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THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA STAMP

BY CHARLES M. POSNER

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BY ROBERT A. MOSS

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POLISH-RUSSIAN POSTAL RELATIONS

BY JULIAN AULEYTNER

The history of Polish-Russian postal relations documented through covers from 1918 through 1921.

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

Since 1887 — The Premier Philatelic Magazine in the Nation

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Chile Peppers on Stamps

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The APS in Worldwide Philately

International Federation of Philately Representatives



As the major philatelic membership organization in the United States, the American Philatelic Society has a special relationship with the two organizations that represent philately in the world and on the American continents.

We are members, along with national federations from more than 90 other countries, of the International Federation of Philately (FIP), the umbrella organization that oversees philately around the world. Most of the large international stamp shows that occur on a very occasional basis in countries worldwide do so with accreditation from the FIP, which assures that the shows are run fairly and according to very high standards. The upcoming major show, World Stamp Show-New York 2016, www.ny2016.org, is operating within the framework of FIP accreditation. In the United States these large shows occur only once every 10 years. The next show after the one in New York will take place in Boston in 2026, the 250th anniversary of the founding of our great country.

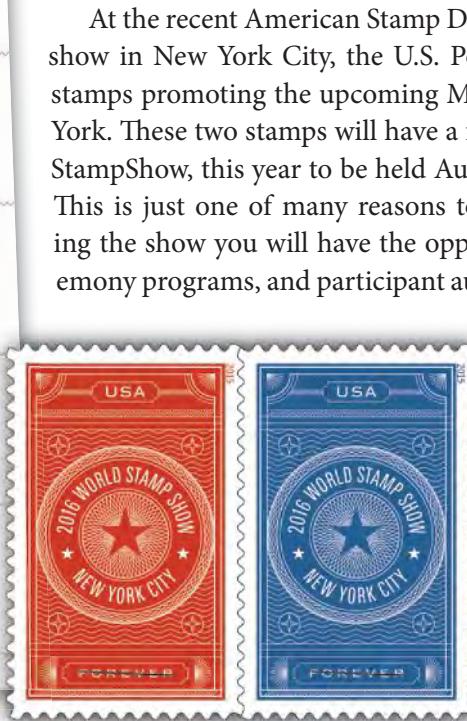
Just below the FIP in the pecking order are the three continental organizations of national federations. For the Americas, it is the Inter-American Federation of Philately (FIAF), for Europe the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA) and for Asia the Inter-Asian Philatelic Federation (FIAP).

The FIAF will hold its congress this year in Quito, Ecuador, during the Expoafe 150 Años stamp show, <http://expoafe150.blogspot.com>, named for the 150th anniversary of the first stamps of Ecuador. This show will be supported by the FIAF and will draw exhibits from more than 20 countries within the Americas. The APS has appointed Carlos Vergara as the commissioner, the person responsible for obtaining U.S. exhibits for this show, and two judges: James Mazepa and Stephen Reinhard. Exhibits in all FIP classes will be accepted. The dates of the show are September 29–October 2. It may still be possible to apply to exhibit at the show. If you are interested, contact Carlos at carlos@cvphoto.net. For general information about the show, e-mail Teddy Suárez at aquacorp@hotmail.com.

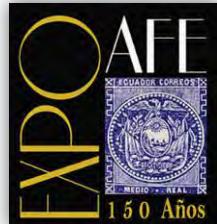
USPS Announces New World Stamp Show-New York 2016 Stamps

At the recent American Stamp Dealers Association spring postage stamp show in New York City, the U.S. Postal Service unveiled two new forever stamps promoting the upcoming May 28–June 4, 2016, huge event in New York. These two stamps will have a first day of issue during the annual APS StampShow, this year to be held August 20–23 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This is just one of many reasons to vacation in Michigan this year. During the show you will have the opportunity to obtain first-day covers, ceremony programs, and participant autographs on your covers and programs.

This will be all part of the fun of a great philatelic weekend in Grand Rapids. There is much more information about the show on the APS website at www.stamps.org/stampshow.



Publicity image of a pane of 20 World Stamp Show-NY 2016 forever stamps to be issued August 20 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to promote the 2016 event. A close-up of a stamp pair is shown.



Expoafe 150 Años
stamp show logo.

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HOW I BECAME A STAMP COLLECTOR

BY ED CAHOON

I came to adult stamp collecting in one very common fashion. At about the age of 30 I rediscovered my childhood stamp collection consisting mostly of dusty but aromatic bundle-ware, glassines and a Liberty stamp album, all of which had been donated by one sympathetic adult or another during my youth. By the end of my attempts to catalog and determine if there was anything of accidental value in my childhood treasure, I was infected with the virus all over again.

I was in the Air Force then and stationed at Clark Air Base in the Philippines. The base was an enormous community with a population sufficient to support a stamp club and I started attending and learning. I think all those early deeply engraved issues of the world captured my imagination.

After several false-starts on country collections, I decided to collect triangle stamps. At the next stamp club meeting, I announced my intention. The derision I received from the experienced club members surprised me. They told me it was too narrow a subject, while at the same time asserting that I could never achieve completeness. They said that no matter how my income might grow, I would never be able to afford some



Pair of Cape of Good Hope triangle stamps.

of the material, including the Cape of Good Hope error of color woodblocks. Given my low enlisted pay at the time, I had to agree with that but I had made up my mind and was determined to press forward.

The pace of my progress was frustrating at first. One day Larry, a very old U.S. military retiree expatriate living in the Philippines, and a member of our stamp club, asked me what my rush was. I was just excited and anxious. He asked if I intended this pursuit to be a life-long hobby. I told him that I did and he told me to slow down. He told me it would be far more rewarding to proceed methodically and develop relationships that would make the pursuit more meaningful. I took his advice.

Larry's other advice ran the gamut

from demanding quality stamps and covers, to how to write up, mount and protect exhibit pages. He was one of the leading forces in our stamp club and was instrumental in setting up a stamp exhibit on the base. My exhibit earned a silver medal I didn't feel it deserved, but I was told the exhibit received a lot of positive comments from the non-collecting public that walked through.

For many years I limited myself to major, catalog-listed triangles, but I have gradually gone far afield, as long as the material is philatelic or fiscal and triangular. Now the collection includes 17th century penny post handstamps, locals, stationery, revenues, cinderellas, supplementary labels, censor marks, cancels, and more.

It has been 30 years since that first stamp club meeting and I have yet to exhibit again, but I am close. One personality characteristic of collectors is a desire to create order out of chaos.

I have created the chaos for three decades with the distant goal of exhibiting and I am finally organizing and assembling the large volume of material onto pages.

I would enjoy hearing from others with any interest in triangle stamps via e-mail at edcahoon@gmail.com.

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



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

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

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

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

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



Stamp Collecting's Reach

Philately's Effect on Those Around Us



The U.S. Postal Service honored master of the spoken word Maya Angelou with a commemorative forever stamp issued April 7. News media outlets were abuzz that week talking about the stamp, but I want to take a moment to share what was on my mind when I thought about the stamp that week. The Angelou stamp brought back fond memories of having the privilege of meeting her at the first-day-of-issue ceremony for the James Baldwin stamp issued in July 2004 in New York City.

I remember clearing my schedule to make certain I would be in the audience to hear her speak. Needless to say, I was not disappointed, and after the ceremony she signed autographs and talked individually to people about her friend James. That ceremony program signed by her has a special place in my collection, and the new stamp will fit in perfectly on that album page.

Ultimately, the social interaction with her that day meant a lot as well. It is amazing the effect philately continues to have on our lives and those around us.



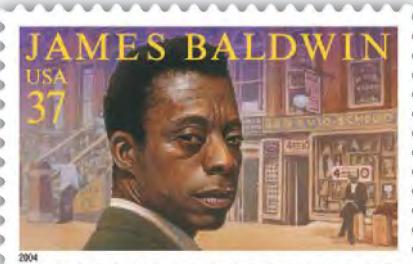
I am delighted to announce that the American Philatelic Society has hired Jeffrey Stage as its editorial associate. Stage started in mid-May and will assist with the AP, the library's *Philatelic Literature Review* quarterly, and more.

Stage previously worked for *The Post-Standard* and *Herald-Journal* in Syracuse, New York. During that time, he penned an award-winning stamp collecting column for 18 years. In 1987, he received the Lidman prize from the Council of Philatelic Organizations for writing in a non-philatelic publication. In 2013, Stage published a philatelic mystery novel titled *Chasing Jenny*.

"I consider it an honor to work for the APS. It combines my skills as a journalist with my all-time favorite hobby," said Stage. "It couldn't be more perfect."

This month we continue Charles Posner's series of stamps, this time focusing in on the Boy Scouts of America stamp. Remember to check out the bonus content on the AP website, www.stamps.org/AP-Album, to read additional articles by Posner on other 1950 stamps.

Do you have any suggestions for an article? Are you looking to put pen to paper and write one? Please send me a note to get that conversation started. I look forward to working with you.



Poet Maya Angelou speaking at the dedication of the James Baldwin commemorative stamp issued in July 2004.



Editor,
The American Philatelist



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stamp Collecting Companion

I have read a number of letters commenting on the need to introduce new members to the hobby of stamp collecting. I live in a small community on an island in Southeast Alaska, so there is not much opportunity to recruit.

This all changed early this winter when my cat became infatuated with the numerous small rectangles of paper distributed on top of my desk. The exotic odors emanating from those little perforated wonders from all parts of the globe must be intoxicating to his sensitive nose. He has become very proficient at sorting piles of stamps according to smell and then resorting them with a single swipe of his tail. This helps by giving me the opportunity to sort through the piles several times.

If I could just get him to lick the stamp hinges, I will have the perfect stamp collecting companion.

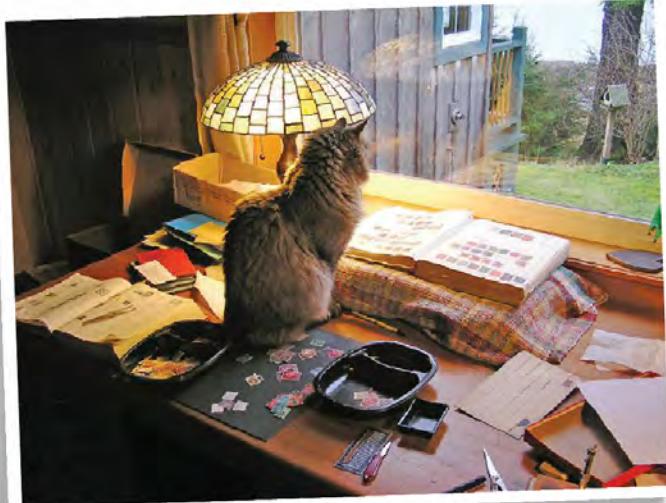
Bill Duncan

Coffman Cove, Alaska

Wait Period For U.S. Stamp

I recently read about the Maya Angelou stamp, issued less than one year after her death, in an article published in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*.

I thought the rule was that an individual must have been dead 10 years before a U.S. stamp could be issued in their



Alaskan APS member's stamp collecting companion hard at work.

honor. When did the rule change?

Kenneth Lucas

North Little Rock, Arkansas

Editor's Reply: As of May 2015, the U.S. Postal Service Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee website does not mention years following death, outside of a mention for deceased presidents: "A memorial stamp will be issued honoring de-



Cover from the 1937 dedication of the Paris, Missouri, post office.

Paris, Missouri, Post Office

In reading Charles Epting's April AP article titled "A New Deal for the American People," I happened to notice the 1937 cover with the dedication of the post office in Paris, Missouri.

Having a good friend who still owns a farm house in Paris, I sent him the photo and asked how familiar he was with the post office. He told me that the building in the picture is still the post office in Paris. "It is a brick building and still looks good," he said. "I've been in it many times during the period 1940 to present."

He also shared that the Paris National Bank, the one that sent the pictured cover, has another connection. One of my mother's cousins started working for the bank many years ago and was president of the bank in the 1950s through early 1960s. The addressee was probably that person's daughter or niece, but my friend wasn't certain.

It's a small world.

Elliott Rudnick

Reisterstown, Maryland

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Jay Kaplove
Tenafly, New Jersey



"It was a pleasure dealing with Dr. Bob. Your offer was definitely the highest offer of the three bids I received.

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Morrison, Illinois

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Greg Beifuss
Westlake, Ohio

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Steven C. Reynolds, DDS
Scottsdale, Arizona

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ceased U.S. presidents following death."

In January 2007, the Postal Service modified the rule from 10 years to five years. The push at that time was prompted by Rosa Parks passing in 2005. A stamp was issued for Parks in 2013. Comedian Bob Hope, who died in May 2003, was honored with a stamp in 2009, one of the first to be issued with the shorter waiting period.

In September 2011, the U.S. Postal Service eliminated wording from its guidelines to allow for living individuals to be honored with a stamp. That has since not happened because the U.S. Postal Service board of governors did not allow it.

The 2011 change did eliminate the text that an individual must have been deceased for a certain period of time. The



Two United States commemorative stamps honoring Bob Hope and Rosa Parks.

Maya Angelou stamp is one of the first stamps quickly issued after this change was made.

Current guidelines, posted online at <https://about.usps.com/who-we-are/csac/criteria.htm>, actually don't make any reference prohibiting living individuals from appearing on U.S. stamps.

First-Day Ceremonies

I like to go to first-day-of-issue stamp ceremonies when I get a chance, but I often have trouble finding details about the ceremony on the Internet.

The U.S. Postal Service website gives details about new issues, but rarely about first-day ceremony details. The e-mail the APS sent in late March listing the four ceremonies in the Washington, D.C., area was fantastic. Thanks for sending it and I hope you do it on a regular basis.

Richard Rizzo

Gaithersburg, Maryland

Editor's Reply: Thanks for the positive feedback. With four stamp events in a two-week period, we figured that information would be helpful for our members in that area of the country.

For details on future U.S. stamp ceremonies, visit the APS Facebook page at www.aps.org.

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facebook.com/american.philatelic.society. We typically post information on U.S. stamp ceremonies and issue dates as soon as we have them available. You don't have to be on Facebook to view our page and the information.

Additional information on U.S. stamps is on our website at www.stamps.org/US-New-Issues.

Wilt Chamberlain Postage Due

Thought you might appreciate seeing the cover I recently received. It is an addressed reply envelope that I had used for return of stamps to me from a recent



Cover bearing a Wilt Chamberlain commemorative forever stamp that received a handstamped "Surcharged Postage Due" marking.

package I sent to the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

I passed it around the last stamp club meeting I attended and the consensus was that someone in the post office didn't know Wilt Chamberlain, missed the word "forever," and read it as a 13-cent stamp. My local post office agreed with my assessment, and I was not charged for the postage due.

Don Dietel

Emerson, New Jersey

Stamp Stories

I just wanted to say how much I appreciate the New Stamps section of the April issue of *The American Philatelist*. I really enjoy knowing more about the designers

Contact *The American Philatelist*

Send us a Letter to the Editor by mail to The American Philatelist, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823

or e-mail us at lettertotheeditor@stamps.org.

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

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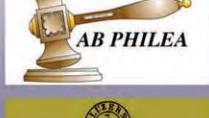

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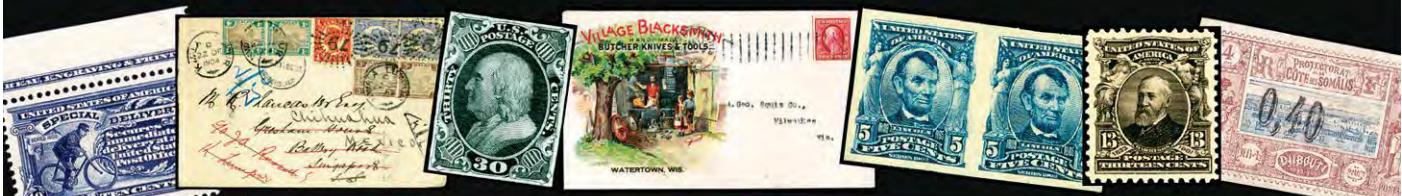
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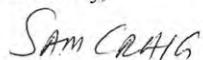
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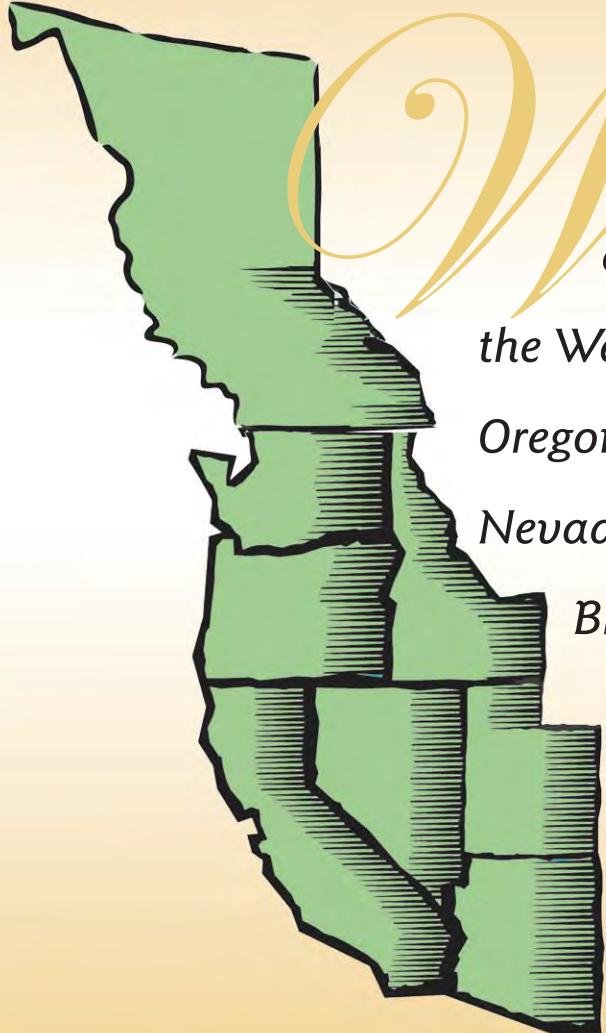
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and the ideas behind the designs. Keep it up!

Louis Knowles

Forest Hills, New York

Genealogical Correctness

It's hard to find criticism for your fine magazine, but I have to comment on an article in the March issue titled "Censorship of Mail and P.O.W. Markings From the War of 1812." On page 232, second column, the author refers to a "great" uncle of Nathaniel Hawthorne. There is no such relationship term. A sibling of one's grandparents would be a grand uncle or a grand aunt.

Great as they might be, it is not the correct genealogical term. The prefix "great" is only used in conjunction with the prefix "grand." The correct generational progression would be father, grandfather, great grandfather, great great grandfather. Corresponding siblings would be uncle, grand uncle, great grand uncle, great great grand uncle.

John W. Lester

Tempe, Arizona

Cornerstone Laying Cover

I enjoyed Charles Epting's April article about post office dedication covers. The new post office building in Washington, D.C., has wonderful WPA-commissioned murals. The rubber stamp cachet on the 1934 dedication cover shown in Epting's article seems to use the same green ink that was used



A September 26, 1932, cover created for the laying of the cornerstone at the new post office building in Washington, D.C.

in 1932 to commemorate the cornerstone laying.

Is that a coincidence or was green a standard color for rubber stamp applications in that era? Worth noting, too, is that President Herbert Hoover used the same trowel for the cornerstone ceremony in 1932 that George Washington used to lay the U.S. Capitol's cornerstone.

Chuck Folsom

Pensacola, Florida

Marie Curie

In the regular meeting of The Philatelic Society of India, held on April 4, 2015, the July 2014 *American Philatelist* article on Marie Curie was read by members present with great

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enthusiasm and interest. The philatelic knowledge of Jerzy Bartke, being a technical person, was very much appreciated.

I am pleased to inform that India also issued a stamp of 20-paise denomina-



A Marie Curie 20-paise stamp issued in India on November 5, 1968.

nation on November 5, 1968, on the birth centenary of Marie Curie.

Some of the collectors in our society such distinguished collections that Jerzy Bartke would be tempted to write about many such valuable articles in the future for the benefit of philatelic fraternity.

Abdeali T. Haji
Mumbai, India

Remembering Dealers

I am writing to ask if other APS members have had the interesting experiences I recently had. I recently bought stamp collections from distant locations only to receive items sold by stamp dealers I visited in my youth 50 years ago.

This has happened to me no less than three times in the last six months

after I started buying stamps and covers with the intention of reselling them. I have collected since my youth in the 1960s but only recently found out how fun it is to sell stamps and covers.

I now live in Midlothian, Virginia, just west of Richmond, but in the 1960s all the stamp stores I purchased at during my teenage years were in downtown Richmond.

The first purchase was a cover lot I won at an online auction located somewhere in the western United States. To my pleasant surprise, the items I received included first-day covers sold by Nat Horwitz whose stamp shop in Richmond I visited many Saturday afternoons. I still have the stamps I purchased there. I wondered at the coincidence because it brought back fond memories of early stamp collecting.

A month or so later I won an auc-



A first-day cover for the 100 Years of Progress of Women stamp from July 19, 1948, addressed to Nat Horwitz in Richmond, Virginia.



A cover addressed to August Dietz at his Richmond, Virginia, address. Dietz was a philatelist, editor, and publisher.

tion somewhere in Florida. To my wonderment, that lot included first-day covers from Stuart O. Harrison at whose Stamp Den in Richmond I first discovered back-of-the-book stamps. I still have those stamps too.

A few weeks ago, I won a cover lot in a European auction.

Imagine my astonishment when I found the package from Norway included no less than 16 covers addressed to August Dietz, the well-known philatelist, editor and publisher here in Richmond.

For one to understand the full impact of receiving those particular covers, I must mention that I also sell books on eBay, and literally the day before the shipment arrived I had listed for sale several books published by the Dietz Press. This, I mused, must be a delightful form of synchronicity.

Or perhaps the philatelic world is exceedingly small.

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The Plymouth Stamp Show, April 25–26, Westland, Michigan



Fred Baumann, APRL library assistant, at the APS booth at the show. Photos courtesy Sandy Strzalkowski.



Bourse floor.



Registration table.



Helen Fowler at her booth at the cachetmakers' bourse.



5. Sandy Strzalkowski with assistants selling the show covers. Photo courtesy Fred Baumann.



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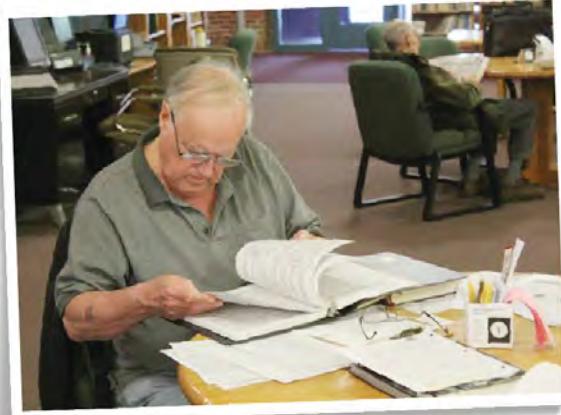
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Buffalo Stamp Club Visits American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte



Buffalo Stamp Club member in the library, April 24, and others looking for bargains at the Stamp and Cover Shop.

Collectors Club Meeting in Akron, Ohio

Stamp dealer John Leszak speaking at the March 17 meeting of the Collectors Club of Akron. *Photo courtesy of Thomas Bieniosek.*



American Stamp Dealers Association Spring Postage Stamp Show, April 16–18, New York City

U.S. Postal Service employee Samal Patel displaying the Water Lilies forever stamped envelopes issued April 17 at the show. *Photo courtesy Connie Chirichello, U.S. Postal Service.*



Unveiling of the World Stamp Show-NY 2016 stamps. *Photo courtesy Mark Gereb.*

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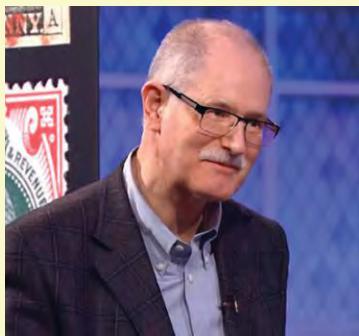
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Cindy Tackett Farewell April 8 at U.S. Postal Service Headquarters



The U.S. Postal Service held a farewell gathering April 8 for Cindy Tackett, acting director of Stamp Services, who retired May 1. APS executive director Ken Martin shares her story in this issue of the AP.



Cindy L. Tackett.

Terry McCaffrey, former USPS stamp development manager and Cindy L. Tackett.

Westpex Stamp Show, April 24–26, Burlingame, California



Display of activities and events at the Westpex stamp show. Photo courtesy Charles Epting.



The World Stamp Show-NY 2016 and APS shared table at Westpex.



APS member Hideo Yokota received his 50-year member medal from APRL librarian Tara Murray. Photo courtesy Tara Murray.

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Chile Peppers on Stamps

Stamps and Covers Make Up a Hot Topical Collection

One of the major differences between much of what is called normal philately and topical collecting is the basic conceptual approach. Although either type can be as serious or as simple as we like, most traditional philatelists first come at a topical collection through the love of stamps. Many topicalists I have known over the years became

interested in stamps secondarily to other pursuits, whether they are hobbies, professions, or family-related areas. The destination, however, is the same.

That topical collecting no longer seems natural to many traditional collectors seems a bit odd, because some of the very basis of the hobby came through topical collecting. A number of 19th-century references to stamp collecting mention topics as a means of organization of stamps, although topics were far more limited then. The topical approach became more common in the early 20th century when collectors could



Figure 1. The first U.S. stamp to show a chile pepper was issued in 1998. The Wreath stamps exist in several formats. This bottom part of a vending booklet pane has two of the pepper wreath stamps.

no longer reasonably hope for a complete collection. A topical approach to collecting is extremely natural, proper, enjoyable, and organic, and can easily be either a primary focus or can supplement other interests. Most collectors set aside some stamps related to various interests, even if they never develop them into full-blown collections.

In my own case, I maintain several topical collections in addition to some of my primary collections. Some of these remain nothing more than a dalliance, whereas others have become fairly serious pursuits. Speaking of organic, one of my personal favorites is a topical collection of peppers. My interest in peppers didn't come out of a vacuum. Having grown up in northern New Mexico, where "chile" refers to the pepper and "chili" refers to the dish, I have had a lifelong passion for southwestern food (not to mention my longtime

interest in raising scarce pepper varieties and creating hot sauces from them). As a result, I have always maintained a topical grouping of chile peppers on stamps from all over the world. It is a rather small collection, because there have been relatively few worldwide stamps issued over the years that feature these spicy tidbits, and none from the United States — until recently. The first appearance of a pepper on a U.S. stamp was part of the October 15, 1998, Wreaths issue (Scott

3244–3252), which comes in three different self-adhesive formats with two different die-cutting measurements on one of them. In fairness, the stamps don't specifically honor peppers. They also feature an evergreen, tropical, and Victorian wreath, but my primary interest lies with the peppers. The bottom section of the vending booklet pane of 15 (with two pepper wreath stamps) is shown [Figure 1].

Since then, only two additional U.S. stamp issues have shown a pepper as part of the design, although recently they have been a popular subject on foreign stamps.

The March 16, 2006, Crops of the Americas coil and booklet definitive stamps (Scott 4003–4017) fulfilled a desire I have had for many years; the release of a U.S. stamp that features peppers as the primary part of its design. Again, the



Figure 2. The Chile Pepper stamp, part of the 2006 U.S. Crops of the Americas definitive stamps set, was long-awaited by the author.

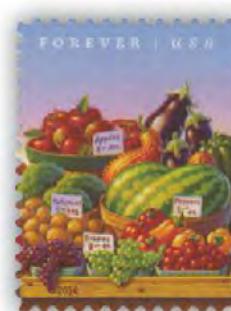


Figure 3. The 2014 Farmers Market stamps, shown below as a strip of four, feature a few bell peppers in the second stamp of the design. A close-up of the stamp and peppers are above.

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Figure 4. This postcard features ristras, long strings of chile peppers hung on the sides of houses to dry after harvest.



Figure 5. The author's earliest U.S. chile-related item is this 1890 cover from Chiles Valley, California.

stamps have coil and booklet varieties, as well as two different die-cut types. The pepper stamp from that group [Figure 2] features the most commonly used pepper in Mexican, Southwestern, and Tex-Mex cuisine (they are different), the Capsicum annum. It is used as a primary and secondary ingredient both in its green and ripe forms, as well as dried and ground.

The third U.S. pepper stamp issue is a bit more subtle and is a part of the strip of four Farmers Market stamps [Figure 3] issued in 2014 (Scott 4912–4915). The bell pepper is a fairly minor part of the design of the second stamp in the strip, pictured close-up in Figure 3.

But it is not just stamps and related ephemera that tell the story of peppers, or any other topic for that matter. Covers, cancels, and other postal items also help form an interesting and informative collection.

Picture postcards [Figure 4] may not be welcomed in competitive stamp exhibits by judges, but they do add much interest and understanding of a chosen subject matter and generally form a more interesting exhibit or collection. This 1913 card, that also features a New Mexico Statehood stamp early use on the address side, illustrates ristras: long strings of chiles that hang in front of houses after the harvest, allowing the peppers to dry for future use.

The earliest U.S. chile-related item I have located is the cover [Figure 5] mailed from Rutherford, California, to Germany on January 20, 1890, that originated from Chiles Valley in Napa County. Neither the stamps



Figure 6. At least three different states have had a post office named "Chili" at some point. Examples are shown from Chili, Indiana, and both Chili and North Chili in New York state.



Figure 7. Two different duplex cancellations 25 years apart, from Chili, Wisconsin.

Figure 8. Both the names Ancho and Datil, featured on these New Mexico cancels, are types of peppers.



nor cancel have anything to do with my subject, but the rubber-stamped return address location does.

The most direct approach to a chile topical, other than to have a stamp picturing one, is to find it featured in a town name. At least three U.S. states have a town named "Chili." Examples of these town postmarks [Figure 6] are from Indiana and New York (including "North Chili.") A study of the cancel types used in each town over the years provides more depth to the collection. There are also two cancellation types of Chili, Wisconsin [Figure 7], from 1911 and 1936.

A bit more subtle, but just as relevant to my collection, are postmarks from towns that bear less-recognizable chile connections. These include cancels [Figure 8] from Ancho and Datil, New Mexico. Both town names represent a specific type of pepper. The ancho is a large, mild pepper used in a number of recipes, and the datil is a tiny, fiery-hot pepper from Florida, which is used almost exclusively for various types of hot sauces.

The 1930 first-flight cover [Figure 9] from San Juan,



Figure 9. A 1930 first-flight cover to Cayenne, French Guiana. A receiving mark is on the cover's reverse.

Puerto Rico, to Cayenne, French Guiana, is also part of my collection. The cayenne, of course, is about the most recognized form of spicy pepper known to the western world, and this cover bears a receiving mark from Cayenne.

Although not as direct, but definitely relevant, is the cover

American Topical Association

Because of the natural tendency by many to collect stamps topically, Jerry Husak founded the American Topical Association (APS Affiliate No. 177) in 1949 to serve the needs of topical and thematic collectors. Over the years, the organization has thrived, and it is now the largest of its kind, serving collectors in more than 60 countries worldwide.

Among primary membership benefits is a subscription to the multiple-gold-medal-award-winning *Topical Time* that is produced six times per year, and also includes access to checklists, a digital archive, and much more.

Annual dues are \$25 for a domestic or interna-

tional digital-only membership, \$30 for a domestic membership, including hard-copy delivery and \$40 for an international membership including hard-copy delivery. For more information, visit online at www.americantopicalassn.org, or write to ATA, PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918.

Like APS, the ATA holds its annual convention each year in different cities. This year the show will be held July 31–August 2, in Clackamas, Oregon, near Portland, at the Monarch Hotel and Conference Center. This year's theme for the three-day show is "Trail to Topicals," and reflects the historic journey on the Oregon Trail. Show cachets for each day will illustrate these themes.

The bourse will have dealers who carry topicals, as well as stamps, postal history and other philatelic items and ephemera. This year, a new category — Free Style Exhibits — has been added. The category, created primarily for first-time exhibitors, will help showcase the enjoyment of exhibiting and provide an easier entry into what some consider to be an intimidating area of the hobby.





Figure 10. Cover from Hatch, New Mexico. Hatch is considered the green chile capital of the world.



Figure 11. Unusual uses of a topical stamp, such as on this Certificate of Mailing form, can deepen a collection.



Figure 12. Colorful and appropriate cachets, such as this 2006 Collins cacheted first-day cover, help the appeal of a topical collection.



Figure 13. Two different Tabasco-sauce-related covers, showing both a commercial use and a cachet sponsorship.





Figure 14. The postmaster of La Paz, Indiana, used a blue pictorial chile pepper postmark on this 1930 registered cover. The stamps also are cancelled with bars.

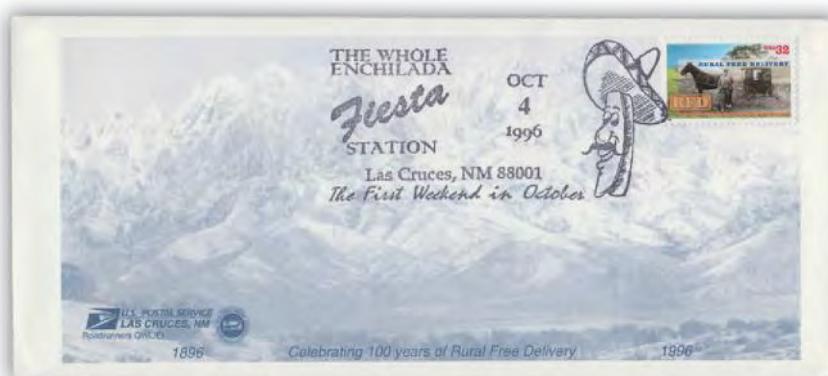


Figure 15. A pictorial cartoon pepper postmark from Las Cruces, New Mexico.

[Figure 10] from Hatch, New Mexico. Hatch is the chile capital of the world. The Anaheim peppers grown there in huge quantities have become the gold standard for green chile production.

To deepen a topical collection, one can include scarce or unusual uses and destinations, such as the Certificate of Mailing form [Figure 11] that bears both the coil and booklet stamps, or by collecting related cachets, such as the Collins cacheted first-day cover [Figure 12]. Two additional related items [Figure 13] are both from the McIlhenny Co., makers of Tabasco sauce that is made from the tabasco pepper (*Capsicum frutescens*). One cover is a color cornercard of the business, and the other is a cachet variety.

The registered cover [Figure 14], however, has a bit more of a direct connection and is arguably my favorite pepper item. Mailed April 11, 1930, from La Paz, Indiana, the cover, franked with 17-cents in Fourth Bureau issues, also features three strikes of a blue chile pepper cancel. I have been unable to determine why the postmaster chose a chile pepper for a killer, other than perhaps the Bolivian roots of the town name. But the cover is striking nonetheless.

Along similar lines is the 1996 cover [Figure 15], which features a special pictorial chile cancel from Las Cruces, N.M.



Figure 16. "Hotsauceguy" cachet created by stamp designer and artist Chris Calle for the Albert Bierstadt stamp issued in August 2008.

In this case the cartoon pepper is mustachioed and is wearing a sombrero.

The final item [Figure 16] is the first in a series of "Hotsauceguy" cachets created by stamp designer and cachet artist Chris Calle. This cachet was for the 2008 Albert Bierstadt stamp. Calle began utilizing my Hotsauceguy design (me in a sombrero) on a series of creative cachet variants a few years ago.

How many other types of stamps, cancels and related postal history items are out there?

I do not know, but my search is heating up.



—CATALOGING U.S. STAMPS—

BY CHARLES M. POSNER

Boy Scouts of America (Scott 995)



United States 3-cent Boy Scouts of America commemorative stamp.

The Making of the Stamp

The story of a stamp to salute the Boy Scouts of America begins in 1935, the year of its silver anniversary and the year chosen to convene its first national jamboree. An outbreak of polio forced the cancellation of the 1935 event by President Franklin D. Roosevelt through a presidential proclamation. The rally was rescheduled to 1937, two years later. At that time more than 27,000 Scouts, representing 536 councils, descended on Washington to camp in a tent city stretching from the Washington Monument to Arlington Park and along the banks of the Potomac.

There had been hopes that the United States Post Office Department would have seen fit to issue a commemorative stamp, but the cancellation of the 1935 jubilee put an end to that aspiration. Pressure was on again in 1937. If the Dutch government could issue a series of three stamps (Scott 206–208) to mark the fifth World Scout Jamboree held at Vogelenzang, Bloemendaal, that year, it was argued that the United States could issue at least one commemorative stamp in honor of its first jubilee. But 1937 marked the 27th

anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, and even though the post office had not yet ruled out issuing stamps that did not conform to celebrating golden anniversaries and diamond jubilees, no stamp was forthcoming. The national organization was disappointed. Leading members were determined not to let the opportunity slip by again.

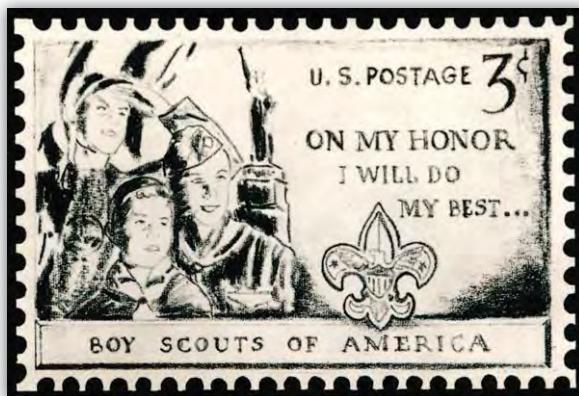
For that and other reasons, in 1949, Harry J. Thorsen, one of the founders of the Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI), made a trip to New York City to call on Arthur Aloys Schuck, the chief Scout executive of the Boy Scouts of Amer-

ica, to ask him to promote the issuing of a stamp in 1950 to mark the 40th anniversary of Scouting. Thorsen reported that Schuck showed "little interest, and suggested that perhaps this was something volunteers could promote, rather than the national headquarters of the B.S.A." The very active Troop 24 of Minneapolis took up the call.

Meanwhile, Thorsen's boss, E. G. Rice, who was engaged in preparing a manual of postal information for the envelope industry, raised the matter with Postmaster General Jesse Donaldson during one of his frequent trips to the U.S. Post Office Depart-

3-CENT BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

Date of Issue: June 30, 1950
First-day site: Valley Forge, Pennsylvania
First-day covers serviced: 622,972
Scott catalog number: 995
Designer: Boy Scouts of America and Charles Chickering
Modeler: Charles Chickering
Vignette engraver: Charles Brooks
Frame engraver: Edward Helmuth
Letter engraver: Edward Helmuth
Color: Sepia (Scott); brown (U.S. Post Office Department)
Format: 200-subject, electric-eye convertible type plates, divided into post office panes of 50 stamps each by horizontal and vertical gutters — arranged 10 horizontal by 5 vertical rows of stamps to the pane
Perforation: Gauge 11 x 10.5
Size: 0.84 x 1.44 inches (21.3 x 36.58mm)
Printing: Bureau of Engraving and Printing on Stickney rotary press
Quantity: 131,635,000
Varieties: Misperforations (vertical) and solvent smudge from printing process



Poster for the 40th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America (left) and sketch by the Boy Scouts of America that led to the design for the issued stamp. *Images courtesy Forrest Ellis Files, American Philatelic Research Library.*

ment. Unlike Schuck, Donaldson was more than welcoming and asked Rice to inform the national office of the Boy Scouts of America that if they were to contact the department armed with ideas for a design of such a stamp, they could expect favorable consideration.

This time Schuck took action. In mid-March a representative of the Boy Scouts of America visited Washington to present a variety of suggested design ideas for the proposed stamp, stressing their wish that the color should be khaki brown. The press speculated that either Daniel Carter Beard (1850–1941) or James Edward West (1876–1948), two of the key early promoters of the organization, would be portrayed on the stamp. After all, Juliette Gordon Low (1860–1927), the founder of the Girl Scouts of America was so honored in 1948 (Scott 974). However, none of the proposed vignettes prepared by Scout leaders included likenesses of either man, despite the fact that 1950 marked the centenary of Beard's birth.

Nevertheless, Charles Chickering of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, working from the final sketch of the Boy Scouts of America, and his own wash drawing, submitted only one design. The original sketch prepared by staff members of the Boy Scouts of America featured on its left side three Scout figures and the Statue of Liberty, copied from

a poster issued in 1949 for the "Crusade to Strengthen the Arm of Liberty."

Chickering left the element of the Scout figures virtually intact. However, he changed almost all the remaining parts of the organization's proposed design. He shifted the Boy Scouts of America membership badge from the bottom of the vignette to a position midway up the stamp. He transposed the denomination from the top-right corner to the bottom-left corner and relocated the words "Boy Scouts of America" from the bottom panel of the stamp to a position just under the badge. The words "On my honor / I will do my best..." were moved from the center right of the stamp to a position above the badge. "U.S. Postage" was changed to "United States Postage" and placed in a band across the bottom of the stamp. Chickering's version, while respecting all of the elements of the Boy Scouts of America's submission, through judicious housekeeping became a much more balanced, intelligible, and integrated design.

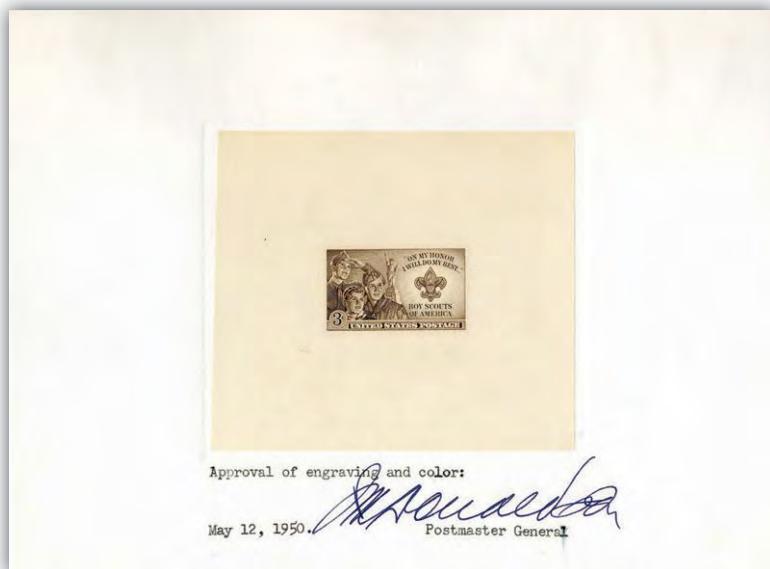
At the beginning of June the postmaster general announced details of the stamp and the date for its issue. The date of the actual foundation of the organization was February 8, 1910, and indeed many events were planned for the week of February 6–12, including the continuation of the "Crusade to Strengthen the Arm of Liberty," inaugurated the previous year with celebrations in Washington and at Valley Forge. For the stamp, however, Donaldson chose the opening day of the national jamboree to be held at Valley Forge from June 30 until July 6. He said, "Issuance of the Boy Scout stamp is a governmental recognition of the great work Scouting is performing in character building and in guaranteeing a patriotic citizenry for the future."

The Design

The details of the issued design depict three classes of Scouts: Cub Scouts (ages 8–10) are shown between Boy

PLATE NUMBER REPORT

Plate No.	Impressions	Printed
24224	112,199	May 29, 1950
24225	112,592	June 1, 1950
24226	None	Not used
24227	112,592	June 1, 1950
24228	112,199	May 29, 1950
24229	119,657	June 5, 1950
24230	119,658	June 5, 1950



The approved die proof for the Boy Scouts of America stamp. Courtesy United States Postal Service, Postmaster General's Collection, Smithsonian National Postal Museum.

Scouts (ages 11–13, represented by the figure at the right), and Explorer Scouts (ages 14 and up, personified by a taller figure on the left shielding his eyes with his left hand). The words “On my honor I will do my best ...,” taken from the opening phrase of the Scout oath, and the legend “Boy Scouts of America” are both in Roman lettering. The words “United States Postage,” located in a panel across the bottom of the stamp, are in reversed Roman. The denomination “3¢” is enclosed in a circle in the lower-left corner.

The original poster from which the likenesses of the three Scouts were taken apparently depicted real people. Given that Chickering respected fully the elements of the poster, there was some fear expressed that, contrary to rules and regulations, real people were to be shown on an American postage stamp. As with the similar case of the 1945 Navy commemorative stamp (Scott 935), the U.S. Post Office Department said that no one could be identified because the faces had been sufficiently altered.

One Scout said, “The guy who designed that stamp overlooked the most important thing on the stamp. He’s got every slogan and motto on that stamp except the one he should have — ‘Be Prepared.’” While the department did not make amends, a distinguished Harvard mathematician in 1953 composed a jaunty song dedicated to the Boy Scouts of America and called it “Be Prepared!” Somehow it was probably not exactly what the disappointed Scout had in mind.

The Subject

In 1950, the Boy Scouts of America could be best described as a home-grown institution representative of the entire nation, religious but non-sectarian, and adapted to the needs and possibilities of each boy. The youngsters were trained in the scout spirit, living the ideals of Scouting: teamwork in the homes, the schools, religious institutions, and the community.

For inexplicable reasons, it has been assumed that the in-

spiration for founding the Boy Scouts of America came principally from the organization established by General (later Baron) Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell (1857–1941) in Great Britain. Indeed, a myth was perpetuated that American newspaper entrepreneur William Dickson “W.D.” Boyce (1858–1929) lost his way in a typical London fog and was rescued by a Boy Scout, who refused a tip and took him to Scouting headquarters, where he met Baden-Powell. Boyce was so impressed, or so the story goes, that he set up a similar organization when he returned home.

Not only is the myth untrue, but also so is the notion that the British model was adopted by the Americans. First of all, Baden-Powell when he returned to Britain after having been rescued at the siege of Mafeking during the Boer War, set up an organization dedicated to defending passionately the British Empire and combating political groups with which he did not agree. The essence of Baden-Powell’s organization was blind obedience to commands. As he himself wrote, the key to being a Scout is that “A scout obeys orders without question” and the purpose of Scouting is to develop “patient obedience to authority.” Baden-Powell set up a camp modeled on his version of a military bivouac and shortly thereafter in 1908 produced a book *Scouting for Boys*. Interestingly, those sections of the book dedicated to practical and co-operative activities were taken from the work of Ernst Thompson Seton, who set up the Woodcraft Indians organization in Connecticut in 1902.

The purpose of Seton’s organization was to teach boys self-reliance and not blind obedience. The aim was to build on their individual possibilities through working in groups to solve problems. Indeed, Seton later wrote that Baden-Powell had put a good idea to bad use. And it was Seton’s *A Handbook of Woodcraft, Scouting and Life-craft*, rather than Baden-Powell’s book, that transmuted into the *Boy Scout Handbook*.

Unfortunately, fact and myth were confused in the internecine struggles between the returning Boyce, who felt that

an association with Baden-Powell would validate his credentials, and Daniel Carter Beard (who had organized the Sons of Daniel Boone), Seton, and even William Randolph Hearst. Somehow, by February 8, 1910, the various groups had managed to resolve their disagreements, and the Boy Scouts of America was born, incorporating the other organizations dedicated to education through activity. Boyce was able to work with Beard, who was given the title of national Scout commissioner; Seton, who became chief Scout; and Colin Livingstone, who became president.

By that time the organization already had 2,500 leaders from 44 states on its books and had installed James West, a strong advocate of children's rights, as chief executive — on a temporary basis that was to last for 35 years. In 1911, the serving United States President William Howard Taft became the honorary Boy Scouts of America president at the Scout's first annual meeting, held at the White House. Theodore Roosevelt was named the chief Scout citizen, and Gifford Pinchot the chief woodsman.

Quarrels and disputes over the next 10 years led to the formation of breakaway groups and resignations within the organization. However, by the mid 1920s most of the dissident groups had disappeared or had been absorbed into the Boy Scouts of America.

Key to American Scouting was its oath, adopted in 1911, which obliges Scouts "To help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight," and to accept the premise that "Boy Scouts of America believe that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God." At the same time West, now given the title of chief Scout executive, sought to broaden the base of the organization far beyond anything imagined by Baden-Powell by securing the support of trade unions.

Over protests, both he and Boyce insisted on the inclusion of blacks, although at first there was de facto segregation in the South. They also encountered temporary problems with some religious organizations, such as the Roman Catholic Church, and over questions related to weapons, conscientious objection, and pacifism. Slowly the organization grew, and new and ancillary bodies such as the Cub Scouts came into being. By 1929, there were 842,540 Scouts, increasing to 1,391,831 in 1939, and more than 2,795,000 by the time the stamp was issued in 1950.

It is impossible to list all of the group's activities, but one can pick out the highlights. In 1913, Scouts served as crowd controllers at the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson, establishing a tradition. They have served in some capacity in every subsequent inauguration. During World War I, Scouts were message runners and coast watchers and sold more than

\$352 million of War Bonds and \$101 million of War Savings stamps. They planted more than 122,000 Boy Scout War Gardens and distributed more than 300 million pieces of government literature.

In 1934, during the Great Depression, President Roosevelt called upon the Scouts to help the distressed and the needy. They collected 1,812,284 items of clothing, household furnishings, foodstuffs, and other supplies.

Programs were introduced for Scouts with disabilities, and other programs were set up for out-of-work scouts, with an emphasis on those living in rural areas. In gratitude, in 1940 the composer Irving Berlin set up a foundation to distribute the royalties from his song "God Bless America" to the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

During World War II, scouts collected 30 million pounds of rubber, distributed pledge cards for War Bonds and Savings stamps, collected aluminum and salvage, served as messengers and dispatch bearers, assisted emergency medical



Plate block of the Boy Scouts of America stamp signed by stamp designer Charles Chickering, vignette engraver Charles Brooks, and frame and letter engraver Edward Helmuth. Courtesy John M. Hotchner.

units, and served as fire watchers.

With the advent of the Red Scare in the late 1940s, the euphoria of the immediate post-World War II era was replaced by a period that, according to some, re-emphasized national values and unity, and according to others led to an unbridled xenophobia that threatened civil liberties and even led to the birth of a security state. The Boy Scouts of America could not be immune to these currents, and for that reason from 1949 on emphasized its commitment to freedom and liberty. The choice of the Statue of Liberty as its icon for the "Crusade to Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" was an attempt to create a sense of unity and common purpose. The movement re-affirmed its commitment to the 12 principles of Scouting: trustworthiness, loyalty, helpfulness, friendliness, courtesy, kindness, obedience, cheerfulness, thriftiness, bravery, cleanliness, and the slogan "Do a Good Turn Daily."

The Korean War unleashed a strongly felt sentiment that America was under siege by the godless and power-mad

communists, led by a voracious Soviet Union, with which a nuclear war was seen as a distinct possibility. The Korean War began just three weeks after the jamboree, which still emphasized internationalism. A large contingent from several other countries participated, and the Boy Scouts of America stressed its commitment to world peace.

A snapshot of the Boy Scouts of America as it was in 1950 showed, as the *New York Times* commented, that it was "a mirror of the wide cross-section of the community," representing all social classes and all religions. There were 2,795,000 Scouts, with 47.1 percent of its activities sponsored by religious organizations, 25 percent by civic organizations, 11.3 percent by community groups, and 16 percent by schools, with the remaining 0.6 percent being sustained by miscellaneous sponsors.

Of interest to philatelists is that one of the many merit badge subjects in the Scout movement was stamp collecting, which the Boy Scouts of America called "the world's most popular hobby."

Not only was philately of interest to the Scouting movement, but the Scouting movement was of great interest to philatelists. More than 200 countries have issued stamps featuring Scouts. The first Scouting stamp was issued in 1918 by the new republic of Czechoslovakia, where "Post Ceskych Skautu" mail was delivered by Slovakian Sea Scouts.

In the United States, the 1950 Boy Scouts of America stamp was followed by one marking the movement's 50th anniversary in 1960 (Scott 1145), and an airmail postal card (UXC7) issued in 1967 commemorating the XII World Scout Jamboree. In 1985, a stamp for the 75th anniversary of the Boy Scouts (Scott 2161) was issued in a block of four honoring American youth organizations. In 2010, the centenary of the Boy Scouts of America was marked by another stamp (Scott 4472), which did



The certified plate proof for the Boy Scouts of America stamp created by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The proof bears approval signatures and other markings. Courtesy Smithsonian National Postal Museum.

24229



JUN 5 1950

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not include the words "Boy Scouts." The only reference on the stamp to the Boy Scouts or the centenary is the single word, "SCOUTING." The stamp, however, was issued at the national Boy Scout jamboree. It has been speculated that the words "Boy Scouts" were omitted because the guideline of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee that "Stamps or stationery items shall not be issued to honor fraternal, political, sectarian, or service/charitable organizations."

The Girl Scouts, who had already been honored by the Juliette Low stamp of 1948 (Scott 974), had further philatelic recognition in 1962 (Scott 1199) and again in 1987 (Scott 2251). In 2012, a generic Scouting stamp (Scott 4691) with the silhouette of a girl, similar to the male "Scouting" stamp of 2010, was issued. Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts were together commemorated in the Celebrate the Century series in 1998 (Scott 3183j).

First-Day Ceremony

The issuing of the 1950 postage stamp was one of a series of events concluding the two-year campaign called "Crusade to Strengthen the Arm of Liberty." During the buildup to the Jamboree during the 1949 anniversary week, President Truman offered lunch to 12 outstanding Scouts, who presented him with the "Report to the Nation" and a scroll listing the achievements of the organization. Earlier in the day they breakfasted with cabinet members, senators, and representatives.

Afterward they traveled to New York for a ceremony at the base of the Statue of Liberty. To give the ceremony an international flavor, the United Nations Boy Scout troop, composed of the sons of United Nations personnel, was in attendance. Meanwhile at Valley Forge, instructors from the Valley Forge Military Academy, aware of the importance of symbolism and continuity, impersonated General Washington (complete with a powdered wig and mounted on a white charger), along with generals von Steuben and Lafayette. These august personages reviewed the nearly 3,500 assembled Boy Scouts.

As part of the campaign, more than 200 smaller versions of the Statue of Liberty, called the "little sisters of liberty," were cast in stamped copper and placed in parks, capitals, schoolyards, and libraries, on the front lawns of courthouses, and along main streets throughout the country. Some of the plaques read, "With the faith and courage of their forefathers who made possible the freedom of these United States, The Boy Scouts of America dedicate this replica of the Statue of Liberty as a pledge of everlasting fidelity and loyalty." The ceremony held in Cheyenne, Wyoming, was typical of many organized throughout the country. On May 27, 1950, nearly 1,000 Scouts marched through Cheyenne to the capitol

to dedicate an eight-foot-tall replica of the statue.

On Friday, June 30, the second U.S. national jamboree opened at an encampment at Valley Forge and ran until the following Thursday, July 6. The guests included President Truman and Dwight Eisenhower in his capacity as president of Columbia University. A *New York Times* reporter described the atmosphere in the 625-acre tent city as "a combination of Coney Island on the Fourth of July and the stock exchange in a bull market." The camp was divided into 35 sections, each of which had its own gateway consisting of a recognizable symbol of their council or state and each of which was visited by the president touring at a snail's pace in an open-air limousine.

Despite the fear of a polio epidemic after one Scout died of that disease, the first-day-of-issue ceremony was held as scheduled on Friday, June 30, at 5 p.m. in front of the tent of the national jamboree headquarters. Amory Houghton (1899–1981), the national president of the Boy Scouts of America and chairman of the board of Corning Glass, presided at the ceremony. After his welcoming address, the Madison, Wisconsin, Scout bugle band provided a musical interlude. A prominent rabbi then pronounced the invocation.

On behalf of the U.S. Post Office Department, Assistant Postmaster General Joseph Lawler presented albums containing a pane of stamps autographed by the postmaster general to Houghton; Arthur Aloys Shuck (1895–1963), the chief Scout executive; and other national Scout officials. After Houghton's acceptance speech on behalf of the recipients, Roy Johnson of Troop 24 of Minneapolis led those assembled in reciting the Scout oath. Not only did Troop 24 play a role in getting the stamp approved, but its members also prepared first-day covers with the slogan "First advocates of the Jamboree stamp." On their behalf, Johnson was then presented with an album, thus becoming the first Boy Scout to receive the stamp. The proceedings ended with the singing of the national anthem.

After the first-day ceremony, a rally took place in the late

evening. It was the largest youth gathering in American history up to that time. Almost 50,000 Scouts, including representatives from 20 other countries, attended and about another 20,000 gathered on the fringes of the main group. The main event was a 20-minute address by President Truman in his role as honorary president of the Boy Scouts of America in the presence of officials including the governor of Pennsylvania. Truman spoke under a giant 40-foot long Boy Scout emblem flanked by the words "Strengthen" and "Liberty." Almost blinded by overzealous flash photography, he abandoned his prepared text and spoke extemporaneously. He said the Boy Scouts of America's work on behalf of peace and humanity was the same "burning faith" that inspired the army of George Washington. He told the Scouts they were lucky to be Americans, well fed and well taken care of. He lamented the fate of young people under communist imperialism and said "we must not return hate for hate."

John McCullough reporting for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* was less cautious than the president, writing that the gathering was a "ringing challenge and rebuttal to the appeal of communism to world youth" and could not be compared to a recent sordid communist youth rally in Berlin. No Scout was ever made to goose-step to the commands of authoritarian masters.

The Scouting movement took a strong position against racism, and while both white and black Scouts attended, as Henry Sampson recounts, African-Americans nonetheless suffered from prejudice that did not quite seem to be consonant with the many speeches invoking freedom and liberty.

After Truman's speech, the program concluded with a dimming of the lights and an hour-long pageant about the travails of the Continental Army in 1777 and 1778, called "The Story of Valley Forge," complete with George Washington upon his white horse standing against what was described as a colorful background. At the conclusion, the Scouts returned to their campsites in torch-led processions.

On Saturday, the five special Jamboree camp post offices'



Official first-day cover for the Boy Scouts of America stamp. Courtesy John M. Hotchner.

stocks of stamps were depleted within two hours.

The next day those attending the Jamboree scattered far and wide, some going to Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Monster campfires and religious services for adherents of all religions were followed by a closing evening convocation with the theme of "freedom of worship."

At least 52 first-day cover cachet designs were produced. The Boy Scouts of America refused permission for cover designers to use the Scout fleur-de-lis emblem as part of their cachets, reserving the right to have exclusive use of the emblem on covers prepared by their own national supply service. Nonetheless an interesting variety of cachets was created, including the one from Troop 24 of Minneapolis showing the encampment, a design by Dorothy Knapp, and one by James MacAdams on behalf of the SOSSI.

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1950s

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

Centenary of Kansas City (Scott 994)



Hailing from Kansas City himself, then-Postmaster General Jesse Donaldson (1885–1970) was pleased to announce on March 7, 1950, that a stamp would be issued to commemorate the Gateway to the West – Midwest Centenary. The stamp shows the Kansas City skyline at the top and Westport Landing, from 1850, at the bottom.

Indiana Territory Sesquicentennial (Scott 996)

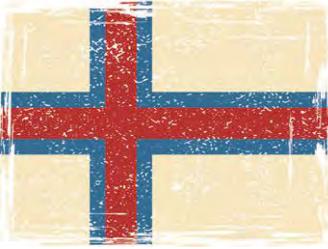


The request for a stamp celebrating the 150th anniversary of the creation of the Indiana Territory came from several sources. Ultimately, the stamp was issued July 4, 1950. It depicts Governor William Henry Harrison and the first Indiana capitol in Vincennes.

California Statehood Centennial (Scott 997)



As early as 1944 Joseph Russell Knowland (1873–1966), the owner and publisher of the *Oakland Tribune* and promoter of the construction of the San-Francisco-Oakland Bridge, requested that Californians should begin to think about how to celebrate three upcoming centennials. The centennial stamp was issued September 9, 1950, and pictures a gold miner, pioneers, and the SS *Oregon*.



Their Appointed Rounds: **BEGINNINGS OF THE FAROESE POST**



BY ROBERT A. MOSS

On the facade of the James Farley post office in Manhattan appears the oft-quoted U.S. Postal Service creed: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

The creed, a translation of Herodotus' description of the ancient Persian mail carriers, sets forth a standard of service. If it is sometimes difficult to meet this challenge today, imagine how much greater were the difficulties of the Faroese postmen of more than a century ago, who braved grueling overland treks on rocky trails, interspersed with fjord crossings in open boats.

The Faroes, an archipelago of eighteen islands in the North Atlantic, midway between Iceland and Norway and northwest of the Shetland Islands of Scotland, are a self-governing entity of the Danish commonwealth and a member of the Nordic group of nations. The current population is near 50,000, with about 14,000 living in the capital, Torshavn, on the island of Streymoy (the name means "Island of Currents"). The map [Figure 1] shown nearby illustrates the islands and the principal towns discussed below. Obviously, generations ago, mail delivery posed severe geographical difficulties.

According to Don Brand's *Stamps and Story of the Faroe Islands*,¹ three postal routes were established in 1872, "each with one postman who covered his route seven times per year" — and,



Figure 1. Map of the Faroe Islands.

until 1903, there were only three postmen in the Faroes. Retracing their routes, this article takes a tour d'horizon of the Faroe Islands, illustrated by Faroese stamps and by photographs taken by the author during a visit in 2003.

We begin in Tinganes [Figure 2], the oldest section of Torshavn, a spit of land that divides Torshavn's harbor into east and west bays. In 1872, the Faroese only post office was located in Tinganes on Gongin Street, which is still lined with turf-roofed buildings. Today, the Faroese government offices are located in Tinganes, which, a thousand years ago, was the site of the Alting, a parliamentary meeting ground.

Postal Route 1

Postal route 1 covered the northern Faroe Islands. Its postman walked northeast from Torshavn to Hvitanes [Figure 3], where he crossed by boat to Toftir on the southern end of neighboring Eysturoy (East Island; in Faroese, the suffix "oy" means "island"). A souvenir sheet was issued in 2001 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Postverk Føroya, the independent Faroese postal service that replaced Danish postal service in 1976. The three souvenir sheet stamps depict a skjuts boat transporting mail between islands; the post office erected in Torshavn in 1905, the first building in the Faroes specifically built as a post office; and postman Simon Pauli Poulsen, who carried mail from the village of Fuglafjøður² on northeast Eysturoy.

The skjuts system predated regular boat service between the islands: able-bodied men between ages 15 and 50 were selected by an agent in each village to transport mail or parcels across the fjords. Service was compulsory, and refusal incurred a fine. The open rowing boats, some pictured on a 1976 stamp and a 2013 souvenir sheet [Figure 4], were pointed at bow and stern and constructed in the old Viking clinker-built style, with overlapping planks joined at their ends for added strength. The long, slender oars were designed for

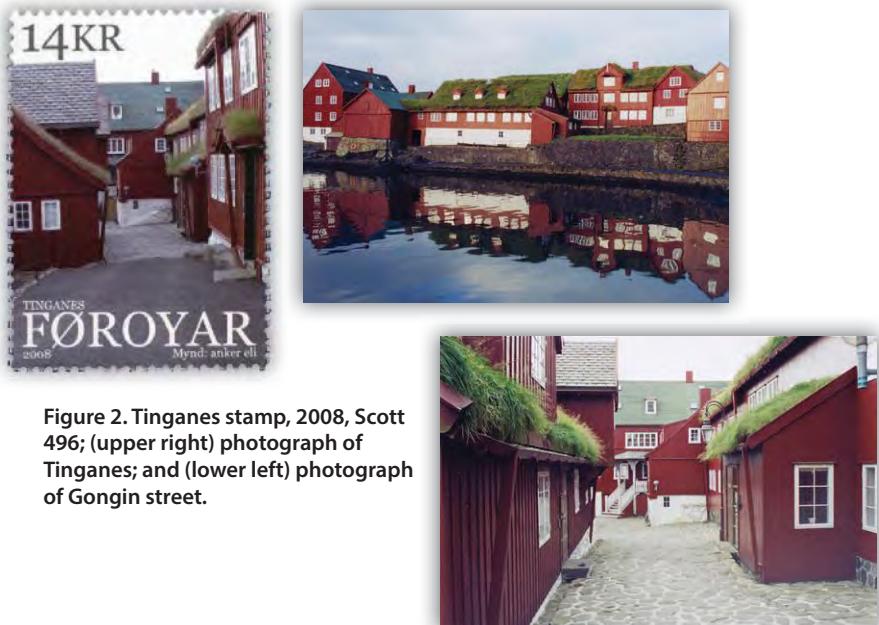


Figure 2. Tinganes stamp, 2008, Scott 496; (upper right) photograph of Tinganes; and (lower left) photograph of Gongin street.



Figure 3. Stamp showing a view of Hvitanes and Skalafjørður, painting by S. Joensen-Mikines, 1975, Scott 20 (upper left); Faroese Postman on a Faroe Island Independent Mail Service stamp, 1976, Scott 23 (lower left); 25th anniversary of Postverk Føroya souvenir sheet, 2001, Scott 395 (upper right). The souvenir sheet stamps show a boat for inter-island mail transport, 19th century; the Torshavn post office, 1906; and Simon Paul Poulsen, mail carrier.



Figure 4. Faroe Islands Independent Mail Service stamp showing a Faroese boat, 1976, Scott 21 (left); Traditional Faroese boat souvenir sheet, 2013, Scott 599 (right).

ease of handling and maximum thrust in rough seas.

From Toftir the postman continued through Søldarfjørður, Syðrugøta, and Fuglafjørður to Leirvik on the east coast of Eysturoy. Three of these villages are pictured in a set of stamps [Figure 5] issued in 2006. Syðrugøta is as old as the Vikings. The view shown on the stamp features the beach below the houses of the village. Fuglafjørður, to the north, also dates to Viking times (950–1050 C.E.). Its name refers to the shearwater birds that might have bred in this area long ago. The village has a good natural harbor that supports fishing. Many boats are berthed in the fjord, and a factory for herring processing provides additional occupation for today's human population of about 1,600. Finally, the postman would arrive in Leirvik, which is both a fishing village and a port from which the mail crosses to Borðoy Island.

Although there is now a six-kilometer tunnel that opened in 2006 beneath Leirviksfjørður, the ferry crossing from Leirvik on Eysturoy to Klaksvík on Borðoy is simply magical [Figure 6], a collage of sea, mountains, mist, and clouds. Sailing past the islands of Kalsoy and Kunoy [Figure 7], rising starkly from the ocean, those who have read Ursula K. Le Guin's novel *A Wizard of Earthsea*³ will imagine that they have been transported to her fictional archipelago. The Leirvik-Klaksvík crossing is the gateway to the six northern islands: Kalsoy, Viðoy, Svinoy, Fugloy, Kunoy, and Borðoy, which are illustrated on a cover [Figure 8] featuring a set of stamps from 1999. Klaksvík can be regarded as the capital of the northern islands. The exterior and interior of its beautiful Christianschurch are illustrated [Figure 9] on two stamps from 1996, while its modern post office is shown on a stamp from 1990.

The northern islands are mountainous and unsuited to farming, but they provide grazing for sheep and coastal waters for fishing. The best harbor is in Klaksvík, which a population increase in the 20th century has made the



Figure 5. Stamps from 2006 for villages Syðrugøta, Fuglafjørður, Leirvik, Scott 467–469.



Figure 6. Photograph of Leirvik to Klaksvík crossing.



Figure 7. Photograph of Kunoy Island.



Figure 8. Northern Faroe Islands first-day cover, May 25, 1999, Scott 356–361.



Figure 9. Three stamps: Christianschurch, Klaksvík exterior, 1996, Scott 310 (left); Christianschurch, Klaksvík interior, 1996, Scott 311 (center); and Klaksvík post office, 1990, Scott 206 (right).

second-largest town in the Faroes. Its 4,600 inhabitants make up 80 percent of the northern islands' people. Fugloy (Bird Island) is the most easterly and smallest of these islands, with only two villages and a population of fewer than 50. It is a nesting place for puffins, petrels, and guillemots. Svinoy [Figure 10] is named for the swine husbandry centered there in the Middle Ages. Like Fugloy, it is both remote and sparsely populated; also like Fugloy, it is an important breeding ground for birds, especially the approximately 25,000 pairs of European Storm Petrels that nest on the island.

Viðoy, Borðoy, and Kunoy are the largest of the northern islands, and their villages are now connected by a series of roads and tunnels. Viðoy (Wood Island — named for the copious quantities of driftwood from Siberia and North America that accumulate on its eastern side) is replete with beautiful mountain scenery and is connected by a causeway to Borðoy, the largest northern island. Borðoy features a rugged coastline dotted with cliffs and promontories ("borð"). Kunoy is named for the pointed cliff at its northern end known as "Konan" (the women). With six mountains of heights greater than 600 meters, it is the most elevated island in the northern tier. Its two villages are connected to Klaksvík by tunnel. Finally, Kalsoy, with four small villages, derives its name from a now eroded cliff called "Kallurin" (the man).

The postman would leave letters for Kunoy and Kalsoy to be picked up in Klaksvík and then continue overland to Norðepil on Borðoy's east coast, where letters for Svinoy and Fugloy would be dropped. Crossing by boat to Hvannasund on Viðoy, he would trek northward to Viðareiði, the northernmost village in the Faroes, marking the terminus of his round.

After suitable rest, he would begin the return journey to Torshavn, retracing both the route and stops of his outward trip.

Postal Route 2

The second of the three postal routes served the southern Faroes. Its postman walked southwest from Tinganes to Kirkjubøur on the southern tip of Streymoy island. In medieval times, Kirkjubøur was the seat of the bishopric of the Faroes, and there Bishop Erlender initiated construction of St. Magnus Cathedral. This Gothic edifice was never completed, but its ruins are beautifully portrayed on stamps [Figure 11] engraved by Czesław Ślania. The nearby parish of St. Olav [Figure 12], still in use, was likely constructed in the 13th century.

From Kirkjubøur, the postman would cross Hestsfjørður by boat to Hestur, whose port and rocky shore also were captured by Ślania [Figure 13]. About 60 people live on Hestur now. Sheep farming is a mainstay, although in the past birding for guillemots was popular. Alas, many of the bird cliffs have since eroded and fallen into the sea. If one looks across the fjord from Kirkjubøur, the smaller island of Koltur (the colt) [Figure 14] can be seen following Hestur (the horse).

Continuing south by boat from Hestur, the postman would arrive in Skopun on Sandoy (Sand Island) and then walk south for five miles to the village of Sandur. Sandoy, which is flat, grassy and good for agriculture, has been inhabited since at least 1000 C.E., and there are presently several small villages on the island. Sandur is the largest of these villages with a population of about 600. Archaeological digs there have uncovered the remains of a stave church from around 1100 C.E., probably the oldest church in the Faroes, as well as European coins from 1000 C.E. A sheet of eight stamps [Figure 15] issued in 2006 features watercolor views of Sandoy by artist Eli Smith. Included are the villages of Dalur, Skalavík, Skopun, Sandur, Skarvanes, and Husavík, as well as Søltuvik Bay near Sandur, where rocky skerries constitute a menace to shipping.

Traveling by boat south from San-



Figure 10. Stamp showing a view of Viðoy and Svinoy, painting by Eyvindur Mohr, 1975, Scott 18.



Figure 11. St. Magnus Cathedral Ruins, Kirkjubøur, 1988, Scott 182 (top) and 185 (bottom). These exterior and interior view stamps were engraved by Czesław Ślania.



Figure 12. Photograph of church of St. Olav, which dates from the 13th century.



Figure 13. Two stamps showing the Hestur Island port and shoreline, 1987, Scott 162 and 165.



Figure 14. Photograph of Koltur Island viewed from Kirkjubøur.

doy, the postman would stop briefly on the small island of Skuvoy, and then sail on past the even smaller islands of Stora Dimun [Figure 16] and Litla Dimun. Skuvoy was the home of Sig mundur Brestisson, hero of the Faroese saga Færeyinga. The island is named for the skuas who nest there, in addition to many other birds including fulmars, shearwaters, petrels, puffins, and guillemots. Guillemot eggs are harvested in early June, giving the birds time for a second laying. Sheep are raised on Stora Dimun by a few hardy farmers, but Litla Dimun is uninhabited. Birds, especially puffins, are plentiful on both Dimuns.

Finally, the postman would arrive at Hvalba on the aptly named Suðaroy (South Island), southernmost of the Faroes, as shown on a postcard [Figure 17]. From Hvalba he would continue on foot down the spine of Suðaroy to Tronisvagur and Vagur. A 10-stamp souvenir sheet [Figure 18] issued in 2004 features views of Suðaroy by J.P. Gregoriussen. Pictured are

- Sandvik and its trading post (opened 1884) at the northern end of the island;
- the landing facilities west of Hvalba, built for small boats but no longer in use;
- houses at A Hamri in Froðba, one of the oldest settlements on Suðaroy;
- Øravik, once the site of the Ting, the court assembly of Suðaroy;
- Famjin, built on the high cliffs on the western side of the island where the scenery includes mountains, tarns, and waterfalls;
- Hov, ancient site of a “hov” or temple;
- Porkeri, a collection of four small villages, one of which, I Eystrum (once the site of a small royal farm but no longer inhabited), is pictured;
- houses at A Okrum;
- I Hørg at Sumba, one of the oldest villages on the island referred to in ancient sagas; and
- Akraberg, where a lighthouse was built on the southern tip of Suðaroy in 1909. The lighthouse is now automated,



Figure 15. Souvenir sheet of eight stamps with views of Sandoy Island, 2006, Scott 477. Stamp artwork based on watercolor paintings by Eli Smith.



Figure 16. Stóra Dimun Island and Lítla Dimun Island on two stamps from 2004, Scott 439–440.



Figure 17. Postcard view of Hvalba on Suðaroy Island, franked with a stamp from the Communities With Post Offices 100 Years Old stamp that also shows Hvalba, 2003, Scott 435h.



Figure 18. Souvenir sheet with views of Suðuroy Island, 2004, Scott 441a-j. Stamp images based on artwork by J.P. Gregoriussen.



Figure 19. Stamp showing a view of Nólsoy Island, based on painting by Steffan Danielsen, 1990, Scott 212 (left); Photograph of Nólsoy Island showing the village church and Eggjarklettur, the highest point on the island (right).

Figure 20. Postcard view of Vestmanna on Streymoy Island, franked with a stamp from the Communities With Post Offices 100 Years Old stamp also showing Vestmanna, 2003, Scott 435e.



Figure 21. Photograph of Vestmanna bird cliffs.

and there are no longer permanent staff living there.

After resting at Vágur, the postman would begin his return trip to Tinganes, but he would add a stop at Nólsoy Island, just across the Nolsoyarfjøður from Torshavn. A stamp [Figure 19] based on a painting by Steffan Danielsen, depicts Nólsoy village in the middle of the island at its narrow waist. An accompanying photograph [Fig. 19] shows the village church and Eggjarklettur, the highest point on the island at 371 meters. This mountain also can be discerned in the background of the stamp.

Postal Route 3

The third and shortest postal route served western Streymoy and Vágar islands [Figure 20]. The postman trekked from Tinganes through Kvívik to Vestmanna in the northwest of Streymoy. Today, Vestmanna has 1,300 inhabitants and supports a fishing industry and a salmon farm. Vestmanna's cliffs [Figure 21] are home to many nesting pairs of guillemots, puffins, and other sea birds.

From Vestmanna, the postman continued west by boat to Oyrarbjørg on the northeast coast of Vágar Island, and then walked over the mountain to Sandavagur. Of principal interest today is the Faroes' international airport, which is situated on Vágar. Originally constructed by the British, who occupied the Faroes during World War II, the airport was revived and modernized by the Faroes some 20 years later. A 5,000-meter tunnel under the Vestmannasund, completed in 2002, connects Vágar directly with Streymoy, greatly simplifying travel between the airport and Torshavn.

A souvenir sheet of 10 stamps [Figure 22] issued in 2005 shows views of Vágar Island painted by Eli Smith. Smith's lovely paintings depict the three largest villages on the island: Miðvagur, Sandavagur, and Sørvágur, each of which has a population of 700 to 1,000. Important services are centered in Miðvagur. A runic stone found in San-



Figure 22. Souvenir sheet with views of Vágar Island, 2005, Scott 453. Stamp artwork based on watercolors by Eli Smith.



Figure 23. Four stamps comprising the Mail Boats issue of 1992, Scott 232–235. The stamps show the Ruth, Ritan, Sigmundur, and Masin.



Figure 24. Two Faroese postal vehicles stamps, 2013, Scott 601–602.

davagur dates to 1200 C.E., indicating that this settlement is very old. Vatnsøyar was the headquarters for the British occupation force that built the airfield, but it is now a tiny village of about 40 people. The small towns of Bør and Gasadalur on Vágar's west coast are included in Smith's pictorial survey, but two of the other villages shown, Slættanes and Vikar, are no longer occupied. The pictured bridge at Kvigandalsá leads to peat fields and ultimately to Fjallavatn Lake.

Oddly, the third postal route does not seem to include mail for Mykines, the westernmost of the Faroe Islands. Presumably, in 1872 when more than 100 people lived on Mykines, mail might have been left for them at Sandavágur or Sørvágur on neighboring Vágar Island. Mykines has but one village, served by a difficult landing accessible only in calm seas. Its population has declined, and by 2004 there were only 11 permanent residents.

Mail Today

The Faroes today are very different than they were in 1872, much less isolated and considerably more developed. The postal service is different too, with no more open rowboats between the islands. These have been replaced by mail boats, as pictured no four stamps from 1992 [Figure 23]. No more trekking over mountains for the postmen. Now they travel in modern motor vehicles as shown on two 2013 stamps [Figure 24], on paved roads, and by tunnels that pass through the mountains and under the sounds. Yet the islands endure, an archipelago of elemental beauty: cliffs, mountains and sea.

Acknowledgment

Much useful information was provided by the yearbooks published by Postverk Føroya.

Endnotes

1. Don Brandt, Stamps and Story of the Faroe Islands (Reykjavík: Nesutgafan, 1996).
2. The Faroese letter edd (ð) is pronounced "th." The letter ø should be pronounced like the eu in the French word "bleu." For simplicity, accent marks have been omitted from Faroese place names.
3. Ursula K. Le Guin, A Wizard of Earthsea (Berkeley: Parnassus Press, 1968).

The Author

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Polish-Russian Postal Relations

Spanning the Years 1918 Through 1921

BY JULIAN AULEYTNER

The history of Polish-Russian postal relations starts when Poland regained independence in November 1918. At that time Russia was already embroiled in civil war, which led to severe disruption in postal services. Correspondence arrived very irregularly, and from 1919 there were practically no deliveries between Poland and Russia. Millions of people on either side were left without contact with their families. Testimony to the dramatic events of that period has come down in the form of undelivered post-al cards and letters. They tell about the tragedy of families whose members were sentenced to death by the Bolsheviks and about anxiety over the fate of close relatives.

At that time postal communications were the only way in which people could pass on information. Telephones were not generally available because their primary use was for military purposes. And telegrams were very expensive.

This article is illustrated with multiple documents, each that contribute to an understanding of the situation of families and individuals affected by the conflicts of that time.

The first document is a postal card [Figure 1] sent November 1, 1918, and was intended for Petersburg. The text indicates that it is a response from the addressee's family in Warsaw who had received three of four letters sent from Russia. However, the card was not dispatched from Warsaw. It bears marks showing that the German censor was still operating, but a few days later postal services in Warsaw were taken over from the Germans by the Poles and on the card is a handwritten annotation in red, reading "To storage." It is the earliest postal artifact from the beginnings of the Polish state carrying evidence of the break in postal contact with Russia.

The handwritten annotation “na przechowanie” that translates “to storage” also appears on the next three covers. These date from the first weeks of Polish independence in 1918, and they are among the hardest-to-find items in Polish



Figure 1. Postal card sent from Warsaw to Petersburg with the red annotation that translates to read “To storage.”



Figure 2. Letter sent in November or December 1918 from Kolo to Moscow with the red annotation “to storage,” franked with valid German stamps and postmarked with a provisional handstamp. On the reverse, a censorship stamp and datestamp from Warsaw of May 4, 1921.

postal history. The first [Figure 2] was sent in November or December 1918 from Kołò to Moscow. It bears German postage stamps postmarked with provisional Polish handstamps in the shape of a flower. German stamps were allowed to be used until December 15, 1918, and the provisional Polish postmark used in Kołò is known on just a handful of letters. A curious aspect of this letter is the bilingual annotation indicating that the letter was to be collected at the main post office in Moscow. The phrase used, “on demand,” can be understood as equivalent to “poste restante.” The censor’s stamp is on the reverse along with a Warsaw May 4, 1921, handstamp for the date on which the relevant postage sack containing



Figure 3. Censored letter of condolence with the red annotation "to storage," sent in December 1918 from Konin to Porkhov. On the reverse, a datestamp from Warsaw dated May 3, 1921.



Figure 4. Censored letter sent in 1918 from Końsk to Petersburg with the red annotation "to storage," and the Warsaw May 3, 1921, datestamp found on the reverse side of the cover.

ing undelivered mail to Russia was opened. The next cover [Figure 3] is a letter from Konin to Porkhov (Pskov province), sent in December 1918. The letter was passed by the censor but was not released for dispatch. The letter bears German postage stamps overprinted with the handstamped Polish eagle, because the local post office had no stocks of Polish stamps and the German ones had been withdrawn from circulation the previous day.

The next cover [Figure 4] intended for Russia is from Końsk with a datestamp of December 30 or 31, 1918. There is also a very important datestamp on the reverse of the envelope showing Warsaw, May 3, 1921. This date should be viewed in the context of the Treaty of Riga, signed between



Figure 6. Censored letter sent from Moscow to Warsaw in February 1919, stopped before dispatch. Part of the reverse appears below.

Poland and Russia and Soviet Ukraine on March 18, 1921, ratified by Poland on April 16, and in effect April 30, 1921. As a result of the treaty, contacts opened between the signatory states. This led to the activation of postal services as confirmed by the datestamp on the letter.

I conclude that correspondence to Russia was collected in sacks and stored in Poland awaiting an opportunity for delivery. However, when more than two years later this opportunity came, the stored letters were not sent out to the addressees. The reasons for this decision are not known.

From accounts by some philatelists of that period, it is believed that collectors were allowed to rummage about in the unsent postal material, and what remained after they had removed their selections was destroyed.

The next letter shown comes from just such a stock of letters. This cover [Figure 5] was sent in February 1919 from Goworowo, censored and held in Poland without annotation. The interesting franking uses stamps of the second Polish Post/General



Figure 5. Double censored letter sent in 1919 from Goworowo to Russia with a provisional datestamp postmark.

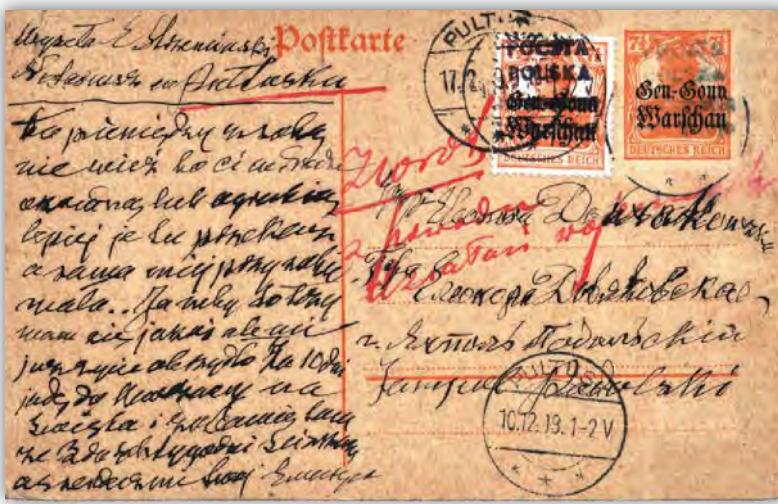


Figure 7. Postal card (above) with Polish provisional overprint on German stamps, sent from Pułtusk to Jampol Podolski on December 10, 1918, with the manual, red annotation "Return due to military operations." The card was returned on February 17, 1919. Registered letter (right) sent from Warsaw to Moscow on November 9, 1918, with the red annotation on the reverse "Return due to military operations."

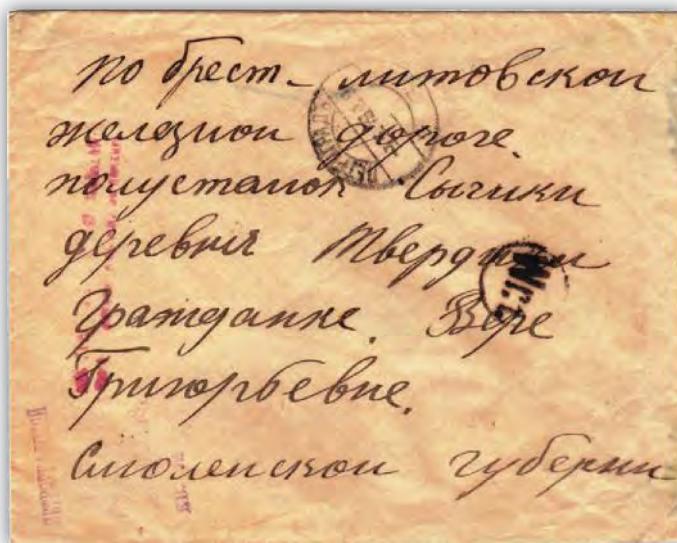


Figure 8. Letter sent in March 1919 from Petersburg to a small village near Smolensk. It was intercepted by the Polish spring offensive and sent to Warsaw for inspection.



Figure 9. Letter sent in 1919 from Warsaw to Moscow, censored by the Polish Ministry of the Interior and sent via the Polish Red Cross but stopped along the way.

Government Warschau overprint form, and they are postmarked with a provisional datestamp.

Letters from Russia to Poland also were stopped, as shown by a February 1919 letter [Figure 6] from Moscow to Warsaw. It was not released for dispatch because of the commencement of military operations. It bears a circular censor's stamp (No. 109), and one with written text:

Возвращается изъ Москвы въ ... за прекращениемъ отправл. корр. по указанному адресу [Returned from Moscow ... because of the suspension of deliveries to the address indicated].

Similar artifacts are seldom found in collections because during the Stalinist period the possession of such a document at home could lead to serious political repressions.

The Polish Post did not issue express instructions to post offices concerning the treatment of correspondence addressed to Russia and Ukraine. In addition to the annotation mentioned above, another was also used: "Return because of military operations." An example of this is a cover [Figure 7 right] sent from Warsaw to Moscow on November 9, 1918, a Saturday). On Monday, November 11, German administrative offices in Warsaw, including post offices, began to come under Polish control. The letter was stopped, as documented by two annotations in Polish: "Returned" on the front of the letter, and on the reverse: "Return because of military operations."

This same annotation can be seen on a card [Figure 7 left], to the town Jampol Podolski, sent from Pułtusk on December 10, 1918. In this case the reference is to a period of military conflict with the Ukraine during which deliveries were sus-



Figure 10. Russian letter sent in April 1919 to Moscow via the Petersburg–Warsaw travelling post office. On the reverse is a double Moscow date stamp confirming receipt of the letter.



Figure 11. Registered letter sent in late 1919 or early 1920 from the Polish postal agency in Odessa to Warsaw and censored in Warsaw. This is one of 10 known surviving letters.



Figure 12. Postcard made of the bark of a birch tree sent from Lvov to Uhnów during the Bolshevik offensive in summer 1920.

pended and only resumed when there was a cease fire.

A document worthy of note is a cover [Figure 8] sent on March 3, 1919 from Petersburg to a village in the Smolensk area. En route, this letter, along with the entire mail delivery, was intercepted by the Polish Army. At that time the army was launching its spring offensive towards the east. The letter found its way to Warsaw, where it was censored twice: the marking “Wr.1” and on the left the vertical text “DOZ. POCZT.MIN. SPR. ZAGR.WARSZAWA/Kontrola Koresp. WOLNEJ od cenzury.” What happened to the letter after this is unknown.

The Red Cross became involved in exchanging correspondence with Russia as shown by a censored letter [Figure 9] addressed to Moscow and written at the end of April 1919. The Red Cross involvement can be concluded from the contents of the letter. In this case the letter did not get through to the addressee in Russia, but from its contents, thanks to the Red Cross, it had been possible to exchange a small number of letters between the parties. On the envelope of this letter, besides the distinct mark of the Polish censor, there is also a red handstamp with the words: “Information Section of the Polish Red Cross.”

Another interesting cover [Figure 10] comes from Russia. It carries a datestamp of April 16, 1919, from the travelling post office, which operated on the route Petersburg–Warsaw. This connection had functioned for decades delivering correspondence in both directions, but during the civil war in Russia the connection with Warsaw was terminated and the travelling post office subsequently delivered only within Russia, in this case to Moscow. The reverse side of the letter bears two Moscow datestamps confirming receipt on April 19, 1919. The Petersburg–Warsaw travelling post office date stamp is therefore the only remaining postal evidence of the former postal rail connection.

In September 1919, the anti-Bolshevik volunteer army under Anton Denikin, the so-called “Whites,” captured Odessa. Polish authorities established a consulate there and opened a postal agency in order to facilitate correspondence

with Poland. The agency sent its mail via diplomatic couriers and used standard-issue Polish postage stamps overprinted with the inscription “ODESA.” The agency functioned from the end of October 1919 to January 13, 1920. During this time approximately 600 letters were posted, 10 of which have survived to the present. One of these is illustrated [Figure 11].

Another document is a card [Figure 12] made of the bark of a birch tree, sent from Lvov to Uhnów. It bears the annotation “Post Office closed. Return.” This relates to the Bolshevik offensive in the summer of 1920, which resulted in the closing of post offices in eastern Poland. This is a difficult-to-find example of a postal annotation from this period because during the offensive correspondence was de-



Figure 13. Earliest documented Ukrainian letter sent after the border was opened in 1921, registered from Kiev to Warsaw.



Figure 14. Earliest documented postal card sent after the border was opened in 1921 from Irkutsk via Moscow to Lvov University.



Figure 15. Registered letter sent in October 1920 from Vladivostok to Miłosław (near Poznań) via London.



stroyed. A special curiosity is the fate of the two places referred to on the card. After World War II, the town of Uhnów and the village of Poddębce, both in the Lublin province, were incorporated into the Soviet Union as part of the border adjustment of February 15, 1951. Today, Uhnów is located in Ukraine, 3 kilometers from the Polish border.

The earliest documented items from the Soviet Ukraine and Russia to arrive in Poland after the Treaty of Riga include a cover from Kiev to Warsaw [Figure 13] sent on May 12, 1921, and a card sent by registered mail [Figure 14] from Irkutsk May 9, 1921, via Moscow to Lvov.

Not all correspondence went by the shortest route via Moscow. An example is a registered letter [Figure 15] sent from Vladivostok, at that time located in the Far Eastern Republic, to Miłosław (Września district). The Far Eastern Republic was created on April 6, 1920, at the initiative of the Bolsheviks and was incorporated into Russia in November

1922. The letter was sent on October 28, 1921, and it wandered around the world via London (December 8, 1921, postmark on the reverse), finally reaching the addressee on December 16, 1921. So far it is the only documented letter to Poland from the Far Eastern Republic.

Polish-Russian correspondence in the years 1918–1921 is a fascinating part of the history of the postal service, and thus far little-known and documented. I hope that the aspects shown here will encourage others to join the search to complete knowledge of this period.

The Author

Dr. Julian Auleytner is a professor and rector of the non-public Pedagogical University in Warsaw. He has collected stamps since 1969 and has had more than 100 philatelic articles published. He is a member of the European Academy of Philately, the Royal Philatelic Society London, and the Polish Academy of Philately.



VISITING THE BRITISH EMPIRE

BY NOEL DAVENHILL

North Borneo

Postage Stamp History Detailed Through Nation's Stamps

This former British Protectorate located in the north-east part of the island of Borneo was administered by the British North Borneo Company (chartered) from 1881 until Japanese occupation in 1942. The country became a British protectorate in 1888. The nearby island of Labuan joined North Borneo in 1890 until uniting with Malaya in 1906. Both North Borneo and Labuan became a British colony in 1946. The territory was re-named Sabah in 1961, when along with neighboring Sarawak, it became a Malaysian state.



Figure 1. A ½-cent Coat of Arms stamp from 1886 (Scott 22).



Figure 2. A 25-cent Coat of Arms stamp from 1888 (Scott 44).

Prior to introducing similar 4-and 8-cent stamps in 1884, the 2-cent was surcharged "EIGHT CENTS" in two lines (Scott 4). Larger 50-cent and \$1 denominations with revised armorial bearings were also issued (Scott 6-7).

In 1886, stamps denominated ½-, 1-, 2-, 4-, 8-, and 10-cent, perforated gauge 14, were added (Scott 8-13). Some of the ½ and 10-cent stamps were overprinted "and Revenue" for fiscal use (Scott 14, 18). A need for other denominations led to the surcharging of 4 and 8-cent stamps with a variety of "3 CENTS" (Scott 15-16, 19-20) and "5 CENTS" (Scott 17) overprints.

Later in 1886, the stamps, including additional 25-cent and \$2 denominations, all perforation gauge 14, with the ½-and 1-cent also perforation gauge 12, were inscribed "BRITISH NORTH BORNEO" (Scott 22-34) [Figure 1].



Figure 3. Set of nine stamps, all in different denominations ranging from 1 cent through 24 cents, issued in 1894 (Scott 59-67).

From 1887 through 1892 additional 3-, 5-, 6-cent, \$5 and \$10 stamps, were introduced and the text “Postage & Revenue” was added to all denominations.

Redesigned versions of the high denomination stamps were issued in 1888 (Scott 44–47) [Figure 2].

From 1890 to 1892, a number of questionable surcharged stamps were issued (Scott 50–58). These appear to have had no purpose apart from providing revenue from collectors.

Unless stated otherwise in this article, Waterlow and Sons printed all subsequent stamps.

Radical 1-, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, 8-, 12-, 18- and 24-cent pictorial stamps (Scott 59–73) were issued in 1894 with the inscription “STATE OF NORTH BORNEO” [Figure 3]. These and subsequent similar stamps abound with perforation variations that may be of interest only to specialists. Higher denominations from 25-cents to \$10 were again printed by Blades, East and Blades with minor design changes. Why 4-, 10-, 20-, 30- and 40-cent stamps were excluded is unknown. Surcharges of these denominations were applied to the \$1 stamp in 1895 (Scott 74–78) [Figure 4].

From 1897 to 1900, low denominations were issued with revised frames and additional panels inscribed with Chinese and Arabic characters. In 1900, the 2-cent rose Malayan Sambar stamp (Scott 80) was changed to a green frame (Scott 81) [Figure 5]. The 18-cent stamp was wrongly inscribed “Postal Revenue” (Scott 87) [Figure 6] whereas “Postage & Revenue” was omitted on the 24-cent stamp (Scott 88). These design mistakes were quickly corrected (Scott 89–90).

In 1899, Waterlow surcharged “4 CENTS” on all 12 stamps from 5 cents to \$10 (Scott 91–102) while awaiting a replacement. Ironically the new 4-cent Orangutan stamp was never sold in North Borneo because it was mistakenly printed with a green frame (Scott 103), but astute dealers sent some from Britain to be canceled to order. A new 4-cent rose-red stamp (Scott 105) was issued in 1900 [Figure 7].

Between 1901 and 1912, the entire series, including new 10- and 16-cent denominations (Scott 120, 121) were overprinted “BRITISH PROTECTORATE.”

Apparently to earn extra revenue, in 1904 the British



Figure 4. A 4-cent-on-\$1 Coat of Arms stamp from 1895 (Scott 74).

North Borneo Company requested surplus stocks of obsolete 1897–1901 stamps to again be surcharged 4 cents, this time locally, using a smaller “4” and lowercase lettering. The company continued to sanction excessive pictorials ostensibly for postal purposes, but clearly designed for the philatelic market. From 1888 until 1916, surplus mint stamps were canceled to order with the distinctive barred cancellation device and were for sale at below face value to collectors and dealers.

The frequent appearance of attractive stamps may be compared with similar Mozambique and Nyassa Company issues of the period also printed by Waterlow.

Twelve pictorial stamps, mainly perforation gauges 14 and 15, in addition to a provisional 20c-on-18c surcharge (Scott 148) [Figure 8], were introduced in 1909. A photograph of W.C. Cowie, managing director of the chartered company in conference with the Sultan of Sulu was an innovative subject for the 4-cent denomination. Although not known in Bor-



Figure 5. Two versions of the Malayan Sambar stamp issued in 1897 (Scott 80) and 1900 (Scott 81).



Figure 6. The Mount Kinabalu stamp of 1897 (Scott 87, top) with text “Postal Revenue” and the same stamp issued in 1897 (Scott 89, bottom) with text “Postage & Revenue.”



Figure 7. The Orangutan stamp of 1899 (Scott 103) issued in green and black. The 1900 stamp (108) in rose and black.



Figure 8. The 20-cent-on-18-cent Banteng (Wild Ox) stamp of 1909 (Scott 148).

neo, the palm cockatoo and dwarf cassowary were astonishingly selected for 12- and 24-cent denominations [Figure 9]. There were numerous birds to choose from, so the chosen birds indicate a lack of planning and hasty production. Minor amendments were made to the Coats of Arms designs on 25-cents to \$10 denominations added in 1911.

Previous \$5 and \$10 stamps (Scott 158–159) overprinted “BRITISH PROTECTORATE” in 1912 were probably not available at postal offices, based on the Scott catalog note indicating that the stamps were “prepared for use but not regularly issued.” The practice of canceling stamps to order ceased about this time.

In 1916, an apparent shortage of 2-, 4- and 10-cent denominations required the 3-, 6- and 12-cent stamps to be appropriately surcharged (Scott 160–62).

Fourteen definitives from 1 cent to 50 cents were overprinted “MALAYA-BORNEO EXHIBITION 1922” to mark the month-long event in Singapore. The hasty overprinting by the government printing office in Sandakan resulted in several typeset mistakes. The 1909 20-cent-on-18c surcharge was included in this set. The philatelic press severely criticized these stamps as yet another speculative venture.

The 4-cent Meeting of the Assembly definitive from 1909 was issued in 1923 with a two-line “THREE CENTS” locally applied overprint in

large bold letters (Scott 166) [Figure 10].

Eighteen pictorials with the perforation gauge changed to 12½, once again including the 20-cent-on-18c surcharge, were issued during 1926–1929 with some color changes. According to the Stanley Gibbons catalog, the 24 cent, \$1, \$2, \$5, and \$10 stamps were not supplied for postal purposes, so perforation gauge 12½ used examples must be from dealers.

In 1931, the 50th anniversary of the North Borneo Company was commemorated with eight extra-size pictorials denominated from 3 cents to \$5 (Scott 185–192) [Figure 11].

Fifteen pictorial definitives were issued in 1939 [Figure 12]. A 20-cent denomination finally replaced the so-called provisional 1909 20-cent-on-18-cent surcharge. The inappropriate Palm Cockatoo design was repeated. A splendid loca-

tion map was introduced on the 8-cent stamp. In 1941, 1 and 2-cent denominations were locally overprinted “WAR TAX,” the only British Empire territory to issue such stamps during World War II. The 1-cent stamp was added to all inward correspondence and the 2-cent to overseas mail.

After Japanese occupation in 1942, all stamps were seized



Figure 9. The 12-cent Palm Cockatoo (Scott 145) and 24-cent Cassowary stamp (Scott 149) from the 1909 set.



Figure 10. The 3-cent-on-4-cent Meeting of the Assembly stamp (Scott 166) from 1923.



Figure 11. The \$2 Arms With Supporters and Motto stamp from 1931 (Scott 191).



Figure 12. The 8-cent Map stamp (Scott 198) and the 20-cent River Scene stamp (Scott 202) from the 1939 stamp set.

for overprinting with Japanese characters. These were followed by locally produced 4- and 8-cent designs and overprinted Japanese stamps (Scott N1–N47) [Figure 13].

Following liberation, the territory was placed under the British Military Administration until civil government was restored in 1945. “BMA” overprints were applied to 1939 definitives [Figure 14], which along with similarly overprinted Sarawak stamps were authorized for postal use throughout Sarawak, North Borneo, Labuan, and Brunei.

The words “THE STATE OF” and “BRITISH PROTECTORATE” were deleted with bars in 1947, and a “G VI R” royal cypher overprint was added to mark North Borneo’s new status as a crown colony [Figure 15]. Additional printings were required to provide sufficient stocks for the BMA and royal cypher overprints.

North Borneo’s newly acquired colonial status allowed it to participate in the Crown Agents’ Silver Wedding, UPU,



Figure 13. The 8-cent Map stamp (Scott N21) from 1944 overprinted with Japanese text. Overprinted Japan 2-yen Gen. Maresuke Nogi stamp (N35) from 1944.

Coronation, and Freedom From Hunger omnibus issues (Scott 238–243, 260).

The first stamps as a crown colony were printed using photogravure by Harrisons in 1950. The stamps generally have unimaginative designs and dull colors that attracted much criticism. Perhaps the best design was the splendid portrayal of a jolly Bajau Chief on the 20-cent stamp [Figure 16]. Close inspection of the coat of arms on the \$10 reveals a ‘T’ on the vessel’s sail [Figure 17]. This refers to Tobruk, a shoulder flash on uniforms of the Australian 9th Division who liberated Borneo in 1944. The spelling error on the 50-cent stamp was corrected to “Jesselton” in 1952 [Figure 18]. This set of stamps was gradually withdrawn from 1954 to 1957 to be replaced, as required, with identical designs bearing the queen’s portrait. There was little need for the new 1-cent stamp until 1959, when it became a make-up stamp for revised postal rates.

The evolution of the coat of arms since 1880 is clearly shown on stamps. The shield shows a lion over a Labuan prahu. The human arms on the crest symbolise the joint efforts of North Borneo and Great Britain to secure progress. The motto Pergo et Perago translates to “I undertake and I achieve.” Following crown colony status, an image was added of Mount Kinabalu, the highest mountain in South East Asia.

The 75th anniversary of the North Borneo Company was marked in 1956 with four engraved stamps (Scott 276–

Figure 15. A 4-cent Proboscis Monkey stamp with overprint from 1947 (Scott 226).

lion over a Labuan prahu. The human arms on the crest symbolise the joint efforts of North Borneo and Great Britain to secure progress. The motto Pergo et Perago translates to “I undertake and I achieve.” Following crown colony status, an image was added of Mount Kinabalu, the highest mountain in South East Asia.

The 75th anniversary of the North Borneo Company was marked in 1956 with four engraved stamps (Scott 276–



Figure 16. The 20-cent Bajau Chief stamp from 1950 (Scott 252).



Figure 17. The \$10 Coat of Arms stamp from 1950 (Scott 258) with close-up of sailboat.



Figure 14. A 2-cent BMA overprinted Palm Cockatoo stamp from 1945 (Scott 209).



Figure 18. The two versions of the 50-cent Clock Tower stamp from 1950 (Scott 254, 259). The stamp on the left has the name Jesselton incorrectly spelled “Jesselton.”



279) reproducing designs seen previously [Figure 19]. The company’s jurisdiction ended in 1946 when crown colony status was attained.

Several earlier designs were repeated in new definitives issued in 1961 that were some of Waterlow’s final stamps. In 1962, De La Rue assumed responsibil-



Figure 19. Two stamps (Scott 278–279) from the 1956 set of four issued to mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Chartered Company of North Borneo.



Figure 20. The \$5 Crested Wood Partridge stamp (Scott 294) from the 1961 set of stamps.

ity for subsequent printings of these definitives and of existing British Guiana, British Honduras and Falkland Islands definitives [Figure 20].

When North Borneo ceased to exist in 1964, the stamps were overprinted by De La Rue with the new name “SABAH.” Although mostly applied to new printings, several left-over sheets from the Waterlow printings of 4-, 5-, 20- and 35-cent and others to \$10 were also overprinted.

Since 1894, stamps of the off-shore island of Labuan were managed in the same way as those of North Borneo. The company created additional revenue from overprints, surcharges and canceling stamps to order. From 1906, Labuan used Straits Settlements stamps

prior to becoming part of the colony of North Borneo in 1946 and of the Malaysian State of Sabah in 1964.

Semipostals

The 1909–1922 pictorial stamps were overprinted by Waterlow with a Maltese Cross in 1916 to aid war charities. The Scott catalog acknowledges jointly both vermilion and carmine overprints, whereas Gibbons values them separately.



Figure 21. The 1-cent+2-cent semipostal stamp from 1918 (Scott B14).

One third of the stamps were donated to be auctioned by the National Philatelic War Fund Committee. One third was also retained in London for sale to dealers. The remaining stock was despatched to North Borneo, where very few were made available to the public for postal purposes.

In 1918, these stamps, plus the higher denominations were overprinted "RED CROSS TWO CENTS" (Scott B14–B30) [Figure 21]. This doubled two months later to a symbolic red cross and "FOUR CENTS" surcharge (Scott B31–B47) [Figure 22].

Only one of three packages of the first 1918 surcharges ar-

rived in North Borneo. The others were lost at sea as a result of enemy action.

Postage Dues

Details for the numerous postage due stamps may be found in the Scott catalog listing, with 49 stamps (Scott J1–J49) from 1895 and 1939 [Figure 23]. The Stanley Gibbons catalog lists 83 stamps. I find it hard to believe that North Borneo handled the extraordinary quantity of underpaid mail to justify so many postage dues.

Five square shaped 2-, 4-, 5-, 8-, and 10-cent postage dues in 1939 featured the territory's crest, which was just a part of the coat of arms.

My grateful thanks for information supplied by Ray Price for this article. Readers may contact the author via e-mail at chambon@xtra.co.nz.



Figure 22. The 6-cent+4-cent semipostal stamp from 1918 (Scott B36).

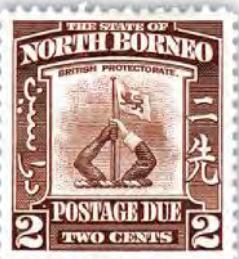


Figure 23. Postage due stamp issued in 1939 (Scott J50).

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The United States Stamp Files

The American Philatelic Research Library Collection's Unique Resource

In the January 2015 issue of *The American Philatelist*, David Waller wrote a response (page 12) to Paul Mallan's November 2014 AP article, "Mount Rainier Revisited" (page 1032). Waller suspected that a photograph in his possession was the one used as a basis for the 3-cent Mount Rainier stamp (Scott 742).

I was curious if I could find any information to confirm Waller's suspicion, so I checked the American Philatelic Research Library's United States Stamp Files collection. For the Mount Rainier stamp, I found a slim folder from the files of Forrest Ellis, a first-day cover specialist who, beginning in the 1920s, gathered information on new issues as they appeared.

The folder contains a few copies of what appears to be the same photo in Waller's possession. A clipped article by Ralph A. Kimble explains that Victor S. McCloskey Jr. designed the stamp based on a photograph taken by Asahel Curtis for the National Park Service, and the stamp was engraved by J.C. Benzing and W.B. Wells. A photocopy of a handwritten note adds more information about the photographer:

"Mt. Rainier and Mirror Lake. Photograph by Asahel Curtis who in 1934 had a photographic studio in Seattle,

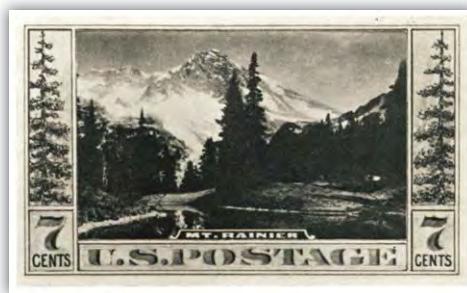
Wash. (I had an 8" x 10" print of this scene obtained from Curtis and which he autographed. This print was stolen in Dec. 1967 along with my stamp collection.)"

The folder also contains an announcement of the stamp by the third assistant postmaster general, along with a photoessay design for a 7-cent Mount Rainier stamp.

In addition to Ellis' files, the U.S. stamp files contain material collected by John Stark, who specialized in stamps with fluorescence, and Belmont Faries, a journalist who served for more than two decades on the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to the postmaster general. APRL staff and volun-

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The United States 3-cent Mount Rainier stamp, a photograph of Mount Rainier, and a photoessay design for a 7-cent version of the stamp.

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teers have also added to the files, often with information donated by members.

The file for the 25-cent Ernest Hemingway stamp (Scott 2418) provides examples of the kinds of material found in Faries' files: the notice from the *Postal Bulletin*, USPS press releases, manuscripts of Faries' articles for *Stamps*, letters to CSAC proposing a Hemingway stamp, newspaper articles about Hemingway, clippings from philatelic newspapers about the stamp, marketing materials for a reproduction of the stamp offered for sale by the USPS, and the program for the first-day-of issue ceremony.

Other stamp folders contain rejected designs, articles about stamps from non-philatelic newspapers and magazines, information on printing and production, including errors, and publicity for events surrounding the stamp issue. For example, Faries' file for the Overland Mail stamp (Scott 1120), contains many articles and press releases about the U.S. Post Office Department's sponsorship of the Overland Mail Caravan, which retraced the original Butterfield Overland Mail route from Tipton, Missouri, to San Francisco.

Like the rest of the APRI's archival collections, material from the U.S. stamp files is not available for borrowing because of its unique nature. However, visitors to the library may request files for research, and APRL staff can make photocopies or scans for a small fee. The collection is not in-



A file for the 25-cent Hemingway stamp in the American Philatelic Research Library's collection contains many items that help tell the story of the stamp issue.

dexed, but anyone looking for detailed information on U.S. stamp issues, especially from the first half of the 20th century, may contact us, and we will see what the files contain.

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World's Rarest Stamp on Display

The 1856 British Guiana One-Cent Magenta at the Postal Museum



The 1856 British Guiana One-Cent Magenta.

I have shared a number of wonderful treats with American Philatelic Society members in the past, but I think this one tops them all. The Smithsonian National Postal Museum will begin displaying the world's rarest stamp starting June 4. Yes indeed, the 1856 British Guiana One-Cent Magenta stamp will be on view to the public in the museum's William H. Gross Stamp Gallery.

While I would invite you all to come down quickly to see the stamp, you can actually take your time and plan a proper visit. We will have the stamp on display here for two and a half years. Of course, things do happen, and the stamp may be temporarily unavailable for viewing if preservation, conservation, or presentation issues unexpect-

edly arise. But you can always check with the museum before coming to make sure the One-Cent Magenta is on display during your trip. There are two short periods when the stamp will not be on display — November 27–December 9, 2015, and May 23–June 10, 2016.

For those who do not know the history of this precious gem, it is a one-of-a-kind stamp, rediscovered by L. Vernon Vaughan, a 12-year-old Scottish boy in 1873. The stamp has passed through a number of important collections. Within a few years, the stamp passed into the hands of Count Philippe la Renotière von Ferrary. The count's collection was seized by the French government as part of war reparations from Germany following World War I. The stamp was purchased in 1922 by Arthur Hind of New York for a record price of \$35,000. The stamp later passed through the hands of Frederick T. Small, a consortium headed by Irwin Wein-

berg, and finally John du Pont, who paid \$935,000 for the stamp in 1980. At the most recent auction, the stamp sold for \$9.5 million, not only a world record price for a stamp but also a price that is four times higher than the price of any other stamp sold. Since 1986, this treasure has been on public view only a few times.

I do like to brag that this stamp is the only major rarity absent from the Royal Philatelic Collection owned by Queen Elizabeth II. We invite Her Majesty to visit the stamp at her pleasure. In the meantime, you can visit the museum and take a close look at this unique piece of philatelic history.

Smithsonian National Postal Museum,
2 Massachusetts Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C.
<http://postalmuseum.si.edu>

Museum Hours: Open seven days a week
from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.,
except December 25. Admission is free.



Before the One-Cent Magenta stamp was loaned to the museum, David Redden, a vice president of Sotheby's, visited with Robert Odenweller of the museum's council of philatelists. They were at the museum to use forensic equipment to document information about the stamp. It was viewed through the Video Spectral Comparator 6000, a Leica microscope, an x-ray fluorescence spectrometer (XRF), and the Fourier transform infrared spectroscope (FT-IR). The VSC6000, a high resolution analyzer, allowed for the digital removal of color to better see the stamp and its markings under high magnification. The XRF was used to look at the elements used in making the magenta color and in making the paper and the FT-IR to determine the organic compounds present.

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Stamp Hinge Frequently Asked Questions

The Hunt Continues for a New Peelable Hinge

Questions regularly received in the sales circuit area ask if the APS sells stamp hinges, how much they are, and "Do you know where I can buy some hinges, the peelable ones?" Unfortunately, no, we do not sell them. One can check online sales and auction websites for them, but be ready to pay between \$10 and \$20 for one pack of Dennison hinges.

In 1995, we did some digging for information on the formula for the Dennison hinges. I spoke with a person who had some familiarity with the manufacturing of the hinges, but he could not provide any information about the ingredients that made them peelable. He did give us a lead to one of the chemists, and when I contacted him, he said that upon his retirement at the time Dennison was sold to Avery, he was told to destroy his files on the hinge-making process. He could not recall exactly what made them peelable. This was more than 20 years after the last hinges were packaged at Dennison.

In 1997, in corresponding with Avery Dennison, I found that they did not have the patent rights for the hinges and that if any

rights were originally secured, they would have expired by that time. Contact with another adhesive manufacturing company was not fruitful because the APS would have had to guarantee sales of a substantial number of packs of hinges before they would begin research and development of stamp hinges. This was something we could not and cannot afford to do, especially because there would be no guarantee that the hinge developed would be acceptable as a peelable hinge.

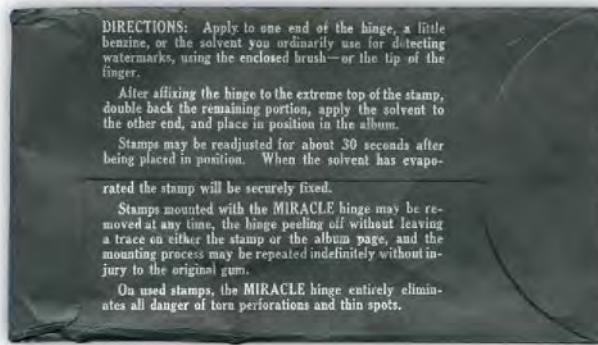
In 2005, I contacted someone who also stated that they were told to destroy files on the hinge-making process when they retired, feeling a "great loss when 38 years of my work at Dennison was gone forever. As I recall it was a good product but very difficult to make." He also noted that if Avery did not obtain the formula when it bought Dennison, then the stamp hinge formula is no longer available. The person did remember the name of an operator of the machinery that laid the adhesive on the paper and the machine that processed it to reduce curling, but we were not able to contact him.

Stories have circulated in the last 20



Five different packets of stamp hinges.





"The Miracle Hinge," an unusual and time-intensive method of applying hinges. The directions included are dangerous because they suggest using the flammable chemical benzene as a tool for applying the stamp hinges.

years about: someone buying and using the machines that cut these legendary hinges; how the adhesive contained glycerin that made them peelable; how the adhesive was applied in two layers; how the light-green glassine paper was the factor in the peelability; and how the ingredients used then are not environmentally safe and cannot be used.

As I visit stamp shows or stamp shops, I will buy a pack of hinges if I have not seen the packaging before. We run very simple tests on them but have not found peelable hinges being made today. The hinges we have found are secure for attaching and holding stamps to album pages, but they just do not easily peel off the stamps. When using these hinges, we suggest using a dampened cotton swab to rub the hinge part attached to the stamp. The hinge should then be carefully peeled off the stamp or soak it off, if it is on a used stamp.

The latest attempt on peelability is from those who use archival or scrap booking tape as a hinge. They maintain that the tape securely fastens the stamp to the page, peels easily, and does not leave a residue on the back of the stamp. When members ask us about this tape,

we caution them to try it on an inexpensive stamp, using this experiment: Set your oven to about 200 degrees. Apply the tape to the stamp and place it on an oven-safe baking sheet. Turn the oven off when it reaches temperature and place the baking sheet in the oven for about 10 minutes. Remove it from the oven and let it cool. Remove the hinge and check for residue on the back of the stamp. The heat of the oven imitates the aging process of the tape and its adhesive. No residue on the stamp might indicate that the tape could be used for short-term mounting.

One member ran a rather detailed experiment, with different scenarios to reflect the aging process of the tapes he used. We received a copy of his write-up and sent it to our preservation committee for review. The following is the opinion of that committee's chair:

"I worked for Avery Dennison for 5 years sometime ago, and I am convinced that adhesive tape of any kind is NOT archival. Over the years adhesives will age and do a variety of things.

"Think back to the last time you saw something taped with old-fashioned cellophane tape. The adhesive

had yellowed and become brittle. Today 'magic' tape is made with acrylic resins, which are far better for aging qualities, but still they tend to migrate over time, primarily due to the additives used. Think back to the first U.S. self-adhesive Weather Vane stamp and how it has migrated through the stamp to ruin the appearance.

"Also this will happen to current self-adhesives if left on the siliconized backing paper. The adhesives will migrate through that very thin silicone coating. It is just a matter of time. In my opinion, the only means for long-term archival storage is to remove the adhesive with safer solvents. Yes, it is no longer a truly mint stamp but it will retain the surface appearance.

"Some have suggested using a light dusting of talcum powder on the adhesive after removal. Again, I believe that the talcum will eventually be absorbed



Interesting Parcel Wrapper

Here is an interesting parcel wrapper received in 2001 when the APS was in State College, Pennsylvania. This wrapper was for a circuit sent to Japan using registered mail. When the addressee saw that a sizeable duty amount needed to be paid, he refused it. Japanese customs applied two return labels printing "Saudi Arabia" then crossing it out and writing "USA." There is no evidence of it traveling through Saudi Arabia to get back to the United States, but the cover made the roundtrip in 75 days.

SALES BOOKS UPDATED PRICES

	1	10	50	100
For singles, 16-page	\$1.50	\$10	\$40	\$70
For blocks, 16-page	\$1.50	\$10	\$40	\$70
For covers	\$1.75	\$13	\$60	\$105
For singles, 8-page	\$1.25	\$9	\$35	\$55
For blocks, 8-page	\$1.25	\$9	\$35	\$55

STAMPMOUNTS UPDATED PRICES

	100	500
Size C½	\$7	\$27
Size C1½	\$8	\$28
Size C3½	\$10	\$39
Size C90	\$15	---
Size C100	\$19	---

into the adhesive with that adhesive becoming active again.

"Note these are my opinions, and only years in the future will prove whether I am correct or not."

As for the use of self-adhesive hinging in the sales books, we encourage sellers to avoid them. We have been receiving correspondence from several buyers who say that they skip over any books that have these hinges. While the tape can be easily removed from the stamps, there are some stamps on which a slight residue remains. We caution anyone wanting to use the self-adhesive hinges in sales books to be ready to expect a negative affect on sales. And for collectors using these hinges in their albums, check them periodically for adhesive migration. Archival-safe mounts are still the safest coverings for placing the more valuable items in albums and sales books.

If you have any research on hinges or have discovered peelable hinges of recent manufacture, please let us know. We are interested in finding the new peelable hinge of consistent quality and performance that we can offer for sale along with the mounts we stock.

New Supply Prices July 1, 2015

The sales division has held the prices for blank sales books level for approximately eight years and stamp mounts for four years. The prices for these supplies will be changing on July 1, 2015, and postage will be added for the heavier inventory items, the 10, 50, and 100 sales-book-size packages and

SALES BOOKS UPDATED ADDITIONAL POSTAGE AMOUNTS

	U.S.	Canada	International
1 sales book	\$0	\$1	\$2
10 sales books	\$1	\$2	\$9
50 sales books	\$3	\$30	\$45
100 sales books	\$4	\$35	\$50

STAMPMOUNTS UPDATED ADDITIONAL POSTAGE AMOUNTS

	U.S.	Canada	International
size C½ 100s and 500s, size C1½ 100s, size C3½ 100s	\$0	\$1	\$2
C1½ and C3½ 500s, size C90 and C100 100s	\$1	\$2	\$9

for the mounts. The amount for postage is greatest for international orders. The new prices for sales books and stamp mounts, along with the new additional postage amounts, are detailed in the charts nearby.

USPS Tracking Adjustments

We have been contacted by a number of members about an apparent change in how the USPS tracking service is applied to packages. It seems that the tracking labels customers could have on hand and apply to packages are not being used by postal clerks. The clerks are saying that the tracking number must be generated by the post office cash register and applied there. It

is unclear whether the customer could obtain the tracking number on a cash register receipt if postage is not bought through the clerk and included in a barcode label. As I write this, the USPS tracking labels are still offered in pads of 50 online at the www.usps.com website.

We will watch for any changes in the policy and note them in future Sales Talk columns.

Next-Of-Kin Information

Contact information we have for members using the circuit system to buy or sell is important to update yearly. For sellers who died and have not given us next-of-kin information, any remaining sales books and sales proceeds cannot be sent to the heirs who should be getting the benefits of the seller's work. We try to search for some connection to the deceased online. Most times we are successful at finding heirs. We encourage sellers to complete a form, giving us the contact information of their heir, so the returns will not be delayed and we can make the arrangements for

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future checks and returns directly with them. The seller's signature on the form gives us the authority to accept return instructions from the chosen heir. If we cannot contact the heirs, the form states that the remaining unsold stamps and the retirement check amounts will be considered donations to the society. Contact us to obtain a form or go to the form for sellers located online at http://stamps.org/userfiles/file/sales/Survive_1.pdf.

For buyers from the circuit books, we want to have contact information of their next of kin, in case the buyer has passed away or is not available for long periods of time, so we can retrieve circuits that were mailed to them and are sitting in their home. With up to \$4,000 value in a circuit, you can see why we need this information. If we are not able to contact the buyer or the chosen representative, we must take further actions to retrieve the circuits. Circuit buyers have an obligation to let their families know what the circuit system is and what must be done with circuits

that arrive and cannot be handled in a timely manner. We stress that the circuit's contents do not belong to the member receiving them and should not be counted as part of their estate. The web address for the form buyers should use to give us next-of-kin information is http://stamps.org/userfiles/file/sales/Survive_1.pdf.

For both of these forms, please note that we will only use the contact information for the appropriate situation where the member is not available or deceased. This information is not given out to anyone, and no advertising mailings will be sent. But it is very important to let the person(s) you enter on the form know you are giving their contact information to us to avoid having problems with packages going to or from the member. The wording in the letter section of these forms is different, but the information requested is the same. If you sell and buy through us, you might want to complete both forms and have them on file with us, updating them if the contact person changes.

'5 For 10' Categories (Needs)

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

U.S. Cut Squares

U.S. Fancy Cancels

U.S. Precancels/Perfins

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Tackett Retires from U.S. Postal Service

Best Wishes to a Long-time Supporter of Stamp Collecting

A few weeks ago *The American Philatelist* editor Jay Bigalke and I visited United States Postal Service headquarters to thank Cindy Tackett and to wish her well in retirement. The acting director of stamp services since October of last year, Cindy began her Postal Service employment in 1973. She joined the Philatelic Sales Division in 1982. She does not have the name recognition of many others, but behind the scenes she has been a strong supporter of the hobby. She coordinated the USPS participation in the Washington 2006 international show and has played a key role in the support of the APS StampShow in August. Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee chair and past APS president Janet Klug and

I presented her with an APS medal of appreciation in thanks for her service. We wish Cindy well in retirement and look forward to working with the new USPS acting director for Stamp Services, Mary-Anne Penner, who started May 1.

Jay and I also used the visit to make additional contacts and discuss other issues. You should see some of the fruit of those conversations in future issues of *The American Philatelist*.

One issue on which we have not yet had any success is the elimination of allowing postage stamps to be used with the USPS Click-N-Ship for Business product (re-branded as USPS meter label solution in late April).

We have heard from several upset dealers who have used this product

Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee chair Janet Klug (left) and APS executive director Ken Martin (right), present former USPS acting director of Stamp Services Cindy L. Tackett with an APS medal of appreciation.

for shipping eBay sales. A USPS audit estimated that they are losing \$7 million a year from individuals failing to apply the correct postage to go with the labels. Basically the Postal Service is saying it is inefficient to have to verify that the correct amount of postage is being applied, and by tying click-and-ship to a meter label, verification is not needed and fraud can be eliminated.

While recognizing the challenge the Postal Service faces, we believe that postage stamps should be allowed to pay the postage on any type of mail.

Buffalo Stamp Club

We were delighted by the recent visit of a group of 17 members of the Buffalo Stamp Club. While we appreciate advance notice for large groups, visitors are always welcome to come to the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. The staff enjoys meeting club members. We enjoy showing off our operations, and we would be pleased to try to help you find answers to questions in the American Philatelic Research Library or find items needed for your



Members of the Buffalo Stamp Club visiting the American Philatelic Center.

“I want to buy your stamp collection.”

-George Bailey



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<http://www.auktionen-gaertner.de> located in Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany

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collection from the circuit sales and
our donation sales area at the APC.

Membership Loss

In late April, the APS dropped 2,208 members for non-payment of dues. While this was the second lowest percent of members dropped for non-payment in the past 12 years, it was slightly larger than last year. We have cut net annual member losses at least 75 percent compared to seven years ago, but we need everyone's help to turn member losses into member growth. The last half dozen issues of *The American Philatelist* have had a "Be an APS Ambassador" box along



... we need everyone's
help to turn member
losses into member
growth."

with the membership report with 10 ideas for helping the society. Many are very easy. Please review this box and consider how you might help.

Jerry Kasper

I recently received an e-mail from member Jerry Kasper. Jerry and his wife Jean are longtime friends and supporters of APS. They have staffed the dealer check-in and helped in many other ways at many APS shows. Jerry has also been chair of Sescal, the Los Angeles area World Series of Philately show. He also is active in the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors organization.

We are very sorry to hear that vision problems that have baffled his doctors have caused him to stop collecting aerogrammes and to dispose of his collection. We are happy to hear that he plans to remain an APS member, but his expected reduction of philatelic activity is a loss for the hobby.

Gift Giving

Thanks to all who have made gifts through the Mighty Buck program. By



late April, we had received more than 1,600 gifts totaling about \$38,000. We really appreciate your support. At least a couple individuals were also accidentally omitted from the listings in the April recognition issue of *The American Philatelist*.

My apologies to Wyatt Williams, who should have been included for in-kind giving of between \$25,000 and \$50,000, and to Mick Zais, who should have been recognized for cash gifts totaling between \$500 and \$999. Also, a big thanks to Alan Nelson, who after reading the issue contacted us to inform us that his estate plans direct that his specialized collection of Europe will come to the APS.

Director of Education

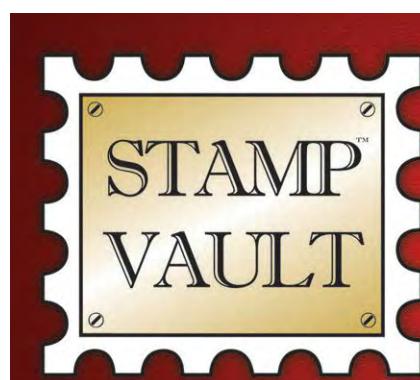
Last month I mentioned that we were losing director of education Gretchen Moody, who is moving out of the area because her husband has taken a new job outside of central Pennsylvania. Now that she has managed to ready her home for sale, Gretchen asked to share some reflections on her eight years with the society.

Reflections on Eight Years in the APS Education Department

Goodbye as your APS director of education, but hello as a fellow APS member and stamp collector. I have been a member and collector while on staff, but I am excited to have more time to devote to learning about my collection and volunteering. These are two major things that I have encouraged all of you to do in my eight years at headquarters in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

I am leaving to follow my husband to Winchester, Virginia, where he has taken up the mantle as sports editor for the Winchester Star newspaper. Yes, small town and city papers are still going strong. So a shout out to all APS members in that region. I will be seeing you soon.

I began on May 17, 2007, the day postage rates increased. The education department was being re-evaluated to determine what programs were most valuable and what programs needed more attention. We were a staff of two back then with one volunteer, Richard Nakles, spending a great deal of time on in-kind donations. We now have two full-time staff along with a potential of three part-time positions and a weekly group of eight volunteers and two Experience Works workers (a federal program giving seniors work experience). There are other volunteers and Experience Works workers now working in other departments of the



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APS and APRL.

A major event of the education department is summer seminar every June. It has an enthusiastic and loyal following.

That was my baptism into the organized hobby. I quickly saw the impact Summer Seminar has on collectors who relish the opportunity to learn more about collecting, even areas that are not currently their focus, and to "make new friends but keep the old" by returning to

Summer Seminar year after year. Over the years, we were able to expand the event from six or eight 4-day courses to the inclusion of 2-day courses and bringing instructors who live at distance into the classrooms via the website www.GoToMeeting.com.

I appreciate APS executive director Ken Martin and the APS boards over the years, allowing me, and members with vision who needed my staff support, the flexibility to attempt new programs

and methods to serve the members with educational opportunities and to reach adults and children with the joy of stamp collecting.

During my time we started the On the Road courses, Collecting Connections via Go To Meeting, the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship, Stamps Teach, volunteer work week, the StampBuddy service, and we were in the process of expanding Young Stamp Collectors of America with a clubhouse on the APS

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SHOW TIME

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

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

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

Internet Module **June 3**
Exhibiting 101: Writing a Solid Title Page and Synopsis On-line session through GoToMeeting. ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
E-mail: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/Modules>

Kentucky **June 5-6**
Louipec 2015 Metro Louisville Stamp Society, St. Leonard's Catholic Church (The Gym), 440 Zorn Avenue, Louisville. ***B***
Contact: German Dillon, 502-558-0046
E-mail: german.dillon@tvc.com
Website: www.louisvillemetrostampsociety.org

Virginia **June 5-7**
NAPEX National Phil. Exhibitions of Washington D.C., McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean. ***WSP***
Contact: Darrell Ertzberger, 703-548-3366
E-mail: mteton@aol.com
Website: www.napex.org

Michigan **June 6**
Kent Philatelic Society Stamp Show Kent

Philatelic Society, Neal Fonger American Legion Hall, 2327 Wilson Ave., SW, Walker. ***B***
Contact: Chris Daly, 616-281-9709
E-mail: chris_n_daly@yahoo.com

Ohio **June 12-14**
Colopex Columbus Philatelic Club, Rhodes Center Ohio State Fairgrounds, 717 East 17th Avenue, Columbus. ***WSP***
Contact: Mark Reasoner, 614-579-6526
E-mail: reasonerstamps@yahoo.com
Website: www.colopex.com

Virginia **June 13**
Charlottesville StampFest Holiday Inn & Conference Center, 1901 Emmet St. North, Rt. 29, 1/4 mile North of Rt. 250 By-pass), Charlottesville. ***B***
Contact: Jack Ott, 888-297-3536
E-mail: jackottstamps@gmail.com
Website: www.jackottstamps.com

California **June 13-14**
COALPEX Fremont Stamp Club, Walnut Creek Civic Park Recreation Center, 1375 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek.
Contact: David Epps
E-mail: depps55@gmail.com
Website: www.coalpex2015.yolasite.com

Oklahoma **June 19-20**
OKPEX Oklahoma City Stamp Club, Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Road, Midwest City. ***WSP***
Contact: Joe Crosby, 405-749-0939
E-mail: joecrosby@cox.net
Website: www.okcsc.org

Pennsylvania **June 20-21**
SCOPEX 2015 Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society, American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte.
Contact: Don Heller, 814-861-5720
E-mail: dheller5720@yahoo.com

Ohio **June 21**
Hudson Stamp Bourse Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway, Hudson. ***B***
Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992
E-mail: lincolnway@ssnnet.com

Pennsylvania **June 21-26**
Summer Seminar 2015 In its 36th year, the

APS Summer Seminar on Philately is unique in the hobby, offering instruction in specific areas through a combination of lectures and hands-on workshops. There are four-day courses or two-day courses to select from. Visit the link below for full details!, American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. ***APS***

Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
E-mail: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/Summer-Seminar>

Ohio **June 22-25**
PMCC Convention Post Mark Collectors Club, Hampton Inn, 2492 SR 231, Tiffin.
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E-mail: woodsrb@ambt.net
Website: www.postmarks.org

California **June 26-28**
Sacramento Gold Rush Paper Show La Quinta, 11131 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. ***B***
Contact: Mark Baker, 530-647-9025
E-mail: mark@goldrushpaper.com
Website: www.goldrushpaper.com

North Carolina **June 26-28**
Raleigh Money Expo Raleigh Coin & Stamp Clubs, NC State Fairgrounds - Exposition Center, 1025 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh.
Contact: Dave Provost, 919-987-5935
E-mail: uscommems@gmail.com
Website: www.raleighcoinclub.org

Maryland **June 27**
Laurel StampFest Holiday Inn Laurel West, 15101 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel. ***B***
Contact: Jack Ott, 888-297-3536
E-mail: jackottstamps@gmail.com

Pennsylvania **June 27**
Eastern PA Stamp Show (EPASS) Allentown Philatelic Society, Asbury Church, 1533 Springhouse Road, Allentown. ***B***
Contact: Paul Sienicki, 610-694-0397
E-mail: pks46us@yahoo.com
Website: <http://greatzvmer.wix.com/aps/>

Wisconsin **June 27-28**
MSDA Stamp Show Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall, 1435 South 92nd Street, West Allis. ***B***
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574

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Website: www.msdastamp.com

Connecticut **June 28**
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven
Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554
Woodward Ave., New Haven. ***B***
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Internet Module **July 9**
Searching the U.S. Postal Bulletin Database On-line session through GoToMeeting, ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
E-mail: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Modules

Internet Module **July 10**
Searching the U.S. Postal Laws and Regulations Database On-line session through GoToMeeting, ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
E-mail: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Modules

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

Michigan **July 11**
Bay De Noc Stamp and Coin Club Show Bay De Noc Stamp and Coin Club, Bay College-Joseph Heirman Building, 2001 N. Lincoln Ave., Escanaba. ***B***
Contact: Richard Reiffers, 906-233-9261
E-mail: rgrpaperboy@earthlink.net

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

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

Ohio **July 19**
Hudson Stamp Bourse Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway, Hudson. ***B***
Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992
E-mail: lincolnway@sssnet.com

Illinois **July 24-26**
N.S.D.A. Chicago Show National Stamp Dealers Association, White Eagles Hall, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles. ***B***
Contact: Jeff Fishman, 847-843-8700
E-mail: double_j_stamps@yahoo.com
Website: http://nsdainc.org

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

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

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

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

Pennsylvania **July 27-31**
Volunteer Work Week Hosted at the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
E-mail: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week

Oregon **July 31 to August 2**
National Topical Stamp Show American

Topical Association, Monarch Hotel and Conference Center, 12566 SE 93rd Ave, Clackamas. ***WSP***

Contact: Vera Felts, 618-985-5100
E-mail: american topical@msn.com
Website: www.american topical assn.org

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

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

Singapore **August 14-19**
SINGAPORE 2015 General World Philatelic Exhibition,
Contact: Kees Adema
E-mail: kees13adema@gmail.com
Website: www.singapore2015.com

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

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

South Carolina **August 15-16**
Summer Stamp & Post Card Show Columbia Philatelic Society, Spring Valley High School, 120 Sparkleberry Lane, Columbia. ***B***
Contact: Bob Wilson, 803-234-1187
E-mail: buckeye1053@gmail.com
Website: www.wilsonj0800@bellsouth.net

Michigan **August 18-19**
U.S. 1861 - 68 Series On the Road Course, Prior to APS StampShow, Amway Grand Hotel, Grand Rapids. ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238

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Michigan August 20-23

APS STAMP SHOW DeVos Place, 303 Monroe Avenue, NW, Grand Rapids. ***WSP***
Contact: Barb Johnson, 814-933-3803 ext 217
E-mail: stampshow@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/STAMPSHOW-SS

Connecticut August 23

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

Ohio August 28-29

AIRPEX Dayton Stamp Club, IBEW Union Hall, 6550 Poe Avenue (at Space Dr.), Dayton. ***B***
Contact: Mike Kominsky, 937-299-9297
E-mail: info@daytonstampclub.com
Website: www.daytonstampclub.com

Pennsylvania August 29

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

Maryland September 4-6

BALPEX Baltimore Phil. Soc., Baltimore Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., I-83 Exit 20 E., Hunt Valley. ***WSP***
Contact: Michael Carski, 410-381-5322
E-mail: balpex@verizon.net
Website: www.balpex.org

Internet Course September 8-22

Worldwide Fakes and Forgeries Online Course (3 weeks). ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
E-mail: jehouser@stamps.org

Website: http://stamps.org/Courses

Internet Module September 8-22

Worldwide Fakes and Forgeries Three separate on-line sessions through GoToMeeting. ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
E-mail: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Modules

Ont. September 11-13

BNAPEX 2015 Niagara Falls British North America Philatelic Society, Ramada Plaza Niagara Falls, 7389 Lundy's Lane, Niagara Falls.
Contact: Stuart Keeley, 905-227-9251
E-mail: stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca
Website: www.bnaps.org

Washington September 11-13

SEAPEX Seattle Philatelic Exhibition, Tukwila Convention Center, 12424 42nd Ave., S., Tukwila. ***WSP***
Contact: Jack Congrove
E-mail: seapex@comcast.net
Website: http://seapexshow.org

New Hampshire September 12

The Carroll County Stamp Show Wolfeboro Stamp Clubs, The Moulton Borough Lions Club, 139 Old Route 109 off Governor Wentworth Highway, Moultonborough. ***B***
Contact: Warren Gould, 603-569-8678
E-mail: bettymeulenbroek@gmail.com

Illinois September 12-13

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

Nebraska September 12-13

Omaha Stamp Show Omaha Philatelic Society, Metro Community College-South

Campus, 2909 Babe Gomez Ave., Omaha.

WSP

Contact: Herb Eveland, 402-397-9937

E-mail: tuvaenterprises@hotmail.com

Website: www.omahaphilatelicsociety.com

Texas

September 18-20

Greater Houston Stamp Show Houston Philatelic Society, Humble Civic Ctr., 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy., Humble.
Contact: Denise Stotts
E-mail: stottsjd@swbell.net
Website: www.houstonstampclub.org

Michigan

September 20

Pontiac Stamp Club Fall Kickoff Stamp Show Pontiac Stamp Club, Waterford Recreation Center, 5640 Williams Lake Rd., Waterford. ***B***
Contact: Chuck Hirschert, 810-632-6396
E-mail: ckhirch@comcast.net

British Columbia

September 25-26

VANPEX 2015 British Columbia Philatelic Society, West Burnaby United Church, Community Hall, 6050 Sussex Avenue, Burnaby.
Contact: Trevor N. Larden
E-mail: verdraco@uniserve.com
Website: www.bcpophilatelic.org

Wisconsin

September 25-27

MILCOPEX Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Inc., Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 South 13th St., Milwaukee. ***WSP***
Contact: Mary Ann Bowman, 262-251-0617
E-mail: maryann15b@mac.com
Website: www.milwaukeephilatelic.org

New Jersey

September 26-27

Clifton 2015 Fall Stamp, Coin, Cover, and Postcard Show Clifton Stamp Society, Inc., Clifton Community Recreation Center, 1232 Main Avenue @ Washington Ave., Clifton. ***B***
Contact: Thomas Stidl, 973-471-7872

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Connecticut **September 27**
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven
Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554
Woodward Ave., New Haven. *B*
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
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California **September 30-October 1**
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SESCAL, Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel, Los
Angeles. *APS*
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
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Courses

Internet Module **October 1**
Michel Made Easy: Using Germany's Michel
Catalogues, Part 1 On-line session through
GoToMeeting, *APS*
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
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California **October 2-4**
SESCAL Federated Phil. Clubs of Southern
California, Hilton Los Angeles Airport, 5711
West Century Blvd., Los Angeles. *WSP*
Contact: Carl Shaff, II, 213-383-7111
E-mail: c2shaff@aol.com
Website: www.sescal.org

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

Indiana **October 2-4**
INDYPEX Indiana Stamp Club, Hamilton
County Fairgrounds and Exhibition Center,
2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville. *WSP*
Contact: Bob Zeigler, 317-844-5200
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New York **October 3**
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Club No. 491, 209 West State Street, Olean.
B
Contact: Ron Yeager, 814-362-4471
E-mail: cry@atlanticbb.net

Vermont **October 3**
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Internet Module **October 8**
Michel Made Easy: Using Germany's Michel
Catalogues, Part 2 On-line session through
GoToMeeting, *APS*
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
E-mail: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Modules

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

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

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

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

Panama Canal & Western Caribbean **October 18-28**
APS Stamp Cruise *APS*
Contact: CruiseWorks, Inc., 1-800-876-6664

E-mail: Cruiseworks@aol.com
Website: www.stamps.org/Stamp-Cruise

Connecticut **October 18**
THAMESPEX 2015 Thames Stamp Club,
Clark Lane Middle School, 105 Clark Lane,
Waterford.
Contact: Bill McMurray, 860-535-3668
E-mail: mcmurrayapnc3@att.net

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

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

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

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

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

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

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NO. 4, APRIL 30, 2015

NEW APPLICANTS

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

Akin, Kevin (224495) **Riverside, CA** POST 1840 WORLDWIDE-REVENUES, CINDERELLAS; Retired
 Andromalos, Harry C. (224496) **Erie, PA**; 73; Retired
 Arnold, Jack J. (224431) **Warrenton, GA** LINCOLN- DUCK-BLACK HERITAGE; 75; Retired
 Barton, Laura (224521) **Austin, TX**; Bauer, John F. (224466) **Lake Oswego, OR**; 73; Retired
 Bauer, Robert J.G. (224528) **San Diego, CA** US AIR MAILED, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVES-AVIATION-RAILROADS-ZEPPELIN COVERS/STAMPS; 44; Automotive Designer
 Beem, Randy (224483) **Newburgh, IN** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, REVENUES/TAX PAIDS (FEDERAL), COILS, COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES; 60
 Bell, Kathryn L. (S-224523) **Greenville, SC** HAITI-FRANCE-CALLIGRAPHY; 73; Freelance Artist
 Bell, Russell W. (224457) **Berea, KY** US PLATE BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVE PANELS, SPECIAL EVENT COVERS/CANCELS; 75; Sales
 Bennett, Lance (224524) **Torrance, CA**; 69; Retired
 Benvenuti, Dario (224424) **Roma, Italy** ITALIAN STATES-US 19TH CENTURY-GREAT BRITAIN- CHINA-JAPAN-INDIA; 43
 Bierman, Robert (224426) **Burlingame, CA** US, AIR MAILED, 19TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES, OFFICIALS/OFFICIAL MAIL
 Blumberg, Steve H. (224534) **Milwaukee, WI** SPACE COVERS-POSTAL HISTORY-NAVAL COVERS; 67; Retired
 Borrelli, Pasquale (224515) **Napoli, Italy** ITALY, STATES, COLONIES-DISINFECTED MAIL- FOREIGN STAMPLESS COVERS, POSTAL HISTORY-FIRST FLIGHTS; 31
 Boucher, Rene (224522) **Edmundston, NB** CANADA-BRITISH COLONIES-US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY-WORLDWIDE, 19TH CENTURY; Medical Doctor
 Brown, Ryan (224478) **Reston, VA** US, COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS, FDC-BRITISH EMPIRE-GERMAN THIRD REICH/ OCCUPATIONS-RUGBY; 32; Attorney
 Burch, Robert M. (224467) **Houston, TX** PRE 1980 US & WORLDWIDE; 75; Retired
 Cairo Battistutti, Osvaldo (224517) **Mexico, Mexico** ARGENTINA-ITALIAN STATES-GERMAN STATES-US 19TH CENTURY; 54; Professor

Callies, Gary (224432) **Saint Louis, MO**; 68; Accountant
 Casserly, John G. (224497) **Chantilly, VA** US- CANADA-MEXICO; 57; SW Engineer
 Chadwick, Peter (224510) **Shrewsbury, MA** GREAT BRITAIN;
 Chenu, Charles (224433) **Sacramento, CA**; 86; Retired
 Cho, Christopher (224498) **Petaluma, CA** CLASSIC US, 20TH CENTURY, BACK OF THE BOOK; Technology Project Manager
 Cowles, Claude (224525) **Eaton Rapids, MI** CANADA-MARITIMES-CLASSIC US; 71; Retired
 Coyle, Patricia M. (224434) **Shasta Lake, CA**; 64; Retired
 Creed, Kenneth E. (224435) **Wells, ME**; 66; Retired
 DaSilva, James (224436) **Haverhill, MA** CANADA; 59; Manager
 Degen, Mark (224494) **Abingdon, MD**
 Derkash, Tom (224437) **Vallejo, CA** US; 47; Commercial Real Estate Broker
 DeRose-Droubay, Linda (224490) **Banco, VA** US CIVIL WAR COVERS, FDC, COMMEMORATIVES, CA & VA POSTAL HISTORY, SPECIAL EVENT COVERS/CANCELS-DISNEY; Retired
 DeVito, Michael (224438) **Sayville, NY**; 60; Retired
 DiAngelis, Dominic J. (224439) **Albuquerque, NM** MINT US, POSTAL CARDS; 54; Sales
 Doshi, Rajnikant Bhavz Kantilal (224499) **Klang, Selangor, Malaysia** WORLDWIDE 1900-1980; 63; Businessman
 Embry, Beverly D. (224489) **Grand Prairie, TX**; 46; Nurse Anesthetist
 Fallon, Sean (224425) **Hiram, GA** US CIVIL WAR COVERS, CLASSICS, AIR MAILED-AERONAUTIC/ SPACE; 52
 Findlay, Lynda K. (224512) **Riverside, CA**; 65; Retired
 Fitch, Frederick J. (224440) **Brown City, MI**; Retired
 Fitzsimmons, Henry T. (224441) **Guilford, ME**; 75
 Foght, James L. (224500) **Saint Charles, IL** US, 19TH CENTURY, AIR MAILED-ZEPPELIN FLIGHT COVERS-WORLDWIDE; 79; Biomedical Research/Financing Consultant
 Francisco, Robert A. (224456) **Belpre, OH** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY-CANADA-1840/1955 WORLDWIDE; 59
 Fuller, Mike (224527) **Murrysville, PA**; 63
 Gee, Ernest E. (224442) **Saint Johnsville, NY** US, PLATE BLOCKS, SHEETS, USED, 1860-1940'S; 72; Retired
 Gelinas, Andre (224518) **Grand-Mere, QC** SPACE; 62

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 224181 through 224274, and 224276 through 224284, and 224286 through 224333 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

Summary

Total Membership, March 31, 2015	32,277
New Members	150
Reinstated	40 190
	32,467
Deceased.....	39
Resignations.....	25
Dropped, Non-payment of Dues....	2,208 2,272
Total Membership, April 30, 2015	30,195
(Total Membership, April 30, 2014 was 30,859 a difference of -664)	

Gorman, Spencer (224507) **Merion Station, PA** US MODERN POSTAL HISTORY-PICTURE POSTCARDS-SPACE-CINDERELLAS-POSTER; 63; Appraiser
 Griffith, Alan (224481) **Fort Plain, NY** HORSES- AVIATION-RELIGION; 58
 Gross, Mary (224475) **Beverly Hills, MI** US, PLATE BLOCKS, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, USED, COMMEMORATIVES, AIR MAILED, ERRORS/ FREAKS/ODDITIES; 53
 Gupta, Parvesh Kumar (224482) **New Delhi, India** BRITISH COMMONWEALTH-INDIA-BRITISH EMPIRE-BRITISH ASIA-METERS-ASTROLOGY- ROYAL VISIT INDIA
 Hansen, Gary L. (224443) **Allouez, MI**; 70; Retired
 Hayden, Harold C. (224485) **Fayetteville, AR**; 49
 Haythorn, Gary W. (224429) **Erie, PA** US DEFINITIVES, COMMEMORATIVES, AIR MAILED; Retired
 Hernandez Alejo, Elena (224460) **Gastonia, NC** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, FDC, CANCELS, OFFICIAL POST OFFICE SEALS, COVERS; 57
 Hoag, Frank G. (224501) **Omaha, NE**
 Hogsett, James J. (224444) **Peninsula, OH** MINT US-FRENCH & ENGLISH COLONIES-ICELAND; 75; Retired
 Jennings, Steve R. (224445) **Rockford, IL**; 72
 Johnson, David K. (224446) **Naples, FL** CARTOPHILATELY-PRE 1960 WORLDWIDE; 74; Retired

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Juergens, William R. (224417) **Chambersburg, PA**
US PLATE BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVES-LOTS & COLLECTIONS-FOREIGN CANCELS; 65; Sales Manager

Keeler, David (224502) **Westminster, CA** PRE-USPS US; 65; Retired

Kipper, Paul (224459) **Cape Girardeau, MO** US-GERMANY; 63

Knox, Jeffrey R. (224464) **Washington, DC**; 31; Educational Counselor

Koch, Bernard F. (224468) **Greenfield, WI** US-GERMANY-LUXEMBOURG; 52; Contractor

Kohlhaas, Charles A. (224469) **El Paso, TX** WESTERN EUROPE-LATIN AMERICA; 73; Manufacturer

Koudsi, Joseph (224503) **North Hollywood, CA**; 56; Sales

Laviolette, Nelson (224419) **Kingston, ON** BELGIUM-FAKES & FORGERIES

Lee, Robert A. (224470) **Logan, UT**; 79

Leka, Florian (224458) **West Roxbury, MA** US COMMEMORATIVES, AIR MAILED-ALBANIA-GREAT BRITAIN-FRANCE-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH; 38

MacArthur, Catherine (224476) **Annapolis, MD** US-EUROPE-CZECH REPUBLIC-BURUNDI-SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA; 55

Maiuri, Dennis G. (224506) **Punta Gorda, FL** US COMMEMORATIVES, CLASSICS, FDC-VATICAN CITY-ITALY, COLONIES; 67; Sales

Manley, Michael J. (224471) **Cottage Hills, IL** US-CANADA-FULL SHEETS-PLATE BLOCKS-FDC-LINE PAIRS-PNC; 51; Retired

Matteson, Raymond A. (224420) **North Kingstown, RI** US; 73; Retired

Meltzer, James (224427) **Rhinebeck, NY** GREECE-IRAN-MALAYA/MALAYSIA-INDIA, STATES-NEPAL; 66

Milne, Linda (S-224465) **Henderson, NV**

Mitchell, William (224509) **Chelsea, AL** US, COMMEMORATIVES, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, COVERS-PHILATELIC HISTORY/MEMORABILIA-PICTORIAL CANCELLATIONS; 56; Retired

Monir, Amir (224526) **Riyadh, Saudi Arabia** PHILATELIC HISTORY/MEMORABILIA-EGYPT-EUROPE-US, 19TH CENTURY-MEDICINE/DRUGS/HEALTH; 43; Consultant Radiologist

Morgan, Neal E. (224447) **Roselle, IL** US-WORLDWIDE-COVERS-FDC-POSTCARDS-CINDERELLAS; 70; Retired

Motyczka, Henry P. (224448) **Roselle Park, NJ** MINT US; 87; Retired

Moutaoukil, Ghassane (224423) **Bozeman, MT** MOROCCO-US COMMEMORATIVES, MT POSTAL HISTORY, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING; 34; Artist Stamp Designer/Philatelist Expert

Napier, H. Albert (224505) **Fredericksburg, TX** US COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS, TX POSTAL HISTORY-COMPUTERS-PHILATELIC LITERATURE-ROTARY INTERNATIONAL; Professor

Noble, Michael (224449) **Hanover, PA** US; 66; Retired

Olson, Caroline (224422) **Vancouver, WA**

Pearl, Ruth C. (224450) **Orlando, FL** MINT US, SINGLES, PLATE BLOCKS; 92; Retired

Pillai, Vineesh (224491) **Springfield Gardens, NY** INDIA-US PHILATELIC/NUMISMATIC COVERS, USED; 35

Pokorney, John J. (224480) **Lucerne, IN** UN-VATICAN CITY-GREENLAND-VIET NAM; 64

Potter, Arwyn (224472) **Manheim, PA** US CLASSICS-LOCALS-REVENUES-EARLY WORLDWIDE; 62; Retired

Prisco, Philip E. (224451) **Poquoson, VA** US, CONFEDERATE, HAWAII; 68; Retired

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Purakayastha, Subhabrata (224488) **Dayton, NJ** USED WORLDWIDE-US CLASSICS, CIVIL WAR COVERS-INDIA-GREAT BRITAIN-POSTAL LABELS (FOREIGN); 33; Service

Reinkoester, Edward C. (224508) **Hot Springs, AR** US 19TH CENTURY, AIR MAILED, CONFEDERATE STATES, PLATE BLOCKS-GREAT BRITAIN-GERMANY; 56

Ring, Kevin (224487) **Lynchburg, VA**; 32

Rivera, Alva (224511) **Whittier, CA** US-TOPICALS-PACKETS; 44; Investments

Roach, Cliff (224535) **Troy Grove, IL**; 70

Roach, Steven (224452) **Cincinnati, OH**; 35; Numismatist

Roberts, Douglas E. (224428) **Shelby Township, MI** US, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES; 68; Retired

Robertson, Lindsay G. (224453) **Norman, OK** CSA-US CLASSICS-1855/64 GREAT BRITAIN; 55; Professor

Roeder, William J. (224484) **Alverton, PA** US COMMEMORATIVES, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIR MAILED, DEFINITIVES, SPECIAL DELIVERIES, CANCELS

Rosen, Teri (224513) **Verona, NJ**

Roush, Roy M. (224486) **Plymouth, IN** US BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, BOOKLETS/PANES, COILS; Attorney

Rupani, Jay (224533) **Fremont, CA** WORLDWIDE; 66; Retired

Rusk, James R. (224520) **San Diego, CA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY-USED WORLDWIDE; 80; Retired

Salantri, Frank (224462) **Silver Spring, MD** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, PLATE BLOCKS, AIR MAILED, COMMEMORATIVES

Schnell, Susan (224519) **Danville, CA** US, FDC; 57; Business Analyst

Scoggins, Robert (224418) **Harlingen, TX** US-USED US & WORLDWIDE; 62; Retired

Seate, John H. (224421) **Bryan, TX**; Retired

Shandilya, Nishant (224516) **Bibbewadi, Pune, India** US, 19TH CENTURY-MOROCCO-UN-SCIENCE/SCIENTIST-AIR MAIL (FOREIGN); 29; Engineer
 Shaner, Joe C. (224479) **Lexington, VA** PRE 1940 US & WORLDWIDE;
 Shankel, Lee H. (224514) **Longmont, CO** COMMEMORATIVE PLATE BLOCKS; 86; Retired
 Shultz, James L. (224454) **Crowell, TX**; 65; Retired Stock, Carolyn D. (224473) **Pleasant Hill, MO**; 72; Retired
 Swearingen, Roy V. (224530) **Pinole, CA** COVERS FLOWN ON THE GRAF ZEPPELIN; 75; Retired
 Takahashi, Kenneth K. (224531) **San Francisco, CA** US, POSSESSIONS-HONG KONG; 77; Retired Tata, Venkat S. (224492) **Bhubaneswar, India** INDIA-ART-PAINTINGS-WHALES-BIRDS-PENGUINS; 56; Engineer
 Toussaint-Mesa, Sara (224529) **Fischer, TX**; 37 Turner, Barry H. (224532) **Campbell, CA**; 82; Retired
 Wagner, John W. (224504) **Buffalo, NY** US, SINGLES, FDC; 53; Laborer
 Walker, Charles D. (224463) **Orland, CA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS, PREXIES
 Washburn, Thomas M. (224477) **Raleigh, NC** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, CLASSICS, COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS, DEFINITIVES; Retired
 Waskiewicz, Anthony S. (224493) **Saint Louis, MO** US CLASSICS, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIR MAILED, COILS, COMMEMORATIVES; 48; Chief Investment Officer
 White, Mary A. (224455) **Gainesville, FL**; 70; Retired

Williams, Peter (224430) **Mamaroneck, NY** SPAIN-MADONNAS-LOCAL/PRIVATE POST (FOREIGN)-CINDERELLAS-SPANISH CIVIL WAR; Woleslagle, Peter (224461) **Sands Point, NY** RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-CUBA-KOREA-TANNA TUVA-MONGOLIA-ETHIOPIA; 45 Wolfeboro Stamp Club (1595-224474) **Wolfeboro Falls, NH**

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Antczak, Michael J. (6112-026119), Saluda, VA Arnold, M. Patricia (S-155545), Hollister, CA Aumiller, Richard N. (10234-074131), Pompton Plains, NJ Bender, James E. (177372), Raleigh, NC Boudreau, Allan (172499), La Crescenta, CA Buettner, Fred (202646), Jackson, TN Caldwell, Robert H. (8634-059468), Petersburg, NJ Dick, Michael (162178), Kamloops, BC, Canada DuVall, Allen H. (7010-048262), London, OH Egy, Harold A. (6682-034675), Sun City, AZ Ellis, Douglas (148690), Corbett, OR Emley, Paul L. (140890), Simsbury, CT Gathany, Ted A. (210460), Sun City West, AZ Holcombe, Richard P. (132414), Bryan, OH Holland, Richard S. (097606), Littleton, NH Jacobson, Alf E. (6916-050514), New London, NH Johnston, Hugh W. (109440), Spokane, WA Kelley, Jack R. (5710-042824), Bellingham, WA Kimmich, Carl P. (4685-031454), Novato, CA Klatte, Donald (217408), Bellflower, CA Lasher, Robert Lemuel (0717-016967), Erie, PA Law, Richard M. (093600), Winchester, VA Lenz, George (163906), Methuen, MA Lewis, Rolin G. (199603), Lowell, OR Lojudice, Thomas A. (137659), Akron, OH

Luckett, William J. L. (8848-061359), Madison, MS Michel, Robert L. (099371), Middleton, WI Morin, Robert E. (084199), Chicopee, MA Patterson, Joseph R. (8979-061401), Poinciana, FL Rawlins, Robert D. (105131), Healdsburg, CA Santabarbara, Maria L. (S-220364), College Park, MD Schreiner, Milton A., Jr. (214677), Appleton, WI Smith, Peter A. S. (4373-032340), Dexter, MI Turk, Norman J. (093272), Madison, MS Viden, Tore G. (5803-042532), Solna, Sweden Wait, Conant (5433-041487), Topeka, KS Ward, Jeffrey L. (11503-057518), Rockville, MD Wheeler, Sprague (199454), San Marino, CA Whittler, Michael E. (208725), Lebanon, MO

APPLICATION RETURNED

Gruber, David

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2015 NEW STAMPS

BY JAY BIGALKE

From Letter Writing to Lilies Envelopes

Recap of the United States Stamps and Envelopes Issued in April

In April, the United States Postal Service issued eight commemorative stamps and two stamped envelopes. Each stamp issue is outlined in the following sections. Expanded versions for each stamp, including additional artwork, background, and photos are available in *The American Philatelist* Bonus Content section at <http://www.stamps.org/AP-Album>.

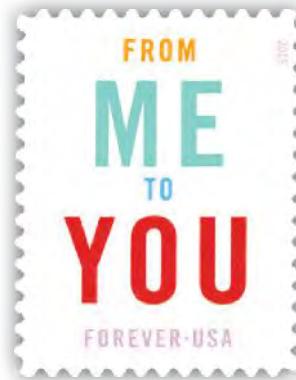
From Me To You Stamp

The From Me To You commemorative forever stamp debuted April 1 in Washington, D.C., and was distributed nationwide.

The stamps were printed by Ashton Potter using the offset printing process.



The pane of 20 From Me To You stamps.



The From Me To You commemorative forever stamp issued April 1 to promote National Letter Writing Month.

Design

The stamp and pane design was created by illustrator Michael Osborne. He worked with U.S. Postal Service art director Ethel Kessler in developing the stamp. The Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee wanted a stamp issue to promote letter writing. Osborne details the path the stamp project took in the interview on the next page.

First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place in the gymnasium of the Woodridge Campus of Friendship Public Charter School in Washington, D.C. The stamp was issued on the first of the month to help kick off National Letter Writing Month.

FROM ME TO YOU COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMP

USPS Item Number: 473004

Format: Pane of 20, 240 stamps per revolution

Issue Date and City: April 1, 2015, Washington, D.C.

Designer and Typographer: Michael Osborne, Palo Alto, California

Art Director: Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, Maryland

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset

Printer and Processor: Ashton Potter USA Ltd., Williamsville, N.Y.

Press Type: Mueller A76

Print Quantity: 45 million stamps

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

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III, block tagged

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Pantone Matching System 638C

blue, PMS 7440C purple, PMS 368C

green, PMS 3258C turquoise, PMS

1795C red, PMS 702C pink, PMS 144C

orange

Sizes: 0.77 inches by 1.05 inches, 19.56

millimeters by 26.67mm (image);

0.91 inches by 1.19 inches, 23.11mm

by 30.23mm (overall); 5.55 inches by

6.91 inches, 140.97mm by 175.51mm (sheet); 11.10 inches by 20.98 inches,

281.94mm by 532.89mm (press sheet)

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by five digits

Marginal Markings: Plate number in upper-right corner, decorative decals with friendly expressions (front);

"©2014 USPS," USPS logo, plate

position diagram, barcode 473000 in

upper-right and lower-left corners of

pane, promotional text, vector artwork,

verso text (back).

When did you first start work on the stamp design?

In April 2014. The project started out as a stamp to promote letter writing. I created a whole presentation for Ethel Kessler [USPS art director] with different concepts.

How did you arrive at the concept of focusing on the words "From Me To You" for the main part of the stamp design?

The subject of letter writing is a general subject. I created different design directions using different letter writing iconography showing pens, pencils, envelopes, etc. When presented to the stamp committee, those concepts didn't go over well, and Ethel came back to me to try again with something different. I came up with the phrase on the stamp, "From Me To You," that is a common statement or phrase associated with letter writing.

What feedback have you received so far on this stamp after it was issued April 1?

I was recently at a conference in Southern California where I talked about this stamp. One of the people at the presentation responded well to the stamp and later contacted me to say that he purchased more than 1,200 stamps from different post offices in the San Diego area. So adults are responding well to this stamp.

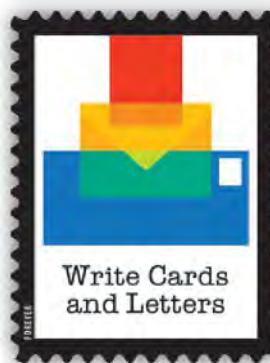
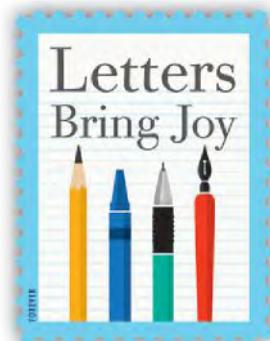
Are you an avid letter writer?

I wish I could say that I am. I used to be. Now I send letters usually to friends, for events, and thank you notes.

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

I have always wanted to use the selvage area of a stamp pane when designing a stamp project because it seems to be wasted space otherwise. If there truly is a desire for letter writers to decorate their envelopes, the stickers and selvage can be used. Also, the pane of stamps was made a little larger to accommodate the stickers.

Michael Osborne Design has been operating since 1981. Clients have included Target, Williams-Sonoma, and the U.S. Postal Service. In 2006, Osborne was the recipient of the American Institute of Graphic Arts fellow award. His design firm website is www.modsf.com.



Three different designs for stamps that evolved to the From Me To You stamp.

Maya Angelou stamp

The Maya Angelou commemorative forever stamp was issued April 7 in Washington, D.C., and was distributed nationwide.

The stamps were printed by Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products using the offset printing process. There is a microprinted "USPS" located in the stamp design, and the stamp is formatted as a pane of 12 with a header.

Stamp Subject

Angelou (1928–2014) was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and was lauded by the Postal Service as being "one of the most dynamic voices in all of 20th-



The Maya Angelou commemorative forever stamp.

century American literature." Notable works included *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and a poetry collection *Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water 'Fore I Diiie* [sic]. She is also a Grammy award recipient for two different best spoken word albums: *Phenomenal Woman*

(1995) and *A Song Flung Up to Heaven* (2002). In 2011, President Barack Obama presented her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

She died May 28, 2014.

Design

The stamp was designed by U.S. Postal Service art director Ethel Kessler, who started working on the stamp project in September 2014. The stamp uses a cropped version of a photo-realistic painting created by Ross Rossin. Much media attention when the stamp was issued focused on the quotation featured on the stamp. *The American Philatelist* spoke with Kessler about the quote and the design process that took place with this stamp issue. That

interview appears in the question and answer section below.

First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place at the Warner Theatre in Washington, D.C. The theater was filled to its capacity of approximately 1,800 seats.

Definitely contributing to the ca-

pacity crowd was the announcement that Oprah Winfrey would be speaking at the event.

"She'd get a big kick out of this moment," said Winfrey. "Being honored and commemorated by the Postal Service with her own stamp, for the big, bold bodacious, life she dared to live,

in a way that dazzled and gave meaning to those of us who knew her and many who didn't."

Not known in advance was First Lady Michelle Obama attending the event as an honored guest. Postmaster General Megan Brennan served as the dedicating official for the stamp.



Ethel Kessler stamp art director

When did you first start work on the stamp design?

In September 2014, soon after she had passed [May 28, 2014]. She was just one of the people, like Rosa Parks, who the minute they die people would say we have to do a stamp for her. When developing the stamp, the conversation started with when will we issue it, and the idea of her birthday in April was suggested. It was very unusual that this stamp project moved this fast. It was a hurry.

How did you start the design process for choosing what to show on the stamp?

She said so many important things and was someone so important and revered that you just knew having an image of her wasn't enough. I wanted to include some inspiration from her and her words would be the right way to do it. Her death was still very fresh with the world when we started this project. First the USPS talked with the family because the family always has something to say in stamp projects.

In April last year, the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery dedicated the Ross Rossin painting of Maya that was used for the stamp at an event that she attended. She loved that portrait. In May she passed away.

That portrait wasn't my first thought, but with the October Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee meeting looming, I figured if she loved it, that this was the right direction to go with the project. The painting, a large 4-foot-by-4-foot canvas, is so realistic. She was a great lady, and there was a lot that she epitomized and this portrait does it. She looks vibrant in it.

I started with a square mock-up for the stamp and used different words along with it. "And Still I Rise..."

I also tried different looks for the sheet. I had set it up with a different photograph in the selvage along with another quote.

For the stamp, I largely focused on different layouts using the Rossin portrait, but early on in the design process I did look through a lot of photos of her.

Did you choose the 12-stamp pane format?

Yes. I wanted the pane to feel intimate and that people might choose to give them as gifts.

Is there any significance to the red used for the stamp selvage?

The color red is a powerful color. The red used is a warm red — something energetic, vibrant, and pure.

A significant amount of press coverage was given at the time of the stamp's issuance to the quote used on the stamp pane ["A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer, it sings because it has a song"]. The *Washington Post* reported that author Joan Walsh Anglund used the line, with different pronouns and punctuation in her *A Cup of Sun* book of poems published in 1967. What are your thoughts about the quote and controversy?

The quote itself was selected and vetted by both the USPS legal team and the research firm PhotoAssist. Maya said that quote in many video-taped moments. I don't think this discovery invalidates using it on the stamp.

Two things stood out to me in the week after the story was published. The first was a friend sending me a link to a National Public Radio TED Radio Hour program titled "What Is Original?" The second was the *New York Times* opinion piece on the Maya stamp quote that discussed famous people and quotes. Both of these references were interesting. The *Times* article called it the "Churchillian Drift," the "process by which any particularly apt quotation is mistakenly attributed to a more famous person in the same field." If it sounds historical or intelligent, we might think of Lincoln, or another famous person.

Do we know that the author [Anglund] originally wrote that line or did they both hear something? Caged Bird was a take-off on a spiritual where she modified the words of it for the book. Was there something back in the 1960s in the texture of life that both the author and Maya picked up on? I'm not saying that others didn't also say this quote, but Maya clearly said it many, many times. Do you really think that she read it and then used it for the next 70 years of her life because she liked it?

Ethel Kessler has designed hundreds of stamps for the USPS. Her design firm website is www.kesslerdesigngroup.com.

MAYA ANGELOU COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMP

USPS Item Number: 472604

Format: Pane of 12, 96 stamps per revolution

Issue Date and City: April 7, 2015, Washington, D.C.

Designer, Art Director, and

Typographer: Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, Maryland

Existing Art: Ross Rossin

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset with microprinting

Printer and Processor: Banknote

Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, North Carolina

Press Type: Alprinta 74

Print Quantity: 80,000,004 stamps

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

Paper Type: Phosphor-tagged, block

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, PMS cool gray 8, PMS red 1788

Sizes: 1.42 inches by 0.84 inches, 36.07

millimeters by 21.34mm (image);

1.56 inches by 0.98 inches, 39.62mm by 24.89mm (overall); 6 inches by 6.25 inches, 152.40mm by 158.75mm (sheet); 12 inches by 25 inches, 304.80mm by 635.00mm (press sheet)

Plate Numbers: "S" followed by six single digits

Marginal Markings: Plate numbers in two corners of pane (front), "©2015 USPS," USPS logo, plate position diagram, barcode, promotional text, Maya Angelou biography (back)

Civil War 1865 Stamps

The two Civil War 1865 commemorative forever stamps were issued April 9 in Appomattox, Virginia, and distributed nationwide to select "premier post offices." Other offices needed to place an order for the stamps to have them available for sale.

The stamps were printed by Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products using the offset printing process. There is no microprinting on the stamps, and the stamps are formatted as a double-sided pane of 12 with decorative selvage.

Stamp Subject

The individual stamps depict the April 1, 1865, Battle of Five Forks and the April 9, 1865, surrender that took place at the Appomattox Court House.

Design

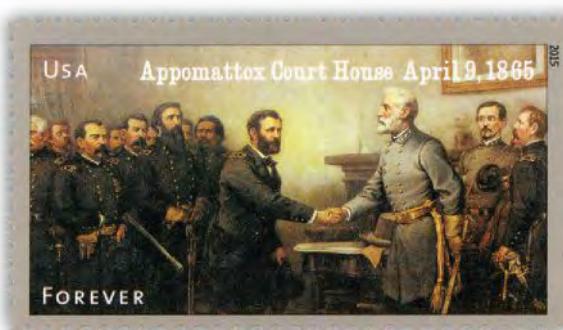
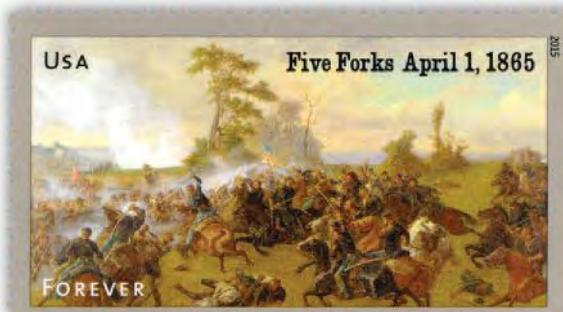
The stamps were designed by U.S. Postal Service art director Phil Jordan, who created all 10 stamps in the Civil War Sesquicentennial series. The Five Forks stamp uses a circa 1885 painting by Paul Dominique Philippoteaux and shows a battle scene. The Appomattox stamp uses an 1895 painting by Thomas Nast titled "Peace in Union" and shows the scene inside the court house building of Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendering to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant on April 9, 1865.

The selvage of the stamp pane shows a photograph of rifles stacked during the siege in the Petersburg, Virginia, area. Shown nearby is a preliminary layout created early on in the design process for the Civil War 1865 sheet.

First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place at the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park during the 150th anniversary celebration. Because of the historical significance of the April 9 date, more than 8,000 people were at the festivities. The ceremony, which lasted about 15 minutes, took place next to the court house building. Approximately 1,500 people were standing around the area of the unveiling, with at least another 1,000 circling the court house for the afternoon reenactment of the surrender.

Lines to purchase the stamps stretched at a constant 150 people the entire day, largely because of few clerks handling sales and offering many other war-related forever stamps for sale outside of the Civil War 1865 sheet.



The two Civil War 1865 commemorative forever stamps showing Five Forks and Appomattox Court House.



Preliminary Civil War 1865 commemorative stamp pane that used different quotes from the final issued version.

Phil Jordan art director

When did you first start work on the stamp designs for this series? Did you complete all 10 stamp designs in this series early on?

I started in the summer of 2008. It took more than a year to finalize the sheet concepts and the stamp images. There were multiple layouts, subject re-thinking, alternate backgrounds, quotes, images and typography. The process of quote and music selection continued almost up to release of the final files for 1865. I had valuable input from all — PhotoAssist, my fellow art directors, and the late Sylvia Harris and Skip Gates in particular.

For the Civil War series, was there any consideration given to using original new artwork for the stamps?

Yes, we originally considered new images, photos, era art (such as the Leslie artists). Early on, when I determined exactly how we would handle the sheets, I settled on 19th-century art as being more evocative of the era and compatible with the background photos and quotes. Only the Bull Run art is contemporary; however it is compatible in spirit with the rest.

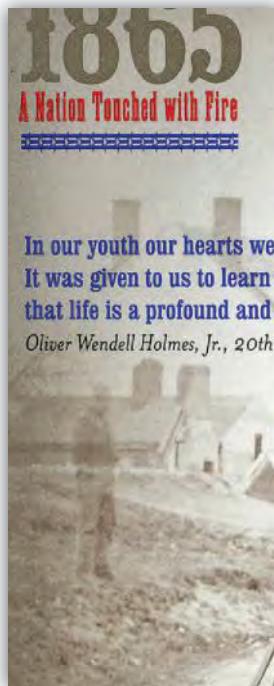
With the Civil War Sesquicentennial series concluded, are there any details about any of the stamp designs in the set you would like to share with our readers?

Early into the design process, I read Drew Gilpin Faust's book *This Republic of Suffering*. It became my spiritual guidepost. I determined to try to evoke a feeling for the ordinary soldiers and their stories through the quotes and the background images. I read so many civil war books I couldn't sleep; read so many first person accounts that were just so poignant; and reviewed every single Civil War photo in the Library of Congress online image files, more than once. The feeling of eminent doom seemed to permeate my daily thinking.

All four of my great grandfathers were combat infantrymen in the war: one Yankee, three Rebels. Two fought through the entire war and surrendered with Joe Johnston at Greensboro, North Carolina, on April 26, 1865. Each walked all the way back to their respective homes in Mississippi and Tennessee. How could I attempt to project the wartime feelings of 20-year-old mostly country boys? My own feelings as a teenage peacetime infantryman helped a bit.

One other subtlety I found intriguing and hope some people picked up on it — in the background photo, a Union soldier had evidently wandered into the long exposure. His form is ghost-like. He seems a spirit representative ... was he really there? Did he wander into the frame during the exposure? Or was he there and wandered out? He was not there for the full exposure or he would be in exquisite sharp focus as the rest of the photo ... strange, maybe.

The blessing and the curse of all artists is empathy. In the end I burned out. The Chamberlain quote truly captured my feeling as well as his: "How could we help falling on our knees, all of us together, and praying God to pity and forgive us all!"



A Union soldier's ghost-like form is visible at left on the photograph used for the front of the Civil War 1865 stamp pane, shown cropped here.

CIVIL WAR 1865 COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMPS

USPS Item Number: 589304

Format: Pane of 12, 72 stamps per revolution

Issue Date and City: April 9, 2015, Appomattox, Virginia

Series: Civil War Sesquicentennial

Designer, Art Director, and

Typographer: Phil Jordan, Falls Church, Virginia

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset

Printer and Processor: Banknote

Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, North Carolina

Press Type: Alprinta 74

Print Quantity: 10,800,000 stamps

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

Paper Type: Phosphor-tagged, block

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, Pantone Matching System 6 warm gray, PMS 10 warm gray, PMS red 193,

PMS 072 blue

Sizes: 2 inches by 1.06 inches, 50.81 millimeters by 26.87mm (image); 2.10 inches by 1.20 inches, 53.45mm by 30.42mm (overall); 8.88 inches by 6.75 inches, 225.55mm by 171.45mm (sheet); 17.89 inches by 20.50 inches, 454.28mm by 520.70mm (press sheet)

Plate Numbers: None

Marginal Markings: ©2015 USPS, USPS logo, plate position diagram, barcode verso text (back).

Gifts of Friendship Stamps

The four Gifts of Friendship commemorative forever stamps were issued April 10 in Washington, D.C., and distributed nationwide. Four stamps that bear the same artwork were issued jointly with Japan on the same day.

The U.S. stamps were printed by Ashton Potter using the offset printing process. There is a microprinted "USPS" located in each of the stamp designs, and the stamp is formatted as a self-adhesive pane of 12 with decorative selvage. The two Japanese stamp designs are only featured once in the pane, and the U.S. designs are repeated five times each.

The Japanese stamps were issued as a water-activated pane of 10 stamps. The pane consists of one of each corresponding design on the left, with three other stamp designs that depict flowering branches that are repeated two times each. For the Japanese stamps sold by the United States, the six flowering branches stamps were trimmed off and only sold as a pane of four.

Stamp Subject

The stamps mark the 100th anniversary of a gift of dogwood trees from the United States to Japan in 1915. That year former President William Howard Taft had 50 dogwood trees sent to Japan as a sign of gratitude for Japan's 1912 gift of 3,020 cherry trees.

Design

The stamps were designed by U.S. Postal Service art director Bill Gicker, using artwork created by Paul Rogers for the U.S. stamps and Junko Kaifuchi for the Japanese stamps. USPS art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp pane.

The U.S. stamps show the Lincoln Memorial surrounded by cherry blossoms and the U.S. Capitol flanked by pink and white dogwood tree blossoms.

The Japanese stamps show cherry blossoms and the National Diet Building in Tokyo and white dogwood tree blossoms by the clock tower near the National Diet Building.

First-Day Ceremony

The official U.S. first-day ceremony took place during a chilly spring morning event during the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C. Approximately 300 people were at the ceremony. Both country's first-day postmarks were available in Washington, D.C., at the event. The ceremony program envelopes only had the U.S. stamp and cancellation.

In Tokyo, numerous stamp collectors gathered at a post office in Tokyo to purchase stamps and have first-day postmarks applied. Multiple cancellation types were available only in Tokyo. No U.S. cancellation or U.S. stamps were sold separately by Japan Post, but it did create joint-issue first-day covers that it offered for purchase.



The United States Gifts of Friendship commemorative forever stamps.



Japan's 82-yen Gifts of Friendship commemorative stamps.



Row of postal clerks at a post office in Tokyo, Japan, applying first-day-of-issue postmarks for the Gifts of Friendship stamps. Photo by Chris Lazaroff.

GIFTS OF FRIENDSHIP COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMPS

USPS Item Number: 589804

Format: Pane of 12, 144 stamps per revolution

Issue Date and City: April 10, 2015, Washington, D.C.

Designer and Art Director: William J. Gicker, Washington, D.C.

Typographer: Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

U.S. Artist: Paul Rogers, Pasadena, California

Japan Artist: Junko Kaifuchi

Manufacturing Process: Offset with microprinting

Printer and Processor: Ashton Potter USA Ltd., Williamsville, N.Y.

Press Type: Mueller A76

Print Quantity: 80,000,004 stamps

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

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III, block tagged

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Black, cyan, magenta, yellow

Sizes: 1.35 inches by 0.91 inches, 34.22

millimeters by 23.18mm (image);

1.49 inches by 1.05 inches, 37.78mm

by 26.74mm (overall); 8.5 inches by

5.25 inches, 215.90mm by 133.35mm

(sheet); 10.63 inches by 25.75 inches,

269.88mm by 654.05mm (press sheet)

Plate Numbers: None

Marginal Markings: Header (front);

“©2015 USPS,” USPS logo, plate position diagram, barcode, promotional text, verso text (back)



Imprint area of the two Water Lilies forever stamped envelopes issued April 17 in a pack of 10.

Water Lilies Stamped Envelopes

The two Water Lilies forever stamped envelopes were issued April 17 in New York, New York. An automatic distribution was made just to “full philatelic offices,” according to an announcement in the *Postal Bulletin*. There are two different designs, repeated five times each, in the pack of 10 envelopes. A sheet of 10 circle decorative envelope seals is also packaged with the set that sells for \$9.95.

The stamped envelopes were printed by Ashton Potter using the offset printing process. There is a microprinted “USPS” located in different places on each imprint. The envelopes have self-adhesive flaps.

Design

The stamped envelopes use two lily photographs, a white flower and a pink flower, taken by Cindy Dyer. Four of Dyer’s lilies photographs were used on four forever definitive stamps issued March 20. Two of the same photographs were used for these envelopes. U.S. Postal Service art director Phil Jordan developed the envelope imprint designs.

First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place at the American Stamp Dealers Association spring postage stamp show in New York City. Also unveiled during that event were the designs of the World Stamp Show-NY 2016 commemorative forever stamps to be issued in August.

WATER LILIES FOREVER STAMPED ENVELOPES

USPS Item Number: 882101

Format: Pack of 10 envelopes (two designs) with decorative seals sheet

Issue Date and City: April 17, 2015, New York, N.Y.

Art Director, Designer, and

Typographer: Phil Jordan, Falls Church, Virginia

Modeler: Cindy Dyer

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset with

microprinting

Printer and Processor: Ashton Potter USA Ltd., Williamsville, N.Y.

Press Type: Halm Jet EM4000

Folding Machine: W&D No. 527

Print Quantity: 370,000 stamped envelopes

Paper Type: No. 61 postal envelope, Type II block tagging

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Black, cyan, magenta, yellow, Pantone Matching System 431U gray

Sizes: 1.32 inches by 1.01 inches, 33.60

millimeters by 25.76mm (image); 9.5 inches by 4.13 inches, 241.30mm by

104.78mm (overall)

Marginal Markings: Forest Stewardship

Council logo • “THIS ENVELOPE IS RECYCLABLE AND MADE WITH 30% POST CONSUMER CONTENT,” recycling logo, “©USPS 2015”

MAY-JUNE 2015 U.S. STAMP SCHEDULE

May 9	Special Olympics World Games	Irvine, CA
May 18	Missing Children stamp and envelope	Anaheim, CA
May 25	Medal of Honor: Vietnam War	Washington, DC
[June stamp issues anticipated, but not announced prior to <i>The AP</i> deadline]		

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

Follow the APS through its social media websites for updated information on new stamps. www.stamps.org/Social-Media.



MALAYSIA MARINE LIFE

Three different stamps and a souvenir sheet were issued April 13 featuring endangered marine life. The large souvenir sheet of a whale has silver foil incorporated into the design. Each of the single stamps was issued as a pane of 20 with selvage.



ICELAND ICELANDIC FLAG

Iceland issued on April 30 two stamps for the centennial of the establishment of its flag in June 1915. Cartor Security Printing produced the souvenir sheet using gold foil for the flags and on the stamp. The other stamp was issued in a pane of 10.



GREAT BRITAIN COMEDY GREATS

Hilarity was celebrated with 10 stamps issued April 1. Those honored included Spike Milligan, The Two Ronnies, Norman Wisdom, Lenny Henry, Peter Cook and Dudley Moore, Monty Python, Victoria Wood, and three others.



INDIA SPACE CO-OPERATION

On April 13, India and France both issued two commemorative stamps to honor 50 years of "Space Co-operation." The stamps show the satellites Megha-Tropiques and Saral and the names of the satellites appear on each nation's stamp.



CANADA DINOSAURS

Canada featured five different dinosaurs on stamps issued April 13 in a booklet and souvenir sheet of five: *Tyrannosaurus rex*, *Euoplocephalus tutus*, *Chasmosaurus belli*, *Ornithomimus edmontonicus*, and the *Tylosaurus pembinensis*.

NEW WORLDWIDE STAMPS

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



NEW ZEALAND ANZAC 2015

New Zealand and Australia jointly issued two stamps each April 7. The stamps mark the shared efforts of the two countries during the Gallipoli campaign in World War I. The stamps show silhouettes of soldiers from an Anzac memorial service.



ESTONIA FOLK COSTUMES

Estonia issued two stamps April 14 showing different flowery skirt folk costumes from the locations of Lihula and Kirbla. Three people are featured on one stamp and two on the other. The stamps were issued in panes of 25 for each design.



MEXICO

AEROSPACE FAIR
On April 22, Mexico issued a single commemorative stamp for the first aerospace and military international exhibition organized in Mexico by the Ministry of Defense and the Air Force (FAM). It took place April 22 through April 24.



FRANCE

CROIX DE GUERRE
France issued a single stamp April 9 to mark the 100th anniversary of the military decoration created in 1915. The medal hangs from a ribbon and consists of a square cross with two swords. The medal is made of bronze.



HUNGARY

M62 LOCOMOTIVE
Hungary marked on April 16 the 50th anniversary of service of the M62 locomotive. The locomotive shown on the stamp went by the nickname Sergei. The Hungarian Museum of Science, Technology, and Transport provided the source photograph.



WORLDWIDE IN A NUTSHELL

BY BOB LAMB

The Republic of Haiti

Status: Republic in western Caribbean

Area: 10,714 sq mi

Population: 9,996,731 (2014 est.)

Currency: 47.12 gourdes = U.S. \$1 (2015)



3-centime Liberty Head, Scott 3, 1881.



5-centime Emperor Jean Jacques Dessalines handstamped in blue, Scott 91, 1904.

When Columbus came ashore on the northwestern tip of Haiti in December 1492, he thought he was in India and claimed the land for the Crown of Castile. He called the island La Isla Española or Hispaniola. His flagship *Santa María* sank on Christmas Day 1492, and 39 of its crew members established the first European settlement in the New World on the north coast of modern Haiti. The second voyage found the settlers dead. Later Spanish settlements were in what is today the Dominican Republic.

With the discovery of richer lands to the west, Spain lost interest in Hispaniola. The population declined. Haiti, abandoned by the Spanish, became a haven for pirates. The French began settling in Haiti, and in 1697 it was formally ceded to France. In the 18th century, Haiti was the world's largest producer of sugar and coffee and the richest colony in the world.

This prosperity was built on slavery. The French and American revolutions sparked the fight for freedom and independence among the slaves. In 1804, the French were forced to recognize Haiti's independence. The north and south of Haiti were under separate rulers until 1820 when Gen. Jean Pierre Boyer united it. After he was overthrown in 1843, Haiti saw a succession of political crises. To restore order, the United States occupied Haiti from 1915 until 1933. The infamous Papa Doc Duvalier dominated Haiti from 1957 until his death in 1971. After that his son, Baby Doc, ruled the island for another 14 years. A devastating earthquake destroyed Port au Prince in 2010. Much of the city remains in rubble today.

Years of earthquakes, fires, and violent political upheavals have taken a toll on public records. Little is known of early Haitian postal history. The French relied on packet mail ships for their communications. After independence, the British consulate operated a mail service between Jacmel and Port au Prince. Other foreign countries provided mail transport

from local ports. Haiti issued its first postage stamps on July 1, 1881, to coincide with its membership in the Universal Postal Union. The stamps were printed in Paris using the vignette of liberty designed by a prominent Haitian sculptor.

Today, there is a wide network of post offices throughout the country, but the postal system is not widely used. When the author visited Haiti in the winter of 2014, he was the only customer at the time in the four post offices visited. The cost of a letter to the United States was 300 gourdes, or about \$6 — well beyond the means of most Haitians. Few stamps were available, almost exclusively the 1999 Christmas issue and the 2000 Tourism issue. Because the highest denomination available at any post office was 20g (about U.S. 40 cents), and it was in limited supply, most envelopes needed 20 to 25 stamps to pay the letter rate.



1-gourde-on-50-centime Coat of Arms, Scott 268, 1917.



25-centime Allegory of Commerce, Scott 314, 1920.



10-gourde National Palace, Scott 924, 2000.



High-denomination stamps are hard to find at post offices, so many stamps are needed in 2015 to frank mail in Haiti.

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

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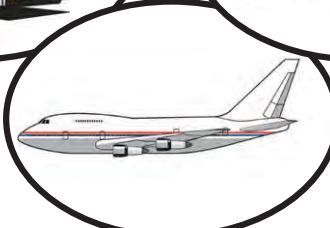
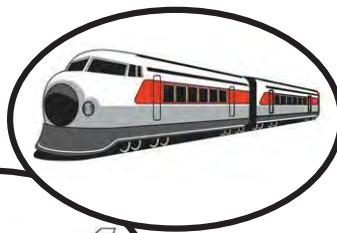
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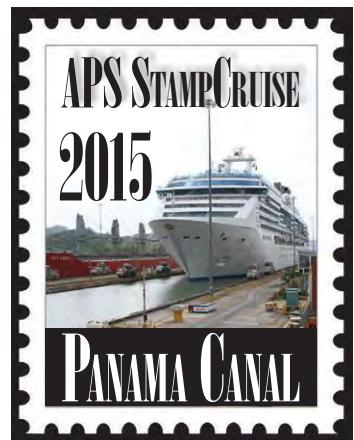
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(If over 18, you may enter Legal)

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Occupation

Major Stamp Collecting Interests

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Month Received ¹	U.S.	Canada	Other Countries	Associate ²	Online American Philatelist ³
Oct., Nov., Dec.	\$48.00	\$58.00	\$68.00	\$25.50	\$48.00
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