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February 2007

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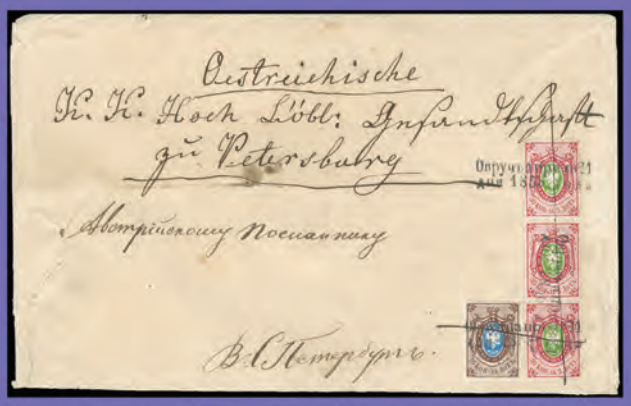

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Since 1887

The Premier Philatelic Magazine in the Nation

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Jan. 30, 2007, Sale 135—Airmail Sale
Feb. 15, 2007, Sale 136—Premier Graded Sale
Feb. 20, 2007, Sale 137—US & WW
Mar. 13, 2007, Sale 138—Airs & Specialized Arctic
Mar. 20, 2007, Sale 139—US & WW
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HOW TO ENTER THE GIVEAWAY: Beginning 8:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on December 20, 2006, visit www.StampWants.com and follow the instructions presented on screen to enter into the grand prize drawing. Entrants are allowed to enter once per day. Entries must be received by the closing date of 11:59 p.m. December 31, 2007. Limit one entry per person, email address, StampWants Account and/or IP address per day. If more than one entry is received per day from the same entrant only the first entry will be eligible. A day is defined from 12:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. 3. SELECTION OF WINNING ENTRY: We will announce the winning entry by January 31, 2008, which will be randomly chosen from all eligible entries by an independent party. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. The exact date and time of when and where the winning entry will be announced will be made available on or about December 1, 2007 on www.StampWants.com on the C3a Inverted Jenny Giveaway page, as well as in the Site News section. In the event that a Canadian entrant (or any other entrant where it may be required by law) is selected in any drawing he/she will be required to correctly answer, without assistance of any kind a time limited mathematical skill testing question, which will be administered by mail or telephone. In the event that he/she is unable to correctly answer the question, an alternate winner will be selected. The winner consents to the use of his/her name/likeness for publicity purposes without further compensation, except where prohibited by law. The selected winner must execute and return an Affidavit of Eligibility/Release of Liability and Publicity and W9 within ten (10) days of notification. Failure to return said forms within the time frame, or return of any prize notification as undeliverable may result in disqualification and selection of an alternate winner. 4. GENERAL RULES: StampWants' decisions are final and non-contestable on all matters relating to this giveaway. The grand prize (and only prize) is a Genuine Scott # C3a Inverted Jenny Stamp (2007 Scott Catalog Value is $275,000.00 and At Auction Value of this particular C3a is estimated to be $150,000.00 as of December, 2006). No transfer of prize by winner is allowed. No substitutions or cash redemption of prize is permitted. All taxes are the sole responsibility of the winner. StampWants is not responsible for any entries which are not deemed eligible or can not be completed due to any reason, including but not limited to human or technical error, inaccurate or incomplete information, failure to properly complete the entry form and not being able to access the entry form online. 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Entrants agree to release StampWants, LLC and all owners and employees from any harm, liability and damages. The promotion is governed by the laws of the United States and the State of New Jersey. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply. Entrants in the giveaway hereby consent to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of New Jersey courts (state and federal) in Gloucester County for any matter arising from or pertaining to this giveaway. Each entrant waives any and all objectives to jurisdiction and venue in these courts. Entry into the giveaway is acceptance of these terms and conditions. StampWants, LLC and any and all other sponsors are not responsible for any typographical or other errors in any material, announcements or logistics of this giveaway. 5. LIST OF WINNERS: The winner of the C3a will be posted on www.StampWants.com, or send a self addressed stamped envelope by March 31, 2008 to the address below. StampWants.com 772 Devonshire Dr. Williamstown, NJ 08094

aps snapshot
by janet houser

APS 2007 Summer Seminar on Philately

Whether you are a beginning stamp collector or an advanced philatelist, you'll find the APS Summer Seminar on Philately has something special for you. Make your plans now for the *ultimate philatelic vacation*, Sunday, June 17, through Friday morning, June 22!

Now in its 28th year, the seminar is unique in the hobby, offering instruction in specific philatelic areas through a combination of lectures and hands-on workshops. Many students return year after year, both to learn more about the hobby and to enjoy the social camaraderie.

The 2007 Summer Seminar begins with a Sunday reception in the education wing of the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. The remainder of seminar week, Monday–Thursday, features a daily class in the subject of your choice, PLUS afternoon elective workshops, a student auction, and two dinners. The week concludes with a Friday morning session with the staff of the APC, and one last opportunity to use the library, sales division, expertizing reference library, and other resources at the Center.

Seminar participants select ONE course on which to focus during the four days of class. All courses are led by knowledgeable collectors — authors, judges, exhibitors, expertizers, or other authorities. Each of the major courses features in-class discussions, question-and-answer opportunities, and informal, hands-on workshops, where you and fellow stamp enthusiasts will share information with your instructor. For the ultimate learning experience, each class is limited to fifteen–twenty students.

- **Detecting Worldwide Fakes, Forgeries and Altered Stamps.** *Bill Dixon* teaches the ins and outs of this critical area of the hobby. Students will practice the methods used in examining and expertizing worldwide stamps and covers. This class will cover the key expertizing tools and assist you in developing research skills, so that you know where to find relevant information quickly in the vast accumulated knowledge about fakes, forgeries, and altered stamps.
- **An Introduction to Exhibiting.** *Peter Butler,* introduces the mechanics, and then the actual step-by-step processes to begin exhibiting. Experience the enjoyment, the camaraderie, and the satisfaction of sharing what you treasure with others through the creation of your own display pages and exhibits. Forget the medals, the judging critiques, and the rules. First, let's learn about the possibilities of a whole new experience within the hobby!
- **Philatelic Literature & History.** *Herb Trenchard and Gini Horn* invite you to learn from two experts,

Wayne Youngblood starts the day with an open general session for all attendees.

as they review the history and evolution of philately and philatelic literature. Follow the hobby's growth, from its humble beginnings in 1861, through its golden years (1890s and 1930s), to its position in today's multi-faceted avocation of philately and postal history.

- **Philatelic Marketplace.** *Irv Miller* navigates you through the maze of valuing, buying, and selling stamps and philatelic material. Learn how to determine the value of philatelic collectibles — from items already in your collection to material that you're interested in buying or selling. Explore the many philatelic venues available today: APS Sales Division, the APS StampStore, the Internet, auction houses, and more. Identify factors that affect value, with some hands-on practice and application in the philatelic marketplace.
- **Stamp Technology.** *Wayne Youngblood* will help you explore how stamps are produced and why it is important to learn about their physical qualities. The class covers the topics of printing methods, watermarks, perforations, luminescence, color, fakes and forgeries. (Recommended as a prerequisite for the "Detecting Worldwide Fakes and Forgeries" course.)
- **The Washington/Franklin Issues.** *Dennis Gilson* leads you on a four-day exploration of the more than 200 individual stamps that make up this challenging series. You will learn how to identify the different issues, while detecting the most obvious fakes and alterations. This class is not just for the expert collector, but also for anyone who has collected, wants to collect, or is just afraid to collect these classic issues. Included are hands-on sessions where you will receive a variety of stamps from the series and be guided through the identification process.

Mercer Bristow, director of the American Philatelic Expertizing Service and curator of the APS Reference Collection is available during Seminar week to discuss expertizing and to share the educational value of the Reference Collection with the students.

In addition to your major course, you will enjoy morning General Session speakers and afternoon elective courses. During the week, students have scheduled times to tour the building and access the facilities at the American Philatelic Center: visit the American Philatelic Research Library, the Sales Division, Expertizing Department, and Reference Collection.

Evening social activities intermingle philately and fellowship. **Tuesday** evening's student auction is the highlight of the week for many of the attendees. Students are invited to bring their own material for **Wednesday**'s Buy, Sell, and Trade night. **Thursday** brings the opportunity to meet with a well-known philatelist at the Distinguished Philatelist Dinner.

Tuition for APS members to attend Summer Seminar is only $525; the nonmember fee is $625. The opening reception, catered lunches, Monday dinner, Distinguished Philatelist dinner on Thursday evening, a farewell breakfast on Friday morning, and class-time snack and beverage

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APS 2007 Calendar

Save these Dates!

- **Summer Seminar on Philately**
  June 17–22
  American Philatelic Center
- **APS StampShow**
  August 9–12
  Portland, Oregon
- **Aerophilatelly 2007**
  October 19–21
  American Philatelic Center
- **Second Annual Postal History Symposium**
  October 21–22
  American Philatelic Center

Plan to attend!

service all are included in this fee. Guests are welcome at the food functions ($20 Sunday reception; $15 per breakfast and/or lunch events; $35 per dinners). Alumni of past Summer Seminars who prefer the social-only aspect of the seminar may attend for $199, which covers administrative fees, meals, break service, but no classes.

The registration fee does not include housing for the week.

The Holiday Inn Express at Williamsburg Square, 1925 Waddle Road, State College (at the Toftrees exit of PA State Route 220), 814-272-1221, is serving as the Seminar host hotel. They are offering a special room rate of $77 per night, for reservations made through May 1. Other housing options include local hotels, bed-and-breakfast facilities, and camping areas.

This is your chance to meet other collectors and experts, share the fun of the hobby, and master a new philatelic skill. Classes fill up quickly, so don't delay. Register online, by mail with the application on the inside front wrapper of this magazine, by e-mail to jehouser@stamps.org, by fax 814-933-6128, or phone 814-933-3820.

Not a stamp collector but hate being left behind?

Friends and family members are encouraged to accompany APS Summer Seminar participants and spend the week making it their own special vacation. The APS sends out a "special interest" survey, with suggestions for specific activities, to those planning to accompany Summer Seminar participants, and uses it to help you plan your vacation activities. The group will meet at the American Philatelic Center each morning to finalize that day's plans. You may elect to spend part of the day, a full day, or the entire week as part of the group.

Some of the possible group activities for 2007:

- Spend a day touring Historic Boalsburg, the birthplace of Memorial Day, including visits to the Christopher Columbus Chapel, Boal Mansion, the Pennsylvania Military Museum, the numerous small village shops, and lunch at Duffy's Tavern — an eighteenth century stagecoach stop. Perhaps take in an evening's performance at the Boal Barn Theatre (yes, it really is an old barn!).
- Explore Penn State University's wonderful museums: The Palmer Museum of Art; the All-Sports Museum beneath Beaver Stadium; the Earth and Mineral Science Museum and Art Gallery with its hands-on exhibits; and the Matson Anthropology Museum, which looks at 5 million years of human biodiversity. Stroll through the beautiful flower garden maintained by horticulture students, with its authentic medieval herb and vegetable garden. And don't forget to stop for ice cream at the Penn State Creamery — listed as one of the top ten ice creams in the country by the *New York Times*.
- Visit Penn's Cave and take a boat tour of America's only all-water cavern, visit the gift shop and picnic in the park, and then board a safari bus for a tour of the Penn's Cave Wildlife Park.
- Put on your walking shoes and prepare to spend the morning wandering through the weekly Amish Farmer's Market/Flea Market at nearby Belleville. You can buy fresh strawberries or homemade bread, or perhaps find that Elvis-on-velvet painting you've always secretly wanted. Stop for lunch at Honey Creek Inn, where you'll eat one of the best homemade meals, outside mom's kitchen, that you've ever had. And finish the day exploring the stalls at the Dairyland Antiques Mall.

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— Established 1975 —

letters to the editor

Everyone can find enjoyment in stamp collecting — no matter how usual or unusual their collecting interests may be!

Incoming Covers

In the December 2006 *AP*, Professor John K. Courtis asked the question "what are the reasons why a country collector ... would seek out incoming covers?" ("Scanning Watermarks," page 1092). Here are two possible answers:

1. Stamp collecting is an amazing hobby because each collector is free to make of it what he or she wants. Perhaps someone wants to have a collection showing mail received from as many countries as possible.
2. This is a great project for school children. It can help teach geography and introduce the kids to the fun of stamp collecting.

Everyone can find enjoyment in stamp collecting — no matter how usual or unusual their collecting interests may be!

Ronald Ogg
Walnut Creek, California

Kudos to Mercer Bristow

Recently, I had an occasion to need the services of the APS Expertizing Service for an obscure and tricky item. Imagine my delight when Mercer Bristow, the head of the service, offered his personal assistance in advising me on how best to proceed.

In a world that is becoming increasingly impersonal and automated, it's so refreshing to find someone who takes the time and effort to personally help a collector in need. Thank you, Mercer!

Peter Hausknecht
Cupertino, California

Gingerbread News

Collectors of "Gingerbread on Stamps" (Vera Felts, December *AP*, page 1118) have another treat in store for them. In announcing its stamp program for 2007, Finland's Posti said it will issue its first stamp with an aroma — namely, a Christmas stamp with the scent of gingerbread.

Paul Albright
Boulder, Colorado

Dealer Observations

In regard to Professor Curtis' letter in the December 2006 *AP*, covers coming into Canada, for instance, are quite collectible especially for R.P.O.s, etc. These are often of greater interest than most twentieth-century letters leaving Canada.

As a collector/dealer I've seen a wide range of collecting interests from

Gingerbread Postcard

Greatly enjoyed the tasty "Gingerbread on Stamps" article by Vera Felts. I missed an illustration of one of the American stamps, so I am sending a photocopy of a maxicard I made before I was aware of the rules for creating a proper maxicard.

Dan Olsen
Naples, Florida

Why sell for less?
There is no buyer in philately who pays higher prices than Dr. Bob Friedman. The paragraph in red explains why.

Many of the smartest sellers in philately come to us ***first***—because they know that other buyers often end up selling what they are buying to Dr. Bob. Why sell for less to a "middle man" when you can deal directly with the most vigorous buyer in philately?

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

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

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

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

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

- **Ship your collection to us now —our insurance covers it up to $10,000 per package if you let us know in advance of sending.** Dr. Bob will send you a check for his offer within 24 hours. Cash it or return it. The amount will be larger than Dr. Bob's offer if he traveled to your location because he'll save the time and travel costs. ***Or...***
- **He'll travel to you.** No heavy lifting, no need to pack and ship. Dr. Bob can come to you, give you a check, then pack your collections right away for shipment. **Quick Payment.** No waiting. When you accept Dr. Bob's offer during his visit, he'll give you cash or a cashier's check on the spot. **We buy it all.** From huge accumulations to quality collections. **Note:** No need to try to organize your collection. We love sorting through disorganized accumulations.

What our friends say about us...

December 17, 2005

To whom it may concern:
When it came time to sell my collection of 40 years of effort in many areas, I had the good fortune to have the advice and assistance of Dr. Bob Friedman.
He made a difficult process easy and understandable to our mutual benefit.

Albert E. Porter
APS Member
Joplin, Mo.

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APS Election

Eighteen candidates are seeking election to the APS Board of Directors for the 2007–2009 term, as of January 15, 2007. Two individuals have announced for the one American Philatelic Research Library Board position to be filled by the vote of APS members. The APRL-designated Board of Trustee position is for the term 2007–2013.

All nominations and seconding endorsements must be sent directly to the APS Headquarters, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823, to be received by March 31. All nominations and seconding endorsements

Personal photographs, candidates statements, and a ballot listing all qualified candidates will appear in the May issue of *The American Philatelist*.

An asterisk has been placed after the names of those candidates who have secured the ten seconding nominations necessary to secure a place on the ballot. Only one second is required for candidates for the APRL Board of Trustees position.

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

2007 APS Election Nominees

President

Nick Carter, Maryland*
Ken Lawrence, Pennsylvania

Vice Presidents (run as a team of 3)

Nancy B. Clark, Massachusetts
Robert E. Lamb, Pennsylvania
Jeffrey Shapiro, Massachusetts*

Steven J. Rod, New Jersey
Wade E. Saadi, New York
David L. Straight, Missouri*

Secretary

Wayne Youngblood, Wisconsin
Steve Zwillinger, Maryland

Treasurer

Thomas F. Allen, Ohio
Dan Walker, Maryland

Director at Large (four to be elected)

Michael D. Dixon, Maryland
Joann Lenz, Michigan
Peter D. Martin, Connecticut
Robert P. Odwenweller, New Jersey
Denise Stotts, Texas*
Kent Wilson, Montana*

APRL Trustee

John Flannery, New York
Rob Haeseler, Pennsylvania

the normal to the weird (dead bodies on stamps!). One thing I've found strange are people who ask for an obscure item knowing full well that most if not all dealers won't have it for sale. I guess it makes them feel important, if only to themselves. I once had one of these clowns ask for a certain Rhodesia set on cover. I showed him the cover I had. Oh, he said, I wanted it mint. Out came the mint set. Oh, I meant used. At this point I told him to soak them off the cover. Moral: Don't go to run-of-the-mill dealers and ask for Natal #3 on cover or complete sheets of U.S. Zepps.

One area of collecting that has baffled me is bundles of new issues. Topical dealers I know need these, but do people really collect stamps in bundles?

Gordon Brooks
Montreal, Quebec

One-Handed Mounting

Through a misfortune of aging, I found my philatelic equipment suddenly reduced by one arm. If readers have any helpful suggestions or thoughts on how a one-armed philatelist can continue to mount stamps, I would appreciate it. I have been using Showgard clear transparent strips, but find my one-handed approach risks damage to the stamps I wish to preserve.

Arthur C. Wilbur
Corral de Tierra, California

Vermonter Overlooked

I read with great interest the *AP* article "Snowflake Alert" in the November 2006 issue (U.S. New Issues column, page 1075). But as I read the article, I found that the stamp subject was not a postal issue in honor of Vermont's Wilson A. "Snowflake" Bentley, the first person to photograph snowflakes (in the late 1800s). The USPS images were not historic at all but merely modern photographs taken by a living physicist using twenty-first-century high-tech instruments.

The Chicago Museum of Science is more knowledgeable than the USPS about the real history of snowflake photography and Bentley's pioneering work. Its 2006 "Christmas Around the World" exhibit featured "Snow Story," which examined Bentley's work as well as Mary Azarian's children's book *Snowflake Bentley* as well as Kenneth Libbrecht (photographer for the 2006 stamps) who is named a "modern day 'Snowflake' Bentley."

For several years, many in Vermont

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Passing on the Hobby

I was about twelve or so when my father initiated me into the hobby of stamp collecting. I believe he got me a Harris Traveler starter album either as a Christmas or birthday present. It was both a fascinating and a bewildering endeavor for me. All of those empty spots with black-and-white pictures are quite overwhelming to a juvenile with no inkling, income, or Internet to assist him in finding and ordering the many stamps required to fill them.

I am not sure exactly when stock books came into being, but I don't think dad had one and neither did I. In retrospect, this was a stumbling block that would have made the hobby much more enjoyable, so well do they help you to see, protect, and organize your stamps. I now have added a drying book to my accessories, another welcome member of my tool arsenal. My new 6-inch pointed-tip tongs have gotten so much use lately that they are making the older 4½-inch round-tipped ones jealous. Spade-tipped tongs are on back order. Bent-tipped ones are on the wish list. Glassine interleaves keep stamps from rubbing together on facing pages. The list of modern helpful tools goes on and on.

Well, I lost interest at some point (football, girls, etc., were now vying for my attention) and gave the album back to my dad, and that was the last I ever saw of it. However, when my dad passed away, I found some of my stamps in *his* album, notably the three-dimensionals from Sierra Leone.

Clockwise from upper left: Harris Citation Stamp Album, Kenmore World Album, Homemade Sheet/Cover/Booklet/Card Binder, and Stock Book.

Dad's album was not bulging when I got it, but it is now. Although the Citation is billed as the world's largest capacity stamp album, the pages have not been updated since 1975 and many countries have had changes in all those intervening years. I decided to get a newer style of three-ring album that just has blank pages, so the stamps can go wherever I want them to as I acquire them, and pages can easily be added where needed. It houses all of my many doubles and most of my plate blocks, as well as the newer stamps for some countries that would not fit in the old binder. I have since reluctantly decided to expand the Citation into two volumes, I have gone through about 8,000 hinges this past year alone.

What to do with all of my many triples? (Acquire worldwide packets with any regularity and you will know exactly what I am typing about here.) I decided to give them to my 23-year-old niece for her birthday, along with an extra stock book/hingeless album, and see if that might generate a little interest on her part. Not only did she like them, she may also join the APS. She received an album, magnifying glass, etc., for Christmas, and she was happy to learn that the grandfather she never knew collected stamps and that it runs in the family. Hopefully, I have helped her to get into the hobby with more success than my initial foray. I now have a much greater appreciation for youth philately!

John Fries
Baldwin, Maryland

have been requesting the USPS to issue a stamp (holiday or otherwise) to honor Bentley's work. The silence of the USPS is like that of the falling snow on a winter's night in Vermont. Rather than honor a historic person with historic photographs, the USPS prefers to cast history aside for high tech.

Despite the USPS missing the real story, the history can easily be found. A detailed website on Bentley's work, including digital images of his photographs, is provided by the Buffalo Museum of Science at www.sciencebuff.org. The historical society in Bentley's hometown of Jericho, Vermont, also has a site, www.snowflakebentley.com, and a link to their authorized prints of his snowflake photographs and pewter snowflake ornaments based on his photographs. I hope these clues help the USPS for their next snowflake issue. More importantly, I hope that readers enjoy the history of Snowflake Bentley's great accomplishment.

James P. Mongeon
Rutland County (VT) Stamp Club
Rutland, Vermont

Philatelic Fiction

For those who like to read about the use of our hobby in a novel, my (non-collecting) wife has pointed me to the

— The APS Vision Team for 2007 —

Ken Lawrence

Nancy Clark

Bob Lamb

Jeff Shapiro

Wayne Youngblood

Joann Lenz

Rob Haeseler

Fighting Philatelic Fraud and Theft

by Ken Lawrence

The American Philatelic Society has a long and honorable history of protecting the hobby and the general public from being victimized by unscrupulous people who prof t from counterfeit or altered stamps and covers, and from others who perpetrate fraudulent stamp "investment" schemes.

Among the f rst priorities of the newly-organized American Philatelic Association (the original name of APS) was to appoint a "counterfeit detector" in 1886. In 1903 our full-f edged expertizing and certif cation service for worldwide stamps was born.

In 1935 the APS won a California Supreme Court ruling that forbade California stamp dealer A. L. Claiborne from selling fake U.S. coil stamps. In the 1960s, a team headed by APS Executive Secretary James De Voss and Stamp Theft Committee Chairman James Beal shut down the notorious stamp forger Raul Charles de Thuin in Mexico, obtained all of de Thuin's tools, and published a book *The Yucatan Affair*, which taught everyone how to identify de Thuin's counterfeits.

After a 1977 burglary at the New York Public Library, Jim Beal and Herb Trenchard pursued every lead to recover many treasures stolen from the Benjamin K. Miller collection. Twenty years later, APS Director of Administration Frank Sente helped the Federal Trade Commission gather evidence that shut down the Worldwide Classics stamp investment scam in Newport Beach, California.

In 1995, Bob Lamb and I worked with a U.S. Postal Inspection Service team to put Raymond Gregor out of business. He was a Buffalo man who forged rare postal markings and applied them to common stampless classic U.S. covers. I reported on the detective work that proved the case, leading to Gregor's confession and the surrender of his fakes, in the January 1996 *American Philatelist*.

I could list a dozen or more cases, some of which I investigated personally and served as a witness. Continuing that tradition in the Internet age, Bob Lamb worked with eBay to establish and support the Stamp Community Watch group that protects buyers from fraud and forgery.

In the spring of 2005, *Barron's* magazine exposed the largest stamp swindle in history. As a result of the report, Spanish police raided two stamp f rms, which are now in receivership. They charged the owners with having bilked an estimated $6.5 billion from the life savings of 350,000 people. APS hasn't yet taken a stand on this. We think APS should speak out, to inform our members and to protect the good name of stamp collecting from being harmed by this episode.

APS Vision Team candidates pledge that we will not fear or favor anyone, no matter how inf uential or powerful, in carrying out our duty to keep the stamp hobby and marketplace free of forgery and fraud, and that the Society will once again take the lead in those efforts. This pledge is especially important for the Board of Vice Presidents, whose principal duty is to enforce the APS Code of Ethics impartially.

Lively opinions and discussion about all the issues of this election appear on the Virtual Stamp Club chat board, **www.virtualstampclub.com**. Our candidates have a website for Board of Vice Presidents issues at **www.apsvps.com**. For more information write to the APS Vision Team, Post Off ce Box 210, Bellefonte, PA 16823-0210, or **apsken@aol.com**. Watch this space next month for more of our program.

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

Support the APS Vision Team

Ken Lawrence *for APS President*

Nancy Clark, Bob Lamb & Jeff Shapiro *for APS Vice Presidents*

Wayne Youngblood *for APS Secretary*

Joann Lenz *for APS Director-at-Large*

Rob Haeseler *for APRL Trustee*

professional hit man, Keller. You can find him in *Hit Man* by Lawrence Block, published 1998 by William Morrow and Co., New York. Chapter 10, "Keller in Retirement," is almost a textbook example of how an adult becomes interested in stamp collecting.

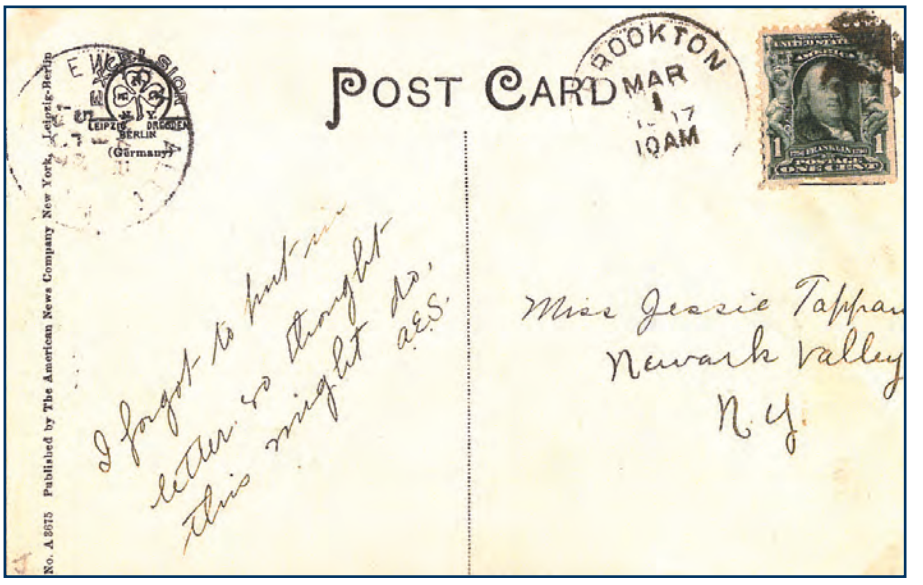
My wife further reports that in *Hit List*, published in 2000, the supposedly retired Keller works on his stamp collection throughout the book.

You should be able to find these novels in your local library.

Manfred Groth
San Antonio, Texas

Christmas Seal Correction

The article on Christmas Seals by Wayne Youngblood ("Tied Christmas Seals Add Significant Challenge to Holiday Postal History," December *AP*, page 1106) has a detail that needs to be reviewed. For the first illustration showing a postal card with a photograph attached, the statement is made that the attachment of this photograph "should have subjected the card to the full 2-cent letter rate." With reference to PMG Order No. 146, to be found in the *Daily Bulletin* of March 4, 1907 (No. 8233), it is stated, as Part 1f, that very thin sheets of paper may be attached to the card. This Order is also the one that marked the beginning of the divided line, identified as Part 1e. In this time period, a few postcards can be found identifying March 1, 1907, as the accepted date for using the left side of the card for correspondence.



Enclosed is a photocopy of a card from my exhibit showing the first day of rate for the divided line (March 1, 1907). The card also has attached a small photo on the reverse that is a classic.

William J. Hart
Shrub Oak, New York

The 1898 Queen Victoria Numeral Issue Proofs

Special Offer #A204

The most sought after of all Canadian plate proofs lots in the auction of the archives of the American Bank Note Company was lot #1827. This auction lot contained the plate proofs of the numeral issue (Scott #74-84). The catalogue description ended with a very important statement -- "THIS REPRESENTS THE ENTIRE FIND OF PLATE PROOFS FROM THIS ISSUE IN THE AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY ARCHIVES"! The lot drew spirited bidding and sold for the equivalent of a quarter million dollars! This is a very scarce proof set! Only 258 proofs of the 20¢ value are known and some of these were damaged.

Indeed, prior to this auction, plate proofs from the Numeral issue were totally unknown to collectors. Most other issues had somehow found their way onto the market in years past, but the numeral issue remained unavailable!

The Numeral issue has long been a favourite with specialists, and I had immediate sales for several sets of these proofs when they finally hit the market some four years after the auction. The growing number of plate proof collectors will also fuel the demand. I have a VERY limited number of sets available for offer. I can supply a superb set of singles at **$2,750.00** and blocks or pairs pro-rata.

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C1 Very Fine Top Plateblock of 8 Spectacular Brooklyn CDS	$750.
C2 Superb Gem OG VLH Top PB 0f 6 '91 PFC	$700.
C2 Superb Gem Top Plateblock of 6 Unused (Regummed) Unusual	$550.
C3 VF-Superb Gem OG NH Top PB 0f 12 Brilliant Fresh!	$2250.
C3 VF-Superb Gem OG NH Top PB of 12 Choice!	$2250.
C4 Choice Very Fine OG NH Top PB of 6	$350.
C4 Very Fune+ OG NH Top PB of 6	$300.
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C13-15 Choice Very Fine Lightly Cancelled Set	$1450.
C13 Superb Gem OG NH	$500.
C13 XF-Superb Gem OG NH	$450.
C13 Very Fine+ OG NH	$375.
C13 Choice Very Fine OG NH Top Plate# Copy	$390.
C13 Very Fine+ OG NH	$375.
C13 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	$300.
C13 Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged Boardwalk Margins!	$350.
C13 Extremely Fine OG Lightly Hinged	$280.
C14 Extremely Fine OG NH Top Plate# Copy	$950.
C14 Superb Gem OG NH Incredible Huge Jumbo!	$1400.
C14 Superb Gem OG NH Jumbo Margins!	$1200.
C14 Superb Gem OG NH	$1050.
C14 XF-Superb Gem OG NH	$1000.
C14 Extremely Fine OG NH Bottom Plate# Copy	$1000.
C14 Very Fine+ OG NH Top Plate# Copy	$875.
C14 Very Fine+ OG NH	$800.
C14 Choice Very Fine OG NH	$825.
C14 Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged Boardwalk Margins	$800.
C15 Superb Gem OG NH	$1600.
C15 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH L Plate# Copy	$900.
C15 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	$900.
C15 Choice Very Fine OG Barely Hinged '05 APEX	$800.
C15 Extremely Fine Left Plate# Copy Bold Cancels	$800.
C18 Very Fine OG NH Bottom Pane of 50 Nice!	$5900.
C20-22 Extremely Fine OG NH set of Plateblocks	$675.
C23a Superb Gem OG NH Vertical Pair Imperf Btwn Stamps Fresh!	$600.
C24 Very Fine OG NH Pane of 50	$600.
F1 Superb Gem OG NH	$200.
F1 XF-Superb Gem OG NH	$150.
F1 Extremely Fine OG NH	$135.
F1 Choice Very Fine OG NH	$120.
F1 Very Fine+ OG NH	$100.
F1 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH Top Plateblock of 6 Scarce!	$900.
J1 Extremely Fine OG NH	$175.
J2 Very Fine+ OG NH '94 PFC	$500.
J6 Very Fine+ OG NH	$350.
J6 Superb Gem OG Hinged	$150.
J7 Fine OG VLH	$125.
J16 Extremely Fine OG NH	$140.
J19 Very Fine+ Unused (No Gum)	$250.
J20 Superb Gem OG NH Jumbo Margins!	$600.
J20 XF-Superb Gem OG NH	$280.
J20 Very Fine+ OG NH	$200.
J22 Superb Gem OG NH Block of 4 Boardwalk Margins!	$350.
J24 Superb Gem OG VLH	$100.
J25 Extremely Fine OG NH	$140.
J25 Very Fine+ OG NH	$100.
J25 XF-Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged	$120.
J26 Superb Gem OG VLH	$100.
J28 Fine-Very Fine+ OG VLH	$225.
J31 Very Fine+ OG NH	$140.
J36 Fine-Very f ne+ OG Lightly Hinged '02 PSE Cert.	$250.
J40 XF-Superb Gem OG NH '99 PFC	$200.
J40 Extremely Fine OG NH	$150.
J40 Very Fine+ OG NH	$100.
J41 Very Fine+ OG NH	$160.
J41 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	$125.
J42 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	$100.
J47 Very Fine+ OG LH	$400.
J48 Very Fine+ OG NH	$130.
J52 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	$100.
J52 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	$100.
J53 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH	$100.
J53b Extremely Fine OG NH	$140.
J54 Fine-Very Fine+ Unused (No Gum) '02 PSE Cert	$350.
J57 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH Pristine!	$450.
J57 Extremely Fine OG NH	$400.
J57 Superb Gem OG VLH Boardwalk Margins! '96 PSE Cert	$250.
J57 Fine+ OG Lightly Hinged	$140.
J69-78 Superb Gem OG NH Set	$850.
J69-78 XF-Superb Gem OG VLH Set	$500.
J88 Extremely Fine OG NH Plateblock of 4	$175.
JQ1-5 Extremely Fine OG NH Set	$850.
JQ1-15 Extremely Fine OG Lightly Hinged Set	$350.
JQ2 Superb Gem OG VLH Jumbo!	$100.
JQ4 Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged	$150.
PR37 Very Fine+ Ungummed as Issued APS Cert	$600.
Q1-12 Superb Gem OG NH Set Boardwalk Margins Hand Selected for Exceptional Quality! Q12 w/ Copy of '2 PFC showing UL Copy in a Block of 6 Incredible Quality!	$3000.
Q1-12 XF-Superb Gem OG NH Set Pristine!	$2500.
Q1-12 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH Set	$1150.
Q1-12 Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged Set Boardwalk Margins! Hand Selected for Exceptional Centering!	$1500.
Q1-12 Fine-Very Fine+ OG Lightly Hinged set	$675.
R130 Fine-Very Fine+ Normal Pen Cancel	$400.
R132 Extremely Fine Gem Small "Persian Rug" with Herringbone Cancel '91 PFC Scarce!	$4500.
RW1-54 Fine-Very Fine+ OG NH Set	$2500.
RW1-35 Fine-Very Fine+ OG Lightly Hinged Set	$1400.
RW1 Fine-Very f ne OG NH	$200.
RW1 Choice Very Fine OG Barely Hinged	$350.
RW1 Superb Gem Light cancel Jumbo!	$200.
RW2 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	$750.
RW2 Very Fine+ OG Lightly Hinged	$275.
RW3 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	$400.
RW3 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	$400.
RW3 Very Fine+ OG NH	$250.
RW4 Very Fine+ OG NH	$200.
RW5 Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged	$250.
RW5 Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged	$250.
RW6 Very Fine+ OG NH	$135.
RW6 Superb Gem OG Barely Hinged Boardwalk Margins!	$150.
RW7 Very Fine+ OG NH Top Plate# Copy	$150.
RW8 Extremely Fine Gem OG NH	$250.

C6 Choice VF OG NH Left PB of 6 $2,000.

CSA 10 Superb Gem'02 CSA Cert $3,500.

C13-15 Superb Gem OG NH Set $2,750.

EW8 Extremely Fine OG NH Bottom Plate# Copy	$250.
RW8 Choice Very Fine OG NH	$200.
RW9 Choice Very Fine OG NH	$160.
RW10 Superb Gem OG NH	$150.
RW11 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	$150.
RW11 Very Fine+ OG NH	$100.
RW12 Superb Gem OG NH Top Plate# Copy	$100.
RW16 Superb Gem OG NH Jumbo Margins!	$125.
RW17 Superb Gem OG NH Top Plate# Copy	$125.
RW19 Superb Gem OG NH	$100.
RW21 Extremely f ne OG NH	$120.
RW22 Superb Gem OG NH	$100.
RW23 Superb Gem OG NH Top Plate#	$125.
RW25 Superb Gem OG NH Boardwalk Margins!	$125.
RW27 Superb Gem OG NH	$125.
RW28 Superb Gem OG NH	$125.
RW29 Superb Gem OG NH	$125.
RW31 Extremely Fine OG NH	$125.
RW32 Superb Gem OG NH	$125.
RW36 Superb Gem OG NH	$100.
143L1 Very Fine+ Unused (No Gum)	$200.
143L3 Extremely Fine Unused (No Gum)	$200.
143L4 Extremely Fine Unused (No Gum)	$375.
CSA 4 Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged	$375.
CSA 4 Extremely Fine OG Lightly Hinged Strip of 5 Scarce!	$1600.
CSA4b Stone 2 Extremely Fine Spectacular Richmond VA CDS on Piece	$400.
CSA 5 Superb Gem Spectacular Lightly Cancelled Gem! '04 PSE Cert.	$1250.
CSA 5 Very Fine '62 Richmond Cancel GE of Postage Joined	$400.
CSA 5 Very Fine Used on Piece	$575.
CSA 6 Superb Gem OG NH LL Corner Margin Gem	$200.
CSA 6 Superb Gem OG NH UR Corner Margin Copy	$175.
CSA 6 Superb Gem OG NH Pair	$150.
CSA 7 Superb Gem OG NH LR Corner Margin Block of 9	$600.
CSA 8 Extremely Fine OG VLH Pair	$200.
CSA 8 Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged Gutter Pair Scarce!	$450.
CSA 10a Superb Gem OG Lightly Hinged w/PFC Rare!	$6500.
CSA 10 Superb Gem (MOB)ILE ALA. Cancel '02 CSA Cert	$3500.
CSA10 Extremely Fine Spectacular Mobile A. CDS '87 PFC	$2000.
CSA 13 Extremely Fine OG NH	$75.
CSA 13 Extremely Fine OG NH Pair	$150.
CSA 13 Extremely Fine Bisect on Cover 1965 Letter of Authenticity from Gordon Bleuler. Rare!	$2500.
GUAM 12 Superb Gem OG VLH w/PFC.	$400.
CANADA 50-65P Superb Gem Set of Cardproofs Incredible Colors and Pristine on both the front and back! Unimprovable!	$2575.

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by wayne youngblood

Illegal Postage:

There's More Than One Way to Skin the USPS, Part I

One of the more interesting and complex of the many different accumulations I maintain is an area of postal history that is frequently ignored by most collectors, but is an integral part of the story of postage stamp and cancellation development in the United States. That area includes my collection of illegal uses, which is an extensive — if not valuable — grouping. Most examples of illegal uses aren't even particularly attractive, but they are significant to the history of our postal system and its stamp production.

An illegal use is just that: something that has been used to pay postage that should not have been. As laid out in the United States Postal Service's *Domestic Mail Manual* (Section 1.2–1.4, reproduced in a sidebar to this story), illegal uses can include invalidated stamps, reused postage stamps, limited special-service stamps, revenue stamps, cinderella labels, postal counterfeits, foreign stamps, or many other things. One additional type of invalid postage not specified by the *DMM* includes all U.S. postal cards that don't meet the current 3½ by 5½-inch minimum (roughly all of the first century of government-produced postal cards).

The reused stamp on this 1852 cover has a highly unusual, almost grill-like, appearance. This is due to the fact it was affixed to the envelope with sealing wax and pressed into place with a personal seal.

Admittedly, the area of illegal uses is very broad, and it is a difficult one to get a handle on. It can be divided into several different categories, including illegal uses of non-stamp items, illegal uses of postal stationery, illegal uses of meters, and illegal uses of stamps.

From a philatelic standpoint, arguably the most spectacular form of illegal reuse involves invalidated postage stamps.

As the Civil War was heating up and the southern states began seceding from the Union, the U.S. Post Office Department made the decision to issue a new series of stamps (what became known as the 1861 series) and invalidated all the old ones (all regularly issued stamps from Scott 1–39) to prevent their use by Confederate post offices. After their demonetization, illegal uses of these early stamps were marked "Old Stamps Not Recognized." Stamps and covers bearing this marking are highly desirable and sell for prices that reflect this level of demand. But most of this interest has to do with the Civil War connection. Much of the rest of the history of U.S. illegal uses isn't quite as visually appealing or as financially challenging.

Each year the United States Postal Service loses tens of millions of dollars to various types of illegal uses by postal patrons. This total — which includes both more or less innocent misuse and bald-faced fraud — doesn't even include the reuse of uncanceled stamps. That total, which is much more difficult to document, also runs into the tens of millions of dollars, and has been the reason for the development of various types of cancellations and canceling machines. Other types of illegal reuse, such as chemically removing cancellations for the purpose of postal fraud, have been the reasons why grills, patent cancels, self-destructing stamps, unusual forms of phosphorescent tagging, and other odd security devices have been either experimented with or implemented. If a stamp either

As a result of the onset of the Civil War, all stamps prior to 1861 were demonetized. Illegal uses of these stamps were marked with the highly desirable "Old Stamps Not Recognized" auxiliary marking.

can accept cancellation ink more readily or else be destroyed by its removal from an envelope, then its illegal reuse is less likely to occur.

Even the unsightly felt-tip marker and ball-point pen cancels that give collectors headaches serve an important function: USPS revenue protection. Admittedly, some postal clerks take out their frustrations on collector mail, but more often than not their attention is turned exactly where it should be — on preventing the illegal reuse of postage stamps that saps revenue from the system.

Illegal Reuse of Postage Stamps

Perhaps the earliest form of postage fraud known is the illegal reuse of uncanceled stamps. Even the earliest generation of postage stamps, such as the 1851 3-cent shown, are known illegally reused. In this case the stamp was reaffixed to another envelope with the use of sealing wax and pressed into place with a personal embossed seal! The cover was then postmarked December 21, 1852, in Washington, DC, and sent on its way without apparent consequence. Other fairly early examples of illegal reuse also are shown. In each case the stamp obviously was glued onto its respective cover, the 2-cent brown (Scott 210) appearing a little worse for the wear.

These fairly early examples of reuse obviously were glued onto their respective covers.

This stamp-on-piece-on-piece-on-cover was used at least three times, as is shown by the obvious evidence.

Domestic Mail Manual Regulations Regarding Stamp Validity

1.2 Postage Stamps Valid for Use

All postage stamps issued by the United States since 1860, unless listed in 1.3, are valid for postage from any point in the United States or from any other place where U.S. Mail service operates. Precanceled stamps may be used to pay regular postage and fees for extra services if the mailpiece is endorsed under the standards for the class of mail and service requested. Precanceled postage may be used only by permit holders authorized under 3.0. Unless excepted by standard, the total postage affixed must equal at least the postage charge for the class of the mail and, if applicable, the fee for the extra service requested. All nondenominated postage and makeup rate stamps, including official mail stamps, are valid at the original rates of issue.

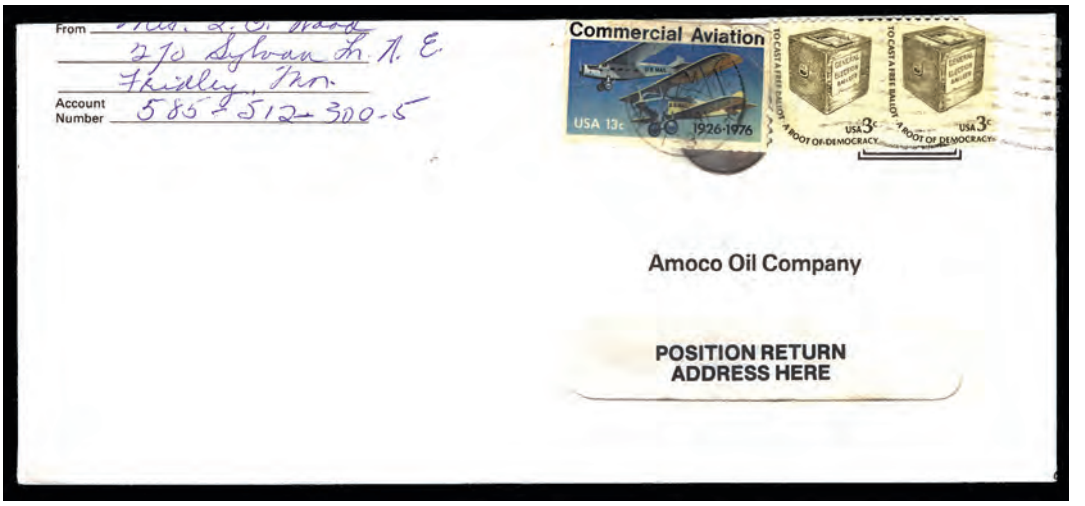
1.3 Postage Stamps Invalid for Use

The following are not valid to pay postage for U.S. domestic or U.S.-originated international mail:

a. Postage due, special delivery, special handling, and Certified Mail stamps.
b. Stamps of other countries.
c. United Nations stamps, unless on mail deposited at the United Nations, NY.
d. U.S. stamps that are mutilated or defaced; cut from stamped envelopes, aerogrammes, or stamped cards; covered or coated in such a manner that canceling or defacing marks cannot be printed onto the stamps; or overprinted with an unauthorized design, message, or other marking.
e. Nonpostage stamps, such as migratory-bird hunting and conservation stamps, U.S. saving and thrift stamps.

1.4 Imitations of Stamps

Matter bearing imitations of postage stamps, in adhesive or printed form, or private seals or stickers resembling a postage stamp in form and design, is not acceptable for mailing.



In a misguided attempt to pay full postage, the sender who taped nineteen cents worth of stamps on this cover also taped a penny on to make up the additional postage to meet the then-current 20-cent first-class rate.

Although early examples of such uses aren't costly, they are rather scarce. Most have been destroyed over the years by collectors as undesirable covers.

Most people — stamp collectors included — consider the illegal reuse of uncanceled stamps to be a victimless crime. Most feel that when a stamp has not been canceled in the postal system it is fair game for reuse. The practice is viewed much as having the luck to find pocket change on the sidewalk. However, reusing a stamp that has already carried mail at least once is illegal. When an uncanceled stamp is reused, its use is technically as illegal as chemically washing the cancellation from a stamp and reusing it. Nonetheless, uncanceled stamp reuse is very hard to prove in terms of intent, and there are valid reasons for uncanceled stamps to be glued or otherwise affixed to an envelope, including water damage to collections. As a result, such uses are rarely investigated and almost never prosecuted.

During the early 1990s, when I was working with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service on several different types of fraud cases, I did my own study of uncanceled mail. Over a period of about two months, which encompassed more than 20,000 pieces of incoming mail to one company, I was able to determine that more than seven percent of automated letter mail either was not being canceled or was being miscanceled enough to miss the stamps

These covers show a variety of ways that people tape, glue, or staple uncanceled stamps to envelopes to reuse them for postage. Because these individuals didn't feel there was anything wrong with the practice, they didn't try to hide its evidence.

Reused Return Envelope Stamps

Although not technically illegal, the reuse of stamps from stamped return envelopes generated by various non-profit and other organizations has a place in an illegal use collection. Such stamps have not previously carried mail so they aren't technically reused, but once they've been removed from one envelope and affixed to another, they are generally difficult to differentiate from illegally reused uncanceled stamps — with some notable exceptions.

Using stamps from these envelopes *does* become illegal if they are taped or covered (as they frequently are when reused). This is because postal regulations state that stamps treated in that manner are automatically rendered invalid, regardless of whether they ever actually carried mail.

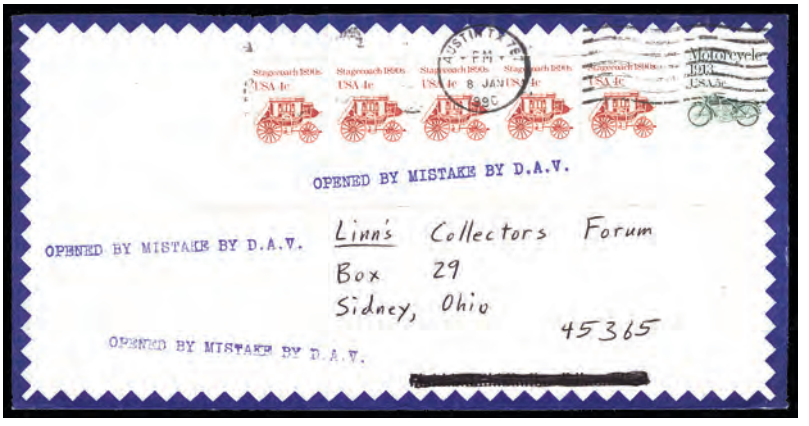
Many years ago, large mailers discovered that they received a much higher return rate by sending out return envelopes that bore stamps rather than business reply imprints. Magazines such as *Look* and others used this ploy for subscription renewals. Because providing stamped return envelopes involved a significant up-front cost, however, most businesses abandoned this practice as postage costs rose and the net cost of providing stamped envelopes outweighed the benefit of response.

The stamp areas of these covers all bear telltale evidence the stamps were removed from non-profit solicitations and reused.

Non-profit organizations, on the other hand, did not stop the practice. The model of success for these organizations remained high. The most well-known of these is the Disabled American Veterans, which has been sending out stamped return envelopes for more than fifty years. By providing stamped return envelopes with several stamps affixed, DAV found that they not only attracted the attention of would-be donors, but increased the giving level by making a donation easier. As a result, several specific printings of stamps are known for DAV mailings.

The unintended side-effect of this practice is the reuse of stamps used on envelopes not returned with donations. Many people simply soak or cut the stamps from a return envelope and glue them to another. Examples of this practice are shown in the top accompanying illustration. Because the configuration of stamps used is characteristic to the organization, it's relatively easy to spot such reuses if you know what to look for. For example, DAV mailings almost always consist of a strip of four or five coil stamps and an additional single or pair to make up the current first-class rate (more stamps are harder to ignore).

Sometimes people simply slap a label over the address area of the DAV envelope, not realizing that these envelopes now come with a preprinted bar code that will ensure delivery. When that happens, eventual recipients are sometimes rewarded with a nice piece of postal history such as the bottom accompanying example. Even though the reused envelope was addressed correctly, it was automatically routed to the DAV, where it was opened by mistake, so marked, and rerouted to the proper addressee.



Rather than cut or soak the stamps from this DAV envelope the user simply added a blank label and re-addressed it. Because it bore a preprinted bar code, the cover was routed to the DAV, opened in error, marked and re-introduced to the mail stream.

Some reuses of stamps do get manually examined, but frequently are treated very differently, as evidenced by the examples shown here.

These covers each feature stamps that were obviously used and previously canceled, yet they were placed on new envelopes, sent, and delivered without consequence. Denominations weren't even given much consideration!

Overlapping, trimming, or piecing together stamps to form a single uncanceled-looking stamp shows a different level of fraudulent intent than simply reusing uncanceled stamps.

(which would have amounted to more than $400 on that tiny sampling alone). Multiply that amount by the many hundreds of millions of pieces of first-class mail delivered annually and there is the potential for huge annual revenue loss!

Admittedly, not all uncanceled stamps are reused, but even a tiny fraction can account for millions of dollars. Sometimes, uncanceled stamps represent a problem more than once. The cover shown on page 123 (cropped), canceled January 10, 1992, represents at least the third use of that particular stamp. When it was first used, the stamp was uncanceled, cut off the envelope and glued on to another. When the stamp was not canceled that time either, the stamp — now on a larger piece of paper — was cut off once again and glued on to yet another envelope.

Not all illegal reuses of uncanceled stamps represent an attempt to defraud. One cover shown illustrates a misguided attempt to pay full postage. When the cover was posted on May 11, 1982, the sender was using old canceled stamps to make up the then-current 20-cent first class letter rate. She apparently had no stamps other than the 13-cent Commercial Aviation single (with clipped perfs from trimming from an envelope) and two 3-cent Americana stamps. To finish the franking, she taped a penny under the reused stamps — an action that, ironically, could have cost the USPS hundreds of dollars of damage to the canceling machines.

Since most people don't understand that reusing stamps is illegal, many see no need to hide what they are doing. This is evidenced by the group of covers shown that illustrate various forms of taping, gluing, and stapling reused stamps to covers. Each apparently made it through the mails without examination, despite the fact that postal regulations state clearly that stamps that have been taped, coated defaced, or reused are invalid for postage.

This enlargement shows an incredible illegal reuse encountered by the author. Parts of at least f ve different stamps were used to piece together a single 29-cent stamp.

Occasionally, covers with obviously reused stamps are examined. The three covers illustrated each have been handled in a different way. The top example (which was taped) was examined, canceled, and passed. The middle example (which also was taped and shortpaid by four cents) was first marked and assessed full postage due, but was then re-examined and assessed only four cents postage due, although it was a 1991 use and should have been assessed five cents to meet the then-current fifteen cent postcard rate. The bottom example (also a postcard) was examined, marked, and returned to the sender, who then removed the offending stamp and placed a new 32-cent stamp in its place.

But what about when mailers simply don't care that they're reusing stamps? Other examples clearly show stamps with previous cancels that have been glued to new envelopes and mailed. These illegal uses include both shortpaid and "overpaid" examples. Because the stamps still had a phosphorescent coating that triggered automated equipment, they likely never were examined manually to spot this abuse and were delivered to the recipients without incident.

Slightly higher on the abuse scale are those individuals who trim, overlap, or otherwise alter stamps to make them appear uncanceled. Although it's a game occasionally played by collectors as well, such use shows a certain criminal intent to defraud when perpetrated on commercial mail. A few outstanding examples of this type of illegal use (mostly from sweepstakes entries) are shown, including correction fluid masking cancels and an Express Mail stamp that has had its canceled borders trimmed off.

Much of the effort of cutting and pasting pieces of two or more stamps to make a single one is fairly labor intensive, and it is hard to comprehend just why it is done. But some people apparently will go to great lengths to save pocket change. The most spectacular example of this type of fraud is shown greatly enlarged from a cover. In this case, an individual sending multiple entries to a sweepstakes cut and pieced together parts of at least five different stamps to save twenty-nine cents in postage! He even added part of the "9" in the denomination with an ink pen. Surely the effort made was worth far more than the twenty-nine cents saved.

www.stamps.org

by david straight

Champagne and Philately

John K. Tiffany

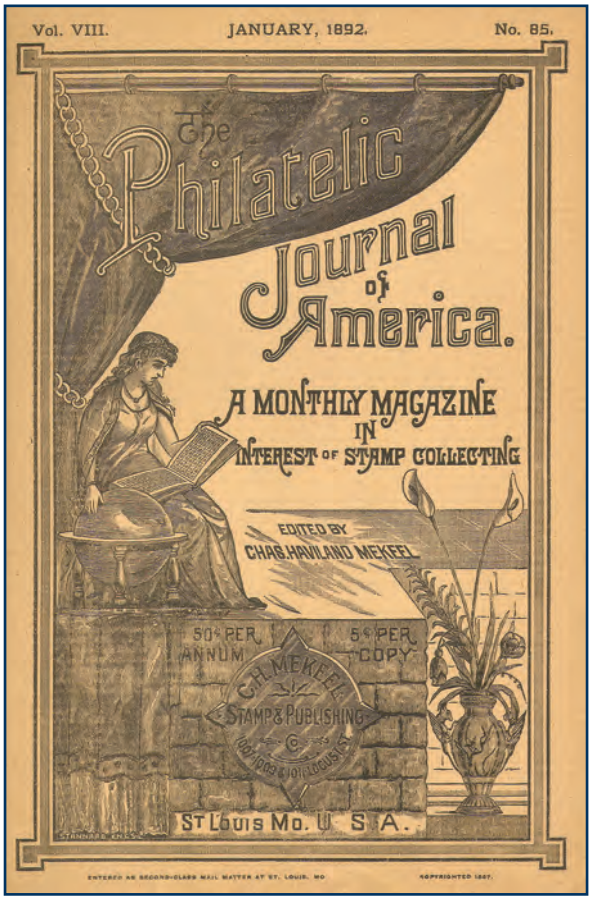
Although we will be well into 2007 by the time you are able to read this, I began this column in the predawn light of the New Year. Like many newspapers, yesterday's *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* provided suggestions to insure good luck and the success of your endeavors in the coming year. Apparently, the color of your underwear — red for love, or yellow for financial success — will determine your fate in the coming year. But, with no mention of the proper attire for a fortunate philatelic year, I maintained my usual practice of marking the New Year by doing the things that I want to be doing in the coming year — working on my collection and visiting philatelic friends.

Janus, the Roman god who vigilantly guarded doorways with his two faces watching both the past and the future, seemed a particular apt metaphor for St. Louis collectors this year. A couple dozen of us gathered at noon on New Year's Day to begin a new chapter in the life of the Mound City Stamp Club. This 125-year-old club, whose venerable traditions include a role in the founding of the APS, merged with the youthful (relatively by philatelic standards) vitality of the Greater St. Louis Stamp Club, just past its thirtieth year. As we toasted them, the presidents of the Greater St. Louis Stamp Club and the Mound City Stamp Club signed the merger documents creating the Greater Mound City Stamp Club. Our host and president of the new club, Tom A. Minor, created appropriate philatelic souvenirs for the occasion. Gary Hendren, one of its charter members, retold the founding of the Greater St. Louis Stamp Club on picnic tables at Wabash Park in 1976. While I am unable to pour you a glass of champagne, or pass a hors d'oeuvre your way, I will share some of St. Louis philatelic mementos that we passed around as we remembered our past and looked to our future.

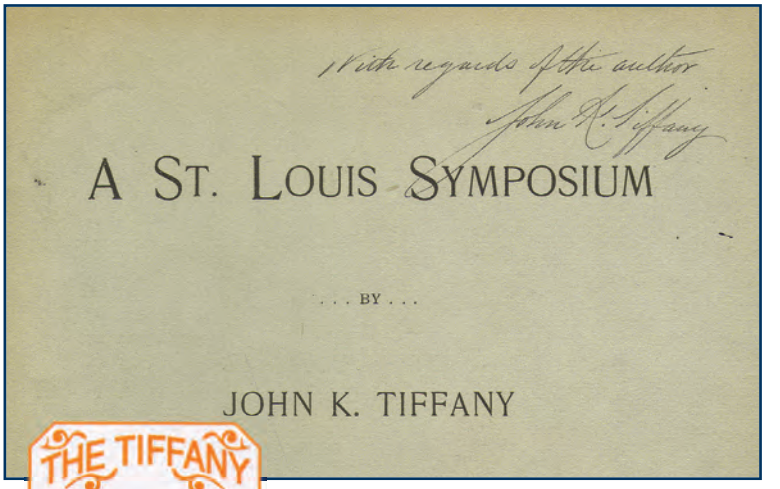
St. Louis collectors celebrating New Year's Day 2007. Greater Mound City Stamp Club president Tom A. Minor signing the merger documents January 1, 2007. (Photos by David Semsrott.)

St. Louis philatelic history begins with two giant figures — John K. Tiffany, the first great philatelic literature collector, and the publisher Charles H. Mekeel — who were not only active in their local clubs, but were instrumental in founding the APS. Mekeel called for the creation of a national philatelic organization in 1896 and engineered the election of Tiffany as the first president of the American Philatelic Association, a post he held for ten years, until 1896.

Tiffany, who was born into a wealthy St. Louis family, had begun collecting stamps while a student in France. With a natural bent towards research and scholarship, he set out, after Harvard Law School, to acquire every available philatelic publication. Purchased by the Earl of Crawford at Tiffany's death in 1899, his library became the nucleus for the philatelic collection at the British Library. Tiffany's research included the first scholarly examination of the "St. Louis Bears," as the 1845 St. Louis Postmaster Provisionals are commonly known. In 1894 leading philatelists accepted Tiffany's invitation and brought twenty-six copies of the provisionals to St. Louis so that he could plate all three printings. His pioneering study was published by Charles H. Me-



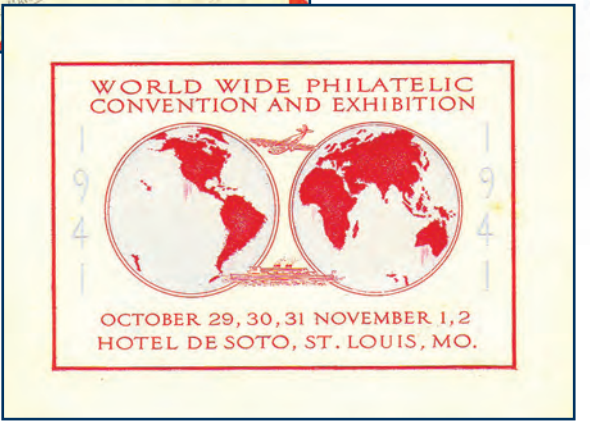
One of our cherished symbols, Lady Philately seated by the globe with a stamp album, was featured on the cover of Mekeel's *Philatelic Journal of America* published in St. Louis.



"With regards of the author John K. Tiffany" on the cover of Tiffany's pioneering monograph.
Left: Tiffany pin with St. Louis bears.

A card printed for Vining's 200th weekly broadcast on July 10, 1938.

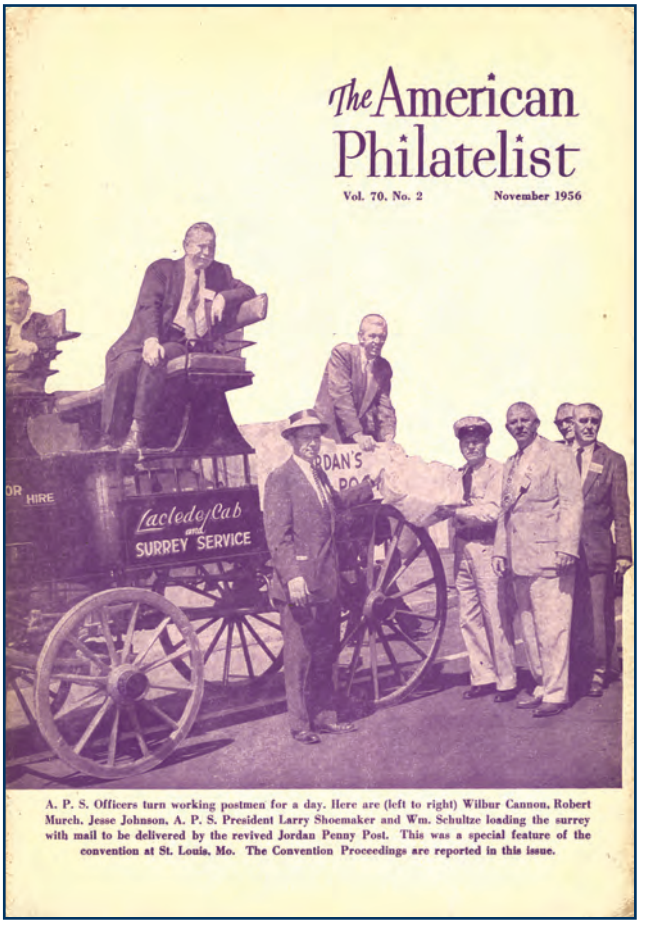
A cachet reading "St. Louis Stamp club of the Air / National Air Mail Week / Cancelled in the Studios of Radio Station WIL" was applied during a May 1938 broadcast.



St. Louis hosted the third of this short-lived series of national shows.

The front of the medal has the St. Louis Bears and the back reads "42nd. Annual Convention American Philatelic Society Saint Louis Aug. 16–18, 1927."

Program from the APS 70th Anniversary Convention hosted by the Mound City Stamp Club.



Loading Jordan's Penny Post on the levee for the trip to the APS Convention at the Jefferson Hotel.

Cinderella patterned after an early forgery of the St. Louis Bear.

keel first in *Philatelic Journal of America* and then reprinted as short monograph. It is for this association with Tiffany that the St. Louis Bears grace the Tiffany Pin worn to recognize generous contributions to the APS.

In the late summer of 1934 J. Edward Vining took to the airwaves to launch the St. Louis Stamp Club of the Air — a weekly Sunday evening radio program devoted to philately. Although the program never achieved the nationwide syndication of Captain Tim's Ivory Soap Stamp Club, it was popular in St. Louis for many years. Not as beginner-oriented as Captain Tim's program, Vining interviewed both local collectors and out-of-town guests regarding their collecting specialties. One of his programs in May 1938 included servicing National Air Mail Week covers with "Radio Station WIL" cachets. On October 12, 1941, after 360 episodes, Vining turned the program over to the Radio Committee of the Mound City Stamp Club. The following month, the St. Louis Stamp Club of the Air broadcast from the 3rd Annual World Wide Philatelic Convention and Exhibition held in St. Louis.

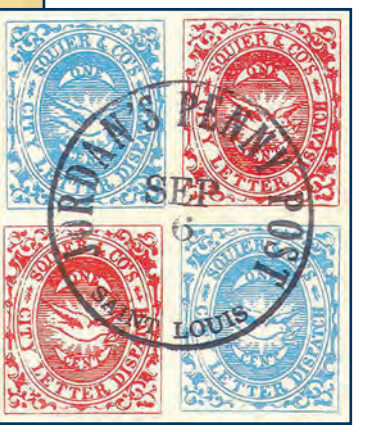
The Melbourne Hotel, a sponsor for Vining's program and the meeting place for three local stamp clubs, was designated the "Philatelic Headquarters" hotel for St. Louis by the readers of *Stamps* magazine. H.L. Lindquist published a directory of hotels nominated by local philatelic societies in his 1936 *Philatelic Almanac*:

> ... all traveling philatelists are urged to make these hotels their headquarters. Most of the hotels listed are meeting places of the local clubs and keep a special file of philatelists registered at the hotel so that when a new one is added he can be informed of other collectors who may be there at the same time. Traveling philatelists may be assured of a cordial greeting and the minimum rate when requested.

For the Melbourne, that minimum rate was $2.50 per night in 1936. Today, the building, on the corner of Grand and Lindell, is a dormitory for St. Louis University.

The oldest souvenir I have seen for a national philatelic event in St. Louis is a medal from the 1927 APS Annual Convention, which pioneered philatelic exhibiting at APS conventions. The October 1927 *American Philatelist* reported that "the best feature of the Convention was the Stamp Exhibition that was held at the St. Louis Municipal Art Museum. Over 250 sheets were displayed without any cost to the exhibitors or the Society … St. Louis clearly demonstrated in giving the

Souvenir cover with both Jordan's Penny Post and the APS Convention Station cancel.



The Squire & Co. cinderellas were printed checkerboard style in sheets of eighty stamps.

first annual stamp show in connection with the A.P.S. Convention that this feature should be a part of all future conventions." The exhibitors, including Alfred Lichtenstein, Theodore F. Steinway, Hugh M. Clark, and Delf Norona, "each received a bronze medal in recognition of his assistance" because "no competition was held, as was proper."

By the next time St. Louis welcomed the APS, for the 70th Anniversary Convention in 1956, competitive exhibiting was well established. The host that year was the Mound City Stamp Club, whose annual fall Open House was one of the premier national stamp shows from the 1940s through the 1970s. The 1956 convention programs included spaces for two St. Louis-related cinderellas that can still be found in dealer's cover boxes and on eBay. On opening day (September 5th) there was a St. Louis "Bear" reproduction based upon an early forgery of the stamp, cancelled with reproductions of the 1846 St. Louis postmark and "PAID" marking. The next day featured a reenactment of the Jordan's Penny Post with Robert W. Murch, general chairman for the convention, driving a horse and wagon from the levee to the convention in the Jefferson Hotel on 12th Street. Red-and-blue facsimiles of the 1859 Squier & Co. City Letter Dispatch stamps (Scott 132L1–132L4) were prepared. When Squier was bought out by Jordan & Company in 1860, they continued using the same stamps but introduced the circular "Jordan's Penny Post Saint Louis" cancel that was reproduced for use at the convention.

Even if your local club is not as old as the Greater Mound City Stamp Club, you might prepare an enjoyable program by encouraging members to share the history of your club through its covers and ephemera.

The assistance of Alan Barasch, Gary Hendren, Tom Minor, and David Semsrott is gratefully acknowledged.

Inauguration of National Council was the oldest stamp purchased at the Kabul General Post off ce..

Afghanistan's Broken Postal System

by Lawrence Cohen

In an overseas career spanning more than a quarter century, I have observed a variety of dysfunctional and dyspeptic postal systems. At the post office in Subatica, Yugoslavia (which in 1993 had no stamps on hand), the postal clerk accepted my cash and, a few weeks later, mailed Yugoslav stamps to me in Budapest, Hungary — defeating the purpose of having a postal service. In Lagos, Nigeria, the philatelic hazard was counterfeit stamps used in massive mailings of "Advance Fee Fraud" letters. Today, the Internet user may recognize similar solicitations via e-mail for bank account information in exchange for untold millions of dollars! From Central America to India to Peru to Tblisi, Georgia, standing at a post office window while a sullen clerk carefully separated the individual stamps, counted (and often recounted) to confirm the charge to the last centavo, rupee, lempira, or naira, is a delight not to be missed for this stamp collector.

However, in terms of total postal system collapse and disorder, no place in my experience matches contemporary Afghanistan, where I served in late 2003 and again from September 2005 to September 2006.

These stamps are still being used for postage today.

The Bamiyan Buddhas were destroyed by the Taliban in March 2001. The author was assigned to the Provincial Reconstruction Team, Bamiyan, in 2003.

The Quietest Offices

Kabul's General Post Office (GPO) is located within the Ministry of Communications complex on one of the city's busiest squares. It is an impressive and prominent structure that appears to have escaped damage when much of the rest of Kabul was destroyed during Afghanistan's civil wars. Outside its front gate, overweight trucks, righthand-drive taxis, lefthand-drive buses, decorated donkey carts, and hordes of pedestrians vie for space. Money changers fisting thick wads of currency paw at passing motorists for business. Women in full-length, all-concealing *burkas*, and often wearing high heels, dart across the paths of multi-passenger scooters, broken-down pushcarts, and the ubiquitous buses. Double parking is the norm, and heaven help the driver who attempts a U-turn.

Yet, inside the main hall of the GPO all is quiet, with nary a patron and, during the times I visited, never a line. I was always the sole customer. The same was true in the western city of Herat, Afghanistan's second largest city. The Herat post office is even more serene and empty than Kabul's, if that is possible.

Although most longtime Herat residents are familiar with the location of their city's GPO, I never found one who admitted having been there in the recent past. As the GPO's one (and apparently only) patron, the postal staff knew me well, and, like everywhere else in this fascinating country, a visitor is truly a guest. While we drank *chai*, the men peppered me with requests: With winter upon Herat, could I get them money for fuel? The post office could use some new furniture. Did I know whether the addressee on a particular letter that reached the post office is resident at the nearby military base?

A couple of women, with head scarves of course, appeared to be working at empty desks. But the likelihood of either ever starting a dialogue with me was infinitesimal.

Since there are few street signs and even fewer house numbers, postal delivery in either city would be a mailman's nightmare. That is, if there *were* home delivery. Mail service is so primitive that any home service would be the equivalent of Special Delivery. Mail boxes?

King Zahir Shah ruled Afghanistan from 1933 until 1973, when he was overthrown by his cousin, Prime Minister Mohammed Daoud.

Mohammed Daoud ruled Afghanistan from 1973 until his death in "The Saur Revolution," April 1978.

"The People's Democratic Party Honors Its Martyrs," issued just prior to the Soviet invasion.

Mail trucks? They were almost non-existent.

Whenever I visited the GPO in either city, my request was usually the same: to purchase whatever stamps were available. Leafing through old stamp books, the postal clerk inevitably presented me with a philatelic time warp covering more than seventy years of Afghan history. All the stamps were valid postage, with an additional decimal space often added by the clerk to the face value of older stamps.

With everything in Afghanistan, a price offered by a seller is usually less a function of "face value" and more the result of the seller taking stock of what the buyer is likely to pay. Unlike in the bazaar, where price negotiation is an essential element in the sale, the quoted price for stamps seemed to follow a formula, perhaps based loosely on a directive issued by some unknown Ministry of Communications official months, years, or even decades earlier. The valuation of older stamps may have appeared arbitrary, but it probably was not. My purchase completed, I would pay perhaps 500 afghani (about $10) for a small pile of old and new stamps and, inevitably, the post office would have been cleaned out of a sizable share of its available stamps that day.

All stamps cited in this report were purchased over the counter at the Kabul and Herat GPOs and not from any philatelic office. All are valid postage. Dead letter envelopes were provided to me by the Herat GPO.

Taking a Stamp Caravan through 20th-Century Afghan History

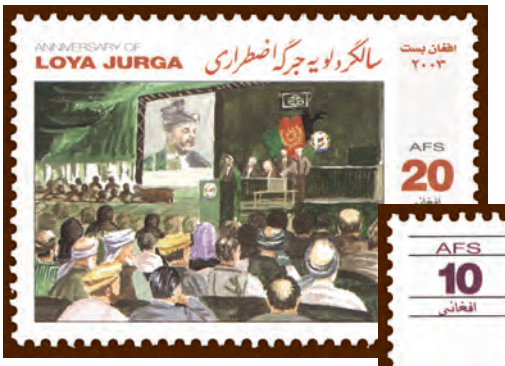
The oldest issue procured from either GPO is the 40-poul "Inauguration of National Council" (Scott 263/SG 215) issued in 1932 during the last year of the reign of King Nadir Shah. Upon Nadir Shah's death in 1933, his son Zahir Shah became king and ruled Afghanistan for forty years. Issues from the Zahir Shah period include four from the 1934–38

"Woman with Camel," issued during Soviet occupation. Many socialist themes were shown on Afghan stamps during the 1980s.

A 3-afgani Spoonbil from a series of bird stamps issued immediately after the Soviet withdrawal.

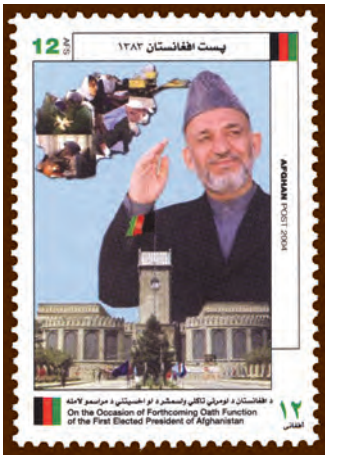
"77th Anniversary of Afghan Independence," issued the same year as the Taliban took control of most of Afghanistan. Note face value of 700 afganis (AFS), reflecting hyperinflation associated with this stage of the country's civil wars.

This homage to Northern Alliance leader Ahmad Shah Massoud, assassinated by Al Qaeda/Taliban on September 9, 2001, was one of the f rst stamps issued after the fall of the Taliban.



Early issuances during the interim period of the national Afghan government prior to presidential and legislative elections in 2004 and 2005, respectively.

Miscellaneous stamps purchased at Afghan GPOs, including recent issues.



series (Scott 290, 298, 299, 300/SG 259, 268, 269, 274); t he "Bamiyan Buddhas" (Scott 371/SG 34, issued 1951); a nd the "King's 55th Birthday" (Scott 805–806/SG 667, issued 1969). Afghanistan's monarchy ended abruptly in 1973 when the King was overthrown by his Prime Minister cousin, Mohammad Daoud Khan.[1] Daoud's portrait is found on the "Anniversary of the Republic" stamp (Scott 925–926/SG 787) issued in 1975, in t he middle of his five-year rule.

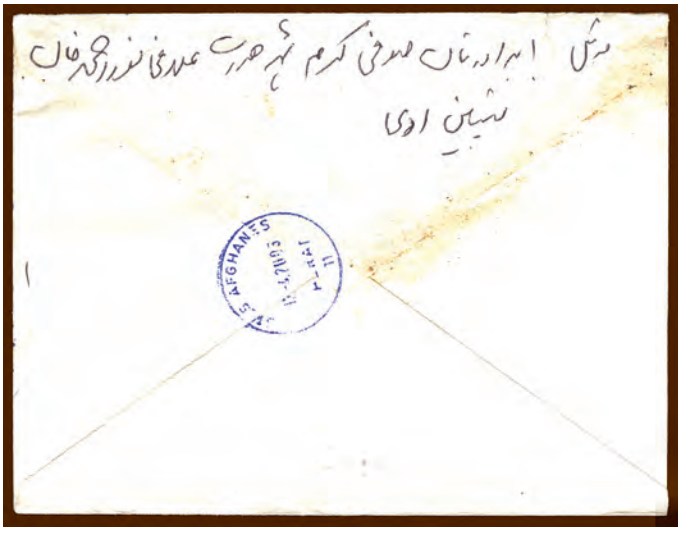
Soviet influence over the Afghan political process gained strength during the 1970s, culminating, on April 27, 1978, in another coup (called t he "Saur Revolution" because of the Afghan month in which it occurred) by the country's two major Marxist-Lenin parties, the *Khalq* ("Masses") and the more radical *Parcham* ("Flag"). An issue from this short interregnum after the coup but before the Russian invasion is "The People's Democratic Party Honors Its Martyrs" (Scott 952/SG 829, issued 1978). The new Marxist government, headed by *Khalq* leader Noor Mo-

Left: Cover mailed from Herat in February 2003 with no month shown in primary datestamp. English forwarding instructions if the addressee cannot be found — "To babood. if babood is not avalable give it to Faroq" — was added by an interpreter outside the postal system. Right: Handstamps on reverse indicate that the letter was returned to the Herat GPO, unopened, on February 24, 2003.

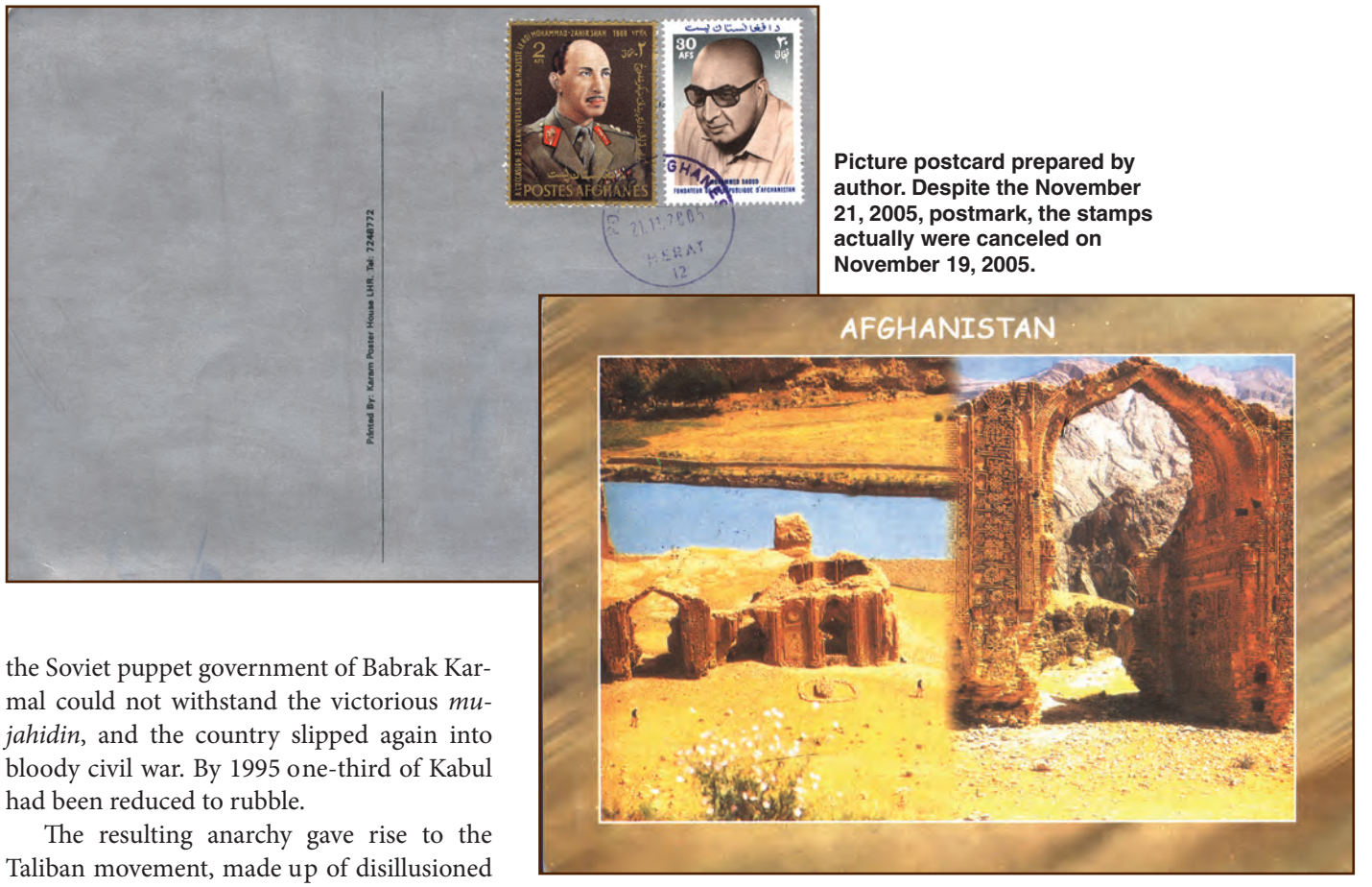
hammed Tureki, embarked on a radical la nd reform program accompanied by widespread repression and executions throughout the country. Tureki also turned on his erstwhile *Parcham* allies.

As the situation in Afghanistan deteriorated, the Soviet Union became increasingly concerned and began making plans to intervene. In September 1979, Tureki was killed in a hail of gunfire by the forces of Prime Minister Hafizullah Amin, who was favored by Soviet Premier Leonid Brezhnev. Others in Moscow, however, believed Brezhnev had backed the wrong horse. The new Afghan leader, educated in the United States and suspected by the KGB of having links with the CIA, lasted only until the day after Christmas 1979, when the Soviet Union pounced. Thousands of Soviet troops were airlifted into Kabul, and Amin was assassinated by a special Soviet intelligence unit. Babrak Karmal, the *Parcham* leader who had been exiled as Afghan Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, was installed as president. Thus began almost a decade of brutal Soviet control, which often paid philatelic homage to Socialist themes, such as "Woman with a Camel" (Scott 1036B/SG 922, issued 1983). The Afghan fighters, collectively known as *mujahidin* and based primarily out of Pakistan, took on the Soviet military. Unknown at the time, this was to be only the first phase of Afghanistan's series of civil wars.

With expanded U.S. financial assistance channeled through the Pakistan Intelligence Service to the *muj* and with thousands of Muslim volunteers pouring into the conflict, the situation in Afghanistan became untenable for the Soviets. Following negotiation of the 1988 Geneva Accords, the Soviet Union pulled the last of its troops out of Afghanistan in February 1989, leaving a communist government in place that lasted until 1992. A postal series on birds (Scott 1373–1379/SG 1271, issued 1989) lends a peaceful ambiance during an otherwise chaotic environment. As anticipated,



Left: Cover appears to have been mailed from Herat to an address in Iran, October 14, 2003. The Kabul cancellation indicates that the letter reached the Kabul GPO on February 2, 2003! Right: Herat datestamps on the reverse show its return as April 12, 2003 — possibly a simple reverse of date and month (should read December 4, 2003).



Picture postcard prepared by author. Despite the November 21, 2005, postmark, the stamps actually were canceled on November 19, 2005.

the Soviet puppet government of Babrak Karmal could not withstand the victorious *mujahidin*, and the country slipped again into bloody civil war. By 1995 one-third of Kabul had been reduced to rubble.

The resulting anarchy gave rise to the Taliban movement, made up of disillusioned *mujahidin* and *madrasa* (Islamic school) students in Pakistan. The Taliban swept into the country and by 1998 had taken control of more than 90 percent of its territory. The Taliban imposed its radical version of Islamic law, most notably its draconian repression of women and its rigid code of moral behavior. Postal issues during the *muj* wars include, ironically, the "77th Anniversary of Afghan Independence" (issued 1996, interim period with no Scott or SG numbers). The Taliban also gave shelter and support to an important patron — a rising terrorist star named Osama bin Laden and his Al Qaeda network. Despite repeated attempts by the Taliban to complete its conquest of the country, a small remnant of opposition, the Northern Alliance (based largely in the rugged Hindu Kush Mountains of northeastern Afghanistan) remained beyond Taliban control.

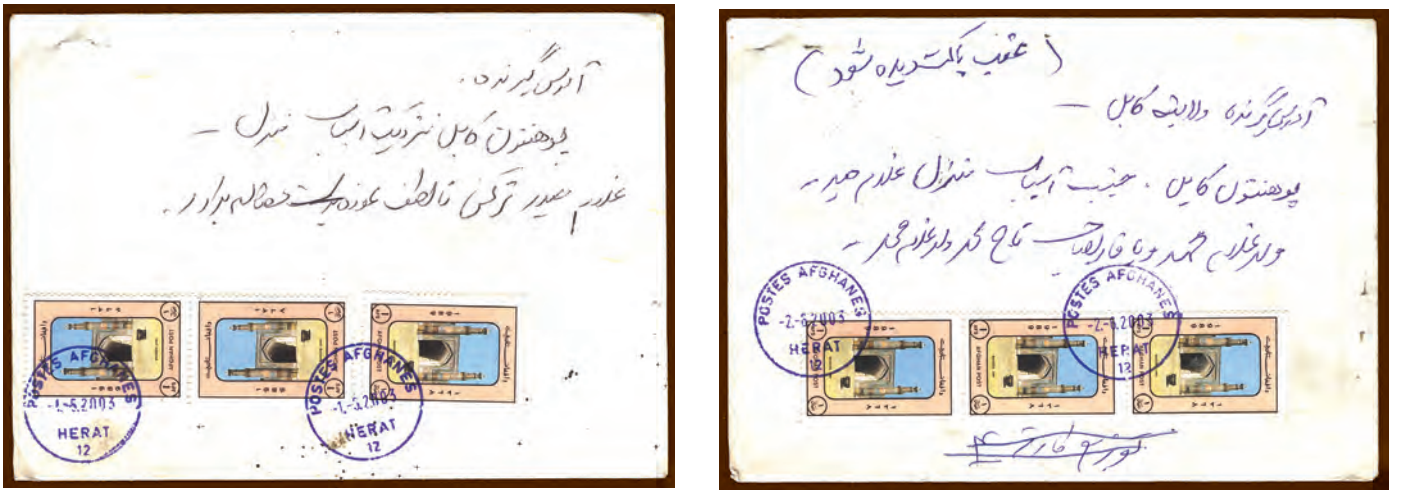
The situation changed once again on September 9, 2001, when a key Northern Alliance leader, Ahmad Shah Massoud, was assassinated at his headquarters by Al Qaeda suicide bombers disguised as journalists. Two days after Massoud's death, Al Qaeda attacked the United States. One of the earliest issues after U.S. and Northern Alliance forces defeated the Taliban honored Massoud (Scott 1384, issued 2002). It is noteworthy that the Massoud stamp valuation (14,000 afghani) reflected the hyper-inflated currency left by the Taliban regime. A new Afghani currency was introduced in early 2003, and the face value of stamps issued that year — for example, 20af "Anniversary of Loya Jirga" (no Scott or SG number yet assigned) and 10af "Birthday of the Prophet Mohammed" (no Scott or SG number yet assigned) — reflected the country's regained monetary stability.

A Postage Menagerie

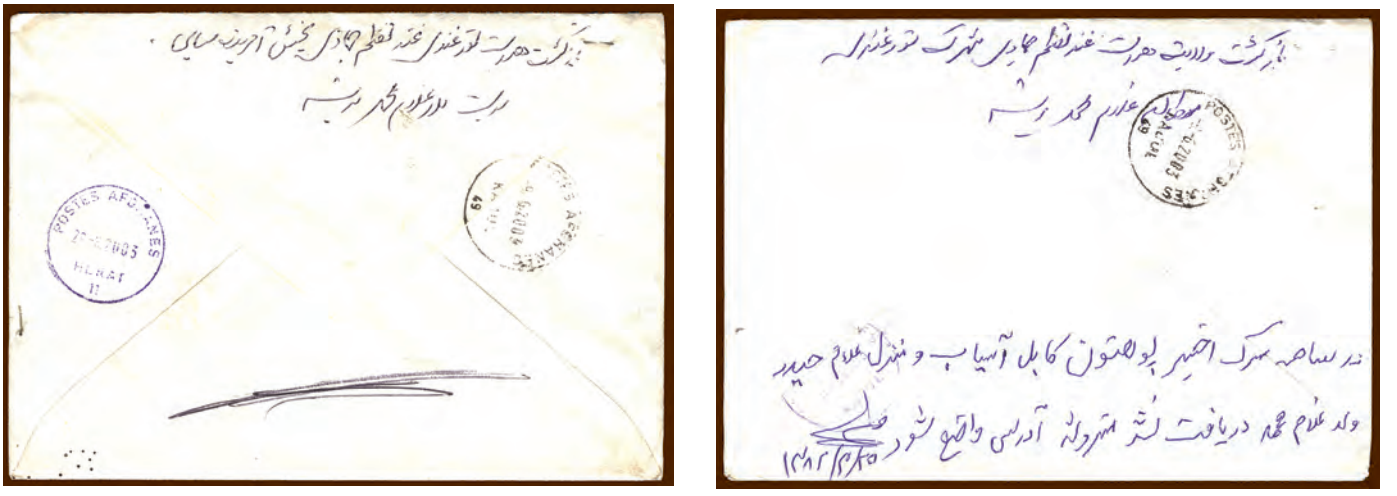
Because letter mailing is rare, and few stamps are available in any case, letters routinely use old issues or mix generations of Afghan stamps on the same envelope. A collection of Afghan dead letters from the Herat GPO, mailed between 2002 and 2004, exemplify the use of older stamps, including combining pre-1964 poul-denominated stamps with post-1964 afghani-denominated stamps. The covers shown are a representative group, so the practice would not appear to be uncommon. Since 2004 the use of new issues, as they are distributed to Afghanistan's few post offices, is probably on the rise. However, postal authorities offer only the stamps that are available, and older stamps still emerge from dusty cabinets.

The first cover, most likely mailed in early February 2003, is franked on both sides with a total of seven old stamps (four Scott 323/SG 264, issued 1939, and three Scott 373/SG 326, issued 1951). The 210-poul total face value of the assorted stamps was likely credited as equal to 21 afghani (about $0.43). The hand-cancellation used when the letter was mailed, Herat 25, is missing the month. (Note that the Afghan convention is day/month/year; however, Afghanistan utilizes its own calendar system, which is unrelated to either the Muslim Hijira or Western Georgian calendars. Postal workers might understandably get confused with dates from

Typical mixture of old and new stamps used on a letter mailed from Herat August 2, 2003. It reached Kabul August 10; left Kabul for Germany August 20; and was returned to Kabul for insuff cient address on September 22 (backstamp).

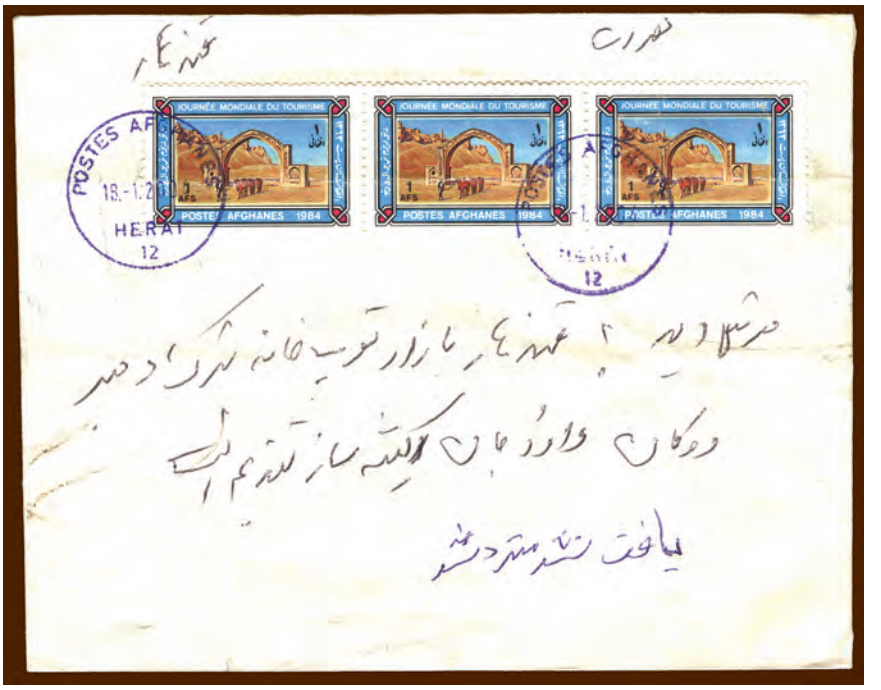


Two letters from same writer found pinned together at the Herat GPO dead letter off ce; cancellations of May 1, 2003, and June 2, 2003. Identical Kabul receiving datestamps on the reverse suggest, in fact, that they were mailed on the same day or possibly two consecutive days, June 1 and 2, 2003, and that the clerk had forgotten to change the month on the f rst letter's cancel.



an unfamiliar calendar.) The Herat 11 cancellation, showing February 24, 2003, was probably the date the letter was returned to the GPO.

The same Herat hand c ancellations were used on both sides of a second cover with even more confusing results. If the postmarks are to be believed, this letter was mailed from Herat to Iran on October 14, 2003; ho wever, the Kabul cancel (all Afghan international mail transits Kabul) — when the letter likely was det ermined to have an insufficient address — r eads February 2, 2003. Finally, there is the April 12, 2003 r eceiving mark on the back. For this mark, perhaps the month and day are reversed, which would give a December 4, 2003 date for when the letter was returned to Herat. This gives the beginning and end to the story, even if it doesn't explain the date of the Kabul postmark. Three different postal issuances (Scott 323/SG 264, issued 1939; Scott 1277/SG 1176, issued 1987; and Scott 1380/SG 1283, issued 1989) were placed on the envelope.



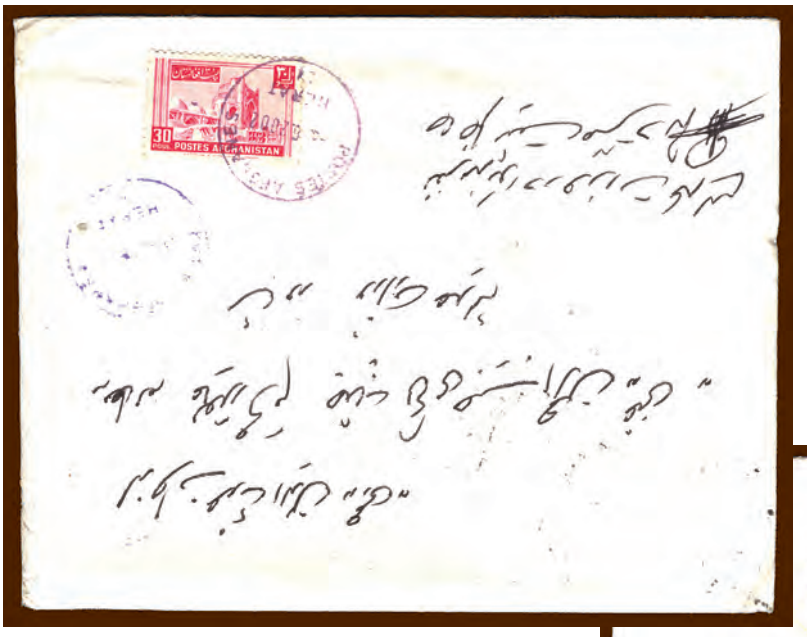
The use of three 1-afghani stamps from the Soviet occupation period is typical of domestic postal correspondence.

The third example, a p ostcard made by the author and showing the "King Zahir Shah 55th Birthday" issue (S cott 805/SG 667, issued 1969) a nd "Mohammed Daoud" (Scott 924/SG 787, issued 1978), offers further proof of the unreliability of Afghan date cancellations. Although postmarked November 21, 2005, t he actual date the card was cancelled was November 19. Note that the man shown in the stamp on the right overthrew in a coup d'état the man on the left, who happened to be his cousin.

The fourth example, a letter mailed from Herat August 2, 2003, reached Kabul on August 10 and left Afghanistan for Germany ten days later. It was returned for insufficient address to Kabul on September 22, 2003 — assuming the date stamp is accurate. The postage is a co mbination of four old Pashtunistan Day stamps (Scott 784/SG 636, issued 1968) and two different contemporary World TB D ay stamps (issued 2003, Scott and SG numbers not yet assigned).

Two other letters, written by the same person, were found pinned together in t he Herat GPO de ad letter pile. The cancellations indicate that they were mailed separately — on May 1 a nd June 2, 2003, r espectively. However, the Kabul receiving date of June 9, 2003, o n the reverse of each cover suggests that the two letters actually were posted at the same time. (The postal employee possibly realized that he had used an incorrect cancellation date after stamping the

"International Year of the Child" stamp used on letter returned from the Netherlands for insuff cient address.



An old 30-poul stamp (issued 1951) used to pay the domestic rate of three afghani on June 3, 2002. Backstamp indicates letter was returned to Herat a year later, on July 21, 2003.

first letter.) After being returned from Kabul for reasons unclear, the letters were pinned together in Herat and then a final cancellation of June 29, 2003, was applied to the back of the second cover (the one day May 1).

A letter posted January 18, 2004, is a typical example of the use of older Afghan stamps (Scott 1104/SG 986, issued 1984) for domestic mail. A letter mailed a bit later in the year, on May 4, to Holland used an even older 16-afghani stamp celebrating "International Children's Year" (Scott 966/SG 841, issued 1979), which was probably the correct postage (about $0.33). A final example shows the use of an old 30-poul stamp (Scott 373/SG326, issued 1951) to pay the domestic rate of three afghani ($0.06). Although the letter appears to have been posted on June 3, 2002, the reverse indicates that it was returned to Herat on July 21, 2003, more than a year later. It is possible that the incorrect year was used on one of the cancels.

Afghanistan is slowly emerging from a quarter century of civil wars, and its postal service clearly suffered its share of problems during this period. Given the rapid emergence of telecommunications technologies throughout the country, it is unlikely that Afghanistan's postal system will ever fully recover. Its facilities are in desperate need of repair, its staff untrained and underpaid, its mission in a land without even street addresses uncertain, its priority among Afghanistan's most urgent needs low. Most importantly, Afghans lack a culture of or trust in using a postal system. However, in only a few months I observed a cleanup and reorganization of the Herat GPO. There were small signs of improvement in service as well, although customers remained rare.

Afghanistan is a philatelic kaleidoscope that even today is churning out curiosities. I dedicate this report to my friends at the GPOs.

Endnote

The coup occurred while the Zahir Shah was on holiday in Italy; the elderly king still lives in that country.

The Author

In a 26-year career with the U.S. Foreign Service, Lawrence Cohen has worked in Mexico, Honduras, India, Hungary, Nigeria, Brazil, and Afghanistan. His interest in stamps, which began in the 1960s, focuses on those locations where he has visited or served. He particularly enjoys patronizing GPOs in newly visited cities.

"The Society we love is a $4 million business.

We are also at a very critical crossroads where imaginative, highly-qualified leadership is required."

Nick Carter
Candidate for APS President

A "hands on" philatelic leader committed to completing the Match Factory and growing the APS into our future.

With extensive management and financial experience, Nick is a graduate of Harvard and MIT. He retired from the World Bank in 1998 after a 32-year career as an economist and manager. If elected, he will be a full-time APS president.

Nick was elected to the APS Board of Directors as Treasurer in 2003 and reelected in 2005 and has been a member of the APS Finance Committee since 2001. As part of an APS Committee for the Future, he authored a technical study of the dynamics of APS membership. He was the budget director of the Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition and headed its Technology Committee. Board member of NAPEX for over ten years, Treasurer since 2001.

With the Robert C. Graebner Chapter #17 of the American First Day Cover Society in December.

- The Presidency of the APS requires skills, experience and commitment. My background and experience, both in philately and in business, make me uniquely suited for the job.
- Openness in Society management is essential.
- The American Philatelic Center is only half finished. I am committed to bringing it to a bright, financially-successful completion.
- **"Future Years" financial viability is vital.** As APS Treasurer I have brought about discipline and disclosure. ***I pledge to preserve and maintain the financial viability of the Society.***
- Our biggest challenge is declining membership. ***I will help conceive and oversee a broad plan for membership growth.***
- I believe in sound management, encouraging new members with attractive services, and providing outstanding "customer service" to our current members.
- The Mission of the American Philatelic Society is to encourage and promote philately as relaxing, mentally stimulating, and historically and culturally important. The APS is the national center serving and supporting members who love this hobby as I do. ***I am strongly committed to this wonderful mission.***
- I want to give back to the Society that gave me so much enjoyment for the 40 years I have been a member. Please vote for me for APS President.

Find out lots more at www.NickForAPS.com

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Carol Giles-Straight
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John Vincent-Smith
Dan Walker
Steven Zwillinger

Add your name to this list...*or ask Nick a question.*
Just email him at nick@nickforaps.com

Stamps from Russia, Haiti, and Hungary illustrating some of the major IGY themes.

International Geophysical Year; A Philatelic Survey

by Robert A. Greenwald

Like many philatelists, I started collecting as a schoolboy, gave it up for college, and went back to it years later. Seven years ago, when all the kids were gone, I renovated a bedroom to make a "stamp den" for myself, and when I moved my collection up from the basement into the new office, I found an album I had started as a high school junior in 1959. It was labeled "IGY." I was a science buff in high school, and when a company called Ayal Publications issued an IGY stamp album in 1958, I acquired one and started filling it in. Forty-nine years later, it is complete at last, and IGY has become my latest philatelic obsession.

IGY stands for the "International Geophysical Year," which actually lasted eighteen months, from July 1, 1957 through December 31, 1958. It was a worldwide concerted effort to study the planet Earth. Of the sixty-six countries that participated in IGY, twenty-nine issued stamps and souvenir sheets specifically for the event. In addition to the basic stamps, an IGY collection can include covers in many categories: FDCs, covers postmarked on the ships that participated in the exploration, stations in Antarctica and places all over the planet where science and exploration took place, and covers signed by prominent individuals. The broader IGY topic also overlaps with space and rockets, because many notable rocket launchings — including the Sputniks, Vanguards, and Explorers — took place during the same

Russian cover honoring the Second Polar Year, 1932.

time interval. In this article I will provide a general survey of the IGY philatelic field. I am hoping to write a complete history of IGY, and readers are encouraged to contact me with additional information.

Background

The seeds of IGY were planted at a conference in Hamburg, Germany, in 1879. The conferees discussed the need for international cooperation in polar research, and, in 1882, the First International Polar Year commenced. Recognizing the value of synchronized observations from many vantage points, a second Polar Year was declared for fifty years hence, in 1932.

Initially, a third year of international polar study, 1982–83, was planned as well. However, in April 1950, at a meeting of geophysicists at the home of James A. Van Allen, Lloyd Berkner, head of the Brookhaven Laboratory, suggested that the third polar year should be initiated sooner than originally scheduled, because he had detected the start of a cycle of enhanced solar activity and wanted to take advantage of new technologies for its study. The scope of IGY was widened to include the entire globe, not just the poles. The International Council of Scientific Unions took over the planning, creating the Comité Spécial de l'Année Géophysique International (CSAGI) to coordinate the year's activities.

Eventually twelve areas of interest were identified:

International Polar Year

The year 2007 marks a number of important anniversaries in the world of scientific research that have been honored by the philatelic community with a wide variety of stamps, cancels, and cachets. It is the 125th anniversary of the first International Polar Year (IPY), 1882–1883; the 75th anniversary of the second IPY, 1932–1933; and the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year (IGY), 1957–1958.

The International Polar Years have advanced human knowledge in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, geomagnetism, and related techologies in the spirit of international cooperation. The International Geophysical Year served the scientific community through its application of new technologies from World War II to research on the upper atmosphere. Discoveries associated with this research included confirmation of continental drift, discovery of the Van Allen Radiation Belt, accurate estimates of the Antarctic land mass, initiation of the global space age and exploration of the upper atmosphere through the development of the first satellites. All three research years promoted the establishment of science research stations in the Antarctic, and the IGY specifically worked for the 1961 ratification of the Antarctic Treaty, which promotes international collaboration in the scientific exploration of the Antarctic.

The importance of this international cooperation can be seen in some of the numbers. The first International Polar Year had a support base of twelve nations; in 1932–33, there were forty countries involved. By the time of the 1957–58 International Geophysical Year there were more than 60,000 scientists from sixty-six countries taking an active role in the proceedings.

International Polar Year 2007–2008 actually will extend from March 1, 2007, until March 2, 2009, permitting researchers to conduct observations for two annual cycles to determine the effect polar regions have on global climate systems and to promote fundamental advances in many different areas of science.

Table I. The Primary Stamp Issues for IGY

Country	Scott Number	Themes Expressed
Argentina	677	Polar
Australian Antarctic Territory	L1–L6	Polar Exploration
Belgium	605, 605 s/s	Polar Exploration
Bulgaria	C76–C77	Satellites
Canada	376	Symbolic
Chile	305, 310–311, C199–C200, C214, O77	Polar Exploration, Maps
China PR	358–359, 379–381	Satellites, Space Science & Astronomy
Colombia	680, C319–C320	Meteorology
Czechoslovakia	836–838	Space Science & Astronomy, Satellites, Meteorology
Dominican Republic	B21–B25, CB13–CB15, 501–505 s/s, CB13–CB15 s/s	Symbolic Overprint on Unrelated Stamps
DDR	370–372	Meteorology, Satellites, Oceanography
Ecuador	650, 718 overprint, C422 overprint	Satellites
Falkland Islands	1L20, 1L23–1L24, 1L26	Polar Exploration
Finland	373	Symbolic
French Southern & Antarctic Territories	8–10, C2	Polar Exploration
Haiti	424–427, C119–C121, 424–427 s/s	Satellites, Polar Exploration, Space Science & Astronomy, Oceanography
Hungary	1212–1218, 1282 overprint	Space Exploration, Satellites
Indonesia	460–464	Satellites
Italy	717	Satellites
Japan	637	Polar Exploration
Netherlands Antilles	241	Maps
New Zealand Ross Dependency	L1–L4	Polar Exploration
Norway	355–377	Maps, Polar Exploration
North Korea	unlisted	Satellites
Peru	C168	Satellites
Poland	821–822	Polar Exploration, Space Science & Astronomy
Romania	C49–C52, same with overprint	Satellites
Russia (USSR)	1582, 1767 s/s, 1884, 1957–1959, 1991–1993, 2021, 2032–2083, 2089– 2091, 2092–2094, 2232–2235, 2886	Space Science & Astronomy, Satellites Meteorology, Aurora Borealis, Magnetism, Polar 2035, Exploration
United States	1107	Symbolic
Yugoslavia	525, C58	Oceanography, Space Science & Astronomy

- aurora and air glow
- cosmic rays
- geomagnetism
- glaciology
- gravity
- the ionosphere
- longitude and latitude
- meteorology
- oceanography
- seismology
- solar activity
- rocket and satellite studies of the upper atmosphere

It was the sunspot topic that led to the eighteen-month year, as the period of observation was set to ensure maximal overlap with the expected intensity of solar flares. IGY led to better understanding of the tectonic plates, discovery of the Van Allen radiation belts, and a comprehensive view of global physical phenomena.

Antarctica was the focus of much of the IGY action, and the South Pole region certainly accounts for a large percentage of the philatelic history of the event. Twelve nations established thirty-six bases on the ice shelf and ninetee n bases on neighboring islands; viz., Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The major accomplishments of the Antarctic component of IGY were measurements of the fresh water content of the continent, improved meteorological predictions due to better understanding of the weather patterns of the southern hemisphere, advanced knowledge of glaciers, and seismology of the southern hemisphere.

The Basic Stamps

Although many countries participated in IGY, only twenty-nine issued stamps specifically and concurrently for the event. Most collectors would add the Falkland Island Trans-Antarctic overprints as well. (These were included in my Ayal album, and philately abhors an empty album space.)

The major themes expressed on the stamps included polar explora-

Cover from the Secretary-General of CSAGI to Hugh Odishaw of the U.S. IGY Committee.

Scott 1107 used on 1960 postcard.

Plate block of U.S. Scott 1107, signed by Ervine Metzl, the designer, and by the engravers.

tion, meteorology, oceanography, space science, and the aurora borealis. Typical stamps in this category include: Russia — glaciology, telescope for solar research, non-magnetic ship studying earth magnetism; Haiti — bathyscape for oceanic research; Hungary — torsion balance for measuring small magnetic or gravitational forces, and aurora borealis.

Some countries, such as the United States and Canada, expressed their interest more symbolically; for example, Canada's 1958 release shows a microscope with a globe in the background. Other countries merely overprinted existing stamps on other themes with an IGY designation; for example, Haiti added "IGY" to a set of Olympic stamps — two sets of thematic collectors for the price of one! The (then) Iron Curtain countries usually emphasized Soviet space accomplishments. (Russia it-

Although many countries participated in IGY, only twenty-nine issued stamps specifically and concurrently for the event.

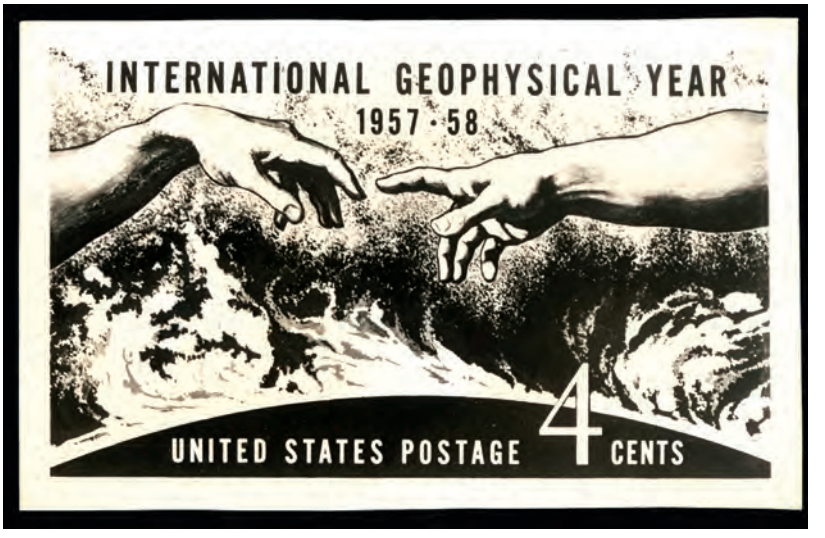


Photo essay for Scott 1107 showing a proposed 4-cent denomination.

Fortieth anniversary of IGY commemorated by FSAT.

Table II. Checklist of Geographic Place Names Appearing on IGY-Related Covers

Aklavik Northwest Territories (NWT)

Australian Antarctic Territories:
- Davis
- Mawson
- Macquarie Island

Base O Grahamland

Burton Island

Cape Adare

Coppermine NWT

Eureka NWT

Geofysikaalimen Observatory

Goose Bay Labrador

Greenland:
- Agto pr Egedesminde
- Angmagssalik
- Aputiteq
- Ara pr Jakoshavn ... Disko Sound
- Augpilagtoq pr Upernavik
- Cloushavn pr Christianshab
- Godhavn
- Kap Tobin pr Scoresbysund
- Mesters Vig
- Niaqornat pr Umanak
- Qaersut pr Umanok
- Querrurtussoq pr Holsteinborg
- Tasiussaq pr Upernavik
- Ujaragsugssuk pr Qutilgssat

Ice Island T3

Iceland:
- Keflavik
- Grimsey

Isachsen NWT

Lake Hazen NWT

Marion Island

Mould Bay NWT

Murchison Bay

North Cape

Norway:
- North Cape
- Svalbard/Murchison Bay

Point Barrow

Port Lockroy

Prince Harald

Resolute NWT

Svalbard Island

South Shetlands

Trindade Island

self was the most prolific issuer, especially with regard to the Sputniks.)

A checklist of the basic issues appears in Table I. Many of the stamps can be found both perforated and imperforate. Trial color proofs of the French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FSAT) stamps are known.

The U.S. stamp (Scott 1107) was designed by Ervine Metzl, an artist and illustrator who was one of the original members of the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee. The design is based on a depiction of sunspots overlaid with a scene from Michelangelo's *The Creation of Adam*, meant to emphasize man's determination to learn about the unknown. The IGY stamp was issued just before a proposed change in the basic first-class rate to four cents; a photo essay for the stamp with a 4-cent denomination is illustrated. The U.S. stamp was used commonly on postcards for the next few years, and U.S. collectors can pursue a matched set of Scott 1107 plate blocks; five numbers are known, and 25978 is said to be scarcer than the others.

To complete the collection, five anniversary issues can be added. Cuba Scott 2132–2137 and 2138 s/s were issued for the twentieth anniversary of Sputnik I and are a "stamp-on-stamp" issue. The designs reiterate those of several of the Iron Curtain country IGY stamps that featured Sputnik; e.g., DDR, Yugoslavia, North Korea, Poland, etc. The twenty-fifth and fortieth anniversaries of IGY were commemorated by stamps from FSAT (Scott C149), British Antarctic Territory (Scott 198), and South Georgia and the

An attractive FDC of Scott 1107, one of many not listed in Mellone.

A common Scott 1107 FDC, with the special Compex show cancel instead of the usual machine cancel.

South Sandwich Isles (Scott 124–126).

Finally, I should mention the sequel to IGY, known as IQSY (International Quiet Sun Year), 1964–65, a year of similar scientific events for which twenty-five countries issued stamps. A fiftieth year IGY anniversary is planned for 2007–2008, now referred to as eGY, the Electronic Geophysical Year (website www.eGY.org), and I am thinking of designing a set of cacheted covers to commemorate this event. Scott 1107 was issued at Compex in Chicago, May 21, 1958; perhaps a fiftieth anniversary event can be organized for Compex 2008 and some geophysicists can be convinced to attend.

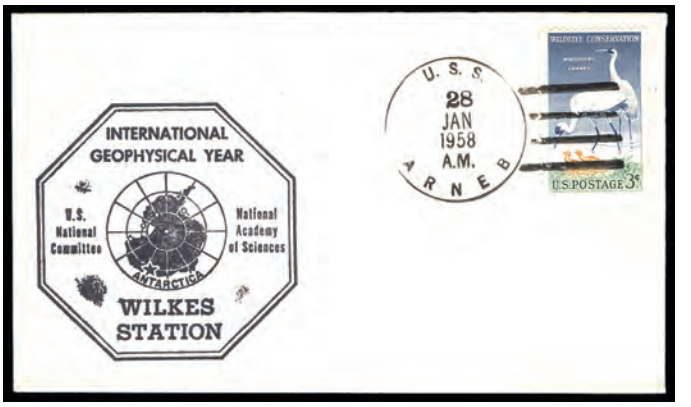
First Day Covers

The heart of an IGY collection is its covers. These would include not only FDCs for the stamps in Table I, but also covers issued to commemorate the ships, stations, people, and places involved in the effort. Polar philately is a well-known specialty, and the polar philatelists have much greater knowledge than I about many of these areas. I will attempt only to survey the field as it relates to IGY.

FDCs can be collected for most of the countries listed in the Table. (I am missing North Korea, Italy, and some of the USSR stamps; I do not know if FDCs for these exist.) There are thirty-one Malone-listed FDCs for U.S. Scott 1107 and twenty-one listed FDCs for Canada Scott 376; there are also at least twenty unlisted FDCs for U.S. 1107, some of which can be found with a special show cancel. Multiple different cachets and designs are available for the stamps of Argentina, Chile,

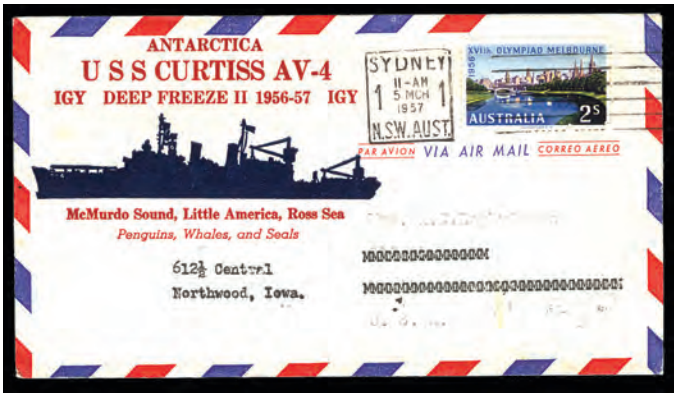
First day covers featuring an IGY stamp from Netherlands Antilles (above) and one from Japan (below).

IGY stamps from Romania.

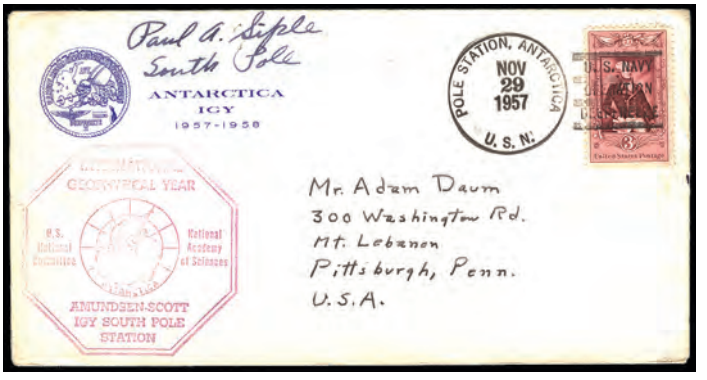


Cover from USS *Arneb* with Wilkes Station cachet, postmarked during IGY

Cover from USS *Glacier*, postmarked during IGY.



Cover from USS *Curtis*, postmarked in Sydney just prior to IGY.



Cover signed by Paul Siple from South Pole Station during IGIY.

An Arctic IGY cover.

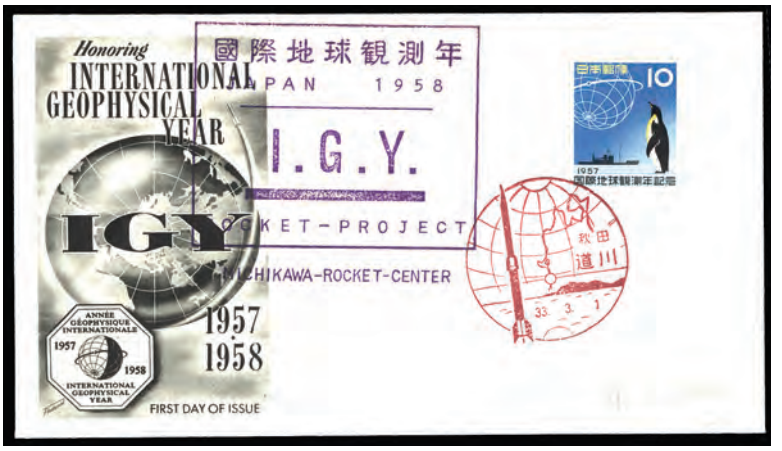
Japan, and other countries. FDCs from Curacao, Japan, and Romania are illustrated.

Ships

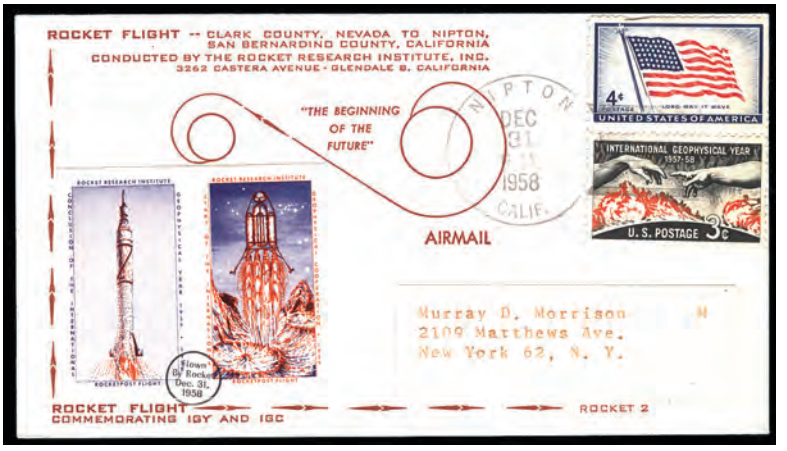
Ships played a major role in the activities of IGY, especially in the field of polar exploration. To get the men and materiel to the Antarctic region, a flotilla of ships was called into service for Operation Deepfreeze. Phase I, in 1955–56, was earmarked for the building of an airfield at McMurdo Sound and the creation of a base at Little America. In Phase II, 1956–57, three additional stations were to be constructed: Byrd Station in Marie Byrd Land, Wilkes Station in Vincennes Bay, and Ellsworth Station on the Filchner Ice Shelf. Cachets and ship cancels for many of the ships employed are readily found. The most frequently seen are from the *Arneb*, *Atka*, *Brough*, *Curtiss*, *Eastwind*, *Edisto*, *Glacier*, *Greenville Victory*, *Nespelen*, *Staten Island*, and *Wyandot*.

Antarctic Stations

The United States established six research stations: Little America, Hallet, South Pole, Byrd, Wilkes, and Ellsworth. Covers from all of these locations are plentiful. Wilkes, Palmer, Ellsworth, and Byrd were honored on U.S. Scott 2386–2389.



IGY rocket mail cover from Japan.



IGY rocket mail cover bearing U.S. Scott 1107, the IGY stamp.

The famous space dog Laika on a postcard with IGY cachet.

People

I have covers, both philatelic and actual correspondence, for several of the key participants in IGY. These include three who went to Antarctica: Rear Admiral George Dufek, who commanded the Deep Freeze operations; Finn Ronne, scientific leader at Ellsworth Station; and Paul Siple, who had gone with Byrd at age 19 in 1928 and who was chief scientist at the South Pole during IGY.

Those who stayed home, and for whom I have covers, include Joseph Kaplan of CalTech, chairman of the U.S. National Committee (USNC) for IGY; Hugh Odishaw of the National Bureau of Standards, who was the executive secretary (later executive director) of USNC; and Stanley Ruttenberg, head of the Scientific Program Office of USNC.

Places

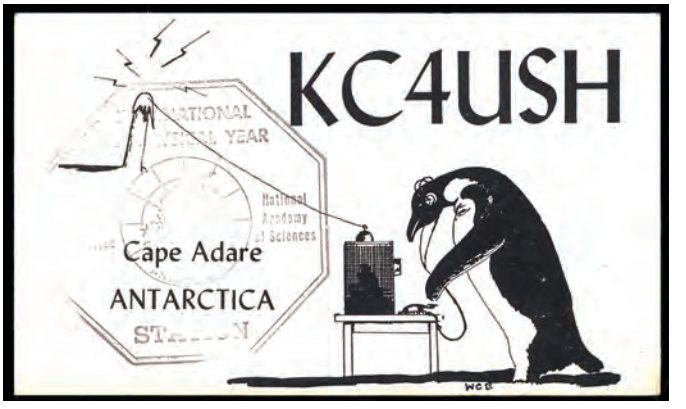
Table II, on page 142, lists a number of places from which I have accumulated covers that mention IGY. To be included on this list, the cover either must have a cachet of the IGY symbol or mention IGY in its text, and it must be dated between July 1, 1957 and December 31, 1958. I am sure that there are many more that I have not seen, and in several instances (e.g., Marion Island), there are multiple formats and varieties to collect.

The Arctic

Antarctica was the focus of most of the IGY effort and, not surprisingly, is the area most commemorated philatelically. But the pole at the opposite end of the earth also was studied intensively during IGY. Arctic covers are noticeably less common, except for a series issued by Greenland.

Rockets and Satellites

The most memorable space exploratory event during the time period of IGY was, of course, the launching of Sputnik



A QSL card with an Antarctic IGY cachet.

I on October 4, 1957. Sputnik II and III also were launched during IGY, as were Vanguard I and II. All of these events were recorded by philatelists.

There were also a number of experiments involving rocket mail that took place during this period, and various rocket mail covers can be found.

To round out an IGY collection, there are decals, patches, medals, and other memorabilia that can be saved. Further, at least twenty books have been written about IGY. Another interesting collectible is shown in an example of a QSL card with an IGY cachet. QSL cards are sent by ham radio operators to confirm by mail contacts made by radio.

Epilogue

Much of my life has been spent as a scientist, and another big chunk as a philatelist. My father, perhaps like yours, encouraged the former and subsidized the latter. Of course, when I started filling in my IGY album in 1959, I got all the cheap stamps, and when I resumed filling it in 2000, the empty spaces remaining were the costly ones. Nevertheless, it has been a most rewarding philatelic adventure.

I am anxious to expand my knowledge and welcome correspondence from anyone who has covers and other material to share. I can be reached at P.O. Box 401, Wheatley Heights, NY 11798, or by e-mail as rgreenlij@yahoo.com. I have a reference library of about twenty books and periodicals on IGY; a full bibliography is available for a large SASE.

The 100th anniversary of the 1882 Polar Year was commemorated in 1982 by the DDR.

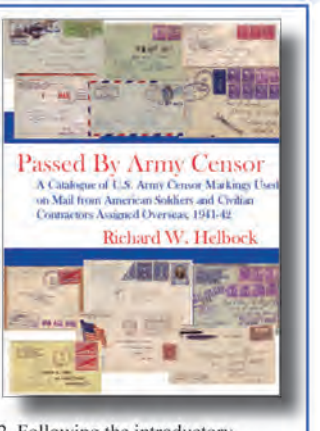
Acknowledgments

I am indebted to Alison Ruttenberg, who did business as eddiephilatelic on eBay, daughter of Stanley, who helped me acquire and interpret much of my collection. Thanks also to Ralph Baird and Keith Strong for comments on the manuscript.

The Author

Robert Greenwald, a rheumatologist, wrote about worldwide unexploded booklets in the March 1982 issue of *The American Philatelist*. He also collects Macau and Hong Kong.

Long-awaited, a wonderful new book on Army Censor Markings is finally here!



Passed By Army Censor
By Richard W. Helbock

This precedent-setting book is a catalogue of censor markings used on mail from American soldiers and War Department civilians assigned overseas in 1941 and 1942. Following the introductory chapter, the book is organized into 17 detailed chapters, chronologically and geographically, according to the major world regions in which U.S. Army and Air Corps personnel were assigned during 1941 and 1942. From Pearl Harbor to Operation Torch, the book is comprehensive and full of lavish illustrations, many in color. A "must have" book for every postal historian. Call today to place your order.

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APS President, 1993-97

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- **Fund Development** – Complete the Campaign for Philately as planned—providing funds for key APS programs and the completion of the American Philatelic Center.
- **Membership and Youth** – Aggressively work with the staff, board, and other Society leadership to make sure the APS has solid growth of new members during our term in office. We will help strengthen APS's Young Stamp Collectors of America (YSCA), All Star Stamp Clubs, and other existing youth programs while innovating additional ways to introduce stamp collecting to children, teens and adults outside traditional stamp show venues.
- **Chapters & Affiliates** – As your Vice Presidents, we will expand the recently initiated APS Board contact program with our nearly 600 chapters and over 200 affiliates to insure that the full APS Board regularly hears and reacts to their needs, concerns, and comments.
- **Budget & Strategic Planning** – All of the above must be supported by sound financial planning, balanced budgets, and regular review of the strategic plan.

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Wade Saadi

Current Director At Large

I bring considerable leadership, financial, management and real estate experience to the APS board, at a critical time for the Society: the completion of the American Philatelic Center. In addition, I currently serve as president of the Collectors Club, New York.

• 1973- Present, Founder, President and CEO of 600-employee corporation, with offices in nine states and Canada.

• Chairman and CEO of a NASDAQ listed corporation; Very familiar with corporate finance and governance.

• "1996 Entrepreneur of the Year Award" in New York City. Ernst & Young annual award for technology.

• 1984 - Present, Licensed real estate professional; managed several full and partial building rehabilitations.

Steven J. Rod

Former APS Treasurer

I offer intensive and successful not-for-profit management experience. I have overseen new construction as a Chief Executive Officer and am eager to see total completion of the American Philatelic Center (Match Factory). I am also Chairman of the APS Campaign for Philately, former Treasurer of the American Philatelic Society, and co-founder of the Omaha National Stamp Exhibition.

• 1980-1986, and 1986-1988, CEO of two not-for-profit organizations.

• 1988-Present, Vice President , Professional Development. Consult with and train 3,000 professional employees of 250 not-for- profit organizations on personnel matters, as well as governance and management.

•Member of the American Society of Training Directors (ASTD); train others on "how to be an effective trainer."

David L. Straight

Current Director At Large

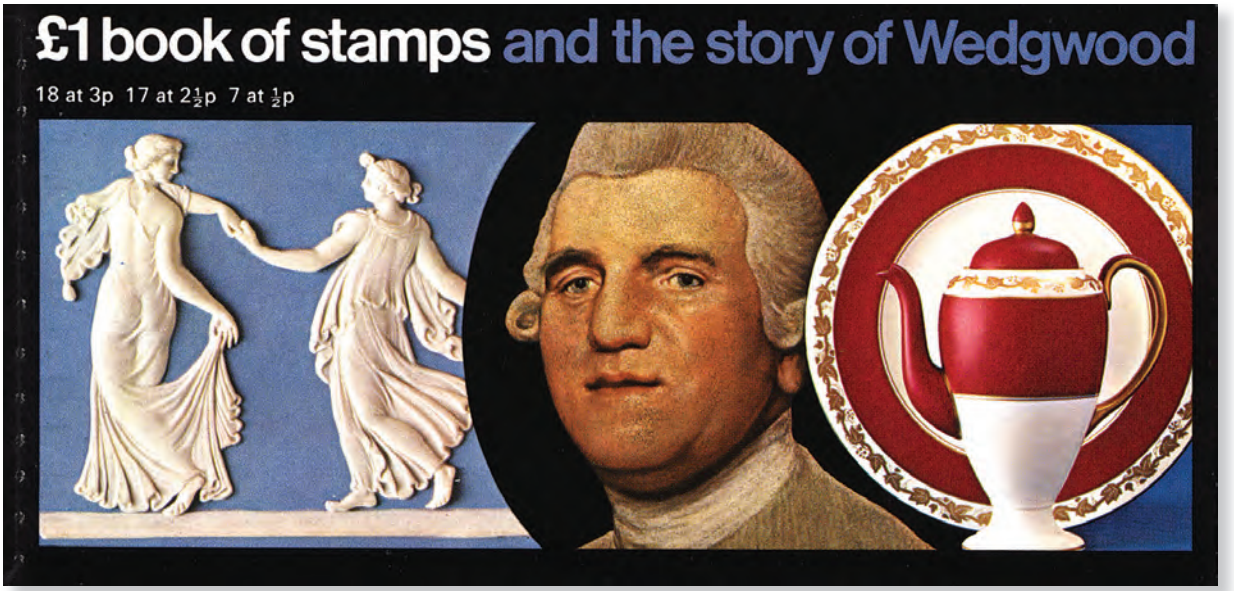
The American Philatelic Research Library is one of our greatest member assets; I bring widespread experience managing libraries and modernizing their services.

• 1993-Present, Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. Librarian for a 750,000-volume facility.

• 1980-1993, Managed library's A.V. & micrographic collections; established video collection; and computerized finding aids to microform collections and built extensive web-based finding aids for government documents.

• Masters Degree in Library and Information Science; taught at University of Missouri School of Library and Information Science.

• Consultant to libraries, manufacturers and movers on storage, retrieval, and moving of library materials.



Great Britain's first Prestige Booklet. No premium over the face value of the stamps was charged (Scott BK144, BC30).

Prestige Booklets

From Stamp Booklets to Booklets with Stamps

by Jeremy A. Lifsey

Two mothers are waiting for their children at a school bus stop in New York City. One says to the other, "Is your son studying about the Lewis and Clark Expedition?"

The other replies, "Lewis and Clark? Who are they?"

"They're the explorers Thomas Jefferson commissioned to find a water route across North America. We're celebrating the 200th anniversary."

"Oh, yes, I remember now. My son mentioned them the other day. Why do you ask?"

"Because I just bought a small book with thirty-two pages and color pictures that tells all about their expedition."

"How much was it?"

"$1.55"

"Wow! Where do I get it?"

"Any Post Office. Trouble is, the booklet comes with stamps. But once you use them on letters, you have a nice little book."

This fictional conversation sums up a major, current trend in the format of stamp booklets that are being issued around the world. The U.S. Post Office (as are other postal administrations) is printing colorful, informative booklets with stamps inside them. Frequently a premium over the postage is charged, although that wasn't always the case. The Lewis and Clark booklet is called a "Prestige Booklet."

The United States wasn't the first to issue such booklets. Great Britain started printing Prestige Booklets in 1972. The first one was devoted to the life and products of Josiah Wedgwood. A few years earlier, in 1969, Great Britain had issued a stamp booklet with recipes. It wasn't called a Prestige Booklet, but it sure looks like one. Hungary issued a booklet with recipes in 1988. Look for more and more of these booklets to be issued by postal administrations around the world, because they are very popular.

Prestige Booklets started out as stamp booklets with interesting stories contained on the interleaves. They have evolved into booklets that also contain stamps. They can be carried in a purse but not in a wallet. They are a little too bulky to be carried in your pocket, although it can be done. The stories and pictures on the interleaves now overwhelm the postal function of the booklet. In fact, there are many interleaves that serve no stamp-related function. The result

A Hungariam booklet combined postage stamps (Scott 3199–3200) with a recipe for Wild Duck with Orange. Booklet cover shown at left.

is that postal administrations are becoming publishers of little books that, by the way, contain a few stamps that are valid for postage.

Why did stamp booklets originally come into existence? In the late 1800s people found that when they carried loose stamps in their pocket, purse, or wallet, the stamps became crushed, creased, or stuck to s ome other item that was being carried. People clamored for something in which to carry the stamps so they would not become damaged. Small, specially designed containers became fashionable for a w hile, then in t he early 1900s postage stamp booklets were introduced.

The first booklets consisted of light cardboard covers, between which panes of stamps and glassine interleaves were generally stitched or stapled together. The interleaves were included to prevent the panes from sticking to one another, while the covers protected the stamps from being crushed, torn, or creased. The only writing contained in the booklets was on the front cover, describing the contents of the booklet and giving the name of the issuing country. Additional printing soon began to appear on the interleaves and on other parts of the front and back covers. This printing included postal rates, commercial advertising, and government messages promoting postal and national causes, such as p ostal savings banks and tourism. The messages on the interleaves bore no relation to each other, except in cases when an advertiser placed ads on more than one interleaf. The design of the stamps was usually independent of the words in the booklets.

It wasn't until the 1950s that stamps and booklet covers started to be related. France issued its Red Cross series with the Red Cross on both the stamps and the covers in

A 1954 Red Cross booklet and semi-postal stamps, issued in France (Scott B291a).

Two of the many Machins (Scott MH36d).

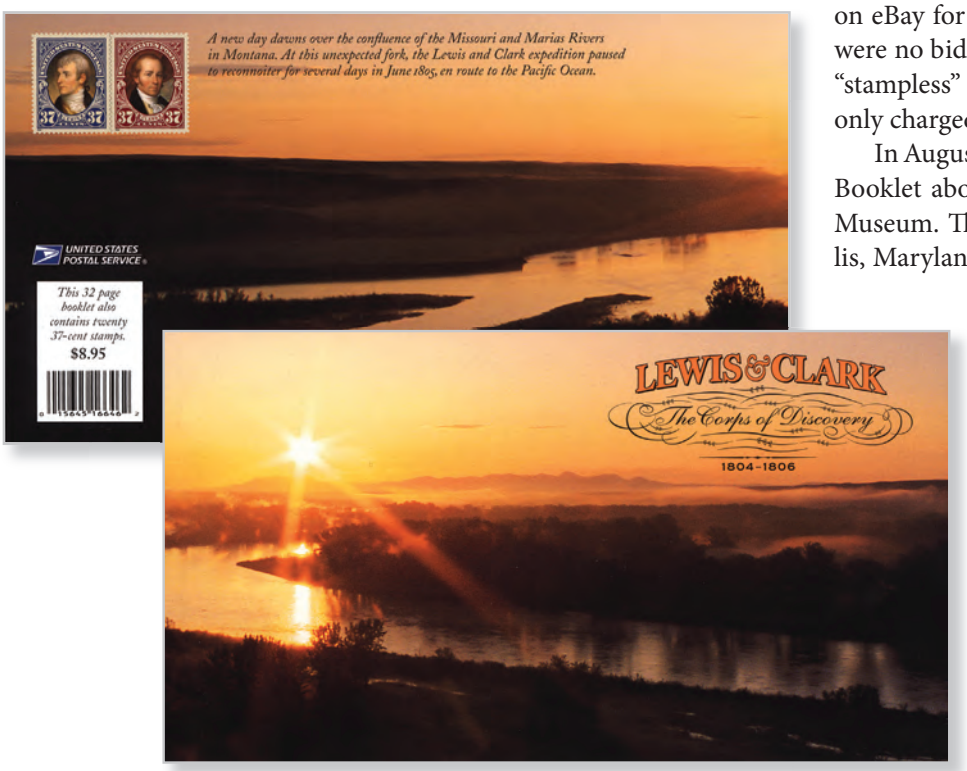
1954. In 1978 the Falkland Islands issued stamps picturing mail ships. The design on some of those stamps was repeated on the front and back covers of the booklets issued along with the stamps. Many Swedish booklets honoring Nobel Prize winners showed a picture of the honoree on both the booklet covers and the stamps.

With the introduction of the Prestige Booklets much of what was familiar has changed. The text and pictures in all the Prestige Booklets deal with a single theme. Most of the time, although but not always, the stamps and the text complement each other. For example, the first Prestige Booklet issued by Great Britain in 1972 was devoted to the "story of Wedgwood." Even though the stamps and Wedgwood don't appear to be related, there is a connection. The stamps feature a bust of Queen Elizabeth II. The bust was designed by Arnold Machin, who worked for the Wedgwood firm in the second half of the twentieth century. (Machin's design of the bust of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is used on many current British stamps, which, appropriately enough, are known as "Machins.") The non-postage part of the booklet contains a dozen pages filled with text and colorful pictures that are all about Wedgwood. No premium was charged.

In 2004 the United States issued a Prestige Booklet commemorating the 200th anniversary of the start of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. This 32-page booklet contains only two panels of stamps, with a face value of $7.40. The booklet sold for $8.95, a premium of $1.55. It is beautifully executed and could serve very well as an educational document for those people who want a short but reasonably detailed text and picture presentation of the expedition. The U.S. Postal Service justified the premium for this booklet by virtue of its extensive artwork, the detail of the research, and the cost of production. It is a philatelic item, but clearly the Postal Service is now producing artfully designed small books as well as printing stamps.

Interestingly, some people assume that the history pages have value and are now trying to sell the booklet *without* any stamps. In October 2004 a text and pictures only (no stamps) Lewis and Clark booklet was offered on eBay for $4.50 plus $0.95 for shipping. There were no bidders. That was too much money for a "stampless" booklet for which the Post Office had only charged $1.55.

In August 2004 Post Denmark issued a Prestige Booklet about Viking ships and the Viking Ship Museum. The County Stamp Center in Annapolis, Maryland, calls this booklet a Special Prestige Booklet. Jay Smith & Associates of Snow Camp, North Carolina, calls it a Prestige Booklet. But is it a stamp booklet — or a booklet with stamps? It measures 6 x 9 inches and is ¼-inch thick. It contains forty pages of text and pictures, plus five small sheets of stamps. The sheets of stamps are printed with part of the scene shown on the page behind similar to the one showing a Viking ship under sail. The booklet cover unfolds horizontally to a length of about forty-two inches. It has a slip case and an International Standard Book Number (ISBN). Whoever



A beautiful scene is artfully portrayed on the covers of the 2004 Lewis and Clark Prestige Booklet. A premium of $1.55 was added to the $7.40 postal value of the stamps.

The 2004 Danish Viking Ship Museum Prestige Booklet showing a Viking ship at sea. A souvenir sheet of stamps is bound into the booklet directly in front of the photographed seascape. The sky and sail of the Viking ship that appear on the sheet of stamps cover the same image on the photograph that you would see once the sheet of stamps was torn out. The booklet has a slip case and an ISBN number. A premium of about $6.50 was charged.

heard of a stamp booklet issued for postal purposes being given an ISBN? Whoever heard of a stamp booklet with a slip case? Five of the pages are vellum with see-through windows highlighting what is on the next page. This booklet is too bulky to be carried on your person except in a tote bag. The booklet can fit on a bookshelf, but not in a stamp album.

When the stamps in the Viking booklet are used, the forty remaining pages might be sold in any bookstore. Not so with earlier booklets. When the stamps were removed, the rest of the booklet was worth nothing to anyone except a philatelist, a few of whom collect just the covers. After the stamps were used, a postal patron would usually throw away the rest of the booklet, not take it home to his or her child to help with homework assignments or use it in the kitchen to try out new recipes.

The Danish Prestige Booklet costs 99 kroner for stamps worth 58 kroner. That's a premium of approximately $6.50 for the booklet without the stamps. Many would pay $6.50 for such a little book because of its easily understood historical information about the Vikings and its current information about the museum. It's an inexpensive way to obtain a lovely book. Dealers are now selling it for $27 to $40.

That's where the evolution of stamp booklets now resides. Postal administrations are printing stamp booklets that contain desired information and colorful pictures in the expectation that the public will choose to buy more stamps when they are packaged attractively.

In past years the sale of the stamps and the convenience to the postal patron were the primary reasons for booklets to be produced. There was some commercial interest because the booklet was an excellent vehicle for companies to tout their products to a large audience. The government was interested because, in addition to collecting advertising revenues, they could alert the public to information about the Postal Service and its procedures. The philatelist was interested because the booklets were mostly about stamps. The public was interested because they now had a convenient way to carry stamps about with them.

Today, Prestige Booklets are produced to appeal primarily to audiences who may be interested in historical events, patriotic endeavors, famous people, national institutions, and commercial enterprises related to the country of origin. The stamps are incidental. Further, from a practical standpoint, many of the booklets are too big to be carried conveniently in your pocket, purse, or wallet.

Many new Prestige Booklets are sold at premium prices, which can be a hefty percentage of the value of the stamps. Little regard is given to the postal patron or the stamp collector. Some booklets are so large that it is impossible to use them as carrying cases designed to protect the stamps inside. The book-buying public is the target audience, not the postage stamp customer.

The Danish Viking booklet seems to fall between a book and a stamp booklet. It resembles a Prestige Booklet in that it is devoted to a single issue; the stamps are in booklet pane format; and the booklet itself has soft covers. But it is too big,

has too many pages, and the format is too different from that of earlier stamp booklets.

Postal administrations around the world have taken the first steps to printing and selling books. Now that these books with stamps have an ISBN, one can expect that they will be sold in bookstores as well as post offices. That's not a bad t hing if it helps keep the postal rates down.

The Author

Jeremy Lifsey has been collecting stamps for more than sixty years and worldwide booklets for about forty of those years. He is a 25-year member of the APS. His formal education is in mathematics and physics. As Senior Vice President he managed and contributed to data processing, solar energy, and technology transfer projects at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia.

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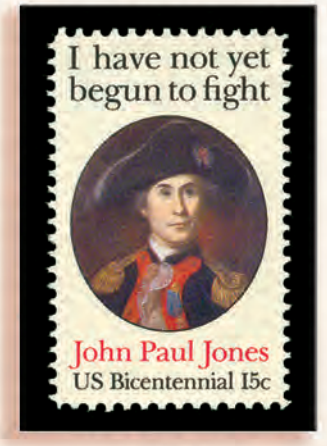
The Elusive John Paul Jones



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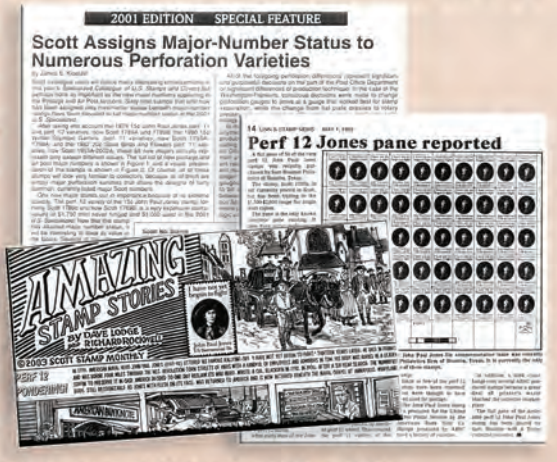
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End of an Era in California
(So Long, Lawrence)

by John Tissot

Treasures don't always announce themselves. Envelopes without exotic markings and franked with stamps of no particular interest still may contain fascinating pieces of history.

I was in a stamp shop looking through a shoebox filled with envelopes when I came across four or five dated 1909 and addressed to the same person. They were signed by Lawrence More. I didn't recognize the name, but the letters carried messages of love from a young man to his girlfriend. I bought them, along with covers without letters, all addressed to members of the More family.

Cover and first page of letter sent to Bertha Knell from Tajiguas Ranch, August 11, 1909; postmarked Gaviota, California. Handstamp on the back reads: "Palms, Cal Aug 12 9AM."

In the beginning of the historical era, only Indians occupied the land in California. Then, along came the Spaniards, who set up forts and missions with equal fervor. In April 1782 the Royal Spanish Presidio of Santa Barbara was established under the military command of Lt. José Vincente de Ortega (1734–1798), a native of Zelaya, Guanajuato Province, Mexico. Ortega was commandante of the presidio for two years before moving on. He was a lifelong professional soldier, having enlisted in 1755, and when he retired after forty years service he brought his wife (Maria Antonia Victoria Carrillo, b. 1741) and family back to the beautiful site on the southern California coast. There he settled in 1794 on a 26,530-acre land grant (including some twenty-five miles of coastline) from the Spanish crown, which he named *Nuestra Señora del Refugio* (Our Lady of Refuge). (A rise of land between Santa Barbara and Carpinteria, to the south, is still called Ortega Hill, although most people would be unable to tell you why.)

The Royal Spanish Presidio of Santa Barbara State Historic Park still stands in downtown Santa Barbara. Among the recreation are several original buildings, including *El Cuartel* (the barracks/quarters), which was the family residence of the soldier assigned to the west gate leading into the Plaza de Armas. The small adobe residence is the oldest colonial building in Santa Barbara and the

second oldest in California.

In 1823 a young American from Billerica, Massachusetts, made his way to the Spanish settlement at Santa Barbara and lost his heart to 13-year-old Rafaela Sabina Luis de Ortega y Olivera, a grand-daughter of the presidio commandante. Daniel Hill (1797–1865) gave up his American citizenship for Mexican, learned to speak Spanish, and converted to Catholicism before marrying Rafaela (1809–1879) at the Old Mission in September 1825. The house he built for his new bride still stands at 11 East Carrillo Street in Santa Barbara and is now a recognized California State Historic Landmark. The adobe house had glass windows imported from Boston and one of the first wooden floors in the city.

In 1852 one of Hill's daughters married another Easterner, T. Wallace More of Ohio (b. 1826). More had come west with his brother Alexander P. More in the heady gold rush days of 1849. Eventually they would be joined by their six siblings and their respective husbands or wives. Among them was his brother Lawrence, who had three children, one of whom, H. Clifford More, would have a son named Lawrence after the boy's grandfather. *This* Lawrence was the author of the love letters I found in the stamp store.

Bakersfield
Los Angeles
Santa Barbara
Santa Monica
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Riverside
Santa Ana
Santa Rosa I.
Santa Cruz I.
Santa Barbara I.
Santa Catalina I.
San Clemente I.
San Pedro
Redondo
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Fairmont
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Delano
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Taft
Maricopa
Coalinga
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Nipomo
Santa Maria
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Fillmore
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Montalvo
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Hueneme
Pacoima
Chatsworth
Burbank
Pasadena
Monrovia
Azusa
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Coltona
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Newport
Encinitas
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Keeler
Owens Lake
Randsburg
Garlock
Freeman
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Mojave
Gloster
Rosamond
Lancaster
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Palmdale
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Gormans Sta.
Weldon
Havilah
Glennville
Kernville
Woody
Elmer
Miramonte
Kaweah
Exeter
Lindsay
Milo
Frazier
Three Rivers
Porterville
Terra Bella
Poplar
Bellevile
White River
Orris
Alila
Urlam
Tipton
Ivanhoe
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Verde
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Nipomo
Santa Maria
Lompoc
Garey
Wimore
Calkin
Los Olivos
Alamos
Stewart
Santa Wood
Goleta
Govina
Naple
La Patera
Hope
Yale
Orcutt

two years of drought during which brought only an unbelievable four inches of rain. Added to the local woes, in 1864 a plague of grasshoppers devoured what little vegetation remained. Even the legendary longhorn cattle were not tough enough to survive — out of some 300,000 head only about 5,000 were alive at the end of the drought. Even parts of the Refugio had to be sold off to meet mounting debts, while most of the other cattlemen in the area faced total ruin. Some ranches were sold for as little as ten cents per acre.

In 1884 Lawrence's grandfather bought up a tract of the original Refugio grant that became known as the Tajiguas Ranch. If you drive north from Santa Barbara on Highway 101, you can turn off the highway and reach the entrance to the Tajiguas Ranch, which is surrounded by an electric fence. The 3,600-acre property at one time included a large parcel owned by the actor John Travolta, but it is now owned entirely by a Swiss family corporation, Maz Properties, and its development is the subject of intense local debate

Back in the 1880s, however, the land still actively supported the production of cattle, sheep, grapes, and olives. Lawrence, as a young man, spent time there and some of the letters I found were posted from Tajiguas Ranch. His girlfriend, Bertha Knell, apparently resided in Los Angeles, although her mother was living in San Francisco, and we know from one of his letters that Lawrence went to San Francisco to visit Mrs. Knell.

One of the covers is handstamped "Gaviota." If you drive north from Santa Barbara on Highway 101, just before the freeway turns inland, you will find a wide spot in the road with a sign that reads "Gaviota." Today little remains of the town except a couple of restaurants and a few other buildings. There is a grassy hill near the highway where the post office was once supposed to have stood, but Lawrence's letter probably didn't pass through *that* facility because it was established April 23, 1895, and discontinued January 10, 1901, eight years before the first letter in my small collection was mailed.

A post office established at Alcatraz Landing on December 17, 1898, changed its name to Gaviota ("Seagull") on September 25, 1901, eight months after the closing of the original Gaviota post office. It was from there that the Lawrence letters were mailed. The Surveyor's Office in Santa Barbara shows an Alcatraz Landing on only one of its old maps. If the landing still exists, it is on private land and impossible to visit.

Gaviota, California, still exists as a ZIP code (93117), but its mail is handled through the Santa Barbara Post Office.

Several of the covers were routed from Tajiguas Ranch "Via Naples." In 1887 a Midwesterner named John Williams tried to establish a town called Naples. Postal records in Washington, DC, reveal that a post office was established there on February 5, 1890, and discontinued May 31, 1923. Sadly for me, those of the Lawrence letters that were routed from Tajiguas Ranch "Via Naples" were not handstamped in that post office. The tract, still known as "Naples," pops up now and again in our newspapers; 230 buildable lots still remain on the county records. Developers would like to put up housing there, but the original grants are old and continue to provide obstacles to modern development.

I didn't buy the letters for their historical value, although research taught me to appreciate what they stand for. You have only to read young Lawrence's letters to his "Bert" to get to know him and to like him.

Here is a letter he wrote to Bertha while he was staying at the Tajiguas Ranch:

Tajiguas
Tuesday night

My own precious Bert

I have just finished a letter to Doc and addressed it, c/o "the Bulletin" as I did not know his address. I hope it will get to him alright.

Well, here is another day gone by, but it seems to make a very small impression on the time as a whole.

Do you think I should not have asked you to marry me, because I didn't have any immediate prospects? I hope you don't, Sweetheart. I was thinking about it this morning, and it seemed unfair to you to make you wait so long, but you are willing to, aren't you, Sweetheart? I really think we will be able to get married in two or three years at most, and honestly, I will do anything in the world that I can do to make you happy, Sweetheart.

I couldn't possibly ever think of giving you up, Sweetheart, and I know you don't want me to, do you? Banish such a thought! It would be death to me.

Has your father ever said anything about my prospects? Or has he ever asked you what my future will be? Please tell me that you would not rather have some wealthy guy!

The bridge gang did not send for mail today so I did not get a letter. That makes two days and I am awfully anxious to hear from you, Sweetheart.

I am terribly ashamed of not having done those films. I wish I had thought to give them to you. But I really intend to do them soon and will try to screw up my courage to tackle that roll of 12.

I was looking at the "want ads" in the Chronicle tonight and saw lots of chances for us to rent houses and flats and apartments.

Would you do something for me, Sweetheart? I want you to get a memorandum book and keep account of everything that you spend on your clothes and self. It will not be very easy but I want you to do it and keep it up for several months so we can tell how much it will cost us to live and what salary we can marry on. Do you see, Sweetheart? And will you please do it for me and do it carefully?

I would want to marry you on as little as possible but that would keep you from being happy and we would never want to live in poverty. But as soon as I am getting enough to insure our having the ordinary comforts of life and a little over, we will get "spliced", won't we? Won't it be paradise? Just think, Sweetheart, in a house by ourselves and just us two.

It makes me all "jumpy" just to think about it.

Wouldn't it be dishonorable for us to marry and not tell anyone about it ever, and then be married again, only publicly?

It certainly would be romantic and delicious, wouldn't it? Let's!

But we can talk and plan such things when I get up, can't we?

Oh, I have so many, many things to tell you and to talk about.

My mother wants to go to sleep now so I will ring off so as not to keep her awake. I love you so!

Your own

Lawrence

Another letter from Tajiguas Ranch, postmarked August 11, 1909, begins:

My Own Bert

Bertha Knell, you don't deserve to get this letter or any more until I get back.

Two days have gone by and no letter came & I am mad.

You have no excuse to make, little one, because I told you not to stop writing till you heard positively that I had left. Grrr!

I am going to the station this afternoon and if I don't get at least one letter I will feel fierce.

Did they get married? Yes. And they had a long and, one feels certain, happy life together. One of the last letters in the group was written to Bert by Lawrence's Aunt Rose; the envelope was postmarked August 18, 1945:

Dearest Bert!

I am thinking about you, Bert. It made me sad to hear that Lawrence had passed away. I heard he was unable to do any work around the ranch. I knew from that he was not well. I've never been gifted in that wonderful art of comforting people. It seems the only thing I can do is to help them be sad. So, Bert, I'm just feeling sad with you, and thinking about you every day.

I know how many years the anxiety of Lawrence's physical handicap has hung around the corners of your heart. That every uncertainty really made you more aware of the value of the time you spent together. If many more people really worked at being happily married — so much that is so wrong could, so easily, be so right.

Some time write and let me know where you are, anyway.

All my love,

Rose

The obituary of Lawrence More in the *Santa Barbara News Press* (a newspaper started by Thomas More Storke, son of old C.A. Storke and his wife Mattie More) gave little information about the man, other than that he had a ranch in the "exclusive" area of Santa Barbara, known as Hope Ranch, but that is enough to indicate that he made good on his promise to Bert to have "the ordinary comforts of life and a little over." What had begun as an ordinary sheep ranch in the 1860s had become a wealthy suburb of Santa Barbara by the beginning of the twentieth century. The Hope Ranch Home Association was formed in 1924 to maintain and protect the remaining 1,850 acres of the original 6,000-acre ranch, and by the 1930s the restricted development boasted a private beach club, a polo field, archery and skeet-shooting ranges, tennis courts, and thirty miles of groomed bridle paths. Property prices today range from $1,200,000 to $40 million per acre! It is both the end of a love story and of the era of the great rancheros in California history.

Goodbye, Lawrence.

The Author

John Tissot taught Spanish in the Santa Barbara area for more than thirty years. Although he collects some stamps, he prefers covers and, of those, he prefers covers with letters inside.

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7-9 Tabs	$3,700.00
10-14 Vertical Gutters with tab (certif cate only)	$3,750.00

SPAIN — VF
Buying Prices Sample

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776-9, C127-0	$340.00	$175.00
C144-5	$400.00	$155.00
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1117a w/Tab	$100.00
1290-1307	$55.00
1355-8	$50.00
1355-8 LH	$24.50

RUSSIA — VF
Sample Buying Prices

	NH	LH
470-1		$22.50
472-3		$75.00
485-6	$67.50	$22.50
487-8	$97.50	$37.50
498-509	$100.00	$42.50
536-9	$75.00	$30.00
540-5	$85.00	$45.00
546-50	$100.00	$45.00
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president's column
by janet klug

APS Progress Report

Once a year it has been my custom to report to you on the state of the American Philatelic Society from my viewpoint as President. As I write this, it is mid-December, a good time to review where we are now and from whence we have come.

New Executive Director

Last February we were in the midst of advertising for a new Executive Director. Your Board hired Peter Mastrangelo in May 2006, and at the same time created the new staff position of Deputy Executive Director for Ken Martin. Nine months later, Peter has brought his long and valuable experience of professional nonprofit management and his great enthusiasm to the Society. With Ken Martin's tireless energy and devotion to APS, this team is truly a "Dynamic Duo."

Washington 2006

A year ago your APS was gearing up for Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition. The Society played a key role, and not just because APS had a fully staffed and always very busy booth throughout the show. Ken Martin was floor manager, seeing to the needs of dealers and making sure they had all they required to have a successful show. The APS Education Department was in full swing, staffing the cavernous youth area and producing many seminars for entry level collectors. Educational support for all levels of collectors is something you don't see at every international stamp show.

What you may not realize is that in addition to the multitude of member services the APS provides, your Society is also the national federation for stamp collectors in the United States. As such, the APS represents the USA to the FIP (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie), thus fulfilling our mission "to represent the United States of America in the world body of philately" as prescribed by the APS Statement of Purpose.

Washington 2006 met and exceeded our expectations, and gave philately and philatelists a much-needed boost. The superb management of the show, led by Michael Dixon, Steve Luster and Gordon Morison, proved that an international stamp show could draw tens of thousands of enthusiastic collectors from all over the world and could fill a large bourse with eager buyers wanting stamps and covers for their collections. The show's management was able to do all of these things and end the show in the black. That surplus is now being distributed to many worthy philatelic organizations to further support our amazingly wonderful hobby. Thank you, Washington 2006!

Expansion of the American Philatelic Center

Renovations of the American Philatelic Center continue. In 2006 both the APS Board of Directors and the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) Board of Trustees took two votes to approve additional restoration of unimproved areas within the American Philatelic Center. In the first vote, which took place in July, the Library Trustees unanimously approved renovation of building 13 and the APS Board of Directors unanimously ratified the expansion that is projected to cost $350,000. This will be named the Gordon and Mary Morison Pavilion. It will ultimately house the historic Headsville Post Office on loan from the Smithsonian National Museum of American History and will be a functioning contract post office for the APS. This will allow us to sell stamps to our visitors and postmark our own mail. In August Washington 2006 made a challenge grant of $75,000 for the completion of the Gordon and Mary Morison Pavilion. In December, Peter Mastrangelo announced that through the generosity of APS members, the match had been made. Shortly thereafter we received a check for $75,000 from Washington 2006.

In November Executive Director Peter Mastrangelo presented a plan to both boards for the restoration of three additional unimproved buildings within the American Philatelic Center. This expansion is dependent upon finalizing satisfactory lease agreements with two tenants — a restaurant and a health services facility. This phase is estimated to cost $1.45 million. Since the American Philatelic Research Library owns all of the property, the APRL Board of Trustees voted unanimously to proceed with the restoration, which will be financed with a bank loan for $895,000 and a loan from the APS for up to $550,000. The APS Board unanimously approved loaning $550,000 for the project expansion. (For more information on costs of renovations to date, please see the Executive Director's column in this issue.)

Campaign for Philately

The further expansion of the fabulous American Philatelic Center is largely dependent upon your continuing generous donations. Three years ago I announced the Campaign for Philately. In my November 2003 President's Column I described the campaign as: "The '$10 million within ten years' goal will provide funds to complete the restoration of the

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804	05	814	14	830	80
805	03	815	14	831	1.60
806	05	816	35	832	3.00
807	06	817	35	833	8.00
808	16	818	42	834 Mint	52.50
809	06	819	42	834 Used	80
810	10	820	20	2216–19 S/S	
811	10	821	50		$16.50
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		823	1.30		
		824	55		
		825	42		
		826	65		
		827	65		

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historic Match Factory in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, which will become the American Philatelic Center, new home of the American Philatelic Society and American Philatelic Research Library. A component of this campaign is an 'APS Initiative' that will fund such necessary programs as an aggressive membership promotion, relief for our under-funded youth programs, technology upgrades, and other initiatives that you will be hearing more about in the coming months."

The $10 million campaign was initially conceived as being a 60-40 split, with 60% of the donated funds going to complete the American Philatelic Center and 40% establishing an endowment for current and future APS programs that benefit the membership and philately. However, the needs of the building are great. As I write this, approximately $3 million in cash and pledges has been raised by this Campaign. All funds designated by the donor for the building or for specific APS programs have been used exactly in the way the donors have specified.

As a condition of the November vote, the APRL Board of Trustees unanimously agreed that once the American Philatelic Center is completed new contributions will be applied toward APS programs and endowments, thus ensuring long-term financial stability of the Society. Endowments are important. Although the John K. Tiffany Endowment Fund has not received much visibility lately, the accumulated investment income earned by that $250,000 endowment was used several years ago to cover start-up costs for our very successful Internet-based APS StampStore.

Membership Recruiting

As I write this, the most current membership figures I have are for the end of November 2006 when we had 44,184 members. A year earlier, in November 2005 we recorded 45,076 members. That is a year-to-year net loss of 892 members. This is a terrific improvement from the days when we were posting yearly losses of more than 4000 members, but it is still not good enough to say we have turned the corner and are looking forward to membership growth in the near future. We're making slow progress. In 2006 we offered half-price memberships to members of APS Chapters who are not now APS members, and we will continue to look for ways to expand our membership.

I reiterate a mantra I have repeated often in this column. YOU are our best recruiting tool. If each APS member brings in just ONE new member, by next year we can brag about having nearly 90,000 members. Recruit a new member this month! We'll send you a check for $5 for every new member you recruit.

APS AmeriStamp Expo in Riverside, California

Your Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, February 8, 2007 in Riverside, California, just before our winter show AmeriStamp Expo that runs from February 9 through February 11. Please join us!

from the executive director

peter mastrangelo

Get Ready for Riverside!

As I write this, we are getting ready for APS AmeriStamp Expo in Riverside, California, scheduled for February 9–11. Dealer booth space is sold out with more than eighty dealers participating. Volunteer and promotional packets have been sent out to approximately forty chapters in the greater Riverside area. We've promoted youth attendance to the nearly sixty schools in the region and have contacted numerous radio, TV and print media outlets throughout Southern California. Information is on our website — www.stamps.org — regarding the show, including a meeting and seminar schedule. The show will host meetings of the APS Board of Directors, the APRL Board of Trustees, a Candidates Forum, Tiffany Dinner, and a General Membership meeting. There's something for everyone. Hope to see you there.

Florida "Jenny Invert" is a Counterfeit

Last month I reported on our involvement in determining the authenticity of what appeared to be an "Inverted Jenny" used on a Florida absentee ballot. It's discovery saw coverage in the mainstream press that it rarely receives. The coverage culminated in our certification that the stamp on cover was a counterfeit. (Please go to our webpage, www.stamps.org, for complete details on our involvement.) It is not an everyday occurrence for APS staff to appear before a barrage of clicking cameras and reporters. My personal thanks to Mercer Bristow for the professional manner and demeanor in which he not only conducted our review of the stamp in question, but also for the skill with which he fielded questions from the press.

Elections

We are now in the election season. Nomination forms for announced candidates to date can be viewed on our website. Additionally, a mailing has gone out to all chapters for candidates seeking seconding nominations. Included in that mailing are candidate statements and the front page of the nominating form outlining each candidate's platform, credentials, and the reasons why they are running for office. In order to run for office, candidates must receive a nomination and seconds from at least ten chapters. Chapters can only nominate or second one presidential candidate, one vice-presidential slate, one candidate for treasurer, one candidate for secretary and one candidate for APRL trustee. A chapter can nominate up to four candidates for director-at-large. Official ballots will go out in the May issue of *The American Philatelist* to be returned to the APS by noon on June 9.

American Philatelic Center Update

Progress continues on the planning for the next phases of the American Philatelic Center. We have held planning meetings with our architects and builders regarding the construction of the Gordon and Mary Morison Pavilion that will house the Headsville Post Office exhibit. In relation to this, we have started the paperwork necessary to operate a public contract post office in that facility. As we proceed into the first quarter of the New Year, we will be finalizing our plans and financing for Phase IV of the complex, which will house a restaurant and physical therapy center.

In a recent report to the Boards of the APS and APRL we noted that more than 3,500 people had attended various APS and community events scheduled at the American Philatelic Center in 2006. Prospects for 2007 look even brighter with a number of bookings already in hand including Aerophilately 2007, October 19–21, and the second annual Postal History Symposium co-sponsored with the National Postal Museum, October 21–22.

We are often asked how much we have spent on the historic Match Factory complex that houses the APS, American Philatelic Research Library, and a variety of tenants and how much more we have to go. Phases I, II and III of the renovations included the tenant facilities, APS offices, the temporary home of the APRL and our education wing. These were financed through the sale of our previous building ($2.34 million), bank financing ($3.45 million) and donated funds ($2.05 million). With about $7.8 million in the project, preliminary architectural estimates indicate that it may take another $6–7 million to expand the American Philatelic Center to its full potential. The plans described

above are part of this as well as a permanent home for the library, expanded exhibit and function space, and additional tenant space that will enable us to afford the operating and financing costs. Through grants, fund raising and additional tenant income streams, a completed complex is more than a dream; it is a reality within our grasp.

Campaign for Philately Update

We have reached the $3 million contributed to the Campaign for Philately in pledges and cash collected. About 7% of that is in pledges receivable. A complete report of last year's activities will be published in the April issue of *The American Philatelist*. We also will report on the use of funds raised for the entire campaign to-date in that same issue. As we end our third year of the campaign, we are on target to raise $10 million in ten years.

Membership

As of the end of December membership stands at just over 44,300. The Chapter membership promotion has yielded more than 178 new members! A Membership Survey is high on our agenda for 2007. The 5/10/25 year membership invitation promotion has gone out. This program allows members celebrating their 5th, 10th, or 25th year as members to invite a prospective member to receive an introductory APS membership. A special mailing and newsletter to all APS dealer members will be re-introduced in the first quarter. Additional specialty items have been added to our inventory of items offered to members. They include a letter opener with a magnifying glass, APS logo sport shirts, and lanyards.

If you have not done so already, don't forget to renew your membership for 2007.

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U.N. Personalized Sheets

In 2003, the United Nations Postal Administration issued it's first Personalized Sheet, (Scott 853–57) which had 4 strips of 5 stamps on a sheet with an attached label. Visitors to the UN Headquarters in New York could have a picture taken and applied to the label. For their mail order customers, the UNPA printed appropriate symbols on the labels.

For the Hong Kong Stamp Expo, January 30–February 3, 2004, the first of the UN Personalized Show sheets was issued. The border of the sheet was changed and the official show cancel was on the label. Only 1000 were issued and sold out quickly at the show. Since then, the UNPA has issued 2 Personalized Show sheets per year. The quantities have ranged between 1,000 for Hong Kong and Aichi and 4,000 for the WASHINGTON 2006 show including about 1,000 Elvis sheets.

Since the Hong Kong sheet, the UNPA has kept a quantity of the show sheets for sale by mail with the exception of the Japan Aichi 2005 Expo which ran from March 25th —September 25, 2005. This was a commissioned sheet by a UN Licensee in Japan. The sheets were not sold outside the Expo and very few have reached the philatelic market.

Sheet #7 Japan 50th Anniversary in the UN was produced for the Japan Mission to the UN with an 84-cent stamp design that is not otherwise available from the UNPA. Every UN collection will need this sheet.

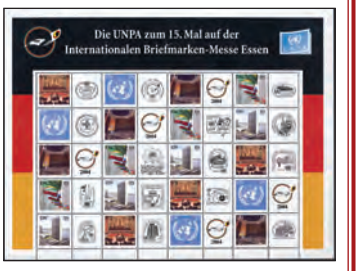
Each sheet is in the same format as the original UN issued personalized stamps with special border designs and labels.

Sheets 1–3 are the stamps of 853–57, Sheet 4 is 880–84, Sheet 5–6 is 903–07, Sheet #7 is a unique design.

Full scans are available on our website

www.hgitner.com

Sheet #1 Hong Kong 2004 $119.95



Sheet #2 Essen 2004 $59.95

Sheet #3 Aichi 2005 POR. Call for availability

Sheet #4 Riccione 2005 $69.95

Sheet #5 Washington 2006 $39.95

Sheet #5 with Elvis-specially created-two different pictures of Elvis-each @ $49.95

Sheet #6 Berlin 2006 $25

Sheet #7 2006 Japan 50th Anniversary in the UN $99.95

Scott 853–57 $75.00, Strip of 5 with label $17.50

Scott 898-902 $24.95, Strip of 5 with label $6.50

Scott 93-07 $24.95, Strip of 5 with label $12.50

Scott 912 War & Peace $24.95, Single $2.50, Strip of 5 with label $12.50

NEWS ALERT! We've discovered that a small number of the Scott 880–84 Error sheets may have been sent to New Issue subscribers. Check any sheet you received from UNPA to see if YOU received an error sheet. If so...we're a buyer!

The 880–84 sheet was originally to be issued in March 2005 at the ASDA Mega Event. About 50 sheets were sold before a customer noticed that one value on each of the two 84-cent strips, (Scott #883) had actually a 37-cent denomination. The sheets were immediately removed from sale and not available until the correct sheets were printed.

Scott 880–84 $80,
Strip of five with label $40.

Scott 880–84 Error stamps 37-cent value in positions 8 & 9 — only about 50 known, POR

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sales talk
by tom horn

Grading and Pricing Policy

We have received items to sell on Stampstore that use a stamp-grading scale to determine the prices. While the Sales Division and Stampstore do not have official positions on the grading controversy, we are aware that some expert services have added the grade numbers to the opinions on their certificates. This number might dictate a much higher value than the standard catalogue value. Since there are published references to values for certain grade levels, we have accepted the valuation and asking prices. However, we have found it necessary to return some of the items, because grade numbers were placed on the items with no accompanying certificates to support the numbers, and the asking prices were more than the published values for the grades indicated (perhaps because the seller felt the items were under-graded by the expert services and so entered higher prices for the items).

Because the grading process is in its infancy and there is presently no grading standard, we are establishing a policy that an item offered as graded, must have an accompanying certificate stating the grade number. Self-graded items must be respectfully returned to their owners. In addition, we will review any items that are priced at or higher than the entered comparison/catalogue values. Each review will be treated on an individual basis. As a courtesy to buyers, sellers should supply comparison/catalogue values for items mounted in the sales books and on StampStore sheets. This shows the buyers your justification for the asking price and is a good selling point. Enter any descriptions that would justify a premium on an item.

From the Buyers

As a rule, our buyers are very satisfied with the material they receive on the circuits. There are many suggestions offered by these members in an effort to make the circuit offerings better. The following are based on two suggestions received recently:

1. Sets versus individual stamps: Offering stamps in sets makes sense for sellers who want to dispose of the stamps in one sale. There are many issues that usually are offered only in sets and there are buyers who want to complete that part of their album with the purchase of the complete set. On the other hand, there are buyers who are looking for only one stamp from a set and do not want to buy the whole set to get it. Their needs are met by the seller who offers and prices the stamps individually. The seller might sell all of the stamps or just a couple from the set. If you have more than one set of the same stamps to sell, offer one as a set and the other as individual stamps. Another way to offer them is to split a

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large set and offer it as two smaller sets. The results may help you decide how you will offer sets in the future. Please be aware that sets of stamps that are not all of similar conditions are not good sellers. This mainly refers to older stamps that are not usually offered as sets.

2. Offering covers: Covers are difficult to price. While *Scott's Specialized Catalogue* has catalogue values for most of the stamps on cover up to 1930, there are attributes of many covers that make them worth more to some collectors. In other words, covers can be unique because of those attributes, which might be tied to a topical interest, have some unusual address or cancel, or have unusual postal markings and notations. One attribute that should be considered is condition. In most cases, damaged covers are priced at a considerable discount from a catalogue value. Stains, tears, cuts, creases, scrapes and other defects should be noted so the buyer knows the condition was considered in the setting of the price.

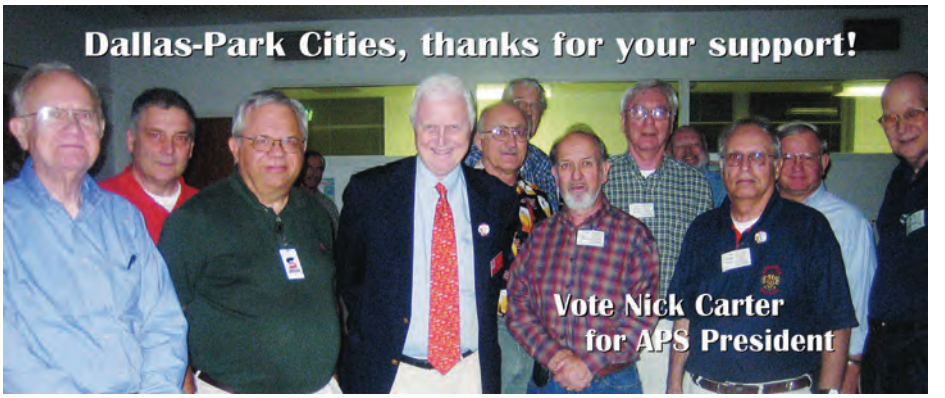
Bypass Letters

If you receive a letter from the Sales Division that tells you to bypass a member after you on the circuit list, please keep it handy for the arrival of the circuit at your address. These letters are sent when the next member is not available to handle circuits for a specified period, has moved, or does not want to receive a circuit from a specific category.

Compare the circuit number shown in the letter with any receipts of circuits you have recently forwarded and with each circuit you receive after the letter arrives. The digits of the circuit number must match exactly. In many cases, the letter is sent weeks ahead of the circuit's arrival at your address. If our letter arrived too late to reroute the circuit, contact us. Otherwise, feel free to wait for four weeks or more before checking on the circuit's location.

Global Books

While the books of Global (1840–1940) are selling well and the supply is "comfortable," the general global books, which contain anything and everything, are overstocked. These books are sitting in our files instead of circulating and selling. We strongly suggest mounting books with items of a narrower focus.



The demand for general material is not as great as it is for single countries or for regional areas, such as Southern Europe, British America, Far East, and others. Contact us for a list of categories with the countries that may be found in each category. You may also access the list online at: http://www.stamps.org/Services/images/Sales_Categories.pdf. We can place books from any category on a Global General circuit, but Global General books cannot be easily placed on the circuits of regional or single-country categories.

Prices for Sales Division and Stampstore Supplies

Prepare yourself for the next couple of months of indoor activities by ordering sales books, submission forms and mounts now, so you won't run short when mounting sales books and Stampstore sheets. These are the current prices for selling supplies (please note the new 8-page book prices):

Sales Books:

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

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

Blocks — $1.50 each, 10 for $8.50, 100 for $60

Covers — $1.75 each, 10 for $12, 100 for $100

Stampstore Submission Forms:

20 sheets for $3

Mounts:

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

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

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

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

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

'5 For 10' Categories (Needs)

We need U.S. items, except First Day Covers. You can earn 5 free blank books for every 10 completed books containing material from a set list of categories. (*Each group of 10 or more qualifying books must be received at the same time and average $50 per book. The free books are assigned when the qualifying books are reviewed soon after arriving.*) Each book must be designed to fit one of the categories, exclusively. Details are sent with blank sales book orders. You also may visit www.stamps.org and click Sales Division and How to Sell. [Note: Single-country books usually have better sales.] Below are categories that are in very short supply at this time:

U.S. Air Mails (stamps)
U.S. 19th Century Covers
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The BCCC promotes "Bullseye" collecting, where a postal cancel is centered on the stamp (sometimes referred to as being "socked on the nose"). Annual U.S. dues are $15; outside U.S. $20. Membership benefits include the quarterly *BCCC Bulletin*, directory, auctions, and round-robin trading circuits. *Contact:* Stan Vernon, 2749 Pine Knoll Dr., #4, Walnut Creek, CA 94595-2044; *e-mail:* stanleyvernon@sbcglobal.net.

American Belgian Philatelic Society *(Affiliate 138)*

Founded in 1983, the ABPS promotes all philatelic aspects of Belgium and its former colonies. Annual U.S. dues are $9; Canada $10; others $16. Membership benefits include the quarterly journal *The Belgiophile*, directory, auctions, special awards, and library. *Website:* http://groups.hamtonroads.com/ABPS. *Contact:* Ralph Yorio, 4471 Portage Trail, Melbourne, FL 32940-1533; *e-mail:* wdhandlin1@comcast.net.

Art Cover Exchange Society *(Affiliate 243)*

The ACES was founded to promote the exchange of philatelic covers of an artistic nature, and to encourage friendly correspondence among its members with a similar interest. Annual U.S. dues are $12; others $22. Membership benefits include the colorful, monthly illustrated journal *From Cover to Cover*, directory, auctions, and slide programs. *Website:* www.artcoverexchange.org. *Contact:* Joseph Doles, 105 Lawson Road, Rochester, NY 14616; *e-mail:* jdoles@rochester.rr.com.

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Cats on Stamps Study Unit *(Affiliate 179)*

The purpose this study unit is the study and collection of philatelic material portraying various breeds and the history of cats. Dues are U.S., Canada, and Mexico $8; overseas $10. Membership benefits include a new issues service and the quarterly, award-winning publication *Cat Mews*. *Contact:* Susan Minniear, 610 E. Russell Road, Sidney, OH 45365.

International Philatelic Golf Society *(Affiliate 183)*

The IPGS was founded in 1983 by two golf enthusiasts to further the knowledge of collectors and students of golf and golf philately. It now has more than 250 members from more than twenty countries. The IPGS offers its international membership the quarterly journal *Tee Time*, as well as a directory and auctions. Membership dues are $12. *Website:* www.ipgsonline.org. *Contact:* Ron Speirs, 8025 Saddle Run, Powell, OH 43065; *e-mail:* rwspiers@aol.com.

Bermuda Collectors Society *(Affiliate 186)*

The BCS promotes all aspects of Bermuda philately. Annual U.S. membership dues are $25; Canada $27; others $32. Membership benefits include auctions, annual convention, and the quarterly publication *Bermuda Post*. *Website:* www.bermudacollectorssociety.com. *Contact:* Thomas J. McMahon, Villa Del Sol, Apt. 5I, 11000 S. Ocean Dr., Jensen Beach, FL 34957.

Korea Stamp Society, Inc. *(Affiliate113)*

The KSSI furthers the study and publication of information concerning the postal history and stamps of Korea. Annual dues are $25 and membership benefits include the quarterly journal *Korean Philately*, directory, expertizing, handbooks, and library. *Website:* www.pennfamily.org/KSS-USA/. *Contact:* John E. Talmage Jr., P.O. Box 6889, Oak Ridge, TN 37831; *e-mail:* jtalmage@usit.net.

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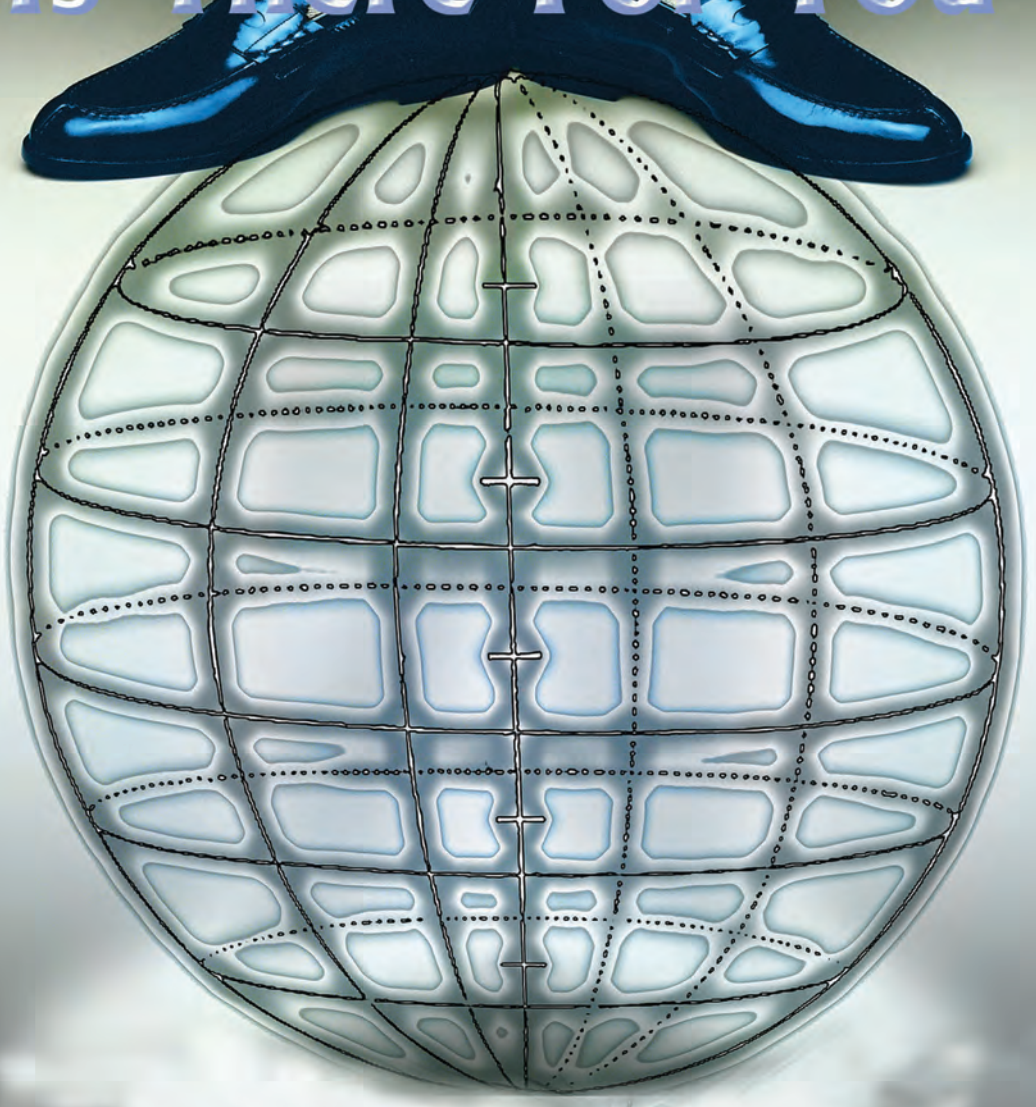

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show time

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

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

Florida **February 2-4**
Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, Sarasota Phil. Club, Inc., Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Contact Sy Bricker, mto.stamps@gte.net; www.sarasotastampclub.com; 941-907-6604. ***WSP***

California **February 9-11**
APS AmeriStamp Expo, American Philatelic Society, Riverside Convention Center, Riverside. Contact Dana Guyer, stampshow@stamps.org; www.stamps.org; 814-933-3803 ext 217; Fax 814-933-6128.

New York **February 9-11**
Metro New York Stamp Expo, Metropolitan Expositions LLC, Midtown Holiday Inn, 440 W. 57th Street, New York. Contact John Dunn, stampnews@aol.com; www.metroexpos.com; 800-635-3351. ***B***

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

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

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

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

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

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

Washington **February 15**
Sno-King Stamp Club Show, Sno-King Samp Club, Boys & Girls Club of Everett, 2316 12th Street, Everett. Contact Diane Gordon, snokingstampclub@hotmail.com; 425-742-0747.

Florida **February 17**
West Volusia Stamp Club Annual Show, West Volusia Stamp Club, Wayne Sanborn Activities Center, 751 S. Alabama, DeLand. Contact Harry Sellards, Jr., sellardsfamily@cfl.rr.com; http://floridacsp.com/wvstamp/; 386-985-0909.

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

Alaska **February 23-25**
APEX, Anchorage Philatelic Society, Ship Creek Center P.O. Lobby, 334 W. 3rd Avenue, Anchorage.

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

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

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

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

Florida **February 17-18**
Lakeland Stamp Show, Florida Stamp Dealers Assoc./Ridge Stamp Club of Lakeland/Germany Philatelic Society, Chapter 23, Imperial Swann Hotel & Suites, 4141 S. Florida Ave., Lakeland. Contact Sheldon Rogg, h.rogg@verizon.net; www.floridastampdealers.org; 727-848-7697. ***B***

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

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

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

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

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

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

Indiana **March 10-11**
CALUPEX, Calumet Stamp Club, Calumet Lincoln Center, 2450 Lincoln St., Highland. Contact John Koval, 219-924-4836; Fax 219-924-4068.

Ohio **March 10-11**
McKinley Stamp Show, McKinley Stamp Club of

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January 7th - (No Show)	January 20th	January 21st
February 4th	February 24th	February 25th
March 4th	March 17th	March 18th
April 1st	April 21st	April 22nd
May 6th	May 19th	May 20th
June 3rd	June 16th	June 17th
July 1st	July 28th	July 29th
August 5th	August 25th	August 26th
September 2nd	September 22nd	September 23rd
October 7th	October 27th	October 28th
November 4th	November 17th	November 18th
December 2nd	December 15th	December 16th

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

Tennessee **March 10-11**
Nashville Stamp Show, Nashville Philatelic Society, Music Valley Event Center, 2416 Music Valley Drive, Nashville. Contact Bob Picirilli, repic@access4less.net; www.nashvillephilatelic.org; 615-297-0183.

Massachusetts **March 11**
SOPEX, Samuel Osgood Stamp Club, BPO Elks Lodge, 652 Andover St., (Exit 45 off I-93), Lawrence. Contact Roger Brand, rogandsue@comcast.net; 978-468-1773. ***B***

New York **March 15-18**
Spring Postage Stamp Mega-Event, American Stamp Dealers Assn., APS & USPS, Madison Square Garden, 4 Pennsylvania Plaza, New York. Contact Jim Roselle, asdashows@erols.com; www.asdaonline.com; 516-759-7000; Fax 516-759-7014. ***WSP***

Wisconson **March 17**
BAYPEX '07, Green Bay Philatelic Society, Ramada Plaza Hotel, 2750 Ramada Way, Green Bay. Contact Gordon Lindner, 920-465-6692. ***B***

Indiana **March 17-18**
49th Annual Stamp Show, Centerville Stamp Club, Holiday Inn Holidome, 5501 National Road East (Route 40), Richmond. Contact C. Stolle, rscsst@parallax.ws; 765-935-5185. ***B***

New Mexico **March 17-18**
Mesilla Valley Stamp Show, Mesilla Valley Stamp Club, Belton Bridge Center, 1214 E. Madrid Ave., Las Cruces. Contact Richard Hiss, rhiss@zianet.com; www.zianet.com/mvsc; 505-678-4701.

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Virginia **March 17-18**
SPRINGPEX 07, Springfield Virginia Stamp Club, Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield. Contact Springfield Stamp Club, www.springfieldstampclub.org.

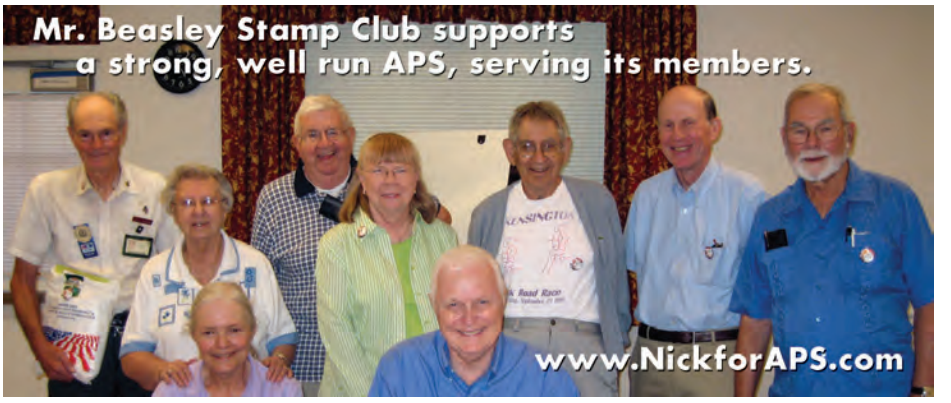
Michigan **March 18**
Pontiac Stamp Club Spring Stamp Show, Pontiac Stamp Club and Waterford Rec. Dept., Waterford Rec. Dept. (former Police Dept.), 2303 Crescent Lk. Rd. (1 mile N. of M-59), Pontiac. Contact Mike Miley, mileystamps@hotmail.com; 248-623-2178.

Canada **March 23-25**
Edmonton Spring National, Edmonton Stamp Club, West Edmonton Mall Fantasyland Hotel 3rd Floor Europa Conference Centre, 17700 - 87 Avenue, Edmonton, AB. Contact Keith Spencer, no.113@shaw.ca; www.edmontonstampclub.com; 708-437-1787.

Ohio **March 23-25**
Garfield-Perry March Party, Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Masonic Auditorium, 36th & Euclid Ave., Cleveland. Contact Tom Allen, tom@thomasfallen.com; www.garfieldperry.org; 216-771-4000. ***WSP***

Maryland **March 24**
TRIPEX Spring 2007, Tri State Stamp Club, Lavale Volunteer Fire Dept., Station 1, 421 National Hwy., Lavale (Cumberland). Contact J. Jeffrey Hutter, Sr., jjhsr@hereintown.net; 301-777-0379 evenings and weekends. ***B***

Michigan **March 24-25**
KAZOOPEX, Kalamazoo Stamp Club, Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo. Contact Mike Dennany, irishmike@mei.net; 269-623-5836.



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

Washington **March 31-April 1**
Apple Blossom 2007, Inland Empire Philatelic Society, Red Lion at the Park, 303 W. North River Drive, Spokane. Contact J. W. Palmer, ickyburg@comcast.net; www.spokanestampcollectors.org; 509-443-8147. ***B***

New Hampshire **March 31**
Stamp, Coin & Ephemera Show, Great Bay Stamp Club, K of C Hall, Columbus Ave., Rochester. Contact Edmund H. Vallery, ehvallery@aol.com; 603-868-5523.

New Jersey **March 31**
Westfield Stamp Show, Westfield Stamp Club, Municipal Building, 425 East Broad St., Westfield. Contact Ed Grabowski, edjjg@alum.mit.edu; 908-337-0039.

Canada **March 31-April 1**
POSTALIA 2007, La Societe Philatelique de Quebec, St-Rodrigue Church, 4760 1st Avenue, Quebec City. Contact Hugo H. D. Deshaye, hdphil@videotron.ca; http://www.s-p-q.org/.

Illinois **March 31-April 1**
PARFOREX XLVII, Park Forest Stamp Club, Forest Trail Middle School, 215 Wilson (Lakewood & Wilson), Park Forest. Contact Ed Waterous, ewwaterous@hotmail.com; 219-769-2840.

Oregon **March 31-April 1**
SOPEX, Southern Oregon Phil. Soc., Jackson County Fairgrounds, I-5. Exit 33 Padgham Pavillion, Central Point. Contact Kevin Keating, kkeating@uclalumni.net; 541-245-6991. ***B***

Kentucky **March 31-April 1**
Lexington Spring Stamp Show, Henry Clay

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

Florida **March 10-11**
West Pasco Stamp Roundup, New Port Richey Area Stamp Club, Inc., Renaissance Academy, 8431 Corporate Way, New Port Richey. Contact Sheldon Rogg, h.rogg@verizon.net; www.floridastampshows.com; 727-848-7697.

Flordia **April 10-18**
American/German SALON and Stampfest, Germany Philatelic Society, Crowne Plaza Hotel Melbourne Oceanview, 2605 North A1A Highway, Indialantic. Contact Jim Pullin, james_r_pullin@hotmail.com; www.gps.nu; 407-644-2156.

Canada **April 13-15**
Toronto Spring Postage Marketplace, Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association, Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibit Place, Toronto, Ont. Contact John Sheffield, secretary@csdaonline.com.

Texas **April 13-15**
TEXPEX, Southwest Phil. Foundation, Doubletree Hotel Dallas Near the Galleria, 4099 Valley View Lane (LBJ Freeway at Midway Rd.), Dallas. Contact Tom Koch, tkoch@utdallas.edu; http://home.comcast.net/~kochacabana/texpex/index.html; 972-883-4951; 972-883-2473. ***WSP***

Alabama **April 14**
Montgomery Area Stamp and Coin Show, Montgomery Area Stamp Club, Holiday Inn, CCBBS Ford Rd. and I-65, Pratteville. Contact Betty Murray, eamurray1@bellwouth.net; 334-279-8018. ***B***

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APS Insurance Plan www.hughwood.com
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APS Membership Application www.stamps.org/TheAps/abt_joinnow.htm
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APS Sales Circuits Division www.stamps.org/Services/ser_StampSalesDivision.htm
APS StampShow www.stamps.org/stampshow/Intro.htm
APS Summer Seminar www.stamps.org/Education/edu_summerseminar.htm
APS Vision Team www.apsvps.com
Argyll Etkin Limited www.argyll-etkin.com
Bachenheimer, Frank www.astampdealer4u.com
Bennett, Harvey/Matthew Bennett International www.bennettstamps.com
Bileski Ltd., K. www.bileskistamps.com
Blount Symposium on Postal History/ sponsored by The National Postal Museum www.postalmuseum.si.edu
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Confederate Stamp Alliance Membership & Authentication Service http://www.csalliance.org
Crown Colony Stamps www.crowncolony.com
Curhan, Bruce H. www.curhanstamps.com
Dale Enterprises www.dalestamps.com
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Eastern Auctions Ltd. www.easternstamps.com
Eastick, Michael www.michaeleastick.com
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FLOREX 2007 - The Florida State Stamp Show www.florexstampshow.com
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Friedman, Dr. Robert J. www.drbobfriedmanstamps.com
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Houston, Sam/Duck Co. shduck.com
Israel & Holyland Stamp Collecting/Society of Israel Philatelists www.israelstamps.com
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Lee, James E. www.jameslee.com
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Littleton Coin Company www.littletoncoin.com/specials
Malack, Steve www.malack.com
McCusker, James www.jamesmccusker.com
Metropolitan Stamp Co. www.metropolitanstamps.com
Mowbray, J.R. www.mowbrays.co.nz
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Northwestern Philatelic Auctions, Inc. www.northwesternauctions.com
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Sam Houston Philatelic Auctions www.shpauctions.com
Sandafayre Ltd. www.sandafayre.com
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SCDB Software, Inc/ The Stamp Collectors Data Base, Inc. www.scdbsoft.com
Schmitt Investors, Ltd. www.fredschmitt.com
Stamp Center/Dutch Country Auctions,The www .TheStampCenter.com
StampWants.com www.stampwants.com
Subway Stamp Shop, Inc.www.subwaystamp.com
Taylor, Stephen www.stephentaylor.co.uk
TNC Enterprises www.tncenterprises.net/ap
Torres, Antonio www.antoniotorres.com
Universal Ship Cancellation Society www.uscs.org
Van Dam, E.S.J. www.esjvandam.com
Vance Auctions Ltd. www.vanceauctions.com
WAP Württembergisches Auktionshaus für Postwertzeichen www.briefmarkenauktion.de
Washington Press www.washpress.com
Westminster Stamp Gallery www.westminsterstamp.com
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membership report

No . 12, December 31, 2006

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during December 2006. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to February 28, 2007, these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the May 2007 issue.

Abbate, Joseph (210672) **Los Angeles, CA** 19TH C EUR-OTTOMAN EMPIRE; 64

Allen, Dean C. (210802) **Sun City, AZ** US-EUR; 76; Retired

Andrasek, Timothy J. (210669) **Boca Raton, FL** WORLDWIDE-AIR MAIL; 46; Systems Engineer

Arruda, Alfred P. (210769) **Fall River, MA** 58; Genealogical Archivist

Ashley, Vernon E. (210639) **Houston, TX** US; 65; Quality Auditor

Babson, Doug (210641) **Edmonds, WA** C & S AM-GER-EARLY AIR MAIL; IT Manager

Baerenbach, Robert A. (210680) **East Brunswick, NJ** US-UN-WORLDWIDE; 76; Retired

Bartha, Stephen M. (210642) **Petoskey, MI** BOY SCOUTS-HAWAII-IRAQ-HUNGARY-HAITI-AIR MAIL; 57; Accountant

Bartsh, John (210736) **Minneapolis, MN** WORLDWIDE; Dentist

Beckman, Norman E. (210737) **Murphysboro, IL** US, PLATE BLKS; 67; Self Employed

Billstone, Susan K. (210722) **El Paso, TX** 59; Deputy Court Clerk

Black, Stuart C. (210738) **Las Vegas, NV** US SINGLES, PNC, BOOKLET PANES; 87; Retired

Bohlander, Thomas W. (210739) **Pleasant Hill, OH** CANADA-UK-US-CZ; 73; Retired

Braun, Douglas A. (210726) **Harrison Township, MI** VAT; 37; Teacher

Bull, Darlene F. (210740) **Joliet, IL** US; 62; Librarian

Burke, David (210710) **Warm Springs, GA**

Burkhardt, Frederick K. (210643) **Morrisville, PA** LIECH; 85; Retired

Burr, Brooks M. (210741) **Carbondale, IL** US, AIR MAIL; 57; Zoology Professor

Bush, Jules (210711) **Saint Louis, MO** 76; Retired

Caruso, Joseph (210787) **Pelham, NY** MINT; 47; Self Employed

Cary, Bruce O. (210681) **Chazy, NY** US; 66; Retired

Castillo, Ralph A. (210767) **Sparta, NC** GER-US-MONACO; 45; Hospital CEO

Chalita, Fred (210682) **Turlock, CA** US-EUR; 69; Retired

Christiansen, Richard (210683) **Elmhurst, IL** 64; Retired

Clark, Rex (210635) **Morpeth, Northumber, England** PRE 1840 BRIT POSTAL HISTORY; 67; Retired

Clauset, John Hawkins (210742) **New Washoe City, NV** PRE 1970 US, WORLDWIDE; 60; Retired

Clayville, Donald L. (210779) **Frederica, DE** US-WORLDWIDE; Retired

Clepper, Carlton W. (210765) **Mena, AR** US; 59; Retired

Cook, Margaret M. (210743) **Chevy Chase, MD** AM HISTORY-SPORTS; Retired

Cooper, Martin H. (210808) **Pittsburgh, PA** CLASSIC US & WORLDWIDE-GB-GER-FRANCE-POLAND; 75; Retired

Coyne, Thomas (210684) **West Seneca, NY**

Crabb, Peter J. (210685) **East Malvern, VIC, Australia** CHINA-AUST COL; 63; CPA

Curtis, Dave E. (210744) **Falls Church, VA** FDC-ART COVERS; 45; Retail Management/ Cachetmaker

Curtis, Sabrina (S-210745) **Falls Church, VA** 40; Artist

Davies, John A. K. (210780) **Weston, MA** PRE 1935 MINT US-ALASKA-FLY FISHING-TROUT-SALMON; 64; Retired

Dean, William E. (210712) **Birmingham, AL** US; Retired

Denlis, Steve (210644) **Pinole, CA** USED US; 40; Machine Shop Owner

Deutch, John R. (210781) **Warrenton, MO** 1855/1902 ST. LOUIS AGRICULTURAL/ MECHANICAL FAIRS-US NATIONAL PARKS-SCOUTING; 64; NPS Park Guide

Drebenstedt, Howard (210746) **Merrill, WI** US-USED WORLDWIDE; 66; Retired

Du, Darfoon (210770) **Kennett Square, PA** 87

Dunn, Gary E. (210771) **Downingtown, PA** 63; Retired

Ehlert, Robert N. (210645) **La Grange, TX** US-WORLDWIDE; 50; Retired

Embry, Deborah C. (210677) **Orlando, FL** US-FDC; 51; Respiratory Therapist

Ertell, John R. (210747) **Spring City, PA** IRELAND-CANADA-BRIT COMM OMNIBUS ISSUES; 65; Retired

Etherton, Lewis E. (210698) **Longwood, FL** 66; Rec. Clerk

Facemire, Charles F. (210636) **Deming, NM** US-NZ; 69; Assistant Professor

Farrell, Patsy I. (210734) **Monona, WI** WORLDWIDE-US; 67; Sales

Felts, Linda S. (210731) **Odessa, TX** MINT US SINGLES, PLATE BLKS, FDC; 65; Retired

Ferris, Keith E. (210748) **Juneau, AK** INDIA-LATIN AM-1840/1940 WORLDWIDE; Grocery Clerk

Fletcher, Jean E. (210699) **Deland, FL** MARSHALL IS-WORLDWIDE; 63; Retired

Frankiewicz, James (210749) **Shelbyville, IN** FIRST CACHETS-FDC; 63; Retired

Frederick, Jeri (210730) **Estes Park, CO** 51

Fredrickson, Gerald R. (210721) **Westford, MA** 44

Galdi, Frederick R. (210686) **Woodland Hills, CA** 58; Retired

Garcia, Noel (210700) **Orlando, FL** WORLDWIDE; 40; Mailhandler

Gerhard, Anna D. (210723) **Ramona, CA** WORLDWIDE-FDC-POSTAL HISTORY; 31

Gill, Jerry L. (210713) **Pleasant Gap, PA** USED US; 39; Construction

Ginther, Paul R. (210788) **Irwin, PA** WORLDWIDE; 64; Contractor

Gonzi, Paul Fenech (210777) **Sliema, Malta** BIRDS; 46; Director

Greenhow, Gary E. (210701) **Lakeland, FL** US; 56; Eng. Tech. Supervisor

Griffiths, Robert A. (210750) **Philadelphia, PA** Lawyer

Groenendaal, Annette (210772) **Bend, OR** 53

Gumbus, Paul B. (210687) **New Britain, CT** US BOB; 58

Hall, Thomas (210773) **Cheshire, CT**

Han, Yong (210702) **Kissimmee, FL** PRC-TAIWAN-KOREA-JAPAN-HONG KONG; 48

Hartman, William (210646) **Pellston, MI** GER-GB-FRANCE; 69; Retired

Helms, Robert (210634) **Dallas, TX** 59

Hernandez, Carmen M. (210797) **La Mesa, CA** US; 61; Teacher

Hesni, Sherif R. (210799) **Washington, DC** EGYPT POSTAL HISTORY; 48; CEO

Higginbotham, David E. (210697) **Lindenhurst, IL** US; 40; Chemical Engineer

Himmelman, John (210728) **Manalapan, NJ** 61

Hirzel, James W. (210720) **Reynoldsburg, OH** GER; 72; Retired

Hornagold, Harry V. (210647) **Sarasota, FL** GB-US SINGLES; 75; Engineer

Hughes, William B. (210688) **Mc Kinney, TX** 68

Huling, Frank L. (210784) **Derby, KS** FRENCH-US-UN-SWISS; 56; Retired

Hutchinson, Paul D. (210786) **Mesa, AZ** EARLY US, BOB; 40; Retired

Jacobsen, Jean E. (210778) **Richland, WA** 67; Nurse

Jacques, Robert E. (210751) **Beverly, MA** OVERPRINTS, OCCUPIED/NAME CHANGE COUNTRIES

Judge, Richard (210678) **Racine, WI** CANADA-WORLDWIDE; 55; Chemistry Professor

Kalb, Robert M. (210703) **Surfside, FL** US-WORLDWIDE; 64; Retired

Kegler, Raymond P. (210714) **West Seneca, NY** SWISS-GER-WORLDWIDE; 82; Retired

Kennedy, Richard A. (210725) **Folkestone, Kent, England**; 39; Stamp Dealer

Kent, Michael A. (210724) **Rancho Santa Fe, CA** CLASSIC US; 49

Kenzior, Norman (210796) **Sun City, AZ** FDC; 65

Kijowski, Carl (210638) **Millville, NJ** 67

Labaune, Patrick (210729) **Montmeyran, France** 38

Lang, Laurence J. (210715) **Woodbury, MN** US COMMEM-CANADA; 73; Retired

Laperriere, R. (210752) **St. Jean Rich, QC** US-CANADA; 72; Retired

Lester, Leonard T. (210648) **Modesto, CA** 1862-1973 HONG KONG; 72; Retired

Lewis, Thomas E. (210803) **Estero, FL** US, COMMEM; 59; Credit Counselor/Mortgage Lender

Little, Scott E. (210753) **Bluffton, OH** US/CANADA SINGLES-SPECIALTY POSTMARKS-BASEBALL; 42; GIS Engineering Technician

Loew, James H. (210783) **Latrobe, PA** 40; Roman Catholic Priest

Loventhal, Robert (210689) **Chicago, IL** US; 57; Attorney

Lyon, John W. (210754) **Bethesda, MD** PRE 1960 BRIT COL-PRE 1960 FRENCH COL-JET FIRST FLIGHTS; 67; Retired

Mainzer, Madeline (210789) **Niles, IL** US; 56; Medical Technologist

Mangum, Angela (210691) **Bossier City, LA**

Mansourati, Michel (J-210671) **Glendale, CA** 20

Martul, Luis R. (210727) **Orono, ME** 57

Mason, Robin B. (210809) **Falmouth, ME** MINT US; 55

Masorti, Wendy L. (210717) **Beech Creek, PA** BASEBALL-DISNEY-DOGS; 37; Director of Membership Administration

Mathis, James O. (210766) **Huntsville, TX** US; 77; Professor Emeritus

Matick, George A. (210790) **White Oak, PA** WORLDWIDE-AMG; 70; Retired

McDonnell, James P. (210755) **Oakbrook Terrace, IL** MINT US; 74; Retired

McDowell, Susan (210690) **Ypsilanti, MI** 44

McNeilly, Heather J. (210806) **Modesto, CA** 31; Teacher

Metz, Marie A. (210791) **Uniontown, PA** US, SINGLES, PLATE BLKS, FDC;

Miller, Edward J. (210679) **Rock Hill, SC** US; 66; Retired

Minars, Barry L. (210801) **Boynton Beach, FL** 62

Mitchell, Thomas (210800) **Midlothian, VA** US; 60; Retired

Mitton, Dennis (210807) **Gig Harbor, WA** CLASSIC MINT US-FRANCE-N INGERMANLAND; 48

Monsees, John J. (210649) **South Burlington, VT** 68; Retired

Montalvo-Capestany, Jose A. (J-210637) **Mercedita, PR** 9; Student

Montover, Nate (210676) **Calamus, IA** 34

Montoya, Rita J. (210667) **Wheat Ridge, CO** 58

Moore, Charles (210640) **New York, NY** GER-UK-WORLDWIDE; 49; Hospitality Manager

Morrison, George W. (210650) **Salem, OR** US-COMMONWEALTH-ROCKET MAIL; 63; Retired

Mossor, Lynn (210665) **Salem, OR** US-FRANCE-JAPAN-CANADA-PRE 1940 WORLDWIDE; 63; Retired

Muller, Jon (210756) **Carbondale, IL** PRE 1945, DDR, USSR;

Mullikin, Jessie A. (210651) **Cochran, GA** Retired

Muro, Ernest A. (210704) **Orlando, FL** LOCAL POSTCARDS-WWII NAZI OCC OF UKRAINE; 52; Carpenter

Nathan, Natalie E. (210757) **Beverly, MA** MOZAMBIQUE-COTTON; Entrepreneur

Nelson, Virginia A. (210758) **Roseville, CA** US-CANADA; 79; Homemaker

Nesbitt, Bruce (210652) **Washington, DC** CANADA-SPECIAL DELIVERY-OFFICIALS; 65; Consultant

Norman, Pat A. (210653) **Salem, OR** US; 51; Transit Operator

Olenchalk, Joseph J. (210812) **Antioch, CA** US; 77; Retired

Ordetx, Douglas G. (210654) **Tampa, FL** CUBA-SANTO DOMINGO-PUERTO RICO-GB; 66; Retired

Padua, Ricky S. (S-210705) **Apopka, FL** 49; Designer

Paul, Eugene B. (210655) **New Oxford, PA** US-CANADA; 73; Retired

Pavord, William C. (210656) **Danville, VA** MINT US, PLATE BLKS; 73; Retired

Pence, Norman (210792) **Hugo, OK** OK POSTAL HISTORY-PRECANCELS; 63; Retired

Plunkett, Russ (210718) **Woodbury, MN** 57

Pomianek, Michael (210675) **Arlington, MA** CANCELLED US-COMMONWEALTH-W HEMISPHERE; 41; Attorney

Rao, Ananda G. (210759) **Pleasant Hill, CA** US-UN; 76; Retired

Raszewski, Michael A. (210793) **Elizabeth, PA** US, SINGLES, MINT PLATE BLKS-DUCK-PNC-MINT CANADA SINGLES-MINT UN SINGLES; 51; Machine Operator

Reed, Sunni L. (210775) **San Bernardino, CA** 19TH C USED US; 59; Social Worker

Reish, George D. (210657) **Laguna Woods, CA** 85; Retired

Richardson, William F. (210658) **Marblehead, MA** GER-USS CONSTITUTION COVERS-USS MARBLEHEAD SHIP COVERS; 66; Retired

Rodes, Elmer O. (210774) **Roanoke, VA** US-CIVIL WAR; 83; Retired

Salsig, Jeanne C. (210804) **Denair, CA** US-WORLDWIDE; 56; Retired

Sanford, Heidemarie A. (210692) **Rippon, WV** US; 63; Mary Kay Consultant

Santarsiero, Thomas J. (210776) **Sewell, NJ** MUSIC-ASTRONOMY; 64; Laboratory Scientist

Savino, Philip P. (210706) **Micanopy, FL** WORLDWIDE; 65; Retired

Sawchuk, Philip S. (210760) **Tucson, AZ** WORLDWIDE; 75; Retired

Schulze, Erich C. (210794) **Bayville, NJ** US-CUBA; 65; Retired

Scott, Franklin W. (210693) **Lincoln, CA** PRE WWII-WORLDWIDE-FRANCE; 81; Retired

Sheedy, Joseph A. (210666) **Tempe, AZ** US; 52; Accountant

Shibuya, Susumu (210694) **Choshi, Chibaken, Japan** JAPAN-US-UN-CANADA-NOBEL-LIGHTHOUSES; 61

Shniderman, S. A. (210719) **Chicago, IL** 55

Simmons, Robert (210798) **Sandwich, MA** POSTCARDS-POSTMARKS; 67; Administrator

Skochylas, Michael (210785) **New Kensington, PA** 89

Sloan, David L. (210708) **Fort Lauderdale, FL** US-FRANCE; 66

Spevacek, Richard (210673) **Preston, CT** 75

Spooner, Robert L. (210805) **Lemont, PA** 60; Engineer

Stanton, James H. (210674) **Anacortes, WA** GER-CANADA; 79; Retired

Starnes, John (210810) **Bloomf eld Hills, MI** 47

Steffen, Richard C. (210761) **Andover, MA** 53; USPS

Steiner, Harvey A. (210659) **New Stanton, PA** US-ISRAEL-THAILAND; 69; Retired

Stellwag, Andrew M. (210811) **Mount Laurel, NJ** US, PLATE BLKS, SINGLES, POSTCARDS; 53; Nurseryman

Storer, Robert (210733) **Hartlepool, England** GB-US-WORLDWIDE; 68; Retired

Strathman, James E. (210735) **Seneca, KS** 59; Postal Worker

Stumpf, Francis C. (210762) **Willow Street, PA** US-GER-MILITARY-RELIGION; Retired

Sudduth, Thomas D. (210695) **Earleton, FL** US; 65; Retired

Sumner, Michael D. (210660) **Saint Helens, OR** FDI-EARLY US-POSTAGE DUE; 38; Automotive Mechanic

Sutton, Mark L. (210668) **Las Vegas, NV** 50; Retired

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Applications 210077, 210181 through 210232, and 210234 through 210328, and 210330 through 210403 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, Nov. 30, 2006		44,184
New Members	222	
Reinstated	34	256
		44,440
Chapters Disbanded	1	
Deceased	33	
Resignations	89	123
Total Membership, Dec. 31, 2006		44,317

Swift, Wesley R. (210813) **Huntsville, AL** US-CANADA-MEX; Physicist

Talbot, Angeligue M. (210661) **Campton, NH** 76; Salesperson

Tanner, Debbie (210763) **Petaluma, CA** Clerk

Taylor, Bruce G. (210764) **Maryville, MO** US, SINGLES, PLATE BLKS, AIR MAIL, COVERS; 59; Civil Engineer

Thurrell, Robert F. (210662) **Venice, FL** US-AMERICANA; 86; Retired

Todd, Gregory N. (210732) **Church Hill, TN** WORLDWIDE-BIRDS-THIRD REICH; 44; Cytotechnologist

Tollestrup, Janine (210795) **Warrenville, IL** 1970-1980s US; 51

Topolewski, Ted (210664) **New Milford, CT** 55

Torres, Linda J. (210663) **Draper, UT** 48; Homemaker

Ulatowski, Paul (210782) **Wallingford, CT**

Ulrych, Matt (210716) **Arlington Heights, IL** HAWAII-DUCK; 31; Accounting

Van Wyck Fleet, Judith (210707) **Ocala, FL** PRE 1940 WORLDWIDE; 69; Retired

Webber, Chris B. (210709) **Campbell River, BC** US-CANADA-BRIT COMM; 60; Retired

Wilson, Steven (210768) **Sachse, TX** 42

Young, Amy L. (210696) **Hattiesburg, MS**

NEW CHAPTERS

Mr. Beasley Stamp Club of Chevy Chase (210402), Washington, DC. **CONTACT:** Mrs. May Day Taylor, 100 Grafton St., Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3426

Springfield-Delco Stamp Club (210403), Springfield, PA. **CONTACT:** Alfred Bernardini, 422 Wilde Ave., Drexel Hill, PA 19026

MERGED CHAPTERS

Greater St. Louis Stamp Club (094278) and Mound City Stamp Club(0786-029614) have merged to become the Greater Mound City Stamp Club (0786-029614), Chesterfield, MO **CONTACT:** Gary G. Hendren, 12737 Glenage Dr., Maryland Heights, MO 63043

CHAPTER DISBANDED

Ocean County Stamp Club (080518), Toms River, NJ

CHANGE IN NAME

Corwin, Linda W. (153981), Conroe, TX, has changed her name to Linda W. Glass.

Lijewski, Victoria J. (202670), Baltimore, MD, has changed her name to Victoria J. Lijewski-Olotu, Penfield, NY.

Eagle Stamp Club (197338), Eagle, ID, has changed its name to Eagle Stamp & Postcard Club.

DECEASED

Attridge, Walter E. (8413-056037), Portland, OR
Baity, Robert F. (8791-060387), Melbourne, FL
Balcom, Robert E. (1507-056039), Frankfort, KY
Brett, L. E., Jr. (171862), Richmond, VA
Clark, Donald R. (10830-075453), Aurora, IL
Diamond, Leo (9163-063406), New York, NY
Ehlert, Charles H. (172391), La Grange, TX
Elmer, Linda J. (158373), Denver, CO
Estes, Gerald A. (207450), Orangeville, IL
Fay, Gardner F. (111136), Stratham, NH
Gazda, Istvan (3427-116068), Budapest, Hungary
Glaser, George (6845-047848), Los Altos, CA
Gonzales, Henry (6423-056123), El Paso, TX
Hughes, Henry J., Jr. (182891), Flatwoods, KY
Jones, James R. (7086-048426), Tucson, AZ
Joss, Donald G. (122669), Nassau, Bahamas
Leonard, George S. (7438-052542), Houston, TX
LeVangia, Warren J. (111302), Vergennes, VT
Moon, Henry T. (5677-042315), State College, PA
O'Brien, Dorothy C. (159798), West Newton, MA
Ohm, Robert G. (102258), Stockton, CA
Pearcy, David A. (180805), Eliot, ME
Pflug, Paul H. (9279-063202), Tampa, FL
Phillips, Wendell J. (5319-037303), Honolulu, HI
Poetzl, Charles E. (139520), Rancho Cordova, CA
Rizzo, Peter Paul (2600-034035), Streator, IL
Roberts, Jewell D. (137610), Burleson, TX
Rothmann, Bruce F. (5248-040025), Silver Lake, OH
Schoonover, Terry J. (147455), Frisco, TX
Sheridan, Robert L. (164601), Bellevue, NE
Stevning, Donald S. (7476-051648), Maple Lake, MN
Wagner, Keith A. (3300-110089), State College, PA
Zeller, Leslie (209453), Latham, NY

REPRIMAND

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

DEALER LISTING

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

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Zip Stamp Service (Joseph L. Piscione 160658), P.O. Box 669, Hobart, IN 46342, 219-942-6280. **SCANDINAVAIN-UN-US-COVER OSA**

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With Love & Kisses

The USPS issued a 39-cent With Love and Kisses special stamp in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive convertible booklet of twenty on January 13, in Hershey, Pennsylvania, home of the popular chocolate "kiss."

The stamp features a silver Hershey's Kisses chocolate on a deep-red background. The shape of the Kisses chocolate mirrors the form of the passionate red heart that rises behind it. Written on the heart is "Love," while "Kisses" appears on the plume that extends from the top of the chocolate treat. The stamp also commemorates the 100th anniversary of Hershey's Kisses in 2007.

Denomination: 39-cent Special
Format: Double-sided convertible booklet of 20 (1 design)
Series: Love
Designer/Art Director/Typographer: Derry Noyes, Washington, DC
Artist: José Ortega, Toronto, Canada
Modeler: Avery Dennison, SPD
Manufacturing Process: Gravure
Engraver: WRE/Color Tech
Printer: Avery Dennison, AVR, Clinton, SC
Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)
Paper Type: Nonphosphored, Type III
Adhesive Type: Pressure-Sensitive
Colors: *Stamp Side:* Yellow, magenta, cyan, black. *Cover Side:* Yellow, magenta, cyan, black
Stamp Orientation: Vertical
Sizes (w x h): 19.558 x 26.67 mm (image); 23.114 x 30.226 mm (overall); 15.57 x 127.00 mm (booklet)
Plate Numbers: *"V"* followed by 4 single digits
Marginal Markings: *Stamp Side:* N/A. *Cover Side:* 2006 USPS; plate numbers; $7.80; USPS logo; promotional text; "HERSHEY'S, KISSES, the plume and the product configuration are registered trademarks used with permission from The Hershey Company"; barcode 676700; "Love KISSES"; stamp image; "Twenty 39 Self-adhesive Stamps" Microprinting, "USPS"
Printer: Ashton Potter (USA) Ltd., Williamsville, NY
Press Type: Mueller Martini, A74
Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type II
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive
Colors: Black, cyan, magenta, yellow, orange
Stamp Orientation: Horizontal
Sizes (w x h): 36.068 x 31.336 mm (image); 39.624 x 24.892

Oklahoma Statehood Stamp

The USPS issued a 39-cent Oklahoma Statehood commemorative stamp in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of twenty stamps on January 11 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The stamp celebrates the centennial of Oklahoma's statehood.

The stamp design features an evocative painting by Oklahoma artist Mike Larsen that shows the morning sunlight touching the waters of the Cimarron River, one of several rivers that meander through the state. Also included in the design are the words "Oh, what a beautiful mornin'..." — recalling a popular song from the musical *Oklahoma!* by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II.

Denomination: 39-cent Commemorative
Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)
Series: Statehood
Designer/Art Director/Typographer: Phil Jordan, Falls Church, VA
Artist: Mike Larsen, Perkins, OK
Modeler: Joseph Sheeran
Manufacturing Process: Offset,

mm (overall); 151.13 x 183.896 mm (pane)
Plate Numbers: *"P"* followed by 5 single digits Marginal Markings: ©2006 USPS; plate position diagram; price; 4 plate numbers; 4 barcodes on back of pane

Ella Fitzgerald Honored

The USPS issued a 39-cent Ella Fitzgerald commemorative stamp in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of twenty stamps on January 10 in New York City.

With the thirtieth stamp in its Black Heritage series, the U.S. Postal Service honors Ella Fitzgerald, the extraordinary singer who was widely known as "the first lady of song." USPS art director Ethel Kessler lauds the stamp portrait by illustrator Paul Davis for the way it captures the joy and excitement of Fitzgerald's art.

Denomination: 39-cent Commemorative
Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)
Series: Black Heritage
Designer/Art Director/Typographer: Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, MD
Artist: Paul Davis, New York, NY
Modeler: Joseph Sheeran
Manufacturing Process: Offset, Microprinting, "USPS"
Printer: Ashton Potter (USA) Ltd., Williamsville, NY
Press Type: Mueller Martini, A 74
Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type II
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive
Colors: Black, cyan, magenta, yellow, blue
Stamp Orientation: Vertical
Sizes (w x h): 31.336 x 36.068 mm (image); 24.892 x 39.624 mm (overall); 151.13 x 183.896 mm (pane)
Plate Numbers: *"P"* followed by 6 single digits
Marginal Markings: *Stamp Side:* ©2006 USPS; plate position diagram; header "BLACK HERITAGE" "30th IN A SERIES"; price; plate numbers on 4 corners of pane. *Back Side:* Biographical text on back of each stamp; 4 barcodes; "Ella Fitzgerald licensed by CMG Worldwide, Indianapolis, IN"; USPS logo

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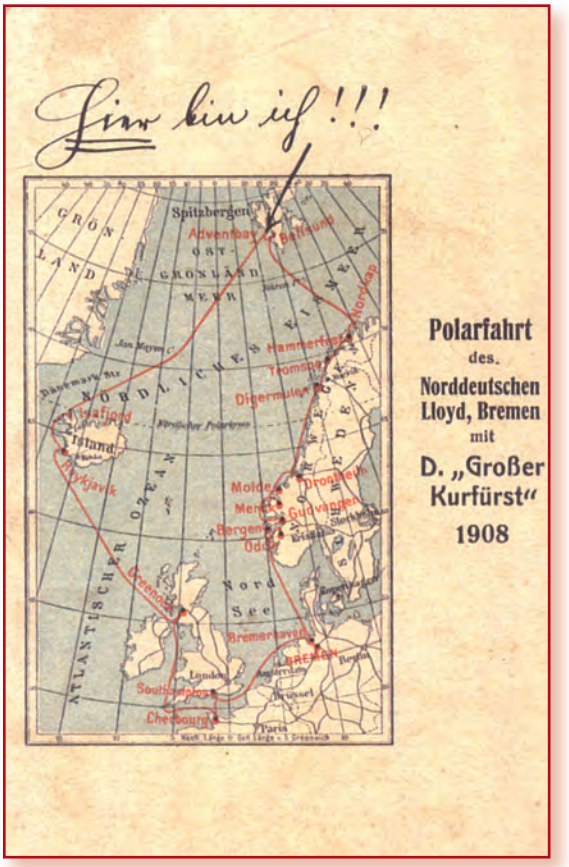
A Polar Voyage in 1908

by Charles A. Fricke

Collecting picture postcards mailed from far-off places can be an intriguing adventure. While many of the cards mailed from foreign countries were sent by members of postcard exchange groups, those that were mailed by regular tourists or visitors can prove much more relevant to their times.

The picture postcard shown is from an unlikely tourist destination at the turn of the century; namely, Iceland. The card was mailed with a 10-aur Iceland stamp (Scott 76) and has a Reykjavik / 7-4-08 postmark. It is addressed to "Laurence Duchow, Sonora, Tuol. Co., Calif. U.S.A." The message is typical of a card mailed by a visitor to a foreign country:

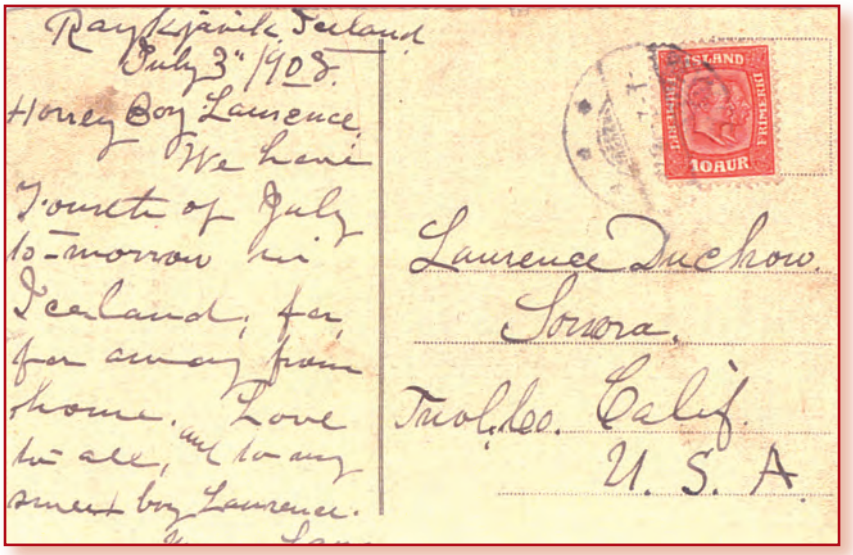
Raykjavik, Iceland
July 3 1908
Honey Boy Laurence
We have Fourth of July tomorrow in Iceland, far, far away from home.
Love to all, and to my sweet boy Laurence.
Mamma Lang



What makes this card special is the information to be found on the other side: a map of the 1908 polar voyage made by the North German Lloyd Steamship Company ship *Gruber Kurfürst*. The steamship company generally provided souvenir picture postcards for its passengers to mail home as well as for advertising the steamship line. The ports of call are marked in red and there is a red line showing the polar route.

The *Gruber Kurfürst* left Bremerhaven, Germany (its home port), stopping at various towns along the coast of Norway (Odde, Bergen, Gudvanger, Menok, Dronthein, Digermulen, Tromsoe, Hammerfest, Nordcap), Spitsbergen (Bellsund, Adventbay), and Iceland (Isajord, Reykjavik) before moving on to ports of call in Scotland (Greenock), France (Cherbourg), Great Britain (Southampton), and finally returning to port in Bremerhaven.

Apparently, Mamma Lang began her card in Spitsbergen, because she inked in a large arrow pointing to Adventbay and added the words "Hier bin ich!!!" (Here I am). Then the message was added, and the card mailed, when the ship reached Reykjavik.



Think of the adventure — traveling in the far northern seas at a time when most indi viduals never ventured far from their homes. All in all, a classic polar souvenir picture postcard, to say the least!

The Author

Charles A. F ricke has r eceived the APS Luff Award for distinguished philatelic research and has b een inducted into the APS Writers Unit 30 Hall of Fame. He continues to enjoy research and writing on unusu al philatelic items.

APS Remembers Wilson Hulme

W. Wilson Hulme II (1946–2007)

Wilson Hulme and philately will forever be linked. Wilson was what this hobby is all about — sharing a love of stamps. A trip to the National Postal Museum would not have been complete without a behind the scenes peek at a new exhibit or philatelic find. I will fondly remember him as a "Professor of Philately."

Wilson had been a member of the American Philatelic Society for more than thirty years, and served as an expertizer not only for the APS but also for the Philatelic Foundation and the Confederate Stamp Alliance. He had been a contributor to the *Scott Catalogues* since 1995 and an appointed or elected officer of the Classics Society since 1992. He was awarded several top U.S. Philatelic Classics Society awards: the Lester G. Brookman Cup (awarded to a member of The USPCS for outstanding service to the society) in 1997; the Elliott Perry Cup (awarded to authors of articles, books, or other studies concerning either U.S. stamps or postal history to 1894, with particular weight to newly discovered information) in 2005; and the Dr. Carroll Chase Cup (awarded to authors of articles, books, or other studies concerning any U.S. stamp issued to 1894) in 1999. He also shared awards for articles in the USPCS journal *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues* on stamps and postal history in 1996 and 2005 and was a sole winner in 1997 and 2002.

He became a fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London in 1992, and was appointed Curator of the National Postal Museum in August 2002.

A statement released by the Smithsonian National Postal Museum included the following notes:

National Postal Museum Director Allen Kane: "Wilson Hulme was one of the most amazing people I have ever met. This is a huge loss for the museum and the philatelic community. Wilson was constantly looking for new, innovative ways to share the hobby and inspire new collectors. From royalty (Queen Elizabeth II) to rock stars (John Lennon), Wilson showed the world there is a place for everyone in stamp collecting. We are grateful to Wilson Hulme for bringing his vast knowledge, great vision and capable leadership to the National Postal Museum. He will be truly missed."

Chairman Don Sundman of the National Postal Museum Council of Philatelists: "Wilson Hulme was a world-class philatelist who loved stamps, the hobby, the National Postal Museum and the people involved with the hobby. When Wilson was named curator, he said it was his dream job. Wilson lived his dream, and it shows in the great things he accomplished at the museum."

In August 2002, Wilson Hulme began his work as Curator of Philately at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum with a clear vision — the museum would be the center of the philatelic universe. From that day forward, Hulme worked with unwavering determination toward realizing that vision.

Hulme wanted the National Postal Museum to be a place where philatelists could "access the inaccessible;" the phrase became a sort of mantra among the museum's staff. Under Hulme's leadership, the NPM offered collectors unprecedented opportunities to see extraordinary philatelic rarities. Hulme was instrumental in bringing exhibits like "The Queen's Own: Stamps That Changed the World," an exhibition of materials from Queen Elizabeth II's own Royal Philatelic Collection; "Stamps Take Flight," featuring materials from the United States Postal Service's Postmaster General's Collection; and "Rarity Revealed: The Benjamin K. Miller Collection," a current exhibition materials from the renowned Benjamin K. Miller Collection, on loan to the National Postal Museum by The New York Public Library. Hulme also believed in the broad appeal of stamps; he was instrumental in the museum's acquisition of John Lennon's boyhood stamp album.

Hulme's vision included enhancing the National Philatelic Collection and elevating the museum's status as a

resource for philatelic research. In addition, he provided a sense of purpose and direction that guided the members of the National Postal Museum's Council of Philatelists in their work on behalf of the museum.

Hulme, 60, began collecting stamps in his childhood and was a serious collector and philatelic researcher for 30 years. Before joining the National Postal Museum staff, Hulme was a member of the museum's Council of Philatelists. A life member of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, he was serving as president of the organization at the time of his death.

Hulme graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1968, received a master's degree from Michigan State in 1969 and a master's in business administration from Harvard Business School in 1978. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1968 to 1976 on nuclear submarines. He worked for Frito-Lay from 1978 to 1992, and for Unilever from 1992 to 1997. He was Vice President of Operations of Nabisco International from 1997 to 2001.

Condolences can be sent to the family in care of the National Postal Museum at the following mailing address: Smithsonian National Postal Museum, MRC 570 P.O. Box 37012, Washington DC 20013-7012.

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14 Questions ON A LIFE IN PHILATELY with Patrick Moore

The first stamp you bought? A packet of East German stamps in 1960. **How much did it cost?** 25 cents. **What's it worth now?** 25 cents. **How did you get started in philately?** My father interested me in his U.S. stamps that a relative sent him from Washington in the 1930s. My parents gave me a UN Year Set for Christmas in 1960, which also stoked my appetite. Then came the East German packet mentioned above, as well as Egyptian stamps from a local dealer that complemented an interest in Egyptology.

Your personal favorite areas of philately? I'm attracted to stamps and covers of all places that reflect the history and the politics of the time. Technical aspects such as perfs, paper, and watermarks don't excite me. There are exceptions like the German local stamps issued after WWII in places like Saxony and Thuringia, where the post-war shortages can still be appreciated in the many types of paper, perfs, and gum once found.

What has stamp collecting meant in your life? A window on the world and a constant incentive to acquire knowledge. I remember my first packet of Egyptian stamps at age 12, in which I saw how King Farouk's face had been obliterated with three bars on many of the stamps. That discovery led to hours at the local library learning about modern Egypt and its politics. This was the first of many subsequent adventures.

Your favorite stamp issued the year you were born? The Hungarian Communists issued a ghastly political set on the day I was born, and I have a sort of amused affinity for those stamps (#938-39). **The most expensive stamp you've bought?** Rather than buy expensive items, I'd put together a collection of, say, Czechoslovak stamps from 1945 or 1946, on which you can see how the Nazi-era postmarks were stripped of their German inscriptions to leave only the Czech text, or on which you can see totally improvised Czech cancels created by the local postmaster. Similar collections can be put together without huge expense for many areas of Central and Eastern Europe that experienced political upheavals in the 19th and 20th centuries. **Your favorite stamp?** Some of the Egyptian stamps from the early decades of the 20th century that depicted ancient art, such as Scott #105-07. **Any hobbies unrelated to stamps?** Reading, hiking, and Scottish Terriers.

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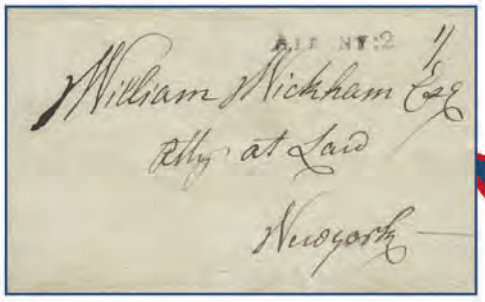

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Application for Membership

❒ REGULAR MEMBER

❒ LIFE MEMBER

❒ ASSOCIATE MEMBER
(Spouse or child under 18 of a current APS member living at same address)

American Philatelic Society

SEND TO: APS • 100 Match Factory Place • Bellefonte • PA • 16823
www.stamps.org

Please Print or type

Mr., Mrs., Other _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip Code/Postal Code _____

___ ___ ___ • ___ ___ ___ • ___ ___ ___ ___ Daytime Phone

___ ___ ___ • ___ ___ ___ • ___ ___ ___ ___ Fax

Date of Birth ___ ___ • ___ ___ • ___ ___
Month Day Year
(if over 18, you may enter legal)

E-Mail _____ Website _____ Occupation _____

Major Stamp Collecting Interests _____

REFERENCE REQUIREMENT Each applicant must provide a commercial reference. Please provide a current Visa or MasterCard account number with expiration date and verification code or the name and address of another commercial reference (a company or stamp dealer with whom you do business, or your employer, etc.). I agree to abide by the Philatelic Code of Ethics and agree to be bound by all rules and regulations of the Society and its bylaws. I understand notice of applications for membership is published in *The American Philatelist*.

❒ **Visa or** ❒ **MasterCard Reference**

Account Number ___ ___ ___ ___ • ___ ___ ___ ___ • ___ ___ ___ ___ • ___ ___ ___ ___

Expiration Date ___ ___ • ___ ___ Verification Code ___ ___ ___
(last 3 digits on the back of the card)

❒ **Alternate Commercial Reference**

Name _____ Account No. _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

❒ **Check here if you do not want the Society to provide your name to firms with philatelic offers deemed of value to the membership.**

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian *(required for applicants under age 18)* _____ Date _____

Name of Proposer *(optional)* _____ Proposer's APS No. _____

FEE SCHEDULE Initial membership fees are prorated so that applicants do not pay for the quarter in which their applications are submitted. Memberships renew at the beginning of each calendar year. A one-time $3 admission fee is included in the fee schedule and fifty percent of dues is allocated to the Society's magazine, *The American Philatelist*. A spouse, or dependent under 18, of a current regular APS member living at the same address may apply for Associate membership that does not include an additional magazine subscription. All fees are listed in U.S. dollar amounts.

Regular Membership Rates

Date Application received at APS	U.S.	Canada	Other Countries	Associate
Oct., Nov., Dec.*	$ 38.00	$ 41.00	$ 48.00	$ 20.50
Jan., Feb., Mar.**	29.25	31.50	36.75	16.00
Apr., May, June**	20.50	22.00	25.50	11.75
July, Aug., Sept.**	11.75	12.50	14.25	7.25

*(*fee pays for next full year)*
*(** fee pays for the rest of the current year)*

Life Membership

Ages 18 — 39	$ 1,150.00	$1,225.00	$1,375.00
Ages 40 — 54	985.00	1,050.00	1,200.00
Ages 55 — 64	825.00	900.00	1,025.00
Ages 65 & older	575.00	625.00	750.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT Payable in US or equivalent Canadian dollars, checks must be drawn on a US or Canadian bank made payable to the American Philatelic Society. If you provided a Visa or MasterCard account number as a commercial reference and also wish to charge your membership fee to that account, enter the amount to charge and sign below.

$ _____ ❒ Check ❒ Money Order ❒ Visa ❒ MasterCard

Signature of Cardholder _____