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AMERICAN PHILATELIST

Since 1887
The Premier Philatelic Magazine in the Nation

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Nicholas G. Carter (1936–2008)

Dr. Nicholas G. Carter, 72, a World Bank Economist for thirty-two years, died on September 11 at his Bethesda home after a long illness. A resident of the DC area for forty-two years, he was the current President of the American Philatelic Society. He was the Treasurer of the APS from 2003 to 2007, Budget Manager, Chairman of the Technology Committee and a member of the Executive Committee of Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition, and treasurer and a member of the Board of Directors of Napex, the Washington area World Series of Philately Show. Dr. Carter was a member of the Council of Philatelists at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.

During his years at the World Bank, Dr. Carter was Division Chief of Economic Analysis and Projections (1971–1980), Senior Economist for Latin America (1980–1987), Head of Information, Technology and Facilities (1990–1994), and Advisor to the Middle East Region (1994–1998).

A long-time supporter of the Boy Scouts of America, he served as District Commissioner from 1995 to 2002, Chairman of the District Council and a member of the Executive Board of the Council from 2003 to 2006. Dr. Carter was given the Silver Beaver Award for his service to Scouting.

Dr. Carter received an AB from Harvard University, and an MBA and Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institued of Technology.

He is survived by his wife of forty-three years, Elizabeth W. Carter of Bethesda; two children, Christopher John of Sudbury, MA (father of Caitlin Elizabeth age 9 and twins John Joseph and Nicholas Patrick age 7) and Sarah Carter McPhie of Washington, DC (mother of Euan John age 4 and Greer Elizabeth age 1½), his mother Daphne Carter, sisters Ann Bowdoin and Sarah Carter, and brother Humphrey.

On a personal note, Nicholas was never defined by his illness. For him every day was filled with a joy of life, an interest in for all things, and a thankfulness for God's gift of the day. He took great joy in his philatelic hobby and the privilege of serving the APS. He gave to his family the greatest gift of enduring love. Here is an excerpt from the eulogy given by Nicholas' son Christopher at his father's funeral September 15, 2008:

> I want to spend a few minutes talking to you about my Dad and the things that made him uniquely him. He was a good friend — a good husband — a good father — a good man.
>
> What made him unique? As you know, my Dad was a collector. Stamps, butterflies, model trains, Oppenheim books, *Analog* magazine, and *Uncle Scrooge* comic books, to name a few.... The collection that means the most to me was his collection of 4,000-foot peaks in the White Mountains of New Hampshire....
>
> Finally, on the topic of collections, it has to be said that the collection my Dad valued the most, the one that made him the happiest, was one that he didn't have to work at — all he had to do was be himself. I'm talking about his collection of friends. My Dad was always interested in other people's stories. He was a great listener and he truly cared about others. Everywhere he went he made friends. Work friends, neighbors, Stamp friends, Scout friends and Church friends....
>
> Sarah and I were lucky and blessed to have had Nick Carter as our Dad. And I know my Mom feels lucky to have had Nick Carter as her husband.

Thank you, Nick, philately has lost a true friend and ardent supporter. You will be missed.

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letters to the editor

It's Time!

I always look forward to each issue of *The American Philatelist*. Perhaps there are many readers like me — we read the magazine faithfully and learn much from it, but rarely respond to any of the articles. My excuse is not enough time, but you've probably heard that one before! Anyway, this time I've decided to let you know that I particularly enjoyed two items in the September issue.

The first was Wayne Youngblood's article on the "Resurrected Real Pony Express Service" (page 816). I had been living in Richmond, California (about two hours from Pollock Pines) and of course knew of the landslide that occurred. But until now I never knew about how the mail got delivered during the time those towns were cut off from the rest of the world. It's amazing. I also got a kick out of his method for obtaining examples of actual letters carried over the modern pony express route. Wish I had that ingenuity!

The second was George Porter's story of how he started collecting (page 854). I love it — it's inspired me to think of new ways to re-energize my collecting. Like George, I started when I was about 10 — 1955 — as a Girl Scout. I was looking for things to do to earn merit badges and my Mom, who had done a little U.S. collecting when she was a scout, suggested I try that. I did, liked it, and stayed with it until my teen years, when other things began to be more interesting. About ten years later Mom and I discovered first day covers and for the rest of her life we did this together. They became — and remain — my passion, although I've returned to working with used U.S. and Canadian stamps as well. My mother's been gone a good number of years now, but each time I work on my collection, or go to a stamp show, I think of how much fun we had doing stamps together.

Thanks for a great magazine — keep up the good work.

Carol Schoon
Richmond, California

APS & APRL Holiday Schedule

The holiday season is rapidly approaching. When you are planning your travels please note that the American Philatelic Center will be closed:

- Thursday, November 27, and Friday, November 28, 2008
- Thursday, December 25, and Friday, December 26, 2008
- Thursday, January 1, 2009

The American Philatelic Society and American Philatelic Research Library will maintain their usual hours — 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. EST — on the remaining days of those weeks.

The American Philatelic Center staff wishes all APS members and their families the happiest of holiday seasons.

Islands & Albatrosses

I would like to thank Mr. Pendleton for his excellent article, "America's Loneliest Islands," in the August issue (page 746).

In 1963 I was in the U.S. Navy. aboard the USS *Moctobi* (ATF-105).

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Nominations for APS Officers & Board of Directors To Open

Nominations of candidates for election to the Board of the Directors of the American Philatelic Society for the 2009–2011 term may be submitted beginning December 1. Nominations close March 31, 2009.

Elective officers of the Society include the president, three vice presidents, a treasurer, a secretary, and four directors-at-large.

Any APS member in good standing, age 18 older, is eligible to be a candidate for any office, except that of president. A candidate for the presidency must have served previously on the Board of Directors.

Candidates for vice president are nominated and voted for as a unit. Because the Board of Vice Presidents is charged with review of applicants for membership in the APS and is the disciplinary body of the Society, it generally meets on a monthly basis. The three candidates for vice president must reside within 200 miles of each other unless the candidates commit in writing to the president of the Society to meet as a board at their own expense in a common location at least once in each sixty-day period during their terms.

Nominations may be made in two ways: by APS Chapters, signed by both the chapter's president and the secretary, or by petition, signed by at least ten individual APS members in good standing.

Nominations must be seconded by then or more chapters, by ten or more seconding endorsements, each signed by ten or more members who are not members of a nominating or seconding chapter; or by a combination of ten chapters and such seconding endorsements .

Beginning December 1, nominations and seconding endorsements may be sent to the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823, and must be received not later than March 31, 2009.

To assist candidates in acquiring the necessary seconding nominations, the APS will make a joint solicitation mailing to all chapters. Candidates who wish to participate in that mailing must complete a Board Nomination Application and submit a black-and-white wallet-size photograph and a one-page, 375-word or less typed biography to Peter Mastrangelo, APS Executive Director, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823, by January 1, 2009. The mailing will be made in mid-January and its cost will be prorated among all participants.

Photographs, biographies, and an election ballot listing all qualified candidates will appear in the May 2009 issue of *The American Philatelist*. Ballots will be mailed directly to all members who do not receive individual copies of the magazine, i.e., associate spouse and youth members.

Balloting will be by mail to a separate election address. An appointed Board of Elections will certify the results after the polls close at noon on June 6, 2009. The elected officers will be installed at the APS General Meeting, August 8, 2009 at StampShow in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

At that time, this was a restricted area; however, the Smithsonian Institute had permission to enter the area to study the laysan albatross, and the *Moctobi* was chosen as their transportation. We visited Howland, Baker, Palmyra, Laysan, Lisianski, and Christmas (Kiritimati), among others.

All these islands had tens of thousands of albatrosses on each island. I remember that two of the problems the Smithsonian was studying were where the birds go for seven years after they're two years old, and how they create fresh water by taking salt water in through their nostrils.

The three months we spent on this tour were the most interesting three months I spent in the Navy.

All these islands were deserted, with the exception of some type of industrial structure on one end of Christmas. Vegetation was so scarce that the birds would squabble over nesting material, and would usually settle for gravel. They would go so far as to snatch lit cigarettes out of your mouth for their nests.

There were also seals and turtles on these islands that had absolutely no fear of people.

With the exception of the plant on Christmas, the only signs of civilization we saw were a concrete airstrip and some rusted out 55-gallon drums on Howland, which we assumed were for Amelia Earhart.

When we were there, these islands were virtually pristine. It was, therefore, very sad to see the amount of litter on these islands in a recent *National Geographic* magazine.

Andy Pappas
Cedaridge, Colorado

Dead Letter Office

I was pleased to see the illustration of the Dead Letter Office accompanying the article by David Straight in the September issue ("Seeds, Dead Letters, and Newspapers," page 820). During the years 1960 through 1988 I spent many hours in the upper half of the space shown.

The room was part of the General Post Office building in Washington, DC. The building, bounded by E & F and 7th & 8th Streets in the northwest quadrant of the city, was built in two phases. Construction of the southern part, facing E Street, was begun in 1839. The northern part was begun in 1855. The building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 24, 1969.

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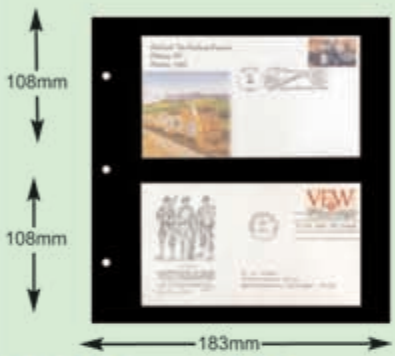

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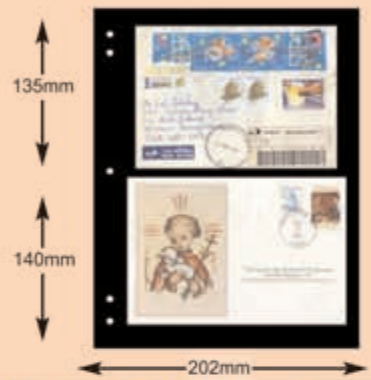

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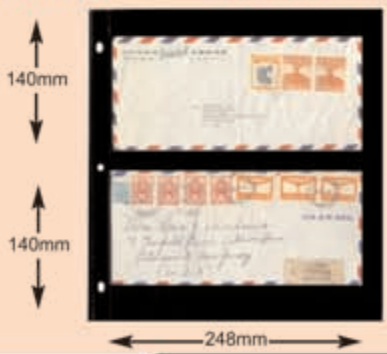

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ally two stories high. Later, a new floor was installed, at about the height of the balcony shown in the illustration, thus dividing the spaces into two large rooms, one on the top floor, the other (the original floor) on the next floor down. The top floor room later became the Hearing Room of the U.S. Tariff Commission (later renamed the U.S. International Trade Commission) until the agency moved in 1988. From 1969 until I retired, I served as the Secretary of the Commission and attended hundreds of Commission hearings and meetings held in that room.

The building was first occupied by the Post Office Department in 1844. Until 1897 the Post Office Department and the City Post Office were located in the building. A branch Post Office was maintained in the building into the latter part of the twentieth century. Frequently referred to as the Old General Post Office, the building was also known as the Land Office Building and the Tariff Building. It is now an upscale hotel and is located across the street from the Verizon Center, home of the Washington Wizards and Capitals. The caduceus, once the symbol of the Post Office Department, was even displayed in the ceiling of what is now the ballroom of the hotel.

Over the years, individuals who had their offices in the building included John Wanamaker and General "Black Jack" Pershing.

Incidentally, there was one small

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Dear Dr. Friedman.

Thank you for coming to my home in Phoenix, Arizona, to evaluate the stamp collection I had put together over my lifetime.

As a past president of the American Philatelic Society I had known many dealers, but decided to call just yourself.

You were very friendly and professional and dealing with you was an excellent experience.

I would certainly recommend you to other APS collectors.

F. Burton Sellers ("Bud")

F. Burton Sellers
Sun City West, Arizona

Dear Dr. Friedman.

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 you, Dr. Bob.

You made a difficult process easy and understandable to our mutual benefit.

Albert E. Porter
Joplin, Missouri

Dear Dr. Bob:

Thank you so very much for your assistance with my father's stamp collection.

Your knowledgeable and quick assessment of the material and generous price paid made a hard time much easier and it was a pleasure spending the day looking through the material with you.

It was also wonderful doing business with you, too.

Ginger Monka
Indianapolis, Indiana

Dear Dr. Friedman

I wanted to write to you and let you know how enjoyable and easy it was to sell my entire dealer's stock to you. As you know, I have been a stamp dealer for many, many years and had several national stamp dealers---each of whom advertise that they pay the highest prices---come to my office to evaluate my large stock.

Not only was your offer higher than the others, but I also found the experience with you quite pleasant and comfortable.

Best wishes,
Milton S. Cohen
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error in the article. The dead letter sale could not have been held at Pennsylvania Avenue and 11th Street *South*west. Pennsylvania Avenue does not go into the southwest quadrant of the District of Columbia. Careful reading of the cover of the catalogue, preferably with a magnifying glass, shows the sale was held at the *southwest corner* of 11th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. For years the building at that location included the Philatelic Sales Office of the Post Office Department.

Kenneth R. Mason
Potomac, Maryland

Words of Warning

A bit of advice to heed when sending a stamp off to have expertized. Make sure you have the return sent registered or certified mail. I made the mistake of having it returned first class and it never showed up. Of all the mail that could get lost, that piece did. I did get a copy of the certificate, which reads: "Scott No. XXXX, unused, full original gum, never hinged, genuine, paper stocks appear to be different as does the printing ink, but cannot determine whether it's a consistent variety without plate and marginal markings attached." Sure would like to have this one back in its rightful spot.

Doug Kucyk
Saint Clair Shores, Michigan

Massachusetts Survey

The Massachusetts Postal Research Society is conducting a survey of the rarity of postmarks of Massachusetts towns. State collectors have been using a book, *The Post Offices of Massachusetts* by Crowther and Merola, which consists of a complete list of those offices. It does contain rarity ratings, varying from 1 (no covers known) to 10 (office still operating), but the numbers have been arrived at largely by guess work (except for the 10s). At this time, the society has started a census of the number of covers known, at least for those post offices carrying a rating of 5 or less, in Crowther and Merola. In this age of the Internet, we are hoping that a good response will be had by posting the survey on line.

The Massachusetts survey is on the state website generously provided by the Smithsonian Institution at: www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/massachusetts.html.

Anyone having a cover postmarked at a Massachusetts town is invited to visit the site and fill out the survey. Microsoft Excel is necessary to download the survey, which can be returned either by e-mail or by mailing a hard copy. More information about the Massachusetts Postal Research Society can also be found on the site.

Doug Clark
Marstons Mills, Massachusetts

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Edward D. Younger Co.
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June 28, 2007

Dear Mr. Younger:

Many thanks for the manner in which your firm handled the purchase of my stamp collection. Your buyer, George Bailey, was courteous, professional, and knowledgeable in his evaluation of the collection which resulted in my acceptance of his fair offer. This was in marked contrast to another major stamp firm which only offered 10% of catalogue value without a thorough investigation of my entire collection.

Sincerely,

Michael Seardera
Hamden, Connecticut

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back to basics

by ada prill

Not in the Catalogue

One of the most relaxing ways to spend a philatelic evening is to take a worldwide mixture, sort it by country, and look at each stamp. A stamp catalogue — and in the United States, the *Scott Catalogues* are the most frequently used — is a valuable tool in learning about your stamps. Where are they from? When were they issued? *Why* were they issued? But typically there will be a few stamps in each mixture that don't seem to be in the catalogue. What's wrong?

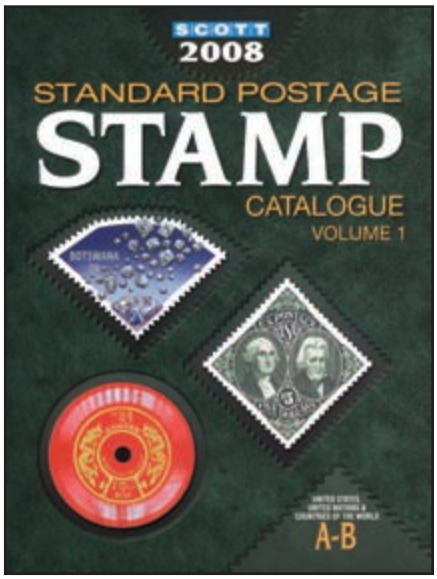
There are three major possibilities:

1. Perhaps your "stamp" is not a postage stamp at all.
2. Or it is a postage stamp, but for some reason it's just not listed in the catalogue.
3. Or, believe it or not, the stamp IS there, and you just haven't looked in the right place.

For starters, all that glitters is not gold, and not every piece of paper with an image and perforations is a stamp — or at least not a postage stamp. Remember that catalogue makers can't list everything that looks like a stamp. How many collectors would purchase twice or even ten times as many volumes in order to have everything listed that some philatelist somewhere might want to collect? You have to limit what goes into your collection, and catalogue makers have to make choices about what to include and what to omit in their publications.

Many countries have issued **revenue stamps** that look very much like their postage stamps. *Scott* does not list revenues from countries, except those from the United States and not even all of those. (State revenue stamps, for example, are not listed.) Collecting revenues is a fascinating field that is definitely part of philately, but it requires its own reference materials. So maybe your mystery stamp is actually a revenue stamp.

Revenue collecting is a serious branch of philately, and revenue exhibits have even won the "Champion of Champions" competition. But general purpose stamp catalogues normally do not list them, and only a few countries have comprehensive catalogues that do. For more information about the challenges and satisfactions of collecting revenue stamps, consider joining the *American Revenue Association* (www.revenuer.org or by mail at American Revenue Association, Ronald E. Lesher Sr., P.O. Box 1663, Easton MD 21601). The *State Revenue Society* has a website at www.mckellips.net/SRS or can be reached by mail c/o Scott M. Troutman, P.O. Box 421, Duncansville, Pennsylvania 16635-0421. For collectors of duck hunting stamps, there is the *National Duck Stamp Collectors Society*, reachable through Tony Monico, Secy., P.O. Box 43, Harleysville PA 19438 or at www.ndscs.org. All of these organizations are APS affiliates.



Maybe your stamp is not a stamp at all, but a stamplike label called a **cinderella.** This is another popular collecting area but except for U.S. Christmas seals, cinderella items are not to be found in *Scott*. If you have a "stamp" issued by the National Wildlife Federation, Boys' Town, or any of the other vast array of institutions (mostly charitable) worldwide that have issued such items, you're going to have to look someplace other than a postage stamp catalogue to find out more information about it. Again, collecting cinderellas is within the "big tent" of philately, and these items can be exhibited at APS-sanctioned philatelic exhibitions. But cataloging these items would be a monumental task.

As with revenues, there are APS affiliates that can help you understand and appreciate your cinderella items. The *Cinderella Stamp Club* has a website at www.cinderellastampclub.org.uk. They can be reached by mail by writing to Francis Kiddle, Punch Tree House Reading Road North, Fleet, Hants. GU51 4HS, England. The *Poster Stamp Collec-*

Only the United Nations stamp on the upper right is illustrated in the catalogue — the others are listed as part of the same set but are not pictured.

A "cinderella" from the Bath Postal Museum.

Personalized postage stamps are considered meter stamps and are not listed in catalogues.

tors Club can be reached by writing to Richard D. Warren, P.O. Box 208, Ark VA 23003-0208.

There are other possibilities, some fascinating, some rather unsavory. Maybe the stamp is a **fantasy** item created just for fun by a person or organization. A long list of such fantasy stamps and propaganda labels can be found at http://www.askphil.org/ap_salm04a.htm. But there is also a possibility that it was produced illegally in the name of a country or other entity that did not authorize its issuance. If a private party prints and distributes items that appear to be stamps from (for example) Mexico or Cyprus or Morocco, there is big money to be made, without the bother and expense of actually operating a postal system. Sometimes, ironically, these **illegal stamps** are used to finance groups seeking to overthrow the governments that actually issue stamps bearing the same names.

The breakaway Georgian region of Abkazia has never issued actual postage stamps, but many colorful "stamps" purporting to be from Abkazia have been sold to stamp collectors. These emissions, most featuring pop culture and political humor, were never valid for carrying the mail, but they are easy to find on the stamp market, often complete with impressive looking but meaningless certificates of authenticity.

A lengthy discussion of such "illegals" can be found at www.pwmo.org/articles/rough-trade.htm. It is up to you whether to include such items in your collection, but it is desirable to know what you have and whether or not it actually is what it claims to be.

Revenue stamps from countries other than the United States are not listed in the *Scott Catalogues*.

Double trouble! This stamp, from Greece, does not have a readable country name and it's a "back of the book" postal tax stamp.

Semipostal stamps, which are sold for a premium to benefit a charity, are found in the "back of the book," after the listings for ordinary postage stamps.

On to the second possibility — you have a stamp that was issued to pay postage, but it is not listed in the catalogue. Let's get the simplest possibility out of the way first: Is it possible that your stamp is **too new** to be in the catalogue you are using? I am currently using a set of 2006 catalogues, which actually were printed in 2005. If I have a stamp that has a tiny "2007" date on the bottom, there's not much point in looking for it in a 2006 catalogue. If a country is at war or otherwise politically unstable, it may mean that the compilers of stamp catalogues cannot get timely information about what stamps have been issued, making some legitimate stamps issued years earlier still "too new" to be listed.

Recently, **personalized postage** has become popular in the United States and other nations that allow its use. These "stamps" are considered meter stamps and as such are not listed in stamp catalogues — a wise decision, since nobody has any kind of list of the subjects or denominations of the personalized stamps that have been issued. Fortunately these stamps are not difficult to recognize, and they are certainly collectible.

Another major possibility is that your stamp, while issued to pay for carrying the mail, was not issued by a government. In the early days of stamps, official postage only paid to move the mail from one post office to another. It was not always convenient to reach the post office to pick up or deposit mail. Entrepreneurs soon set up private companies to pick up the mail at the post office and deliver it to the recipient or to take the mail from its point of origin to the nearest place where it could enter the official mailstream. These companies often used stamps in the same way postal services use them — to indicate that the service had been prepaid. The *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers* lists U.S. **local and carrier stamps** from the nineteenth century, but similar stamps from other countries,

Genuine stamps from Oman are inscribed *"Sultanate* of Oman." Colorful but bogus *"State* of Oman" items often show up in mixtures

Sometimes even the postal people confuse charity labels and real stamps. This Amvets "stamp" was accepted for postage.

Lundy local postage stamps do pay for a postal service. But note that the Lundy stamp is in the upper left corner of the card — the upper right corner was reserved for the British stamps that paid the postage after the item was mailed at a British post off ce.

such as Germany, are beyond the scope of the *Scott Catalogues*, as are modern local stamps carrying mail to and from areas where no government mail delivery is provided, such as Lundy Island (U.K.) or Rattlesnake Island (Lake Erie). There is an APS affiliate for those interested in learning more about stamps issued for local delivery. The *Locals and Carriers Society* can be reached by writing to John D. Bowman, 14409 Pentridge Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas 78410 or at www.pennypost.org.

Stamps issued by private companies for carrying mail during a mail strike are not listed in catalogues. These are usually fairly easy to spot.

The third possibility is perhaps the most frustrating. Your stamp is obviously a postage stamp, not too recent, and you just know it has to be listed, but you can't find it. I can't promise to find it for you, but here are a few pointers.

The writing on the stamp may confuse you instead of enlightening. You may know that *Helvetia* is Switzerland, but how about *Eesti* (Estonia) or *Magyar* (Hungary)? There are lists of words in the back of your *Scott Catalogue*, although page numbers are listed only for the volume in which the name appears. There is an excellent Internet identifier at the site of the *International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors*, www.iswsc.org/iswsc_identce.html. This site includes Greek and Cyrillic words and is not limited to country names. Perhaps the word that confused you just means "postage"!

A more difficult problem is if the country name is **not in an alphabet that you can read** and not in one of the alphabets shown on the preceding website. One low-tech solution is to leaf through a printed stamp album and try to spot writing that looks similar. That usually takes a lot less time than randomly searching the catalogue. Often you can make a guess — that Asian writing that looks Chinese but isn't might be Japanese or Korean. It will probably take a bit longer to think of looking in Manchukuo or Ryukyu though. Happily, the editors of the *Scott Catalogues* feel your frustration and have added an "Illustrated Identifier" at the end of each volume of their worldwide catalogue. You'll be able to tell quite quickly if your stamp with the Cyrillic inscription is from Montenegro or Belarus. The same identifier is helpful with pinning down the origin of stamps from the various Indian Feudatory States.

Is there an **overprint**? A Netherlands stamp overprinted "NED.-INDIE" is no longer considered a stamp from the Netherlands, but instead is a stamp from Netherlands Antilles.

Sometimes the country name is clear, but the stamp just doesn't seem to be listed. Keep turning those pages — you might have a **back-of-the-book** stamp. Not all air mail stamps show airplanes or have the word *air* on them, but if they were issued as air mail stamps, they will not be mixed in with regular postage in the *Scott* listings. Semipostal stamps, postage due stamps, war tax stamps, special delivery stamps and others — each category has a separate listing after the regular postage stamps. Be sure you've checked these additional possibilities before flinging the catalogue to the floor. Some other stamp catalogues, such as *Michel*, list air mail and semipostal issues along with the regular stamps, going strictly by chronology. Select the system you are used to.

Yet another frustrating possibility is that your stamp is **part of a set of stamps**, and, because of space limitations, only one of the stamps in the set is illustrated; unfortunately, not the one you have. You'll have to look at the fine print under the illustration for the sets of stamps issued by the country in question during the approximate time period. There will be a list of the subjects of the stamps that are not shown. By brute force and a lot of patience you can often coerce the catalogue into revealing its secrets.

Countries like Germany with early States, occupation issues, colonies, and offices abroad can be especially frustrating. And there are other hard-to-I.D. stamps lurking in mixtures, such as cutouts from postal stationery. But with luck you now have the tools to at least make an educated guess about most of your mystery stamps. Happy hunting!

As usual, I welcome your comments. My e-mail address is ada@stamps.org, but the only way to be sure to get past my spam filter is to put *APS* somewhere in the subject line. And if you don't get a prompt reply, do try again. I am away from home a lot, and sometimes messages get inadvertently overlooked when I return and have dozens/hundreds of messages to work through. Postal mail may be sent to me c/o of *The American Philatelist*. If you have tried to get in touch with me and received no answer, send me another message. I had a period of ill health earlier this year (now, happily, past) and was not able to keep up with correspondence some of the time. I hope that will not happen again.

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CATALOGUE 1, SWITZERLAND

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- «Pilatus» comprises over 350 items of spectacular postal history including very rare frankings, postal rates and overseas destinations.
- «La Collection Genève» presents gems of Swiss philately in exceptional quality and beauty, including a fabulous horizontal pair of the Basle Dove from the 1st printing and a 5 Rp. Rayon I light blue and a 10 Rp. Rayon II each with completely framed cross.

CATALOGUE 2, EUROPE - OVERSEAS - AND WHOLE WORLD

The second volume of the catalogue is devoted to all the other areas of philately and postal history. It presents selected high-quality single items – such as, to mention just two examples, the unissued «Burg Rheinstein» stamp in a mint corner block of twelve and important prephilatelic rarities and rare forerunner items of Liechtenstein.

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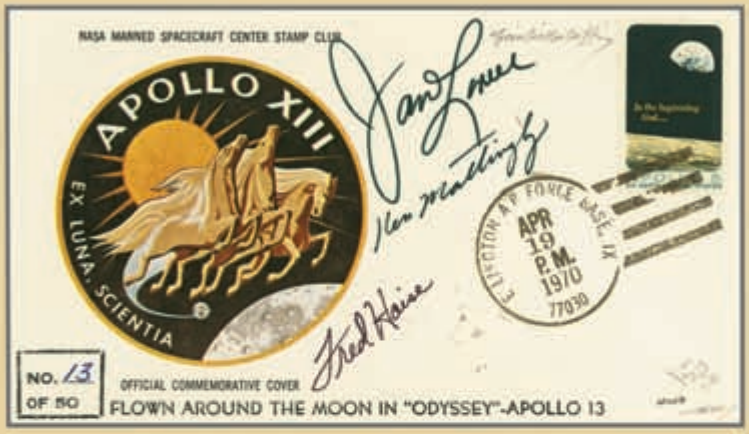

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by david straight

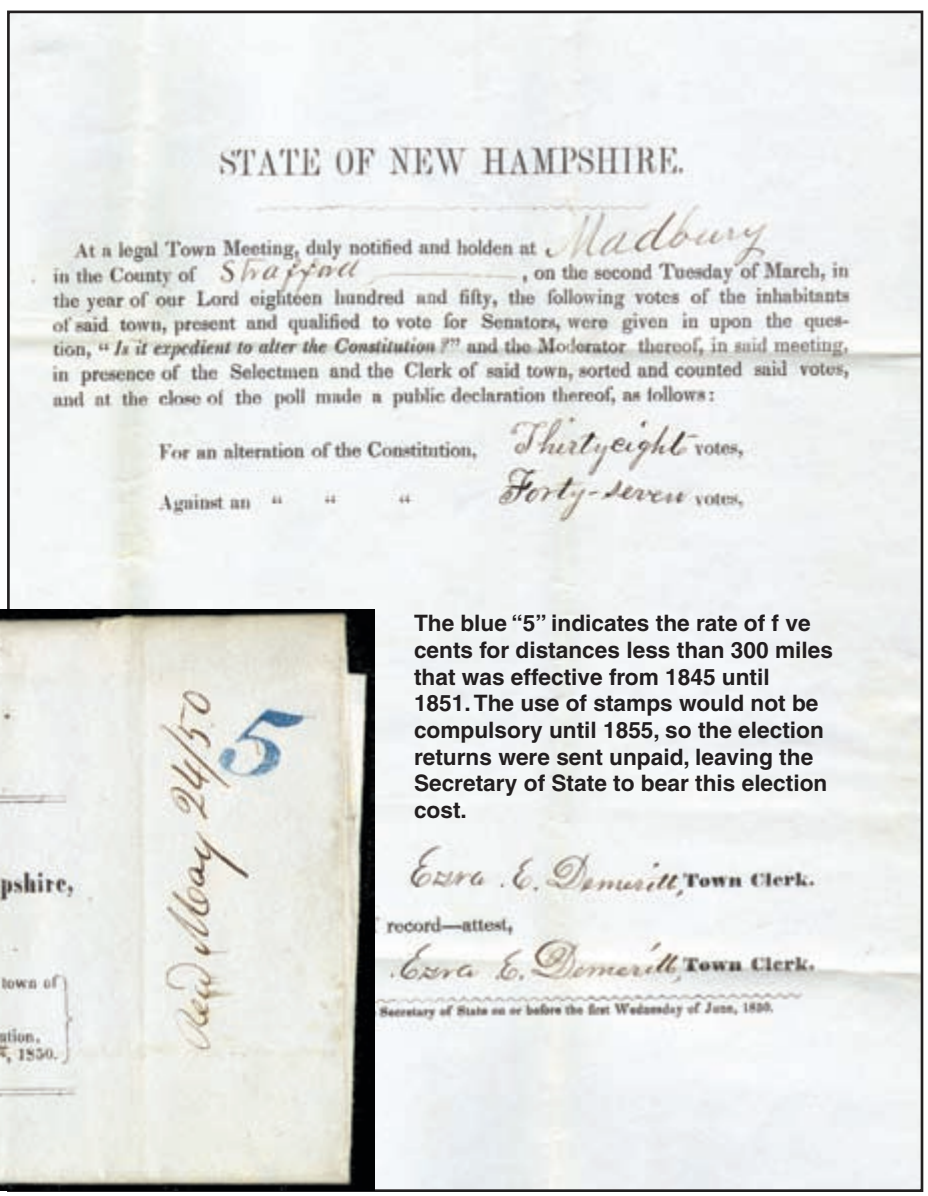
Non-Partisan Covers

As this long election cycle concludes and our mailboxes are no longer filled with advertisements from local, state, and national candidates, it seems a good time to consider election mail of a non-partisan nature. Besides the illustrated postcards and envelopes bearing candidates' portraits or slogans, and other campaign related mailings, there are also non-partisan election covers to collect. These provide a window into the election process in America.

Unlike today, when electronic media provide results from across the nation before we retire on election evening, months were sometimes required to gather the election results in antebellum America. Post riders were the most efficient means of carrying the tallied votes from remote villages and towns to the central points where election results could be totaled. The earliest election related covers are stampless folded letters, reporting the vote from individual polling places. These tally sheets predate the widespread use of envelopes that began in the 1850s, as well as the use of the mail as a vehicle for political campaigning.

A folded letter mailed to the New Hampshire Secretary of State, reporting the balloting from an 1850 referendum on the New Hampshire state constitution, illustrates both the important role of the Post Office and the speed of communication at that time. On March 12, 1850, the citizens of Madbury, Strafford County, New Hampshire, held a "legal Town Meeting," and those "qualified to vote for Senators" cast their votes on the question, "Is it expedient to alter the Constitution?" Ezra E. Demeritt, the Town Clerk, recorded thirty-eight votes for alteration of the constitution and forty-seven against.

This election return reflects a unique aspect of the New Hampshire state constitution. Every seven years the inhabitants of the state are polled as to whether or not changes to the state constitution are needed. If the majority so vote, a constitutional convention is held. Afterwards, the amendments proposed by the convention are put to a popular vote for ratification. Unlike the balloting in Madbury, in 1850 a majority of New Hampshire voters favored changes to the state constitution. The resulting amendments,



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

At a legal Town Meeting, duly notified and holden at Madbury in the County of Strafford, on the second Tuesday of March, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty, the following votes of the inhabitants of said town, present and qualified to vote for Senators, were given in upon the question, "*Is it expedient to alter the Constitution?*" and the Moderator thereof, in said meeting, in presence of the Selectmen and the Clerk of said town, sorted and counted said votes, and at the close of the poll made a public declaration thereof, as follows:

For an alteration of the Constitution, Thirty-eight votes,

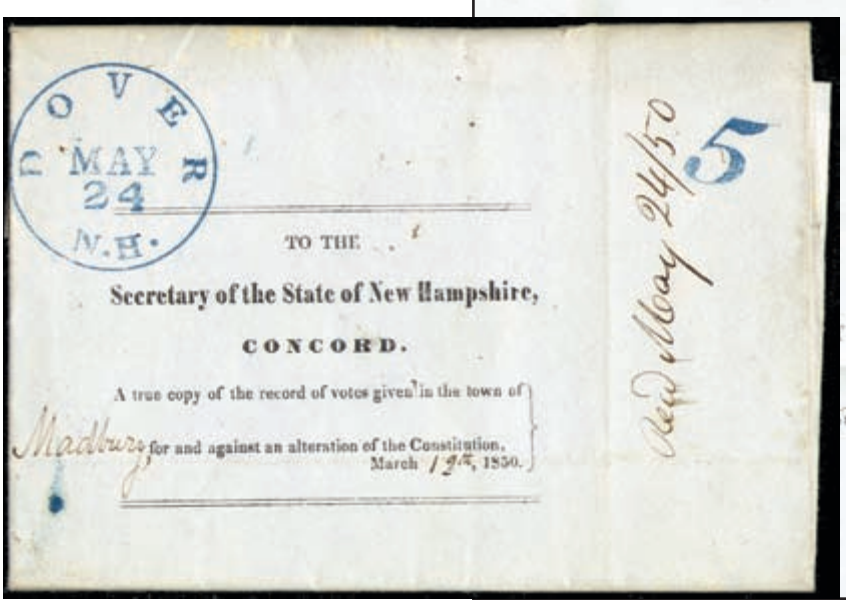
Against an " " " Forty-seven votes,

Ezra E. Demeritt, Town Clerk.

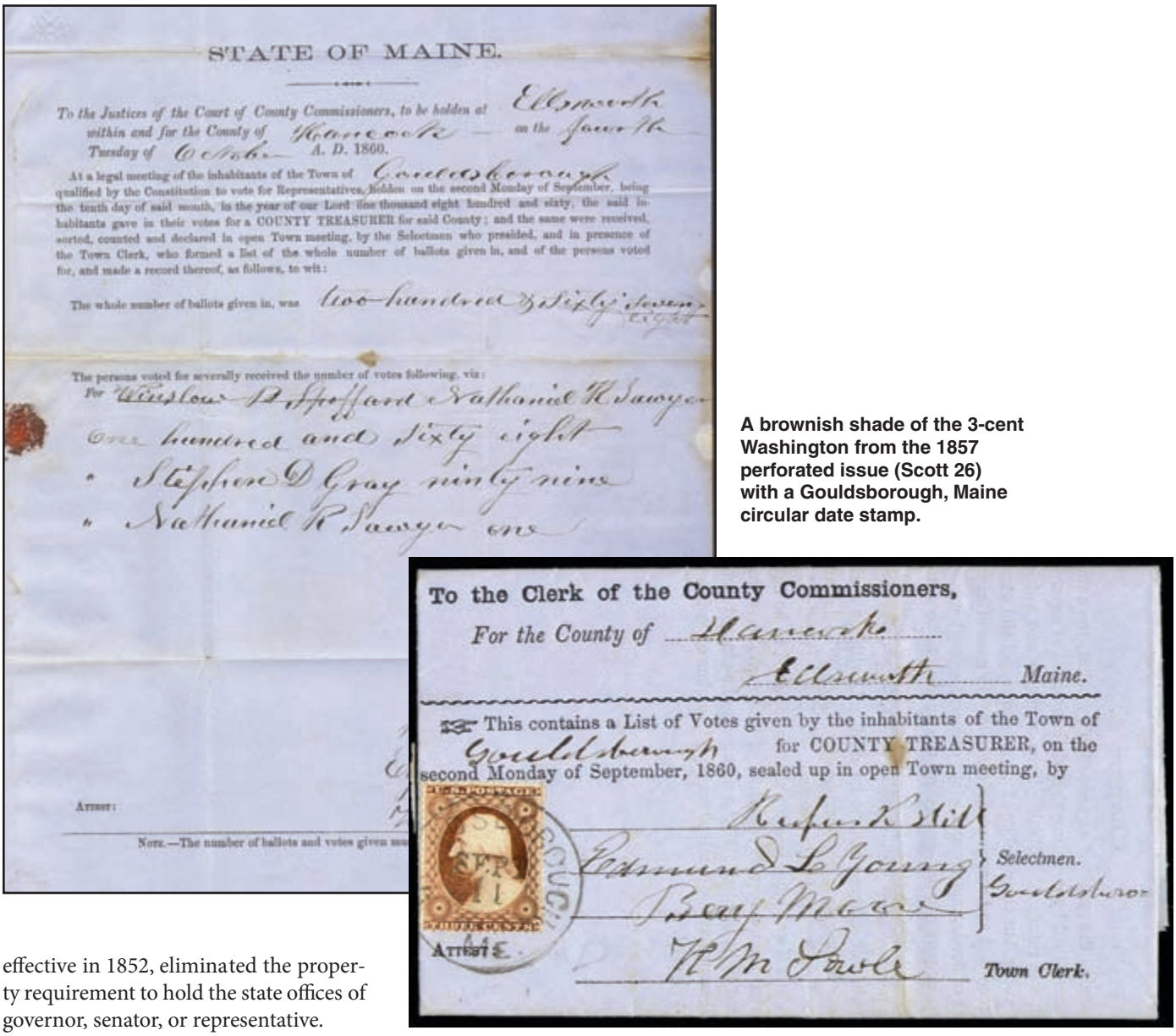
record—attest,

Ezra E. Demeritt, Town Clerk.

Secretary of State on or before the first Wednesday of June, 1850.



The blue "5" indicates the rate of five cents for distances less than 300 miles that was effective from 1845 until 1851. The use of stamps would not be compulsory until 1855, so the election returns were sent unpaid, leaving the Secretary of State to bear this election cost.



STATE OF MAINE.

To the Justices of the Court of County Commissioners, to be holden at Ellsworth within and for the County of Hancock on the fourth Tuesday of October A. D. 1860.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Gouldsborough qualified by the Constitution to vote for Representatives, holden on the second Monday of September, being the tenth day of said month, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty, the said inhabitants gave in their votes for a COUNTY TREASURER for said County; and the same were received, sorted, counted and declared in open Town meeting, by the Selectmen who presided, and in presence of the Town Clerk, who formed a list of the whole number of ballots given in, and of the persons voted for, and made a record thereof, as follows, to wit:

The whole number of ballots given in, was two hundred & sixty eight

The persons voted for severally received the number of votes following, viz:

For Winslow B. Stafford & Nathaniel R. Sawyer one hundred and sixty eight

" Stephen D. Gray ninty nine

" Nathaniel R. Sawyer one

Attest:

Note.—The number of ballots and votes given in

To the Clerk of the County Commissioners,

For the County of Hancock

Ellsworth Maine.

This contains a List of Votes given by the inhabitants of the Town of Gouldsborough for COUNTY TREASURER, on the second Monday of September, 1860, sealed up in open Town meeting, by

Rufus K. Gill
Edmund L. Young } Selectmen.
Benj. Moore } Gouldsboro
Wm Lowe Town Clerk.

Attest:

A brownish shade of the 3-cent Washington from the 1857 perforated issue (Scott 26) with a Gouldsborough, Maine circular date stamp.

effective in 1852, eliminated the property requirement to hold the state offices of governor, senator, or representative.

The instructions at the bottom of the election form read, "This must be sealed up and returned to the Secretary of State on or before the first Wednesday of June, 1850" thus allowing twelve weeks for election returns to reach the state capital. The front of the form was docketed on the day of the election. However, this was one of the years in which Madbury had no post office.[1] Although it was only about five miles distant, the Town Clerk was apparently in no big hurry to carry the document to the nearest post office, because it did not receive the blue "Dover N. H." circular date stamp and "5" rating mark until May 24. That must have been a day when the post rider was heading to Concord, because the document is also docketed, presumably in the Secretary of State's office, "Rec'd May 24/50."

Folded letters continued to be used, at least in Maine, for mailing election returns after the stampless period ended in 1855. A document mailed to the Clerk of the County Commissioners records the voting for the Hancock Country Treasurer in 1860. When the 268 ballots cast in Gouldsborough had been counted, Nathaniel R. Sawyer received 169 votes and Stephen D. Gray only 99. The report, signed by three selectmen and the town clerk, was mailed September 11, the following day, to Ellsworth, the county seat.

In the late nineteenth century, the combination of faster mail service and the introduction of postal cards in 1873 meant that the mail could be used for political polling. Although not returned by the voter, a 1896 card distributed by *The Chicago Record* reveals a fairly sophisticated polling system. The assignment of the number "75189" to a particular person being polled permitted tracking of the results by geographic region, in this case, a voter in Ann Arbor, Michigan. By asking not only for whom they will vote in the 1896 presidential contest (McKinley, Bryan, Palmer, or Levering) but also who they had voted for in 1892 (Harrison, Cleveland, Weaver, or Bidwell) allows some measurement of the shift between the political parties. To provide the results in a timely manner, "the ballots cast in *The Chicago Record's* postal card election will be counted under supervision of a board of election commissioners composed of representative members from all the political parties and the results will be published from day to day in *The Chicago Record* as fast as the ballots are returned and counted."

A 1912 survey by the editor of the New York *Evening Post* was mailed to

McKinley on the campaign trail. The small wreath Jefferson design (Scott UX12) introduced in 1894.

POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT.

United States of America.

THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

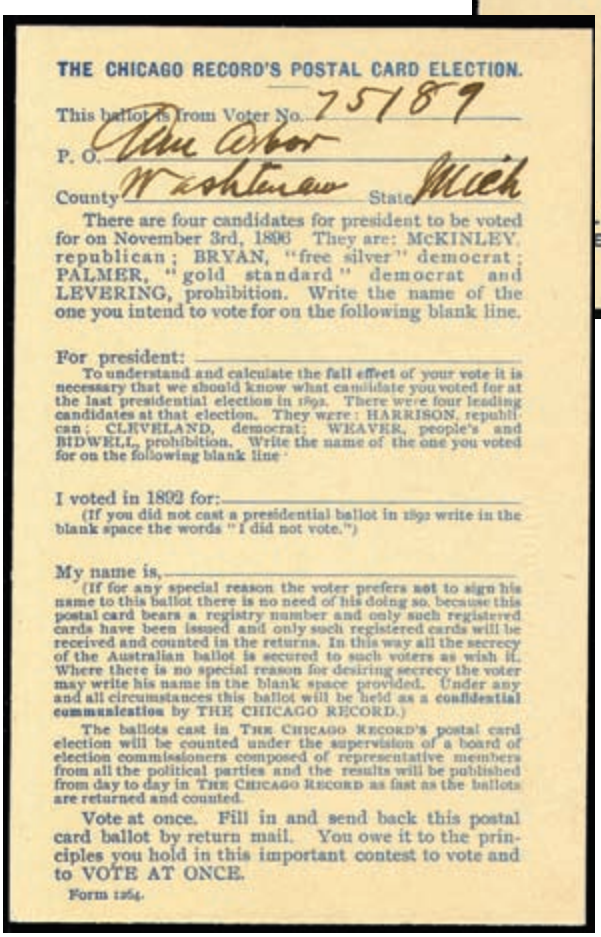
EDITOR

THE CHICAGO RECORD,

181 MADISON STREET,

CHICAGO, ILL.

CARD ELECTION"
EPARTMENT.



THE CHICAGO RECORD'S POSTAL CARD ELECTION.

This ballot is from Voter No. 75189

P. O. Ann Arbor

County Washtenaw State Mich

There are four candidates for president to be voted for on November 3rd, 1896 They are: McKINLEY, republican; BRYAN, "free silver" democrat; PALMER, "gold standard" democrat and LEVERING, prohibition. Write the name of the one you intend to vote for on the following blank line.

For president: _____

To understand and calculate the full effect of your vote it is necessary that we should know what candidate you voted for at the last presidential election in 1892. There were four leading candidates at that election. They were: HARRISON, republican; CLEVELAND, democrat; WEAVER, people's and BIDWELL, prohibition. Write the name of the one you voted for on the following blank line

I voted in 1892 for: _____

(If you did not cast a presidential ballot in 1892 write in the blank space the words "I did not vote.")

My name is, _____

(If for any special reason the voter prefers not to sign his name to this ballot there is no need of his doing so, because this postal card bears a registry number and only such registered cards have been issued and only such registered cards will be received and counted in the returns. In this way all the secrecy of the Australian ballot is secured to such voters as wish it. Where there is no special reason for desiring secrecy the voter may write his name in the blank space provided. Under any and all circumstances this ballot will be held as a confidential communication by THE CHICAGO RECORD.)

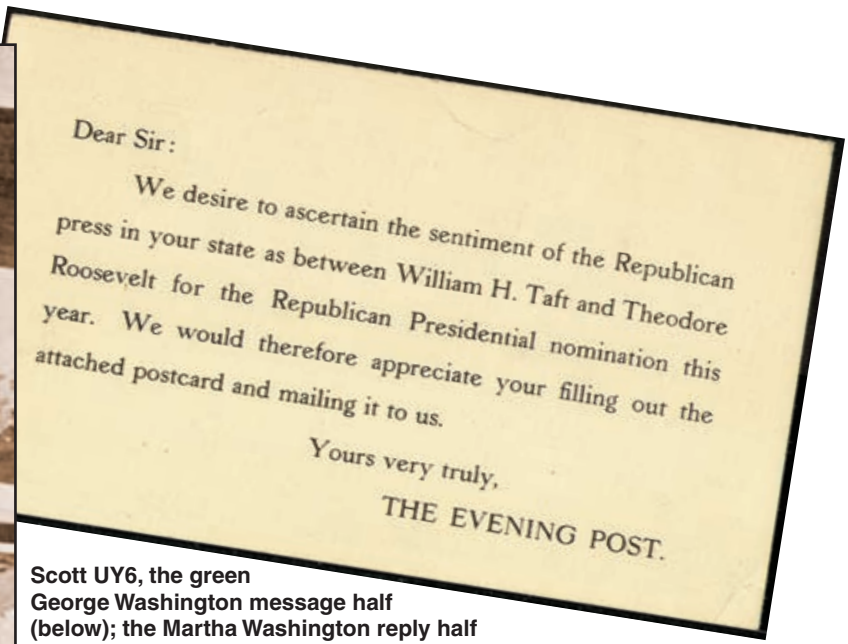
The ballots cast in THE CHICAGO RECORD'S postal card election will be counted under the supervision of a board of election commissioners composed of representative members from all the political parties and the results will be published from day to day in THE CHICAGO RECORD as fast as the ballots are returned and counted.

Vote at once. Fill in and send back this postal card ballot by return mail. You owe it to the principles you hold in this important contest to vote and to VOTE AT ONCE.

Form 1264.

other editors, at newspapers such as the *New Hampshire Farmer & Union*, to "ascertain the sentiment of the Republican press in your state as between William H. Taft and Theodore Roosevelt for the Republican Presidential nomination." The card, mailed in March, hints at the drama that was to be played out during the very contentious Republican convention in June, in Chicago. When Taft, who controlled the party machinery, won the nomination, Roosevelt, who had won more of the primaries, formed the Bull Moose Party and ran independently. Although Roosevelt, with 88 electoral votes, out-polled Taft, who carried only two states having eight electoral votes, both were over completely overwhelmed by Woodrow Wilson's 435 electoral votes.

At least as early as the Civil War, soldiers in the field were allowed to cast absentee ballots; gradually the provisions for absentee ballots were extended to include others who could not attend their polling place on Election Day. Naturally, the Post Office has played a role in the distribution and collection of absentee ballots. For many the importance of casting a vote justified the use of Special Delivery to insure prompt handling of their ballots. In September 1940, an oversized "Ab-



Dear Sir:

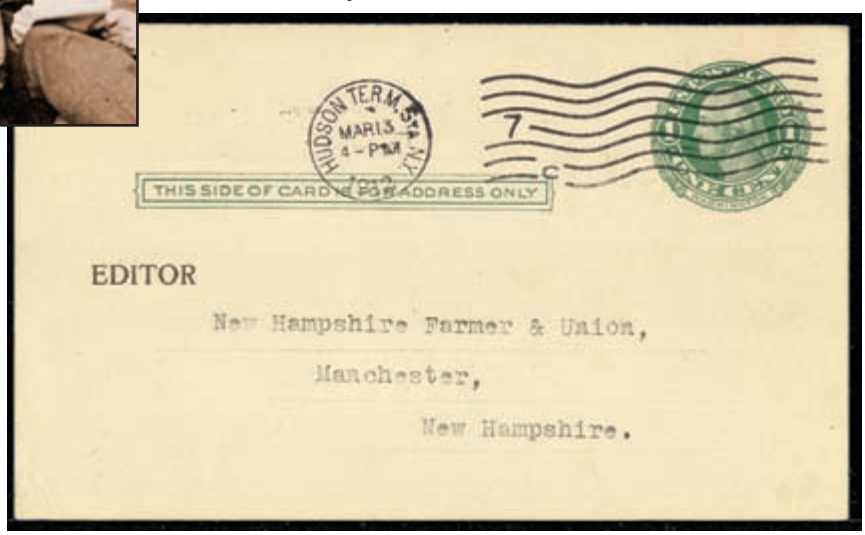
We desire to ascertain the sentiment of the Republican press in your state as between William H. Taft and Theodore Roosevelt for the Republican Presidential nomination this year. We would therefore appreciate your filling out the attached postcard and mailing it to us.

Yours very truly,

THE EVENING POST.

Scott UY6, the green George Washington message half (below); the Martha Washington reply half (above) was detached and returned.

Roosevelt at a rally.



THIS SIDE OF CARD FOR ADDRESS ONLY

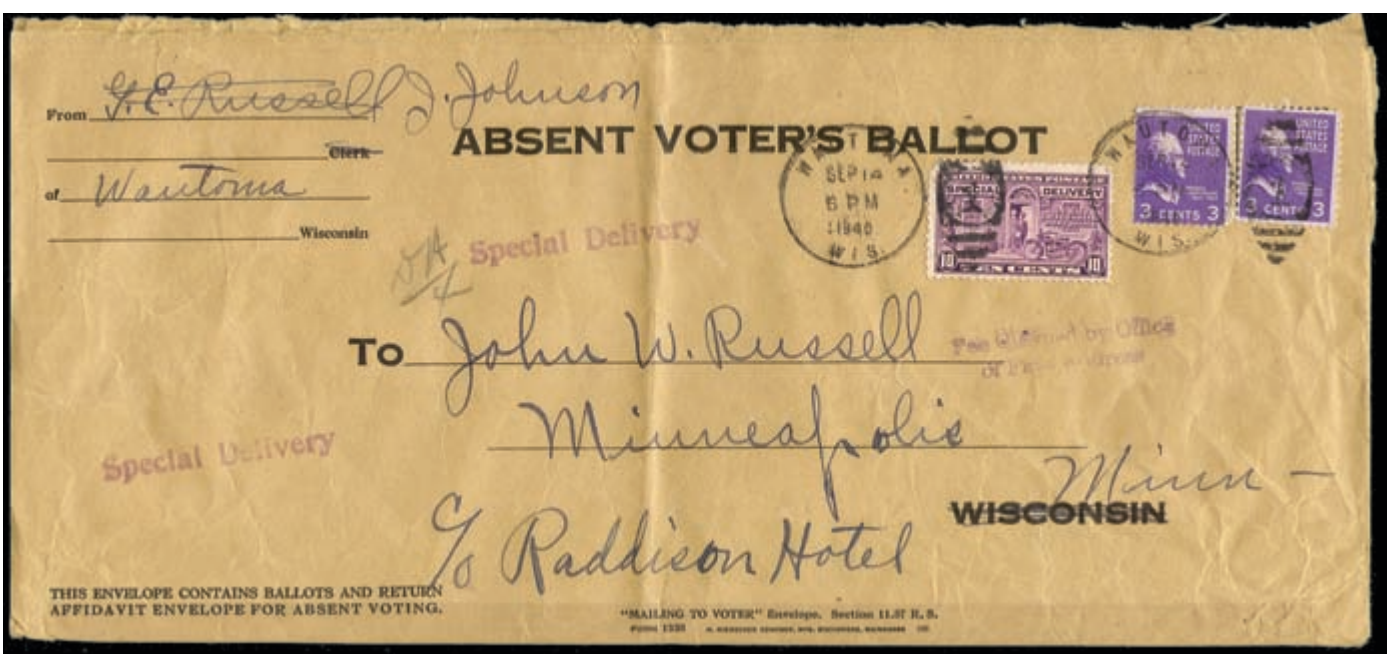
EDITOR

New Hampshire Farmer & Union,

Manchester,

New Hampshire.

This card, mailed in March, hints at the drama that was to be played out during the very contentious Republican convention in June, in Chicago.



From G. E. Russell J. Johnson

Clerk

of Wautoma

Wisconsin

ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOT

Special Delivery

To John W. Russell

Minneapolis

Minn.

Special Delivery

WISCONSIN

To Raddison Hotel

THIS ENVELOPE CONTAINS BALLOTS AND RETURN AFFIDAVIT ENVELOPE FOR ABSENT VOTING.

"MAILING TO VOTER" Envelope. Section 11.37 R. S.

Pair of 3-cent Prexies plus a 10-cent motorcycle Special Delivery.

The Statue of Freedom atop the Capitol from the 1950 Sesquicentennial of Washington, DC, as the nation's capital along with the orange 15-cent motorcycle Special Delivery.

sent Voter's Ballot" envelope containing a ballot and the return affidavit envelope was mailed from Wautoma, Wisconsin, to John W. Russell, in care of the Raddison Hotel, Minneapolis. The backstamp shows receipt at the Minneapolis Post Office at 7:30 a.m., with delivery to the hotel quickly following at 8:25 a.m. When Grace King returned her absentee ballot from Jersey City, New Jersey, on Friday evening, April 21, 1950, she added Special Delivery to insure its delivery in Wethersfield, Connecticut, in time to be counted in Monday's election. The 6:00 a.m. duplex receiving mark in Hartford, Connecticut, the next morning is followed by the notations of the Wethersfield Town Clerk showing that delivery was made at 8:45 a.m. on Saturday morning.

These cards, envelopes, and folded letters reveal the important roles that the Post Office has played in the mechanics of tabulating votes, polling voters, and distributing ballots for elections in the United States.

Endnote

As listed on Jim Forte's website (www.postalhistory.com/postoffices.asp), Madbury had a post office 1825–1935, 1859, and 1882–1957.

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C.G. Auktionen

by wayne youngblood

Flyspecking Isn't Just for Specialists

As a young collector in my local stamp club, I was at first puzzled when several collectors laughingly referred to one of our members as a "flyspeck" collector. The general opinion was that he cared deeply about a bunch of little things on stamps that didn't matter to anyone else — and that he might even be a little touched (and therefore should be given a bit of distance). Of course, that's a broad opinion shared by many non-collectors about collectors in general!

While this may be true to some extent for true specialists of a particular stamp issue, so-called flyspecking can be an interesting, enjoyable, and even inexpensive pursuit that leads to new discoveries and fosters a much deeper understanding of how stamps are produced. Some varieties also add significantly to the value of a stamp.

Flyspecking involves examining stamps closely for minor varieties or printing imperfections that make them collectible. In some cases these varieties may be seen easily with the naked eye, while others may require strong magnification and an intimate familiarity with a specific stamp design. In most cases, flyspeck varieties are not listed in standard catalogues, although a few of the more major types are. Even specialized catalogues tend to list only a small percentage. For example, there are more than 2,000 reported plate varieties on the 3-cent Washington issue, Scott 720, yet the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps* lists only three!

Most flyspecking involves the pursuit of what are generally known as **plate varieties** — a broad term that actually covers most any form of intentional or non-intentional alteration of a die, transfer roll or printing plate that leaves printed evidence of its presence. A true plate variety will reflect — in printed form — the evidence of any type of flaw, whether it was in the creation of the plate or damage done to a finished plate. Such varieties will always appear on the same stamp printed from the same plate position.

Flyspecking involves examining stamps closely for minor varieties or printing imperfections that make them collectible.

Plate varieties, as collectors refer to them, actually include other types of flaws and can be broken down into four main categories:

- those originating on the die,
- transfer roll problems,
- varieties created by the plate-making process,
- and those varieties caused by plate use and wear.

Collectible varieties from these categories include:

- die flaws
- relief breaks
- double, multiple, shifted and short transfers
- inverted plate numbers
- layout dots, lines and arcs
- plate cracks, gouges, scratches, recuts
- corrosion stains
- and many others

Again, the vast majority of these items, many of which are not difficult to find with diligence, are not listed in catalogues, yet are highly sought out by specialists.

Many collectors confuse printing flaws with their more collectible cousins, plate varieties. Ink smears, vending machine tension marks, ink scoops, ink contamination and other freaks are collectible, but cannot be counted on to appear in the same place each time.

Because there was a crack present on the master die of the 10-cent War Department stamp (O77), every example of the stamp shows this variety.

For line-engraved stamps, it all begins with the master die, a piece of softened steel upon which the stamp design is engraved in reverse. Once the engraving is completed, the die is hardened in preparation for the creation of transfer rolls, which will eventually create the final printing plates.

On older stamps a transfer roll — a

The partially missing and missing LR corner frame lines on these stamps with matching cancels are the result of a relief break on a transfer roll.

If a design is not rocked fully into the printing plate the resulting weak or missing design elements are known as a weak transfer.

Many collectors confuse printing f aws with their more collectible cousins, plate varieties.

softened steel cylinder — was r ocked repeatedly over the surface of the hardened master die. The softened steel of the roll would mold itself into the engraved areas of the die, creating a ra ised — o r relief — f orward-reading image of the stamp. Once a transfer roll was complete (often three to four images per roll), it was hardened in p reparation for creating the printing plate.

To create a p rinting plate, the flat steel was s oftened, and the hardened transfer roll was repeatedly rocked into place, creating an indented reverse image of the stamp on the plate. If a printing plate contained 200 imag es, this

To be considered a true plate variety, a scratch, crack or other f aw must appear identically on multiple copies of a stamp, such as the diagonal gouge or crack on these 50-cent revenues.

Occasionally, damage to a plate is noticed and retouched or corrected. These Nathan Hale plate blocks demonstrate both.

process was repeated 200 times. After the plate was complete, it was then hardened in preparation for the printing of stamps.

For the earliest stamp issues, the die-to-plate process was inconsistent, allowing for varieties on virtually every stamp that would enable specialists to know from which plate and which specific position a stamp was printed, based on the printed evidence left behind.

As printing became more sophisticated, plating became impossible for most issues, but frequently varieties occurred. Even the modern Transportation coil definitive series has a large number of plate varieties.

The most valuable single resource for identifying and studying plate varieties on United States stamps is the *Encyclopedia of Plate Varieties on U.S. Bureau-Printed Postage Stamps*, by Loren C. ("Cloudy") French. This tome, published in 1979 by the Bureau Issues Association (now the United States Stamp Society), lists and illustrates thousands of plate cracks,

In some cases a major plate crack will extend through several designs, as it does on the upper-right two stamps in this plate block of 10.

This 2-cent revenue shows a major all-over double transfer.

Plate corrosion causes recessed areas that pick up ink. This type of damage resembles water spots.

double transfers, short transfers, foreign entries, relief breaks, die flaws and scores of other types of interesting and collectible varieties. The book is still available from some stamp dealers or from the USSS, usually in the $25–$35 range. Despite its near-complete nature for stamps from 1894–1978, it is not comprehensive, and new discoveries are frequently made.

If you are considering collecting so-called flyspeck varieties, the following rules of thumb may be applied:

1. If it is a *die flaw* (crack , scratch or any other form of damage), the flaw will be visible on each and every stamp, unless the master die is repaired prior to completion of the printing of a stamp issue. A good example of this is the 10-cent War Department stamp (Scott O77), where a die crack is found on every single stamp printed.
2. Any form of damage to a transfer roll (with a raised image) will likely appear as an absence of ink known as a *relief break*. This is caused by

You can choose to locate as many possible plate varieties as possible on a single issue. For example, two major varieties for the 30-cent Bison are shown here: a major shifted transfer at lower right, and a plate crack in the upper left of the vignette area.

Although the line on the left stamp appears to be a plate crack, it actually is a pressure mark caused by the tension chock of a post off ce vending machine. Such items are curiosities but not true varieties.

Plate varieties also can be found on cover, if one is patient. A major shifted transfer of the right side of the 2-cent Columbian is shown on this cover. The stamp also has the so-called "Broken Hat" variety.

pieces of the raised image breaking off the roll, so that no indentation is left on the plate for a small portion of a design. Such varieties will be found on any stamp image created by a specific transfer roll, and can be found on multiple (but not necessarily all) printing plates for an issue. The 2-cent Columbian "Broken Hat" variety is considered a relief break, as are the numerous broken frame types.

3. Plate cracks, re-entries, double and shifted transfers, and other varieties occur during either platemaking or with wear and tear on the plate during printing and features the broadest range.

4. Even though a true plate variety will always appear in the same location on panes or coils printed from the same plate, there are sub-varieties. For example, if a crack continues to worsen before a plate is either repaired or pulled from service, it is possible to have progressively worse cracks. The same is true for a repair or recut, where the flaw has been corrected, leaving either normal-looking stamps or ones that are noticeably recut.

Consider doing a b it of flyspecking. This area can form a specialty of its own or enhance your current collecting interests. It's also a great way to indulge your treasure-hunting instincts.

Kiss prints, caused by press or paper vibration, can resemble double transfers, but have much softer, blurrier images.

Major plate damage at upper right leaves parallel marks across the stamp.

More examples of f yspecking are available online at www.stamps.org/AP.

PLATE PROOFS OF THE FIRST CANADIAN SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMP

Special Offer #G225

Often missed because of their back of the book status in North America, Canadian special deliveries are among the most beautifully engraved stamps in the entire world. Only eleven different were released between 1898 and 1946. After that the stamps were replaced with simple stickers and the fee paid with normal postage. The first Canadian special delivery (Scott #E1) appeared on June 28, 1898. (Its design is somewhat similar to the officially sealed stamp released almost two decades earlier in 1879.) It was to have a life span of over twenty-five years, longest of any of the eleven stamps. It was inscribed "special delivery within city limits", which apparently meant that the service extended as far as letter carrier service.

Plate proofs of this stamp were unknown until the sale of the American Bank Note Company archives in 1990. The auction contained a mere 73 examples, comprised of a complete sheet of 50 and a block of 23. This block had surface scrapes on many of the stamps. There were no plate numbers or imprints included. The entire lot was purchased by the noted Winnipeg dealer K. Bileski, who broke up the block of 23 but kept the sheet intact. His estate is now being sold and the unique sheet turned up in an auction recently. I could not attend the sale personally. However, I gave an aggressive bid to my agent and he was successful in purchasing the sheet for me. I now have the pleasure of offering one of the rarest Canadian plate proofs from the Archives sale. Condition is very fine, and prices are as follows:

Single	$ 995.00
Pair	$1,950.00
Margin block	$3,795.00

Monthly payments are available as always to suit your budget on any of these. This proof is missing from all but a few collections, and is in my opinion a good one to put away for the future. Serious students of the special delivery series as well as dozens of dedicated proof collectors will soon exhaust the available supply.

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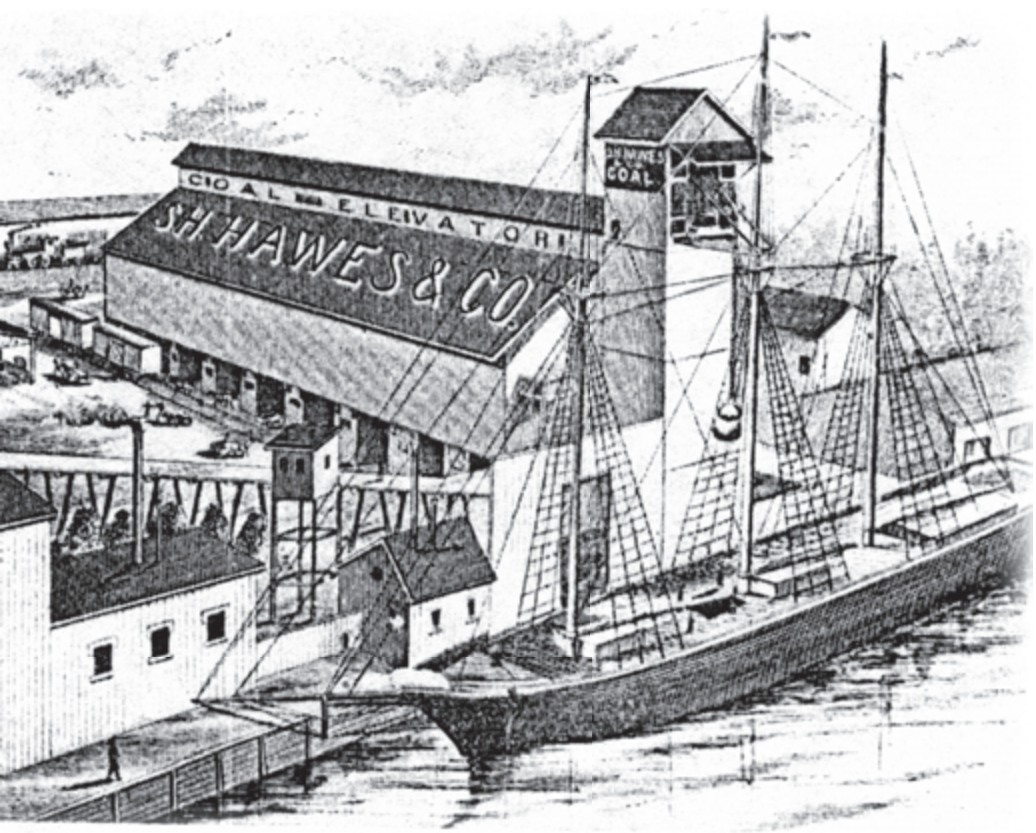
Richmond, Virginia, Coal Merchants

Samuel Pierce, Samuel Horace, & Horace Sterling Hawes

"Samuel P. Hawes & Son, Coal Merchants, Richmond, Va."; April 1863 cover with Confederate frame line stamp.



by Robert G. Metcalf

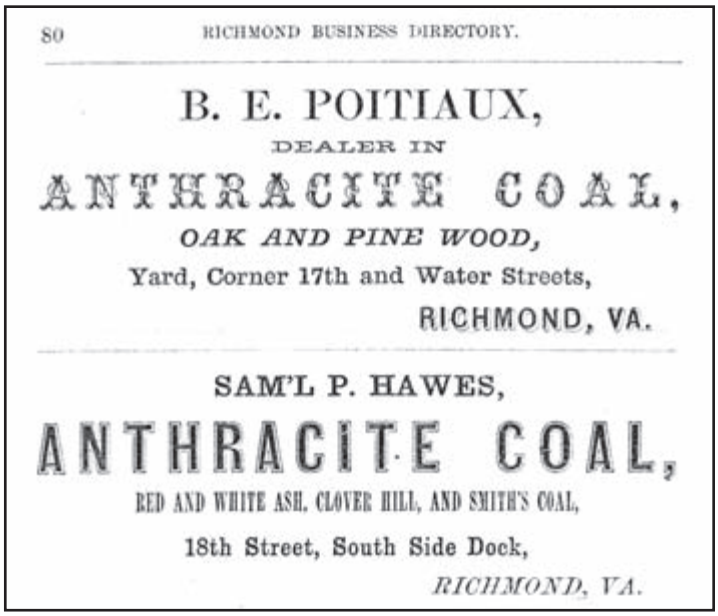
Being a stamp collector, a postal history buff interested in the Confederacy, and the son of a retail coal merchant all came together when I found an 1863 cover from Samuel P. Hawes & Son "Coal Merchants," Richmond, Virginia.

The stamp is a nice Confederate frame line (Confederate States Scott 10) showing two full lines and partial lines, printed by Archer and Daly in 1863 (earliest known use April 19, 1863). The cancel date of April 1863 (Richmond did not show the day date in the canceler) on the cover was during the first month of issue, making this was one of the first uses of the 10-cent stamp.

Questions really started jumping out at me as I viewed the cover:

- Could other covers be found from this firm?
- What could I learn about Samuel P. Hawes?
- What was the role of coal in the South and in Richmond, Virginia, during the Civil War?
- Was the Hawes firm in business before the war?
- Why was the cover sent to Capt. L.H. Dance?
- Where did Samuel P. Hawes & Son get coal to sell in Richmond, Virginia, during the war in 1863?
- What could I find about the "Son"?
- What happened to the Hawes coal business after the Civil War?

Samuel Pierce Hawes (1799–1866)



80 RICHMOND BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

B. E. POITIAUX,
DEALER IN
ANTHRACITE COAL,
OAK AND PINE WOOD,
Yard, Corner 17th and Water Streets,
RICHMOND, VA.

SAM'L P. HAWES,
ANTHRACITE COAL,
RED AND WHITE ASH, CLOVER HILL, AND SMITH'S COAL,
18th Street, South Side Dock,
RICHMOND, VA.

Advertisement for Sam'l P. Hawes in the *Richmond Business Directory* for 1858, published by E.M. Coff eld and Company.

With the help of Confederate stamp dealers, auction catalogues, Confederate Stamp Alliance members, and a trip to Richmond, Virginia, and the city's great archives, the questions were answered and an exciting story developed. Along the research trail, not only did I acquire several more Hawes covers, but I found connections with famous names like the Tredegar Iron Works and General Robert E. Lee.

Background

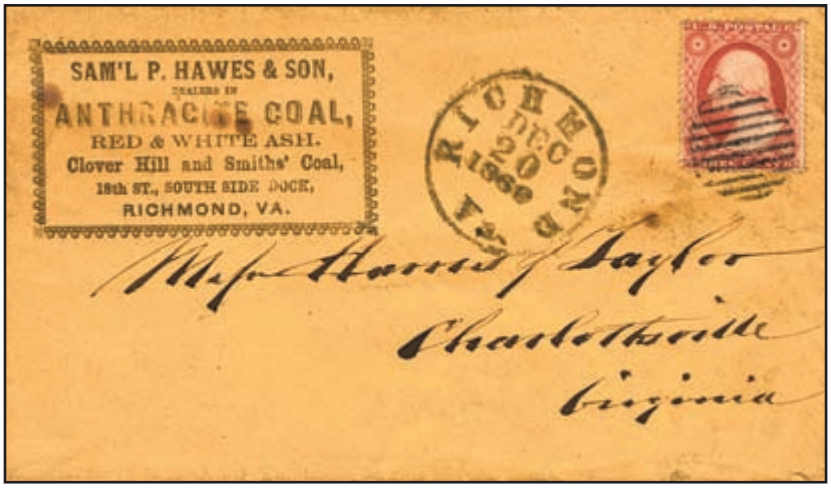
To set the story, a review of the fuel situation in Richmond, Virginia, during the Civil War period and its impact on S.P. Hawes and Son is useful. I was surprised to learn that the dominant solid fuel used by the Confederacy was wood, not coal. For example, its railroads were powered by wood one hundred percent. The role of coal, the other solid fuel, was limited by the deposits available to the Confederacy.

The following brief summary of the status of the coal supply to the South at the beginning of the war is taken from Howard Eavenson's great book on American coal, *The First Century and a Quarter of American Coal Industry*:

> There was, as usual, a large supply of coal at New Orleans awaiting shipment and this was promptly confiscated by the Confederate government. Some of this coal was shipped to Savannah and Mobile for naval purposes and some of it was used in the arms plant near New Orleans, which was soon captured by Northern forces.
>
> Some coal was being produced in the Deep River, North Carolina, field, just prior to the outbreak of the struggle, and attempts were made to increase the output from this section, without much success. The coal was floated down Deep River to Fayetteville and placed on railroad cars there.
>
> Some mines near Chattanooga, Tennessee, were in operation at the outbreak of hostilities or were opened immediately thereafter. Coal was obtained from these mines, in limited quantities, until August, 1863, when Grant's campaign transferred the output to the use of the Union forces.
>
> Some small amounts of coal were mined in Georgia during 1863 and 1864 and hauled to the railroad for shipment. The Alabama mines supplied some coal and coke in the same year, this being largely used in Selma, Alabama.
>
> The only other source of supply of coal of any size was the field near Richmond, Virginia, and until the end of the war most of the coal used in munitions manufacture [at Tredegar Ironworks] came from this district; much of it was used locally but some was shipped to Wilmington, North Carolina, and Charleston, South Carolina.[1]

Samuel H. Hawes (top) and his son Horace S. Hawes.

The Richmond bituminous coal field lies to the west of Richmond and Petersburg, Virginia. The field is thirty miles in length north to south, and eight miles wide. Some



December 20, 1860, cover advertising Sam'l P. Hawes & Son.

seams average twenty feet in thickness. The coal field had been well known since the Colonial era. Some of the first coal mined (in 1730) and some of the earliest mentions of coal in America stem from the Richmond field, which provided coal for both the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. Thus, it would stand to reason that the Hawes coal yard probably drew its wartime supply from the Richmond field.

Samuel Pierce Hawes

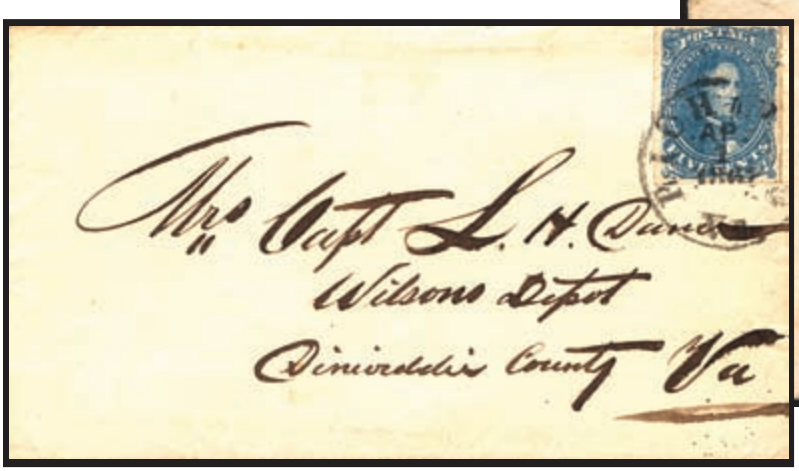
Samuel Pierce Hawes was born in Dorchester, Massachusetts, on March, 30, 1799. He died in Virginia on December 24, 1866. After moving his family to Richmond, he established a retail coal and wood business there in 1848. He was first mentioned in the Richmond City Directory of 1852 as being located at "N.S. Basin R.N.S. Grace W of Franchee." Later his office was located at 18th and Cary, with coal elevators at 29th and Dock Streets.

Samuel P. Hawes had eight children. One son, Samuel Horace, served in the Confederate Army during the war and afterwards joined his father in the coal business. A daughter, Mary Virginia, became a novelist who wrote under the pen name of Marion Harland. After Samuel Pierce's death in 1866, Samuel Horace ran the company until his own death in 1922.

Samuel Horace had a son, Horace Sterling Hawes, who also joined the family coal business and remained with the company until his death in 1931. A sister, Katherine Hawes, founded the YWCA in Richmond.

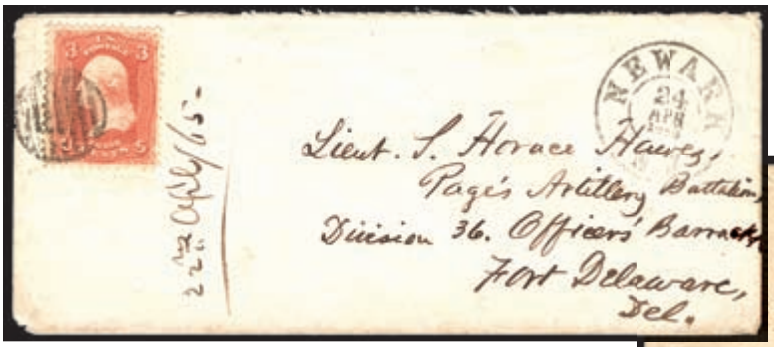
An important area for information about Hawes and his business during the Civil War can be found in tax records on file at the Virginia State Library in Richmond, which include the personal property tax records for Samuel P. Hawes. From the data we can see how inflation during the war years had an effect on the Hawes family. In 1860, a year before the war began, Richmond City Personal Property records for Samuel P. Hawes gave the following information:

A billhead from Hawes & Son, "A full Supply of every description of Coal, kept constantly on hand."



April 1, 1863, cover addressed to Mrs. Capt L. H. Dance at Wilson's Depot, Dinwiddie County, Va.

May 30 (1863?) cover addressed to Mrs. L.H. Dance at Wilson's Depot, Dinwiddie, Virginia.



A prisoner of war cover, sent to Hawes when he had been returned to Fort Delaware.

Below: Cover addressed to Lieut. S. Horace Hawes, "Prisoner of War," during the period he was in the "Immortal 600." Note the *Ex.d* manuscript marking placed by the censor of mail to prisoners.

1860	
10 slaves who attained age of 12 years	
10 horses	$900
2 watches	$150
1 piano	$100
$50 gold, silver and jewelry	
$500 household furnishings	
$150 all other	
Aggregate value (not including slaves):	$1,850
Tax:	$20.20

The year after the war finally ended, the value (and amount) of his personal property holdings was greatly reduced:

1866	
4 horses, mules, asses, and jennies	$500
1 cattle	$20
2 carriages, stage coaches, wagons subject to taxation spring wagons, carryalls, gigs, buggies and vehicles of like kind	$100
1 watch	$100
$500 household furnishings	
Aggregate value:	$1,220
State tax:	$1.99

The Antebellum Period

Hawes was not without competition in the pre-Civil War era. In 1858 *DeBow's Review* (a Southern journal concentrating on agricultural, commercial and industrial news) reported the white population of Richmond as 30,000 and the black population at 15,000, all of whom were served by a total of ten coal and wood dealers.

The next Hawes cover I was able to acquire was a prewar cover canceled on the very day South Carolina passed the ordinance of succession (December 20, 1860). It is franked with an 1851 3-cent Washington (Scott 10), and the corner advertising box announced that the firm handled "Anthracite Coal, Red & White Ash, Clover Hill and Smiths' Coal." The source of anthracite coal in North America is limited to Pennsylvania and would undoubtedly have been unavailable to the firm during the war years. Clover Hill was a large bituminous coal (soft coal) producer located a few miles outside Richmond.

Recently a billhead issued by Hawes and dated December 6, 1859, became available to me. This has a nice cameo or "business stamp" as they were called by the engravers that made them. Although the billhead was printed earlier (the imprint simply reads "SAM[L] P. HAWES"), a handwritten inscription added "& Son" to the head of the receipt. There is also a final line that advises: "N. B. Anthracite Coal Sold by Weight."

Jose Rodriguez, a student of the graphic arts of the 1850s and the 1860s, provided me with additional information about the "business stamp" and its designer:

> These were first designed in brass dies and then placed in screw and lever presses to emboss them and color them. The most common color was blue, followed by green, red, brown and so on. Some of the designs are "signed" in minute letters within the "plate" by the engravers that made them. The Hawes billhead is by Percival, a die-sinker

After his father's death, Samuel Horace changed the name of the company to S.H. Hawes, COAL, Richmond, Va. This cover has a nice 3-cent green Banknote canceled August 30, 1882.

Later Samuel Horace added a logo to the company's envelopes showing the coal silos and loading docks. The 2-cent red brown was canceled November 15, 1887.

engraver in Philadelphia who worked from 1852 to 1870 in this line of the printing arts. I have been documenting all of the different designs known and have already passed 4,380 different ones. Many are text only, like the Hawes billhead, but about a third has [sic] graphic illustrations and about half are signed by the engravers.[2]

Hawes & Son During the War

The 1860 cover was addressed to "Capt. L.H. Dance / Wilson's Depot / Nottoway Co., / Virginia." From the National Archives I learned that the addressee, Capt. Lawson H. Dance, was in Company D 15th Virginia Infantry (Henrico Guards). He signed for forty blankets and one kettle drum on October 19, 1861, which perhaps indicates that he served as quartermaster. No records of Captain Dance after 1862 have been located.

Fortunately, however, two additional Dance covers, also addressed to Wilson's Depot in Virginia, have come to light. The first is addressed to "Mrs. Capt L.H. Dance." The cover has a nice 5-cent blue issue, canceled April 1, 1863. This stamp was produced by Hoyer & Ludwig in Richmond in 1862 using the same transfer stone that the company had used for its 1861 5-cent green. The second cover is addressed to Mrs. L.H. Dance and has a nice copy of the 10-cent issue printed by Archer & Daly in 1863 (earliest use April 23, 1863). The cover is postmarked May 30.

Curiously, the original cover address places Wilson's Depot in Nottoway County, while the subsequent covers give the address as Dinwiddie County. Both James Thayer and Harvey Sheppard of the Confederate Stamp Alliance told me that Wilson's Depot is in Dinwiddie County, and Sheppard further advised me that Wilson's Depot was a supply base during the war. Nottoway and Dinwiddie are adjoining counties in Virginia, which is perhaps where the confusion arose.

A search of Confederate records of businesses and individuals doing business with the Confederate government (National Archives – Marie Varrelman Melchiori, certified genealogical records searcher) found several transactions for the Hawes coal and wood business:

- "August 15, 1861 — 4 mules — Samuel P. Hawes to be paid in Confederate State Bonds."
- "December 19, 1861 — 1000 bushels lump coal @ .24 $240.00 for Artillery Depot. 250 bushels lump coal for stoves @ .30 $75.00 — Samuel P. Hawes and Sons."
- "July 18, 1862 — 5 cord pine wood @ 410 per cord — Negro hospital — Samuel P. Hawes."
- "March 24, 1864 — For cash paid freight on coal from Richmond to Stauton — Samuel P. Hawes."

While there is no mention of Wilson's Depot or Capt. L.H. Dance, it is clear that the Hawes firm was doing business with the Confederate military as a supplier of goods, primarily fuel.

Up to this point, everything I found suggested that Hawes got his coal from the Richmond field, but I wanted some direct proof. After learning that the Virginia Historical Society had a collection of Hawes family papers, I made an appointment to inspect them. There in the Hawes papers I found a letter (with cover) written by Samuel P. Hawes to his son Samuel H. Hawes and postmarked August 9, 1861. The letter is addressed to S. Horace Hawes of the 2nd Company Howitzers, Camp Page near Williamsburg, Virginia, and has a Richmond Type III "PAID 5 cts" along with a Richmond Type 2 circular date stamp (CDS). The "PAID 10" Type I appears to have been given a small grid, which was commonly "used to revalue mis-rated covers."[3] The handwriting appears to be the same as that on the April 1860 cover.

Buried in the contents of the letter Samuel P. wrote to his son was information that answered one of my initial key questions. It also confirmed and validated a premise I hold on basic research — this premise being that when a father writes his son a letter, almost always he will mention some aspect of his business. Not always, but for the most part, father-son correspondence records information on business, professions and careers:

> I have sold 4 of our mules to the government taking Confederate 8 percent bonds. The 4 teams was losing money. Feed oats & Hay are so high it would not pay. We can make 2 teams pay, while 4 were bringing us in debt. I purchased 15,000 from C[lover] Hill Coal at Port Walthall; have a vessel engaged in bringing it up. This gives something to do; except for this I might close the yard.

In the 1858 *DeBow* source mentioned above, I found the following distance chart, indicating that the Clover Hill Mine could have shipped coal to Richmond directly or via Port Walthall:

Miles	
Clover Hills Mines to Richmond by rail	33
Clover Hills Mines to Port Walthall	25

The Petersburg to Richmond railroad line was a key supply line carrying coal from the Clover Hill mines, but it also played a vital role during the war in carrying food and other supplies to both the city of Richmond and to the Army of Northern Virginia.

Port Walthall is mentioned in the Official Records several times, but one reference in a May 6, 1864, dispatch from Major General R. Ransom to Brigadier General Bushrod R. Johnson emphasizes its value to the Confederacy:

> The railroad must not fall into the enemy's hands. Rapidity is necessary. Act at once. If the enemy be at Port Walthall junction dislodge him.

The May 6–7, 1864, battle at Port Walthall Junction was carried out between forces commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler (USA) and Brig. Gen. Johnson Hagood (CSA) and Brig. Gen. Bushrod Johnson (CSA). With a nearly four-to-one advantage in troop numbers, the Union forces were able to push the Confederates from the railroad depot and destroy about a quarter mile of track before breaking off the engagement.

In the Lily Logan Morrell's 1932 *My Confederate Girlhood: Memoirs of Kate Virginia Cox Logan*, I found further substantiation of Clover Hills' importance as a coal supplier:

> My father told me he would have made a fortune during the war, but he could not get his own consent to do so, as he thought it wrong to trade on the necessities of the people. The Clover Hill Mines furnished the only coal to be obtained in Richmond. The West Virginia supply being cut off. The coal was of a very fine quality, particularly for gas, and before the war he had contracts with all the principal northern cities. Every year he went north to make his contracts, returning with lovely things for us.
>
> Now, all the coal went to Richmond, there to feed the Tredegar furnaces and light our capital city.[4]

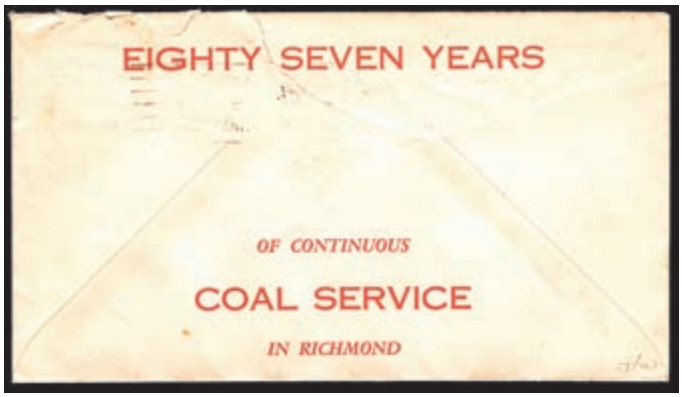
The Tredegar Iron Works was a long-established firm in Richmond. It was the only Southern rolling mill capable of producing sheet iron and large cannons. During the war, Tredegar would produce the bulk of the Confederacy's field artillery, gunboat cannons, and coastal batteries, as well as armor plating for ships.

The corporate logo grew more elaborate after the addition of son Horace Sterling Hawes to the company. The cover was mailed August 9, 1898.

The company would go on to produce material through World War II, the oldest iron works in the United States. Most of the original buildings were destroyed by fire in 1952, although one remaining brick building serves as Richmond's Visitor Center today.

> Coal pits near Richmond could supply much of the fuel required by the Tredegar but the blockade cut off northern Anthracite used in the spike furnaces and for general foundry purposes. Anderson and Company first brought up such "meager stores of Anthracite" as they could find in Richmond and then attempted unsuccessfully to persuade Baltimore agents to run a cargo through the blockade. When these efforts failed to produce sufficient suppliers, the firm decided to rebuild the Anthracite consuming spike and foundry furnaces to take coke which could be manufactured out of bituminous coal available nearby. Adequate quantities of coke soon became unobtainable on the open market and Anderson and Company built coking furnaces and produced their own. During the summer and

Another example of a cover with the new S.H. Hawes & Co. logo; franked with a nice 2-cent and posted May 2, 1901.



The company merged following the death of Samuel Horace in 1922 and continued to operate under the new name of Ellison & Hawes, Inc., even after the death of Horace Sterling in 1931. This cover was posted August 22, 1935.

early fall, Richmond agents agreed to supply the works with large amounts of coal for the coming winter.[5]

One can only guess that the "meager stores of Anthracite" available in the city may have included the inventory held by Samuel P. Hawes, but the "Richmond agents" for the iron works are known to have included Clover Hill Coal Company, according to Tredegar records, which include a contract dated September 17, 1861.

As the war progressed, Confederate coal supplies began to be severely affected by Union attacks on the railroads and by a growing lack of available miners.

> In August 9, 1864, Anderson appealed personally to Lee in an attempt to solve the long standing shortage of coal miners. The Tredegar head requested the detail of six experienced miners to insure his works an adequate supply of coal during the coming winter. He even promised to turn an equal number of less vital workers over to the Richmond conscript officer to replace those taken from the ranks. Lee refused to detail the men on the grounds that every available man in uniform was needed to repel Grant's assaults on his lines and the secretary of war disapproved of exchanging an experienced soldier for a raw draftee. Anderson was still seeking coal miners in January, 1865.[6]

Not surprisingly, the price of coal rose from about $20 per cart (twenty-five bushels) in 1862 to nearly $160 by the war's end in 1865.

Samuel P. Hawes & Son; Post-War

Immediately after the war, Samuel P. Hawes filed the loyalty oath and also a request to resume operations as a coal and wood merchant. On April 10, 1865, he asked "permission to use horse and cart to draw coal and wood for the citizens of Richmond." On April 12, 1865, he made formal application to resume business dealing in coal and wood, and took the loyalty oath. What his son, ex-Confederate Army Officer Samuel Horace Hawes, thought of this is unrecorded; however, he did return to the family business, taking on the role as its head following his father's death in 1866.

Researching Samuel Horace Hawes was extremely interesting. He was in the Confederate Army the entire five years of the Civil War. He is not only listed in the Official Records, but mention of his name can be found in several documentaries and reports. His service record was as follows:

- Virginia Light Artillery, Captain Fry's Company (Orange Artillery)
- 1st Battalion Virginia Light Artillery, Company K
- Battalion Confederate Artillery
- Company B First Virginia Infantry
- 2nd Battery Richmond Howitzers, Captain Randolph
- Williamsburg Artillery, Captain Coke
- Captured 5/12/1864 Bloody Angle — Spotsylvania Court House

At the Battle of Manassas, September 9, 1862, his captain reported in the official dispatch that "First Lieut. Samuel Hawes had his horse shot under him and behaved with great coolness." In an October 4, 1862 dispatch concerning the reassignment of officers, "Second Lieutenant [S.H.] Hawes of Coke's [battery]" is mentioned as one of "five officers who should by all means be retained if these consolidations be ordered."

After his capture during the May 8–12, 1864, battle at Spotsylvania Court House, Hawes remained a prisoner of war for fourteen months. During this period of imprisonment, Hawes was a member of the "Immortal 600," a group of Confederate prisoners used as human shields on Morris Island, South Carolina. This was a retaliatory move due to the belief that the Confederacy had used Federal prisoners of war in a similar manner earlier in Charleston. The deprivations and hardships of prisoners on both sides during the Civil War have been substantially researched and written about by several historians. Samuel Horace Hawes also recorded in his diary much suffering and dire times. The Hawes papers and diary are maintained in the Archives of the Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia.

I recently acquired two Samuel H. Hawes covers, written while he was a prisoner of war. While prisoners were confined they were allowed to communicate with Southern citizens by flag-of-truce mail.

As noted above, after his father's death in 1866, Samuel Horace Hawes became head of the family coal business, and sometime later changed the name of the company to S.H. Hawes. An 1887 cover shows that Samuel Horace had added a nice logo to the company's envelopes featuring a scene of the coal silos and docks. By 1898 the design included the words "& Co.," which probably reflected the addition of his own son, Horace Sterling Hawes, to the company roster. The firm continued to prosper, and at one time had thirty delivery teams and employed fifty workers.

Samuel Horace passed away in 1922, and Horace Sterling Hawes continued to operated the firm until around 1926. At this point the firm merged with that of a man by the name of Elliston. Horace Sterling passed away in January 1931. The Ellison and Hawes, Inc., cover illustrated was posted August 22, 1935. The company was sold soon after to Massey, Woods and West.

Recognizing the name of Massey as one that is well-known in the coal industry, I contacted the firm of A.T. Massey in 1989. Mr. E. Morgan Massey, then president of A.T. Massey, referred me to his uncle, Ivor Massey who maintained an office at the company's corporate headquarters. He had been president of Massey, Woods and West at the time it bought out the old Elliston and Hawes company. He remembered details about Elliston and Hawes and told me about its good reputation in the Richmond area. Mr. Massey also remembered the coal yard and docks, which were long gone by 1989.

Conclusion

I have been successful in acquiring a number of covers that chronicle the fabulous story of the Hawes Family business. The covers not only document the life of a business entity but show the evolution of the great American coal industry. No doubt, there are still many Hawes family-related and business-related covers remaining to be discovered by collectors. These future covers might well provide information that could be the start of new research.

Acknowledgments

Another important source for the author has been Horace Hawes Harrison, the great, great-grandson of Samuel Pierce Hawes, who generously corresponded with me and contributed to this article. I also wish to thank Lacy Dick, the Valentine Museum; Richard Frajola; Francis Fuguate, Virginia Historical Society; Amy Jones; Patricia L. Kaufmann; Frank Mandel; E. Morgan Massey, A.T. Massey Coal Co.; Ivor Massey, A.T. Massey Coal Co.; Marie V. Melchiori, C.G.R.S.; Dr. James Milgram; Alexander G. Monroe, City of Richmond; Sara Piercy; Peter Powell; Col. Harvey Sheppard (USA Ret); Gary Swanson, Museum of the Confederacy; Jose Rodriguez; James Thayer; Minor T. Weisiger, Virginia State Library; Ryan T. Wellmaker; and John Zehmer Jr., Historic Richmond Foundation.

Endnotes

1. Howard Eavenson, *The First Century and a Quarter of American Coal Industry* (Pittsburgh, PA: Waverly Press, 1942), page 299.
2. Private letter to author.
3. Peter W.W. Powell, *Confederate States of America Markings and Postal History of Richmond, Virginia* (Louisville, KY: Leonard H. Hartmann, 1987), page 102.
4. Lily Logan Morrell, *My Confederate Girlhood: The Memoirs of Kate Virginia Cox Logan* (Richmond, VA: Garrett & Massie, Inc., 1932), page 32.
5. Charles B. Dew, *Ironmaker to the Confederacy* (Wilmington, NC: Broadfoot Publishing), page 99.
6. *Ibid.*, page 237.
7. Morrell, *op. cit.*, Chapter 7.

A search of the voluminous literature written about General Robert E. Lee uncovered few direct mentions of coal, although I did make note of one important reference involving Clover Hill. The occasion was during General Lee's retreat from Petersburg on April 3, 1865, six days before his meeting at Appomattox Court House:

> He [Lee] was in the vicinity of Summit when a message arrived from Judge James H. Cox of Clover Hill Coal Company [inviting] writing Lee and Longstreet and their staff officer to dine with him. Men who had submitted for weeks on the stern face of the trenches were delighted at the prospect of engaging [the] hospitality of a Virginia home of distinction and they gladly rode over to Clover Hill through a mile of woods. The house was crammed with guests and despite the excitement of retreat; the place took on a festive air for an hour. When the mint juleps were served, the General barely touched his and enjoyed instead a glass of ice water. "Do you know", he said to Miss Kate Cox, the daughter of the house, "that this glass of cold water is, I believe, far more refreshing than the drinks they are enjoying so much?" Soon, of course, the conversation centered on the movement of the army. "General Lee", said Miss Cox, "We shall still gain our course; you will join General Johnson and together you will be victorious". "Whatever happens", Lee answered quietly, "know this that no men ever fought better than those who have stood by me".
>
> Miss Kate had been assigned to sit by Longstreet and to help him cut his food, for he was unable to use his right arm; but when dinner was announced Lee insisted that she stay by his side. As coffee was passed at the close of the meal, Lee put cream in his. "General Lee", said the vivacious Miss Kate, "do you take cream in your dinner coffee?" The weary soldier smiled, "I have not taken coffee for so long that I would not dare to take it in its original strength". Kate understood this better when one of the staff confided to her that Lee sent all his coffee to the hospitals.
>
> Soon of course, the officers of the little cavalcade had to turn their backs on the pleasant Cox home and rejoin the long line of ragged men streaming westward through the Spring mud.[7]

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The Author

Robert G. Metcalf has been a collector of U.S. stamps and covers since 1947. His major collections include the U.S. Coal Industry, Confederate States of America, the City of St. Louis, Southern Illinois, and illustrated advertising covers. Current hobby memberships include the American Philatelic Society (life member), Confederate Stamp Alliance, Illinois Postal History Society, the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, American Philatelic Congress, and the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society. He owns and operates an asphalt paving construction company in Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

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VATICAN CITY

35-40, Q1-13 on card. March 7, 1938. Provisional Set — all with sheet margins 35-36, 38-39 from corner with marginal markings. Raybaudi Certificate. Rare! $2,750.00

Large stock of Used & Covers Available — Please Ask!

— Vatican Errors & Varieties —

(Sas. = Sassone Catalog — CEI = Specialized Italian Catalog)

23a	VF/LH Imperf Pair €480.00 = $720. for NH	$ 250.00
37a	VF/NH missing comma. Sas. €1,500. = $2,250.00 w/Cert.	$ 1,000.00
37a	Same XF/LH signed Sas. €500. = $750.00	$ 325.00
88, 89x2, 90	F-VF/NH 4 stamps with listed Plate Varieties on left stamp of each pair #88 line above "VA", #89 Broken "O", etc.	$ 20.00
93	F-VF/NH imperf at left. Sas. 93f €220. = $330.00	$ 150.00
94	F-VF/NH Imperforate Top Margin €145. = $215.00	$ 105.00
95	VF/NH pair, Imperf between Sas. 95h €450 = $675.00	$ 330.00
99	F-VF/NH Imperf at bottom Sas. 99c €330. = $495.00	$ 140.00
99	F-VF/NH Block of 4, Imperf at right Sas. 99d €440. = $660.00	$ 300.00
99	Lower Right Block Same as above	$ 325.00
100	F-VF/NH Block of 4 Bottom horizontal Imperf. Sas. 100c €440. = $660.00 (vertical perf at bottom of margin-from top pane of sheet)	$ 275.00
100	F-VF/NH Control # block of 4, Imperf at Bottom, (from bottom pane of sheet)	$ 275.00
100	F-VF/NHSet of 2 Vertical pairs with double horizontal perfs in the center, 1 with perfs 1/8" apart, other with 1/4" apart	$ 110.00
101	F-VF/NH Vertical pair, Imperf between €450. = $675.00	$ 300.00
103a, 104a	NH Set Type II Sas. €12. = $18.00	$ 10.00
114	F-VF/NH Upper right corner margin single with double perfs at right.	$ 10.00
114, 117, 118	Imperf at bottom-from either Top pane (with perf at bottom of margin), or bottom pane (straight margin bottom) €130. = $195.00 per stamp — Each	$ 90.00
C4	UR Corner block of 4, (hinged on margin) with inverted watermark CEI €80. = $120.00	$ 60.00
E6	VF/H imperf at bottom Sas E6d €250.= $375.00	$ 150.00
E7	F-VF/NH with offset overprint on gummed side Sas. E7c €17.5 = $25.00	$ 12.50
E7	Same block of 4	$ 50.00
J9	F-VF/LH Extra Vertical perf through "I" of Vatican	$ 25.00
J11	F/NH Bottom sheet margin with full gutter plus bottom selvedge	$ 25.00
J12	VF/NH Imperf at bottom, LL corner margin pair €300 = $450.00	$ 200.00
Q3	F-VF/NH 20L violet color largely doubled with 1986 E.Diena certificate. UNLISTED VARIETY.	$ 200.00

— A Selection from Our Vatican Price List —

1929–1939

	LH	NH
1-13 + E1-2	53.00	150.00
14	2.00	6.50
19-34 + E3-4	75.00	225.00
35-40	850.00	POR

We only sell this overprinted set signed by an Italian Expert!!

41-46	125.00	525.00
47-54	80.00	300.00
55-60	41.00	120.00
61-67	30.00	95.00

We have LH available @ 1/3 off the NH prices for most sets through the 1960s.

1940s

68-71	8.25
72-76	4.00
77-79	.35
80-83	.65
84-86	.35
87-90	2.25
91-98 + E5-6	1.75
99-101	.40
102-109 + E7-8	13.00
110-21 + E9-10	2.25
122-31 + E11-12	80.00
132-39	5.50

1950s

140-42	12.50
143-44	12.50
145-48	20.00
149-53	60.00
154	1.50
155	4.75
155a S/S	122.50
156-57	7.00
158-68 + E13-14	2.20
169-70	16.00
171-72	7.50
173	32.50
174-75	4.25
176-81	4.00
182-84	7.00
185-86	3.25
187-88	2.75
189-91	21.50
192-94	1.55
195-96	7.15
197-99	1.30
200-02	2.55
203-08	2.80
209-11	1.10
212-13	1.50
214-15	3.00
216-18	1.60
219-22	2.00
223-26	1.00
227-28	1.25
229-32	2.00

1958

233-38	.40
239-42	3.20
242a S/S	18.00
243-46	1.50
247-49	1.80

— J7-12 Type II —

Mixed Paper
#7-11 white paper
#12 gray paper

LH $100.00
NH $150.00

As above Used Blocks of 4 Rare!!
Sas. € 620.00 = $930.00
Special Price • $395.00

37 VF NH Missing coma. Certificate. $1,000.00

Vatican Back-of-the-Book

	LH	NH
B1-4	32.50	100.00
C1-8	4.00	6.00
C9-15	21.00	31.50
C16-17	275.00	450.00
C18-19	72.00	107.50
C20-21	150.00	250.00
C22-23	35.00	77.50
C24-32		4.50
C33-34 (1958)		8.00
C35-44 (1959)		1.25
C45-46 (1962)		3.00
C47-52 (1967)		.75
C53-54 (1968)		2.50
C55-58 (1971)		2.25
C59 (1974)		2.50
C60-62 (1976)		4.75
C63-65 (1978)		6.50
C66-72 (1980)		9.00
C73-74 (1983)		8.85
C75-82 (1986)		19.50
C83-87 (1988)		10.25
C88-91 (1990)		13.75
C92-95 (1992)		15.00
J1-6	32.50	90.00
J7-12		.60
Type II		225.00
Gray (3)		POR
J13-18		.80
J19-24		.45
Q1-15	35.00	85.00

POR = price on request

— Gutter Pairs —

Available as Single Pairs with many sets Available in Strips of 8 with Sheet Margins from Full Sheets. All F-VF/NH unless noted.

86 Gutter pair

Scott	Descriptions	Pairs	Strips of 8
68-71	F-VF/LH	$ 125.00	—
77-79	VF/NH-unfolded RARE!	$ 30.00	$250.00 (Folded 1x vertically)
80-83	VF/NH CEI = $210.00	$ 100.00	$650.00
84-86	CEI = $95.00	$ 80.00	$300.00
84-86	Unfolded horizontally, RARE!	$75.00	$600.00 (Folded 1x vertically)
99-101	CEI = $85.00	$ 40.00	
99-101	Unfolded horizontally RARE!	$ 70.00	$500.00 (Folded 1x vertically)
110-21	CEI = $350.00	$ 150.00	$1200.00
110-21, E9-10	CEI = $430.00	$ 250.00	—
132-35	Only 4 values in this set are listed by CEI = $ 700.00	$290.00	—
132-35	Same Margin Blocks	$ 575.00	—
133	6 Lire value CEI = $170.00	$ 75.00	$500.00

1934 Provisional Overprints — Scott 35-40

We only sell these issues with proper Expertisation.

35-40	VF, NH Signed Diena. Selected for exceptional centering	$ 2,400.00
35-40	F-VF/NH, signed	$ 2,100.00
35-40	F-VF, LH signed	$ 850.00
35-40	F-VF, Hinged, very small back faults on all by #38	$ 450.00
35-40	Set of High Quality Forgeries. F-VF/LH along with expertization Note	$ 225.00

**1997 Vatican "Earthquake Relief" Overprinted S/S

(Not included in 1997 Year Set)

Mint NH $30.00 • With Folder $35.00

— Roman States #12-18 —

Fresh original gum NH Reprints from original plates by Moens of Brussels, circa 1880's. Beautiful set on spectacular surface colored paper. If not an expert, it's almost impossible to distinguish from original set! Scott cv as original set $1567., reprints offered at less than 1% of cv! Imperf set #12-18 vf. It is sure to dress up any Vatican or Italian area collection!

Reprint set of 7 NH $9.00
Block of 4 NH $36.00

FREE set (single set) with any order over $75.00 — please request!

TERMS OF SALE: Condition: Stamps are in F-VF or better condition and priced in $US. Please let us know if you have any special condition requirements.

Payment Methods: $US; cash, check, money order, bank transfer, credit cards (Visa, M/C AmEx, Disc — add 3 or 4 digit security code).

Sales Tax: All orders shipped to New York addresses must add sales tax. Please indicate county of residence. Special shipping requests may be extra.

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U.S. & Canada, under $100	$ 3.50
U.S. over $100	$ 6.00
Foreign, under $100	$ 5.00
Canada & Foreign, over $100 (invoice with package unless noted)	$ 12.00
*Oversized items add	$ 5.00

Anything larger than 6" x 9" will be charged the additional fee

— NH Year Sets —

Year	Vatican	Italy
1958	36.00	5.50
1959	4.50	7.75
1960	7.50	3.50
1961	10.25	35.00
1962	8.75	7.25
1963	2.00	2.50
1964	2.00	3.00
1965	1.65	2.50
1966	1.60	3.50
1967	1.75	4.00
1968	3.40	2.50
**1968-79	-	31.00
1969	1.00	1.00
1970	2.25	3.25
1971	3.75	2.50
1972	5.25	3.75
1973	2.35	5.25
1974	5.50	4.50
1975	3.50	6.50
1976	7.50	8.50
1977	4.30	8.50
1978	9.85	17.00
1979	6.00	12.00
1980	12.00	25.00
1981	10.00	25.00
1982	10.75	24.00
1983	23.50	55.00
1984	31.00	47.00
1985	23.50	68.00
1986	42.00	58.00
1987	48.00	58.00
1988	35.00	50.00
1989	28.00	40.00
1990	41.00	73.00
1991	41.00	45.00
1992	41.00	83.00
1993	41.00	55.00
994	46.00	45.00
1995	46.00	55.00
1996	52.00	60.00
**1997	57.50	65.00
1998	52.00	70.00
1999	60.00	58.00
2000	52.00	63.00
2001	57.00	50.00
2002	55.00	118.00
2003	65.50	90.00
2004	67.00	129.00
2005	65.00	100.00
2006	70.00	142.00
2007	85.00	150.00
	$1,388.40	**$2,083.25**
	SPECIAL — Save 10% on a complete country run	
	$1,249.50	**$1,875.00**
Year	Vatican	Italy

** Italy definitive year set. This is included in complete country run.*

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A Postal Card with 1898 Documentary Revenues

by Scott Troutman

When I saw the postal card (Scott UX14) illustrated come up for sale on eBay I was fairly certain it was a rarely seen weighmaster's return, but it has been a struggle to prove it. The card caught my attention because it was sent from the nearby town of Bellwood, Pennsylvania, with four 1-cent Battleship documentary stamps (Scott R163) attached. Each of the four documentary stamps has a blue handstamped cancel "P.&N.W. / NOV 10 1900" across its face. Unraveling its story turned into an exploration of both local railroad and revenue history.

The postal card was canceled at Bellwood, November 10, 1900, and addressed to S. Hegarty's Sons, Coalport, Pennsylvania. (Hegarty's was either a coal mine or coal broker; I have not established which.)

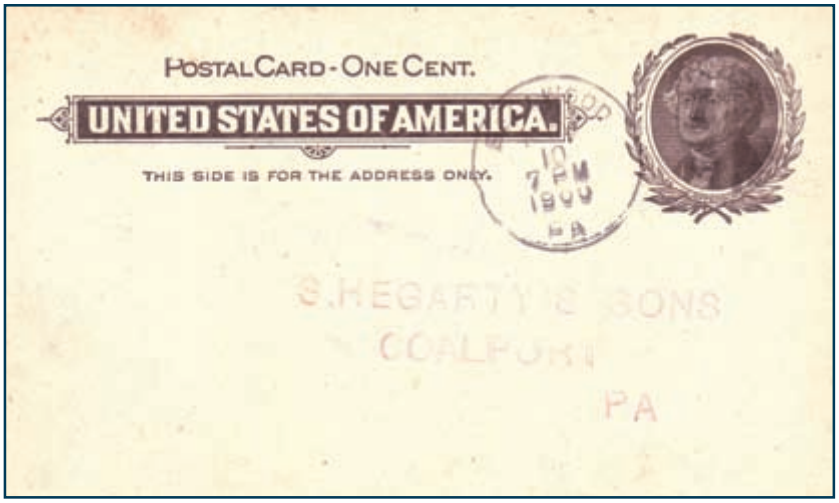
It was my knowledge of the two towns involved that led me to believe this is a weighmaster's return. Bellwood sits along the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and Coalport is a coal mining town to the north. Between the two towns sits the Allegheny front, an imposing line of mountains interrupted by Bell's Gap, a cleft in the ridge created by a stream coming down the mountains.

By the late 1800s, large-scale bituminous coal mining was underway just over the mountains at Coalport, and so a railroad company was formed to bring the coal down to Bellwood and the junction with the "Pennsy" Railroad. Earlier, the coal was transported from the mines in barges down the West Branch of the Susquehanna River via the Pennsylvania Canal, but by the 1870s the canal system was being abandoned as faster rail transport became available. And so, before 1878, the narrow gauge Bell's Gap Railroad was constructed up the mountain to Lloydsville and from there out to the various mines. By 1888 the line had been extended as far as Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.

This is very rugged country, and so the train was used for carrying passengers and mail as well as coal. A railroad post office[1] (Punxsutawney and Bellwood) ran from May 5, 1888, until July 19, 1924, on the Bell's Gap Railroad. Apparently, this is quite a rare railroad post office marking.

By the end of the 1800s the train was making three round-trips a day up and down the mountain on very steep grades of up to 158 feet up for each mile. A park was built near Lloydsville by the railroad company, which advertised excursion trains from Bell's Mills Station to the park with its "Large and commodious grounds ... for the accommodation of Pic-Nics and Excursions; covered pavilion for Dancing; Croquet Grounds; Booths, Tables, &c. Good water on the ground." The cooler mountain air made the park a popular summer destination for family reunions, church socials, and revival meetings.

However, the bread-and-butter commodity for the little railroad wasn't mail or passengers but coal. The B.G.R.R. would bring the coal down in narrow-gauge cars to the junction with the Pennsylvania Railroad. The coal then had to be transferred to a standard gauge coal car on the main line, weighed, and the weighmaster's return sent back to the coal



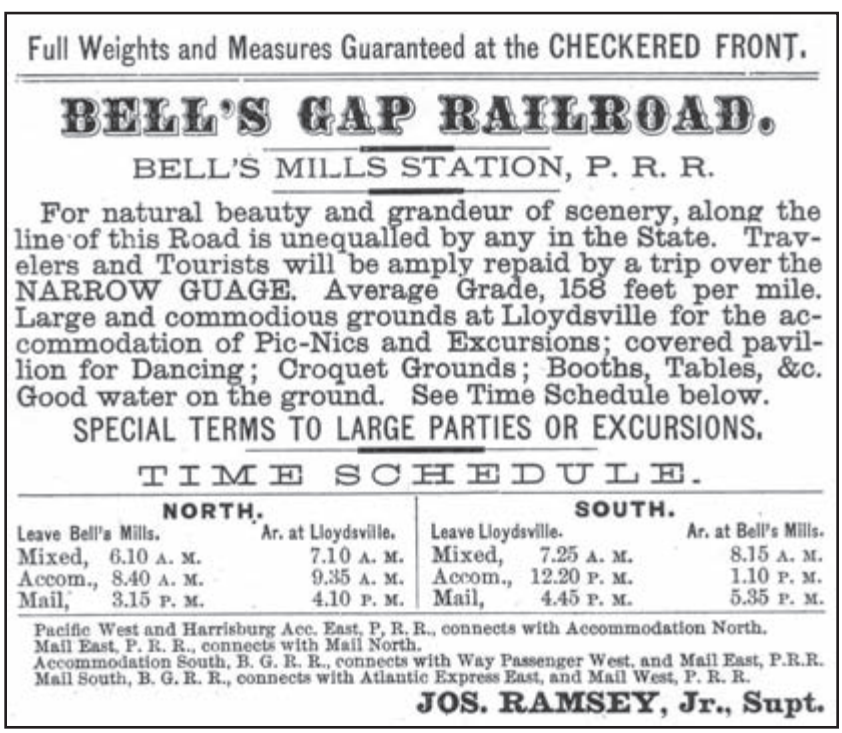
Left: Front of 1900 postal card sent from Bellwood to Coalport.

Below: Back of postal card with four 1-cent documentary stamps.

Bellwood, Pa		Nov 9 1900
PRR 27145	Wt. 512	S? A.
" 14142	" 373	Harrisb.
BG 1224	" 657	S? A.
NC 1028	" 516	"
PRR 58046	" 463	Newark
" 58121	" 491	"
" 18579	" 495	"
" 55602	" 456	"
P Co 3621	" 411	"
W.B. Humer??		
J.W. Rice		
WM		
L		*[Transcribed list]*

company or broker. The return recorded how much coal was shipped and the specific railroad cars used. The bills of lading/manifests for the coal's destination would be transferred from the Bell's Gap to the Pennsylvania Railroad at this point.

This postal card is the weighmaster's return for nine carloads of coal. The handwritten table on the back is a list of the standard gauge cars that the coal was loaded into. For example, the first listing — "PRR 28145 Wt. 512 S?A." — would have been a Pennsy coal car loaded with 512 weight of coal. Since the average coal car of the time carried no more than 70 tons, it is not clear what this "weight" translates to in terms of tonnage. I cannot make out the abbreviation used for the destination of this and several of the other cars (possibly "P.A." for Perth Amboy, New Jersey, but it looks more like "S.A."). Other cars are destined for Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Newark, New Jersey. The abbreviations for other railroads remain, in large part, a mys-



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BELL'S GAP RAILROAD.

BELL'S MILLS STATION, P. R. R.

For natural beauty and grandeur of scenery, along the line of this Road is unequalled by any in the State. Travelers and Tourists will be amply repaid by a trip over the NARROW GUAGE. Average Grade, 158 feet per mile. Large and commodious grounds at Lloydsville for the accommodation of Pic-Nics and Excursions; covered pavillion for Dancing; Croquet Grounds; Booths, Tables, &c. Good water on the ground. See Time Schedule below.

SPECIAL TERMS TO LARGE PARTIES OR EXCURSIONS.

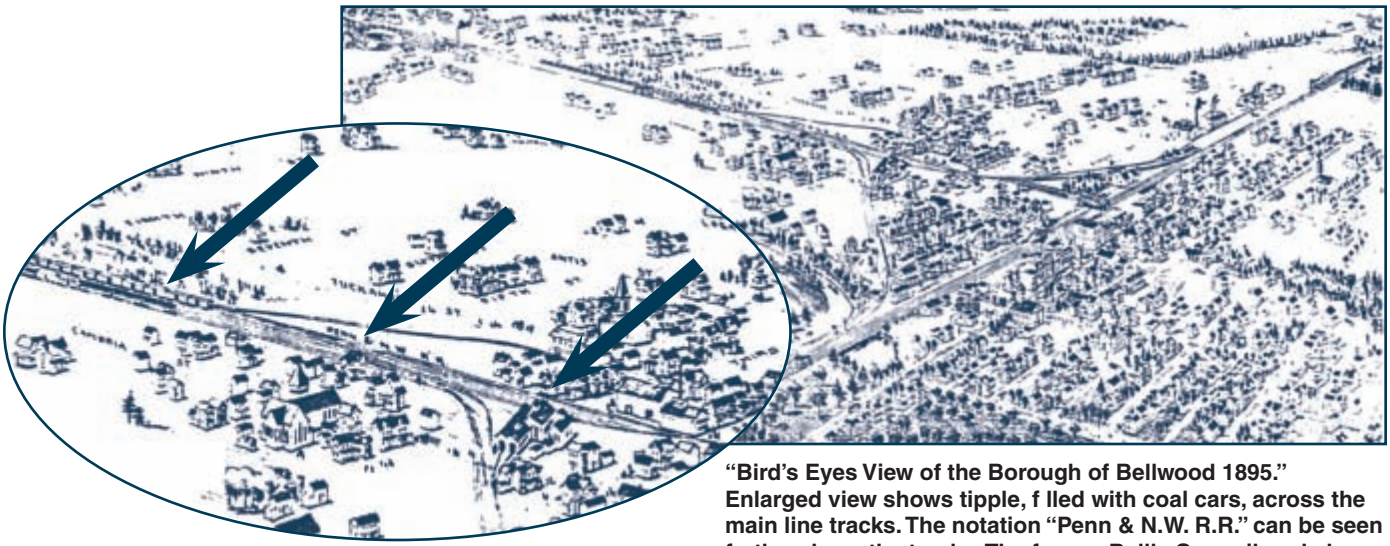
TIME SCHEDULE.

NORTH.			SOUTH.		
Leave Bell's Mills.		Ar. at Lloydsville.	Leave Lloydsville.		Ar. at Bell's Mills.
Mixed,	6.10 A. M.	7.10 A. M.	Mixed,	7.25 A. M.	8.15 A. M.
Accom.,	8.40 A. M.	9.35 A. M.	Accom.,	12.20 P. M.	1.10 P. M.
Mail,	3.15 P. M.	4.10 P. M.	Mail,	4.45 P. M.	5.35 P. M.

Pacific West and Harrisburg Acc. East, P. R. R., connects with Accommodation North.
Mail East, P. R. R., connects with Mail North.
Accommodation South, B. G. R. R., connects with Way Passenger West, and Mail East, P.R.R.
Mail South, B. G. R. R., connects with Atlantic Express East, and Mail West, P. R. R.

JOS. RAMSEY, Jr., Supt.

Advertising placed by Joseph Ramsey Jr., Superintendent of the Bell's Gap Railroad, in the *Bellwood Directory 1878–79.*



"Bird's Eyes View of the Borough of Bellwood 1895." Enlarged view shows tipple, f lled with coal cars, across the main line tracks. The notation "Penn & N.W. R.R." can be seen farther down the tracks. The former Bell's Gap railroad shops are at the top of the triangle formed by the railroad lines.

tery to me. I have not discovered who the BG (possibly a full-size car owned by the Bell's Gap R.R.) or P Co were. NC was the North Central Railroad. The four-digit numbers on these cars would indicate they were smaller railroads.

Transferring the coal was such an important operation for the Bell's Gap that its line actually ended at a specially built coal tipple that was constructed above and across the P.R.R. main line. The narrow-gauge cars were simply pushed out over the larger cars and their hoppers opened, transferring the entire load in one quick operation.

The weighing was done by the Pennsylvania Railroad at a scale that was apparently part of or near to the transfer tipple. J.W. Rice is listed in the records of the Pennsylvania Railroad[2] as the weighmaster for the Bellwood scales, and the "WM" written below his name seems to confirm this.

Two big mysteries remained. What did the handstamp "P.&N.W." mean, and what was the tax rate being paid?

The handstamp was a stumper until I discovered the following in a book on the history of the Tuckahoe Valley and Bellwood.[3] The books had the following seven words: "In addition to the P & NW RR shops...." The only railroad shops in Bellwood were a small set of shops used to service the cars and locomotives on the Bell's Gap Railroad. Thus it seems that at some time before 1895 the railroad had been bought out or renamed. On an engraving of the time titled "Bird's Eye View of the Borough of Bellwood, Blair County, Pennsylvania 1895" the old Bell's Gap line is marked "Penn & N W R.R." The coal tipple with coal cars ready to dump their loads can be seen in the picture as well. The full name may have been the Pennsylvania and North Western Railroad. It was this railroad that sent the postcard, and applied and cancelled the revenue stamps.

The remaining question concerned which tax was being paid by the four cents-worth of revenue stamps. Under the Civil War tax laws there were special rates for weighmaster's returns, but these were eliminated in 1898. The part of the War Revenue Law of 1898 connected with express and freight shipments states that for "any goods accepted for transportation, a bill of lading, manifest, or other evidence of receipt and forwarding for each shipment received for carriage and transportation, whether in bulk or in boxes, bales, packages, bundles, or not so inclosed or included; there shall be duly attached and cancelled, as in this Act provided, to each of said bills of lading, manifests or other memorandum, and to each duplicate thereof, a stamp of the value of one cent."[4]

The card lists nine loaded coal cars here, so how did the shipper arrive at a tax of four cents? My conclusion is that there were four *shipments* of coal involved: one carload to S?A., a second to that destination comprising two carloads, a carload to Harrisburg, and the remaining five carloads going to Newark. However, only the manifests for the shipments would tell for sure.

Weighmaster's returns are one of the scarcer taxed documents of the period and finding one on a postal card was just sweet.

Endnotes

1. John L. Kay, *Directory of Railway Post Offices* (Lexington, GA: Mobile Post Office Society, 1997 revised edition), page 35.
2. This information originally was displayed on website http://broadway.pennsyrr.com/Rail/Prr/Documentation/Scales/, but that information has been taken down. It appears to have come from PRR document C.R. 76 "List of Stationing and Siding Instructions for Making Reports to Superintendent of Car Services" 1882.08.01. Other information showing the Bellwood scale but not giving the weighmaster is on website http://prr.railfan.net/lists/tracks_scales_1923.html. This is an extraction from PRR publication CT100E (1923).
3. Paul Kurtz, *Blair, Main Line: A History of the Tuckahoe Valley* ([Bellwood, PA?], 1976), pp. 249–51. "Published in connection with the Bicentennial of the Bellwood Antis Area July 1976."
4. *Reprint of Official Text; War Revenue Law of 1898, Schedule A Stamp Taxes* (Washington, DC: The Congress); available from the American Philatelic Research Library.

The Author

Scott Troutman is the editor of *State Revenue News*, the journal of the State Revenue Society, an APS affiliate. He is an avid collector and exhibitor of U.S. and state revenues, and is on the board of the American Revenue Association.

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November 2008

1857, 3c rose, type I (25), irregular block of ten with original gum

1851, 1c blue, type II (Scott 9), Superb Jumbo "Single" on piece

1851, 1c blue type IIIa (Scott 8), P.S.E. graded XF90

1c blue, type V (Scott 24), Plate block of 10, Very Fine, NH

10c Panama-Pacific (Scott 400A), P.S.E. graded Gem 100

1894, 10c Special Delivery (Scott E4), P.S.E. graded XF-Sup 95J

8c "I.R." Provisional (Scott R156) Extremely Fine used

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president's column
by wade saadi

Dedicated to Nick

Nicholas G. Carter (1936–2008) and the American Philatelic Society

Only one other American Philatelic Society president has died in office: John Walter Scott (of *Scott Catalogue* fame) on January 4, 1919. There was no headquarters then, and Joseph B. Leavy of Washington edited *The American Philatelist* (he served as the national philatelist at the Smithsonian). Philip M. Wolsieffer, a stamp dealer from Philadelphia, headed the Sales Division, and committees ran the other services (Expert Service, Recruiting, Handbooks, etc.). The APS was a very different Society almost ninety years ago!

While the news of Nick's passing has been widely covered in the philatelic press and talked about within the stamp collecting community, I felt it appropriate to dedicate my first column to his memory, and to the visions and goals he had for our Society.

Above all, Nick was a consummate gentleman. People were his life's joy. Always approachable and ever smiling, a finer person would be hard to find. I knew Nick casually until I joined the APS board of directors in 2005, when he was serving his second term as treasurer. I was taken with his quick grasp of our finances and his positive attitude about all things. The APS was in good stead with his arm on the financial tiller.

When Michael Dixon, president of the Washington 2006 committee allowed me to participate in their last four executive committee meetings before the actual exhibition, I was exposed to Nick's informed manner of all things financial, dealing with the daunting task of the daily accounting for this humongous endeavor. He handled everything calmly and was spot-on. Washington 2006 was a smashing success, both financially and for the stamp-collecting world.

In second half of 2006, Nick decided to run for president of the APS in the 2007 election, and was elected with nearly 75 percent of the vote; a mandate from the membership in no uncertain terms. However, Nick's illness robbed him of the completion of his dreams for the APS. His goals for the Society were:

- To spread the joy of stamp collecting.
- To re-establish a financially sound APS.
- To focus APS services to benefit our geographically diverse membership.
- To position the APS on the cutting edge of technology to make philatelic information easily accessible.
- To complete the American Philatelic Center in as economical a fashion as possible.

Nick astutely condensed into a few sentences, an all-encompassing directive for the APS. Comprised of time-tested logic and forward-looking concepts, we have before us a plan of action for our Society. You might ask, "Where is membership growth addressed?" We have to proactively work on stabilizing and growing our membership, but the notion is that if we can speak to and accomplish the above issues, the membership will grow naturally, as collectors would want to be part of such an organization and to avail themselves of its benefits. Sort of like the truism, "If you build a better mousetrap, people will beat a path to your door."

It's just my thought, a first step, in what a good friend suggested we do, "Spread the joy of stamp collecting."

We inherit Nick's bullet points as part of his legacy to this Society. He wanted so much to see them through. The plan is simple, its execution difficult. It will take a lot of effort, hard work, and money.

Hey, no one said it was going to be easy, and great achievements never are accomplished without sweat and toil! With this blueprint, we have an agenda of what needs to be done. We have made headway on some of the points — such as the new website development and putting the APS on a more sound financial footing — but there is much yet to do. For one, discussion is needed on how to proceed with the remaining undeveloped buildings at the American Philatelic Center. Over the next several months, your board of directors will re-address all these issues to make sure we are on track and to make any course adjustments necessary.

Thanksgiving is around the corner, here in these United States, and that always signals the oncoming end of our autumn season; time to snuggle up with your favorite album of stamps or covers and plan for the holiday season and prepare for winter's hibernation. It's also a time we traditionally spend with family and friends. Why not show your favorite stamps or covers to them when you get together and see if you can engage their interest? How about stamp-collecting holiday gifts for them? A year set of stamps or first day covers can go a long way to imbue them with the collecting bug. It's just my thought, a first step, in what a good friend suggested we do, "Spread the joy of stamp collecting."

Lombardi Appointed to the APS Board of Vice Presidents

Nick Lombardi has been appointed by President Wade Saadi and confirmed by the Board to fill the vacancy on the Board of Vice Presidents. The vacancy was created when Saadi was elected as President. An APS member since 1992, Nick has been actively involved in organized philately at the local, regional, and national levels for quite some time. He has been the President of the Westfield (New Jersey) Stamp Club for the past eight years and, prior to that, served as its Treasurer. At the regional level, he has been a member of the Board of Directors of Nojex, a World Series of Philately show, since 2001. At the national level, Nick has been the President of the United States Stamp Society for five years, having served on the Board of Governors prior to that. He is also the Chairman of the Second Bureau Issue Committee within the USSS. For the past two years, Nick has been a Board member of the Collectors Club (New York). His other philatelic memberships include the Royal Philatelic Society of London, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, and U.S. Philatelic Classics Society.

Nick collects and exhibits United States stamps, with an emphasis on the Second Bureau Issue (Series of 1902) and registered mail. He has written numerous articles on various topics within these areas and received the USSS Hopkinson Literature Award in 2005. His articles have appeared in *The United States Specialist*, *The Philatelic Exhibitor*, and *The Collectors Club Philatelist*.

As an active exhibitor for more than a dozen years, he has crafted both single and multi-frame gold medal-winning exhibits, and recently received the AAPE Diamond Award. His primary multi-frame exhibit has received the USSS Hopkinson Memorial Trophy and several Grand and Reserve Grand awards.

"I am very grateful and honored to have been selected to fill this vacancy," Nick said. "I look forward to working with, not only the Board of Vice Presidents, but with the entire APS family to move the Society forward."

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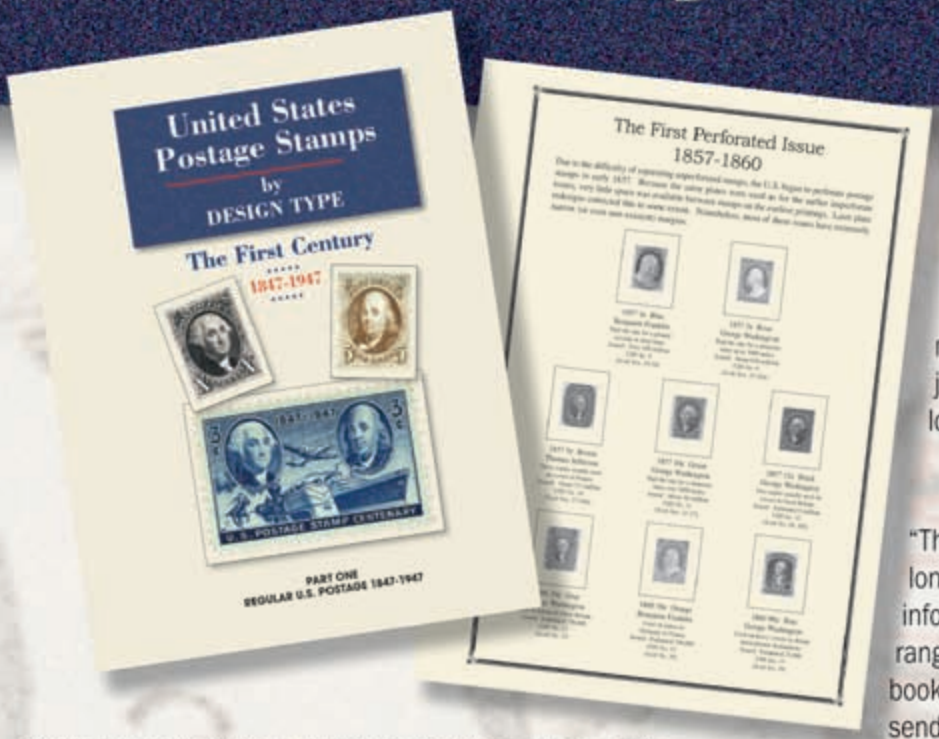

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by peter mastrangelo

Nicholas G. Carter

As many of you know, I pen this column about five weeks prior to publication. These past few weeks have been bittersweet. We all mourn the passing of Nicholas G. Carter, who took office as APS President just over a year ago. Nick's love for our hobby and his commitment and leadership to APS was unparalleled. Among his priorities for our organization were more recognition for volunteers at the national and local levels as well as moving your APS toward more timely communication and education on the Internet. Before his passing, we were able to inaugurate our monthly e-newsletter as well as engage a consultant to redesign a new website for the APS (a project that is now in progress). Through Nick's persistence and patience, in cooperation with the APS staff and Board of Directors, this year we presented the first annual APS Volunteer Recognition Awards at StampShow. As a fitting tribute, the APS Board of Directors has voted to honor Nick by renaming these awards the Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Awards. We will all miss Nick, yet his enthusiasm and love for our hobby will be remembered each year as we honor those who embody the same spirit and joy he brought to his favorite pasttime.

Saadi Elected President; Lombardi Appointed to BVP

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors on September 22, Mr. Wade Saadi was elected President of the APS to fill the remainder of Nick Carter's term of office. At a subsequent meeting, the Board also approved President Saadi's appointment of Nick Lombardi to complete his term of office on the Board of Vice Presidents. The staff and I congratulate both on their new offices. We look forward to working with them in their new capacities on the Board of Directors. Wade Saadi's first column as APS president appears in this issue of the *AP*.

Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Awards Nominations Sought

Do you know deserving volunteers who have served the hobby for five years or more? Have they provided exemplary service in serving and promoting the hobby at the national or local levels? If so, nominate them for our annual volunteer recognition awards named in memory of the late Nicholas G. Carter. Nomination forms can be found on the APS website at www.stamps.org and should be received by December 15, 2008.

Bellefonte Mail Flies Again

Bellefonte, Pennsylvania — home of the APS — was the first stop on a westbound transcontinental flight from New York City to San Francisco celebrating the ninetieth anniversary of air mail service, which began in 1918. Three planes, all of which had carried mail at one point in their history, took part in this historic trip. You can view a photo tour of their arrival in Bellefonte and read full details of the transcontinental flight on the website for the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum at http://www.airspacemag.com.

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Membership Dues Renewal

By now you have received your annual membership dues renewal information. In order to insure no interrupted service from your APS, please renew your membership today. You may also renew your dues online at www.stamps.org.

Elections

The nomination period for APS Board of Directors and Officers is now officially open. Procedures for the nominating and seconding process are included on page 902 of this issue and on our website at www.stamps.org.

Year-end Giving

As the end of the tax year approaches, don't forget the APS, APRL, and the Campaign for Philately (see the inside back wrapper of this issue). Throughout the year, our members are very generous with donations and pledges. If you have not thought about us, please do so. Yet, cash donations are not the only contributions we receive. Every year a number of stamp collections are donated to the Society. During the holidays, these donations substantially increase. We make good use of them to support a variety of programs. The Reference Collection gets first choice on all material. Colorful topicals, mixture material, space fillers, and the like go to the education department to support our youth-oriented programs. Periodically, APS auctions off better material or sells middle-range stamps and covers to our members to enjoy in their collections through StampStore or the Sales Division. Please remember us at year-end. All donations are appreciated. Have a great Thanksgiving!

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1954 2-Cent Jefferson Silkote Paper Variety

My previous "Usual Suspect" columns have focused on classic United States stamps that can confuse collectors or have been subject to fakery of some sort. However, it would be a mistake to think that the majority of submissions that the American Philatelic Expertizing Service receives are nineteenth-century items. There are plenty of recent and modern issues that should be considered for formal certification as well.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing was experimenting with a new type of paper for the Liberty series introduced in 1954. Along with the ordinary Oxford paper, Silkote paper was being tested late that year and was used to print 500 panes of the 2-cent Jefferson from plate Nos. 25061 and 25062. Keep in mind that the vast majority of stamps printed on plates 25061 and 25062 were on ordinary paper, so having a full pane or plate block of four with these numbers does not guarantee you have the Silkote variety. But the plate number is a starting point in the search for these elusive stamps.

As described in the award-winning book *The Liberty Series* by Ken Lawrence, C. David Eeles, and Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz, published last year by the American Philatelic Society, Silkote paper, "...a proprietary brand manufactured by the S.D. Warren Company at Cumberland Mills in Westbrook, Maine.... is whiter than ordinary stamp paper, and its surface texture is extraordinarily smooth. It contains calcium carbonate...."

The whiter appearance and slightly finer printing on the elusive Silkote-paper version of the 1954 2-cent Jefferson sheet stamp from the Liberty series (left) contrasts with the common version printed on Oxford paper (right).

The few panes printed were shipped to Westbrook, Maine, and mainly used on Christmas cards that December. A couple of panes were kept by mill employees. APEX examined a full pane of 100 a number of years ago, which I recall as having since been broken up.

Silkote paper is whiter than the Oxford paper, and smoother to the touch. It needed less moisture to print as well. The color, although not mentioned in Scott, is distinctive. But the opportunities, to examine a selection of Silkote papers, for most collectors and dealers, is nearly as elusive as the stamps themselves.

You can begin by examining the illustrations here. The sheet stamp with the tab at left is printed on Silkote paper, while the sheet stamp next to it is printed on ordinary paper. Note both the color variance and the slightly finer printing on the Silkote paper.

Also shown are common wet- and dry-printed large-hole versions of the same 2-cent Jefferson stamp in coil format. The wet-printed version, first issued when the series debuted in 1954, is the darker of the two, the moister paper having absorbed more of the ink at the time it passed through the press. The dry-printed version was introduced in May 1957.

Next time you attend a stamp show, ask dealers of U.S. material to show you the Silkote paper stamp, if they have it. Don't forget that the APS Philatelic Reference Collection also has a copy (used for the illustration here) that you can examine if ever you visit the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. It's a difference worth knowing: The normal mint 2-cent Jefferson sheet stamp (Scott 1033) has a catalogue value of 20 cents; its Silkote-printed counter-

The wet-printed 2-cent Jefferson coil (left) is darker and the unprinted portions of the design are less white than the dry-printed version on a thicker, stiffer paper (right) introduced in 1957.

part (Scott 1033a) is valued at $600.

New stamp or old, APEX can provide you with a certificate of authenticity and condition so you can rest assured that your stamp is genuine in all respects. Application forms and guidelines are available by contacting APEX, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823. You also can call APEX at 814-933-3803, extension 206, or log onto the APS website at www.stamps.org, click the "Services" tab across the top of the page and select "Expertizing" from the choices in the left margin.

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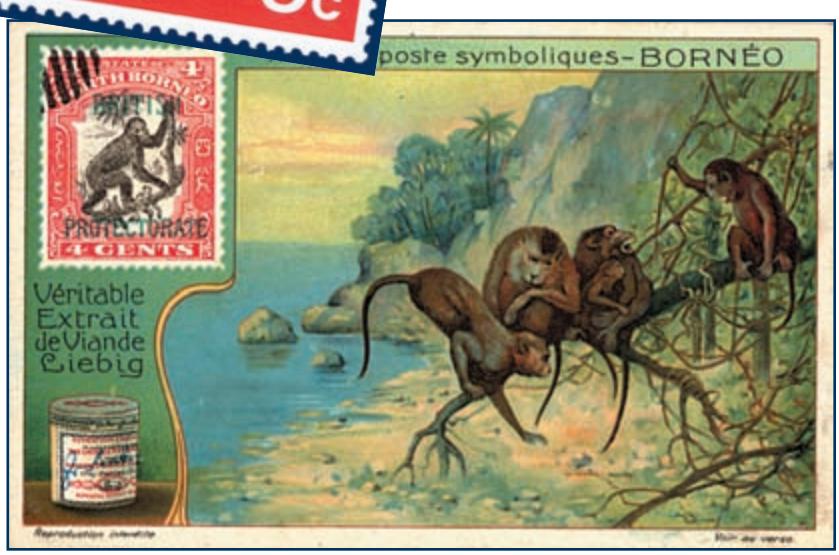

Are you a **Train**ed philatelist who likes to **Scout** out places to buy **Stamp**s? Do you buy any old **Plane** stamp to fill **Space**s? Or do you **Sport** the idea that collecting **Animals** is not just for the **Birds**? For you, does collecting **RR** also mean R&R? Is there an **Art** to collecting **Topicals** that **Bridges** disciplines. Would you like to have stamps **Ship**ped to you? (Growing up, we had a family saying, "Pass the corn, joke by Horn.")

This all leads to talking about our topical categories — as if you couldn't guess. We have shortages of material in several of them, causing circuits to wait in our office until new books and returning circuits arrive to fill the next mailings. With an eye to making changes on January 1, 2009, we are reviewing our topical categories to try to include collecting interests that are not now served by specific circuit categories. One of these is *Music* on stamps. We are orienting the "Art and Paintings" topic to include areas such as *Music*, *Dance*, *Architecture*, *Buildings* and *Classic Bridges* along with *Paintings*, *Sculptures* and other art forms. The name will be tweaked a little to "Topical Arts."

Trains, Railroads, Cars, and *Planes* are other interests that do not presently have a home with our topical circuits. We will be establishing a "Transportation" category that will encompass these four areas, with *Trucks, Ships, Bridges,* and *Waterways* thrown in as well. Whether "Ships" remains as its own category will depend on a continuing supply of books devoted to Ships and Waterways.

The rest of our topical categories remain unchanged and the following are exlanations of what you might find in each circuit. Please note that not all items listed here will necessarily appear in each of their respective circuits. "Animals" may include Birds (which is also its own category but is under review due to short supplies of books), Insects, Marine Animals, Dinosaurs, Animal Fossils, Shells, etc. Flowers may include all plant life, whether from land or sea.

"Sports" will include the Olympics, Soccer, Basketball, Baseball, Football, Hockey, Racing of any kind, Chess, other field games, children's games, etc. "Space" will include anything to do with outer space, whether the stamp subjects are planets, stars, solar systems, fantasy space ships, rockets, launch pads, etc.

"Europa" is an interest area where we have a reasonably good supply of material, but not that many who have an interest in buying, the opposite situation for most of our topical categories. If you are looking for Europa, the circuits are good sources of material.

Our advice for sellers of topical material can be condensed as follows:

- Stamps sell well
- Mint stamps seem to be preferred
- Covers will sell, depending on the subjects depicted on them

- Mount one subject or interest area per book
- Items pertaining to the book's subject may be included (for example, picture postcards, enclosures from covers or other philatelic-related items)
- Books marked as topical but having no organization for focusing on a particular topic will not be circulated in the topical categories
- Organize topical material by country and catalogue number within each topic

Buyers should request topical categories that are related to their collecting interests. If none of our designated categories fit with your interests, contact us for advice.

We do need more sales books in each of our topical categories and they qualify for the "5 for 10" special. We also would like to hear about your topical interests. If we receive enough responses from potential buyers AND from potential sellers in any interest area, we can establish new categories. Please keep in mind that there must be a good balance between supply and demand to consider new categories.

Holiday Breaks

Please let us know if you will be unable to handle circuits during the upcoming holiday events. We can place you on a temporary bypass for two weeks or more at a time, automatically resuming the circuits for you if you notify us with the date for resumption. It will not be necessary to notify us about an absence of less than two weeks. Just process the circuit you get from your post office within seven days after you return.

How I Got into Stamp Collecting

This month's testimonial is an inspirational one from Elizabeth York in Texas:

On January 1, 1991 I was diagnosed with two brain aneurysms. Since they were so close together, the doctors could not operate on both at the same time. They ended up having to do two separate surgeries. The doctors told my husband, Yogi, that the brain was very forgiving with one operation, but having two surgeries on the same side, they could not guarantee that I would still be able to walk, to talk, to dress or feed myself. Even if there were no physical problems, they could not tell him if I would even remember him, myself or my life before the operations.

Once the second operation was over and I was able to come home with no apparent physical problems, the doctor told Yogi "to get her brain occupied in some way. Get her involved into something to get her to use her brain."

As it turned out, Yogi moved us to a new city. He had put everything but the essentials in storage. Each day he would bring home two or three boxes for me to put away. I didn't know where a dish went, a sheet, a notebook, etc. Sometimes it would take what seemed like hours before I would get them put away in the right place. The next day I would have to do it again and again.

One day I opened a box and found a smaller box. When I opened it, it was some sort of album. I asked Yogi what this was and he answered that it was my old stamp album from the 60s. "Don't you remember them?" he asked. "No," I answered. "What are stamps?" He then took the time to show and tell me about how they are used on letters and postcards. He then showed me in the album, stamps I had and places where I needed to add some. "Would you like to collect stamps again?" he asked. "Yeah," I said, "I might like that." He immediately said, "Get in the car," and off we went to a stamp shop in the next town.

Once at the stamp shop, he left me to look at a box of stamps to see if I might want any. He went off to talk to the owner. I found some stamps that looked pretty. I picked up some and placed them in my hand. After a while, I looked across the room. I saw Yogi and the man turn and look at me. I thought maybe I had spent too much or had too many stamps, so I put one back. Shortly Yogi came over to me and asked, "Did you find any stamps you wanted?" I said, "Yes," and showed him what I had. He said, "Great. Put them back on top of the box." I did not understand. All I know is I threw a temper tantrum right there saying, "No, they are mine!" Finally,

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he got me calm enough to tell me he had bought the whole box for me and I could take them home! Little did I understand at that time that the cost of each stamp was one cent each. I had no value of money or numbers. There were world and U.S. stamps, on and off paper, with duplicates in the box.

For the next ten months, I had to sort by country, by duplicate, and learn to soak off stamps. Some days Yogi would come home and find every pot and pan we owned were being used, and we went through a lot of paper towels.

Finally one day, I decided I was well and I wanted to get off all medications. The doctors agreed. They said, "You have come so far and it looks like stamps has given you your life back!" I have been an avid stamp collector ever since. Yes, — stamps and Yogi — what a combination. God has been good to me. Stamps will always be an important part of my life and I encourage people to try to find a way to include it into theirs. Although I now have a very nice United States Stamps Collection, I always wanted a copy of the 1847 Scott #1. For my birthday last year, Yogi gave me a U.S. Scott #1, used. It is the pride of my collection. Yet, I am prouder of the man himself, who helped me find my way back to life and able to live it fully.

'5 For 10' Categories (Needs)

We need U.S. items, **except** U.S. First Day Covers, U.S. Mint post-1950, U.S. Used post-1950 and U.S. Plate Blocks post-1950. You can earn coupons for free blank books and mounts 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* ***at least $50 per book.*** *The coupons are issued 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 may also visit www.stamps.org and click Sales Division and How to Sell. [Note: Single-country books usually have better sales.] Below are categories that are in very short supply at this time:

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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 b y mail from APS headquar ters. Inf ormation must be received 60 days before desired publication time. Listings are free to shows sponsored by APS chapters and aff liates. Shows that do not include exhibits are identif ed 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 accur acy, you should check with the specif c show to v erify information. The APS w ebsite listing includes shows much further in advance than we have space to include in *The American Philatelist*

Iowa **November 1**
Tri-State Stamp Club Show, Tri-State Stamp Club, Dubuque Lifetime Center, 3505 Stoneman Rd., Dubuque. Contact Merwyn R. Ellis, 563-588-3057.

Pennsylvania **November 1**
Fall Stamp Expo, Cumberland Valley Philatelic Society, Eugene C. Clark, Jr. Community Center, 235 S. Third Street, Chambersburg. Contact Quinn Witherspoon, rspran@pa.net; 717-264-1252. ***B***

Pennsylvania **November 1**
Annual Reading Stamp Club Show, Reading Stamp Collectors Club, Leesport Farmer's Market-banquet Hall, State Route 61 in North Leesport. 8 Miles North of Reading, Reading. Contact Kent Weaver, kewsr@prodigy.net; 610-779-0175. ***B***

Florida **November 1-2**
Fall Sarasota Stamp Show, Sarasota Philatelic & Venice Stamp Clubs/Florida Stamp Dealers, Sarasota Hotel, 7150 N. Tamiami Trail (Hwy 41), Sarasota. Contact Sheldon Rogg, h.rogg@verizon.net; www.f oridastampdealers.org; 727-364-6897. ***B***

Michigan **November 1-2**
AAPEX, Ann Arbor Stamp Club, Morris J. Lawrence Bldg., Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor. Contact Harry & Dottie Winter, http://aastampclub.googlepages.com/.

Pennsylvania **November 1-2**
PITTPEX 08, The Philatelic Society of Pittsburgh, South Fayette Fire Hall, 661 Millers Run Rd., Bridgeville. Contact Ron Carr, rgc211215@aol.com; www.virtualstampclub.com/apschap_psp; 412-561-6562.

Virginia **November 7-9**
VAPEX, Virginia Philatelic Federation, Inc., Holiday Inn - Patriot, 3032 Richmond Road, Williamsburg. Contact David B. Collins, rainbowx2@cox.net; http://members.aol.com/vashow/; 757-872-6264. ***WSP***

Pennsylvania **November 8**
Johnstown Stamp Show, Johnstown Stamp Club, Senior Activities Center (Main Hall), 550 Main Street, Johnstown. Contact Charles D. Holtzman, Jr., chazhjr@msn.com; 814-532-0199.

California **November 8-9**
POWPEX, Poway Stamp Club, Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Villa Rd., San Diego. Contact Al Kish, akish@san.rr.com; 858-449-3047. ***B***

Ohio **November 8-9**
Rubber City Stamp Club 89th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse, Rubber City Stamp Club, Akron General Health & Wellness Center, Rt. 18 at Crystal Lake Road, Montrose (Akron). Contact Tom Hirschinger, 330-336-8227.

Texas **November 8-9**
2008 Mid-Cities Stamp Expo, Mid-Cities Stamp Club, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 South Main Street, Grapevine. Contact Stanley Christmas, elvira6@swbell.net; www.mid-citiesstampclub.com; 817-656-2925.

Ohio **November 15-16**
Black River Stamp Club Show, Black River Stamp Club, St. Judes School, 594 Poplar Street, Elyria. Contact James M. Forbes, 440-324-2503.

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RW5	1938	295.	RW27	1960	75.	RW49	1982	14.	RW68	2001	25.
RW6	1939	175.	RW28	1961	75.	RW50	1983	14.	RW68A	2001	25.
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Illinois **November 21-23**
CHICAGOPEX, Chicago Philatelic Society, Sheraton Chicago Northwest, 3400 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights. Contact Alfred Kugel, afkugel@hotmail.com; www.chicagopex.com; 312-368-7715; Fax 312-368-8136. ***WSP***

Connecticut **November 23**
NHPS 4th Sunday Show, New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. Contact Brian McGrath, soggy3@aol.com; www.NHPS1914.org/; 203-389-2863. ***B***

Illinois **November 28-29**
SUPEX, Suburban Collector's Club of Chicago, Union of Operating Engineers Hall, 6200 Joliet Road, Countryside. Contact Scott Mitchell, scott.mitchell@advocatelealth.com; 708-354-8208. ***B***

New York **November 29**
Autumn Stamp Festival, Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga. Contact George H. Gates, gghg53@aol.com; 716-633-8358. ***B***

Ohio **November 29-30**
Worthington Stamp Club Annual Show and Bourse, Worthington Stamp Club, Fraternal Order of Police, Capitl City Lodge #9, 6800 Schrock Hill Court, Columbus. Contact Chuck Wooster, cwooster@aol.com; 614-560-3689.

Florida **December 5-7**
FLOREX — The Florida State Stamp Show, FSDA & Central Florida Stamp Club, Central Florida Fair Grounds, Commercial Exhibit Hall, 4603 West Colonial Drive (SR 50), Orlando. Contact Francis Ferguson, show@f orexstampshow.com; www.f orexstampshow.com; 407-493-0956-Cell. ***WSP***

California **December 6-7**
PENPEX, Sequoia Peninsula Stamp Clubs,

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Illinois — **December 6-7**
MSDA Holiday Stamp Show, Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Wingate Inn, 600 Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Heights. Contact Jim Bardo, jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com; 847-922-5574. ***B***

New York — **December 12-14**
METROEXPO NY, Metropolitan Expositions LLC, Midtown Holiday Inn, 440 W. 57th Street, New York. Contact John Dunn, stampnews@verizon.net; 800-635-3351. ***B***

Connecticut — **December 28**
NHPS 4th Sunday Show, New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. Contact Brian McGrath, soggy3@aol.com; www.NHPS1914.org/; 203-389-2863. ***B***

2009

Michigan — **January 3-4**
BIRPEX, Birmingham Stamp Club, Birmingham Masonic Temple, 37357 Woodward Ave., Bloomf eld Hills. Contact John Schuelke, jschuelke@webtv.net; 810-235-2641.

New Jersey — **January 9-11**
36th Annual Garden State Stamp Show, New Jersey Stamp Dealers Assn., Bethwood Manor, 38 Lackawanna Avenue, just 2 blocks North of Route 46, West at the Union Blvd., exit, which is about 2 miles east of Route 23 and a short distance west of McBride Avenue, Totowa. Contact Larry Liebowitz, njshows@optonline.net; 732-247-1093; Fax 732-247-1094. ***B***

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California **January 16-18**
SANDICAL, San Diego County Philatelic Council, Al-Bahr Shrine Temple, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., San Diego. Contact Jerry Santangelo, gsantang@cox.net; 619-463-8336. ***WSP***

Pennsylvania **January 23-24**
York County Stamp Show, White Rose Phil. Soc. of York, York Fairgrounds, Horticulture Hall, 334 Carlisle Ave., York. Contact John Hufnagel, glenrockotts@comcast.net; 717-235-1528.

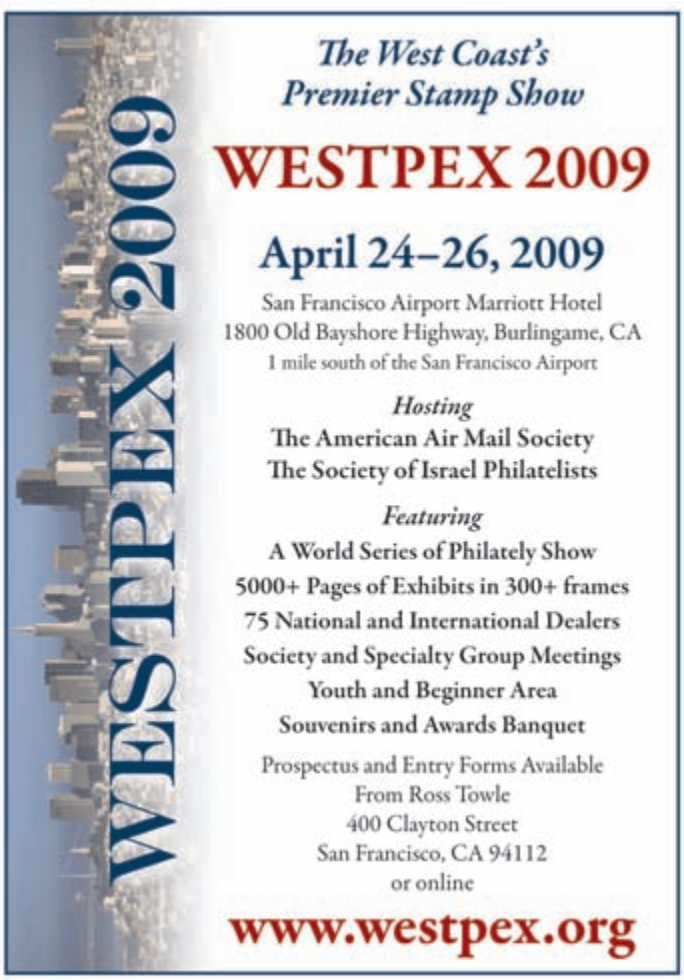
Arizona **January 23-25**
ARIPEX, Arizona Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church Street, Tucson. Contact Steven Staton, mman3@comcast.net; www.aripexonline.com; 520-572-8980; 520-794-3921. ***WSP***

Virginia **January 23-25**
Metro Expo DC Stamp Show, Metropolitan Expositions LLC, Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Rd. McLearen Rd. at Rt. 28 (Sulley Rd.), Herndon. Contact Elaine Dunn, stampnews@verizon.net; 800-635-3351. ***B***

California **January 30-February 1**
Filatelic Fiesta 2009, San Jose Stamp Club, Santa Clara Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Road, San Jose. Contact Jim Sauer, hjamessauer@yahoo.com; f latelicf esta.org; 408-445-2694. ***WSP***

Florida **February 6-8**
Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, Sarasota Phil. Club, Inc., Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Contact Sy Bricker, mto.stamps@gte.net; www.sarasotastampclub.com; 941-993-0919; 941-907-6604. ***WSP***

Ohio **February 6-8**
COLOPEX, Columbus Phil. Club, Franklin County



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Alabama **February 14-15**
ALAPEX 2009, Birmingham Philatelic Society, Bessemer Civic Center, 1130 Ninth Ave., SW, Bessemer. Contact Robert Hamill or Chuck Donaldson, 205-823-7364/205-410-8383.

Kansas **February 14-15**
The Cessna Show, Cessna Stamp Club, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita. Contact Ralph E. Lott, 316-747-2118. ***B***

Texas **February 20-22**
APS AmeriStamp Expo/TEXPEX, American Philatelic Society, Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington. Contact Dana Guyer, stampshow@stamps.org; www.stamps.org; 814-933-3803 ext 217; Fax 814-933-6128. *WSP*

Nebraska **February 21-22**
LINPEX, Lincoln Stamp Club, University Place Inn, 5250 Cornhusker, Lincoln. Contact Kenneth Pruess, kppruess@aol.com; www.lincolnstampclub.org; 402-464-6939.

Missouri **February 27-28-March 1**
St. Louis Stamp Expo, Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. Contact Penny Kols, expo@regencystamps.com; www.stlouisstampexpo.org; 800-782-0066; Fax 314-361-5677. ***WSP***

Ohio **February 28-March 1**
2009 SCCT Stamp Expo, Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, Holland Gardesn, 6530 Angola Rd., Holland. Contact John R. Brilla, brilla6@yahoo.com; www.toledostampclub.org; 419-475-3221.

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New York **March 5-8**
Spring Postage Stamp Mega-Event, American Stamp Dealers Assn., APS & USPS, Madison Square Garden, 4 Pennsylvania Plaza, New York. Contact Matthew Hansen, mvhansen@asdaonline.com; www.asdaonline.com; 516-759-7000; Fax 516-759-7014. ***WSP***

New York **March 7-8**
BUFFPEX, Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga(Buffalo). Contact George Gates, gghg53@aol.com; 716-633-8358.

Ohio **March 7-8**
McKinley Stamp Show, McKinley Stamp Club, St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW, North Canton. Contact David Pool, lincolnway@sssnet.com; 330-832-5992.

Massachusetts **March 8**
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 Jersey **March 14**
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FRESPEX 2009, Fresno Philatelic Society, Veterans Memorial Building, 435 Hughes Ave., Clovis. Contact Dick Richardson, starstamps@thegrid.net; 559-431-5013.

Illinois **March 14-15**
Rockford Stamp Club/Wiscopex 2009, Rockford Stamp Club, Forest Hills Lodge, 9572 Forest Hills Rd. & Hwy. 173, Rockford. Contact Tim Wait, twait@comcast.net; 815-262-9117.

Maryland **March 21**
Spring TRIPEX Stamp Show, Tri-State Stamp Club, St. Ambrose Church, 14923 Winchester Rd., SW, Cumberland. Contact Jeffrey Hutter, jeff.hutter@twrcommunications.com; 301-777-0379.

Ohio **March 27-29**
Garf eld-Perry March Party, Garf eld-Perry Stamp Club, Masonic Auditorium, 36th & Euclid Ave., Cleveland. Contact Roger Rhoads, rrrhoads@aol.com; www.garf eldperry.org; 440-209-8800. ***WSP***

Michigan **March 28-29**
KAZOOPEX, Kalamazoo Stamp Club, Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo. Contact Mike Dennany, irishdennany@yahoo.com; 269-623-5836.

California **April 24-26**
WESTPEX, Western Phil. Exhibitions, Inc., San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame. Contact Edward Jarvis, ejarvis@westpex.com; www.westpex.com; 415-387-1016. ***WSP***

Michigan **April 25-26**
Plymouth Show, West Suburban Stamp Club, Central Middle School, 650 Church St. Plymouth.

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Massachusetts **May 1-3**
Philatelic Show, Northeastern Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn, Boxboro. Contact Jeff Shapiro, dirtyoldcovers@aol.com. ***WSP***

Colorado **May 15-17**
Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (ROMPEX), Rocky Mountain Phil. Exhibition, Inc., Holiday Inn - Denver International Airport, John Q. Hammonds Trade Center, Chambers Rd & I-70, Denver. Contact Ronald Hill, rmss@rockymountainstampshow.com; www.rockymountainstampshow.com; 303-241-5409. ***WSP***

New York **May 15-17**
ROPEX, Rochester Phil. Assoc., ESL Sports Centre, 2700 Brighton Henrietta Townline Rd., Rochester. Contact Dave Robinson, stamptmf@frontiernet.net; www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html; 585-266-2524. ***WSP***

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Indiana **October 16-18**
INDYPEX, Indiana Stamp Club, Indianapolis Marriott East Hotel, 7202 East 21st Street, Indianapolis. Contact John Becker, indypex@indianastampclub.org; http://indianastampclub.org. ***WSP***

Michigan **October 31-November 1**
AAPEX, Ann Arbor Stamp Club, Morris J. Lawrence Bldg., Washtenaw Comm. College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor. Contact Harry & Dottie Winter, http://aastampclub.googlepages.com/.

Oklahoma **November 5-7**
OKPEX, Oklahoma City Stamp Club, Express Event Center, 8512 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City. Contact Joe Crosby, joecrosby@cox.net; 405-749-0939. ***WSP***

Illinois **November 20-22**
CHICAGOPEX, Chicago Philatelic Society, Sheraton Chicago Northwest, 3400 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights. Contact Alfred Kugel, afkugel@hotmail.com; www.chicagopex.com; 312-368-7715; Fax 312-368-8136. ***WSP***

Virginia **November 20-22**
VAPEX, Virginia Philatelic Federation, Inc., Holiday Inn - Patriot, 3032 Richmond Road, Williamsburg. Contact David B. Collins, rainbowx2@cox.net; 757-872-6264. ***WSP***

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368	9.00	1116	.08	3696-3745 Sht.	19.00
368 LH	7.00	1130	.10	3873 Sht	9.50
369	115.00	1176	.10	C2 NH	55.00
400 LH/NG	50.00	1225	.10	C3 NH	45.00
740-9	$4.50	1408	.10	C5 NH	42.00
740	.25	1464-7	.85	C6 NH	48.00
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membership report

No. 9, September 30, 2008

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during September 2008. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to November 30, 2008, these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the February 2009 issue.

Abbott, Guy (214694) **Pomona, CA** US; 56; Teacher

Abdul-Lateef, Hammad (214746) **Waterbury, CT** 81; Retired

Alexander, Clifford J. (214715) **Alexandria, VA**

Andros, Edward M. (214630) **Peninsula, OH** US-WORLDWIDE-LITHUANIA-MEMEL; 60; Retired

Antonucci, Joseph C. (214657) **Simi Valley, CA** 56

Ayres, Teresa (214773) **Atlantic City, NJ** 45

Barry, Nancy Ann (214711) **Canandaigua, NY** MINT US COMMEM; 68; Retired

Baugh, Michael D. (214696) **Cochran, GA** US HISTORICAL SERIES; 45; Student

Beck, Andrew J. (214668) **New York, NY** PRE 1940 US; 60; Attorney

Belford, Susie Q. (214716) **Saint Paul, MN** US-GB-GER-CZECH-CHRISTMAS-WOMEN-AVIATION-SHERLOCK HOLMES; 45; Accounts Receivable/Receptionist

Bjornsson, Hrafn (214765) **Akranes, Iceland** SCAND; 62; Stamp Dealer

Block, Mark E. (214695) **Nashville, TN** US-TOPICALS; 61; Insurance Sales

Boerlin, Harold L. (214736) **Laguna Niguel, CA** 48; Psychiatrist

Burns, James (214717) **Saint Anne, IL** GER, COL; 51; Attorney

Cameron, Jeffrey L. (214684) **Middletown, DE** MILITARY CORRESPONDENCE; 38; Engineer

Carter, Steven K. (214744) **Colorado Springs, CO** US, DUCK-UN; 64; Retired

Carver, Garland K. (214747) **Urbandale, IA** US-COVERS; 76; Retired

Casey, William E. (214759) **Fenton, MO** 19TH C US; 66; Minister

Cass, Douglas E. (214770) **Rich Hill, MO** USED 19TH C; 56

Castro, Jose F. (214706) **Chicago, IL** US-WORLDWIDE; 41; Engineering Lab Technician

Chagrasulis, Robert W. (214748) **Calais, ME** COMMEM; 58; Physician

Chambliss, Carlson R. (214685) **Kutztown, PA** SWISS-W EUR-BRIT EMPIRE; 67; Retired

Chapman, Howard L. (214659) **Lathrop, CA** 1847-1950; 64; Retired

Christiana, Jon M. (J-214651) **Hunt Valley, MD** US; 13; Student

Ciappa, Andrew M. (214631) **Mount Pleasant, SC** US, REV-CANADA; 49; Broker

Clancy, Robert (214749) **Wallingford, PA** WORLDWIDE; 70

Clark, Luke C. (214769) **Fort Bragg, CA** WORLDWIDE; 69; Retired

Conrad, Stephen G. (214750) **Lubbock, TX** 59; Cost Control Engineer

Corbin, Nancy A. (214632) **Westland, MI** US; 72

Cramer, Urma L. (214718) **New Port Richey, FL** HISTORICAL; Retired

Crouch, Richard M. (214786) **San Jose, CA** 62; Realtor

Daniels, M. Catherine C. (214686) **Bensalem, PA** US, FDC; 53; Housekeeper

Daniels, Michelle D. (214745) **Stone Mountain, GA** 42

Dembo, Steven J. (214652) **Pikesville, MD** HOLOCAUST; 52; Sales

Dennerlein, Joseph (214719) **Pearl River, NY** POPE JOHN PAUL II-TOPICAL; 75; Retired

Dinsmore, Melvaney C. (214690) **Warren, ME** 39; Postmaster

Dion, Grace J. (214751) **Exeter, NH** 70; Retired

Dora, Richard L. (214671) **Wichita Falls, TX** US-CANADA-GER; 61; Retired

Doren, Denis M. (214752) **Coe Hill, ON** S EUR-N AFRICA-NEAR & MIDDLE EAST; 55; Medical Doctor

Doud-Williams, Rebel (214633) **Brunswick, GA** PRE 1974 WORLDWIDE; 66; Retired

Drake, Fred (214679) **Reston, VA** S E ASIA; 43; Computer Programmer

Drake, Sean (214691) **East Granby, CT** PROPAGANDA; 43

Edwards, Bill (214629) **Milwaukee, WI** US; 77

Edwards, John L. (214653) **Olney, MD** FDC; 47; Warehouse Manager

Elhassani, Sami B. (214733) **Spartanburg, SC** 71

Ellis, Bobby J. (214775) **Asheville, NC** US; 72; Retired

Ellis, Craig D. (214709) **Forestville, CA** US; 40; Technical Support

Ellis, Luci (214634) **Amityville, NY** AFRICAN AMERICANS-US-JFK-OLYMPICS; 77; Retired

Fagler, Robert W. (214680) **Sterling, CO** RUSSIA-GER;

Feltham, Dan E. (214753) **Fallbrook, CA** SAILING VESSELS-WORLDWIDE; 74; Real Estate Agent

Feo-Seaman, Margaret (214754) **Novato, CA**

Fikar, Charles R. (214635) **Deer Park, NY** ENGRAVED-UNUSUAL-3D-SWEDEN-ISRAEL-US-HOLOGRAMS; 58

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 214104 through 214121 and 214123 through 214199, and 214201 through 214361 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, Aug. 31, 2008		39,442
New Members	256	
Reinstated	52	308
		39,750
Chapter Disbanded	1	
Deceased	30	
Resignations	4	35
Total Membership, Sept. 30, 2008		39,715

Flink, Lars G. (214743) **West Chester, PA** WORLDWIDE; 67; Retired

Fonda, Gil (214636) **Batavia, NY** US, PLATE BLKS-WORLDWIDE; 66

Frazelle, David D. (214702) **Peoria, IL** GB-US; 47; EHS Manager

Gentry, Robert B. (214771) **Crozier, VA** 47

Gestetner, Jacob (214689) **Monroe, NY** RARITIES; 34; Teacher

Gorski, Tom (214776) **Twin Oaks, MO** US; 63; Vice President Catholic Charities

Grasso, Carl A. (214720) **Maryland, NY** 60

Gray, Robert (214658) **Livingston, NJ** BRIT INDIA PERIOD; 61; Retired

Greenberg, Andrew (214697) **Scarsdale, NY** US; 41; Self Employed

Guerrero, Luis (214637) **Pembroke Pines, FL** Medical Doctor

Harker, Carol (214704) **Stafford Springs, CT** WORLDWIDE; 63; Off ce Manager

Helfer, John (214672) **Sandy, UT** SPACE-ASTRONOMY-TELESCOPES; 65; Physician

Hoar, George S. (214692) **Salt Lake City, UT** 77

Horwitz, Louis H. (214670) **Richmond, VA** 19TH C US; 53; Mortgage Broker

Huh, Eugene (214626) **Little Neck, NY** US; 46

Huston, Carol A. (214681) **Bellevue, NE** US; 43; Retired

Jensvold, Ann (214777) **Lincoln, CA** FLOWERS-US; 86; Retired

Johnson, Sheila M. (214739) **Raleigh, NC** WORLDWIDE; 44

Jorgensen, Harry (214673) **Woodstock, VT** 80; Retired

King, Richard (214721) **Tucson, AZ** MEX-CHINA-HONG KONG-WORLDWIDE-LATIN AM; 65; Records Management

Kohler, Deborah (214710) **Lewistown, MT** US COMMEM; 50; Registered Nurse

La Mar, Donald R. (214760) **Buckner, KY** FEDERAL DUCK; 58; Banking

Lanning, Barbara (214722) **Kennewick, WA** US; Retired

Layton, Al (214654) **Baltimore, MD** US; 47; Software Engineer

Leazenby, Jeffrey L. (214682) **Bellevue, NE** MINT US; 48; Graphic Designer

Ledyaev, Oleg (214767) **Suwon, South Korea** TANNA TUVA-GER THIRD REICH-COMMONWEALTH; 37; Electronic Engineer

Leff er, Peter M. (214772) **Oakland, CA** US; 44; Hydrogeologist

Lessard, Robert E. (214742) **Poultney, VT** US, REV; 56; Production Manager

Levin, Neil A. (214669) **Santa Rosa, CA** 47; Physician

Lieb, George L. (214650) **Big Stone City, SD** US-CANADA; 58; Retired

Link, Emily C. (214655) **Millersville, MD** 47

Magotch, Joseph A. (214768) **Livingston, NJ** US PLATE BLKS; 42

Mapes, Tom (214638) **Orinda, CA** US, FEDERAL/ STATE REV-BRIT, COMM, REV; 68

Marsh, David I. (214660) **Ballwin, MO** US, CONFEDERATE STATES, REV; 67; Credit Manager

Mayer, Diane D. (214766) **Baton Rouge, LA** 67; Merchant

Mayer, James I. (214764) **Baton Rouge, LA** 66; Merchant

Mayer, Marla J. (214763) **New York, NY** 41; Retired

McCluskey, Terry M. (214755) **Franklin Park, IL** SHEETS-US-CANADA-GB-NZ-AUST-FRANCE, COL; 58; Tool & Die Maker

McKamey, Timothy (214674) **Covington, WA** ANCIENT ART/CULTURE-PREHISTORIC ANIMALS-SCIENCE; 59; Musician

McLean, Frederick N. (214656) **Windsor Mills, MD** MINT US; 55; Retired

McNamee, George (214778) **Corona Del Mar, CA** 76; Retired

Mendelson, Harold E. (214735) **Columbus, OH** HAWAII; 62; IT

Mercer, Jesse (214675) **Gray, GA** FDI-FULL MINT SHEETS; 56; Security Off cer

Michaels, Wayne (214693) **Key Largo, FL** 61

Mills, Donald (214712) **Santa Barbara, CA** WORLDWIDE; 67; Retired

Moore, Virginia B. (214661) **Forestville, MD** AFRICAN AMERICAN-LITERATURE-HISTORY; Librarian

Murphy, Steve (214779) **Webster Grove, MO** EUR; 61; Lawyer

Nappi, James (214662) **Bethany, CT** 70; Traff c Manager

Newcomer, Alex J. (214703) **Safety Harbor, FL** US; 84; Retired

Nichols, Jennifer A. (214705) **Olyphant, PA** 43

Nidoh, Gayle L. (214699) **Cheshire, CT** 57

Nirschel, Joseph M. (214723) **Macungie, PA** 54; Radon Remediation

Orr, David J. (214708) **Langley, WA** US-CANADA; 70; Retired

Page, Stephanie M. (214639) **Concord, CA** RARE-OLD-WORLDWIDE; 35; Sales

Paige, Mary B. (214640) **Jensen Beach, FL** US, FDI, COVERS-IRELAND; Retired

Paire, Robert M. (214641) **Lititz, PA** ZIP BLKS-AIR MAIL-COMMEM-PARCEL POST-POSTAGE DUE; 74; Retired

Panza, Anthony (214780) **Glen Ridge, NJ** CLASSIC US; 50; CPA

Parrott, Frank S. (214667) **Bradenton, FL** EARLY AIR MAIL-ZEPPELIN COVERS; 65; Retired

Pasta, Pietro (214741) **Casagiove, Italy** 56

Paterson, Ian J. S. (214737) **Cape Town, South Africa** S AFRICAN STATES-GB; 47; Management Consultant

Payne, Franklin T. (214642) **Middleburg, VA** PLATE BLKS-SINGLES-MINT-EARLY US-WORLDWIDE-FDC; 82; Retired

Pierce, David A. (214701) **Henderson, NC** FANCY CANCELS; 62; Retired

Reed, Michael D. (214643) **Arnold, MO** US BOB; 21

Reinke, John (214644) **Maysville, GA** US COMMEM; 64; Retired

Reiss, Clemens A. (214724) **Chautauqua, NY** SAILING-ROWING; 66; Retired

Ripley, D. Frances (214676) **Olean, NY** WORLDWIDE; 88; Retired

Roth, Charles (214725) **Waterbury, CT** 1840/1940 CLASSIC PERIOD-US-CANADA-GB-GER; 22

Royal, Timothy (214663) **Owensboro, KY** US; 46; Retired

Rueda, Victor M. (214726) **Eagle Pass, TX** US-MEX; 90; Retired

Sadat-Sharif , Mohammad (214666) **Austin, TX** 58

Samietz, Klaus P. (214756) **Venice, FL** US-GER-WORLDWIDE; 76; Engineer

Sanzone, Beverly (214774) **Edgewood, MD** US; 56

Sargsyan, Roland (214781) **North Hollywood, CA** USSR; 47; Salesperson

Schafer, Robert (214645) **Rockford, IL** TYROL-W EUR-PACIFIC-SCAND; 65; Executive

Schott, Gregory A. (214757) **Souderton, PA** GB-GER-US-CANADA-ITALY; 66; Retired

Schreiner, Milton A. (214677) **Appleton, WI** US; 78

Schwartz, Robert (214627) **Houston, TX** US, COVERS, TEXAS; 72

Segui, Bernardo (214700) **Tallevast, FL** WORLDWIDE; 47; Retired

Shay, Vincent E. (214762) **Ballwin, MO** US-CANADA-GER; 74; Retired

Sheldon, Jack L. (214665) **Mesa, AZ** PRE 1950 MINT US; 50; CPA

Silva, Diane M. (214782) **El Paso, TX** DISNEY-AM HISTORY-COINS WITH STAMPS-SUPERHEROES; 64; Retired

Sissom, Jennifer (214707) **Alexandria, VA** 29

Smith, Donald F. (214740) **Aransas Pass, TX** FDC-US; 60; Retired

Speight, Michele A. (214761) **Virginia Beach, VA** 46; Homemaker

Spoon, Richard K. (214783) **Hidden Valley Lake, CA** 66; Retired

Stein, Mercedes C. (214646) **Tucson, AZ** US-CUBA; 70; Retired

Stone, Shimon (214628) **Quantico, VA** FDC-POSTAL CARDS-SINGLES; 55; Military Analyst

Streiff, Tracy (214714) **Chandler, AZ** 35

Suess, Gordon (214647) **Broken Arrow, OK** US-VAT-PORT; 81; Retired

Sullivan, David F. (214734) **Alexander, NY** US; 59; Construction

Susin, C. Michael (214713) **Fort Walton Beach, FL** FRANCE-ISRAEL-GER; 62

Svoboda, Robert (214648) **Saint Louis, MO** US-NORWAY-CZECH-CANADA; 81; Retired

Terrell, Robert K. (214727) **Spring, TX** OLD US-RARE-EUR; 50; Sales Manager

Tholt, David (214649) **Lakewood, OH** 44

Tilles, Thomas N. (214678) **Bethel, CT** US; 61; Retired

Twedt, David M. (214698) **Ridgef eld, CT** 61; Accountant

Van Zee, Carrie J. (214728) **Sioux Falls, SD** 47; Self Employed

Van Zee, Dennis (214758) **Sioux Falls, SD** 65; Retired

Vapensky, Thomas (214729) **La Porte, IN** 1847-1940 US; 69; Retired

Venne, Leonhard (214664) **Williamsburg, VA** 70; Engineer

Walleen, Robert A. (214784) **Aurora, CO** US-UN-CANADA-AUSTRIA-BALTIC STATES-GER-AUST-DENMARK-HUNGARY-POLAND-BELGIUM-NORWAY-SWEDEN-FINLAND-LUX; 65; Retired

Walsh, Robert (214730) **Minot, ND** WORLDWIDE; 63; Retired

Watson, Robert E. (214687) **Lusby, MD** US; 70; Retired

Watson, Sunny D. (214683) **Council Bluffs, IA** 38

Web, James M. (214785) **Cortland, NY** 66; Retired

Weissman, Delores G. (214688) **Fox Lake, IL** CARTOON CHARACTERS; 47; Artist/RN

Wilgus, Kevin (214731) **Hilliard, OH** FDC-US; 57; Wood Moulding Sales

Wood, Thomas F. (214732) **Staunton, VA** WWII, OCCUPIED COUNTRIES-US COMMEM; 57; University Lecturer

Zafar, Rabia (214738) **Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan** PAKISTAN-JOINT ISSUES; 30

CHAPTER DISBANDED

Columbus Area Stamp Club (174902), Columbus, GA

AFFILIATE DISBANDED

Trans Mississippi Philatelic Society (AF0238)

CHANGE IN NAME

Henderson, Cherie A. (191683), Olathe, CO, has changed her name to Cherie A. Collins.

DECEASED

Arnold, Alton M. (5458-040907), Bergen, NY
Bartosh, Roger A. (7649-068475), Trabuco Canyon, CA
Beauregard, Lawrence G. (6285-045171), Miami, FL
Canter, Herbert M. (162148), Baton Rouge, LA
Carter, Nicholas G. (9362-046364), Bethesda, MD
Findlay, Walter J. (2542-028520), Eugene, OR
Gamache, Francois J. (6541-047025), Willimantic, CT
Ganz, Robert (8797-060485), Monroe Township, NJ
Hochreiter, Lawrence E. (193272), State College, PA
Hoffman, Gladys C. (7615-051772), State College, PA
Holmes, R. W. (6606-047035), Casper, WY
Holmsten, Leonard W. (107272), Brentwood, CA
Johnson, Raymond L. (193026), Berwyn, PA
Juttner, Kenneth E. (207384), Gardnerville, NV
Lauridsen, Morten J., Jr. (212964), Portland, OR
Ludloff, Rainer H., II (189723), Cockeysville, MD
Meriney, David K. (080805), Cedar Grove, NJ
Messick, John W., III (193030), Dover, DE
Meyerson, Kenneth M. (5316-020633), San Antonio, TX
Moeggenberg, Jeffrey A. (183285), Huffman, TX
Moore, Dwight H. (077629), Wichita, KS
Nielsen, C. M. (10552-072191), Salt Lake City, UT
Norman, Richard (5247-038725), Wellington, FL
Pearson, John T. (2903-049390), San Antonio, TX
Slattery, Raymond J., Jr. (212743), Rochelle Park, NJ
Smith, Edythe D. (199291), South Hadley, MA
Steffey, Rodney K. (103850), Prospect Heights, IL
Talley, James A. (157814), Wichita Falls, TX
Woerl, Ferdinand (156688), Sterling Heights, MI
Wood, Francis J. (5338-037767), Tarpon Springs, FL

DEALER LISTING

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

Bennett, Matthew, Int'l. (Thomas W. Akin 214005-D), 200 Rector Pl., #41D, New York, NY 10280, 212-842-0425. **US-FOREIGN COLLECTIONS-POSTAL HISTORY-AUTOGRAPHS/ MANUSCRIPTS**

Stamp King (Charles Berg, Jr. D-11625-063348), 7139 W. Higgins, Chicago, IL 60656, 773-775-2100. **US-CANADA-GREAT BRITAIN & COMMONWEALTH-WORLDWIDE**

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Holiday Nutcrackers

On October 23, 2008, at Mega Stamp Show in New York City, the Postal Service issued a 42-cent, Holiday Nutcrackers special stamp in four designs. Designed by Derry Noyes of Washington, DC, the stamp is available in the following formats: Pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) double-sided booklet of 20 stamps; PSA folded vending booklet of 20 stamps; Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) sheetlet of 18 stamps.

Nutcrackers have been around for centuries. They range from simple utilitarian devices to elaborate collectibles, with a host of creations that fall somewhere in between. During the winter holiday season, nutcrackers of all shapes and sizes are familiar sights in toy stores, on Christmas trees, on mantel pieces, on book and magazine covers, and in performance venues.

Four eye-catching nutcracker designs — Santa (or "Father Christmas"), a king, a captain, and a drummer — add colorful, humorous touches to winter holiday correspondence in 2008.

Denomination: 42-cent Special
(a) Format: Double-sided Booklet of 20 (4 designs)
Series: Holiday
Designer/Art Director/Typographer: Derry Noyes, Washington, DC
Photographer: Sally Andersen-Bruce, New Milford, CT
Modeler: Donald Woo
Manufacturing Process: Offset/Microprinting "USPS"
Engraver: N/A
Printer: Banknote Corporation of America, Inc./Sennett Ssecurity Products, Browns Summit, NC
Press Type: Alprinta, 74
Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type II
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive
Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, red
Stamp Orientation: Vertical
Sizes (w x h): 19.05 x 26.16 mm (image); 23.11 x 30.22 mm (overall); 60.45 x 145.80 mm (flat booklet)
Plate Numbers: "S" followed by 5 single digits
Marginal Markings: *Cover:* Stamp image; Header, "Holiday Nutcrackers"; "Twenty 42¢ Stamps"; "Four Different Designs"; "$8.40." *Other:* ©2007 USPS; Plate number; Barcode "678000."
(b) Format: Folded Vending Booklet of 20 (4 designs)
Sizes (w x h): 18.03 x 20.83 mm (image); 22.10 x 24.89 mm (overall); 44.20 x 263.65 mm (flat booklet)
Marginal Markings: *Cover:* Stamp image; Header, "Holiday Nutcrackers"; Twenty 42¢ stamps; "Four Different Designs"; "$8.40." *Other:* ©2007 USPS; Plate number; USPS logo; Barcode "678100"; Promotional text.
(c) Format: Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) Sheetlet of 18 (4 designs)
Modeler: Avery Dennison, SPD
Manufacturing Process: Gravure
Engraver: WRE/ColorTech
Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR), Clinton, SC
Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)
Paper Type: Nonphosphored, Type III
Colors: Magenta, yellow, cyan, black
Sizes (w x h): 18.54 x 21.34 mm (image); 22.10 x 24.94 mm (overall); 66.29 x 155.58 mm (full booklet)
Plate Numbers: "V" followed by 4 single digits
Marginal Markings: *Stamp side:* ©2007 USPS in peel strip area; Plate

number. *Non-stamp side:* Promotional text; Barcode "571700"; USPS logo; Holiday Nutcrackers image; "Holiday Nutcrackers"; "Eighteen 42¢ Stamps"; "Four Different Designs"; $7.56.

Virgin & Child with the Young John the Baptist

On October 23, 2008, at Mega Event Stamp Show in New York City, the Postal Service issued a 42-cent, Christmas: Virgin and Child with the Young John the Baptist by Sandro Botticelli special stamp in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive double-sided booklet of 20 stamps.

The 2008 Christmas stamp features a detail from a work by the Italian master Sandro Botticelli, entitled *Virgin and Child with the Young John the Baptist*. This painting, tempera and oil on wood, dates to around 1490 and is now in the collection of the Cleveland Museum of Art. It presents one of the most common figural groups in religious art.

Denomination: 42-cent Special
Format: Double-sided Booklet of 20 (1 design)
Series: Holiday
Designer/Art Director/Typographer: Richard Sheaff, Scottsdale, AZ
Existing Art: Sandro Botticelli
Modeler: Joseph Sheeran
Manufacturing Process: Offset, Microprint, "USPS"
Printer: Ashton Potter (USA) Ltd., Williamsville, NY
Press Type: Mueller Martini, A76
Paper Type: Nonphosphored, Type III
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive
Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, gold
Stamp Orientation: Vertical
Sizes (w x h): 19.56 x 28.07 mm (image); 23.11 x 30.23 mm (overall); 60.45 x 146.30 mm (flat booklet)
Plate Numbers: "P" followed by 5 single digits
Marginal Markings: *Stamp Side:* "CHRISTMAS"; Botticelli; Cleveland Museum of Art. *Cover Side:* ©2007 USPS; Plate number in one position; "CHRISTMAS"; "Twenty Self-Adhesive 42¢ Stamps"; "$8.40"; Barcode "677900."

Hanukkah

On October 24, 2008, at Mega Stamp Show in New York City, the Postal Service issued a 42-cent, Hanukkah special stamp in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps. This stamp design was previously issued with a 37-cent denomination in 2004, a 39-cent denomination in 2006, and a 41-cent denomination in 2007.

Denomination: 42-cent Special
Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)
Series: Holiday
Designer/Art Director/Typographer: Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, MD
Photographer: Elise Moore, Bethesda, MD
Engraver: N/A
Modeler: Donald Woo
Manufacturing Process: Offset/Microprint "USPS"
Printer: Banknote Corporation of America/Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, NC
Press Type: Alprinta, 74
Paper Type: Phosphor tagged, Overall
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive
Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Stamp Orientation: Vertical
Sizes (w x h): 19.56 x 26.67 mm (image); 23.11 x 30.23 mm (overall); 140.97 x 146.30 mm (full pane)
Plate Numbers: "S" followed by 4 single digits
Marginal Markings: *Front:* ©2003 USPS; Price; Plate position diagram; Plate numbers in 4 corners of pane. *Back:* Four barcodes "573100"; USPS logo.

Kwanzaa

On October 24, 2008, at Mega Event Stamp Show in New York City, the Postal Service issued a 42-cent, Kwanzaa special stamp in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps. This stamp design was previously issued with a 37-cent denomination in 2004, a 39-cent denomination in 2006, and a 41-cent denomination in 2007.

Denomination: 42-cent Special
Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)
Series: Holiday
Designer/Art Director/Typographer: Derry Noyes, Washington, DC
Illustrator: Daniel Minter, Portland, ME
Engraver: N/A
Modeler: Joseph Sheeran
Manufacturing Process: Offset/Microprint "USPS"
Printer: Ashton Potter (USA) Ltd., Williamsville, NY
Press Type: Mueller Martini, A 76
Paper Type: Nonphosphored, Type III, Overcoat Taggant applied
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive
Colors: Black, cyan, red, yellow, orange, green
Stamp Orientation: Horizontal
Sizes (w x h): 26.67 x 19.56 mm (image); 30.23 x 23.11 mm (overall); 146.30 x 140.97 mm (full pane)
Plate Numbers: "P" followed by 6 single digits
Marginal Markings: *Front:* ©2003 USPS; Price; Plate numbers in 4 corners of pane; Plate position diagram. *Back:* Four barcodes "573200"; USPS logo.

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Forever Stamp (Liberty Bell)

On October 25, 2008, at Mega Event Stamp Show in New York City, the Postal Service re-issued the non-denominated first-class mail definitive, Forever (Liberty Bell) in a p ressure-sensitive adhesive folded vending booklet of 20 stamps. The stamp has also been issued in the following non-denominated formats: 2008 P ressure-sensitive adhesive double-sided booklet of 20; 2007 p ressure-sensitive adhesive ATM Sheetlet of 18; 2007 p ressure-sensitive adhesive folded vending booklet of 20; 2007 pressure-sensitive adhesive double-Sided booklet of 20.

Denomination: Nondenominated First-Class Rate
Format: Folded Vending Booklet of 20 (1 design)
Designer/Art Director/Typographer: Carl T. Herrman, Carlsbad, CA
Artist: Tom Engeman, Brunswick, MD
Modeler: Donald Woo
Manufacturing Process: Offset/Microprinting "FOREVER"
Printer: Banknote Corporation of America, Inc./SSP, Browns Summit, NC
Press Type: Alprinta, 74
Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type I
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive
Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, gold
Stamp Orientation: Vertical
Sizes (w x h): 18.03 x 20.83 mm (image); 22.10 x 24.89 mm (overall); 44.20 x 263.65 mm (flat booklet)
Plate Numbers: "S" followed by 5 single digits
Marginal Markings: *Cover:* ©2007 USPS; Plate number; Barcode "679200"; "FOREVER" Stamp image; "Twenty First-Class Stamps"; Promotional text; USPS logo

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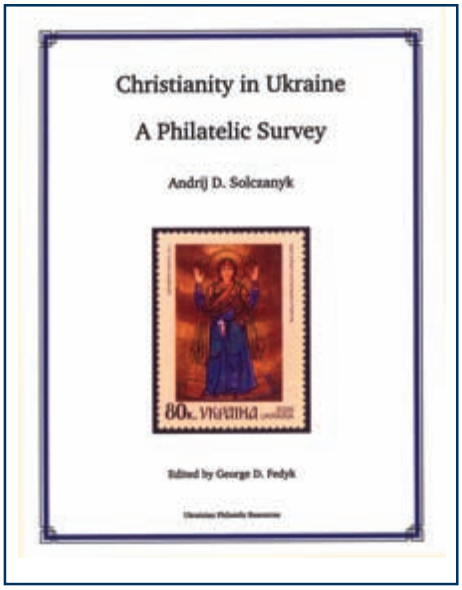
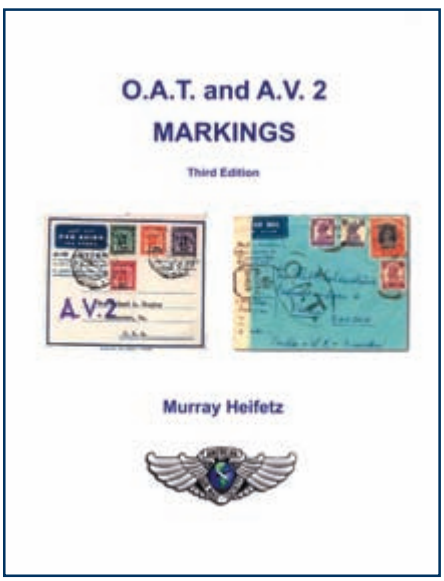




Christianity in Ukraine; A Philatelic Survey, by Andrij D. Solczanyk; edited by George D. Fedyk. Published 2006 by Ukrainain Philatelic Resources. Softcover, 168 pp., b/w illus., ISBN 1-889581-17-8. Available from Ukrainian Philatelic Resources, P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150. Price not given.

This philatelic survey is broken down into three parts: 1. JOURNEY THROUGH THE AGES, which provides a review of historical facts connected with Christianity in Ukraine; 2. CHRISTIAN FAITH IN UKRAINE; and 3. CHRISTIAN WORSHIP IN UKRAINE. These are further delineated in the Table of Contents to make it very easy to look up a specific item. For example, **3.1 Churches** is subdivided into twenty-six regions; e.g., *3.1.15 Churches in Poltava oblast*. **3.2 Stationary Church Holidays** is broken down by specific holiday (e.g., *3.2.3 St. Stephen*) and occasionally (Christmas, in particular) by subtopics, such as *3.2.2.2 Three Wise Men*.

The layout is clear and consistent in its formatting. A sample entry will give the flavor. Under Journey Through the Ages, 1.1 First Rays of light, the first entry is for the Apostle Andrew. A brief commentary on the Apostle is illustrated with a stamp, followed by a listing of the various known philatelic representations. Stamps are identified by country of origin and *Scott* number; Czechoslovakia postal card numbers are from *Novotny*; Poland postal card numbers are from *Fischer*; Ukraine envelopes and postal cards are from *Poshta i Filateliia Ukrainy* and *Filateliia Ukrainy*; USSR envelopes are from *Lapkin and Orlov*; and USSR postmarks to 1980 are from *Yacobs*. There is enough descriptive text to interest the casual reader and enough detail to be useful to the active collector. The only regret is for the black-and-white illustrations; the use of color would have made this a spectacular presentation.

O.A.T. and A.V.2 Markings (3rd edition), Murray Heifetz. Published 2007 by the American Air Mail Society. Softbound, 8.5"x11" format, 167 pp., b/w illus., ISBN 0-939429-22-5. Available for $19 (ppd within the U.S.) from the American Air Mail Society, c/o Greg Schmidt, 1978 Fox Burrow Court, Neenah, WI 54956-1184.

O.A.T. and A.V.2 Markings attempts to explain the origin and purpose of these seldom seen air mail markings and "to standardize the classification of the various types, investigate where they were applied, and attempt a scale of evaluation related to frequency of occurrence." The markings are known between 1938 and 1974, and have to do with recording the transportation of air mail bags that have had to be opened en route. The main purpose of the markings was to show transit instructions applied to mail at an exchange office (where a bag of mixed international mail was redistributed and forwarded), and to alert postal officials when transit by air to the final destination was required by the originating post office, in the cases where the first leg of the transit was unable to provide this service.

The study of O.A.T. and A.V.2 markings is admittedly a work in progress; unfortunately, their exact nature and use is still so unquantified that the novice is not likely to come away much wiser for having read the current research. That said, the information being collected undoubtedly will provide future postal historians with valuable data with which to write the complete story. The volume includes illustrations of known markings and related data, such as origin, design, colors, size, earliest recorded use, latest recorded use, number of covers recorded or seen, identifiable usage by year, number of countries of origin, most frequent usage, and errors and varieties.

La collezione — Die Sammlung — The Collection Emil Capellaro: Regno Lombardo Veneto — Königreich Lombardo-Venetien — Kingdom of Lombardy Venetia, by Paolo Vaccari. Published 2007 by Vaccari. Hardbound, 260 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-88-85335-88-2; in Italian, German, and English. Available for €35 from Vaccari s.r.l., Via M. Buonarroti 46, 41058 Vignola (Modena), Italy;

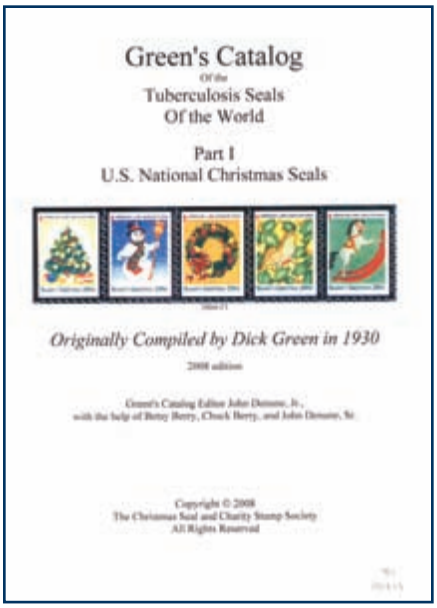
e-mail info@vaccari.it; *website* www.vaccari.it.

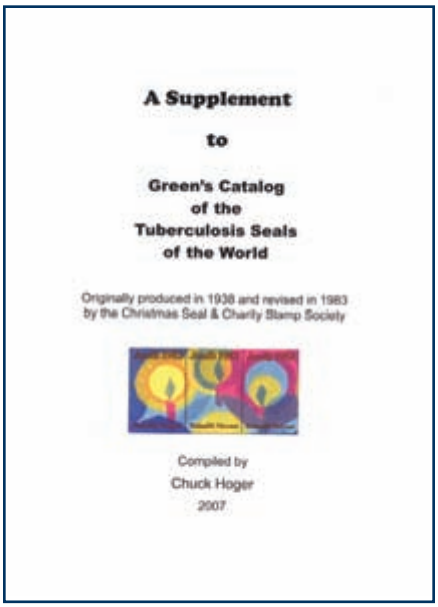
This volume offers the reader the chance to explore one of the portions of noted philatelist Emil Capellaro's collection — his award-winning Lombardy Venetia Kingdom exhibit. Although nearly text-free, which limits its appeal to the non-specialist who might be interested in learning more about the topic, the philatelic items are clearly identified in three languages, and it is hard to imagine that any example is missing from this carefully laid out presentation. Its beautiful, crisp, full-color illustrations are part of the Vaccari standard of excellence and appear to represent as accurate a color scale as I have seen in a philatelic publication.

The Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia became part of the Austrian Empire under Francis I in 1815, following the Napoleonic Wars, when the Congress of Vienna combined the territories of Lombardy (ruled by the Habsburgs since the 1500s) and Venetia (intermittently ruled by Austria since the late 1700s). Despite a short-lived popular uprising in 1848, Lombardy-Venetia remained under Austrian control for nearly another decade; Lombardy was annexed by the Italian state in 1859, followed by Venetia in 1866.

Green's Catalog of Canadian Local & Provincial Tuberculosis Seals (Revised Edition), edited by Cliff Beattie. Published 2007 by The Christmas Seal and Charity Stamp Society. Comb-bound, 93 pp., color illus. Available for $40 (CD-ROM $8.95) from John B. Deune, 234 East Broadway, Granville, OH 43023; *e-mail* jdenune@roadrunner.com; *website* www.christmasseals.com.

This is a catalogue designed for the experienced collector only, as there is no information provided for the novice that would explain the history of Canada's TB seals or even very much about the seals that are listed, although this may simply reflect the state of current knowledge. New information gathered since the 1973 edition is printed in red, which may be helpful for someone with both catalogues, but is slightly confusing in appearance — the page looks more like a proof than a finished product. This is the sort of publication that is useful, even vital, to the specialized collection, but could have been done much better, in order to make it useful to a broader audience as well.

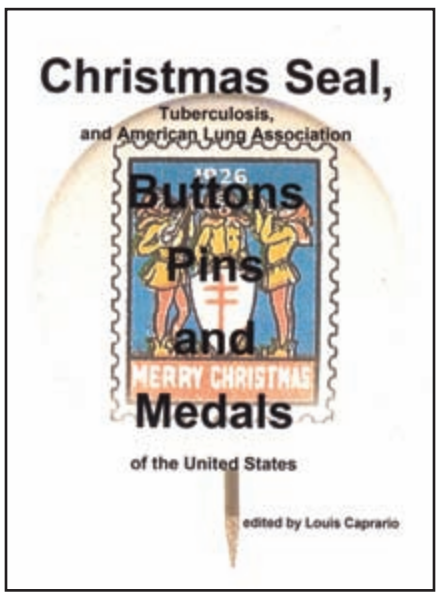




A Supplement to Green's Catalog of the Tuberculosis Seals of the World, compiled by Chuck Hoger. Published 2007 by The Christmas Seal and Charity Stamp Society. Comb-bound, not paginated, color illus. Available for $50 (CD-ROM $8.95) from John B. Deune, 234 East Broadway, Granville, OH 43023; *e-mail* jdenune@roadrunner.com; *website* www.christmasseals.com.

The subtitle reads "Originally produced in 1938 and revised in 1983 by the Christmas Seal & Charity Stamp Society." This updated, 2007 edition is very well done with good quality full-color illustrations. Organized in alphabetical order by country (from Åland to Zimbabwe), the available information is clearly presented in tabular form. As the author notes, "Blank spots indicate an absence of information — a call to collectors to report data from their collections."

The text layout is a bit cramped and could have been made a little clearer with the use of even such simple tools as targeted **bolding**, but overall does its job. The biggest defect is the lack of page numbers (except for those that mysteriously appear for Australia) and the absence of a table of contents. Still, the volume is small enough that paging through it to locate the appropriate country's seals will not be an onerous task.



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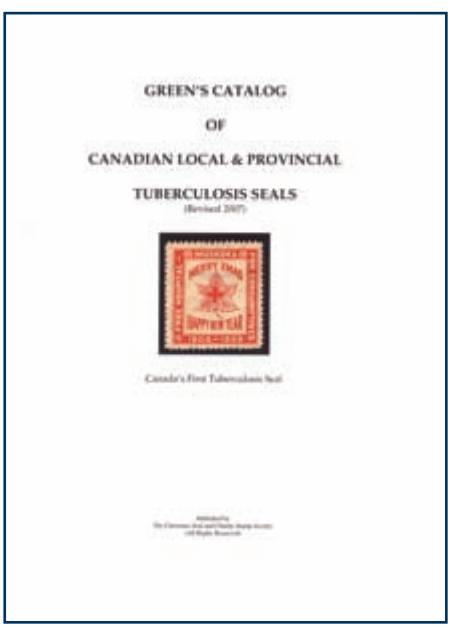

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American Lung Association Buttons, Pins and Medals of the United States, edited by Louis Caprario. Published 2007 by The Christmas Seal and Charity Stamp Society. Comb-bound, 86 pp., b/w & color illus. Available for $40 (CD-ROM $8.95) from John B. Deune, 234 East Broadway, Granville, OH 43023; *e-mail* jdenune@roadrunner.com; *website* www.christmasseals.com.

Collateral items can make a philatelic exhibit shine or they even can become satisfying collections in their own right. Christmas seal buttons first appeared in 1911, four years after the first Christmas seals. Since then, a variety of buttons, pins and medallions promoting the work of the National Tuberculosis Association have been produced, some acknowledging cash donations, some recognizing other forms of service in the ongoing fight against lung disease. The editor notes that there were 386 listings in the 1985 catalogue prepared by Charles Young Andrews and 667 in the present catalogue, a 73 percent increase. And the request goes out to readers to supply color images of buttons now only shown in grayscale, as well as to add information on any items not listed.

The broad catagories listed in the Table of Contents include Natrional Buttons 1911 To Date; Modern Health Crusade; Local & Miscellaneous Tuberculosis Buttons, Pins, Etc.; Double-Barred Cross Buttons, Pins, Clasps, Etc.; Congresses, Meets, Conferences & Conventions. An appendix lists Related Health Pins, Manufacturers and Their Imprints, Key to Manufacturer Imprints, and a Cross-reference of New Numbers with Andrews Numbers. A well-designed and laid out publication.

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by gerd h. hövelmann

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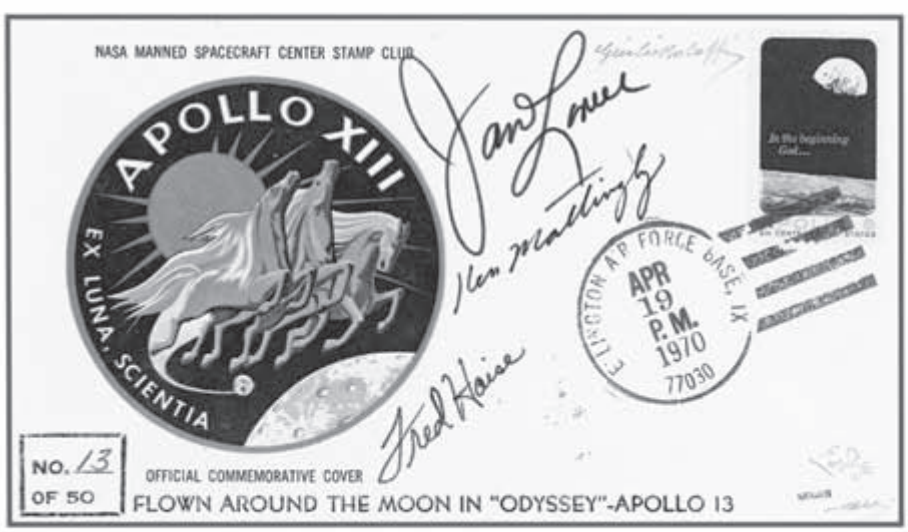
In their 24 to 27 November 2008 international stamp auction Rapp will live up to that tradition. Their single lot offer abounds with selected high-quality rarities from all periods and areas of postal history and philately. In addition they will again be offering an unparalleled range of huge, extremely valuable collections including several award winning exhibition collections.

The auction presents what certainly is the best offer of Swiss stamps in decades anywhere. The often unique items from the Pilatus and Genève collections, a breathtaking range of other classical and modern Swiss rarities, and the very many sizeable quality collections that will be offered make it very likely that the Switzerland section of the auction alone will realize a total of more than 5 million Euros.

Probably twice that sum is to be expected from the sale of many valuable non-Swiss stamps and collections in the same auction. This author was kindly given the opportunity to personally inspect much of that material in detail well in advance. The scope, value and not least the quality of the auction items and collections are truly impressive. No matter what period or area of postal history, philately and related topics, such as aviatic or ballooning history, you're interested in as a collector or a professional dealer, make sure (as this author will) you receive the two-volume Rapp auction catalogue in time for careful inspection and decision-making – or just for the fun of seeing many impressive collections and quite extraordinary single items that are not very likely to be seen again in the near future.

1st edition, bright colours



Apollo 13 cover flown to the Moon

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by bob lamb

The Bailiwick of Jersey

Population: 91,533 (2008)
Area: 45 square miles
Location: Island in the English Channel 19 miles from France
Status: British Crown Dependency
Currency: Jersey pound, at par with the British pound (£1= $1.81), which is also accepted as legal tender.

Jersey is the southernmost and largest of the Channel Islands. Its tides, which rise over forty feet each day, have helped to give it an extraordinary number of fine white sand beaches. That, along with the warming effect of the Gulf Stream, has long made it an attractive destination for British tourists.

Its location also has placed it in the center of conflicts between England and continental powers. Jersey belonged to the Duke of Normandy when, in 1066, he prevailed at the Battle of Hastings to become monarch of England. The Norman center of power shifted to London but the islanders continued to pay their taxes to Rouen. In 1206, when the British king lost his Norman possessions to the French, loyalties in Jersey were torn. The British won out when King John promised the islanders "the continuance of their ancient laws and privileges," though the power of the British fleet was also a consideration in their choice. During the Hundred Years War, Edward III offered Jersey even stronger guarantees. As a result, the British monarch ruled Jersey as Duke of Normandy rather than as King or Queen of England.

A postal service linking Jersey with Portsmouth or Southampton was founded in 1779. The Jersey post was opened in 1794. British postage stamps were used from 1840 until World War II, when Jersey was occupied by the Germans. When supplies of British 1d stamps began to run low, the post office resorted to bisecting 2d stamps. In April 1941 distinctive stamps appeared. They remained in use until 1946, when supplies of British stamps were again available.

After the war, the British Government considered issuing regional stamps to promote tourism in the war-ravished Channel Islands, but the idea did not come to fruition until the1950s when one stamp was issued for each of the six regions of the British Isles. The Jersey stamp, which was placed on sale August 18, 1958, depicted the Island Mace and the Arms of Jersey. Over the next decade, Jersey issued six regional stamps, which were sold primarily in the Bailiwick but were valid throughout the United Kingdom.

Soon after the British post office became a public corporation, it offered Jersey the opportunity to take over its own postal services. This was accomplished on October 1, 1969, and the first Jersey definitives appeared. British and regional stamps were invalidated a month later.

For more on Jersey, visit www.stamps.org

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