 1970s on the sheet celebrating that decade (Scott 3189a-o, issued November 1999) includes the following note: "...and the first national speed limit, 55 mph, was instituted to conserve energy during an oil embargo...." That same sheet includes a stamp (upper left corner, Scott 3189a) commemorating Earth Day. The first nationwide Earth Day was held April 22, 1970. Celebrated with marches and speeches as well as planting and cleanup projects, it raised awareness of environmental issues, promoted energy conservation ef-



Maatschappij & Sociëteit Leven / Society & Vie sociale

forts, and encouraged respect for the earth.

So what were the beginnings of the oil crisis that led to the new awareness of the importance of energy conservation?

When the Middle East War broke out on October 6, 1973, I was thirteen years old and living in Iraq (as I do today). At the time, the greatest concern of boys of my age was the military operations between the Arab countries and Israel. I used to read slogans that referred to "using oil as a weapon in the battle," but it didn't mean much to me. Now, after three decades of wars, conflicts, and crisis in the Middle East, I would like to take a look at the history of that first "Oil Crisis" and how it is reflected by the philatelic community.

The Battle of Prices

The story begins with the fact that October 6, 1973 (Egypt SG 1739–1741) not only witnessed the beginning of military movement in the Middle East War but also the decision of a group of delegates from different oil companies to meet in Vienna and open talks with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries² (OPEC) (UAE Scott 130) about establishing new prices for oil. When the talks stalled on Octo-

ber 11, military news was occupying the front pages and the failure of the discussions in Vienna went largely unnoticed, both in Arab countries and around the world.

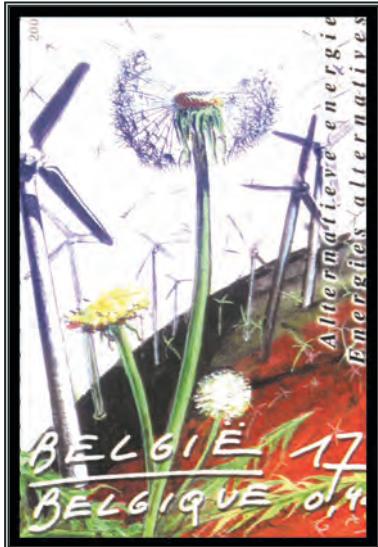
But the failure of the Vienna talks was *not* unimportant, as was proved by events in the days that followed. The delegations from the oil-producing countries returned home, and an emergency meeting was announced, to be held in Kuwait on October 16. On the evening of that day, Dr. Abdul-Rahman Khan, OPEC secretary at the time, announced to the world that the countries in the Kuwait conference had unilaterally decided to raise the price of Arab Gulf oil by 70 percent and North African oil by more than 10 percent. The four corners of the world reverberated with the news.

No doubt the atmosphere propagated by the October War encouraged some oil-producing countries to take the risk. But there had been an ongoing acceleration in confrontation techniques adopted by OPEC for some years. It was



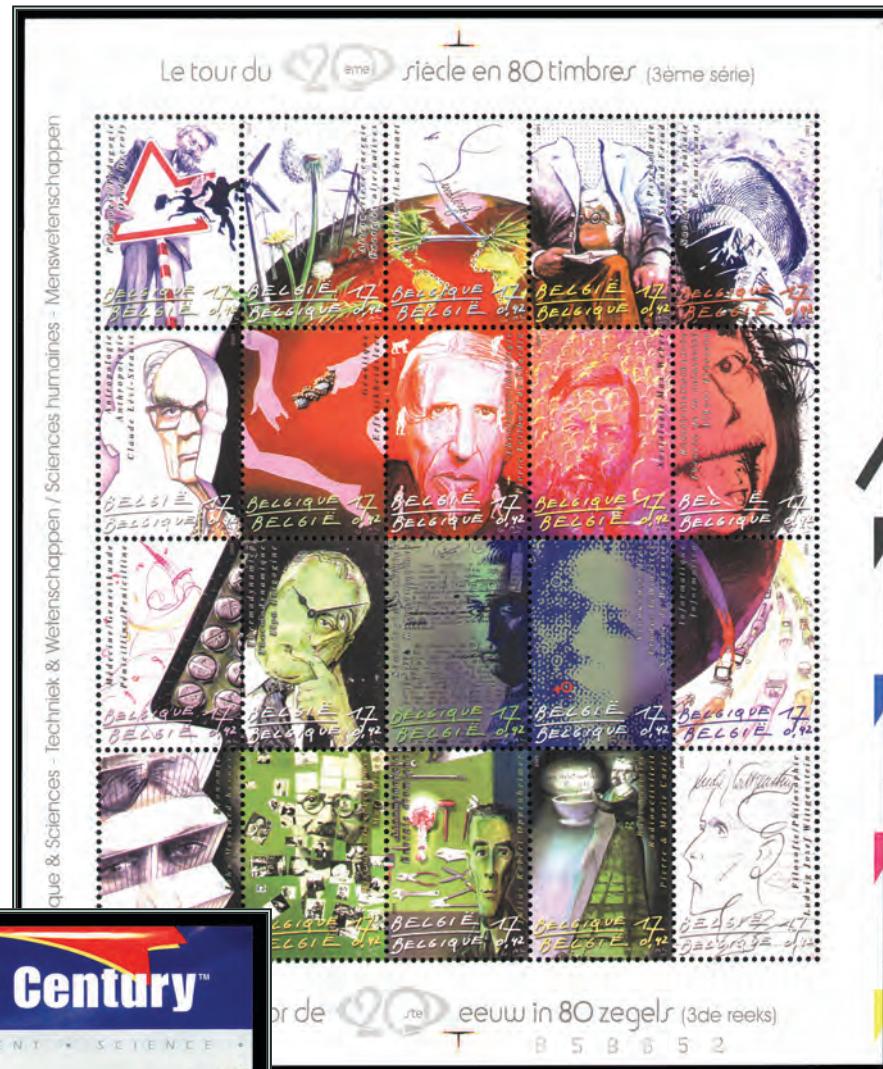
Sheet of stamps from Belgium (SG MS 3731, issued 2002) commemorating the main events of the twentieth century. Stamp designs illustrate events related to society and daily life.

Stamp from 2002 Belgian stamp sheet specifically dedicated to the oil crisis.



Stamp from 2001 Belgian stamp sheet specifically dedicated to alternative energy.

Sheet of stamps from Belgium (SG MS 3656, issued 2001) commemorating the main events of the twentieth century. Stamp designs illustrate events related to science & technology and human science.



a situation that, under suitable circumstances, was bound to explode one day. The October War simply provided the moment for the explosion.

It was understood that the decision of the ministerial committee to determine prices would not affect the rights of OPEC member states to adjust oil prices according to the clauses of the two earlier Geneva Agreements³ that determined compensation to producing countries for any losses resulting from devaluation of the dollar. The decision of the ministerial committee secured even the adjustment of posted prices of Gulf oil in the future, in the light of the market situation, so that posted prices would rise with the price rise resulting from actual deals in the oil market.

A second decision was announced in Kuwait on October 17 and independently in a meeting by the Arab oil-producing countries. This decision was to decrease production of Arab oil by certain rates, as a

"Celebrate the Century" series stamp sheet commemorating the 1970s (U.S. Scott 3189a-o).



Strip of three stamps from Egypt commemorating the October 6, 1973, war with Israel (SG 1739–1741).

means of using oil as a weapon in the war against Israel. It was reached after discussing three options:

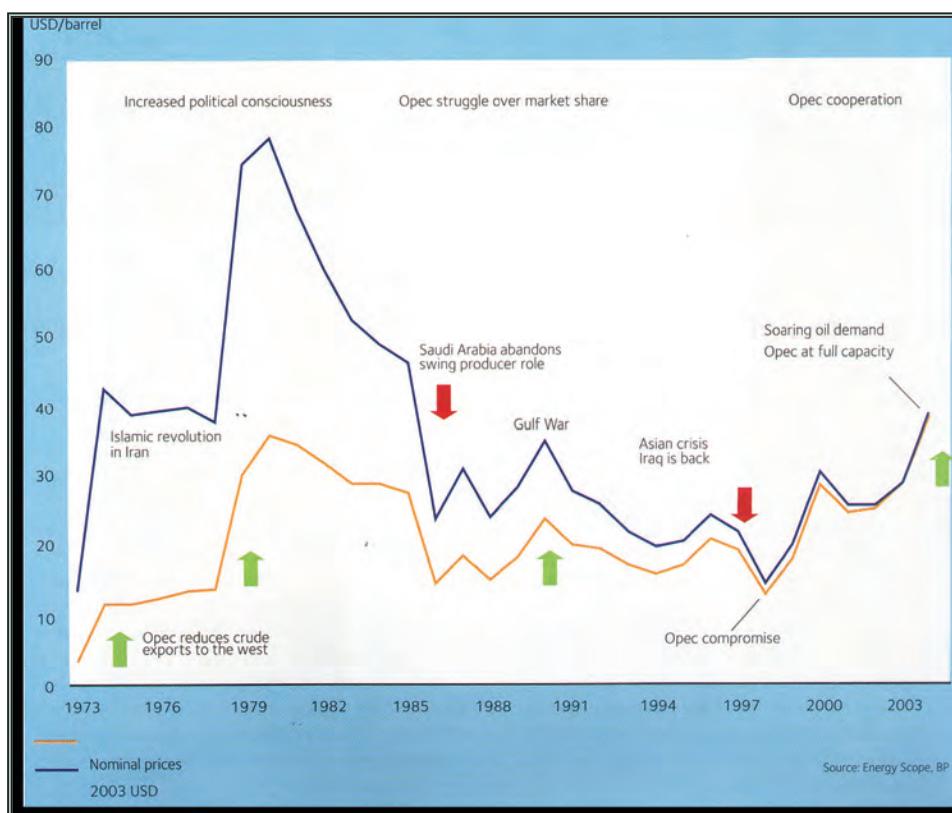
1. Stopping Arab oil supplies to countries that support Israel in any way.
2. Nationalization of oil companies of countries that can be shown to support Israel in a direct manner.
3. Decreasing production of Arab oil by certain rates.

In the end, the third option was the only one on which all participating countries could agree.

In fact, this matter needs to be clarified. Undoubtedly, the mere acceptance of the idea by Arab oil-producing countries that oil had a political aspect and that it could be used as a weapon in itself was considered a development by some parties. The statements made prior to the October war by the oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and others openly attacked this concept. When the Iraqi leadership submitted



Minature sheet from the United Arab Emirates commemorating the 20th anniversary of OPEC (UAE Scott 130).



The development phases in the crude oil market for the last thirty years, including the period of the first oil crisis (reproduced with kind permission of Statoil Magazine).



Stamp from Iraq commemorating the Iraq-Iran War (SG 1663).



Stamp from Iran commemorating the same war through the week of ecology (Scott 2121).



Energy and conservation stamps (U.S. Scott 1134, 1723-1724) on cover commemorating the 135th anniversary of the Drake strike at Titusville, Pennsylvania, the 100th anniversary of the U.S. petroleum industry, and the 20th anniversary of the Petroleum Philatelic Society International.



Left: First day cover featuring U.S. energy conservation and development stamps (Scott 1723-1724).

Below: U.S. cover commemorating the establishment of the Bartlesville Energy Technology Center, which is devoted to the development and conservation of energy (Scott 1820).



Below: Energy conservation stamps of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on a first day cover (Scott 2194-2195).



Cover from Italy commemorating the 60th anniversary of AGIP using energy conservation stamps (SG 1630-1631).



a memorandum about the use of oil in battle to the meeting of the Arab defence and foreign ministers in Cairo before the October war, the memorandum was considered a radical proposal and its acceptance was refused by many members.

This independent meeting was held to study and decide the most appropriate method of using oil in the war. The meeting was not held under the auspices of OPEC, since the members of the organization had no political commitment of this sort. At the meeting, Iraq opposed the method of the discussion, but not its aim. Iraq saw that the blow that could be dealt by using oil as a weapon should be aimed at the enemy, while friends would have to be protected against the measures. Also, neutral parties would deserve special treatment. Therefore, Iraq called for the nationalization of U.S. and other countries' shares in the oil companies operating in Arab countries (Iraq actually did this). Iraq also demanded the implementation of an embargo policy, but the suggestion was not adopted and controversy flared.

Yet even a partial Arab boycott caused a growing shortage in oil supplies and the price began to be affected, so the companies called for a meeting with OPEC in Vienna. The Iranian oil minister said in that meeting that the posted price had fallen very low and announced a new, increased price per barrel. After this meeting with the companies, OPEC members decided to hold their own conference in Vienna, where they announced that the economic committee had been asked to prepare a report about the development of prices to be submitted to the next conference, scheduled for December 1973. However, on December 22, the oil ministers of the Gulf states met in Tehran, and on the following morning, the Shah of Iran held a press interview before the official end of the OPEC ministers' meeting, in which he announced that the average posted price would be increased to \$11.65 per barrel; that is to say, to more than double the price decided on in October. The raise brought the government's share of the revenue to \$7 per barrel. In 1970 the figure had been \$0.93. Following the Tehran Agreement it became \$1.26, then it rose to \$1.76 in September and to \$3.04 in October.

The embargo of oil sales was lifted in March 1974, but the October price per barrel held for twenty-one months without further increase. At the OPEC Conference held in Vienna in September 1975, the Iraqi oil minister presented an explanation of his country's position and suggested an adjustment in oil prices to meet current inflation rates. However, there was no consensus to be had and, for a time, it seemed OPEC might split apart under the pressure from its opposing members. The Iranian delegation suggested that each member state establish a price suitable for its own oil. It was a suggestion that could have threatened the very existence of OPEC and, ultimately, was voted down. But it was not the end to dissension.

In 1980 the Iraq-Iran War broke out (Iraq SG 1663, Iran Scott 2121), and in its turn launched the first Gulf War. An



Se-tenant stamps from South Africa with the words "Save Fuel" in English and Afrikaans (Scott 517–518).

armed conflict between two OPEC members caused more splitting in the organization's unity. Moderate OPEC members, led by Saudi Arabia, agreed to increase production in order to make up for the oil not being sold to the world market by the two combatants, Iraq and Iran, and in addition to bring down the price per barrel. The oil crisis was practically over.

The Results of the Crisis

In 1973, in a number of steps, the price of oil per barrel increased dramatically. The major OPEC nations suddenly experienced a massive inflow of money, which was used in various ways. In part it was invested in building up a domestic industry (for example, in Iraq). In part it was invested in ambitious armament projects (Libya, Iraq). And in part it was invested in massive agricultural projects intended to turn desert into farmland (Libya). Most inhabitants of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and UAE expected high-paying desk jobs, while manual labor would be taken on by immigrants (mostly from Asia). A part of the income was invested in Western industries — for example, Iran purchased 5 percent of Krupp steel manufacturing in Germany.

In the United States, fuel shortages caused by the embargo and the rise in oil prices resulted in:

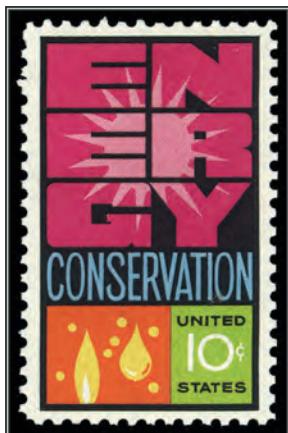
- long lines at gasoline stations,
- people making appointments to get gasoline,
- some gas stations running out of gasoline completely,
- a reduction of the speed limit to 55 mph,
- production of smaller cars with better gasoline mileage,
and
- the formation of the U.S. Department of Energy.

The United States also had significant oil resources of its own — new oil fields were opened up in Alaska and off the coast of Louisiana. The U.S. government kept the prices for gasoline at a low level by keeping the gas tax low.

In Europe, national governments undertook steps to reduce both oil consumption in general and their dependency on OPEC oil imports in particular. These policies had to be medium- to long-term strategies, so more immediate emphasis was placed on the expansion of nuclear power — at a time when environmentalist organizations were stepping up their campaigns against this technology. Oil fields in the North Sea were developed, to the benefit of the Scottish and Norwegian economies. On several Sundays in 1973, German



Energy conservation campaign stamp from France (Scott 1607).



First U.S. energy conservation campaign stamp (Scott 1547).



Energy conservation campaign stamp from Hungary (Scott 2840).

highways were empty — the use of personal cars was banned for the day (except for emergency vehicles). Various governments supported energy-saving investments by accepting them as tax deductible — investments such as insulating houses, installing double-pane windows, and installing catalytic converters in cars. However, as the European governments continued their policy of taxing the sale of gasoline (75 percent of the price is taxation), some of them actually profited from the oil crisis. All these measures were rather successful; oil consumption decreased considerably, and per capita oil consumption in Western Europe remains today considerably lower than in the United States.

The oil crisis continues to have worldwide ramifications. The new costs of oil and the outflow of money to the OPEC countries marked the end of the quick economic growth of the 1950s and 1960s in the West. Although the world's economy continued to grow, it did so at a slower rate than in those heady decades. Full employment became a thing of the past; and as the unemployment numbers began to increase, inflation picked up.

The socialist countries of Eastern Central Europe were among the worst affected. They turned to a policy of selling whatever they could on Western markets (often at very low prices) in order to obtain cash in Western currency. This, in turn, led to a depletion of supplies at home and their domestic markets suffered as a result. Since they did not have sufficient funds to modernize aging industrial facilities and

to maintain their country's infrastructure, their economies began to deteriorate at an accelerating pace.

When the crisis ended, the OPEC nations had quadrupled the pre-crisis price of oil in the West. The crisis opened a new era in international relations between the countries of the Middle East and the rest of the industrial nations. They discovered that a natural resource on which the rest of the world depended — in this case, oil — could be used as a weapon in both political and economic situations. The rising oil prices continued to be a threat not only to the U.S. economy but to that of the rest of the world. Never before had the price of an essential commodity risen so quickly and dramatically. It brought to the forefront of the world's consciousness the limited availability of this natural resource and the need to address conservation issues before it was too late. Stamp-issuing countries from around the world released new issues promoting energy conservation, awareness of the amount of accessible fossil fuels, and the need to search for new sources of energy. As a petroleum engineer I can't help but be concerned with the management of this dwindling vital resource, but as a philatelist I continue to enjoy the wide variety of material generated by this new awareness of its finite nature. It was exactly this sort of philatelic material that roused my curiosity and led me to write this article. It is only by digging in the past that the various aspects and details that are not always known to the general public can become clear and help us arrive at conclusions for today.

Acknowledgment

This article is reprinted and edited with permission of *The Petro-Philatelist*, the official magazine of the Petroleum Philatelic Society International (PPSI), a study unit of the ATA. The society covers philately related to the oil industry and its branches. For more details about the PPSI, contact the author at sagalani2003@yahoo.com.

Endnotes

1. It is well known that the "oil crisis" began in 1973; in fact, some have referred to it as the "first" oil crisis. However, any discussion of following oil crises depends on the point of view of the speaker. Some believe there were two crises, others believe that there were three. Some say that the crisis ended in the late 1970s, others believe that it continued into the 1980s.

2. OPEC was created at a conference in Baghdad in September 1960 with five founding members: Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela. It was later joined by eight additional oil-producing countries: Qatar (1961), Indonesia (1962), Libya (1962), United Arab Emirates (1967), Algeria (1969), Nigeria (1971), Ecuador (1973–1992), and Gabon (1975–1994). OPEC's first headquarters was in Geneva, Switzerland; it moved to Vienna, Austria, in September 1965. OPEC's stated objectives are "to co-ordinate and unify petroleum policies among Member Countries, in order to secure fair and stable prices for petroleum producers; an efficient, economic and regular supply of petroleum to consuming nations; and a fair return on capital to those investing in the industry." For more information, see www.opec.org.

3. The Tehran Agreement of February 1971 was considered an important event at the time. In this agreement, new oil prices were set to reflect the growing rate of inflation. It was acceptable at that time that the expected annual rate should be 2.5 percent. The agreement also fixed a new method of calculating taxes and a system of pricing. The Tehran Agreement was understood to cover *long distance* oil. Therefore, it was followed by complementary agreements to cover *short distance* oil: the Tripoli Agreement to fix the price of Libyan oil, the East Mediterranean Agreement to cover Kirkuk oil, the Saudi Agreement to cover

oil exported from Sidon, and the Lagos Agreement to cover Nigerian oil.

However, soon after the Tehran Agreement was reached, there was a devaluation of the dollar. (It should be noted that posted oil prices are given in dollars, and that a great deal of the producing countries' revenue also is calculated in dollars.) OPEC entered into new negotiations with the companies in meetings in Geneva. These negotiations yielded the so-called First Geneva Agreement on January 20, 1972, which was considered a part of the Tehran Agreement to protect the oil prices already agreed upon.

But, when a second devaluation of the dollar took place, it became clear that the Geneva Agreement was not enough to protect the revenue of the governments concerned, so negotiations were reopened with the oil companies. After several rounds of talks, the agreement was amended to render a more just compensation; this was then signed by all the Gulf countries on June 1, 1973, in Geneva. The new agreement came to be called the Second Geneva Agreement.

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Kartevold, Tor. "Full Circle on Price Predictions," *Statoil Magazine*, No. 1 (2005): 62–67; figure illustrating development phases in the crude oil market reproduced with permission.

The Author

Saleem Al-Ani is a petroleum chief engineer who works in the ministry of oil in Iraq. His philatelic interests include Iraq, Gulf countries, Belgium, petroleum, and space.

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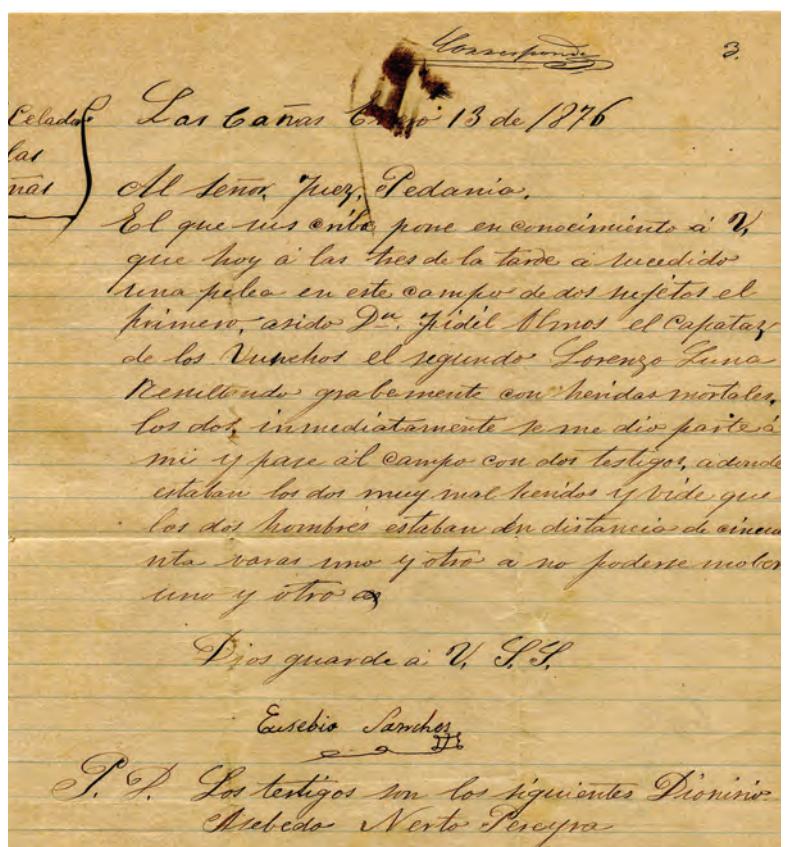
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ARGENTINA

Discovery and Disappointment



Folded letter showing bisect of Argentina Scott 18A and letter dated January 13, 1876, addressed to the district judge.

by René Jacobsohn

Some time ago, I bought the cover shown at the left at a very reasonable price from a well-known New York auction house. The bisected stamp (Argentina Scott 18A) on cover is a great rarity; only eight covers have been recorded up to today. This would be the ninth. The pen cancellation adds considerably to its importance, because it is the first one to appear on a bisected copy on cover.

It is addressed to "Señor Juez Pedanío / Dr Ramon Campos / en el / Corral de Mulas." The labored writing probably reflects the Celador's low level of education. The text (in translation) reads:

Celador Las Cañas January 13, 1876

Las Cañas

Al Señor Juez, Pedanío

[“To the District Judge”].

The one who signs gives you notice that today at 3 hours of afternoon a fight occurred on this property between two individuals the first having been Don Fidel Olmos foreman of the Usurchos [and] the second Lorenzo Luna resulting gravely injured the two by deadly wounds. Immediately received communication, I went to the

property with two witnesses where the two were very badly kept and I saw the two men at 50 yards distance from one to the other and unable to move one and the other.

God protect you, your servant

Eusebio Sanches

P.S. the witnesses are the following:

Dionisio Acebedo Nerto Pereyra

I know, very well of course, that pen cancellations are very suspicious and therefore submitted the cover to the Expertizing Committee of our Society. To my surprise, this body had no opinion, which, in good conscience, can be interpreted either negatively or positively. Therefore, I submitted my cover to another U.S. expert who is quite

familiar with Argentina philately. To my great satisfaction, he issued a certificate that could not have been better, confirming the authenticity and leaving no doubts.

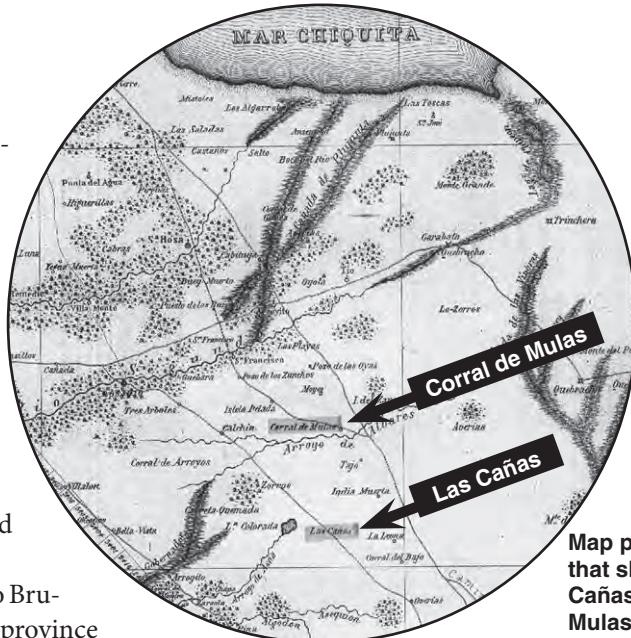
Inquisitive as I am, I next wanted to know the exact locations of the letter's site of origin, Las Cañas, and point of destination, Corral de Mulas. My maps of Argentina were of no help, nor was the *Diccionario Geográfico Argentino* 1877–1880, which lists an enormous number of locations. Still, I was not totally surprised, because the letter was written in 1876, and many towns and villages have since changed their names.

This was the moment to ask my friend Humberto Brumatti for help. He was able at least to nail down the province in which we needed to search. Humberto discovered that the word *pedanía* ("district") found in the letter was used exclusively in the province of Córdoba. When our search came to a dead end, Humberto consulted Hector Luis Pezzimenti, who has at his disposal extensive documentation concerning the postal services of that time.

That was the moment when doubt as to the genuineness of the folded letter began to take root. I therefore proceeded to secure a further attestation from the Royal Philatelic Society of London. This opinion described the piece as "used with manuscript obliteration on lettersheet can NOT be certified that the lettersheet passed through the mail. Observation: manuscript obliteration appears to be 19th century but cannot certify as contemporary with lettersheet." This attestation also can be interpreted positively or negatively, especially the second part. Consequently, establishing the exact location of Las Cañas and Corral de Mulas became even more important.

After a long and intensive search, Hector Luis found two villages with the right names in the north of the province of Córdoba. However, they were located in two different districts, which meant they were not likely to be the villages we sought, since each district probably would have had its own judge and not needed to notify a judge in a different district.

I finally found an answer in a most unexpected place: the Central Library of the canton of Zurich, Switzerland, where I happen to live. Among its collection of an enormous number of both very old and modern maps of Argentina was one designed by Santiago Echenique, dated 1866 and printed in Buenos Aires. There I discovered the location of Las Cañas as well as Corral de Mulas. Both are in the same district and lie more or less directly on the sixty-third degree of longitude south of the Segundo River. Corral de Mulas is located somewhat north of Arroyo ("Brook") Albares, which flows parallel to the Segundo River at a distance of about thirty-five kilometers. Las Cañas is located thirty to forty kilome-



Map printed in 1866 that shows both Las Cañas and Corral de Mulas on either side of the Arroyo de Albares.

ters south of Corral de Mulas and a few kilometers east of Laguna Colorada.

Another map from the years 1950/56 confirms their positions and identifies Las Cañas as an *estancia* ("big farm") rather than a village, which seems to make sense within the context of the letter. The word *pedanía* ("district"), as discussed above, is important because of its singular use in Córdoba. It can be found in both the address and the letter's salutation. A second relevant word is *Celador*, found in the upper lefthand corner of the letter. A *celador* is a subordinate employee or assistant sheriff of the police or justice department.

Arguments in Favor of Genuineness

The authenticity of the cover unfortunately cannot be proven fully. There is, however, a certain degree of probability in its favor. As his low rank indicates, the *Celador* must have been a fairly uneducated man. He did not write the letter to the district judge himself, but only signed it. It is possible that he was unaware that this police correspondence officially enjoyed post-free status. Since no 5-centavo stamps were available, he simply halved a 10-centavo stamp. Furthermore, since no cancelling device was likely to have existed on the *estancia*, he used a pen cancellation. The color of the latter matches the color of the ink in the address. The certificate of the Royal Philatelic Society does not rule out authenticity and the stamp itself is genuine without doubt.

Arguments Against Genuineness

Although the *Celador* presumably was not highly educated, he may well have been aware of the post-free status of this official correspondence. Why, then, would he affix postage to the letter? Hector Luis has established that the use of post-free official mail was still customary in 1876. He also discovered that the nearest post office at that time was lo-

cated in Villa del Rosario (between fifty and one hundred kilometers southwest of Las Cañas), and that from there no postal route north existed. Would it not have been more reasonable to send a messenger on horseback who could have covered the approximately thirty-five kilometers in perhaps four or five hours?

If this was the case, the question again must be raised: why stamp the letter? The detour via the post office of Villa del Rosario would have taken two or three days; and would the post office really have sent a special messenger northward? There is no cancel or other indication on the letter that would serve as evidence that it was conveyed by the postal service.

There is the very real possibility that the letter was stolen from a justice department archive in the province of Córdoba, a security lapse exploited by the infamous forger Abarca in the 1940s and 1950s when he fabricated very interesting documents using genuine stamps, unstamped letters, and faked cancels. It is, however, possible that some other scoundrel stole the document and possessed enough knowledge of chemistry to manufacture an ink for the pen cancellation that matched that of the address.

Conclusions

I cannot say with one hundred percent certainty whether the letter is genuine or false. It would appear to me, however, that the negative arguments carry more weight and that therefore, in all probability, we have before us a skillful forgery. This case demonstrates how important it is to approach the purchase of such initially enticing pieces with great cau-

sion, and how indispensable an extensive knowledge of the postal history of a country and its related documentation can be.

My sincere thanks to Humberto Brumatti and Hector Luis Pezzimenti. Without their help I would treasure as genuine a cover that is most probably faked.

Postscript

Sometimes philately holds surprises ready for collectors. Sometimes after I had submitted this article to the *AP*, I met my friend Carlos Cotlier during a visit to Argentina. Carlos is a scientist working for the Department of Remote Sensors at the University of Rosario. When I was discussing my cover with him, he mentioned that he had access to the department that uses spectrographic analysis, a method used for determining the chemical composition of substances. He felt that this method, which does no harm to the material under investigation, could be useful for finding out whether or not the Royal Philatelic Society was right in its determination. I agreed, and some time later I received the results shown in the accompanying graph. The green curve represents the blank paper and shows a totally different pattern from the curves that represent the text (blue) and the pen cancel (red), which are practically congruent. This confirms that the Royal Philatelic Society's cautious opinion regarding the contemporary use of the inks is correct. The same ink was used for writing the address as was used for applying the pen cancellation.

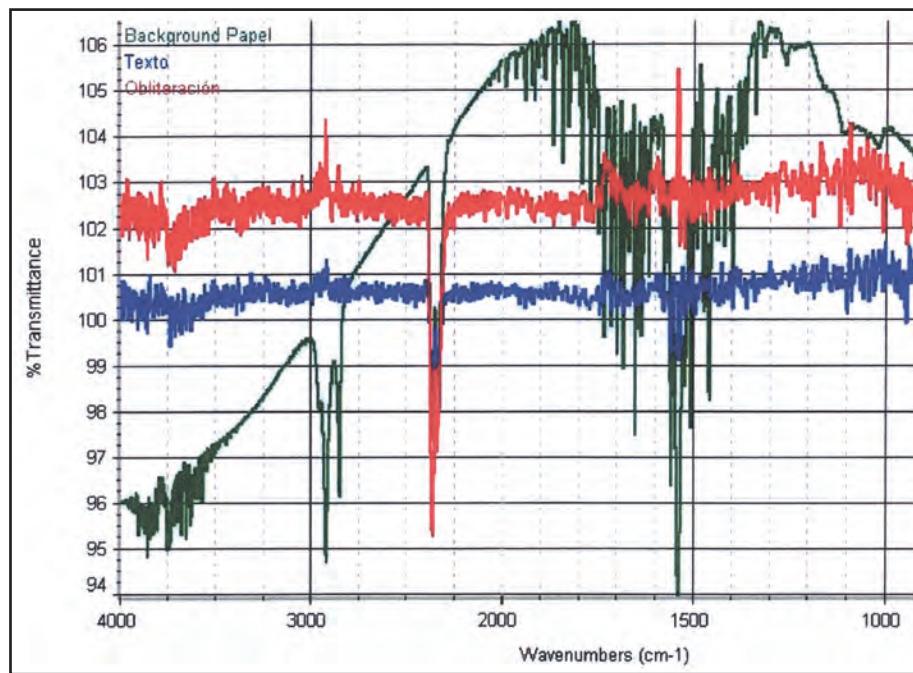
But did it really pass through the mails? I still do not think so, bearing in mind that there is no proof that it was conveyed by the post. The following questions remain: Is this a philatelic item or not? (That is, has it full or only a limited philatelic value, or none?) Should I exhibit it? I would appreciate readers' opinions or comments via e-mail at [rejac@tascalinet.ch](mailto:rejac@tiscalinet.ch).

Acknowledgment

Thank you, Carlos, for your interesting scientific test.

The Author

René Jacobsohn has been a stamp collector for more than sixty years. In the late 1960s he chose Argentina as his collecting area, because in Switzerland nobody else was interested, prices were affordable, and his wife was brought up in Buenos Aires!



Results of a spectrographic analysis of the paper and inks: paper (green), address (blue), pen cancel (red).

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Canada Looks to Hollywood

by Jesse I. Spector, M.D.

For people who play the lottery, purchasing a “big winner” ticket is truly the rare and exciting event. For those who relish postal history, successfully bidding on an inexpensive lot of covers and cards and finding treasures within can be a much greater satisfaction. The pleasure of going through a lot of fifty or seventy-five late nineteenth-century or early twentieth-century covers can be a true delight. Each cover is like the taste of a wonderful dessert that one wants to last for a long time. And, oh the pleasure of interpreting each cover for its full meaning and deducing, Sherlock Holmes-fashion, its true significance.

I never cease to be amazed at the finds that I make. No lot is without one or more fascinating discoveries — a postal card worth a \$100 mixed in with a common lot; a registered letter to a world-famous (or infamous) woman with gorgeous postage, mailed internationally and with a “refused, return to sender” inscription; or a slew of early twentieth-century covers from Canada to Hollywood movie stars of the silent film age and some letters to the “greats” of the modern movie era. These were among my discoveries in reviewing some recently acquired, inexpensive cover lots from several U.S. and Canadian mail sales and auctions.

The first cover, mailed from Toronto on May 31, 1920, is to the actor, director, and screenwriter Wallace Reid at Lasky Studios, Hollywood, California. It is posted with King George V Admiral issues, a 1-cent green (Scott 104), and a

2-cent carmine (Scott 106). Reid had a small role in *The Birth of a Nation*, and subsequently went on to great fame. He appeared in such classics as *Carmen*, *To Have and To Hold*, and *The Woman God Forgot*. Following a painful injury on location in 1919, he became hopelessly addicted to morphine. He further self-destructed with alcohol. Reid continued to appear perfectly normal and charming to an unsuspecting and loyal audience, but behind the scenes his problems were well known. In 1922 he was committed to a sanitarium to dry out, but the strain of withdrawal was too much and he died in early 1923 at the age of 31. Through the good works of his devoted widow Dorothy, her husband’s memory was put to constructive use through educational films she produced focusing on social reform.

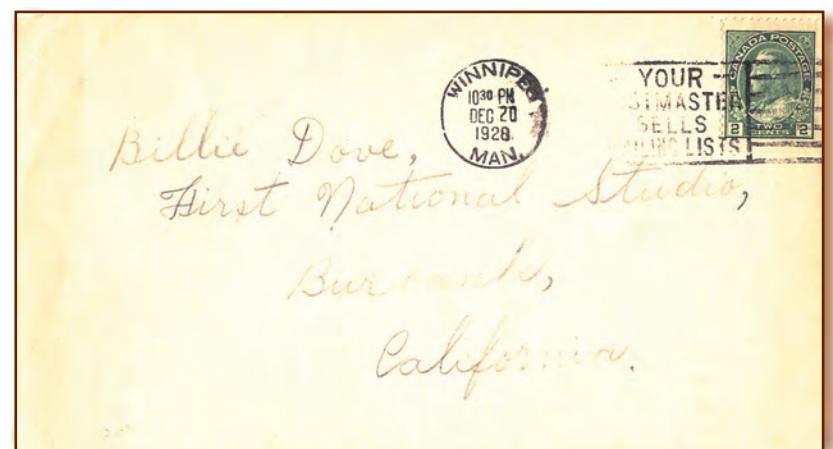


Cover addressed to Wallace Reid.

A second cover was mailed from Winnipeg, Manitoba, on December 20, 1928, to "the American Beauty" of the silent film era, Billie Dove at First National Studio, Burbank, California. The cover is franked with a King George V 2-cent green (Scott 128) and canceled with a slogan cancel. Starting in the army of extras and bit-part players in Hollywood, Dove became famous as one of Flo Ziegfeld's "glorified American girls" in the 1919 Ziegfeld Follies. The Follies became a gateway for Billie, who was the living embodiment of Irving Berlin's perennial "A Pretty Girl Is Like a Melody." She starred in such films as *All the Brothers Were Valiant*, *Sensation Seekers*, *Night Watch*, and *Yellow Lily*. At her peak in the late 1920s she ranked with Colleen Moore and Clara Bow as among the most popular actresses in the cinema. She was renowned for her physical perfection, and was able to communicate emotion on the screen with an electricity that made her a worldwide symbol of glamor and romance in the silent film era.

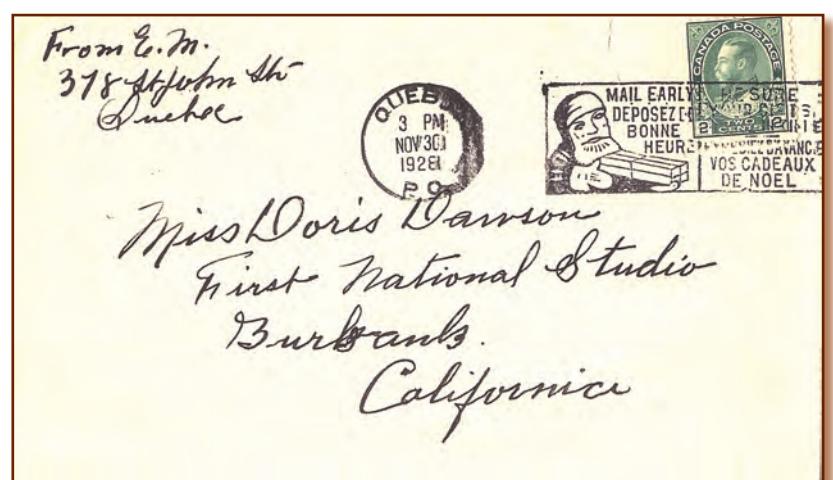
Although successful in the talkies (she played the lead in eleven more films), she chose to retire at the height of her career. Widely regarded as the most beautiful woman in the world, her celebrity resulted in her growing apart from her husband, Irvin Willat. One of her most persistent devotees was the maverick heir to a family fortune Howard Hughes. Several times they seemed on the verge of marriage, but eventually, for reasons she never disclosed, the relationship came to end. Married and divorced two more times, Billie lived in the Motion Picture Country House in Woodland Hills, California, the undisputed "first lady" of motion picture, until the time of her death at age 96 in 1996.

The third cover in my recent finds was mailed to Doris Dawson at First National Studio, Burbank, California. Postmarked from Quebec City, P.Q. on November 30, 1928, it is franked with a 2-cent King George V Admiral issue and canceled with a slogan cancel. Doris Dawson was a WAMPAS "Baby Star" for 1929 — the title the Western Association of Motion Picture Advertisers bestowed yearly from 1922 through 1934 upon thirteen Hollywood actresses perceived as most likely to succeed. The popularity of the WAMPAS awards was enormous. The interest they generated was equal to that which the Oscar would later achieve. Many careers were boosted to stardom, while others were never heard from again. From my

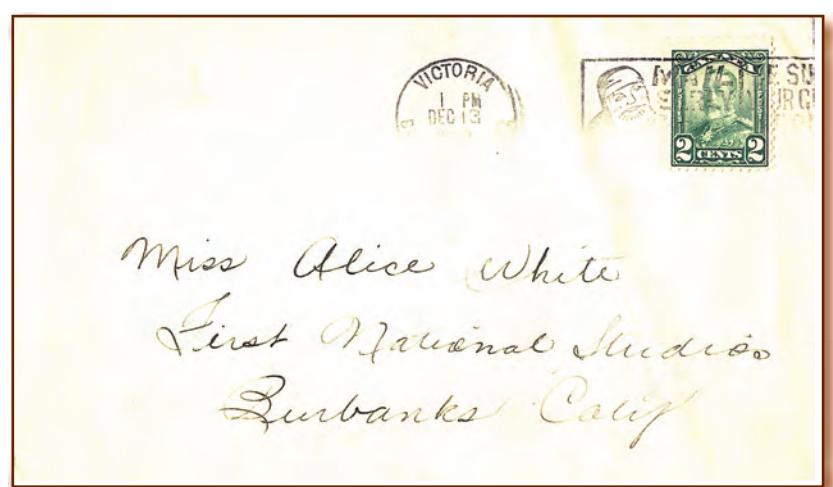


Cover addressed to Billie Dove.

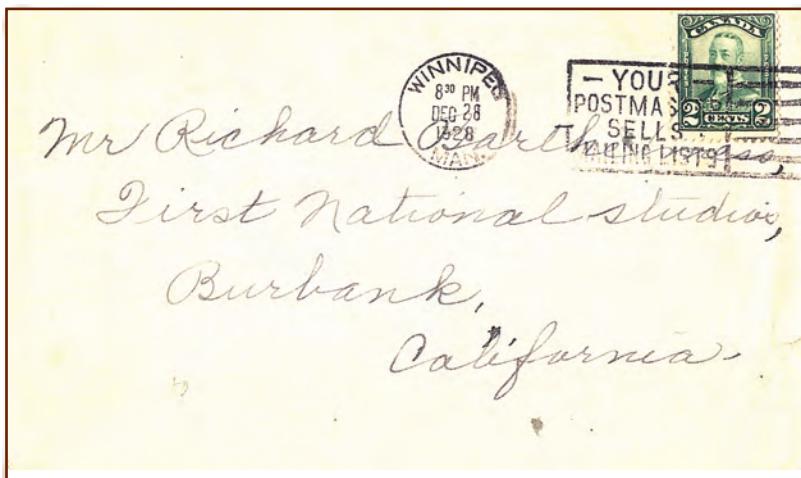
The pleasure of going through a lot of fifty or seventy-five late nineteenth-century or early twentieth-century covers can be a true delight. Each cover's review is like the taste of a wonderful dessert that one wants to last for a long time.



Cover addressed to Doris Dawson.



Cover addressed to Alice White.



Cover addressed to Richard Barthelmess.

research it appears that Doris fell into the latter group. For better or for worse, she disappears completely from the radar screen after this one claim to fame. If any of you know more of her story, I would like to hear it.

The fourth cover is addressed to an actress whose brief career ended in anonymity and personal tragedy — Alice White. It was postmarked in Victoria, British Columbia, on December 13, 1928, franked with a King George V 2-cent green scroll issue, and received a slogan cancel. Few actresses have generated as much industry hostility as blonde, goggle-eyed starlet Alice White. Born in Paterson, New Jersey, in 1907, her actress mother died when Alice was a baby. Her maternal grandmother took her to Los Angeles. It was there, while doing secretarial work for Charlie Chaplin in her teenage years, she ended up in front of a camera to test a new lens.

Alice was very much untrained as an actress, but she was enthusiastic and ambitious. By the late 1920s her star was rising. She played in *The Big Noise*, *The Private Life of Helen of Troy*, *Show Girl in Hollywood*, *The Naughty Flirt*, and *Sweethearts on Parade*. She toured the vaudeville circuit after her career sputtered, then returned to Hollywood only

to get involved in a sex scandal in 1933. She continued working on stage and screen for the next two decades, but a series of divorces, further sex scandals, and an accident in 1957 finally ended her career. She subsequently returned to being a secretary.

The fifth cover is from Winnipeg, Manitoba, to the actor/producer Richard Barthelmess, posted on December 28, 1928, with a King George V Scroll issue, 2-cent green (Scott 150), with a slogan cancel. It is addressed to the actor at the First National Studios, Burbank, California. Dick Barthelmess was born in New York in 1895, and came from a performing family. He trod the boards in college but had no real aspirations towards acting. However, a family friend — the exotic actress Alla Nazimova — was convinced he had real talent and encouraged him to go into motion pictures. His career took off, and by the late 1920s he was well established as a leading man in films and a popular Hollywood denizen.

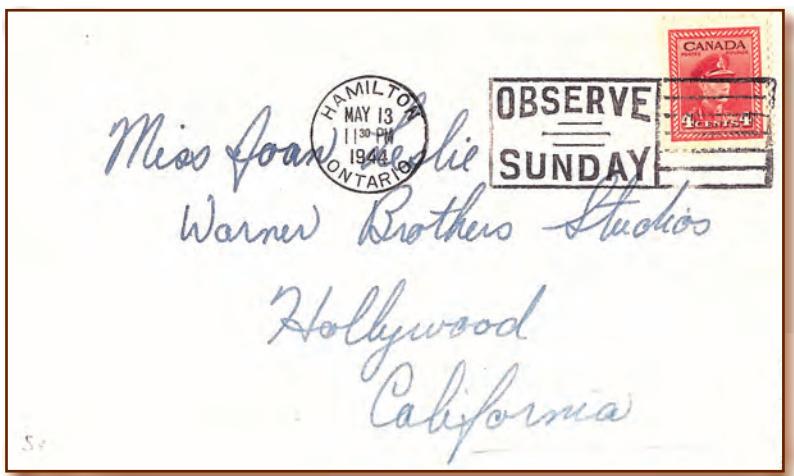
Barthelmess was noted for his gracious personality and his "classiness." He starred in films opposite Lillian Gish, Mary Astor, and Marlene Dietrich. Among his notable movies were *Broken Blossoms*, *The Beautiful City*, *Tol'able David*, *Shore Leave*, *The Patent Leather Kid*, and *The Noose*. His last film appeared in 1942, and he went on to serve as a naval officer in World War II. Barthelmess never returned to films or to Hollywood. He settled on the East coast for the remainder of his life, dying in 1963.

Joan Leslie was the addressee of my fifth cover. It was mailed from Hamilton, Ontario, on May 13, 1944, using a 4-cent carmine King George VI War issue (Scott 254) with a slogan cancel, and sent to Warner Brothers Studios in Hollywood, California.

Born in Detroit and acting as a child performer, Leslie was never able to escape the "good girl" roles. A wholesome, pretty, girl-next-door type, she flourished at Warner Brothers in the 1940s. She celebrated her eighteenth birthday on the set of *The Sky's the Limit*.

Leslie went on to perform in numerous films, including *High Sierra*, *Yankee Doodle Dandy*, *Thank Your Lucky Stars*, *Born To Be Bad*, *Flight Nurse*, and *The Revolt of Mamie Stover*. Married in 1950, she quit acting in 1956 to raise identical twin daughters who are now both doctors teaching at universities. She has resumed working in commercials and the occasional television show, and appeared in a made-for-television remake of *Repeat Performance*.

The world-famous icon of the American film scene, Robert Mitchum, was the intended recipient of cover number six from Quebec City, P.Q. It was mailed on Armistice Day, November 11, 1945. Franked with a 4-cent dark carmine King George



Cover addressed to Joan Leslie.

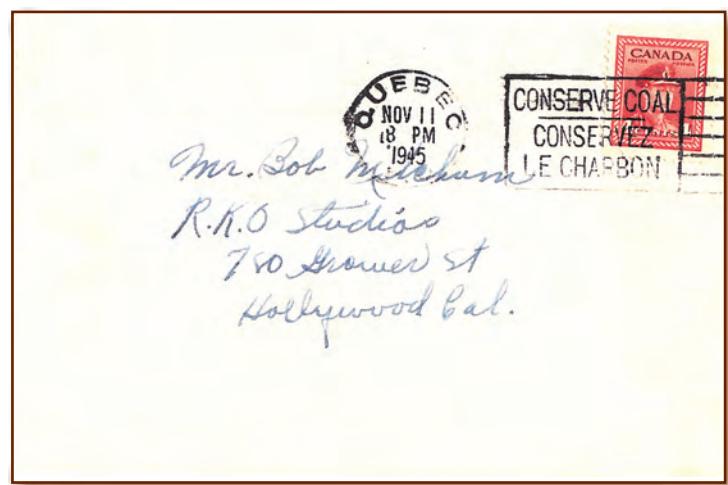
VI War issue (Scott 254), it was canceled with a slogan killer. Like all but three of these covers addressed to movie stars, there is no sender information on the envelope.

Mitchum was born Robert Durman in Bridgeport, Connecticut, in 1917. He is among the most underrated of American leading men, possessed of enormous ability and prodigious output in a career spanning 142 films. During the 1940s and 50s, with rampantly optimistic consumerism being fed to American audiences, he was practically a one-man subculture, moving resolutely against the grain. Ready to rebel while making a show of it, Mitchum brought his own ambiguous new agenda to the movies, a shadowy darkness of character. He clearly influenced the likes of Jack Kerouac, Marlon Brando, and James Dean.

His range of characters is vast: detectives, cowboys, gangsters, soldiers, athletes, and more. In real life he also painted a wide swathe — living as a hobo, jailed twice as a young man for vagrancy and marijuana use, fighting in public, going naked in public, having a nude woman in his arms at the Cannes Festival in 1955, and more. Even in the pretend world of the movies he didn't quite fit, and he didn't seem to care. Bobbysoxers in 1945 succinctly explained his attraction: "He has the most immoral face I've ever seen"; "He's got sex appeal in an evil sort of way"; "He's got the mean kind of face I go for."

Mitchum spent more than half a century in Hollywood creating a body of work in the American cinema that is yet to be fully appreciated. Professionally, he aged beautifully, giving a stellar leading performance in the 1988 television mini-series *War and Remembrance*. He died in 1997, still maintaining that, sooner or later, he'd end up an old bum riding a box-car again as in his hobo days in the 1930s.

My final treasure is a fabulous cover sent to the socialite "million dollar baby" heiress to the Woolworth/Hutton fortunes, Barbara Hutton. This amazing registered cover to the seven-times married Hutton was sent by Laurens van Haften from Brighton, Ontario, on March 4, 1952. It was registered as No. 310, addressed to Mrs. Barbara Hutton, Hotel Pierre,



Cover addressed to Bob Mitchum.

Fifth Ave. 61st Street, New York, N.Y., U.S.A. The cover is franked with six 4-cent Duchess and Duke of Edinburgh Royal Visit stamps (Scott 315) and a 3-cent rose violet King George VI (Scott 291) paying the registered, international air mail rate to the United States. Two "Returned To Sender" finger-pointing hands are accompanied by two "Refused, New York, New York" rubber stamps, as well as a penciled 3/6/52 refusal in the lower left corner.

Hutton lived her entire life in the glare of the camera. When she came into her inheritance in 1933, she became the richest woman in the world. Her father was a compulsive womanizer; her mother committed suicide; and relatives oversaw her upbringing (although she was basically raised by servants). She was an object of curiosity and resentment to most people, and the only way she could ensure friendship



Front and back of a cover addressed to Barbara Hutton.



Online References	
WALLACE REID:	http://movies.yahoo.com
www.starpulse.com	JOAN LESLIE:
http://movies2.nytimes.com	www.imbd.com
www.imbd.com	www.thegoldenyears.org
BILLIE DOVE:	http://movies2.nytimes.com
www.starpulse.com	ROBERT MITCHUM:
http://movies2.nytimes.com	www.leninimports.com
http://movies.yahoo.com	www.the.biographychannel.co.uk
DORIS DAWSON:	http://movies.yahoo.com
www.allmovie.com	"LA Confidential," <i>The Sunday Herald</i> (October 28, 2001). Contains the two quotes used in my discussion:
http://movies2.nytimes.com	http://calbears.findarticles.com
www.imbd.com	ALICE WHITE:
www.starpulse.com	http://movies.yahoo.com
http://movies2.nytimes.com	www.dcuguide.com
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www.allmovie.com	www.allmovie.com
www.goldensilents.com	www.reference.com
	http://divasthesite.com

or love was to buy them. Her debutante ball was the most expensive in history. Her marriages to princes and counts were romantic, but proved to be financial and personal nightmares. Cruelty, debauchery, and mental and physical abuse proved her recurring lot. Only her marriage to Cary Grant was a happy time for her, but this one, too, did not last. Unable to bear the child her husband wanted, she became more insecure and demanding, drinking and taking tranquilizers. Grant eventually divorced her. Her drinking and drug de-

pendence, blackouts and suicide attempts, desperate giving away of money and gifts to win friendship continued until the end of her life. Hutton died bedridden, stuffing up the hotel plumbing by using too much toilet paper — as much as a whole roll at a time — her immense fortune having dwindled to \$3,500 at the time of her death.

Knowing the life she lived, what might have been behind her refusal to accept the letter from van Haften? And who was Lauren van Haften? My exhaustive search turned up nothing on this individual, but there is certainly a story out there!

So there's what I found in my cover lots. Can you believe what can be uncovered in a supposedly "ordinary" collection of inexpensive covers won at an auction or mail-bid sale? And, believe me, this is no one-time fluke. I have years of cover collecting and making wonderful finds to prove it. Just keep your eyes and your mind open. There's treasure there as you flip to the next cover.

The Author

Jesse Spector is a hematologist-oncologist practicing in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, for the past thirty-two years. He and his wife Patty also operate a 35-acre farm with about eighty animals. Dr. Spector is an ardent collector of postal history who has published numerous articles on his many "finds" as he relentlessly dissects the wonderful world of postal covers.

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Thoughts for a New Year

Happy New Year! Last year was an incredibly busy one for me. To the best of my ability, I attended as many shows, visited as many clubs, and addressed as many groups of people about the joys of philately as my time and money permitted.

Last February I spoke at the St. Petersburg Stamp Club in Florida and was able to present its president, Ray Murphy, with a certificate of appreciation for work he has done with his club in helping to recruit new APS members. I also attended the Sarasota National Philatelic Exhibition and the first of three meetings of the Council of Philatelists for the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.

In March I celebrated the 75th anniversary of its stamp show with the McKinley Stamp Club in Canton, Ohio, and two weeks later attended the Garfield-Perry March party in Cleveland, Ohio.

April sent me to Dallas, Texas for TEXPEX, an APS-accredited national show, and then to San Francisco for WESTPEX. In addition to putting on one of the finest shows in the country, the WESTPEX committee also hosted a fabulously successful Tiffany Dinner to help raise money for the APS Campaign for Philately. Thanks again to WESTPEX and to all the generous donors — their combined total contributions amounted to \$25,000!

May 2006 will be remembered by many of us because of the enormously successful international show held in Washington DC. The magnitude of that show was breathtaking, and most of us came away feeling more proud to be a stamp collector than we have in many years. Thank you, Washington 2006!

June brought with it another meeting of the Council of Philatelists at the National Postal Museum and a meeting of the APS-APRL Joint Finance Committee, which many of us thought was the best in recent memory.

In July I went to Indianapolis, Indiana, for INDYPEX, a show I have not missed in more than twenty years. In August I attended AMERICOVER, the American First Day Cover Society's annual show. It is always a happy, friendly event and I highly recommend it to you, whether you are interested in first day cover collecting or not. August was also the annual APS STAMPSHOW, last year held in Chicago and this year in Portland, Oregon, August 9–12.

In September I attended the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition and HOUPEX, a fun, casual regional show in Houston, Texas. In October I was honored to judge the Federal Duck Stamp Competition that was held in Memphis, Tennessee. The APS Board convened for a board meeting in Bellefonte in mid-October, and the final meeting for

the year of the NPM Council of Philatelists took place. In November, I was back in the Dallas, Texas, area to attend the Mid-Cities Stamp Expo in Grapevine, Texas.

It was a packed year, but one that provided me with many happy memories. I hope to meet as many APS members as possible in this, my last year as APS President. Why not start off your year of philately by attending APS AMERISTAMP EXPO in Riverside, California, February 9–11?

The Future of the APS — A 30-Year View

In my September President's Column I asked APS members to send me their ideas on what the American Philatelic Society would be like in 2036, when the APS will be 150 years old. Several members used their imaginations and clairvoyant powers. As promised, here are two of the best guesses.

George Fink predicts:

This member believes the best is still ahead, but not far ahead. I cannot say just when but they will include the conquest of cancer, heart disease, Alzheimers, arthritis and let's throw in diabetes just to make a good sweep here. This will take some semi-postals, we shall do our part in supporting these.

OK, now APS. The Match Factory [American Philatelic Center] will be too small to service the membership of more than 500,000 to 1,000,000 or more of which many will be non-Americans. Imagine an APS Journal in five or six languages with articles better than even now as new fields open up and new knowledge is gained. There will be new topics we haven't even thought of yet. We shall communicate largely on line however shows will do as well as now and better as meeting places. Specialized societies will flourish and multiply.

Here's the good news. The world will be without war. We shall have a show (international) in Baghdad welcome to all. In fact, large shows will be in many places we do not think of now. There will be many to attend as we shall be living and active much longer. Also travel will be quite reasonable. Imagine APS chartering jets to international shows.

APS will have more seminars and educational offerings, most of which will be on line. These will be interactive and probably available at any time.

Sometime in the next thirty years an APS member will be President of the U.S. and this will bring the hobby "out front" again.



In spite of all the changes, in fact very little will change. APS will still be a mainstay of honesty, friendship and promoter of fun with our hobby and friends old and new.

Mr. Fink's upbeat predictions were closely followed by a letter from Chris Masters, addressed to me, but appropriate to all current and future leaders of the American Philatelic Society. Chris writes:

I belong to the APS, Machine Cancel Society, Auxiliary Markings Circle, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society and two or three more. I want to join everything, study everything.

You are going to create a situation where if someone wants to, they will be able to do exactly that without buying a mansion and personal postal station receiving house. You are going to increase membership of the APS and Specialty Societies by thousands and thousands of people in the next five years. Your efforts will result in an enormous increase in Schools and Universities using the lessons of history through stamp collecting and postal history.

You are going to revolutionize this area of collecting by asking just a couple of simple questions. See the Societies I belong to? Why are they secret societies? Why are the auctions for members only? Why are people forced to join to see what's going on?

Look at the amount of questions ASKPHIL (www.askphil.org) receives. Look at the massive amount of scattering in this area of collecting. Why can't I access a concen-

trated site for collecting? Why do I belong to secret societies when all these societies could join forces and welcome a worldwide audience?

Why couldn't there be a new service called eBay's American Philatelic Society Auction House and Specialty Societies? It would be a place for learning and collecting. I could pay \$5 a year to see that the Airmail society is doing and what they have for sale. For a few dollars I can read specialty articles online from the Society and if I want to I can pay a little more to join. It's endless. I have some airmail I want to sell so I could pay a dollar per item and place what I have for sale on the APS and their site to zero in with the people involved in airmail collecting.

I would be happy to donate \$2-\$3 to a Society to look at something I have for an informal assessment. If I could go to such a site I would easily be involved in at least five more societies. Can the APS and all their specialty societies work together in all areas and everyone financially benefit from it? Can the APS have dealers stores incorporated into the website to let a worldwide audience see what everyone is doing, what they have for sale, ask questions? It would be heaven to me. eBay and the APS could have a worldwide audience on one site with everything to go to for teaching, learning, collecting and selling.

Are there any more ideas out there? If so, please write to me at P.O. Box 250, Pleasant Plain, OH 45162 or by e-mail at tongajan@aol.com.



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from the executive director

peter mastrangelo

Happy New Year! If 2007 sees as much excitement as we witnessed at the end of 2006, it should be quite a year!

American Philatelic Center Renovations Continue

I am happy to report that the Boards of the American Philatelic Society and the American Philatelic Research Library have approved moving forward on the next major phase of the American Philatelic Center. This \$1.5-million phase will renovate buildings that will house a full-service restaurant and a physical rehabilitation center, bringing more new life to the old Match Factory.

The Bellefonte Historical and Architectural Review Board also has approved plans to proceed with the Gordon and Mary Morrison Pavilion, which will house the historic Headsville Post Office. Our application to Pennsylvania for state economic development funding to help with the renovations is also alive and well.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Mastrangelo".

Campaign for Philately on Track

The ten-year Campaign for Philately has now completed its third year. With the generous help of many members, almost \$3 million has been raised to support the development of the American Philatelic Center and other programs and services of the APRL and APS. Counted in those funds are donations for our building renovations, APS and APRL endowments, program-directed funds, and unrestricted funds. We continue to conduct targeted asks of individuals who have an interest in supporting our work, as well as periodic requests of our membership who respond generously throughout the year. The April issue of *The American Philatelist* will recap our success and recognize those members, chapters and affiliates who have supported these efforts in 2006. Our sincere thanks to them all.

Florida “Inverted Jenny” Captures Media Interest

The week of November 12 was astounding with the media interest generated when a so-called “inverted Jenny” showed up on a Florida absentee ballot (for a complete rundown go our web page at www.stamps.org). Here’s how it went....

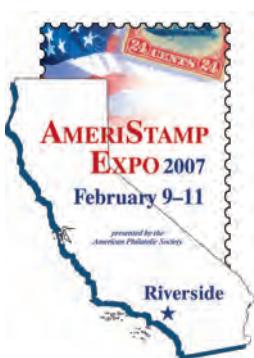
After the news broke, we placed calls on Monday, November 12, to Broward County Commissioner John Rodstrom and Supervisor of Elections Brenda Snipes to see if APS could be of service in authenticating the stamp. On the same day, we received a call from the *Miami Herald* and the NBC “Today Show” seeking our opinion on the story. Digital images of the stamp in question were made available. After careful review, we indicated that it was most likely a reproduction. For the rest of the week, we continued to receive inquiries from the media, most notably the Associated Press and Reuters. As their stories went “over the wire,” newspapers and media outlets around the world picked up the news. We also fielded calls from media representatives from Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

On December 4, Director of Expertizing Mercer Bristow and I traveled to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, for a detailed review of the stamp. Indeed, as expected, the stamp was found to be a forgery. Rumors are circulating that this was actually a prank. However, as the national association for stamp collectors, your APS had a responsibility to respond, and did so in a timely and professional manner. Because of our efforts and those of

other philatelists across the country who commented in the media and on chat boards, election officials in Florida were able to move on to the business they know best, while philatelists continue to pursue those elusive rarities.

In Memoriam

As each year ends, its passage serves as an opportunity to remember those who are no longer with us. 2006 saw the passing of some exceptional philatelists. Please take the time to review page 7 and spend a moment with your thoughts of those who are no longer with us. Our prayers go out the family of Keith Wagner, APS Executive Director from 1981 to 1994.



I.D. Matters to Buyers and Sellers

Our sales books contain millions of stamps and covers. With this many items submitted by more than 700 sellers, there are bound to be some misidentifications. The U.S. Bank Note issues are commonly identified incorrectly. Without going into details, the Continental, the National, and the American Bank Note Companies printed stamps in the late 1800s, and the differences between the issues of the same design are noted in the catalogues. We suggest inspecting each bank note issue you plan to sell (or plan to buy) to be sure it is correctly identified.

The older issues of Great Britain and of the British Commonwealth have differences in watermarks, including subtle differences in the design and its orientation, and in perforation measurements. The very early France and general French Colonies issues can also be confusing.

While it might be true that most misidentifications are made to the advantage

of the seller, we also see them made to the advantage of the buyer. Correct identification of the stamps benefits both the buyer and the seller. This advice is not limited to those who use the Sales Division. It also applies to the online users of the APS StampStore.

About three years ago, this column presented a list of problem areas in countries from A-Z. That list can be seen at http://www.stamps.org/Services/images/Sales_Problems.pdf or a hard copy may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope with your request to the APS Sales Division, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

A Note About Notes

When the report sheet for our circuit system was redesigned four-and-a-half years ago, we included a special note section in the lower-right corner of the sheet. While we do not require the use of

this note section for any correspondence with us, it does contain the information we need to process and answer any comments and/or questions posed by a member. We receive many notes written on scrap paper of varying sizes. A recent request to be removed from a circuit list was written on the back of a label backing and no name or circuit number was indicated. If the note had become separated from his report sheet, we would not have known who the circuit member was, and his name would still be on the circuit list. Paper you use for asking a question or for instructions must include your name, APS membership number, and any specific information (such as circuit number, book number, or anything else) that will help us provide you with a speedy and effective reply.

Notes to StampStore also need member-identifying information, along with all relevant details that will help us supply you with an appropriate answer.

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Prices for Sales Division and StampStore Supplies

It is January, otherwise known as "pre-cabin fever month." Prepare yourself for the next couple of months of indoor activities by ordering sales books, submission forms and mounts now, so you won't run short when mounting sales books and Stampstore sheets. These are the current prices for selling supplies: (Note the new 8-page book prices.)

Sales Books:

for singles (16 pages) — \$1.50 each,
10 for \$8.50, 100 for \$60

for singles (8 pages) — \$1.25 each,
10 for \$7, 100 for \$55

for covers (14 pages) — \$1.50 each,
10 for \$8.50, 100 for \$60

for blocks (16 pages) — \$1.75 each,
10 for \$12, 100 for \$100

Stampstore Submission Forms:

20 sheets for \$3

Mounts:

size C½ (1-3/16" x 1-5/8") — pkg of
100 for \$5, pkg of 500 for \$22

size C1½ (2-1/16" x 2-5/16") — pkg of
100 for \$6, pkg of 500 for \$23

size C3½ (4-3/16" x 2-1/4") — pkg of
100 for \$7, pkg of 500 for \$33

size C90 (6-1/2" x 3-5/8") — pkg of
100 for \$12

size C100 (9-1/2" x 4-1/8") — pkg of
100 for \$14

of the categories, exclusively. Details are sent with blank sales book orders. You may also visit www.stamps.org and click Sales Division and How to Sell. [NOTE: Single-country books usually have better sales.] Below are categories that are in very short supply at this time:

U.S. Back of the Book

U.S. Coils

U.S. Mint (pre-1950, especially needed)

U.S. Officials

U.S. Postal Stationery

British Africa (pre-independence)

British Southern Africa

Channel Islands

Ethiopia

Greece

Hong Kong

Japan (pre-1950)

Korea

Liberia

Portuguese Colonies

Vatican City

'5 For 10' Categories (Needs)

We need ANY U.S. items, except First Day Covers. You can earn 5 free blank books for every 10 completed books containing material from a set list of categories. (*Each group of 10 or more qualifying books must be received at the same time and average \$50 per book. The free books are assigned when the qualifying books are reviewed soon after arriving.*) Each book must be designed to fit one

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China to Chile

China Stamp Society (Unit 10)

Established in 1936 as the China Unit of the APS, in 1945 it was incorporated in the State of New York as the China Stamp Society, Inc. Membership dues begin October 1 and are \$21. Member benefits include local chapters, translation service, auctions, expertizing, bimonthly journal *The China Clipper*, special awards, library and annual convention. *Website:* www.chinastampsociety.org. *Contact:* Paul Gault, P.O. Box 20711, Columbus, Ohio 43220; e-mail: secretary@chinastampsociety.org.

Writers Unit 30 (Affiliate 30)

Organized to share common interests of philatelic writers, editors, and publishers. Annual U.S. dues are \$15, Canada/Mexico \$17.50; others \$20. Member benefits include the quarterly journal *The Philatelic Communicator* and a Sunday-morning breakfast at each American Philatelic Society STAMPSHOW. *Contact:* George Griffenhagen, 2501 Drexel Street, Vienna, VA 22180.

American Helvetia Society (Affiliate 52)

The Helvetia Philatelic Society was formed in January 1975 and is a member of the Union of Swiss Philatelic Societies. It offers members the award-winning, bi-monthly publication *Tell*, sales circuits, auctions, slide programs, and exhibit awards. AHPS will conduct con-

ventions and shows during SESCAL 01, CHICAGOPEX 02, BALPEX 03, and ROMPEX 04. *Contact:* C.J. LaBlonde, 2940 Underwood Point #5, Colorado Springs, CO 80920.

New Jersey Postal History Society (Affiliate 95)

Founded for the research and dissemination of the postal history of the colony and state of New Jersey. Annual U.S. dues are \$15; outside U.S. \$20. Member benefits include a quarterly journal, auctions, slide programs, speakers bureau, handbooks, exhibition awards, and annual convention. *Website:* members.aol.com/njpostalhistory/phsindex.htm. *Contact:* Robert G. Rose, P.O. Box 1945, Morristown, NJ 07962; e-mail: Njpostalhistory@aol.com.

Graphic Philately Association (Affiliate 133)

Also a study unit of the American Topical Association, GPA members share an interest in printing and the graphic arts as they apply to and/or appear on postage stamps and other philatelic items. The GPA's primary means of communication is the quarterly *Philateli-Graphics*. Annual dues are \$13, \$23 outside North America. *Website:* www.graphics-stamps.org. *Contact:* Bruce L. Johnson, 115 Raintree Drive, Zionsville, IN 46077-2012; e-mail indybruce1@yahoo.com.

Southern Africa Greater Philatelic Society (Affiliate 190)

Founded to support and enhance appreciation, understanding, and knowledge in this area of mutual philatelic interest. Annual dues are \$25 for North America, \$30 by air to Europe and South Africa. Member benefits include three issues of *Forerunners*, speakers bureau, handbooks, exhibition awards, and library. *Website:* www.psga.thestampweb.com. *Contact:* Bob Hisey, 7227 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33875; e-mail: bobhisey@comcast.net.

Colorado Postal History Society (Affiliate 200)

Founded to promote the collecting and study of postal history of the Territory and State of Colorado. Annual U.S. dues are \$20. Member benefits include the quarterly journal *Colorado Postal Historian*, expertizing, slide programs, handbooks and annual convention. *Website:* www.ColoradoPostalHistorySociety.com. *Contact:* Roger Rydberg, 354 South Nile Street, Aurora, CO 80012; e-mail: rrydberg@comcast.net.

Canadian Study Unit (Affiliate 213)

Founded in 1987 as a club for the collecting, study, and dissemination of a knowledge of stamps and philatelic material dealing with Canada. Dues are

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National Stamp Dealers Society (Affiliate 225)

Founded in 1995 to serve dealer members and promote stamp collecting, NSDA has more than 375 active members. Its goal is to respond to the needs of both small and large dealers and to provide long-range support to the philatelic trade. NSDA conducts a "dealers only" bourse in conjunction with major national and regional stamp shows and conducts an annual meeting in conjunction with the APS annual STAMPSHOW. This year's show will be Portland, Oregon, August 9-12, 2007. Membership benefits include a quarterly NSDA Update, directory, expertizing, exhibition and special awards, and annual convention. Website: www.NSDAinc.org. Contact: Robert Chang, P.O. Box 882, Belmont, CA 94002-0882.

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Napoleonic Age Philatelists (Affiliate 245)

Dedicated to the collection and study of philatelic items concerning Napoleon and the Napoleonic Era (1789-1815). Annual U.S., Canadian, and Mexican dues are \$14; others \$18. Member benefits include the quarterly journal *Campaign*. Website: www.nap-stamps.org. Contact: Donald W. Smith, P.O. Box 576, Johnstown, PA 15907-0576.

The Chile Specialist Society (Affiliate 249)

Founded to study, share, and publish material of interest to and by specialists and enthusiasts of Chilean philately. Annual Dues for U.S./Canada/Mexico \$15; others \$20. Member benefits include the journal *The Chile Specialist*, directory, and regional meetings throughout the country. Contact: Carlos Vergara, 1107 South Naperville Road, Wheaton, IL 60187; e-mail: carlos@cvphoto.net.

American Belgian Philatelic Society (*Affiliate 138*)

The ABPS promotes all philatelic aspects of Belgium and its former colonies. Annual U.S. dues are \$9, Canada \$10, others \$16. Membership benefits include the quarterly *The Belgophile*, directory, auctions, special awards, and library. Website: <http://groups.hamptonroads.com/ABPS/>. Information: Ralph Yorio, 4471 Portage Trail, Melbourne, FL 32940-1533; e-mail wdhandlin1@comcast.net.

Society of Australasian Specialists/Ocean (*Affiliate 22*)

The SASO is an international organization that encourages the study of stamps and postal history of the South Pacific area, mainly south of the Tropic of Cancer. In addition to Australia, membership study area includes New Zealand and dependencies, French and/or Pacific Islands, Papua-New Guinea, Samoa, and Tonga. Membership benefits include sales book circuits, the quarterly *The Informer*, auctions, directory, exhibition and special awards, library, and annual convention. Annual dues are U.S. \$17 and others \$24. Website: www.members.aol.com/stampsho/saso.html. Information: Dr. P.K. Iber, 9379 West Escuda Drive, Peoria, AZ 85382; e-mail Peteki@cox.net.

France & Colonies Philatelic Society (*Affiliate 45*)

The FCPS was founded to study the stamps and postal history of France and the French community. Annual U.S. dues are \$20, outside U.S. \$25. Membership benefits include the quarterly publication *France & Colonies Philatelist*, expertizing, slide programs, handbooks, special and exhibition awards. Website: www.druckenboat.net/FrandCol/FCPSHome.html. Information: Dr. Edward J. Grabowski, 741 Marcellus Drive, Westfield, NJ 07090.

United States Possessions Society (*Affiliate 99*)

Numbering more than 500 members and founded in 1978, USPPS interests include the Canal Zone, Danish West Indies, Guam, Hawaii, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Offices Abroad, Ryukyu Islands, and Trust Territories. Annual dues for U.S./Canada/Mexico are \$15, others \$20. Member benefits include the award-winning quarterly *Possessions* (back issues are available for \$3.75 per copy). Information: Geoffrey Brewster, 6453 East Stallion Road, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253.

United States Philatelic Classic Society (*Unit 11*)

The USPCS was formed to study the postal issues and history of the classic period of the U.S. and to publish research relating to this area. Members receive a quarterly publication, *The Chairman's Chatter*, and the unit has local chapters, study groups, directory, auctions, exhibition and special awards, library, and annual convention. U.S. membership dues are \$27.50, others \$35.50. Website: www.uspcs.org. Information: Robert Lund, USPCS Membership Chairman, 2913 Fulton, Everett, WA 98021-3733; e-mail membershipchairman@uspcs.org

Military Postal History Society (Ex War Club) (*Affiliate 19*)

Founded in 1937 as the War Cover Club, the MPHS originally was formed to study the postal history of America's forces during World War I. It has since expanded its focus to the study and collecting of all aspects of military mail related to all conflicts dating back to the times of Napoleon and the American Revolutionary War. Membership benefits include auctions, handbooks, the quarterly *MPHS Bulletin*, slide programs, annual convention, exhibition, and special awards. Annual dues are U.S. \$20, Canada \$23, others \$25. Website: www.MilitaryPHS.org. Information: Col. Charles L. LaBlonde, 15091 Ridgefield Lane, Colorado Springs, CO 80921-3554.

Society of Guatemala Collectors, Inc. (*Affiliate 36*)

Although the Society was founded to study and promote the postal history and philately of Guatemala, the SGCI also will be of interest to collectors of Central America material as it has very active study groups for El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. Annual dues are U.S./Canada/Mexico \$18, Guatemala \$15, others \$22. Membership benefits include the quarterly publication *El Quetzal*, directory, sales book circuits, auctions, expertizing, slide programs, speaker's bureau, new issue service, cover service, handbooks, library, exhibition awards, and annual convention. Website: www.guatemalastamps.com. Information: Jamie A. Marckwordt, 449 St. Francis Boulevard, Daly City, CA 94015; e-mail: infor@guatemalastamps.com.

Fire Service in Philately (*Affiliate 80*)

The FSP is also a member of the American Topical Association and was formed to serve those collecting fire service, fire fighting, and related fire topical stamps. It now enjoys an international membership. Memberships dues are \$15 and include the colorful quarterly publication *Fire Stamp News*, directory, auctions, new issues service, and annual convention. Website: www.firestamps.com. Information: Edward Florey, 149 Sophie Street, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301; e-mail benglersr@mail.enter.com.

Mathematical Study Unit (*Affiliate 130*)

The MSU was founded to further the collection and study of stamps and philatelic material that pertain to mathematics and mathematicians. Annual U.S. dues are \$12, others \$15. Membership benefits include a directory and the quarterly publication *Philamath*. Website: www.math.ttu.edu/msu/. Information: Dr. Monty J. Strauss, 4209 88th Street, Lubbock, TX 79423; e-mail m.strauss@ttu.edu.

New Exhibit Looks at the Exciting Lives of Postal Inspectors

As regular readers know, the National Postal Museum ended 2006 with a flurry of activity, from programs and lectures to exhibits. If you did not get a chance to attend either the fifth annual Maynard Sundman Lecture, which featured Scott Trepel's lecture on the Miller Collection, or the Winton M. Blount Symposium on Postal History, all is not lost. Links to Trepel's lecture and papers presented at the Blount Symposium can be found on the museum's website, <http://postalmuseum.si.edu>.

Online versions of our most recent exhibits, "Out of the Mails," which features some remarkable Colonial and early American covers, and "Trailblazers and Trendsetters: Art of the Stamp," are available, but nothing can match a personal visit. "Out of the Mails" will be on display until the end of January

Postal inspectors began their work when Postmaster General Benjamin Franklin named William Goddard surveyor of the post in 1776.



4. Code words given in the Telegraph Code may be embodied in messages and treated as any other words in making up the 5-letter words.

Example No. 1
Message to be enciphered

Carl Rentz may reach New Orleans early date. Keep lookout and wire Atlanta and this office immediately should he arrive, also ascertain and wire me whether Anna Clay gone to Atlanta.

Message arranged in 5-letter words

carl	entzm	ayrea	clnew	orlea	nsear
lydat	ekeep	looko	utand	wirea	tlant
aandt	hisof	ficei	mmedi	ately	shoul
dhear	rivea	lsosn	certa	inand	wirem
ewhet	heran	nacla	ygone	toatl	antax

Begin with the last word and go up last column, down next, up next, etc.

Message ready for transmission

antax	wirem	shoul	tlant	nsear	orlea	ayrea	clnew	entzm	carl	lydat	aandt	dhear	ewhet	heran	nacla	ygone	toatl	antax
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

The last letter of the first word indicates the number of columns used. Divide the number of words by this number to ascertain the number of words in each column, then place the first word of the cipher at the bottom of the column on the right-hand side of paper, and second word immediately above, etc., until all words for that column have been placed; then go down next column to the left, up, etc.

To decipher

The last letter of the first word indicates the number of columns used. Divide the number of words by this number to ascertain the number of words in each column, then place the first word of the cipher at the bottom of the column on the right-hand side of paper, and second word immediately above, etc., until all words for that column have been placed; then go down next column to the left, up, etc.

Example No. 2
Message to be enciphered

C. H. Jones, Uvalde, Texas, writes he knows who robbed mail train San Antonio, January four, and where rifled mail is. See him at once and wire me result at Waco this afternoon.

Message arranged in 5-letter words

chjon	euava	ldete	xwrit	eshek
nowsw	herob	bedma	iltra	insan
anton	iojan	foura	ndwhe	rerif
ledma	illss	eehim	stono	eandw
freme	resul	ttawa	cothi	spmvv

Message ready for transmission

spmvv	candy	rerif	insan	eshek	xwrit	iltra	ndwhe	anton	cothi	tawwa	eehim	stono	ledma	anton	nowsw	chjon	freme	illss	resul	ttawa	cothi	spmvv
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

This cipher code book was provided to postal inspectors in 1941 to keep telegraphic messages safe from prying eyes. The cipher used a series of five-letter groupings that could be deciphered with the use of the code book.

2008. "Trailblazers and Trendsetters: Art of the Stamp" closes on November 14, 2007. If you haven't had a chance to see "Rarity Revealed: The Benjamin K. Miller Collection," make your plans now to come see some of the most remarkable stamps we've ever had a chance to exhibit. The first part of this exhibit runs through October 1, 2007. Part II, which covers items from the collection from 1894 to the 1920s, will go on display in November 2007.

Mystery lovers and amateur detectives will want to take time to visit an exciting exhibit that opens next month.

"Postal Inspectors: The Silent Service," is a history of postal crimes, criminals, and the men and women who have brought them to justice. One of the oldest federal law enforcement agencies, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, sometimes known as the "silent service," protects the mail and the postal system.

Mail connects families and friends, businesses and customers, government and citizens. The U.S. mail system is a mammoth operation. More than forty percent of all of the world's mail passes through this system, carrying information, goods,



Handcuffs used to restrain Ted Kaczynski when he was arrested in a shack near Lincoln, Montana, on April 3, 1996. From 1978 to 1996 Kaczynski mounted a campaign of terror through a series of bombs sent in the mail to university professors and airline and advertising executives. Postal inspectors and other law enforcement agencies created the Unabom Task Force (a combination of the words "university" and "airline bomber"). The press created the name "Unabomber" from that original task force designation.



Today's postal inspectors investigate crimes that include biohazards, financial, identity, and security frauds — working behind the scenes and in task forces to protect the U.S. mail and the men and women responsible for moving it across the country.

and valuables into our homes and offices. For that reason, scam artists and criminals have long been tempted to use the mail for illegal means. About 2,000 postal inspectors are at work investigating a variety of mail crimes across the United States. The service traces its lineage to William Goddard who, in 1776, became the first in the long line of postal inspectors. Goddard, serving under Postmaster General

Last October marked the fifth anniversary of the 2001 anthrax terror attacks. Contaminated mail pieces including this one sent to then-Senator Daschle killed five people, including Washington, DC postal workers Thomas Morris Jr. and Joseph Curseen Jr. A task force that includes postal inspectors and FBI agents continues the investigation of this crime.

Benjamin Franklin, was tasked with duties that included investigating prospective postal routes and ensuring that postmasters operated lawfully.

Postal inspectors, originally known as surveyors, were responsible for ensuring that mail moved securely and swiftly. By 1830 the surveyors were placed under the Office of Instructions and Mail Dependencies and were known as special agents. Through the nineteenth century, inspectors' roles evolved beyond their primary duty to ensure the successful transportation of mail.

In 1880 Congress established the position of chief postal inspector, and the special agents became known as post office inspectors. By the mid-1800s, inspectors were playing an active role in criminal investigations and law enforcement. As mail volume grew, so did the number of unscrupulous individuals who tried to steal the mail or use it for illegal or harmful purposes. When swindlers used the growing mail system to target people after the Civil War, inspectors added mail fraud investigations to their duties.

To emphasize that the inspectors' duties ranged beyond those related to post offices, they were named postal inspectors in 1954. Postal inspectors protect messages, financial transactions, official communications, and valuable goods. As criminals found new ways to exploit the postal system, inspectors expanded the range of their investigations.

Today's postal inspectors investigate crimes that include biohazards, financial, identity, and security frauds — working behind the scenes and in task forces to protect the U.S. mail and the men and women responsible for moving it across the country. They advise businesses on securing their mail operations and educate consumers to stay ahead of criminals who prey on the public through the mail. Well into their second century of operation, the men and women of this "silent service" continue to let their work speak for itself.



This badly scorched envelope was recovered from an attempted train robbery. On October 11, 1923, brothers Hugh, Ray, and Roy DeAutremont stopped and tried to rob a train in southern Oregon. The brothers used too much dynamite when they tried to blow the mail car door open, destroying the car and killing the clerk. The brothers also shot and killed three train workers during the robbery before escaping empty-handed. An international manhunt produced the arrest of Hugh DeAutremont in 1927, followed by the apprehension of his brothers a few months later. All three were convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment.

show time

To obtain a listing in this section, submit a "Show Time" form, available online at www.stamps.org or by mail from APS headquarters. Information must be received 60 days before desired publication time. Listings are free to shows sponsored by APS chapters and affiliates. Shows that do not include exhibits are identified with *B*. Grand award winners from *WSP* shows are eligible for the annual APS World Series of Philately Champion of Champions competition.

All information is subject to change without notice. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, you should check with the specific show to verify information. The APS website listing includes shows much further in advance than we have space to include in The American Philatelist.

Michigan January 6-7
BIRPEX, Birmingham Stamp Club, Birmingham Masonic Temple, 37357 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Contact John Schuelke, jschuelke@webtv.net; 810-235-2641.

Virginia January 12-14

Metro Expo DC Stamp Show, Metropolitan Expositions LLC, Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Rd. McLearen Rd. at Rt. 28 (Sulley Rd.), Herndon. Contact John Dunn, stampnews@aol.com; 800-635-3351. *B*

Indiana January 13-14

Indy Stamp Show, Indiana Stamp Club, Lawrence Central High School, 7300 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Contact Steve Schinbecker, seatpands@aol.com; 800-841-1245 *B*

Arizona January 19-21

ARIPEX, Arizona Fed. Of Stamp Clubs, Tucson Convention Ctr., 260 S. Church, Tucson. Contact Steve Staton, mman3@comcast.net; www.aripexonline.com; 520-794-3921; 520-572-8980. *WSP*

Arkansas January 19-21

41st Annual Tri Lakes Stamp and Coin Show, Tri Lakes Stamp and Coin Club, Hot Springs Convention Center, 100 Convention Blvd., Hot Springs. Contact Gene Johnson, 501-624-0074.

Michigan January 20-21

Dearborn Annual Stamp Show, Dearborn Stamp Club, Sokol Hall, 23600 W. Warren, Dearborn Heights. Contact John P. Gorney, 313-561-7024. *B*

Pennsylvania January 26-27

York County Stamp Show, White Rose Phil. Soc. of York, York Fairgrounds, Horticulture Hall,

— Notice —

The unexpected death of the ALAPEX Stamp Show exhibits Chairman Charles Ingram has made it necessary for all ALAPEX exhibitors to resubmit their prospectuses. Please contact the new exhibits chairman, John Langston, by phone 205-477-5942 or by e-mail at j.langston@att.net

334 Carlisle Ave., York. Contact John Hufnagel, glenrockott@adelphia.net; 717-235-1528.

California January 26-28

SANDICAL, San Diego County Philatelic Council, Al-Bahr Shrine Temple, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., San Diego. Contact Jerry Santangelo, gsantang@cox.net; 619-463-8336. *WSP*

Florida February 2-4

Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, Sarasota Phil. Club, Inc., Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Contact Sy Bricker, mto.stamps@gte.net; www.sarasotastampclub.com; 941-907-6604. *WSP*

California February 9-11

APS AMERISTAMP EXPO, American Philatelic Society, Riverside Convention Center, Riverside. Contact Dana Guyer, stampshow@stamps.org; www.stamps.org; 814-933-3803 ext 217; Fax 814-933-6128.

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Ascension 1935 S. Jubilee 5d KITE AND VERTICAL LOG, SG 33L superb mint	\$570.
Australia 1915 4d Yellow-orange LINE THROUGH 'FOUR PENCE' PLUS INVERTED WMK. In superb mint corner pair.	\$750.
Bahamas 1980 Def 10c INVERTED WMK, SG 560w n.h. Rare.	\$110.
Barbados 1857 White paper ½d SG 7 superb used.	\$100.
Bechuanaland 1893-95 2d SG 39 constant variety BROKEN 'C' in opt n.h.	\$135.
Bermuda 1875 'ONE PENNY' on 3d SG 16 fine used. Ex Ludington.	\$310.
British Honduras 1878 CC wmk, perf 14 16d rose, SG 15 fresh mint.	\$310.
British Levant 1921 45pi on 2/6d, SG 48 corner copy with REID MAJOR RE-ENTRY N.H.	\$360.
Cape Of Good Hope 1861 4d Pale milky-blue, SG 14 attractive used, Cert. \$595.	
Cayman Islands 1905 6d DENTED FRAME FLAW, SG 11a superb mint.	\$530.
Dominica 1951 6c SG 126 corner block of 10, one with part of letter 'C' missing in wmk n.h.	\$55.

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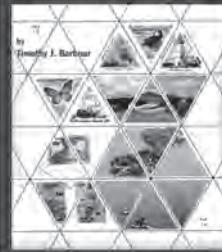
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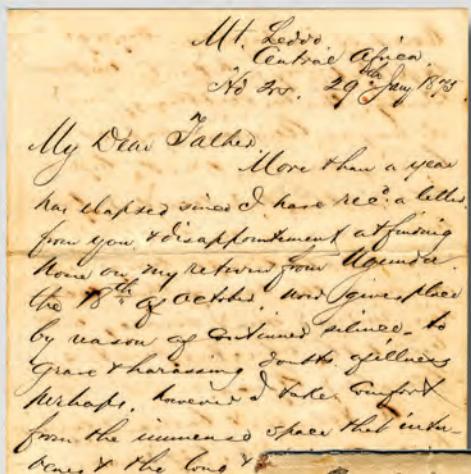
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News from Central Africa

The Charles Chaille-Long Letter



In the late 1860s the American Charles Chaille-Long went to Egypt to become a Lieutenant and later on Colonel of the Egyptian army. He served in the Sudan under General Gordon and was sent out to several expeditions.

This recently discovered letter written in January 1875 to his father tells from his expeditions, the country of the Niam Niam (men-eaters), the Liliput race of the pygmy people and many other exciting details.



...ended shots at
ended them, but
killed one, on the
lions became for
dangerous sport.
Café Sometime
the shell bounces
the precipitate
in the thick
dry wood, but
it is now safer to many.
It is very likely that in returning
to Cairo that I shall not
return to this Province, as my
work is nearly finished. True the
work is nearly finished, true the
work is nearly finished
one other to go Cairo.
Remainder truly dear father to
the family to Sarah &
friends & below are our father
with much affection
Yours & son
Charles

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Maryland **February 11**
Eastern Shore Stamp Club 43rd Annual Stamp Show, Eastern Shore Stamp Club, Wicomico Youth & Civic Center, 500 Glen Ave., Salisbury. Contact Kye Parsons, kyeparsons@hotmail.com; 410-749-8221.

Wisconsin **February 18**
CENWISPEX '07, Central Wisconsin Stamp Club, Jadeco Stamp & Hobby - North Point Mall, 200 Division Street, Stevens Point. Contact J. D. Manville, jadeco@charter.net; 715-341-5555.

Alabama **February 10-11**
ALAPEX, Birmingham Philatelic Society, Bessemer Civic Center, 1130 9th Ave., S.W. (Exit 108 on I-20/59), Bessemer. Contact Charles Hancock, 205-822-3826.

Florida **February 10-11**
STAUGPEX 07, St. Augustine Stamp Club, Bishop Baker Center, 259 St. George Street, St. Augustine. Contact Dianne Kay, 904-819-4327.

Ohio **February 10-11**
EUPEX, Euclid Stamp Club, Knights of Columbus Hall, 29101 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe. Contact Frank Zoretich, Jr., zoretich6@cs.com; http://members.aol.com/eupex; 440-347-9541.

Wisconsin **February 11**
Janesville Stamp Club Exhibition & Bourse, Janesville Stamp Club, Holiday Inn Express, 3100 Wellington Place, Janesville. Contact Gary Wentworth, wnstamps@aol.com; 608-756-1380.
B

Florida **February 17**
West Volusia Stamp Club Annual Show, West Volusia Stamp Club, Wayne Sanborn Activities

Center, 751 S. Alabama, DeLand. Contact Harry Sellards, Jr., sellardsfamily@cfl.rr.com; http://floridacsp.com/wvstamp/; 386-985-0909.

Kansas **February 17-18**
The Cessna Show, Cessna Stamp Club, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita. Contact Ralph E. Lott, 316-747-2053.

Alaska **February 23-25**
APEX, Anchorage Philatelic Society, Ship Creek Center P.O. Lobby, 334 W. 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. Contact Patrick Hoffmann, phoffmann@alaska.net; http://home.gci.net/~akphilsoc; 907-346-2717.

Missouri **February 23-25**
St. Louis Stamp Expo, Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. Contact David Kols, expo@regencystamps.com; www.stlstampexpo.org; 800-782-0066; Fax 314-361-5677. *WSP*

Nebraska **February 24-25**
LINPEX, Lincoln Stamp Club, University of Nebraska East Campus Union, 35th & Holdrege, Lincoln. Contact Kenneth Pruess, kpruess@aol.com; 402-464-6939. *B*

Ohio **February 24-25**
Toledo Stamp Expo, Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, Zenobia Shriners Hall, 1511 Madison Ave., Toledo. Contact A. Cunningham, Sr., 419-619-1657.

Connecticut **February 25**
NHPS 4th Sunday Show, New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. Contact Brian McGrath, campbell.buchanan@unitedaluminum.com; http://www.NHPS1914.org/; 203-389-2863. *B*

California **March 3-4**
NOVAPEX, Redding Stamp Club, Senior Citizens Hall, 2290 Benton Dr., Redding. Contact Bill Willis, 530-246-8340.

New York **March 3-4**
BUFPEX, Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga(Buffalo). Contact William Witschard, billwitz@aol.com; 716-826-1242. *B*

Tennessee **March 3-4**
KNOXPEX, Knoxville Philatelic Society, Budget Inn of America, 323 N. Cedar Bluff Road, Knoxville. Contact Gerald Schroedl, gschroe1@utk.edu; http://www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm; 865-974-1861.

Ohio **March 9-11**
COLOPEX, Columbus Phil. Club, Veterans Memorial Auditorium, 300 West Broad Street, Columbus. Contact Chuck Wooster, cwooster@aol.com; http://www.colopex.com. *WSP*

Maryland **March 10**
25th Annual Stamp Show, Tidewater Stamp Club, Easton Volunteer Fire Department Auditorium, Aurora Street & Creamery Lane, Easton. Contact Hope Messick, phalarope@dmv.com; 410-822-6471.

California **March 10-11**
FRESPEX 2007, Fresno Philatelic Society, Commerce Building, Fresno County Fairgrounds, Kings Canyon & Chance Aves., Fresno. Contact Dick Richardson, starstamps@thegrid.net; 559-431-5013.

Indiana **March 10-11**
CALUPEX, Calumet Stamp Club, Calumet Lincoln

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28 Questions

ON A LIFE IN PHILATELY

with Justus Ruscher

When did you start collecting stamps? Back in 1938, when I was 10 years old. **What are the first stamps you remember buying?** Probably at the post office. The Presidents were coming out then! **How much did they cost?** A few pennies. **How much are they worth now?** Not much more! **What fuels your passion for stamps?** I just think they are beautiful, especially the earlies like the British Colonies. **What else do you collect besides stamps?** Tropical fish and sports memorabilia.

Which countries do you specialize in? The United States, Australia, and Canada. **What's the most beautiful stamp you've ever seen?** Too many to say! Early Colombia, early Canada and Newfoundland. **What's the ugliest?** Oh! There are so many of those, especially today! **Do any of your relatives have an interest in philately?** A sister-in-law. **How many hours a week do you spend on your hobby?** In the winter, around 14 hours. When the weather's warmer, about half as much time.

Where were you born and raised? Brooklyn, New York. **What was your early career?** Textile colorist. **How did you get interested in philately?** My father showed me his 1890 album when I was a boy. **Who were your mentors or role models?** I used to visit Nassau Street in the old days. There were stamp stores all over the place, and I learned a lot there.

What are your personal favorite areas of philately? I like the early issues and the pre-cancels. **How do you perceive the health of stamp collecting today?** It seems very strong to me. **Where do you predict the hobby will be 20 years from now?** We have to get more kids interested. They spend too much time with TV and computers!

If you had one philatelic wish, what would it be? To live longer so that I can continue collecting!

Which country issues the most attractive stamp designs? Canada and the United States. **How many shows a year do you attend?** Three. **What has stamp collecting meant in your life?** After having a bad day, I can go into my stamp room, and when I emerge I'm a new person. **What's the most expensive stamp you've bought?** Scott #101 U.S. **Which is your favorite stamp?** Too many to say!

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Ohio

March 10-11

McKinley Stamp Show, McKinley Stamp Club of Canton, St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW, North Canton. Contact David Pool, lincolnway@sssnet.com; 330-832-5992.

Tennessee

March 10-11

Nashville Stamp Show, Nashville Philatelic Society, Music Valley Event Center, 2416 Music Valley Drive, Nashville. Contact Bob Picirilli, repic@access4less.net; www.nashvillephilatelic.org; 615-297-0183.

Massachusetts

March 11

SOPEX, Samuel Osgood Stamp Club, BPO Elks Lodge, 652 Andover St., (Exit 45 off I-93), Lawrence. Contact Roger Brand, rogandsue@comcast.net; 978-468-1773. *B*

New York

March 15-18

Spring Postage Stamp Mega-Event, American Stamp Dealers Assn., APS & USPS, Madison Square Garden, 4 Pennsylvania Plaza, New York. Contact ASDA, Joseph Savarese, asdashows@erols.com; 516-759-7000; Fax 516-759-7014.
WSP

Wisconsin

March 17

BAYPEX '07, Green Bay Philatelic Society, Ramada Plaza Hotel, 2750 Ramada Way, Green Bay. Contact Gordon Lindner, 920-465-6692. *B*

Virginia

March 17-18

Springex 07, Springfield Virginia Stamp Club, Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield. Contact Springfield Stamp Club, www.springfieldstampclub.org.

Canada

March 23-25

Edmonton Spring National, Edmonton Stamp Club, West Edmonton Mall Fantasyland Hotel 3rd Floor Europa Conference Centre, 17700 -87 Avenue, Edmonton, AB. Contact Keith Spencer, no.113@shaw.ca; www.edmontonstampclub.com; 708-437-1787.

Ohio

March 23-25

Garfield-Perry March Party, Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Masonic Auditorium, 36th & Euclid Ave., Cleveland. Contact Tom Allen, tom@thomasallen.com; www.garfieldperry.org; 216-771-4000. *WSP*

Maryland

March 24

TRIPEX Spring 2007, Tri State Stamp Club, Lavale Volunteer Fire Dept., Station 1, 421 National Hwy., Lavale (Cumberland). Contact J. Jeffrey Hutter, Sr., jjhsr@hereintown.net; 301-777-0379 evenings and weekends. *B*

Pennsylvania

March 25

Spring CAPEX, Capital City Philatelic Society, Linglestown American Legion, 505 N. Mountain Road, Harrisburg. Contact Linn Kinney, 717-732-7813.

Washington

March 30-April 1

Apple Blossom 2007, Inland Empire Philatelic Society, Red Lion at the Park, 303 W. North River Drive, Spokane. Contact J. W. Palmer, ickburg@comcast.net; www.spokanestampcollectors.org; 509-443-8147. *B*

New Hampshire

March 31

Stamp, Coin & Ephemera Show, Great Bay Stamp Club, K of C Hall, Columbus Ave., Rochester. Contact Edmund H. Vallery, ehvallery@aol.com; 603-868-5523.

New Jersey

March 31

Westfield Stamp Show, Westfield Stamp Club, Municipal Building, 425 East Broad St., Westfield. Contact Ed Grabowski, edjg@alum.mit.edu; 908-337-0039.

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British East Africa 1890-91 4a gray imperf (19b) used on piece VF — rare (only 120 issued) w/RPS & BPA Certs \$1,800	
East Africa & Uganda 1912-18 KGV 100r (58) used finely VF	\$450
KUT 1938 KGVI 50c Rope Not Joined to Sail (SG 144a) in used VF marginal positional block	\$535
Mauritius 1935 Silver Jubilee 5c Diagonal Line by Turret (both positions: Pl 2A R10/1 & 10/2; SG 245f) in Neyer Hinged corner block fresh & VF — rare format showing both variety positions	\$375
Natal 1869 Ish w/Postage Opt (37, SG 31) used VF & rare (RPS Cert)	\$1,650
1903-03 KE £1 10sh (97) mint fresh & XF	\$450
No. Rhodesia 1941 KGVI 1½d carmine-red Tick Bird flaw (SG 29b) used VF	\$550
Rhodesia 1898-1908 £10 (75) mint fresh & XF — lovely copy of rare stamp (BPA Cert)	\$4,850
Seychelles 1936 Karl Lewis illustrated cover (Rugged Coast of Mahe) w/KGV 2c, 3c & 15c to Arizona	\$950
Sierra Leone 1883-93 U.P.U. Specimens (SG 27/34s, 27/35s) mint in both perf 14 & perf 12 (½d, 2d & ¾d unused) VF, extr rare — ex Samuel (illustrated in his Specimen Handbook)	\$5,000
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Somaliland 1903 QV 3r Inverted Overprint (18a) mint fresh & VF (RPS Cert)	\$850
1903 QV 3r Curved Overprint (SG 23b) mint fresh & VF, extr rare	\$1,250
1938 KGVI Definitives (84-95) Never Hinged VF	\$120
South Africa 1950-54 2d Official Opt Inverted (O47c) Never Hinged VF (BPA Cert)	\$1,850
1926 Official 4d (04) Never Hinged fresh & VF — very scarce (BPA Cert)	\$1,650

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POSTALIA 2007, La Societe Philatelique de Quebec, St-Rodrigue Church, 4760 1st Avenue, Quebec City. Contact Hugo H. D. Deshayes, hdphil@videotron.ca; http://www.s-p-q.org/.

March 31-April 1

SOPEX, Southern Oregon Philatelic Society, Jackson County Fairgrounds, Take Exit 33 from I-5 to the Padgham Pavillion, Central Point. Contact Kevin Keating, kkeating@uclalumni.net; 541-245-6991. *B*

Kentucky

March 31-April 1

Lexington Spring Stamp Show, Henry Clay Philatelic Society, Inc., Springs Inn, 2020 Harrodsburg Rd., Lexington. Contact Paul C. Hager, showchair@henryclayphilatelic.org; www.henryclayphilatelic.org; 859-986-3414.

Florida

April 10-18

American/German SALON and Stampfest, Germany Philatelic Society, Crowne Plaza Hotel Melbourne Oceanview, 2605 North A1A Highway, Indialantic. Contact Jim Pullin, james_r_pullin@hotmail.com; www.gps.nu; 407-644-2156.

Canada

TORONTO SPRING POSTAGE MARKETPLACE, Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association, Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibit Place, Toronto, Ont. Contact John Sheffield, secretary@csdaonline.com.

April 13-15

TEXPEX, Southwest Phil. Foundation, Doubletree Hotel Dallas Near the Galleria, 4099 Valley View Lane (LBJ Freeway at Midway Rd.), Dallas. Contact Tom Koch, tkoch@utdallas.edu; http://home.comcast.net/~kochacabana/texpex/index.html; 972-883-4951; 972-883-2473. *WSP*

Alabama

April 14

MONTGOMERY AREA STAMP AND COIN SHOW, Montgomery Area Stamp Club, Holiday Inn, CCBBS Ford Rd. and I-65, Prattville. Contact Betty Murray, eamurray1@bellwouth.net; 334-279-8018. *B*

Ohio

April 14-15

FALLSPEX 44, Cuyahoga Falls Stamp Club, Lions Park Lodge, 6th Street and Silver Lake Avenue, Cuyahoga Falls. Contact Hugh Kleasen, blixtenAR@aol.com; 330-923-5856.

index of advertisers

Academy Stamp Co.	85	Eastick, Michael	85	Penny Black Stamp Co.	72
Alevizos, George	70	eBay	38	Philagallery	82
American First Day Cover Society/AFDCS	71	Excelsior Collection	27	Philasearch.com GmbH	10
American Topical Association/ATA	69	Franke Stamps	85	Philatlon	85
Apfelbaum/Earl P.L. Apfelbaum, Inc.	79	Friedman, Dr. Robert J.	13	Pyznar, Richard	72
APS AMERISTAMP EXPO	C8	Girls and Boys Town	69	Quality Stamps	72
APS Board of Vice Presidents — Wade Saadi, Steven Rod, David Straight	25	Golden Gate Philatelic	64	Rarity Ventures	85
APS Insurance Plan	81	Green, Brian & Maria, Inc.	69	Rasdale Stamp Co.	78
APS Internet Sales	84	Greg Manning Auctions	2	RCS Stamps	71
APS President — Nick Carter	23, 31	Halberstam, Aron	70	Regency/Superior	1
APS Sales Division	C2	Harmers of London	89	Rupp Brothers	11
APS StampCruise 2007	C7	Heinrich Koehler		R+B Rölli-Schär AG	35, 46
APS Vision Team	19	Auctionshaus GmbH & Co. KG	77	Sam Houston Philatelic Auctions/Duck Co.	39
Argyll Etkin, Ltd.	33	Henry Gitner Philatelists, Inc.	22	Sandafayre Ltd.	8
Bachenheimer, Frank	29	Interstamp	85	Saskatoon Stamp Centre	80
Barbour, Timothy J.	76	Israel & Holyland Stamp Collecting/Society of Israel Philatelists		SCDB Software, Inc./The Stamp Collectors Data Base, Inc.	80
Beck Stamp Auctions	85	Italy & Colonies Study Circle	28	Schiff, Jacques C., Jr., Inc.	67
Bellmore Philatelics	65	Jackson, Eric	20	Schmitt Investors, Ltd.	32
Bennett, Harvey/Matthew Bennett International	82	Lee, James E.	22	Stamp Center/Dutch Country Auctions, The	59
Beverly Stamp Co.	69	Legion Stamps, Inc.	C6	Stamp Wants	6
Bileski Ltd., K.	34	Lippert, Robert	46	Subway Stamp Shop, Inc.	9
Brookman/Barrett & Worthen	29	Malack, Steve	76	Taylor, Stephen	28
Century Stamps	12	McCusker, James	85	Torres, Antonio	71
Cherrystone Philatelic Auctioneers	C4	Metropolitan Stamp Co.	85	Tropical Stamps, Inc.	46
Collins First Day Covers	69	Miner Stamp Co., Irwin Weinberg Rarities	33	Universal Ship Cancellation Society	28
Colonial Stamp Co.	46	Momenstamps	47	Van Dam, E.S.J.	85
Columbian Stamp Co. Inc.	85	Mountainside Stamps	64	Vance Auctions, Ltd.	34
Confederate Stamp Alliance Membership & Authentication Service	64	Mowbray, J.R.	85	Virtual Stamp Club	64
Crown Colony Stamps	80	Muscott's	76	WAP Württembergisches Auktionshaus für Postwertzeichen	
Curhan, Bruce	21	Mystic Stamp Co.	55	GMBH	15
Dale Enterprises	46	New England Stamp	85	Washington Press	32
Daugherty, H.J.W.	85	Northwestern Philatelic Auctions, Inc.	70	Westminster Stamp Gallery	46
Davidson's Stamp Service	85	Palo Albums, Inc.	85	WESTPEX 2007	
Dollar Cover Co.	69	Paradise Valley Stamp Co., Inc.	5	Stamp Show	10
Eastern Auctions	72	Pattillo, Stephen	32	Younger, Edward	16-17
				ZillionsofStamps.com/Amos Hobby Publishing/Linn's Stamp News/Scott	89

Pennsylvania	April 14-15	Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame. Contact Edward Jarvis, ejarvis@westpex.com; www.westpex.com; 415-387-1016. *WSP*	@ Washington Ave., Clifton. Contact Thomas Stidl, tojs@blast.net; www.cliftonnj.org/stamp; 973-471-7872. *B*
WILKPEX, Wilkinsburg Stamp Club, Garden City Hall, Inc., 600 Garden City Drive, Monroeville. Contact David McConaha, wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com; www.wilkinsburgstampclub.netfirms.com.			
Delaware	April 21	Roundup Stamp Show, Olympia Philatelic Society, Comfort Inn, I-5 & Turnwater Blvd., Olympia. Contact Dennis Gelvin, dnjgelvin@comcast.net; 306-902-1182.	
DELPEX 2007 Stamp Show and Bourse, Brandywine Valley Stamp Club & Scandinavian Collector's Club, Nur Temple, 198 S. Du Pont Hwy (US Routes 13 & 40), New Castle. Contact John Graper, jcgraper@aol.com; 302-994-5222.			
Wisconsin	April 21	Plymouth Show, West Suburban Stamp Club, Plymouth. Contact Rod Watts, wssc@comcast.net; http://people.mw.mediaone.net/pnjstamps/plymshow.htm; 734-397-0962. *WSP*	
DANEPEX, Badger Stamp Club, Madison Turners Hall, 3001 So. Stoughton Rd., Madison. Contact John Pare, pare16@harter.net; 608-437-5124.			
California	April 27-29	Clifton 2007 Spring Stamp, Cover, and Post Card Show, Clifton Stamp Society, Inc., Clifton Community Recreation Center, 1232 Main Avenue	
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APS AMERISTAMP EXPO

membership report

No . 11, November 30, 2006



NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during November 2006. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to January 31, 2007, these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the April 2007 issue.

Aitken, John D. (210431) Oshawa, ON ITALY SIRACUSANES-CANADA QE RATE COVERS; 55; Retired
Allison, Albert A. (210457) Austin, TX 67
Arey, Alan L. (210612) Chatham, VA JAPAN-GER-PORT-BRAZIL-CANADA-SETENANTS-WORLDWIDE; 63; Retired
Argyriou, Dionysios (210446) N. Ionia, Greece; 28; Mechanical Engineer
Aumiller, Annette (210406) Lemoyne, PA US COVERS, REV; 49; Retired
Aversa, Carol (210407) Harper Woods, MI US-POLAND-ITALY-HEALTHCARE ISSUES-WORLDWIDE; 58; Registered Nurse
Avery, Robert (210542) Chicago, IL 62; Lawyer
Avila, Joaquin E. (210489) San Jose, CA 50
Bachman, Robert (210502) Riverside, NJ US-FDC; 69
Baran, Robert J. (210493) East Brunswick, NJ US; 56; Retired
Beeskow, John E. (210580) Livonia, MI WORLDWIDE;
Belanger, James F. (210503) Glen Ellyn, IL OLD WORLDWIDE/US; 55; Sales Representative
Belgin, Larry (210476) Roslyn, NY US; 58; Retired
Benard, Jack H. (210535) Houston, TX EUR; 51; Dance Instructor
Bittel, Francis J. (210472) Poland, OH MINT US; 90
Blanco, Antonio Martinez (210575) Baracaldo, Vizcaya, Spain; 37
Bloomwell, Arthur E. (210458) South Plainfield, NJ US SINGLES; 73; Retired
Blum, William D. (210473) West Palm Beach, FL MINT US PLATE BLKS, SHEETS-WORLDWIDE; 63; Retired
Blunk, Ralph (210432) Toronto, ON GER; 66; Retired
Boehnlein, James E. (210408) Mentor, OH US-UN-AMG-VAT-NYASSA-NYASLAND; 77
Bookman, Martin (210579) Brighton, MI WORLDWIDE; 84; Retired
Borne, Maria B. (210497) Gautier, MS 49
Boyd, Michael H. (210404) Arvada, CO 59
Breese, Robert R. (210568) Hoosick Falls, NY ICELAND-GREENLAND-PORT-VENEZUELA; 79; Retired
Breske, Thomas (210474) Perryville, MD WORLDWIDE POSTAGE DUE-AUXILIARY MARKS-MOURNING COVERS-POSTALS-MACHIN-QUEEN VICTORIA-COVERS; 66; Retired
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Brooks, Lynn D. (210565) Edmond, OK US-CANADA-AUST-PETROLEUM; 64; Retired
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Carleton, James C. (210433) Toronto, ON CANCELS-BRIDGES; 70; Retired

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Curtin, Dan (210584) Casa Grande, AZ US; 47; Engineer
Danielson, Jeris A. (210545) La Junta, CO 19TH C-BOB; 68; Civil Engineer
del Risco, Alain A. (210506) Miami, FL US-HUNGARY-ROMANIA-SPANISH SAHARA; 34; Social Studies Teacher
Dhir, Anil Kumar (210449) Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India GB-MOURNING COVERS; 45; Professional
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Dixon, Carolyn M. (S-210475) Potomac, MD UPPER BONGOLAND; Landscape Designer/Garden Center Manager
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Flaherty, Patrick J. (210547) Circle Pines, MN US POSTAL HISTORY, POSTMARKS, CANCELLATIONS; 48
Florida Postal Museum, Inc. (1560-210621) Orange City, FL
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Harabor, Mihai (210478) Murrieta, CA 68; Retired
Helman, Terry L. (210588) Sidney, OH US-CANADA-TRAINS-MACHINS; 68; Retired
Henderson, John B. (210495) Toledo, OH 61; Retired
Hensler, Bronislaw F. (210550) Davenport, IA US-W EUR; 75; Retired
Hickey, Delina R. (210451) Aiken, SC 65; Retired
Hillenberg, James W. (210625) Lake Mary, FL MINT US; 48; Letter Carrier
Hoffman, Frederick L. (210479) Stevens Point, WI GER-SWISS-CANADA-GB; 62; Insurance
Holley, David T. (210415) Keizer, OR US-JAPAN-CANADA; 47; Sales
Hubbell, Joseph E. (210528) Palm Bay, FL US; 63
Hunter, Neil H. (210435) Port Perry, ON AEROPHILATELY-CANADA-BERMUDA-W INDIES; 70
Husson, James A. (210577) Hampden, ME US-AIR MAIL; 55
Hyde, Lawrence (210628) Syracuse, NY US, REV-CANADA-AMG; 62; Retired
Israel Palestine Philatelic Society of America (1561-210622) Lincolnwood, IL
Istok, Ivy N. (210617) Arlington Heights, IL ASIA-COLORFUL WORLDWIDE; 55; Self Employed
Jacobson, Brian (210566) Medinah, IL US;

Jones, Carlos (210416) Gulf Breeze, FL FDC-COMMEM-AIR MAIL; 47; Auto Paint and Body

Jones, Donald G. (210589) Perry, GA

Juneau, Paul E. (210590) Bedford, NH US COMMEM, DEFINITIVES; 50; USPS Manager

Kashorek, Lorri J. (210629) Bath, NY US, REV; 36; Law Enforcement

Kayser, Melek R. (210480) Grosse Pointe Park, MI US-GER; 48; Physician

Kinem, Daniel J. (210521) Erie, PA EARLY US; 43; Medical Student/Programmer

Klein, Jack (210551) Bainbridge, IN STAMP ART; FRAMED STAMP ART

Kolts, Lance F. (210592) Tillson, NY US-UN-FEDERAL WATERFOWL; 62; Retired

Korosec, Philip S. (210511) Overland Park, KS OLD US-BRIT; 66; Retired

Kosmala, Jacek (210417) Warszawa, Poland POLAND, AIR MAIL, POSTAL HISTORY; 62; Engineer

Kraker, Erik A. (210618) Roanoke, VA US-WORLDWIDE-SPACE COVERS-AUTOGRAPHS-INTERNATIONAL MARKETING; 65; Retired

Kreitzer, Joshua (210481) Chicago, IL 34

Krowl, Robert T. (210418) Webster, NY US; 78; Retired

Kruer, Frederick H. (210591) Black Mountain, NC 79; Retired

Kruger, Virginia (210405) Mount Gilead, OH 21

Lamson, Brian (210512) Boylston, MA US; 38; CPA

Lee, Bob (210461) Cranford, NJ CHINA-HONG KONG; Consultant

Lee, Ching Beng (210419) Singapore, Singapore NEW ISSUES; 45; Business Owner

Letsche, Herbert J. F. (210436) Don Mills, ON EGYPT; 67; Retired

Lewis, Craig A. (210539) San Jose, CA US; 58; Consultant

Lisy, Thomas (210593) Chicago, IL 1890-1940 US COMMEM; 53; Sales Engineer

Livingston, Donn L. (210530) Denver, CO US; 57; Attorney

Loche, William (210452) Huntington, NY 52

Lock, Frank R. (210437) Scarboro, ON USED W EUR-EUROPA-TRAINS; 72; Retired

Lowe, John H. (210522) Augusta, GA US-GER (NOT DDR)-AUSTRIA; 80; Retired

Lowry, Doris I. (210438) Toronto, ON ROYAL FAMILIES-FAMOUS PEOPLE/CHARACTERS-US-BRIT COMM-CANADA; 66; Retired

Lyons, Jack (210439) Etobicoke, ON SCOUTING-MONARCHY-STEAM SHIPS-BIRDS-THE BOYS' BRIGADE; 74; Retired

Maaaz, Muhie (210490) Santa Clara, CA Engineer

Mac Alpine, Doug (210462) Summerfield, FL US-UN-GER-RUSSIA-CANADA-WORLDWIDE-TOPICAL; 79; Retired

Macko, Steven (210482) Hoffman Estates, IL US-E EUR; Distribution Specialist

Magyar, Michael R. (210619) Bellefonte, PA

Magyar, Rebecca A. (210513) Bellefonte, PA 30; Legal Assistant

Max, Stanley (210624) Portland, ME METRIC SYSTEM-MAPS; 56; Lecturer

McCarter, Sarah S. (210519) Laurinburg, NC ECLECTIC; 51; Teacher

McGee, Joshua H. (210578) San Gabriel, CA MACHINS-PENGUINS-POSTMARKS; 27; Engineer

McGehee, Rebecca (J-210552) Denver, CO EARLY US; 12; Student

McKee, Robert C. (210483) Broomfield, CO WORLDWIDE-US; 73; Retired

Meeker, Tim (210553) Cincinnati, OH

Meinicke, Erich (210633) Sebastopol, CA GER; 63

Miller, Barry S. (210501) Galesville, WI US; 51; Insurance General Agent

Miller, Richard J. (210554) Bloomington, MN USED US; 79; Retired

Miranda, Eduardo A. (210623) Linda-a-Velha, Portugal; 40

Mogerman, Irwin R. (210514) Plantation, FL US; 71; Retired

Moles, David J. (210450) Sherwood, QLD, Australia USED WORLDWIDE; 60; Rural Development

Montalvo, Jose A. (210609) Mercedita, PR 38

Morton, James Frank (210463) Halton Hills, ON PEI-BNA; 57; Receiver

Moskal, Reginald D. (210555) Oak Lawn, IL WORLDWIDE-POLAND-GER; Retired

Motz, Eugene (210470) Lawrenceville, GA 48

Neuhausen, Virginia S. (210523) Kalispell, MT US-CANADA-GB; 57

Newhouse, Nate (J-210541) New York, NY GENERAL; 9

Newman, Gregory A. (210564) Wilmington, DE US; 54; Computer Programmer

Nguyen, Quang C. (210500) Garner, NC US; 39; Actuary

Nicholls, Paul W. (210440) Brampton, ON CANADA-BERMUDA-BARBADOS-BRIT GUIANA-CAPE OF GOOD HOPE-TOPICAL; 60; Retired

Norris, Rachel E. (210524) Norwood, GA 49; Postmaster

Nowicki, Mary B. (210525) Williamstown, MA US, COMMEM; 81; Retired

Nutting, Robert W. (210494) Oakland, ME US-CANADA; 59; Pharmacist

Oliver, Jim (210441) Kitchener, ON EUR-BRIT COMM-JAPAN; 68; Retired

Olson, Stephen J. (210467) Manhattan Beach, CA PLATES-PANES; 49

Orberg, Robert E. (210563) San Diego, CA 65

Otwalt, Andrew (210427) San Jose, CA SOS; 46; Software Tester

Overstreet, William L. (210491) Hendersonville, NC US; 43; Plastic Surgeon

Packard, Stuart (210596) Bloomfield Hills, MI WORLDWIDE;

Pankiewicz, Steven B. (210595) Whitestone, NY NZ-CHINA-US-S AM; 56; Retired

Peach, Michael E. (210515) Bedford, NS GB-GER-CANADA; Retired

Perez, Ed (210556) Grand Prairie, TX 62; Retired

Petersen, Garald F. (210464) Gridley, CA Retired

Plagge, Norman A. (210557) Geneva, IL WORLDWIDE; 76; Retired

Pludowski, Jon F. (210420) Hamilton, ON FDC-UNCLE SAM-BALD EAGLE-GREAT AMERICANS; 44; Marketing Assistant

Portch, Garfield J. (210442) Islington, ON CANADA-SMALL QUEENS; 64; Insurance Broker

Porter, David R. (210594) Farmington Hills, MI WORLDWIDE;

Ramphal, Raj P. J. (210443) Toronto, ON BRIT CARIBBEAN; 71; Physician

Ranto, John (210597) Hamilton, NJ USPO BULLETINS-CREATING FDC; 83; Retired

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Rehm, William (210611) Gansevoort, NY US-NAZI ERA GER; 51; Retired

Reicheneker, Howard (210421) Carpentersville, IL WORLDWIDE; 60; CFO

Reiff, Jack J. (210631) Worcester, MA 73; Retired

Repetti, James R. (210574) Dover, MA US DEFINITIVES, COMMEM; 53; Professor

Reynolds, B. Howard (210598) Wellington, OH US-HOT AIR BALLOONS-ALLIGATORS-CROCODILES-HEDGEHOGS-KANGAROOS-REINDEER; 64; Retired

Ribbeck, Cynthia L. (210455) Lockport, NY US-DUCK; 44; Accounting

Ritchhart, Marvin (210630) Monroeville, IN SCOUTS-COVERS CARRIED ON DOG SLEDS-CANCELLED; 67; Retired

Rockwood, Fred (210484) Batesville, IN 58; Business Executive

Roden, Stan (210492) Santa Barbara, CA 65

Roman, Ted (210532) Kirkland Lake, ON; 43

Rosen, Richard J. (210576) Brier, WA 61

Rosenthal, Richard (210599) Bronx, NY US; 76; Retired

Roth, Mary E. (210558) Windsor, MO FARM LIFE COMMEM-US; 34; Teacher

Runzel, Johnny S. (J-210567) Elgin, IL MINT US, CLASSIC; 15; Student

Ryan, Richard J. (210600) Columbus, OH MINT US-GER; 73; Retired

Sanders, Michael C. (210601) Southfield, MI 49

Saycell, Kenneth J. (210529) Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; 55; English Department Director

Schmitter, Joel S. (210559) Wichita Falls, TX US; 49; Teacher

Schmuckler, Sidney K. (210602) Lilydale, MN GENERAL; 89; Retired

Schwab, Harold A. (210516) Franklinville, NY TOPICALS-CANADA; 65; Retired

Schweiger, Pamela G. (210526) Blythe, GA INSECTS; 48; Substitute Teacher

Seeber, Neill (210517) Lake Kiowa, TX 71; Retired

Shakoor, Fahim (210453) Livermore, CA 23

Shufrin, Norm (210603) Framingham, MA MINT US; 61; Retired

Silberberg, Helga (210465) San Francisco, CA W EUR-LATIN AM; 74; Retired

Silet, Richard B. (210422) Saint Ignace, MI EGYPT-PRE 1940 WORLDWIDE; 60; Teacher

Silverman, Grace B. (210485) Boca Raton, FL 76

Smith, Raymond H.D. (210560) Moline, IL US; 76; Retired

Sommerfeld, Herb (210604) Auburn, CA GER-GB-FRANCE-WORLDWIDE; 74; Retired

Spence, Helen (210469) Smithfield, NC EARLY US CLASSICS, COVERS; 54

Spinosa, Gregory M. (210572) Lincolnshire, IL CACHE-WWII; 44; Sales

Square, Nick R. (210423) Madison, OH US-WORLDWIDE-PRECANCELS-COVERS-INDIAN RESERVATIONS; 64; Retired

Stanley, Joan C. (210424) Roxbury, MA RUSSIA-PRC-N KOREA-VIETNAM; 61; Attorney

Stein, Michael I. (210425) Skokie, IL DENMARK-SWISS; CPA

Stevens, Gerald D. (210608) Imperial, MO PRE 1950 WORLDWIDE; 67

Stewart, Christopher S. (210571) Coin, Malaga, Spain BRIT COMM; 64; Stamp Dealer

Stoll, David R. (210426) Richmond, VA US; 42; Freight Specialist

Sturm, Bob L. (210536) Los Angeles, CA MEX-FRANCE; 31; Student

Suttle, Bruce (210496) Oak Ridge, TN 52

Taylor, Ray M. (210527) Oak Harbor, WA

New Members

Applications 209276, 209974, 209990 through 210021, and 210023 through 210076, and 210078 through 210093, and 210095 through 210180 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, Oct. 31, 2006	44,189
New Members	190
Reinstated	63
	253
	4,442
Chapters Disbanded	2
Expelled	1
Deceased	91
Resignations	164
Total Membership, Nov. 30, 2006	44,184

South Central Idaho Stamp Club (155611), Twin Falls, ID

NEW AFFILIATE

British West Indies Study Circle (AF0254), CONTACT: John Seidl, 4324 Granby Way, Marietta, GA 30062

AFFILIATE DISBANDED

GPS Plebiscite-Mermel-Saar Study Group (AF0197)

CHANGE IN NAME

Malicot, Patsy J. (115665), Sumas, WA, has changed her name to Patsy J. Webster. Martinez, Terry A. (158154), Flushing, NY, has changed her name to Terry A. Riccardi. Sell, Anne H. (S-184698), Alton, NH, has changed her name to Anne H. Doubleday.

DECEASED

Alpen, Edward L. (8057-054592), Richmond, CA Andrews, Elberon G. (188302), Colorado Springs, CO

Baker, J. D. (194170), Denton, TX Beard, John M. (8035-054895), Rancho Santa Fe, CA

Bell, Richard H. (184281), Unicoi, TN Boles, Jerry L. (177150), Peoria, IL Bookhop, Gerald W. (7419-052158), Schodack Landing, NY

Boreske, Joseph P. (4773-034635), Gretna, MB, Canada

Brinkley, James F., Jr. (132831), Seattle, WA Brzezinski, Stanley A. (090096), Bloomfield, NJ Cassens, S. Patrick (10568-073186), Ballwin, MO Coyle, Lynn A. (5660-129964), Sugar Lane, TX Crowe, Dan W. (167809), Kingsport, TN Cunningham, William O., Jr. (9960-070085), Katy, TX

Currier, William J. (6002-043544), Elk Grove Village, IL

Dake, John L. (6892-049660), Marietta, OH Deitcher, John R., Jr. (4364-028426), Line Lexington, PA

Dolsen, Richard E. (5638-160975), Marietta, GA Dopmeyer, Raymond R. (2667-074185), Willmar, MN

Duckwall, John W. (7177-049047), Hood River, OR Dure, William T. (159462), DeLand, FL

Essig, Jack (112218), Fairfax, VA

Ferguson, Clancy C. (183993), College Station, TX Gerig, Vernon, Jr. (152516), Brins Made, ND

Gieseman, Gary L. (120955), Rockville, MD

Good, Donald A. (112255), Advance, NC

Granger, Jason J. (5865-063099), Washington, DC

Greiner, William A. (114698), Lancaster, PA

Gurtins, Arvid (162363), Lac La Hache, BC, Canada

Guyette, Leo (181816), Oxnard, CA

Hardy, Bill B. (6888-049518), Dallas, TX

Hill, Carlton D. (142973), Midland, NC

Hodgskin, Howell L. (121919), Manlius, NY

Hordes, Herbert H. (8802-060527), Mays Landings, NJ

Ingram, Charles E. (194447), Vestavia, AL

Johnson, Charles E., Jr. (112298), Highlands Springs, CO

Karlin, Howard J. (099918), Brooklyn, NY

Kavanaugh, Frederick L. (155457), Colorado Springs, CO

Keiter, Floyd G. (9493-065907), Seattle, WA

Knies, Timothy G. (200572), Lockbourne, OH

Koloski, Martin G. (076476), New Smyrna Beach, FL

LaCluyse, Joseph P. (170063), South Bend, IN

Laubitz, Matthew J. (107339), South Pasadena, FL

Lemanski, John F. (181894), Haverhill, MA

Leslie, George C. (117034), Troy, ID

Levinson, Milton R. (177063), Dayton, OH

Lewis, William L. (094526), Boca Raton, FL

Mandeau, Rolf A. (9806-069575), Teaneck, NJ

CHAPTERS DISBANDED

Greater Grand Rapids Stamp Club (193476), Moline, MI

Matter, Harold E., Jr. (5273-022482), Mechanicsburg, PA
 Miesel, John (205355), Indianapolis, IN
 Mitchell, Warren T. (154826), El Cajon, CA
 Morris, Carroll N. (4954-038415), Shreveport, LA
 Morris, Paul S. (10093-059598), Camarillo, CA
 Morton, James A., Jr. (5418-041463), Medinah, IL
 Muller, Anthony B. (189423), Falls Church, VA
 Nash, Ronald H. (076038), Oviedo, NY
 Norris, Robert L. (6633-046398), Mount Pleasant, IA
 Novy, Robert L. (121108), Lacey, WA
 Nowicki, George L. (166115), Williamstown, MA
 Palmer, Elbridge William (083217), Lubbock, TX
 Parmelee, J. David (141034), Rochester, NY
 Peters, Stephen J. (152034), Orlando, FL
 Pojer, George (095593), Yonkers, NY
 Prince, John L., III (113914), Tucson, AZ
 Renner, August N. (126489), Brookfield, WI
 Rounds, Emerson L. (4063-033728), Foxboro, MA
 Schoedler, Robert F. (182623) Hinsdale, IL
 Schultz, Ronald (7667-038571), Northbrook, IL
 Sheklian, N. N. (5282-039080), Visalia, CA
 Shisler, Wilfred E. (133628), Rockville, MD
 Silverman, Murray B. (7898-055563), Boca Raton, FL
 Sledzik, Alexander (7191-053262), Brooklyn, NY
 Starnes, Bayard M. (086214), Winchester, KY
 Steiner, Sarah R. (085116), Westerly, RI
 Sterling, Frank (163729), Vero Beach, FL
 Straub, Conrad P. (080936), Columbia Heights, MN
 Susman, Laurence (9710-066688), Princeton Junction, NJ
 Swanson, George E. (6056-044060), Southbury, CT
 Thoma, Edward C. (165761), Fort Wayne, IN
 Titterton, William E. (099518), Bristol, RI
 Uehlinger, Max (8491-056249), Basel, Switzerland
 Van Rysdam, John W. (9227-066072), Orchard Park, NY
 Vandercook, Peter (112067), Orland Park, IL

Varley, Robert P. (163733), Fallston, MD
 Vicknair, Melvin M., Jr. (206467), Picayune, MS
 Vincent, Lawrence (5431-028572), Inman, SC
 Vollweiler, Victor E. (076205), Lyndhurst, OH
 Warne, Keith W. (8081-071910), Aberdeen, SD
 Williams, B. R. (161962), Killingworth, CT
 Wilson, Robert E. (3458-055059), Thousand Oaks, CA
 Wiltberger, Richard N. (080994), De Kalb, IL

EXPELLED

Onstott, John D. (206271), 492 Hippel St., Port Charlotte, FL, for failure to account for five sales circuits, failure to settle philatelic indebtedness to society, and failure to respond to official society correspondence.

REPRIMAND

Ritzer, Ronald M. (167752), Millburn Mall, 2933 Vauxhall Road, Vauxhall, NJ, for failure to promptly settle philatelic indebtedness (violation of Coded of Ethics #8).

DEALER LISTING

The following have been approved for classification as full-time (D) or part-time (P) stamp dealers according to qualifications established by the Board of Vice Presidents.

Etkin, Argyll, Ltd. (Patrick J. Frost 210170-D), 27 Regent St., London SW1Y 4UA, England, 44 (0) 207 437 7800. BRITISH EMPIRE-GREAT BRITAIN-AFRICA-ASIA
 Saaphilnet (Victor Gugliano 209716-D), Miami Commercial Center, 8307 NW 68th St., Suite 4664, Miami, FL 33166-2654, 541147827526. LATIN AMERICA-POSTAL HISTORY

Klein Collectibles (Robert A. Klein 168981-D), P. O. Box 6471, Bellevue, WA 98008, 425-269-3542. BRITISH COMMONWEALTH-FRANCE-GERMANY-AIR MAILED
 Levasseur, Thomas G., Philatelic Services (Thomas G. Levasseur 166606-D), P. O. Box 815, Rockland, ME 04841, 207-594-4794. WORLDWIDE-SOUVENIR SHEETS-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH
 Andrews Philatelic Consultants (Robert E. Lynch 9988-050555-D), P. O. Box 23, Northbrook, IL 60065-0023, 847-480-9848. ESTATE APPRAISALS-WHOLESALE LOTS-WORLDWIDE-US-POSTAL HISTORY

Lynch, Bob, Philatelics (Robert E. Lynch 9988-050555-D), P. O. Box 23, Northbrook, IL 60065-0023, 847-480-9848. ESTATE APPRAISALS-WORLDWIDE-WHOLESALE LOTS-POSTAL HISTORY

Birmingham Stamps (Charles P. Marsack 145881-D), 33802 Woodward, Birmingham, MI 48009, 248-642-1234. US-GERMAN-WORLDWIDE

Koehler, Heinrich, Auktionshaus GmbH & Co. KG (Dieter Michaelson 203150-D), Wilhelmstrasse 48, D-65183 Wiesbaden, Germany, 49 611 39381. GERMANY-EUROPE-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH-ASIA

Rice, Harold B. (Harold B. Rice, III 11163-073673-D), 993 Kenmore Ave., Buffalo, NY 14217, 716 875 0563. US

Sheth Philatelic & Numismatic Services (Mafatlal H. Sheth 209737-D), Bldg. #15/B/56, Manish Nagar, Four Bunglows, Andheri West, Bombay 400053, India, 00191226353771, INDIA-REVENUES & FISCALES-POSTAL MINT STATIONERY-GANDHI

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book reviews

by joe hahn

An Illustrated Trial Listing of Imperial Reply Coupons & Commonwealth Reply Coupons, by Peter Robin. Published 2000 by the Author. Spiral bound, 42 pp. Available from Peter Robin, Box 353, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004; e-mail peterrobin@att.net. Price not given.

International Reply Coupons (IRC) seem to be an avidly collected area of philately, at least from what I have seen on eBay and other websites.

A sub-genus of the IRC area is the British Empire Imperial and Commonwealth Reply Coupons. This initial study and listing of these uncommon and sometimes rare coupons is a real boon to collectors. The author lists those known to him by country by type, and denomination. Following the listing, he illustrates the twenty-one types as well as identifying the printer, the watermark (if any), and the key phrase that helps to identify them.

The Mauritius Primitives — Lapirot, Sherwin and Dardenne — A Study of the Stamps Issued in 1859, by Arnold Rudge. Edited by James Bendon. Published 2006 by David Feldman SA, Geneva, Switzerland. Hardbound, 316 pp., 226 illustrations (almost all in color), ISBN 1 870696 09

3. Available in the U.S. for \$150 plus shipping from Triad Publications, 33 Liberty Street, Chester, CT 06412-1116; phone 860-526-3400. Available worldwide for £75 plus shipping from Oxford Book Projects, Shalmaneser, Hinksey Hill Top, Oxford OX1 5BE, United Kingdom; phone 011-44-1865-321-675.

Few collectors will be able to afford one of these primitive stamps and fewer still will be able to assemble a sufficient number of them to make a serious study. This work reveals that not only can the classic issues of philately reveal new information but that the techniques used can be applied to other, more affordable areas.

For eleven years the author has studied these three issues of Mauritius, not only from items in his collection but from very high resolution photographs

(film was used, as digital photographs do not have the resolution quality needed for detailed study). Based on these studies, he has been able to reveal new information on the plating of the *Lapirot* stamps, including the engravers guide lines, the retouched plate, and the discovery of a previously unknown Earliest impression.

With the *Sherwin* issue he discusses who was responsible for engraving the plate, and a new plating of all twelve issues is included.

Revealed for the first time in this work on the *Dardenne* issue are the dimensions of the paper on which the stamps were printed, the types of paper and watermark, the number of stamps printed on each sheet, as well as a reconstruction of a sheet of the 2d stamps.

The techniques, pitfalls, and problems encountered in studying these stone lithography stamps can be applied by anyone working on a better understanding of other country whose stamps are printed in the same manner. This is not for a beginning study of stone lithography but for more advanced students. For them, it is a wonderful source of insight and information.

The Life and Work of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: A Philatelic Journey, by Doyen Nguyen. Published 2006 by Bear County Press. CD in Adobe Acrobat portable document format (pdf) for Windows PC. 383 pp. Available in the United States for \$33 postpaid from Lawrence Diamond, 6090 Ingleston Drive, Unit 913, Sparks NV 89436; e-mail vmishka@charter.net.

D. Nguyen ♥ W.A. Mozart. That's the message to and the motive behind this 352-page topical exhibit in CD form, which garnered a Silver Bronze award at WASHINGTON 2006 — an impressive result at an international exhibition for a topic in which 95 percent of the relevant material was issued following World War II. Even the first Mozart stamp, an 1889 10-pfennig issue for a German local post in the western Hamburg district

THE MAURITIUS PRIMITIVES



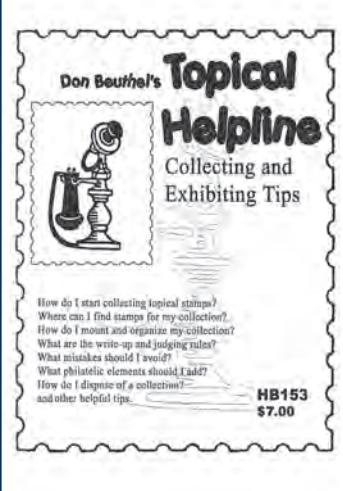
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of Altona, is fairly esoteric but very inexpensive.

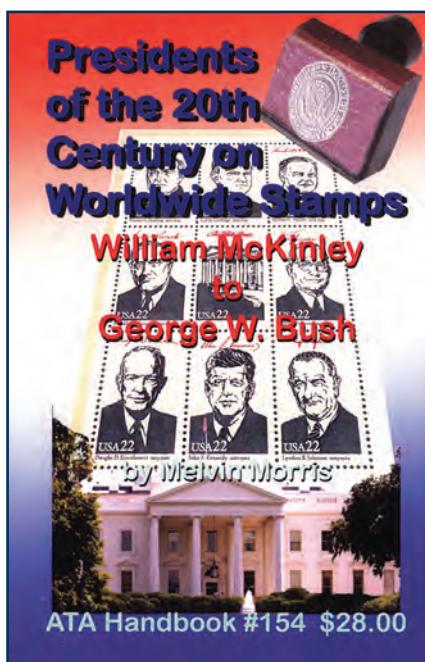
Most of the stamps are modern, multicolored, and beautiful, and the quality of color reproduction in the CD is a compelling demonstration of just how far digital imagery has come. All but the smallest stamps can be crisply enlarged with little loss of detail. Viewing this exhibit on a CD seated at the comfort of one's desk is vastly more enjoyable than crouching and squinting to view it on a show floor.

Mozart is renowned for producing more than 600 works in a career that ended at age thirty-five. To paraphrase comedian Tom Lehrer, it is sobering to consider that when Mozart was my age he had already been dead for eighteen years! But even that prodigious body of work is topped by the stupendous output of philatelic material related to his life and music, including postmarks, Mozart meters, postal stationery, booklet covers, even progressive proofs of a 1991 Netherlands city post issue and a U.S. advertising cover for Mozart cigars.

Alas, there's also much more than needs to be here. Take the color card with a period portrait of the prodigy and a stamp showing Mozart as a child and as an adult, tied by a Valentine's Day 2000 handstamp. It's attractive, but it's not a genuine maximum card in that it does not match the stamp. The stamp is one of seventeen from a Millennium miniature sheet depicting events that have nothing whatever to do with the issuing entity of Maldives Islands, a sprinkling of Muslim islets in the Indian Ocean. And the cancel is dated fully two weeks after the first day of issue. Pretty as it may be, this item was created to peddle to Mozart-lovers, not to serve any postal purpose.

All collections (including mine) have a few such items, but there are far more than a few here, including many cacheted covers for a few single stamps. A 28-page appendix of "undesirable philatelic issues" and cinderellas, plus pretty but nonphilatelic Mozart miscellany such as phone cards and advertising cards hawking a German meat extract, are a distraction from the rest of this well-composed exhibit.

I doubt that dyed-in-the-wool Mozart-lovers will share my opinion, however, and they are clearly the target audience for this disc — a compelling demonstration of how a philatelic ob-



session can be effectively preserved and published. — Fred Baumann

Das Postgebiet Ob. Ost auf dem Territorium der späteren Republik Lettland 1915–1920/The Postgebiet Ob. Ost in the territory of the later Latvian Republic 1915–1920, by Harry v. Hofmann, RDP (AIEP, BPP, FRPSL), translated by Philip E. Robinson, (FRPSL). Published 2006 on behalf of the Latvia Study Group by Harry v. Hofmann Verlag. Softbound, 408 pp., almost 270 illustrations, softbound, ISBN 3 7636 5077 6. Bilingual German/English edition. Available for €68 from Harry v. Hofmann, Postfach 560156, 22551 Hamburg, Germany; fax (040) 817799.

One of the points made in this book, which needs repeating, is that the abbreviation Ob. is not an abbreviation for the German word "Ober" (upper) but for the word "Oberbefehlshaber" (Supreme commander.) Thus, "Ob. Ost" is not "Upper East" but "Supreme Commander, East." I make this point since I still hear collectors referring to the incorrect translation.

Collectors of this area who are not familiar with the German language can rejoice, because a paragraph in English follows every paragraph in German. The only part of the book not so translated is the section reproducing the sources and decrees.

This work does an outstanding job on illuminating the co-operation between

the national inhabitants and the German military establishment. The various sections of the book go into great detail on the stamps, postal stationery, postcards, postmarks, special types of dispatches, censorship, field post, special procedures, postal forms as well as forgeries and questionable items.

A lot of the details come from the use of archives, particularly in Latvia, which are again accessible, so this treasure trove of information is based on official records.

Don Beuthel's Topical Helpline, by Don Beuthel, edited by Karen Cartier. Published 2006 by the American Topical Association. Softbound, 72 pp., ISBN 978-0-935991-53-0. Available postpaid for \$9 to non-members, or \$7 to ATA members and applicants enclosing dues (\$20 U.S., \$39 elsewhere) from the American Topical Association, P.O. Box 57, Arlington TX 76004-0057; website www.americantopicalassn.org; e-mail american-topical@msn.com.

So you've got that stock book of seashells on worldwide stamps, cacheted Rembrandt covers Rembrandt, souvenir cards and sheets showing eagles, or whatever topical bug it was that bit you years ago. Like me, you've tried to suppress your love affair, but you keep bringing fresh goodies home from shows, or buying them on the Internet. What now? Answering that question helping focus a general topical interest into a coherent collection is the subject of a slim new text from the American Topical Association that many budding thematicists are likely to find helpful.

Former ATA President Don Beuthel's 1996–2001 "Helpline" columns in the ATA journal *Topical Time* have been compiled and edited by Karen Cartier into a coherent work full of practical collecting and exhibiting suggestions and advice. There are tips on how to conduct research, find material, organize and present your growing collection and how to avoid some potentially pricey pitfalls along the way. Enhancing the excursion are Dick Sine's commentary on exhibiting, notes from Alan Hanks on how topical exhibits are judged, and Marian Bowman's account of the genesis of her award-winning topical exhibit on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

More than half the book concerns

what (and what not) to collect, and topical newcomers can easily save themselves multiples of the book's price by taking Beuthe's advice. He also advises collectors to widen their topical horizons, with examples of cancellations and covers suitable for a collection or exhibit, as well as categories of material that may be relevant but are easily overlooked, such as booklet covers, perfins and revenue stamps.

Clearly, you don't have to be a beginner to profit from this useful little book. Its value would be even greater, however, if it had illustrations of quality and clarity to match the text. Most of the 32 black-and-white images are passable, but several with embedded text or captions are unreadable, and some simply need to be a lot larger. — Fred Baumann

Presidents of the 20th Century on Worldwide Stamps: William McKinley to George W. Bush, by Melvin Morris. Published 2006 by the American Topical Association (ATA Handbook #154). Perfect bound, 189 pp., 10 pp. color illus., numerous b/w throughout text, ISBN 978 0 935991 54 9. Available for \$28 plus shipping from the ATA, P.O. Box 57, Arlington, TX 76013; e-mail american topical@msn.com; website www.americantopicalassn.org.

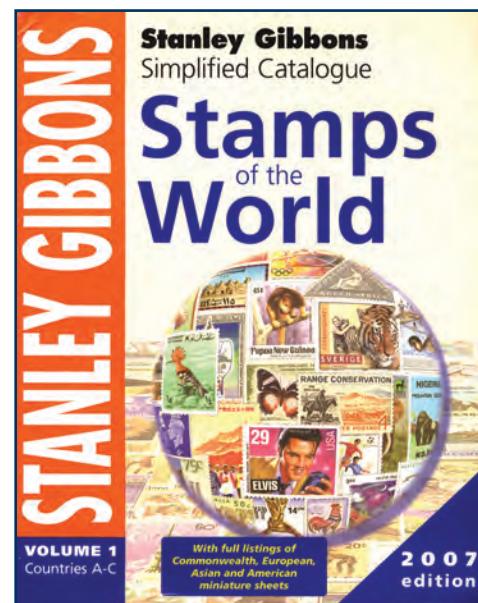
The handbook is the sixth in the American Topical Association series "Collecting the Presidents." It lists all known varieties of stamps featuring twentieth-century American Presidents alphabetically by country, with their Scott, Minkus or Michel catalogue numbers. Issues not listed by one these three

but known to be listed in other catalogues are marked with an asterisk. The author notes that "the purpose of this handbook is to try to catalogue every known stamp that either pictures or mentions a 20th Century President or a member of his family."

The main listings are followed by a short section on collecting examples of the presidential "free franking privilege" (also enjoyed by their widows, the Vice-President, and current members House of Representatives and the Senate as well as their spouses, should they die in office, for a period of 180 days). There are an additional five "chapters" that are reprints of articles from *Americana Philatelic News*: "It's All Relatives!" "It's All Relatives II — Cousins," "Nobel Peace Prize Winners," "Reagan the Movie Star," and "Not Named for the President" (a short piece on people, places, or things that bear a Presidential name but have no other relationship). The book concludes with a Bibliography, Index, Addendum, and a list of Navy Ships Named for Presidents. — B.F.

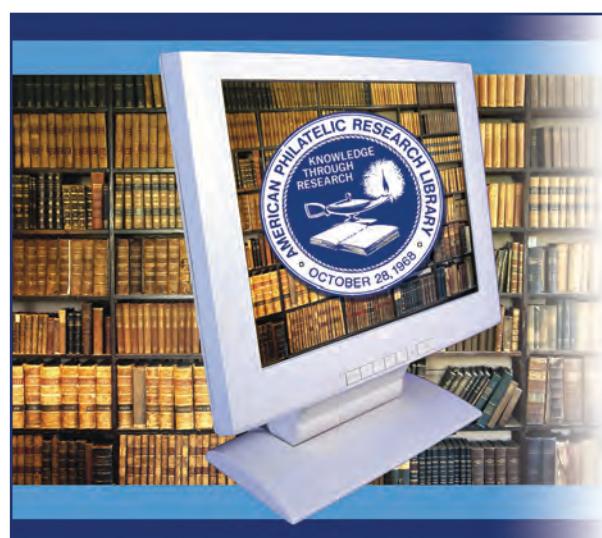
Catalogues Received and Noted

Stanley Gibbons Simplified Catalogue: Stamps of the World 2007, Vols. 1–5. Softcover, Vol. 1 (A-C) 1,044 pp., ISBN 085259 629 4; Vol. 2 (D-H) 824 pp., ISBN 085259 631 6; Vol. 3 (I-M) 991 pp., ISBN 085259 632 4; Vol. 4 (N-R) 665 pp., ISBN 085259 633 2; Vol. 5 (S-Z) 977 pp., ISBN 085259 634 0. Available for £39.95 each from Stanley Gibbons Publications, 5 Park-



side, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants BH24 3SH, U.K.; e-mail sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk; website www.stanleygibbons.com.

Since it was first published in 1934, Stanley Gibbons Simplified Stamps of the World catalogue has become accepted as a standard work of reference around the world. Its easy-to-use, simplified listings, mint and used prices for almost every one of its 464,000+ stamps, color illustrations, and helpful introductory notes make this an ideal catalogue for the thematic or worldwide collector. New issues are listed up to August 2006, and the continuing program of adding miniature sheets to the listings means that all Commonwealth, European, Asian, and American sheets are now listed and priced.



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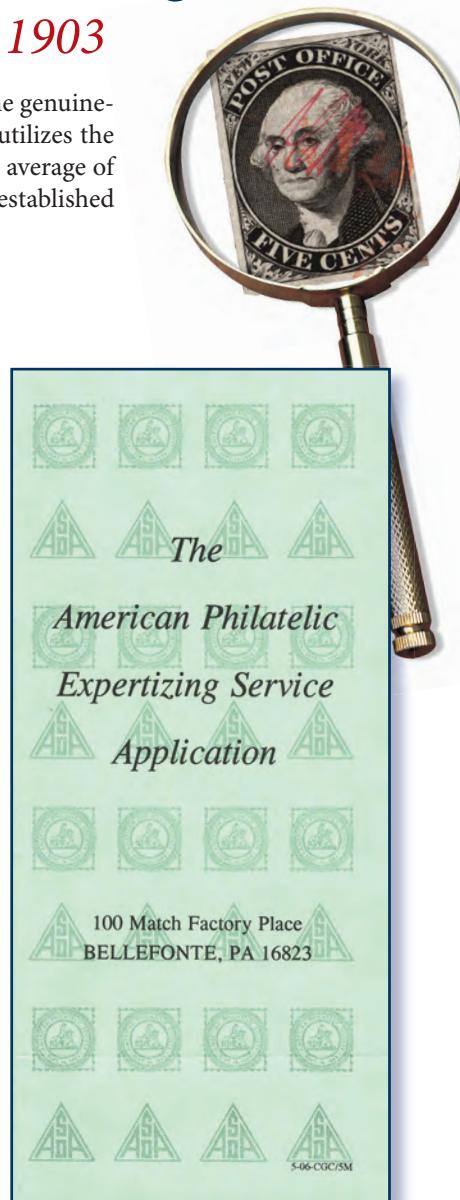
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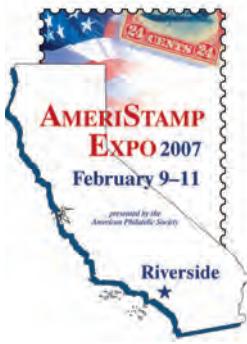
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