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USA #RB10a
1873 Proprietary Green
& Black, Violet Paper



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1875 Special Printing
1873 Jefferson
10¢ Pale Brown



USA #175
1875 Special Printing
1873 Scott
24¢ Dull Purple



Hawaii #7
1857 Kamehameha III
5¢ Surcharge
Dark Red



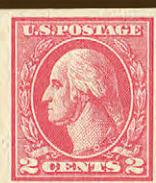
USA #R115b
1871 Third Issue, Inverted Center, Pair



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1920 Washington 2¢ Carmine
Type VII, Imperf Pair



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- 442** *In My Opinion: An Unexpected Path in Stamp Collecting— Tasmanian Postmarks*
by Steven P. Radell Collecting interests can change as new adventures beckon.
- 444** *Philately in Middle-earth: J.R.R. Tolkien & The Lord of the Rings*
by Robert A. Moss The fantasy classic of the twentieth century continues to be honored with stamps.
- 454** *Ardath Tobacco Cards: ‘Stamps Rare & Interesting’*
by Ron Beideck The tobacco company for “fashionable smokers” produced this set of fifty stamp-related, collectible tobacco cards in 1939.
- 460** *Dive! Dive! Postal History from Submarines*
by Charles L. Wood The story of the “Silent Service” can be read from the cachets and cancels generated by submarine mail as well as by stamps issued in its honor.
- Featured Column**
- 438** *Collecting Coast to Coast — Wayne Youngblood*
Is It Postal History Just Because of the Stamp? The stamp or franking is almost always what we first notice about a piece of mail, but is that the whole story?
- 504** *Worldwide in a Nutshell — Bob Lamb*
Nevis Part of the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis, this small island’s stamps are sold only in Charlestown, but are valid on St. Kitts as well.

AMERICAN PHILATELIST

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APS News

Advertisers Online	484
APRL Notes	478
Book Reviews	500
Classifieds	493
Development Officer Position	414
Distinguished Philatelists	466
Index of Advertisers	488
Letters to the Editor	418
Membership Report	491
President's Column	412
The Pulse	469
Sales Talk	474
Show Time	480
U.S. New Issues	496

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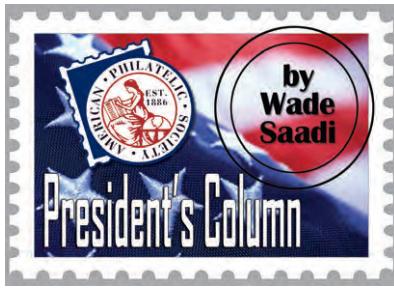
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E Pluribus Unum... secunda parte (Second Part)



Last month I wrote about *E Pluribus Unum*, “Out of many, one,” and expressed my belief that the American Philatelic Society is one population with a common principle. Well, it is again the catch phrase for this month’s column, albeit in a different application.

While never adopted officially by Congress, *E Pluribus Unum* was the first motto of the young United States nation. Today, the elementary coin of the realm, the penny, and the first in the series of paper notes, the one-dollar bill, each have *E Pluribus Unum* emblazoned on them. Ah, say you, where is this going?

The almighty dollar is where I am leading! In the previous *American Philatelist*, which was the annual Donor Recognition Issue, I shared thanks with all those who had given above their dues to help build the American Philatelic Society and the American Philatelic Research Library. But for their support, much of the planning we have done to secure the future would fall by the wayside. We have such a generous membership; often donating without even being asked!



While we have received donations from thousands of members over the years, there is much work to be done going forward in reaching new donors. With roughly an 11 percent giving rate, there is tremendous room for charitable growth. Another fact about the vast majority of our giving is that it is unsolicited. The nature of our Staff and Volunteers largely enables this “un-asked for giving” and it certainly forms a great foundation for our development effort.

In the “501(c)3” [not-for-profit] world, proactive development and fund-raising is an essential part of the organization, and in many cases, the principal revenue generator. I am suggesting we augment our endeavor by searching for an individual to work alongside our Executive Director (Ken Martin) and our development committee (The Campaign for Philately) to facilitate active giving.

On page 414 is a position description for a Donation Development Officer. If you meet the requirements and would like to explore this very visible position, please contact Ken Martin, whose contact information is on the masthead. If you know anyone that would be interested, please share this with them. I will personally pledge a \$1,000 donation to the APS in your honor if you help us to secure a successful employee. It will show my conviction in the importance of this undertaking and my appreciation for your help.

Our hobby gives us enjoyment, which is why we belong. Members of the APS are offered services that are often unique and not offered elsewhere. My column last month elucidated those services. Try at least one new service that you have not used before. You will be delighted. Borrow a book; take a course; buy a stamp or cover; get an expert opinion on a questionable item; insure your collection. Use the services that are offered by the APS to improve your collection and your knowledge. The far-reaching effects of our Society touch the entire hobby as a whole, and a healthy and vibrant APS is essential, as it provides the structure for and assures the future of stamp collecting. Thank you for your patronage.

I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver. — Maya Angelou

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- Organize the Champion of Champion receptions

General Fund-raising Support (20%)

- Support the Campaign for Philately Committee
- Staff the Campaign for Philately booth at APS Shows
- Prepare Donor Recognition for *The American Philatelist*
- Provide information for press releases and social media

Highly Desired

- Minimum of two years of fund-raising experience for nonprofit entities
- Prospect research identification and cultivation
- Philatelic knowledge and contacts

Desired Experience

- Initiating Planned Giving programs
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Required Education – Bachelor's Degree

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- Understanding of IRS Rules and Regulations relevant to tax exempt organizations
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- Fluency with computerized development databases
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Volunteer Profile

Donna Shawley

I learned of the American Philatelic Society through the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Centre Country, Pennsylvania, when I saw an advertisement for a regular volunteer. The position called for someone with office experience, able to handle some secretarial work, which is what I did professionally. When I retired I joined RSVP because I wanted to remain active and give back to my community. I regularly volunteer with two other non-profits in our area. I also work at home processing donations for the APS Education Department, as well as knitting caps and booties for newborns and caps for cancer patients.

I never realized the variety of stamps you can find and the value they can have. I never paid attention to it before, but now I see why people are so interested in stamps. It's



amazing that there are so many different ways to collect.

The APS is a good organization because it involves people in a hobby and gives them a constructive activity. I especially like the fact that the APS gets children interested in stamps, because it teaches them so much about the world.

I live with my husband in a small town thirty minutes from Bellefonte. I have two children and five grandchildren, one of whom is studying abroad in New Zealand. My grandchildren keep me up-to-date with technology by teaching me how to use Facebook and Skype (as if e-mail wasn't challenging enough!). I look forward to more years of helping and volunteering as I stay active and challenge myself to do new things.

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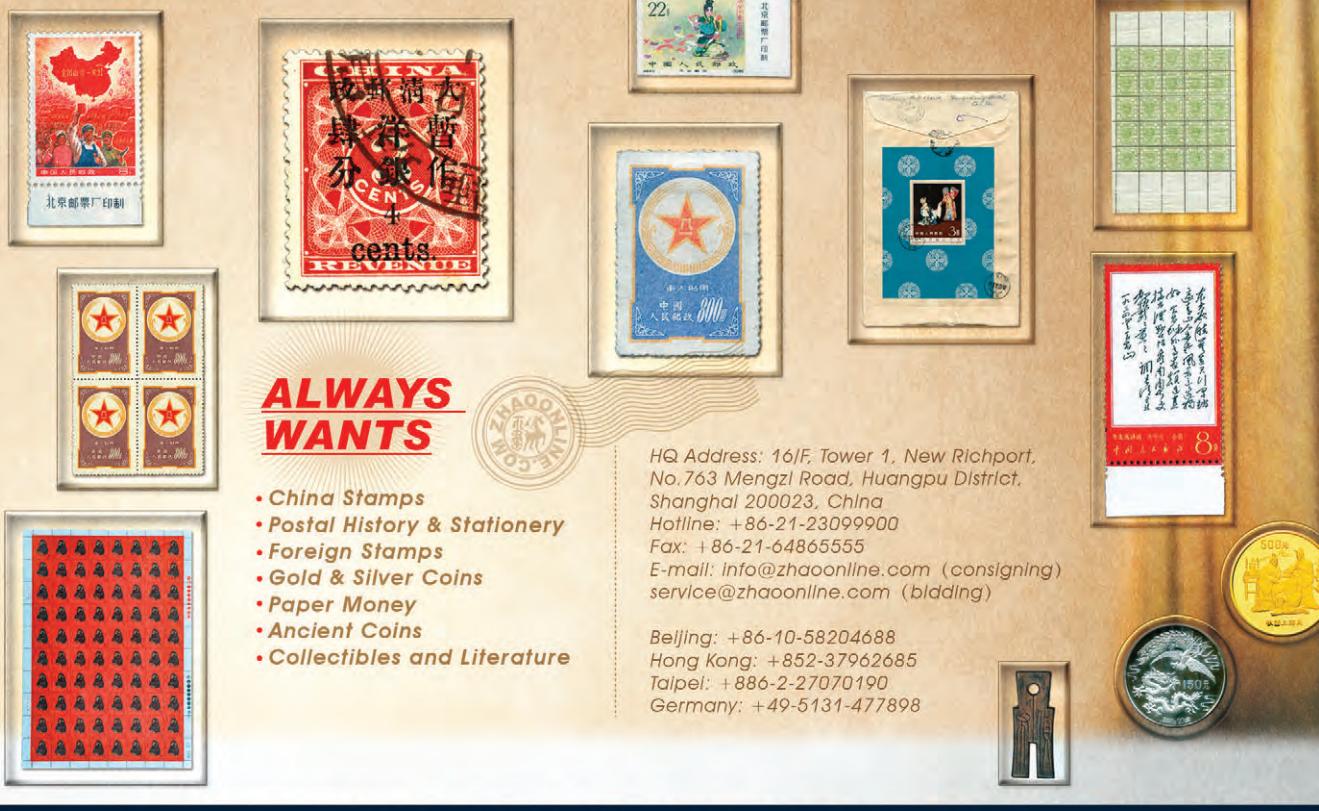
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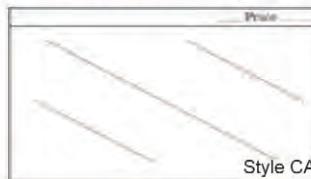
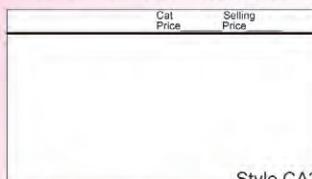
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102CK or 102CC	102BK or 102AC	4¼x2¾"	3¾x2"	49.49	5.94	29.69
104C (Blank) or 104CA	104 (Blank) or 104A	4¾x3¼"	4¼x2½"	57.11	6.85	34.27
104CK or 104CC	104BK or 104AC	4¾x3¼"	4¼x2½"	64.72	7.77	38.83
106C (Blank) or 106CA	106(Blank) or 106A	5½x3¾"	4¾x2½"	66.24	7.95	39.74
106CK or 106CC	106BK or 106AC	5½x3¾"	4¾x2½"	72.33	8.68	43.40
107C (Blank) or 107CA	107 (Blank) or 107A	6x3¾"	5¾x2½"	66.24	7.95	39.74
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Notes from a Reader/Writer

I have long been a great fan and supporter of the APS/APRL and our ever-popular *American Philatelist* magazine.

Our monthly magazine, focusing (with some challenge) on a general audience of worldwide stamp collectors, is the glue that holds our Society together. By itself, the *AP* is easily worth the full price of APS membership.

The quantity and quality of *AP* articles are a direct result of membership input, often from writers with no previous experience. Members who want to see more articles on their favorite subjects can start writing and submitting articles while recruiting others to do the same. Yes, it's a lot of work.

As for me, last summer I suggested to the Editor that there be an article in the December 2011 issue of the *AP* to recognize the 70th anniversary (!) of the fa-

mous Pearl Harbor attack and our country's entry into World War II. The next thing I knew, I was writing articles and recruiting other authors and coordinating their efforts. The results, enhanced by the Editor, speak for themselves. Kudos to all concerned.

Writing for publication is not for everyone. My own simple writing ability is self-learned, mostly from reading the work of others, getting some help and going through many drafts before submission for publication. Doing your homework and getting others to review your work before submission makes for a better article and helps the Editor greatly.

Many collector specialists owe it to others to share information with the general audience while promoting their specialties. Frequently, articles on varied subjects whet the appetite of new collectors. Alas, publishing articles on one's specialty can also create collecting

competition! But no one can have it all and friendly competition leads to good things.

To get back to the monthly *American Philatelist*, I have shown various recent issues to non-collectors in other publishing fields. They are all quite impressed with the varied subjects, the impressive use of color, page layout, and the outstanding support of dealer advertisers.

Well done, APS members! And a hearty well done to the *AP* staff!

Ted Bahry

Arcadia, Michigan

Philatelic DNA

The article on DNA in your March issue was very well done ("Philately & DNA," by Robert M. Bell and Robert S. Blackett, page 236). It was informative, accurate, and entertaining. Actually, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been a leader in law enforcement circles for many years in pursuing scientific evidence in solving crimes, identifying culprits, and establishing investigative leads using DNA and DNA traces. It is good that the authors did not disclose all the avenues and areas available to law enforcement in obtaining DNA samples. The authors, as well as the editors of *The American Philatelist*, are to be congratulated for enlightening your readers about this unique connection to philately.

Ken Aldridge

Special Agent-Retired

*Federal Bureau of Investigation
Grand Prairie, Texas*



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F. Burton Sellers
Sun City West, Arizona

"I want to thank you for assisting me with my stamp collection. I know it meant a lot to my dad while he was collecting them. I know they are in good hands once again. I appreciate your patience and time you spent looking them over. Again, thank you."

Josie Trattles
Fort Pierce, Fla.

"I came to sell my stamp collection to you on the recommendation of a good friend. I was most impressed with the welcome I received and the professionalism and honesty in your assessment of my rather disorganized collection. I was astounded you offered me what I thought my collection was worth!"

Father Pat Tierney
Albertville, Ala.

"We are so grateful to you for taking the time to come all the way down to Corpus Christi to evaluate my husband's stamps. Your expertise was invaluable to us. We thank you so very much for your fair assessment and the generous offer you made to us."

"You are at the top of your field and it is no wonder. Best wishes to you."
Carol Gamble
Corpus Christi, Texas

"I appreciated your knowledge of the stamp world and thank you for your patience in taking time to look over even the less valuable segment of my collection. I was impressed by your candor and honesty and the comfortable, safe surroundings you have for reviewing such items of value. I am very happy."

Laurence Davis
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APS Online Sales

The APS Online StampStore has made some great improvements. I especially like the bidStart type listing page that lets you look at the item and then "zoom-in" if you want a more in-depth look. Scans are the single most important item in buying online. If I can't see it, I don't buy it.

The largest limitation to the StampStore is its limited search capabilities. It only lists 1,000 lots at a time. This is a huge drawback not only for buyers, but also for sellers. As a buyer, you have to continuously refine your search to look at all the stamps of a given country. This gets tedious and it is something you do not have to do on eBay and bidStart.

As a seller, there is not a problem if your listed items are in the first 1,000 items in a search. However, I would really be upset if I was not in the first 1,000 listed items because if my items are to be seen, the potential buyer has to continually reset his search to get to my items. Of course, if the buyer knows the exact catalogue number, then this scenario is not an issue.

The one thing that the old StampStore allowed you to do is start at the beginning of a country and go through all the listings without all the resets. Remember, you get only one chance to make a first impression and the APS wants this site to be easy to use the first time a buyer uses it. You cannot expect repeat business if you do not.

Joseph Hodnik
Olathe, Kansas

Executive Director Ken Martin replies: Thank you for your comments on StampStore. Our new StampStore search results are limited to 1,000 items in part because thumbnail images are now provided for the results and larger searches will result in a significant slowing of performance.

Other than the United States, there are not a lot of countries for which more than 1,000 items are available and there are even fewer if you are only interested in used, unused, postal history, a time period, a range of catalog numbers, items within a certain price range, etc. Many criteria are provided to help visitors narrow their search, because most buyers don't want to spend a long time looking for items of interest.

However, if you really want to look at more than 1,000 items there are some ways to facilitate this. First, we have added a saved search feature, so you don't have to re-enter criteria to perform the same search in the future. Even if you wanted to see every U.S. item after going through once and putting any items of possible interest in your cart or wish list, you could sort future searches by newest items first and simply look at items with a posting date since you last checked out our offering.

You can also limit searches to show only items posted in the last thirty days. It is very rare when more than 1,000 items are added to the site in a single day and even if you wanted to see every U.S. item you could probably check the site out only every third day and still see every new U.S. item posted since your last visit, if you choose only U.S. and ordering by newest first.

Visit <http://stamps.org/StampStore>

The screenshot shows two pages from the APS Online StampStore. The top page displays a search result for 'Australia 1111/1119' with a yellow callout box highlighting the 'Bookmark This Search' link. The bottom page displays a search result for 'Afghanistan 477' and 'Afghanistan 956', also with a yellow callout box highlighting the 'Bookmark This Search' link. Both pages include a red arrow pointing to the blue 'Bookmark This Search' text.

Save Your Searches — Here are the results of two searches, one for golf and one for flags. Page 1 of each search result includes the text, "Bookmark this search" in blue. After clicking on the text, you will be asked to give your search a name.

The screenshot shows the 'My APS' search interface. A red arrow points to the search bar where the text 'Enter a name for your search:' is displayed. Below the search bar are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

The screenshot shows the main search page of the APS Online StampStore. A red arrow points to the 'Saved Searches' dropdown menu, which contains the text 'Select a Saved Search'. The page also features sections for 'Step 1 Enter search criteria' and 'Step 2 Sort & SEARCH'.

When you return to the main search page, you will be able to select from any of your saved searches or begin a new one. In the box "Saved Searches" click on the down arrow and you will be able to select from a list of all of your saved searches.

Stamp Club Anniversary

Thanks for recognizing the 25th anniversary of our Club as an APS member. However, we note that the Club actually was founded in 1962, and has been active since, according to our archival records. Why they waited until 25 years had passed before they got smart and joined APS, none of our current members seem to know. We appreciate all the activities and assistance APS has provided us through the years and look forward to remaining a member for many more.

Robert E. Berry, Secretary
Winter Haven (FL) Stamp Club

Hospital Ship

The article in the April AP on "Guam Island Mail, 1899–1904" (Alfred Kugel, page 328) was extremely informative to this collector of U.S. Possessions and I greatly appreciate it.

Just a small correction. The USS *Solace* AH-2 was a hospital ship, not a supply ship.

The U.S. Navy had two ships named *Solace*, AH-2 and AH-5, both of which were hospital ships. See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Solace_\(AH-2\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Solace_(AH-2))

Joel A. Miele Sr., P.E.
Howard Beach, New York

Philatelic Estate Disposition

I would like to comment on the February AP article titled "Philatelic Estate Disposition for the Novice" ("Napoleon," page 156).

As a director and the auction manager for the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, I get to see many collections that are donated to our library. Often they are donated by the estate of the deceased by a relative or friend. The condition of these collections and our ability to dispose of the material varies greatly. Some can politely be described as a mess, while others have carefully been prepared for disposal.

One collector went so far as to color code his better items. If he had not done so, I might very well have passed over several relatively modern used U.S.

postal cards. These were international postal cards properly used during the appropriate rate period. According to the *Scott Catalogue*, they are worth far more than the mint unused versions of the same cards. But unless you are a postal card collector familiar with these items, which I am not, it is very easy to pass right over them. Due to this collector's care they will be available in the RMPL's silent auction at the Rocky Mountain Stamp show in May.

I also periodically give a presentation on how to prepare your heirs for disposing of your collection if you should be unable to do so, since the best person to dispose of a collection is, of course, the collector. But you might not be in a position to do so if a sudden illness strikes or you are in a serious accident. There are several issues I focus on in this presentation:

- The better the material is organized, the more you are apt to get for the collection.
- Do not rush, take your time.
- Make as complete an inventory as is feasible. There are computer inventory programs that are great but take a lot of work if you have a large collection. At a minimum, identify the more valuable items.
- Designate someone to be responsible for disposing of the collection — either a relative, friend or fellow collector and obtain their agreement to do so.
- Provide this person with specific instructions in writing, including: what you might want donated to the APS or some other organization, which dealers you believe would be most interested in which parts of the collection, and what material you want to give or sell to fellow collectors.
- Finally, don't forget your philatelic library and other reference material.

Anyone who would like a copy of this presentation, just e-mail me at davidweisberg@comcast.net.

David Weisberg
Englewood, Colorado



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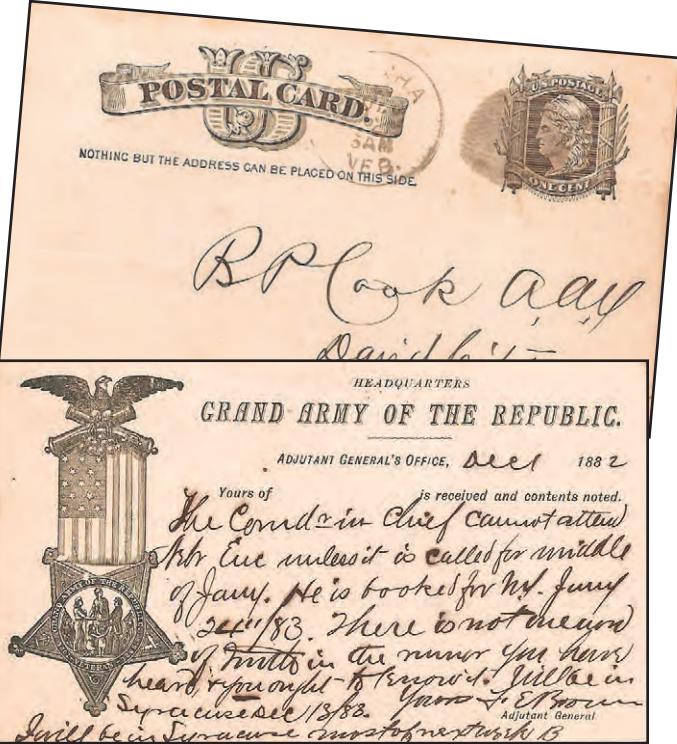
A brief selection from our considerable stocks of this popular reign.

GREAT BRITAIN	1912 1d DOUBLE IMPRESSION, ONE ALBINO, SG 341b marginal block of 4 superb n.h. Much under-priced by SG. \$970.
ASCENSION	G.B. 1912-22 2½d Control A.12 block of 6 attractively canc in Ascension SG Z43. Rare piece. \$900.
BAHAMAS	1918-20 1d error SIDEWAYS WMK SG 97a Control No. copy v.f. mint. \$480.
BECHUANALAND	1932 Unique die proof of 4d reg envelope, approved & dated. \$1,950.
BERMUDA	1920 Tercentenary MISSING 'A' OF 'CA' in wmk, SG 59b v.f. mint. \$940.
BERMUDA	1937 12/6d Postal fiscal (KG V's head) clearly cancelled at Hamilton in correct period of use '15 APR 37'. Top quality. \$1,950.
BRITISH LEVANT	1921 45pi on 2/6d, SG 48 upper right corner showing 'Reid' major re-entry, fresh n.h. Rare. \$310.
BRITISH SOLOMONS	1935 S. Jubilee 1½d FRAME DOUBLY PRINTED, ONE ALBINO SG 53a v.f. used. The only known copy mint or used! \$3,150.
CAYMAN IS.	1935 Pictorial 1½d showing 'GHOST' impression of KGV's head on reverse, v.f. mint. Rare. \$590.
FALKLAND IS.	1919 War stamp ½d SG 70a block of 6 with much misplaced opt, n.h. \$250.
FIJI	1935 S. Jubilee 1/- FRAME DOUBLY PRINTED, ONE ALBINO SG 245a v.f. mint. \$1,925.
GILBERT & ELICE IS.	1935 S. Jubilee 1½d FLAGSTAFF ON RIGHT HAND TURRET SG 37d in n.h. marginal block of 4. Rare. \$360.
JAMAICA	1917 War stamp, the rare SG 75d in marginal block of 4 but one pair with 'STAMP' omitted, n.h. Extremely rare. \$4,700.
K.U.T.	1912-21 Def 15c Blue INVERTED WMK. SG 49w fine mint. Rare. \$975.
K.U.T.	1936 3/- The rare perf 13 x 12 SG 120a fine mint. Cat £2.250. \$1,950.
MALTA	1914 def ½d SG 71, a lovely lower plate No. marginal block of 12 with double strike of comb perf at foot affecting lower 6 stamps, mainly v.f. mint. Rare. \$1,225.
	
RHODESIA	1910-13 1/- Scarce black & deep blue-green SG 151a with 'mid gash' in ear flaw. Very rare on this shade, v.f. mint. \$750.
ST. KITTS	1920-22 def 2/- REVERSED WMK, SG 32x n.h. Only 32 known. \$250.
TRINIDAD	1918 1/2d frame die proof 'AFTER STRIKING' initialed & dated as approved. Superb. \$575.
TRISTAN DA CUNHA	1935 Dutch submarine cover with special cachet plus TDC type V cachet. Addressed to Uruguay. Rare & v.f. \$3,850.
ZANZIBAR	1936 Sultan's S. Jubilee, frame die proof of 50c in orange-vermillion affixed to paper approved & dated. Ex DLR archives. Beautiful. \$1,450.

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Discovery on Message Side

I recommend that when you acquire either used or mint postal cards you should always check the message side as well. In a recent acquisition from a stamp accumulation I found a Grand Army of the Republic (Civil War Union Veterans organization) item dated in 1882.

Frank Salle
Tulsa, Oklahoma

British Empire

Noel Davenhill's continuing series, "Visiting the British Empire," provides an informative and enjoyable overview of many far-flung areas of the British Empire. His latest article, focusing on St. Helena & Ascension Islands (March 2012, page 228), was particularly refreshing. For readers who may wish to delve more deeply into the philately and postal history of these islands — and also for socio-economic, cultural, and other insights — may I suggest two specialty societies, both APS affiliates. The first, the St. Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society (Affiliate No. 0085) has a fine journal and maintains an informative website at www.atlanticislands.org. The other, of which I am the North American representative, is the West Africa Study Circle (Affiliate No. 0231). Our website is www.wasc.org.uk.

Several Study Circle members have visited St. Helena, some on multiple occasions and, while there, with the able support and assistance of the postmistress and other officials, have conducted valuable research into local postal and other archives, uncovering a treasure trove of information. For many years their findings were published in an annual *Supplement* to the Circle's journal, *Cameo*. In their writings, they provide not only information about postal history but also a good feel for the people and culture of the island. More recently, their

findings are regularly reported in *Cameo* itself which, with the direct inclusion of St. Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha material, has expanded from two to three 60+ pages per issues per year. It continues to amaze me how much new information there is to share! *Cameo* and the *Supplement* are available through the APRL.

The West Africa Study Circle is quite active. Our members are friendly and more than willing to share. For more

information, please visit our website or contact me directly at marty_bratzel@yahoo.ca.

Marty Bratzel

North American Representative
West Africa Study Circle
Windsor, Ontario

Leap Year Member Only?

On February 29, 2012 my membership application was officially accepted by the APS. Of course, I'm very pleased

to be a member, but I have one tongue-in-cheek question. Will each of my anniversaries be four years from the last one?

I have an absolutely true story about the date February 29, which I hope may cause another reader to smile. My wife and I are friends with a woman who at the time had eight children. The woman's birthday is February 29. Technically, this woman had had only nine birthdays, quite a trick considering she was the

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C15.....	\$795.00.....	\$870.00.....	\$975.00.....	\$1,115.00.....

Mint Plate Number Singles Available — Add 15% to the NH or LH price in all Conditions!

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Used	C13-15	\$795.00	\$825.00	\$875.00	\$950.00
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XF.....\$119.95.....\$72.50.....\$74.95

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All stamps are exactly as described — we are fussy sellers
so any natural gum bends will be minor if at all. POR = Price on request

C18 PLATE BLOCKS:

VF/NH Top	\$550.00
VF+NH Top, Few Natural Gum Skips (NGS)	\$475.00
F-VF/NH Bottom, few tiny invisible flaws.....	\$325.00
F-VF/NH Bottom, 1 stamp LH, Premium #21178	\$425.00

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C13-15 VF-XF/LH PSE Slabbed set. Conservatively Graded	\$1,750.00, \$1,400.00

POST OFFICE FRESH BLOCKS OF 4 AT BARGAIN PRICES!

C13 XF/NH block of 4 with Top Plate #20080	\$1,450.00
C14 F-VF/VF+/NH plain block of 4, lower right stamp has natural inclusion	\$2,250.00

WIDE BOTTOM PLATE BLOCKS

C13 Just Fine/NH Plate Block with tiny selvage flaws, centered to top	\$1,750.00
C13-15 F-VF/NH Plate Block Set, Fresh NH, few gum bends. Nice Matched Set!!!	\$12,500.00

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Standard Nice! Premium

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C13 on card	\$145.00.....	\$160.00.....	\$180.00.....
C14 card or cover	\$320.00.....	\$375.00.....	\$425.00.....
C15	\$495.00.....	\$575.00.....	\$640.00.....
C18	\$69.95.....	\$79.95.....	\$89.95.....

STANDARD COVERS: Will be collectible covers, stamps and/or covers may have tiny faults or just not as fresh.

NICE COVERS: Will be clean & fresh, normally flown covers with completely sound stamps.

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Scans/images are available if you wish to choose or you can just let us select the set that's right for your collection and budget.

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Chart: U.S. under \$100, \$3.50; U.S. \$100-\$499.99, \$6.50; U.S. \$500 and over, \$8.50; Foreign, under \$100, \$5.50; Foreign \$100-\$499.99, \$12.00; Foreign \$500 and over, \$15.00. Domestic orders over \$2000 are postpaid! Special shipping requests such as UPS, FedEx, EMS may be extra. Alternates: We suggest including alternate selections when possible to avoid refunds.

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mother of eight children. Okay, it's not rocket science to understand the situation, but the story has one more twist. At the time she had four boys and four girls, when she again became pregnant. The boys were rooting for another boy so they could take the lead, while the girls were rooting for another girl so they could take the lead. What do you think happened? She had twins, one boy and one girl.

Harold Shudnow
Oak Park, Michigan

Stamp Collages

I was so pleased to see the article by Dave Ahl about my stamp collages in October's issue of the AP ("Two Questions; The Amazing Stamp Collages of Rachel Markwick," page 938), and having received two copies of the magazine, I must congratulate you on the interesting content as well as your website.

Since then I've had e-mails and letters from U.S. stamp collectors and kind

people who have sent me unwanted stamps to use in my work and even have several new friends in the U.S. as a result of this article!

Since the article was written following Dave's visit here, I've made quite a lot of new work and many more flags. I was aiming at the 2012 Olympics being held here in London this year, but don't think I will quite have enough time to cover the entire number of participating countries! Readers may like to have a look at my new website www.rachel-markwick.co.uk to see what I've been up to.

I looked on your website and was amazed and amused to see that your current Stamp of the Month was the Irish St. Patrick stamp issued in 1937. I'm currently making an Irish flag and guess which stamp was the first one I put in? What a coincidence! I've also managed to find Irish stamps with Arthur Guinness and a famous racehorse called Boomerang, appropriately with the approach of

the Cheltenham Gold cup. Hoping to have it finished by St Patrick's day on 17th March — a big event to celebrate around here, with Cheltenham races starting on 16th March and many Irish punters arriving for the Gold Cup. Irish flags will be flying everywhere. I expect it's the same in the USA.

I've produced an updated version of the Union Jack to celebrate our Queen's Diamond Jubilee and have had cards and canvas prints made. It's such a distinctive flag, as is the Stars and Stripes.

Making the flags has been such an interesting occupation and I find I learn so much when I choose the stamps to put in them.

Rachel Markwick
Stroud, Gloucestershire, U.K.

Stamp Hinges

I am truly disappointed in the "peelable" hinges available today. I am still using some of the old Dennison hinges from my stamp collecting start in the

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Jubilees celebrate significant periods of monarch reigns and national life. In 2012, Her Majesty will become the second UK monarch to celebrate 60 years on the throne, the first being Queen Victoria in 1897.

Guernsey Stamps are celebrating this monumental event with this very popular stamp issue which includes this wonderful Souvenir Sheet.



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Issue date:
8th May 2012

HRH
The Duke of
Cambridge
30th Birthday

Set of six stamps £3.09

Prince William is the elder son of The Prince of Wales and the late Diana, Princess of Wales, born on 21st June 1982 he has inherited his parents philanthropic drive and spirit. He currently supports a wide range of organisations that reflect issues he cares about both in the UK and abroad. This stamp set takes a look at just some of his chosen charities and patronages.



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mid-1930s. Isn't it ironic that in this day of "super technology" that someone hasn't come up with a super answer to the problem? The hinges I buy today are pure trash, not really worth the time spent on trying to separate them from each other. Using Scotch tape might be less damaging. The problem is that a truly "peelable" hinge would damage the sale of the expensive "mounts" that are offered today.

I have several old albums with nineteenth-century U.S. that I would like to move to my newer active albums but do not want to use mounts or, heaven forbid, newer hinges. Help!

Rich Miller

Bloomington, Minnesota

Tweezers!

I just started reading the newest issue (March 2012) cover article "Philately & DNA" by Robert M. Bell and Robert S. Blackett. The authors write that philatelic research is aided by a magnifying

glass and a pair of tweezers. "TWEEZERS!" I hope every reader knows that we use tongs in philately, not tweezers. Tweezers may look the same but they will damage your stamps.

Bryan I. Lorber, RN
Barrington, Rhode Island



Stamp Haiku

The introduction to my exhibit at the Nashville Philatelic Society's stamp show in early March included the following Haiku that I wrote for the exhibit:

Stamps, flying carpets,
Take me through history and
Anywhere I wish.

Janet Klug suggested that I submit it as a letter to the editor. She even came up with a stamp to illustrate it!

Larry Paci

Hermitage, Tennessee

Tanzania Olympic Stamp

I just received a newsletter this morning from an Italian stamp dealer, Vaccari, in which there is a photo of what I assume to be a new issue from Tanzania, commemorating the 2012 London Olympics.

So, here's the really odd thing about it: the central figure appears to be a golfer, and golf apparently is not going to be an Olympic sport until 2016. Also shown is a baseball pitcher, and baseball is no longer an Olympic sport!

The designer of this stamp must not have done her/his homework on the Olympics!

Good for a chuckle, though....

Larry Schmidt
Blaine, Minnesota



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Puerto Rico RPOs Update

In Sergio Lugo's letter to the editor in the January issue of the *AP* ("Puerto Rico RPO Dates," page 22), regarding the 1900 San & Camuy RPO cancels illustrated in my earlier letter in the November 2011 issue ("Puerto Rico RPO," page 997), the writer suggested that the cancels might be forgeries. In support of his assertion, Mr. Lugo quoted from a letter by Dr. Frank Scheer, curator of the Railway Mail Service Library, in which Dr. Scheer stated that, based on the 1901 RMS Schedule of Mail Trains, he was "99.999 percent confident [that] the starting date for all RPOs in Puerto Rico was September 1, 1901."

Dr. Scheer has since acknowledged in writing to me, however, that he was not aware that railway post offices had been operating in Puerto Rico preceding their appearance in the RMS schedules. As reported in the Annual Report of the Postmaster General for 1900, by act of Congress the U.S. Post Office Department assumed control of mail

service in Puerto Rico on May 1, 1900. Before that mails in the island were being carried under contracts executed by the Director General of the Department of Posts of Porto Rico, an independent agency that was an offshoot of the US POD acting under U.S. military authority. That Department, which operated the island's postal service from March 15, 1899 through April 30, 1900, employed railway postal clerks on the island's three railroad lines. The 1900 RPO cancels illustrated in my earlier letter are a reflection of that service.

Howard G. Kristol

Wilmington, Delaware

Birch Bark Mail

Attached is a postcard made from birch bark, postmarked on Mackinac Island, Michigan, August 14, 1909, and sent to "Mr. Wm. E. Jones, c/o Bank of Pittsburg, Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA." This is a rather unusual homemade style postcard and, considering it is 103 years old, it has managed to survive the ravages of time with the stamp still intact.

Mackinac Island is in Mackinac County, Michigan. It is a resort area located in Lake Huron at the eastern end of the Straits of Mackinac. This was the scene of two battles during the War of 1812.

Paul E. Petrosky

Munising, Michigan



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Letter of Support

I am sure the AP will receive many letters in response to the one by Lisa Pando in the March issue. Here is mine.

Dear Lisa: Please do not let your encounter with that one collector deter you from contact with others. His remarks to you say volumes about him, not about you. It is your hobby, and it is for you to decide what you want to collect. I am sure you will find that he is not representative of collectors. Indeed, in my club, fully 25% collect worldwide, as do you, and as do I.

Manuel Nestle

Santa Rosa, California

Disheartening News

I was very disheartened to read of Lisa A. Pando's bad experience with a fellow collector ("New Adult Collectors Need Help," March AP, page 204).

I first started collecting stamps at about the same age (10) but lost interest as a teenager. Like many middle-aged people, I returned to my roots many

decades later. About two years ago I got back into stamp collecting, and I have had to learn a lot. Fortunately, I am an experienced coin collector and a numismatic journalist, and those skills have helped me as a reborn stamp collector.

All collectors have to grapple with the dilemma of what to specialize in, but the way I see it, stamps are about having fun. If you prefer to buy more eclectically and to focus on items that appeal to you, either aesthetically or because they have some personal resonance, I say more power to you.

As far as I can tell, stamp collectors tend to be kind, gentle, and friendly people. I think we are all, or should be, ambassadors for the field, and it behooves each of us to be respectful of other collectors and their level of knowledge or expertise.

I believe APS has a mentoring program, which Lisa may want to consider. [Editor's note: The APS Education Department that coordinates our Mentoring program has already been in touch with

Lisa.] Otherwise, there are so many resources today through websites, books, and especially through the APS. A good show should be quite educational.

I hope Lisa has better experiences with other collectors, manages to get to and enjoy some stamp shows, and that she enjoys her collection for years to come.

Louis Golino
Rockville, Maryland

Disparaging Response

I was interested in the letter from Lisa A. Pando in the March AP. She wrote about a collector who had responded disparagingly when it was discovered that she was a new collector.

I had a similar experience more than forty years ago. I had just resumed collecting, picking up on a childhood pastime. Since I had made a recent trip to Bermuda, I thought I would start with the stamps of that island nation. I soon found it would help to expand to British Caribbean Islands. And I decided I

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would like to know more about philately (I had even learned that word), and so sought out a local stamp club. The members were very supportive and I enjoyed their company. Then one evening we had a speaker whose topic was "Postal Stationery of St. Lucia." I found the topic fascinating, and approached the speaker after the meeting. I said, "I collect British Caribbean" and intended to go on to say that he had intrigued me with his talk, and that I would like to look into postal stationery.

But before I could say that he interrupted me, and said rather disdainfully, "Oh, you only collect stamps," and with that he turned away from me to talk to someone else.

I probably don't need to tell you that I never looked into the possibility of postal stationery of the British Caribbean.

I still consider myself a neophyte, but enjoy collecting what interests me. I do thank the other members of the Staten

Island Philatelic Society for their early support. One member who overheard the conversation said, "Don't pay any attention to him. Collect what you enjoy." When I have the time, I still do that today, and continue to learn not only about stamps, but about the countries that I collect.

Walter Everett
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

New Adult Collectors

Lisa Pando's lament in the March "Letters" column is a sad but, I think, fairly unusual happenstance. Lisa doesn't relate how or where she bumped into the stiff-neck who apparently gave her the "sniff," and all the while she doesn't even fit the typical profile of a neophyte, as it is, based on her relating of collecting stamps from the time she was 10 years old. How fortunate she was to have had the ability to have a grandfather's collection handed on to her.

Lisa, you're not likely to run into an-

other sanctimonious clod like that if you were to seek a good viable stamp club atmosphere. Most viable clubs have at least two or three people who would jump at a chance to give you some good ideas or help whether you were inclined to flesh out a special niche to collect, or even the gamut, if that was your choice.

Let me tell you a brief story of an encounter I had recently with a lady who happened to outbid me at a recent auction. I think she just might have fit your storyline to some extent! It just happened that we were both equally and eagerly bidding on the same lot of some specialty items from the nineteenth century, nothing earth-shattering in depth.

We were the two lone bidders on the floor who kept their bid cards held high for what turned out to be about two dozen bids between us from at its starting point. (Talk about wanting a lot!!). Well, it's generally a letdown when you feel you have to drop your bid-card as I did, but, needless to say, eventually it fell

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out of my "comfortable range." Shortly thereafter there was a break in the auction bidding. I immediately got out of my chair, went over and sat next to her and apologized for having had to participate in such a heated battle between us as the auction floor sometimes has it.

I really didn't go up to her for the purpose of apologizing, rather just found myself doing it. She immediately related to me that she was buying the lot for research purposes, I presume rather than strictly from the "collecting" standpoint. So I told her that if she satisfied her research and found herself wanting to dispose of any portion of the lot superfluous as to her needs, to give me a call or notify me at my e-mail address. If so, maybe we could work out a little deal advantageous to us both.

She shook my hand and made no commitment. That's classic give and go. You would likely run into similar encounters, not perhaps that extreme, but the odds that you would develop some

Stamp collecting is a passion that knows no end, as long as one goes by his/her available budget. Nothing or no one should deter anyone from exploring a hobby that offers so much.

.....

good philatelic relationships in the club atmosphere are plentiful! So don't be hesitating to join a club (or two!). There are lots of "clods" out there, but there are many more that would stand up on your side. So let's hear your future success story in the AP about the NICE CLUB you just joined!

Tom De Boever

Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

Personal Hobby

The tone expressed in Lisa Pando's Letter to the Editor in the March issue makes it seem as if the whole stamp collecting world is a military boot camp where a collector must move on or else

be disciplined for not abiding by a strict code of conduct.

To me, stamp collecting is a passion that knows no end, as long as one goes by his/her available budget. Nothing or no one should deter anyone from exploring a hobby that offers so much.

The mention about "Hoarders" makes me laugh, considering the availability of large lots of stamps everywhere, from individual dealers to auction houses. I see no shame in this, as long as the stamps are properly cared for. There may be the occasional pathological hoarder, but who are they really bothering but themselves?

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not a religion. There is complete freedom to go as far as you want to go. It should be pleasurable, bringing people together rather than pushing them apart, and it allows every collector to seek his/her own treasures.

Denis Doren
Coe Hill, Ontario

Hoarders

I was disappointed to read about Ms Pando's interactions with the "serious" stamp collector that had an "elitist attitude". My suggestion to Ms Pando is to keep doing what you're doing and don't let the snobby attitudes of people like that, especially the ones that take themselves too seriously, bring you down. I would like to assure her that all of us are NOT like that and it's collectors with that type of attitude who keep the new collectors from joining our ranks. This hobby is about having fun and collecting what brings joy into our lives, and it has an added benefit of allowing us to learn a little bit about history, world geography, and what people in other cultures consider important.

I am fortunate in that I get to work part-time in a local stamp shop. The majority of collectors who come into the store are general worldwide collectors and they do not focus on any specific countries or topics, they simply get what they find interesting. I enjoy collecting the British Machins Series and

U.S. stamps and covers of the nineteenth and twentieth century, but the cost of the U.S. stamps that I need to fill the spaces in my albums is getting above my financial limit.

Rather than quitting collecting or limiting my purchases to a few stamps per year, I have expanded my collecting parameters and begun collecting stamps related to astronomy and the works of Czeslaw Slania. My interest in the Slania issues has broadened my overall interest in worldwide engraved stamps, and I collect any that I find attractive.

I guess that my recent interests makes me a hoarder too . . . but at least I'm having fun.

Dewey J. Barker
Pensacola, FL

Collecting Memories

I read Lisa Pando's letter with understanding and regret. I did not start out as a youth collecting stamps. I started collecting stamps on instructions of She Who Must Be Obeyed, otherwise known as my loving wife. She believed that my interest in military history was costing too much and taking up much too much space. I was the only stamp collector for 2000 km. I lived on the Arctic coast. I collected and studied on my own. I fumbled around collecting this and collecting that until I found what interested me. I proceeded to collect my stamps my way.

Then I retired and moved to a city — Edmonton, Alberta. Edmonton is fortunate in having a large and very active stamp club. I arrived not knowing anyone. At the end of my first stamp club meeting I left feeling ignored, but I went back again and made an effort to engage people in conversation.

The easiest person to find that will talk to you is the stamp collector who knows how to collect, what to collect, and has all the important stamps. He will speak to you about stamps with the fervency of a fundamentalist preacher on a street corner discussing religion. When I met this person, I nodded politely, agreed, then moved on but not away. A big part of being a part of a stamp club or any club is the members. The more you go to meetings and make yourself known the greater the comfort you have talking with other collectors. You will find that the diversity of what and how people collect is equal to the number of people at the meeting. You will also learn some truisms — such as mounting stamps with Scotch tape is not a good idea.

Most stamp collectors love the hobby and are generous in sharing their knowledge. The Edmonton Stamp Club every few years, following an influx of new members, holds a series of 15-minute seminars on philatelic fundamentals or specialized subjects presented by knowledgeable club members. All it takes is a



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suggestion from a member to the club executive.

I have been a lone stranger at a stamp club meeting. I can recommend trying again to join in at a stamp club meeting. It will reward you if you persist. A recommendation to all stamp clubs is that someone should be designated as a greeter who will welcome guests and introduce them to members.

Richard Barnes
Edmonton, Alberta

Stamp Buddies

I read the article about the APS Membership Promotion & Recruiting Committee as well as Lisa A. Pando's letter "New Adult Collectors Need Help" (March 2012 AP). I'd like to propose that the APS start a "Stamp Buddy" program where beginning collectors of any age are assigned a local stamp buddy. The stamp buddy would encourage the new collector, teach the basics, and even escort the beginner to a local stamp club meeting or stamp show. APS could

ask everyone joining APS or renewing membership if they'd like to have their own stamp buddy or be one. APS shows could set up a Stamp Buddy booth to match stamp buddies to collectors and to escort them through the stamp show. This would make the show a far better and less intimidating experience.

Most people attending stamp shows are not APS members. What a great way to grow APS membership by demonstrating the APS' value to beginning collectors. For those collectors who are transitioning from being a general collector to focusing on one collecting area, specialist stamp buddies could be assigned. The incremental cost to APS would be almost zero. In fact, the program would generate revenue for APS through increased memberships and donations.

APS could develop a series of guidelines to qualify stamp buddies. For example, a stamp buddy must encourage the beginning collector in whatever is collected. No stamp buddy would ever call

Lisa Porter a "hoarder" for not knowing exactly what she wants to collect.

One more thing. Stamp collectors, unless they belong to a stamp club or attend a stamp show, do not often get to meet other local stamp collectors. What a great way to make our hobby more social! Stamp Buddies would also benefit by sharing their own collection interests as well as the joy of mentoring.

Michael Bloom
Portland, Oregon

P.S. Let me know if I can help to make this happen

Struck a Chord

The letter from Lisa Pando in the March 2012 issue really struck a chord with me. Like Lisa, I started collecting when I was young, really enjoyed it, and continued until our children came along. Sticky little fingers not mixing well with little bits of colored paper, I put my collection away and didn't think about it for almost thirty years. When I decided to get back into collecting, I was surprised

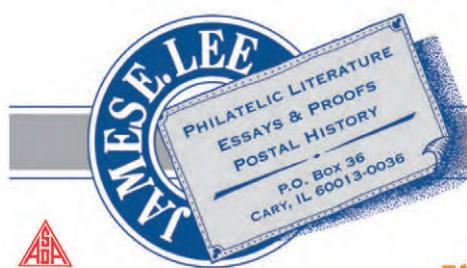
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by how much I had accumulated, what I was missing, what I had forgotten, and what I had never learned.

In trying to discover more about what I had, what I wanted, what I needed, and the current state of the hobby, I went to a local stamp shop. There I was told that I didn't know enough to be there or for them to waste their time on me. So much for mercantilism. The same attitude was shown me at a metropolitan stamp club, where I was welcome until they discovered I was a novice in many ways and then the patronization and condescension started. After I left the store and the club, I'm sure the merchant and the club members returned to their discussions bewailing the lack of new customers and new members, never realizing how effectively I, and others like me, had been driven away.

With one notable exception, my experience with individual collectors has been similarly unrewarding.

I'm still enjoying collecting and learning about my stamps. My profession as a librarian and researcher has equipped me to do solo research into postal history and philately. Online vendors and publishers make it easy to buy and sell stamps and collecting supplies without ever contacting another human being. But is that really the way the hobby should be?

Ed Badger
Columbus, Ohio

Lisa also reminds us that we should be reaching out to all age groups to share the love of stamp collecting, including the youth of our Society as well as those like me enjoying the later days of life.

.....

Future of the Hobby

The letter from Lisa A Pando in the March issue of the *AP* struck me, as it was so important to the future of this hobby. Lisa is calling for help, and if we do not respond she will represent a lost opportunity to bring many into this wonderful hobby.

I am approaching my 72nd birthday, having started collecting stamps in 1947 under my dad's guidance. It is also a fact that I have never left the hobby in all those years. During that time I have had the privilege of mentoring and support of many people who made this part of my life so educational and enjoyable. Like all parts of one's life, there have been those who thought they knew all the answers and that they were onto the only way to collect stamps and postal history.

Also in the March issue, Tom Horn's column starting on page 252 is so helpful

in part answering some of the questions Lisa asks. The important role we can play in developing in Lisa a long-term enjoyment of this hobby is to answer her questions when we have the facts, and to assist her in getting an answer when we may not know the answer ourselves.

Lisa notes she was thinking of taking a beginner's class. That would be a productive use of her time. Knowledge is an important asset when dealing with the direction one may eventually go in pursuit of the hobby. We are never too old to learn new things. As is sometimes noted, read the book before buying an expensive item.

Lisa also reminds us that we should be reaching out to all age groups to share the love of stamp collecting, including the youth of our Society as well as those like me enjoying the later days of life. Should I tell Lisa what is the "best" area to collect? Of course not, but her own topical interests may help her to enjoy the hobby even more as she becomes more aware of the many directions this hobby can take us.

I wish Lisa good health and happy stamp collecting.

Donald E. Neiman
Dallastown, Pennsylvania

Also an Adult Beginner

I'd like to encourage the "adult beginner" from Florida whose letter was published in the March issue. I, too, am

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an adult beginner. I started collecting in 1974 when I noticed that President Eisenhower wasn't on the mail that my mother had brought home and thrown on the kitchen table that day. I think it was that same afternoon that she took me up to the Ben Franklin store in Rockwell City, Iowa, and bought me two paper albums and bags with stamps from all over the world and some Crystal Mounts. That was thirty-eight years ago.

Today, I'm still just as interested in stamps as I used to be, but I have to say that I don't talk much to experienced collectors. That's because I'm what is known as a "worldwide collector," and because of that I've been called a "hoarder" too — *Linn's* once used the terms "novice" and "neophyte" to refer to my type. I don't specialize much because I think the whole world is interesting, and every time I've tried to follow a know-it-all's advice I've given up on collecting for at least a few months out of frustration, lack of money, or sheer boredom. I've always bounced back though, and now I go to a show every couple of years — I'm the guy who looks at the displays and then buys a lot of stamps in file folders marked 50% off. Sometimes I buy stamps over the Internet too, if I can find a big worldwide mixture on paper. I'm definitely the wrong type.

Even so, I just want you to know that in spite of my failings, I still thoroughly enjoy collecting stamps, and I'm glad you do, too. If you haven't already,

If we really want the hobby to thrive, we need to make room under our tent for all varieties of collectors.

.....

I'd encourage you to share your interest with others who aren't experts either — maybe even start a club! A happy stamp club, with nobody taking minutes, and few if any organized activities. I wonder what experienced collectors would think of that?

Mark Garton
Farley, Iowa

Appalled

I was appalled (perhaps not surprised, but appalled nonetheless) at the treatment Lisa Pando describes receiving from a veteran collector. Such incivility has no place in our hobby. Not only was he rude and condescending, he is just plain wrong. There are many of us collectors who have maintained a wide and varied interest in stamp without specializing. I have been collecting for nearly sixty years and continue to enjoy all aspects of the hobby. When asked about what I specialize in, I respond "Whatever I'm working on at the time."

There is a society I discovered a few years ago, The International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors (ISWSC; APS Affiliate AF0151; website www.

iswsc.org). We are truly international in membership and all have broad collecting interests. I am happy to invite to the Society any collectors who are interested. I would also be happy to work through the APS to sponsor a group to support adult novice collectors.

If we really want the hobby to thrive, we need to make room under our tent for all varieties of collectors.

Smokey Stover
Hamilton Montana

Editor's Note: After we shared Lisa Pando's letter with the APS staff, Ken Martin and others reached out to her. Other APS members have had letters and e-mail messages forwarded to her.

Date Correction

The April 2012 issue of the *AP* just arrived and I believe there is a mistake on page 314, article entitled: "Allied Usage of the U.S. Postal System During World War" (page 314). Paragraph states: "On December 26, 1941 *Postal Bulletin* 18354 announced that, effective the previous day the air mail rate to American servicemen stationed overseas would be set at six cents per half ounce, etc." Suggest you check your copy of *USPB* 18354, mine reads effective date was 23 December 1941.

Thanks for a great publication.

Jonathan L. Johnson Jr.
Groton, Connecticut

Editor's note: We stand corrected.
Thank you.



SACRAMENTO



Is It Postal History Just Because of the Stamp?

I have frequently asserted that the essential elements of modern postal history can be broken down into four primary categories: stamps, markings, general appeal, and uses (which is by far the largest category). Each of these, of course, can be subdivided further for organizational purposes, and other factors — such as scarcity, technology, and a host of others — affect each item as well. The best postal history not only tells a story but is unusual enough, for whatever reason, to drive its point home.

This being said, however, it is almost always the stamp (or franking) we first notice about a philatelic item, and that aspect is sometimes enough to create an interesting bit of postal history. It is that facet we'll examine this month. Now, what about that stamp?

The \$1 Airlift stamp (Scott 1341) was released April 4, 1968, to pay postage for airlifted (air mail) parcels from the United States to servicemen serving specifically in Viet Nam and also to those in

Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and other overseas military bases. To the best of my knowledge, there are no known covers or parcel wrappers that reflect that intended use. If one does surface, it will be major postal history news. A year later, on April 26, 1969, the U.S. Post Office Department ruled that the \$1 Airlift stamp was also valid for postage to pay fees or postage "on air mail articles." Thus, even though the Airlift stamp is not designated as an air mail stamp by Scott, it was — and is — very specifically an air mail stamp. More importantly, however, even though the stamp is not uncommon, any more-or-less contemporaneous use of it is difficult (in my experience) to locate.

The cover shown, mailed by a stamp dealer, illustrates the secondary intended purpose of the Airlift stamp. Mailed September 11, 1973, from New York City to an unknown destination (it's a window envelope without contents), the cover is franked with \$1.37. This rate covers the

then-current 95-cent registry fee and 42-cent air mail postage for a one-ounce piece anywhere overseas (not North or South America). In this case, ninety-five cents of the Airlift stamp is paying fees (registered) associated with an air mail piece sent abroad.

But what of other intended uses of specific stamps? The second cover shown isn't rare, but illustrates the very specific purpose of the stamp used to frank it. The 25-cent Flag "plastic" stamp (Scott 2475) is a special automatic teller machine (ATM) issue, designed to be able to pass through an ATM machine like currency. Although the stamps were available for sale through the USPS Philatelic Sales Division and other locations, very few ATM machines that vended stamps were available outside the Seattle, Washington area at the time (1991). Thus, ATM stamps on covers from those areas illustrate the purpose for which the stamps were intended. In this case the cover is a local Seattle cover.

Stamp types, varieties and EFOs (errors, freaks and oddities) make up the largest segment of modern postal history that is significant because of the stamps themselves.

Since normal production varieties (perforation, gum, color shades, and others) have not typically been recognized as separate and distinct varieties by the U.S. Post Office Department and the U.S. Postal Service, it frequently is difficult to know when they first appeared in post offices. Thus, their presence on covers both helps document the production history of various stamp issues and helps us know more about our stamps. For example, take a look at the Official Mail covers shown. The top example, Scott O136, is the common variety (although still difficult to find prop-



The author doesn't know of any existing Airlift covers or parcel wrappers actually sent to servicemen overseas, but some secondary-purpose uses (to pay fees and postage on any air mail piece) can be found. This 1973 example represents a one-ounce mailing to an overseas destination, sent registered.

erly used on cover). The bottom example is the much scarcer dull-gum variety, and currently the only known example on cover. Because all known examples of the dull-gum 22-cent Official Mail coil have a very specific dull-blue and lightly printed shade (that is not known on the regular type), its positive identification on cover is simple. We now know from this example that the dull-gum Official Mail coil stamps were available at least as early as March 1988 in Connecticut. Many other types of production varieties, such as large-hole, small-hole coils, tagging types, perforation varieties, paper types, etc., are tracked very specifically by their on-cover evidence and earliest-reported uses.

Similarly, well-known color varieties, such as the so-called "Maroon Douglass" stamp of the 1968 Prominent Americans series, is known as a 1979–80 variety because of its demonstrable postal use. The variety, thought to be a color error created when the ink intended for the 15-cent Oliver Wendell Holmes stamp was used by mistake, is now listed as Scott 1290b. The cover illustrated is rare — not because it is a certified cover, but because it is a certified cover that bears a block of five of this somewhat scarce variety. A normally colored example is shown inset.

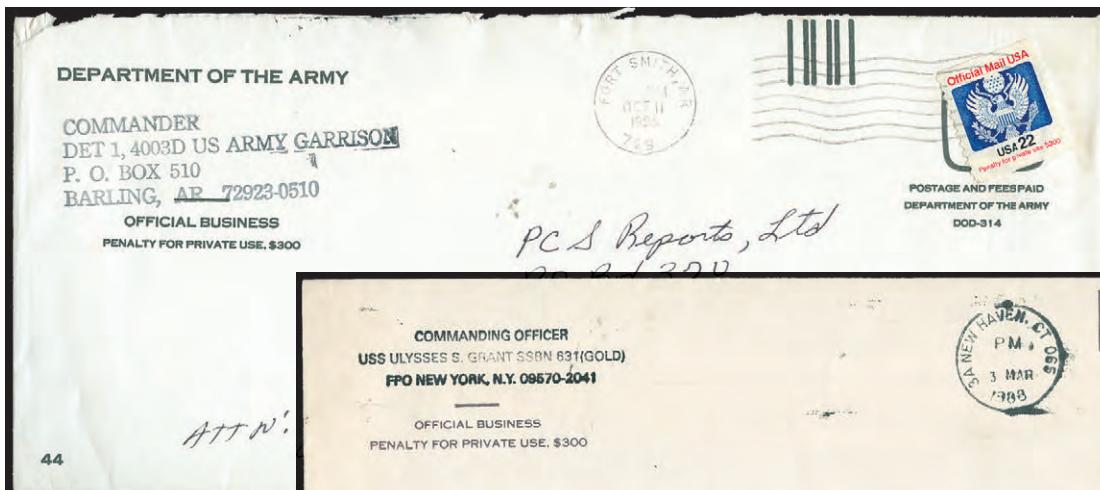


This 25-cent Flag "plastic" ATM stamp is on a cover representing its actual commercial use. In 1991 Seattle was the main area where ATMs dispensed postage stamps.

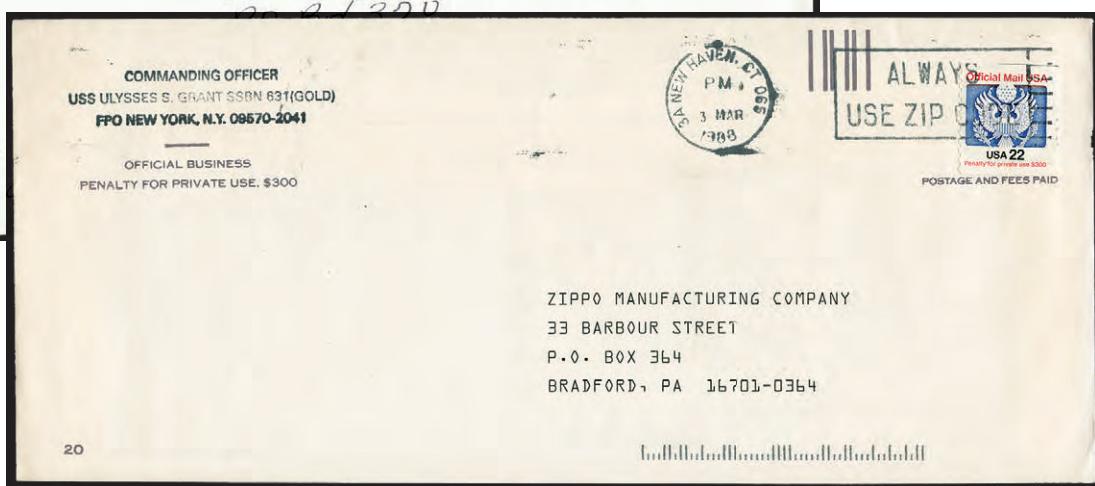
The next covers shown picture two plate flaws that are known on the 1988 Contemporary (secular) Christmas stamp issue (Scott 2400). Due to an error while creating photographic films to manufacture the printing cylinders for this stamp, the "curlieue" in the front sleigh runner is known both completely omitted and partially omitted. Because they are constant plate varieties, they are always found in the same positions from the same plate number combinations. But, like most plate varieties, they are difficult to find either on first-day

cover or on commercial cover. Similarly, varieties such as the so-called "Toledo Brown" 29-cent Flag stamp (it was actually first discovered near Des Moines), "Lenz Paper," "Bronx Blue," and many other modern varieties are significant modern postal history by their very presence on contemporaneous covers; that is, used during the time period they were current.

Similarly, EFO material is sometimes more significant when found on cover. Illustrated are two similar miscut booklet stamps on cover: one scarce, one



Examples of 22-cent Official Mail coil singles on cover. The example to the left is the more common example; the one below is the scarce dull-gum variety, previously unknown on cover.





RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

P. O. BOX 1317
OCALA, FLA. 32670Mr. Al Gilkes
172 Oakfield Ave.
Dix Hills, N.Y. 11746

CERTIFIED

P15 9918353

MAIL

This type of certified cover is not scarce by itself; however, the 25-cent stamps are the so-called "Maroon Douglass" variety, making the cover a rare use. Inset: A normally colored example.

unique. Both are from the bottom row of the printing web and show the continuous black guide line that was supposed to be trimmed off prior to booklet production. The top example, cut at the line, lets us know — in part — the format and layout of the printing plate. The bottom example, cut well below the line, also gives us the plate information — in this case Cylinder No. 3412 — used to print booklet stamps of this issue.

Similarly, the 1980 insured cover pictured gives us a great deal of information. Mailed November 4, 1980, from

Wheaton, Illinois, the cover bears a total of sixty-five cents postage to pay the then-current 15-cent first-class rate and the 50-cent fee for less than \$15 insurance coverage. But take a closer look. The cover also features a transition strip from perforated to imperforate of the 15-cent Flag sheet stamp (Scott 1597e). The left stamp is normally perforated on three sides, but imperforate at bottom, leading the user to tear into the next stamp when trying to separate them. The right pair (originally part of the same strip) is completely imperforate. This cover, then,



tells us exactly where and when examples of this major error were available at a post office, as well as the fact that these imperforates came from a transitional pane.

Perhaps the Holy Grail of postal history that is significant because of the stamp it bears, however, is one mailed with a counterfeit stamp. The commercial cover shown was mailed November 7, 1974, from Dearborn, Michigan to

CAPT. AND MRS. DAVID C. WINKLER
APO # 2 BOX 10228
APO SF 96367

AIR FORCE POSTAL
96239 DEC 15 1988

Greetings

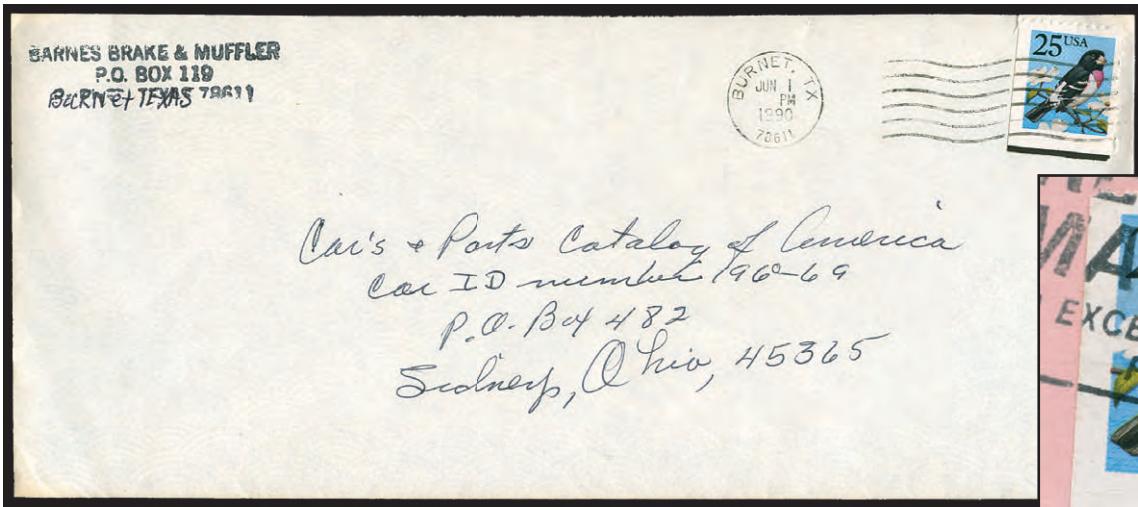
USA 25

Linn's Stamp News

P.O. Box 29
Sidney, OH 45365-0029

510001

Printing cylinder flaws created these missing and partially issuing slight runner "curlicue" varieties. Most plate varieties are difficult to find on cover.

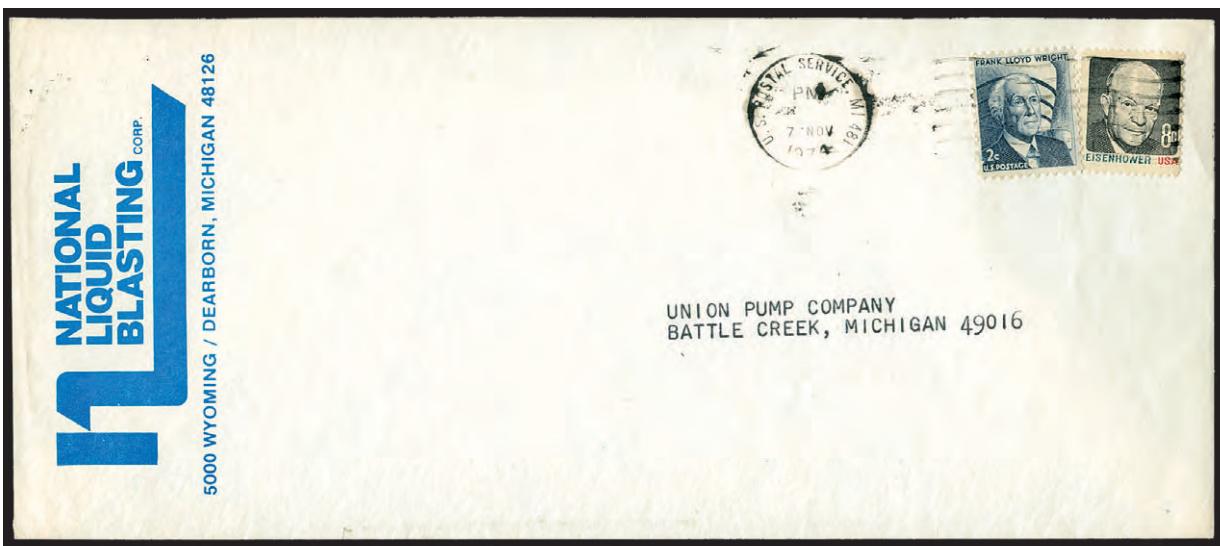


Two examples of miscut 25-cent Grosbeak booklet singles on cover. The top example is scarce; the bottom (with cylinder No. 3412) is unique.

Battle Creek, Michigan, and bears a postal counterfeit of the 8-cent Eisenhower definitive stamp (Scott 1395). It is a pretty convincing counterfeit, but untagged and printed by lithography rather than by line engraving. Most postal counterfeits by their very nature are scarce. But surviving commercial covers bearing them are nearly non-existent. For many years Pat Herst and other dealers and collectors mistakenly propagated the belief that collecting postal counterfeits was illegal, driving interest in this particular specialty underground.



A transitional perforated to imperforate error strip of three on this 1980 cover provides much information.



Postal counterfeits on commercial covers are exceedingly rare and are considered by many to be the Holy Grail of postal history because of the stamp used.

In My Opinion:

An Unexpected Path in Stamp Collecting — Tasmanian Postmarks

by Steven P. Radell

What is interesting to any given collector is always subjective and varies widely by the individual and by time period in which they are collecting. My stamp collecting, for example, has gone through at least four generations by now. When I started at age eleven in the mid 1970s, I collected everything in the world, trying to fill as many spaces as possible in my Ambassador album. *Generation 1.*

My father had been a modest collector of coins and stamps as a boy and supported the efforts of my sister and me in a fairly low-key manner. After a couple of years, I received a huge Citation album for Christmas and transferred all my stamps into it. In the process, I realized there were very many *more* stamps that could be collected and, most importantly, that I liked some countries better than others. *Generation 2.*

I've learned since that most people come to just such a realization pretty quickly, but I think that most are willing to settle on just a few countries to collect, or even just one. I, on the other hand, only managed to reduce my interests down to about forty-five countries — mainly North America, Europe, and Australia — and then continued down a pretty much linear collecting path for about twenty years. In addition, I began to collect topically, as well as by country, and the list of my topics of interest continues to expand with time.

New Year's Day 1998 turned out to be a turning tide in my collecting. I had joined a stamp club and started making bigger purchases and finding many interesting items at the club auction, but that day I bought an entire collection from

a dealer in Pasadena. It was a big event for me and I talked about it with a couple people at work, which led to my buying another, larger collection and then, a year later, an even larger one. *Generation 3.*

My collection was growing and I was quite happy about it; stamp collecting is pretty much my favorite pastime. But I also discovered that a funny thing can happen when you buy a collection or a lot: you can acquire someone else's interests and now carry them on yourself.

It was about this time that eBay became a popular auction site. My purchasing on eBay goes hot and cold, but the neat thing is the diverse sources of stamps it has to offer.

Time, experience, friends, and articles such as this one can be influential in developing our stamp collecting interests. How many times have you read an article, especially in this publication, and then wanted at least an example of the topic for your own collection? (Gold mailing and Christmas Day cancels both come to mind.) I also really like the "Worldwide in a Nutshell" column that can help introduce lesser-known places to many of us. These are the steps to *Generation 4.*

A few years later, I bought a pound of newer Australia on paper. I didn't have many examples in my collection from the 1980s on, so I thought that this lot would be bound to fill a bunch of spaces. I noticed when sorting them that this particular box had quite a few

postmarks from Tasmania. It occurred to me that this was a smallish geographical area and that I should learn something about the postmarks before soaking the stamps and potentially ruining scarce items. *Generation 4.*

I decided to check a map and note the towns on it. A



small map would show me the biggest towns, bigger maps would add medium ones, and then I could use an online map to zoom in and locate the smaller ones.

This was a research project that I pursued occasionally over a period of about three years until, one day, club member/dealer Dale Wilber surprised me with a printout of a list of Tasmanian towns compiled in 1986 by Kenneth Lancaster. This not only listed the towns and type varieties (506+), but also gave the rarity factors for cancels on the pictorial set of Tasmania, December 1899–1912. Among other things, I learned that the larger towns (Hobart, Launceston, Strahan, and Zeehan) have additional varieties and are generally collected separately. It was time to begin organizing!

Just a few weeks later, in January 2010, the APS held its winter show in Riverside, California, and I took the Lancaster list along to see if I could learn more about the different postmark types and, hopefully, find some of the scarcer ones for my budding collection. As luck would have it, an Australian dealer was there who offered postal history material. He was happy to explain the type differences and to give me a rough range of values based on the rarity factor on my list. He told me that it was possible to collect about 50–100 of the postmarks without too much trouble. I bought six of the scarcer items so that I would have at least a few decent ones in my collection.

A second lucky meeting was with a gentleman at the table who was an experienced collector of Tasmanian cancels. He helped me further and encouraged my pursuit, even giving me his e-mail address to be of more assistance. Later he e-mailed me his circular date stamp (cds) list, which I checked against the Lancaster list, noting some inclusion/exclusion and spelling differences. I e-mailed him these details and he promptly replied, noting that some existed only as manuscript cancels and also identifying which spellings were correct. Now I had a working list of 481 towns and fifty varieties.

With that refined list in hand, I organized the data to fill nine double-sided, six-strip black stock pages. First I entered my new acquisitions, then I went about identifying the others I had on hand. The working list meant I was better able to review the on-paper lot I had purchased for anything scarce and save those. This gave me a total of sixty-four different cancels, or 12 percent of my list. A decent

start, but not a very satisfying number to a collector. So the challenge was on.

Short of flying to Australia, Internet shopping for specialized foreign material on Tasmania is about the best method I know. Hunting online has netted me 364+ different cancels, including 82 of 110 towns with an “R” rarity rating (25–50 copies known), 18 of 53 towns with an “RR” rating (13–24 copies known), and two of 24 towns with an RRR rating (7–12 copies known). With only sixteen towns rated “RRRR” (1–6 copies known), none of which I have been able to add to my tally so far, I’m sure I will never have a complete collection, but I’m enjoying the pursuit of this unusual and interesting niche of the hobby.

I hope to go to Tasmania someday, finally see a wild platypus, then drive through some of the towns I have become familiar with and pursue more of them on stamps as well.

The Author

T Steven Radell is an avid collector of most countries in the northern hemisphere and Australasia area, with a specialized collection of Tannu Tuva. He also collects many topicals. Originally from Rochester, New York, he has lived in Los Angeles since 1996 and is a member of a few stamp clubs. This is his first article; he hopes to present his first stamp exhibit soon.

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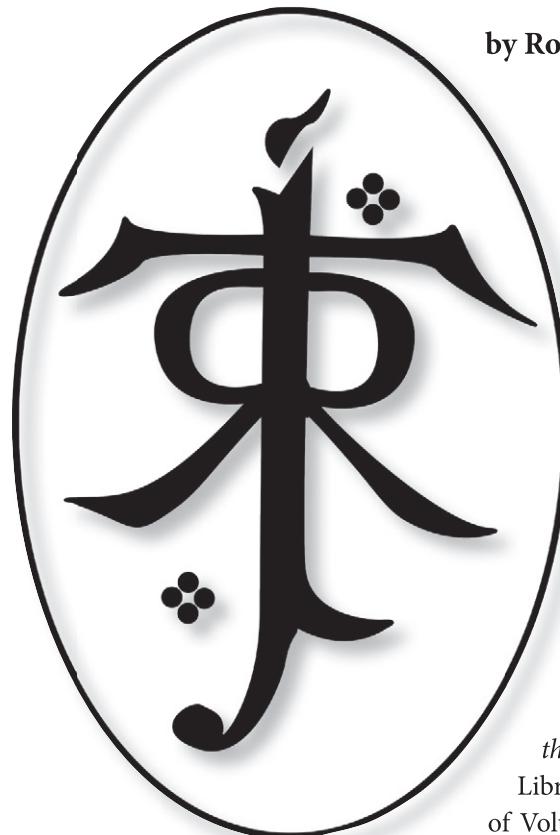
J.R.R. Tolkien & *The Lord of the Rings*

Philately in Middle-earth

by Robert A. Moss

Fifty years ago I was a chemistry graduate student at the University of Chicago living in Charles Hitchcock Hall, a Prairie Gothic building listed in the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. Hitchcock had a splendid lounge with a fireplace, wood-beamed ceiling, comfortable armchairs, leaded windows, and many lamps. I spent hours there reading, and there I was approached by a Tolkien evangelist (whose name I have forgotten). This fellow student had a number of copies of *The Hobbit* and lent one if you promised to read and return it, much like those street corner evangelists in New York who gave you a Bible if you promised to read it. After several entreaties, I read *The Hobbit*. It seemed to me a pleasant enough children's story about hobbits (think half-sized humans or "halflings"), dwarves, dragons, orcs, golden treasure, and an all-powerful ring that rendered the wearer invisible. In truth, I struggled to finish it, and returned the book to the lender with polite thanks.

I thought I was done with Tolkien, but when I related the incident to newly arrived friends from Harvard, they asked if I had yet read *The Lord of the Rings*, the subsequent Tolkien books then sweeping the Harvard campus. No, I had not. They lent me the first volume of the trilogy, *The Fellowship of the Ring*. After a hundred pages, read in one sitting, I hurried to the University Library where I borrowed the second volume, *The Two Towers*. The library's copy of Volume 3, *The Return of the King*, was signed out, so I took the "el" downtown



to Brentano's where I bought my own copy. I subsequently returned for the other volumes, too. I still have them; the notation on their flyleafs reads "Chicago, October 1962."

Who was J.R.R. Tolkien, and how did he come to write *The Lord of the Rings*? John Ronald Reuel Tolkien was born in 1892 in Bloemfontein, South Africa, the child of overseas English parents, but he and his younger brother, Hilary, returned to England permanently when their father died in 1896. Tolkien was raised by his mother, Mabel, in Birmingham and in the nearby village of Sarehole. In 1900 Mabel and her children joined the Catholic Church and Catholicism became a central feature of the mature Tolkien's world-view. Mabel Tolkien died of diabetes in 1904, after which Father Francis Murphy became Ronald and Hilary's guardian.

Tolkien was educated at St. Edward's School in Birmingham and at Exeter College, Oxford. He manifested a remarkable gift for languages, learning Greek, Latin, Gothic, Welsh, and Finnish, as well as various old forms of German and English. Indeed, as a hobby, he began to create his own languages, from which his mythology and stories later grew. It was during his Oxford studies of Old English and Old Norse that he encountered the line "Hail Earendel brightest of angels, over Middle Earth sent unto men." From this seed, *The Lord of the Rings* (*LOTR*), the saga of Tolkien's great imagined reality, was to germinate many years later. One of its earliest manifestations was a poem written at this time, "The Voyage of Earendel the Evening Star." It was the beginning of Tolkien's own mythology, in which the legend of Eärendil the Mariner finds an honored place.

After completing his degree in English Language and



J.R.R. Tolkien.

Literature (with first class honors) in 1915, Tolkien married, enlisted as a second lieutenant, and was sent to fight in France during World War I. Sickened by trench fever, he was returned to England, and spent months in military hospitals. There he continued to work on his invented languages, Quenya and Sindarin, which would later become the languages of the elves in *LOTR*. By themselves, these languages, related to Finnish and Welsh, were unanchored, unassociated with their speakers or their poetry (which Tolkien also



First day cover of "Magical Worlds, classic fantasy books for children" (Great Britain, 1998). The 20p value (Scott 1820) honors Tolkien's *The Hobbit*.

composed), and so Tolkien began to create a mythology as a back-story for the languages.

These early efforts led to the *Book of Lost Tales*, and related stories later collected in the *Silmarillion*. Neither of these books was published during his lifetime, but their contents served as the background for *LOTR*. Indeed, one of the hallmarks of *LOTR* is the feeling that it imparts of great depth, of a history that narrates merely a portion of a much larger body of related lore. The reader forms that impression because it is true — an intricate tapestry of interwoven mythology and languages underlies *LOTR*. When Tolkien came to write his epic, that imaginative world was already in place to be drawn upon.

In 1918 Tolkien began working at the Oxford English Dictionary, where he honed his philological skills on words beginning with *W*. In 1920 he was appointed Reader in English Language at the University of Leeds, beginning his academic career. He was to remain at Leeds for five years, during which time his intellectual life proceeded on two tracks: professional literary work, exemplified by a well-regarded new edition of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (with E.V. Gordon), and the continuing development of his mythology in *The Book of Lost Tales*.

In 1925 Tolkien returned to Oxford as Professor of Anglo-Saxon, and continued these parallel creative paths. His academic endeavors saw the publication of the highly influential lecture “Beowulf, the Monsters and the Critics.” His mythology and languages now focused on the interconnected collection of tales and legends that would ultimately be edited and published in 1977 as *The Silmarillion* by his son, Christopher Tolkien. *The Silmarillion* contains Tolkien’s creation myth, including an account of the fall of an angelic being, Melchor, as the origin of evil. Also described is the creation of “Middle-earth,” the coming of elves and men into that region of the world, and an account of the forging of the rings of power and the wars related to them. Here, too, is a recasting of the Atlantis legend in the sinking of Numenor and the ruin of an ancient, noble culture of humankind. A high point is the story of Beren and Lúthien, which tells of the love of a mortal man for an elf maiden. Tolkien said that his wife, Edith, “was and knew she was my Lúthien.” The names “Beren” and “Lúthien” are engraved on the tombstone that J.R.R. and Edith Tolkien share in a cemetery on the outskirts of Oxford.

The *Silmarillion* was ultimately the origin of *LOTR*, but an intermediate step was *The Hobbit*. Legend recounts that in the early 1930s, while grading examinations, Tolkien used

an empty page of an examination booklet to write the cryptic sentence: “In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit.” By 1936 he had nearly completed the story of the hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, and his quest to help a band of dwarves recover a golden hoard taken from them by the dragon Smaug. The story grew in part as bedtime readings to his four children, but an incomplete manuscript was brought to the attention of Stanley Unwin of the publishers George Allen & Unwin.

Unwin asked his ten-year-old son, Rayner, to read it; Rayner approved and Unwin asked Tolkien to finish the tale for publication. *The Hobbit* was published in 1937 to critical acclaim; it has not been out of print since, and is now recognized as a staple of children’s literature.

In 1998 Great Britain issued a set of five stamps to celebrate “Magical Worlds, classic fantasy books for children.” The 20p value (Scott 1820), picturing the confrontation of Bilbo and Smaug,

is devoted to Tolkien’s *The Hobbit*. Other stamps in the set represent *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (C.S. Lewis), *The Phoenix and the Carpet* (E. Nesbit), *The Borrowers* (Mary Norton), and *Through the Looking Glass* (Lewis Carroll).

The success of *The Hobbit* led Unwin to request a sequel. Tolkien responded by submitting portions of *The Silmarillion*, but Unwin’s reader had mixed reactions and the decision went against publication: the public wanted more hobbits, was Unwin’s advice to Tolkien. In response, Tolkien began the “New Hobbit,” initially conceived as a sequel in which Bilbo’s nephew, Frodo, embarks on his own adventure. However, the tale darkened, deepened, and acquired its own momentum as Tolkien “discovered” the true nature of the magic ring that Bilbo had obtained in *The Hobbit*. It was, in fact, the Ruling Ring, forged in the volcanic fires of Mount Doom by the evil Sauron, a servant of Melchor. Into this ring Sauron distilled a great portion of his evil nature. How it was taken from him, how it came to be lost and Bilbo to acquire it, are dealt with in other installments of Tolkien’s mythology, but as he continued to write, it became apparent that the new tale was less a sequel to *The Hobbit* than a sequel to *The Silmarillion*, imbued with similar serious intent.

Tolkien labored on the new story from 1937 through 1939, in parallel with his normal academic duties. As Humphrey Carpenter relates in his biography of Tolkien, “Every aspect of the earlier work was playing a part in the new story: the mythology itself, which provided both a historical setting and a sense of depth, the elvish languages that he had developed so painstakingly and thoroughly over more than twenty-five years....”

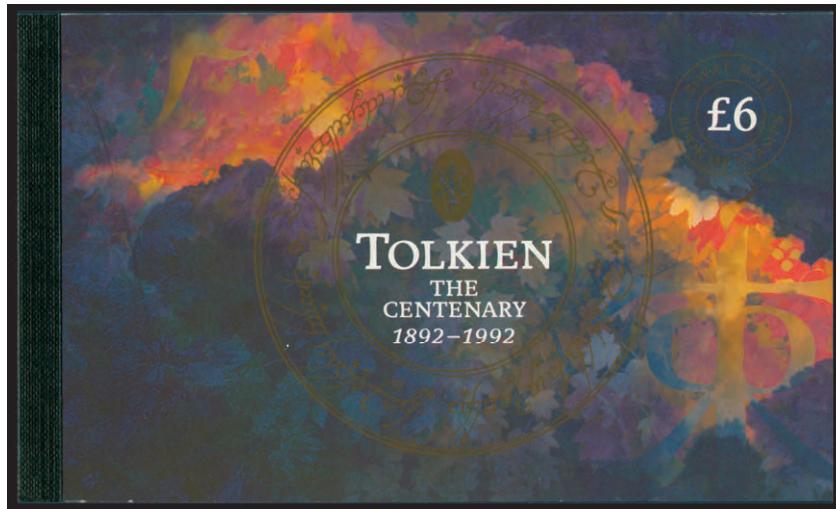


Great Britain, Scott 1820.

With the start of World War II in 1939, Tolkien's time became more fragmented, much of it claimed by wartime instructional duties at Oxford. The tale made slow progress, but a key plot development was the formation of a Fellowship, dedicated to helping Frodo in his quest to destroy Sauron's ring, and with it the power of evil. The Fellowship represented an alliance of hobbits, men, elves, dwarves, and Gandalf the Wizard. It is tempting to regard *LOTR* as an allegory of the war, with the Allies or Fellowship pitted against Sauron, representing the Axis powers. However, Tolkien denied this reading and expressed a general distaste for allegory, adding, "There is a 'moral,' I suppose, in any tale worth telling. But that is not the same thing." *LOTR* was eventually completed in 1949, but it would take five more years until the huge saga, divided into three volumes, each comprised of two "books," was finally published in 1954 and 1955.

The reviews were decidedly mixed; C.S. Lewis (author of the *Narnia* series and a close friend) and W.H. Auden wrote highly favorable reviews, but Edmund Wilson, the eminent literary critic, was dismissive. Nevertheless, sales slowly gathered momentum, spurred by a BBC radio version, so that the first printing of 3,500 copies of Volume 1 had to be augmented by a second printing only six weeks later. A real turning point came in 1965 when Ace Books issued an inexpensive, pirated, three-volume paperback edition in the United States, which sold wildly among college students, impelling the publication of an authorized paperback edition by Ballantine Books. During 1965, 100,000 copies of the Ace edition were sold and then a million copies of the Ballantine version; sales became exponential. The extraordinary popularity of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy continues today, and received a giant boost from Peter Jackson's three-film adaptation, released in 2001–2003. On the basis of both sales and reader surveys, the trilogy is one of the most popular fictional works of the twentieth century; more than fifty million copies have been sold worldwide.

What makes *The Lord of the Rings* so captivating? It is "escape fiction" at the highest level; in C.S. Lewis's words, "heroic romance, gorgeous, eloquent, and unashamed...." It offers an alternative reality with a richly detailed history, a world that is at once remote yet still recognizable, where good and evil are clearly defined and good triumphs through travail and sacrifice. In the 1960s, with the Cuban missile crisis and heart-breaking political assassinations, and more generally through the decades of the Cold War, when an atomic Armageddon seemed possible or even likely, Tolkien's world provided not only escape, but consolation. The trilogy spoke directly to the '60s counterculture; to some,



Cover of Great Britain Scott Bk157, issued in 1998 to commemorate the centenary of J.R.R. Tolkien's birth.

the books were an acid trip without acid. Or, as E.E. Cummings put it, "listen: there's a hell of a good universe next door; let's go." A Tolkien "cult" arose among young people, who wore buttons that proclaimed "Frodo Lives"; Tolkien societies were formed; and the books were translated into many languages. I have sets in Hebrew and Russian, gifts from my children.

Tolkien passed away in 1973 at the age of eighty-one. He never completed *The Silmarillion*, but his son Christopher, also an Oxford don, published an edited, coherent version in 1977. Christopher went on to publish *Unfinished Tales* (1980) and a twelve-volume *History of Middle-earth* (1983–1996), based on Tolkien's extensive notes and unpublished writings.

Tolkien's achievement has since been recognized in the philatelic world. In 1992 Britain issued a "Prestige" stamp booklet (Scott Bk157) honoring the centenary of Tolkien's birth. There are no specifically Tolkien stamps within the eight-leaved booklet. Rather, it contains four panes of lithographed Machin heads of Queen Elizabeth II at several values; however, the stamp panes alternate with four two-sided illustrated leaves devoted to Tolkien's life and works. An interesting quotation included in the booklet is from a letter Tolkien wrote to the publisher Milton Waldman: "I was from early days grieved by the poverty of my own beloved country: it had no stories of its own.... I had a mind to make a body of more or less connected legend ... which I could dedicate simply: to England, to my country." Tolkien's phrase "it had no stories of its own" is curious. Surely the medievalist professor had not forgotten Chaucer, Beowulf, or the legends of King Arthur and Camelot. Rather, he referred to mythological antecedents set in a remote pre-historic Britain. Indeed, he termed his own tales a "Legendarium," and noted that "Middle-earth is our world.... I have (of course) placed the action in a purely imaginary (though not wholly impossible) period of antiquity, in which the shape of the

First day cover of Britain 2004 (Scott 2183–2192) block of ten stamps issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the publication of *The Lord of the Rings*. Note the use of J.R.R. Tolkien's monogram in the postmark.



continental masses was different.” This statement, too, is included in the booklet, as are leaves devoted to an alphabet of runes that he devised for the language of the dwarves.

In 2004 Britain issued a se-tenant block of ten first class stamps to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of *LOTR*. Nine of the stamps bear Tolkien's own illustrations, and the tenth features a map of Middle-earth drawn by Christopher Tolkien.

Descriptions of the stamps follow.

Top row, left to right:

1. A map of Middle-earth (detail), depicting the mountains, rivers, and forests as described in the three volumes of *LOTR*.
2. The Forest of Lothlorien in spring — Lothlorien was an elven kingdom where the High-Elven Queen Galadriel lived.
3. The dust-jacket of the first edition of *The Fellowship of the Ring*, showing the ruling ring, forged by the Dark Lord Sauron. The central device is the eye of Sauron within the ring, which is surrounded by the ring's inscription in Elvish script. Translated, it reads: “One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them, One Ring to bring them all and in the Darkness bind them.” It is this ring that Frodo the hobbit must bring into Mordor, Sauron's realm, and destroy by casting it into the fires of the volcano where it was forged.
4. Rivendell, the home of Elrond, Half-Elven, in the foothills of the Misty Mountains, is a way station on the journey of Frodo and his companions in *The Fellowship of the Ring*. The name in the Elven language, *Imladris*, means “deep cloven valley.”
5. The Hall at Bag-End in Hobbiton in the Shire, the

residence of Bilbo Baggins and his nephew, Frodo. Note the characteristic circular door. The name “Bag-End” derives from a local appellation for the Worcestershire farm of Tolkien's Aunt Jane. Tolkien once noted that “I am in fact a hobbit in all but size. I like gardens, trees and unmechanized farmlands; I smoke a pipe and like good plain food....” The Shire is Tolkien's idealized vision of rural England.

Bottom row, left to right:

6. Orthanc, the Tower of Isengard, occupied by the turncoat wizard Saruman, an ally of Sauron. Originally constructed by the men of Gondor, it was one of the most impregnable fortresses of Middle-earth.
7. The Doors of Durin, which guard the entrance to Moria, the great underground city of the dwarves, carved from living stone. The Fellowship essays a disastrous shortcut through Moria, where the wizard Gandalf is lost in combat with a fearsome Balrog, a demonic power created by Melchor long before this time. Those with a magnifying glass can read the text beneath the sketch of the door: “Here is written in the Feanorian characters according to the mode of Beleriand: (translated) The Doors of Durin, Lord of Moria, Speak friend, and enter.” This text, in Elvish script, also appears across the archway, above the crown and seven stars representing the ancient Dwarf Lords. As Gandalf finally deduces, it is only necessary to speak the Elvish word *mellon* (“friend”) and the doors will open.
8. The Tower of Barad-Dur, the Dark Tower. It is the fortress of Sauron in Mordor, “with its towers and battlements, tall as hills, founded upon a mighty



Three miniature sheets from *The Fellowship of the Ring*: 40-cent Gandalf and Saruman (Scott 1750a); 90-cent Frodo and Samwise (Scott 1752a); \$2 Boromir (Scott 1755a).

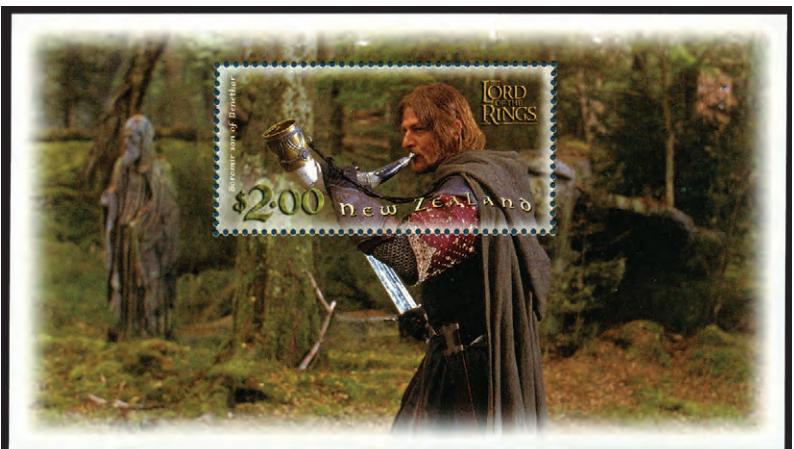


mountain-throne above immeasurable pits....":

9. Minas Tirith, the Tower of Guard, also known as Minas Arnor, the Tower of the Setting Sun. It was originally a fortified city built by men of the Kingdom of Gondor centuries before the era described in *LOTR*.
10. Fangorn Forest, the ancient forest that stood on the eastern side of the Misty Mountains and was home to the ents, guardians of the trees. Tree-like themselves, the ents, led by Treebeard, become allies of the Fellowship.

A second group of LOTR stamps feature the trilogy of films derived from the Tolkien novels, directed by Peter Jackson and filmed in his native New Zealand. Jackson's project required eight years to complete; his films were released in 2001, 2002, and 2003, with each film corresponding to one volume of the Tolkien trilogy. Although costing \$285 million to produce, the films were a major critical and financial success, garnering seventeen Academy Awards out of thirty nominations, and grossing \$2.91 billion, the sixth highest-grossing film series.

New Zealand issued three sets of LOTR stamps, each set corresponding to one film, offered simultaneously with opening of the movie. I must add that the commercial instincts of the New Zealand Post were given very free rein. For example, the "ultimate" stamp collection for *The Two Towers* costs NZ\$299.99. It includes two sets of gummed and self-adhesive stamps, six gummed stamp sheets (each of twenty-five stamps), a stamp booklet of ten self-adhesive stamps, a set of six miniature sheets, a set of six maximum cards, two first day covers with gummed and self-adhesive stamps, a set of miniature sheet first day covers, and a Presentation Pack. Redundancy not being my goal, I will describe only the miniature sheets, corresponding to eighteen



scenes, six from each of the three films. Alas, each stamp is simply a direct reproduction of a movie scene; there is no attempt at enhanced design or creative interpretation.

The Fellowship of the Ring (New Zealand, 2001, Scott 1750a–1755a). The 40-cent value shows the wizards Gandalf and Saruman walking in the gardens of Isengard, Saruman's fortress. Gandalf informs Saruman that the One Ring has been found, but he will shortly learn of Saruman's treacherous dealings with Sauron. The 80-cent design (not shown) depicts Galadriel, the Elven Queen. Frodo offers her the One Ring; although tempted, Galadriel refuses his offer, knowing that the ring corrupts whoever wields it. The 90-cent value pictures Frodo, the ring-bearer, and his closest hobbit companion, Samwise Gamgee. Here they await the arrival of Gandalf at the Inn of the Prancing Pony, but Gandalf, having been detained by Saruman, will not arrive.

On the \$1.30 sheet (not shown), the Guardian of Rivendell keeps watch over a sleeping Frodo in the elven kingdom where the Fellowship rests on its quest. The \$1.50 design (not shown) pictures Strider, the Ranger who befriends the



Three miniature sheets from *The Two Towers*: 40-cent Aragorn and Lady Eowyn (Scott 1835a); \$1.30 Haradrim soldiers (Scott 1838a); \$2 Lady Eowyn on the steps of Meduseld, the great hall of Rohan (Scott 1840a).



tures Frodo, dressed in the characteristic gray-green cloak of the wood-elves. The \$2 design shows Lady Eowyn on the steps of Meduseld, the royal hall of Rohan. She is strongly attracted to Aragorn, but his affections have long been given to Arwen Evenstar, daughter of the Elven King, Elrond.

The Return of the King (New Zealand, 2003, Scott 18979a–1902a). The 40-cent design pictures Legolas the elven prince, member of the Fellowship and a formidable archer. Behind him is Gimli, the dwarf, Legolas's unlikely friend. The 80-cent value features Frodo holding aloft the vial given to him by Galadriel, which illuminates the dark. The 90-cent sheet depicts the hobbits Merry and Pippin, members of the Fellowship, in the flooded ruins of Isengard.

The \$1.30 value illustrates Aragorn in his status as King Elessar of Gondor; the King has returned to lead many allies in a final assault on Sauron's stronghold of Mordor. The \$1.50 sheet pictures Gandalf the White in the last battle before the Gates of Mordor. The \$2 value shows Gollum, once a hobbit-like creature named Sméagol, but now "twisted and ravaged" by thwarted desire for the One Ring that he lost to Bilbo many years before.

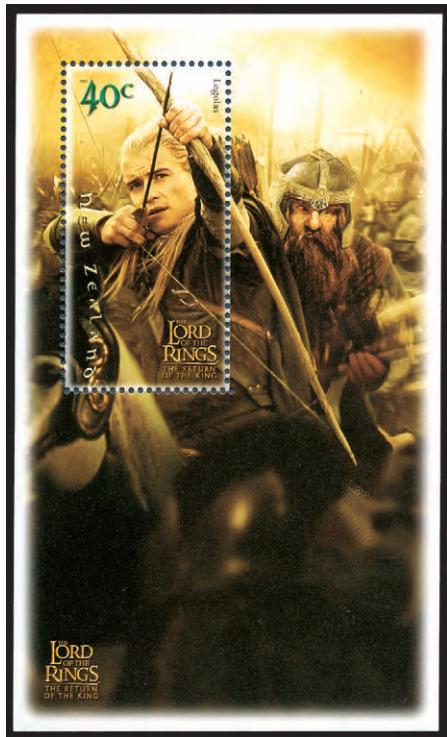
In 2004, a year after the release of the third film, New Zealand issued a se-tenant block of eight stamps (and a corresponding souvenir sheet) featuring the landscapes of Middle-earth. As shown here, the block consists of four vertical pairs. The upper row presents four scenes from the films, while the matching lower row shows the corresponding sites in New Zealand where the filming took place.

The 45-cent pair depicts the crossing at the Ford of Bru-

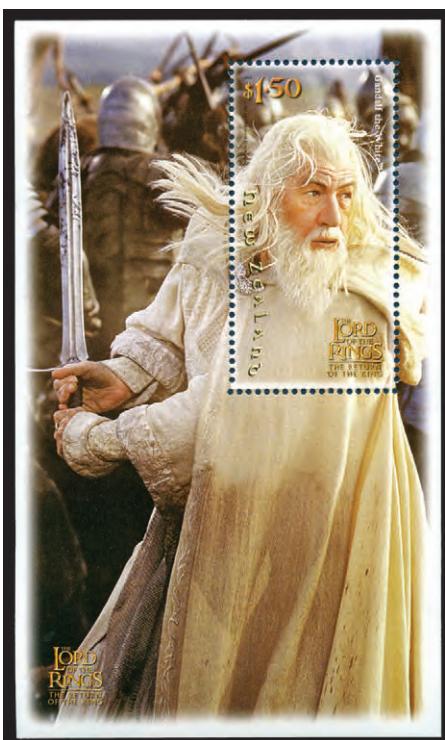
hobbits and leads them on their journey. In reality, Strider is Aragorn, heir to the throne of Gondor. The \$2.00 sheet depicts Boromir, son of the Steward of Gondor. Boromir is shown blowing the ancient horn of Gondor to summon help during an attack by Saruman's orcs in which Boromir ultimately falls.

The Two Towers (New Zealand, 2002, Scott 1835a–1840a). The 40-cent stamp pictures Aragorn and Lady Eowyn, niece of King Theoden of Rohan. Aragorn and some of the Fellowship journey through Rohan and participate in the defense of its bastion, Helm's Deep, against the orcs of Saruman. The 80-cent design (not shown) features a mounted orc raider. The orcs are a savage cross of human and elvin stock originally bred by Melchor as soldiery for use in his wars against men and elves. Later, Sauron and Saruman breed orcs for their own nefarious purposes. The 90-cent sheet (not shown) pictures the wizard Gandalf, reborn after his calamitous battle with the Balrog in the Mines of Moria. Gandalf is the spiritual leader of the free peoples against the dominion of Sauron.

The \$1.30 design depicts a group of Haradrim soldiers. The Haradrim or Southrons are a fierce warrior race who are enemies of the Kingdom of Gondor and fight against it in alliance with Sauron's armies. The \$1.50 sheet (not shown) pic-



Six miniature sheets from *The Return of the King*: 40-cent Legolas (Scott 1897a); 80-cent Frodo (Scott 1898a); 90-cent Merry and Pippin (Scott 1899a); \$1.30 Aragorn as King Elessar (Scott 1900a); \$1.50 Gandalf the White (Scott 1901a); \$2 Gollum (Scott 1902a).



inen, a crucial episode in *The Fellowship of the Ring*, when the elven princess Arwen summons a flood to stymie Sauron's Black Riders as she and Frodo escape into Rivendell. The matching stamp shows the Shotover River in Skippers Canyon near Queenstown, once a major goldfield, where this episode was filmed. The 90-cent pair deals with the Fellowship's trek to Rivendell. Legolas is seen surveying the

rocky approach. The paired stamp shows the outcroppings near Mt. Olympus in Kahurangi National Park on New Zealand's South Shore.

On the \$1.50 pair, the Fellowship approaches the Golden Hall of King Theoden of Rohan and the accompanying buildings of Edoras. Shown on the matching stamp is the bare, rocky hill near Mt. Sunday in the Southern New Zea-



Four scenes from *The Lord of the Rings* film trilogy and the four matching sites in New Zealand (New Zealand, 2004, Scott 1956–1963).

land Alps where the complex was constructed. Building the Rohan set required eleven months and subsequently has attracted many tourists. The \$2 pair shows Sam and Frodo approaching Mordor, passing through Emyn Muil, a range of hills cleft by the great River Anduin. The actual location, shown on the paired stamp, is in Tangaroa National Park. There the volcanic rock and ash were used for the setting of Mordor's Mount Doom, where the One Ring was forged and where it was destroyed.

Lastly, in 2003, the Isle of Man issued a set of eight stamps and a miniature sheet devoted to the film version of *The Return of the King* (Scott 1013–1020 and 1021). Similarly to the New Zealand issues, the Isle of Man stamps depict stills from the movie featuring major characters of the saga. The values and their subjects include: 23-pence, Aragorn wearing the crown of Gondor; 27-pence, Gimli the Dwarf; 30-pence, Gandalf and King Theoden; 38-pence, Legolas mounted on his horse; 42-pence, Gollum; 47-pence, Sam and Frodo;

68-pence, Legolas shooting an arrow; and 85-pence, Aragorn riding to battle.

Illustrated here is the \$2 miniature sheet, which depicts the One Ring, as well as Aragorn and other characters from the film. Tolkien's One Ring, with its aura of evil power, has been likened to the Ring of the Nibelungen, the focus of Wagner's great operatic tetralogy. This comparison greatly irked Tolkien, who remarked, "Both rings were round, and there the resemblance ceased."

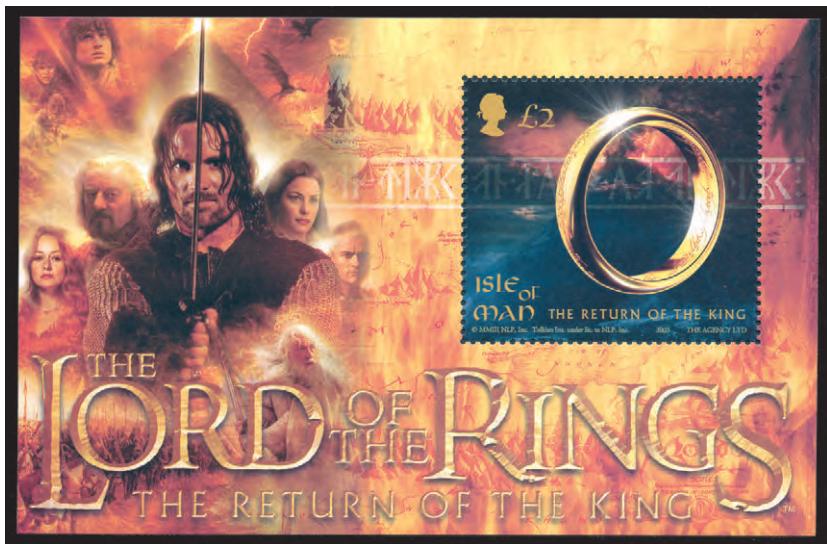
In the last chapter of *The Return of the King*, Tolkien wrote "...for the Third Age was over, and the Days of the Ring were passed, and an end was come of the story and song of those times." For Tolkien, it was indeed the end of a labor of many years, but it was not the end of the story and song of those times. Three generations later, *The Lord of the Rings* still casts its spell, and seems likely to remain a permanent part of the literary landscape. With a new film version of *The Hobbit* soon to be released, we may expect continued interest in Tolkien's mythos, and perhaps further philatelic tributes as well.

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The Author

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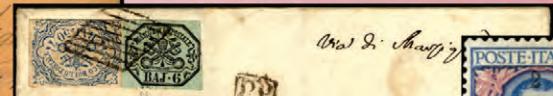


Miniature sheet issued in 2003 for *The Return of the King*, Isle of Man (Scott 1021).

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Ardath Tobacco Cards

'Stamps Rare & Interesting'

by Ron Beideck

The small paper or pasteboard illustrated advertising cards known today as tradesmen's or trade cards originated in the seventeenth century and, as a paper collectible, have a history stretching even further back than that of stamp collecting. Nonetheless, the two hobbies might be considered close cousins, and both would hit their stride in the late nineteenth century when innovations in chromolithography — including improvements in the register (alignment) of stones used as printing plates (each stone was used to produce a different color) and the development of steam presses, which permitted faster print production — set the scene for a national collecting craze.

When free color cards were handed out at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition in 1876,¹ they were a sensation. Advertisers began ordering "chromos" and distributing them in the thousands. It is reported that a Philadelphia printer claimed he could provide 10,000 cards imprinted with a firm's name for only twenty dollars. Hires Root Beer² — also introduced to the public for the first time at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, along with Heinz Ketchup and Alexander Graham Bell's telephone — is said to have issued four million trade cards in a single year.

In their heyday, trade cards covered virtually every subject under the sun — including stamps — and were produced to inform, enlighten, and entertain, all for free!

The small paper or pasteboard illustrated advertising cards known today as tradesmen's or trade cards originated in the seventeenth century and, as a paper collectible, have a history stretching even further back than that of stamp collecting.

Imaginative, artistic, beautifully colored cards were stacked on store counters, sent out in the mail, handed out in the streets, and pasted into special scrapbooks. People who even mildly aspired to culture and art displayed the cards prominently in their homes. In *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, Mark Twain bemusedly wrote that he couldn't go into any room in his house in East Hartford without seeing an insurance chromo.

This great international marketing success story in promoting brand loyalty and sales continued into the twentieth century when it was finally supplanted by improved color separation technology which led to expanded low cost color advertising opportunities in magazines and Sunday supplements. But, in their heyday, trade cards covered virtually every subject under the sun — including stamps — and were produced to inform, enlighten, and entertain, all for free!

Ardath Tobacco Company

Ardath Tobacco Company was founded in Great Britain in 1896 (with a branch and factory later in Holland) and originally manufactured brands for "fashionable" smokers. From 1915 to 1939, variously using lithography, letterpress or photogravure methods, Ardash produced 106 series of collectible cards to promote brand loyalty. Fifty individual collectible cards was a common number for a series; one card was inserted into each pack of cigarettes. Among the interesting and diverse titles were Famous Film Stars, Rembrandt Series, Footballers, Dog Studies, Eastern Proverbs, Big Game Hunting, Beautiful English Women, Hand Shadows, Your Birthday Tells Your Fortune, Speed on Land and Sea and Air, Empire Personalities, and Famous Scots. But possibly the most collectible (a Very Fine set is worth about \$150 at present) and best remembered today is "Stamps Rare and Interesting," which appeared in 1939.

Appealing to philatelists as well as cartophilists, the British series illustrates many stamp rarities from around the world, shown against an appropriate pictorial background. Some present old familiar pieces of postal history, others may be new to even the experienced collector. They offer an historical snapshot of both stamp collecting and card collecting at the time. The text that follows is taken from the backs of the cards illustrated, sometimes edited for brevity. The original text was given the credit line: "By courtesy of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London."

A Sampling of the Cards

No. 1 Great Britain — *The First Adhesive Postage Stamp*

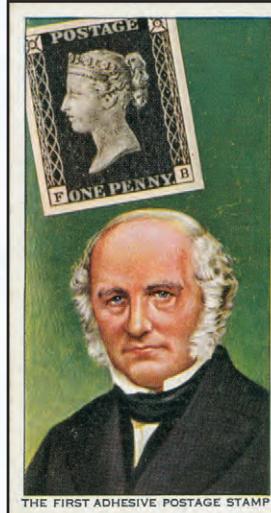
The earliest adhesive postage stamps owed their existence to the introduction of Penny Postage in Great Britain, and Sir Rowland Hill (whose portrait is shown) may fairly be called the Godfather of Penny Postage. First used on May 6th, 1840, the "Penny Black" stamp and its companion, the "Twopenny Blue," still rank among the world's finest issues.

No. 3 Great Britain — *Britain's Rarest Stamp*

Commencing in 1882, ordinary British stamps were specially overprinted for certain Government Departments and the Royal Household, enabling a check to be kept of the use made of the postal service by these Departments. Rarest of these "Officials" or "Departmentals" is the 10/- King Edward VII overprinted "I.R. OFFICIAL" for the Inland Revenue Department. Few specimens are known and the collector who buys a genuine one for less than £1,000 is lucky. View is of Somerset House.

No. 4 British Guiana — *The World's Most Valuable Stamp*

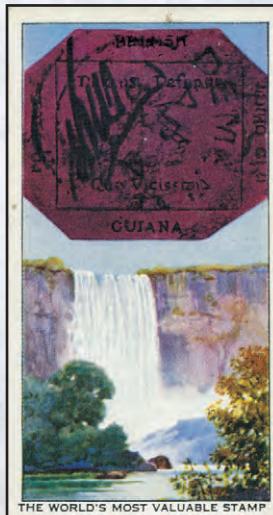
When collectors speak, with bated breath, of the "One Cent British Guiana," they are not thinking of any of the ordinary 1c. stamps of the Colony, but of the unique 1c. of 1856.... Found by a young stamp collector, Vernon Vaughan, sold by him for a few shillings, jumping



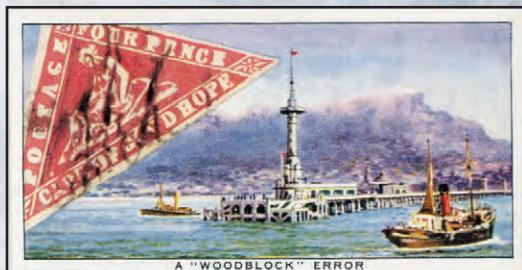
No. 1 Great Britain — *The First Adhesive Postage Stamp*



No. 3 Great Britain — *Britain's Rarest Stamp*



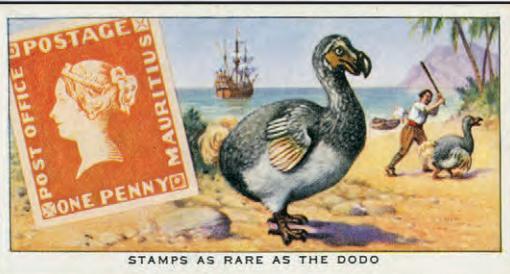
No. 4 British
Guiana — *The
World's Most
Valuable Stamp*



No. 6 Cape of Good Hope — A "Woodblock" Error



No. 7 Mafeking Siege Stamps



No. 8 Mauritius — *Stamps as Rare as the Dodo*



No. 10 New Brunswick — *A Presumptuous Postmaster*



No. 11 Newfoundland — *The First Trans-Atlantic Air Post*



No. 13 Sarawak — *An English Rajah*



No. 21 Belgium — *A Queen and Her Children*

to £150 when transferred to the eccentric millionaire Ferrari, it was bought by Arthur Hind at a Paris auction in 1922 for £7,343.... The view shown below the stamp is of the magnificent Kaieteur Falls ... nearly five times the height of Niagara.

No. 6 Cape of Good Hope — A "Woodblock" Error

The popular triangular Cape stamps were usually printed in London, but in 1861, owing to a shortage, the authorities commissioned a local firm to produce a temporary issue. These crude stamps were not printed from woodblocks as their philatelic name suggests, but from stereos (printing plates cast from moulds). The 1d. stamps were red and the 4d. blue, but by mistake [the stereos were mixed] so that the 4d. stamps exist in red and 1d. stamps in blue.... The picture shows Table Mountain with its "table-cloth" of cloud).

No. 7 Mafeking Siege Stamps

During the siege of Mafeking by the Boers (Oct. 1899–May 1900) ... a postal service was instituted which not only served the besieged town, but endeavoured to keep up communications with the outside world by means of native runners. The majority of the stamps used were Cape of Good Hope and Bechuanaland issues, with the additional inscription "MAFEKING BESIEGED"; but special ... stamps were also produced photographically ... [one] showing Sgt-Major Goodyear on a bicycle [and another] a portrait of Colonel Baden-Powell ... who commanded the defence during the siege.

No. 8 Mauritius — *Stamps as Rare as the Dodo*

"As dead as the dodo" is true of the quaint pigeon-like bird which used to inhabit the Island of Mauritius, and which, being incapable of flight, fell an easy prey to visiting sailors and became extinct about 1681. Interest in the two famous stamps of the first Mauritius issue will, however, never die. The plates were engraved by a local watchmaker, and many of the 1d. stamps were used on invitations to a Government Ball in 1847.... Known to collectors all over the world as the "Post Office" Mauritius stamps, owing to the wording they bear.

No. 10 New Brunswick — *A Presumptuous Postmaster*

As originally planned, three stamps of the 1860 issue of this Canadian province were to show portraits of Queen Victoria and the then Prince of Wales.... Thinking, no doubt, that he had done his duty by the Royal Family, the local Postmaster, Connell, foolishly put his own bluff features on the 5c. stamp. There was an outcry at such presumption; the stamps were suppressed and Connell lost his job — but attained philatelic immortality.

No. 11 Newfoundland — *The First Trans-Atlantic Air Post*

The 3 cents brown stamp of the series with which Newfoundland commemorated the deeds of her men in the Great War ... is not at all a rare item in its original state, but when it bears the overprinted words "FIRST TRANS-ATLANTIC AIR POST April 1919" it becomes at once a first-class historical souvenir and a great stamp rarity. In this state it was issued for use on correspondence carried by Harry Hawker in 1919, when he set out to try and win the *Daily Mail* £10,000 prize for the first Trans-Atlantic flight — a flight which, in his case, ended in mid-ocean.

No. 13 Sarawak — An English Rajah

One of the most romantic figures in the history of the British Empire is portrayed on the first stamp of Sarawak, a state in the northern part of the great island of Borneo. This is Sir James Brooke, an English officer, to whom Sarawak was ceded, in return for his services, by Rajah Muda Hasim of Brunei. Brooke became Rajah in 1841 and was recognized by Britain in 1863.

No. 21 Belgium — A Queen and Her Children

In 1935 everyone was moved at the death of beautiful Queen Astrid of Belgium in a motor accident, and collectors rushed to buy the mourning stamp with which Belgium commemorated her death.... When, earlier in the same year, another very popular series was issued, which showed the Belgium Royal children, no one thought that within a very few months those children would be motherless.

No. 24 Bosnia-Herzegovina — Tragedy which Started a World War

A June afternoon in 1914; the heir to the Austrian throne and his wife are passing through the streets of Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia. Shots ring out — they fall back dying — and the signal for the World War has been given. Three unimpressive stamps were issued in 1917 to commemorate this event which changed history.

No. 26 Germany — A "Millionaire" Stamp

A stamp with record face value, worth to-day only a few pence! The rapid fall of the German mark during 1922 and 1923 made it almost impossible for the printers to change the stamps quickly enough to keep pace with rising postal rates, and it was not unusual to see a letter attached to a sheet of stamps instead of a stamp affixed to a letter! The high-water mark was reached ... with the issue of a stamp of the astronomical face value of fifty thousand million marks.

No. 28 Hawaii — A "Missionary" Rarity

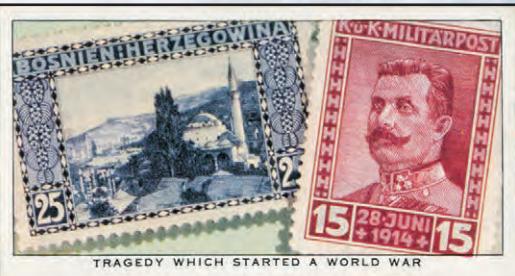
The earliest stamps of the Hawaiian Islands have long been known to stamp collectors as "Missionaries," as most of the known copies were on letters from missionaries working in the islands. Stamps ... were issued in October, 1851, the simple typeset design being printed at the Government Printing Office with the limited materials available. Undamaged "Missionaries" are almost unknown.

No. 29 Iran — A Royal "Black-out"

If revolution brings a sudden change of ruler, the new President or King will not wish the portrait of his predecessor to remain on the stamps. Usually the offending portrait is blocked out by an "overprint" ... but when Shah of Persia (now Iran) was deposed in 1924, postal officials were ordered to black out his likeness completely, which they did with ink or burnt cork!

No. 32 Mexico — The Tragedy of an Emperor

Stamps of Mexico issued in 1866 recall the tragedy of the ill-fated Emperor Maximilian, whose likeness they bear. An Austrian prince, well-meaning, but not ambitious, Maximilian was forced on the Mexicans as their Emperor by the European powers and then left unsupported on his precarious throne. His wife, Charlotte, lost her reason, and Maximilian was betrayed when on the point of fleeing from Mexico, and was court-martialed and executed on June 19th, 1867.



No. 24 Bosnia-Herzegovina — *Tragedy which Started a World War*



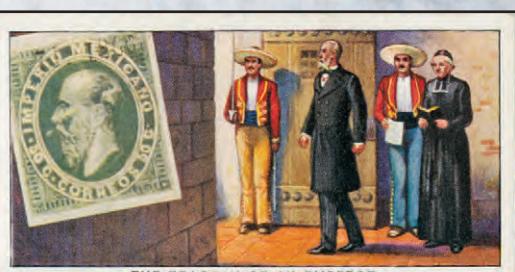
No. 26 Germany — *A "Millionaire" Stamp*



No. 28 Hawaii — *A "Missionary" Rarity*



No. 29 Iran — *A Royal "Black-out"*



No. 32 Mexico — *The Tragedy of an Emperor*



No. 34 Nicaragua — A Stamp which Changed the Map



No. 35 Russia — The Romanoff Tsars



No. 40 Royal Philatelists



No. 41 Britons on Foreign Stamps



No. 47 Sport on Stamps

No. 34 Nicaragua — A Stamp which Changed the Map

From early days men had dreamed of a short-cut to the East via a canal, for which Nicaragua and Panama offered the best routes. In 1901 Nicaragua had almost won the coveted prize.... On the eve of the final debate in the U.S. Senate, however, each Senator received a copy of the stamp illustrated (which was described as "an official witness of the volcanic activity of Nicaragua") and the Senate decided in favour of the Panama route.

No. 35 Russia — The Romanoff Tsars

In 1913, much to the disgust of conservative Russians, portraits of the Tsars were shown on stamps for the first time, the occasion being the celebration of the Tercentenary of the Romanoff dynasty founded by Michael in 1613. Among the portraits are two of special interest — those of Peter the Great ... and ill-fated Nicholas II, the last of his line.... The Russian peasants objected very strongly to the defacement of the stamp likeness of their "Little Father" by a postmark.

No. 40 Royal Philatelists

Stamp collecting has well been termed "The King of Hobbies and the Hobby of Kings," and certainly a number of monarchs have devoted their leisure to the hobby. Chief among these was the late King George V, whose magnificent collection of British Empire issues, in over 300 volumes, is housed in a special room at Buckingham Palace.... The King of the Belgians, President Roosevelt and several Indian princes are also keen philatelists.

No. 41 Britons on Foreign Stamps

It is not often that a national of one country is portrayed on the stamps of another, but several distinguished Britons have received this honour. In 1924 Greece celebrated Byron's centenary in this way, and in 1921 J.D. Bourchier, *Times* correspondent at Sofia, was the subject of a series of nine Bulgarian stamps.

No. 47 Sport on Stamps

The earliest "sports stamps," in classic designs, were issued by Greece in 1896, when the Olympic Games were revived. Since then many countries have illustrated various sports on their stamps, not only in connection with the Olympic Games, but in celebration of national and international sports meetings.... We show a runner (Holland, Olympic Games series, 1928), a bob-sleigh (Germany, Olympic Winter Games series, 1935) and a footballer (Italy, World Championship, 1934).

No. 48 Stamps Large and Small

The world's largest postage stamps (intended for use on newspapers and periodicals) were issued by the United States in 1865. We show a portion of one of them, actual size; each measures 95 millimeters in height. At the other end of the scale come the first three stamps of the Department of Bolivar, Colombia, issued in 1863 — it would take four of them to cover a postage stamp of normal size.... Stamp illustrated is actual size.

No. 50 Stratosphere Flights

Two countries, Russia and Belgium, have issued stamps in commemoration of work in the stratosphere, the upper layer of the atmosphere. Belgium issued three stamps in 1932 with a picture of Professor Piccard's balloon, in aid of a fund to assist his work, while

in the following year three stamps came from Russia in honour of the setting up by Russian scientists of a new height record of 19,000 metres. The Russians emphasized the idea of height by including a tiny view of Moscow at the foot of the very tall stamp.

Endnotes

1. Formerly known as the "International Exhibition of Art, Manufacturers and Products of the Soil and Mine," the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition celebrated the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. It was the first world's fair to be held in the United States.
2. In 1876 Hires Root Beer was still being sold as a dry mix to which the consumer was expected to add water, sugar, and yeast. It appeared as a liquid concentrate in 1880 ("Makes Five Gallons of a Delicious Drink") and as an individual bottled beverage in 1893.

References

- The Cartophilic Society of Great Britain; website www.csbg.co.uk/
 Cheadle, Dave. *Victorian Trade Cards*; available from Collector Books, Box 3009, Paducah, KY 42002.
 Howsden, Gordon. *Collecting Cigarette and Trade Cards* (inquire at the London Cigarette Card Company or the Cartophilic Society).
 London Cigarette Card Company Ltd., Sutton Road, Somerset, England TA11 6QP; website www.Londoncigcard.co.uk (seller of cigarette cards for seventy-five years).

The Author

Ron Beideck, a resident of Portland, Oregon, likes to hike over hill and dale and then do it all over again. He has written more than thirty articles for cartophilic journals. Ron notes that although he himself is not an expert philatelist such as the nation's premier stamp magazine would normally expect, some of his best friends are philatelists — at least the stranger ones.



No. 48 Stamps Large and Small



No. 50 Stratosphere Flights

Visit www.stamps.org/AP-Album for additional images of the cards and information from the "Stamps Rare & Interesting" set.

Buying Spanish Colonies

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Two 1931 covers from V-boat submarines, the USS V-Two and USS V-5.

Postal History from Submarines

by Charles L. Wood

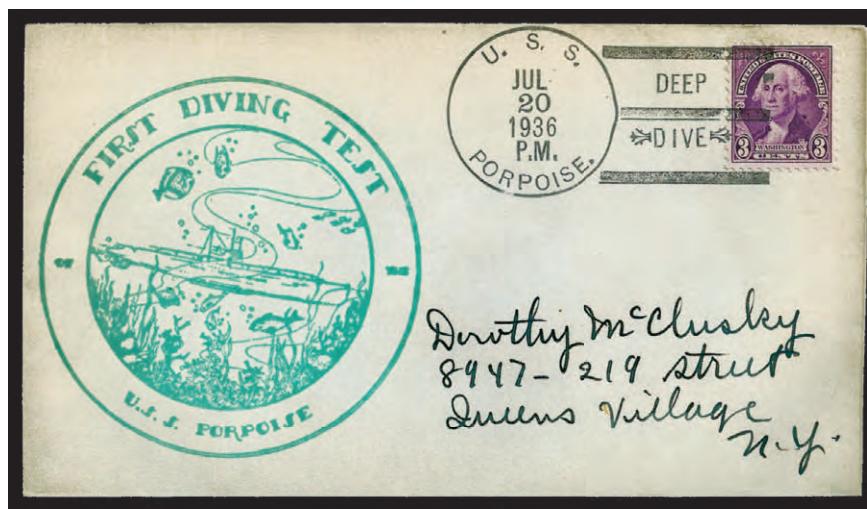
The "Silent Service" has generated books, films, and a mountain of lore relating to the accomplishments and hazards of submarine duty. It also has generated some fascinating postal history, an area eagerly explored by a dedicated group of collectors. At a typical stamp show, one has only to inquire of the dealers whether they have any submarine covers to be told, "Sorry, we have none, because these are the first things we sell!"

Such covers can be collected with several different approaches. There is the historic approach, with the object of acquiring representative items from the past. For example, the two covers illustrated from V-boats — submarines from about eighty years ago that were vastly different from today's SSNs and SSBNs. My collection includes covers from V2, V3, and V5. They are a bit hard to find, and may be priced accordingly, but they represent an era when the occupants of undersea craft were indeed a hardy if willing group of people.

A second approach relates to the history of a particular submarine. It is possible to assemble a group of covers relating to one boat and noting, for example, the

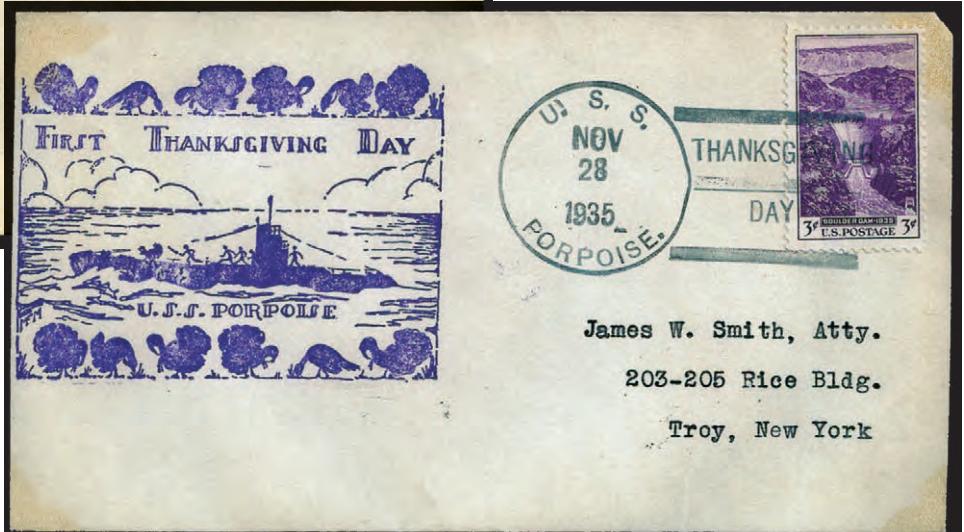


Collecting the history of a particular submarine, in this case the USS Porpoise, can include such events as the shakedown cruise and first diving test.





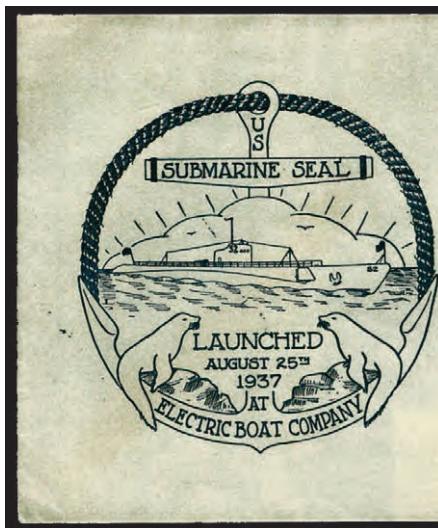
Cachet covers marking holidays or special events are popular and easy-to-find collectibles, such as these two 1935 covers. The one commemorates the 4th of July, spent by the USS Argonaut in Honolulu (the "Paradise of the Pacific"), and the other the USS Porpoise's "First Thanksgiving Day."



keel laying, launching, christening, first deep dive, or shakedown cruise. Repeating the process for additional boats of the same general time period yields a nice collection showing vital steps in the progression from paper plans to fleet submarines.

A third approach is to include in the collection cachet covers from holidays or special events. These are somewhat plentiful because of two factors: the first is the number of boats on which the crew members seized upon this opportunity to increase publicity, serve the hobby (for those who were stamp collectors), and even to raise funds for crew or family welfare; and second, the number of items that could be issued

crease publicity, serve the hobby (for those who were stamp collectors), and even to raise funds for crew or family welfare; and second, the number of items that could be issued

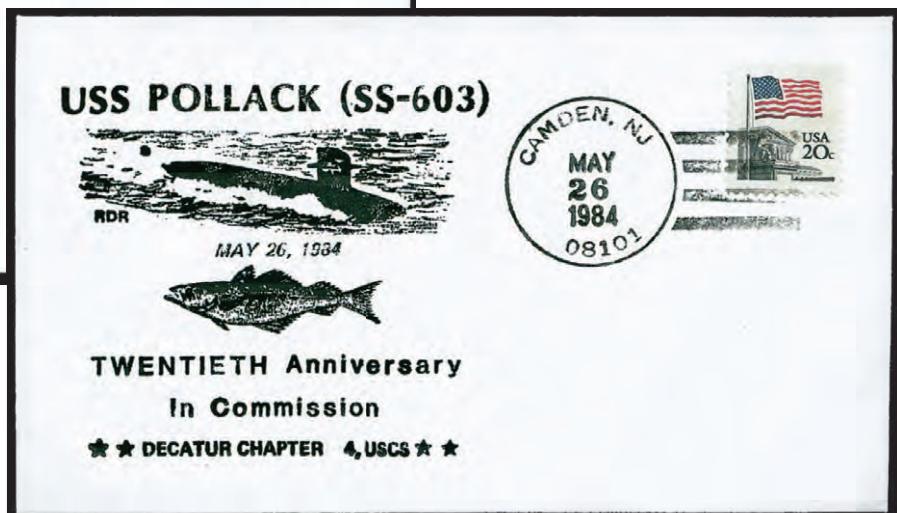


Cachet envelopes related to the same event, in this case the launching of the USS Seal in 1937, but prepared by different makers.





Another collecting interest focuses on anniversaries. The 5th Anniversary in Commission of the USS Cincinnati (1983), and the 20th Anniversary in Commission of the USS Pollack (1984).



This World War II German U-Boat franking with undated cancellation is almost certainly a forgery. The 1998 *Michel German Specialized* catalogue lists this as Feldpost #13. A genuine copy on cover, of which only a few exist, is priced at 25,000 marks.



In 2001 Great Britain celebrated the Centenary of the Royal Navy Submarine Service, with a set of stamps depicting various classes of British subs: (2nd) Vanguard Class, 1992 (Scott 1967); (1st) Swiftsure Class, 1973 (Scott 1968); (45p) Unity Class, 1939 (Scott 1969); (65p) Holland Class, 1901 (Scott 1970).



USS LAGARTO SS 371

In Memorium

Lost 3 May 1945

with 85 Officers and Men



Eternal Patrol

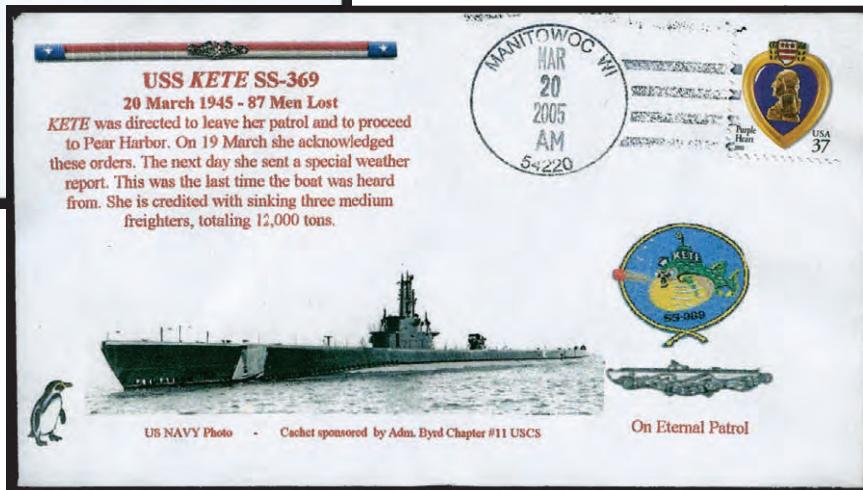


"On Eternal Patrol" Sta.
USS LEGARTO SS-371
May 3, 2008
Manitowoc WI 54220



Cachet sponsored by Adm. Byrd Chapter #11 USCS

"On Eternal Patrol," covers commemorating submarines lost at sea: USS *Lagarto*, lost May 3, 1945 with 85 men. Sharp-eyed readers may have noted that the name of the USS *Lagarto* is spelled correctly in the cachet but incorrectly ("Legarto") in the pictorial cancellation; USS *Kete*, lost March 20, 1945 with 87 men.



On Eternal Patrol

sued was limited only by the imagination and resourcefulness of the cachet designers. Thus, one can find covers for Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Flag Day, Navy Week, Washington's Birthday, Mother's Day, or whatever else might have caught the designer's fancy.

A fourth style of collecting is to assemble cachet envelopes from various makers that relate to the same event, such as the launching of the USS *Seal*, shown by a pair of covers with very different cachets. Each such source would have a separate database of potential customers or collectors who would appreciate receiving that particular cachet cover. Finding such matched items takes time and patience but has its own rewards.

A fifth type of collecting interest focuses on anniversaries. These covers are quite plentiful and usually relate to the modern nuclear-powered boats. When a sub has been in service for ten, fifteen, twenty years or longer, it is common to see that date remembered by a cachet cover. As a general rule, these are the least expensive sub covers to acquire.

A sixth kind of cover collection would relate to the silent service in other nations. In addition to the types of covers already mentioned, foreign covers might include those with franking related to submarines. For example, in 2001, to

USS *Holland*, Scott 3376.

commemorate the Centenary of the Royal Navy Submarine Service, Great Britain issued a set of stamps depicting various classes of subs and noting the approximate tonnage displacement of each class (Scott 1967–1970). These are a bit tricky to locate on cover, but a complete set would make a nice display for any cover collector.

One last category reflects the finality that attaches to much undersea service. These covers relate to the "eternal patrol," a phrase used to designate those submarines that have sunk. Some have never been accounted for. One of the more famous boats in the United States Navy during World War II was the USS *Wahoo*, only recently found in the northwestern Pacific by a Russian diver.

Collecting submarine-related covers is a field that offers a broad range of possibilities. The size and range of such a collection are limited only by the interest, imagination, resources, and patience of its owner.

The Author

Dr. Charles L. Wood is a retired collector who resides in North Carolina. He has served with the armed forces of our nation. He has participated with the Estate Advisory Service of the APS for more than twenty years.

NEW BRUNSWICK



NEW BRUNSWICK: Sc.#8 ** 5¢ Yellow Green, Complete sheet of 100 subjects, 1860 printing,

showing the Elongated Earring Variety in Pos. 60. According to Nicholas Argenti's book, *The Postage Stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia* (1976, 1962), NO imprints are known of this value. This was the stamp issued (using the Chalon Head Queen Victoria) to replace the extremely controversial 5¢ Charles Connell stamp. Argenti's book quotes Dr. Robert Carr as noting that although many of these stamps were available at the time, due to weather conditions and a fire at the storage facility where the stamps were housed, most were destroyed. Those that could be salvaged needed to be washed so that they could be separated, thus losing their original gum and rendering them useless as postage unless a secondary adhesive was employed. Most examples offered in today's market are without gum and many also appear to have been washed or cleaned. Dr. Carr stated that this was the ONLY complete sheet or large multiple he had ever seen that still retained its full original gum and was not affected in any way by all the problems that have plagued this stamp. He purchased this sheet in 1943 for the then enormous sum of \$500.

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New Distinguished Philatelists To Sign Roll in Perth

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists was established in 1921 by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain with the approval of His Majesty King George V, who was the first Signatory. An invitation to sign the Roll is regarded as the world's pre-eminent philatelic honor.

Not including the newly elected RDPs, 356 philatelists from thirty-eight countries have achieved this distinction. There are at present seventy-five Signatories from twenty-four countries, including seventeen from Great Britain, ten from the United States, six from France, five from Germany, four from Italy, and four from Switzerland.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Election, comprising Jane Moubray (Chairman), Tomas Bjäringer, Christopher Harman, Alan Huggins, Rolf-Dieter Jaretzky, Robert Odenweller, Patrick Pearson and Raymond Todd, with Christopher King, Secretary to the Board in attendance, the members unanimously decided to ask Jamie Gough FRPSL (United States of America), Robin Gwynn FRPSL (New Zealand), Patrick Maselis FRPSL (Belgium), and Michael Sefi (United Kingdom) to sign the Roll.

The Signing Ceremony will take place on Sunday, October 21st at St John's Kirk Perth during the 2012 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, which will be held in Perth from October 20–22, 2012.



Jamie Gough FRPSL
(United States).

James Peter Gough • United States • APS Member

Jamie lives in Orange County, California and has fulfilled all the attributes required of signatory to the Roll. His pioneering efforts in two separate fields of study — on a worldwide basis — have brought new awareness and understanding to these aspects of philately: the treatment of Postage Due from 1790 until 1954, and the impact of the Universal Postal Union on worldwide postal services since 1875.

He has written many erudite articles in the past forty years and his displays are always received with wide acclaim as proven by the prestigious awards he has received for them. Among these are The Grand Prix d'Honneur at PhilexFrance 1999, the Champion of Champions Award 1992 in the United States, The Grand Prix of the Americas 2008 (FIAF), Large Gold with Felicitations at London 2010 and the Lee Medal of The Royal Philatelic Society London for the best

paper read during 2004 and 2005.

His collecting interests have covered such diverse subjects as Ireland 1690 to 1926, Chile 1800 to 1910 and the Recessed Issues of HM Queen Elizabeth II throughout the British Commonwealth. He is an FIP Judge with great knowledge of the disciplines and a Fellow of several worldwide Societies, including the American Philatelic Society, and has been elected as a membre étranger of L' Académie de Philatélie of France in 2000.

Dr. Robin David Gwynn

• New Zealand

Robin resides in Napier, North Island, New Zealand. Besides his formidable knowledge of the stamps and postal history of his own country he has formed collections of both maritime and railway disaster mail and has achieved high medals for all these subjects. He is the author of Collecting New Zealand Stamps and was co-author (with Norman Hoggarth) of the two books published in 2003 and 2010 on Disaster Mail both of which required wide-ranging original research.



Robin Gwynn FRPSL
(New Zealand).

His extensive organizational and promotional work includes having served as President and Vice-president of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand and of the New Zealand Philatelic Federation. He has acted as Chairman of many National Exhibitions over thirty years, introducing the biannual literature exhibitions, which have drawn world-wide support. He has been Chairman of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand Expert Committee since 1999 and won New Zealand's highest award, The Medal of Philatelic Excellence in 2008.

Robin is a member of AIEP and is an accredited FIP Judge in Literature, Postal History and Traditional disciplines and is an Overseas Representative for The Royal Philatelic Society London.

Patrick Maselis • Belgium • APS Member

Patrick is Belgian by birth and is interested in both postal history and traditional philately. His original collection of the Congo has grown to cover all Belgium's overseas territories and his postal history of early New Zealand is one of considerable importance. He also has formed collections of his country's traditional stamps and of Ruanda-Urundi. The Medallion Issue of Belgian gained him a Large Gold Medal at the Belgian Inter-



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Patrick Maselis FRPSL
(Belgium).

President of L'Académie de philatélie de Belgique in 2009 and was a very successful President of the Club de Monte Carlo from the same year. Patrick is also a member of the American Philatelic Society.

Michael Richard Sefi • United Kingdom

Michael is well-known to all as the Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection and it is in this field that he has achieved so much. Since his appointment in 2003, following Charles Goodwyn's original initiatives, he has worked tirelessly to transform the public appreciation of its content by display and lecture in many parts of the world and this has been very greatly welcomed. Highlights were *The Queen's Own* at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Washington in 2004, *Te Papa* (Wellington) in 2005 and *Her Majesty's Stamps* at the Canadian

national Exhibition Antverpia 2010 and Large Gold and Grand Prix at National level.

He has had articles published in *The Collectors Club Philatelist* and *The London Philatelist* being awarded the Tapling Medal of The Royal Philatelic Society London in 2010. However, his most notable written work has been *From the Azores to New Zealand* published in 2004.

Turning to organizational work, he has been General Commissioner of MonacoPhil since 2009, became

Museum of Civilization in Ottawa in 2009. These exhibitions attracted many thousands of admiring viewers.

Michael was also much concerned with the publication of *The Queen's Stamps* by Nicholas Courtney (Methuen, 2004). Apart from his work with the Royal Philatelic Collection he has served on the Council of the Royal Philatelic Society London and is currently an ex-officio member. The displays he has prepared on behalf of Her Majesty to be shown to the Society, together with the descriptive notes which accompanied them, have always given the greatest pleasure. He was Chairman of the Publications Committee between 2001 and 2004 and is a long-standing member of the Great Britain Philatelic Society having been its Hon Treasurer for twelve years and then serving as its President from 1998 to 2000. He served for some years as Consultant to the British Philatelic Trust, informally representing the Trust on the Council of the Association of British Philatelic Societies and its Executive Committee. He was also heavily involved with the organization of two London "Internationals" (1990 and 2000). Currently he is Chairman of the RDP Trust.

His own collecting interests feature King George V stamps — particularly the Downey Head issue for which he was awarded a Gold Medal with Felicitations at Hafnia 2001.



Michael Sefi FRPSL
(United Kingdom).

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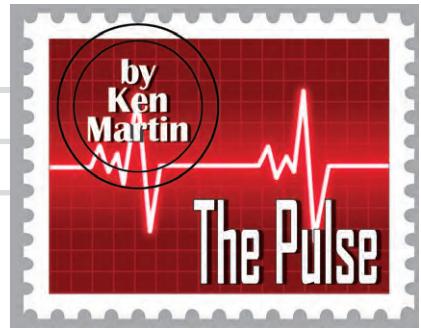
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Special Thanks to Special People



Last month's *American Philatelist* thanked the membership for being so generous during calendar year 2011. I want to start this month's column by thanking several members who have made significant commitments to help us get 2012 off to a wonderful start.

Roger Schnell has served as a Library Trustee since 2005 and is currently Vice President of the Library Board. For many years Roger has given us in-kind material received through his participation in international shows. A gift of \$1,000 made him a Library Patron in 2005. Later the same year he pledged \$12,500 towards the Garfield Perry/Lybarger Room, which he paid off within two years. Then in 2007 he made a \$4,000 gift to upgrade from Patron to Vooys Fellow. He has now made an additional \$35,000 commitment for the permanent Library space in the American Philatelic Center, which will bring his total cash donations to the Society and Library to just shy of \$60,000.

We have also received four other leadership gifts to help complete the library space. **Richard Raney**, a 43-year APS member and Library Patron has committed \$10,000 over five years to name the reference desk on the second level of the planned Library space.

Jack Dykhouse has contributed \$5,000 for the fourth consecutive year. Our collection of books on France will be named in honor of his latest gifts. Jack has attended our Summer Seminar and is also an adult supporting member of our Young Stamp Collectors of America.

Al and Dottie Kugel have added to their long record of generosity with a gift of \$5,000 for the Library, which will be recognized by naming the Map and large document room in their honor. In addition to contributions totaling more than \$50,000, Al is a retired philatelic judge and has served on several APS committees. Much of his time at APS STAMPSHOW is often spent staffing a variety of Society booths. Meanwhile, Dottie nearly always helps at the StampShow registration area.

I have not yet had the privilege of getting to know **Stephen Chazen** or **Gerald Forsythe**, but both of them have also recently given \$5,000. Mr. Chazen gave \$5,000 for the new library space and Mr. Forsythe \$5,000 to become a Vooys Fellow.

Additional information on the Library plans are available on our website. From www.stamps.org click on Support the APS, Donate, and Library Plans. A row of shelves can be named for \$1,000 and gifts of \$50 or more may be recognized with bookplates (which may be in memory or honor of another individual).

The Support the APS tab also includes non-monetary ways to help the APS and APRL. For example, dealer **David Wessely** from Ohio recently called and asked if we could send him some materials for an upcoming talk to a Rotary group. We have a kit available free of charge to any member who would like to help us recruit at shows and we are happy to provide custom selections of materials for other promotional opportunities.

In addition, we are always happy to forward member information to any prospects. **Alex Haimann** recently forwarded a list of individuals who have made



Architect's rendering of the first floor of the planned Library space.

eBay purchases from him. And every time Joe Picard sells an item to an individual who is not a current APS member he forwards the contact information to us.

We're also happy to provide the APS logo for members to use on a website or in literature. Special plaques that hold business reply cards are available free to individuals who take tables to sell material at shows and bourses.

We have been privileged to have visits from Director-at-Large **Steve Zwillinger** twice in about a month. During his most recent visit he also brought some flowers from his yard to plant along the small millrace that flows between the two wings of the APC building. Thanks, Steve.

A number of congratulations are in order. While attending the St. Louis Stamp Expo I learned that two APS members have been selected to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, established in 1921 by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain with the approval of King George V.

Jamie Gough has been an APS member since the age of 17,



Steve Zwillinger's beautification efforts at the APC.

and was the 1992 Champion of Champions for his exhibit on the evolution and uses of postage dues. Jamie is also known for his research on the impact of the Universal Postal Union on worldwide postal services since 1875. Among his other major awards are the Grand Prix d'Honneur at PHILEXFRANCE 1999, the Grand Prix of the Americas 2008 (FIAF), Large Gold with Felicitations at London 2010, and the Lee Medal of The Royal Philatelic Society London for the best paper read during 2004 and 2005.

Patrick Maselis is a more recent member, having joined the APS in 2009. He has had articles published in *The Collectors Club Philatelist* and *The London Philatelist* and was awarded the Tapling Medal of The Royal Philatelic Society London in 2010. His major work, *From the Azores to New Zealand*, was published in 2004. Patrick has been General Commissioner of MonacoPhil since 2009, became President of L'Académie de philatélie de Belgique in 2009, and is President of the Club de Monte Carlo.

Congratulations also to **Ernie Bergman** whose exhibit "Switzerland in World War II: Its Defense, Its Survival, Its

CANADA 1970 CHRISTMAS ISSUE THE SCARCE CENTRE BLOCKS

In 1970 Canada released a very special Christmas set of twelve stamps. The issue was unique in a number of ways. Firstly, it was designed by children. A contest was held for Canadian youngsters and twelve winning designs were selected from across the country. Secondly, the 5¢ and 6¢ values had five different stamps in a se-tenant sheet of one hundred. This plus the unusual "mirror" layout of the pane caused each to contain one identical block of four in the centre! Of course many sheets were folded or torn up before anyone noticed. These centre blocks have become highly collectable and spaces for them are now included in many albums.

SPECIAL OFFER #254

Here are the 5¢ and 6¢ centre blocks of four (#522i, 525i). List price for them in VF NH condition is \$80.00. My price is just **\$44.95**.

SPECIAL OFFER #255

Even scarcer than the above item is the rare set of Winnipeg tagged centre blocks. These are from a special printing done for the electronic mail sorting machine used in that city. The 5¢ value has a centre bar while the 6¢ stamps are tagged at both sides. Not many were printed and the set (#522ii, 525ii) is now highly sought after. List price for VF NH mint has risen to \$400.00. My price is **\$295.00**.

SPECIAL OFFER #256

Recently some first day covers of the above two offers came in. This offer includes each of the untagged and tagged blocks on four separate first day covers (#522i, 522ii, 525i, 525ii). List price for the set in very fine condition is \$380.00. My price is low at just **\$195.00**.



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Refugees and Internees" is featured in a *Special Issue of Tell*, publication of the American Helvetia Philatelic Society, our affiliate for collectors of Swiss postal stamps. Ernie is a past board member and also received a Nicholas Carter Volunteer Recognition Award in 2010.

Congratulations to the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, which celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary this year, although they did not become an APS affiliate until a couple years later. We also congratulate eight groups who will reach their twenty-fifth anniversary of APS affiliation this year: the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, the American Society for Philatelic Pages and Panels, the CartoPhilatelic Society (Maps on Stamps), the Fine and Performing Arts Philatelists, the Iowa Postal History Society, the Postal Order Society, the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History, and the State Revenue Society.

Two chapters, the St. Petersburg Stamp Club and the Philaterians, celebrate seventy-five years of APS membership this year, and fourteen chapters will reach twenty-five years of APS membership this year: GPS, Herman L. Halle Chapter 16 of Maryland, the Leatherstocking Stamp Club of New York, the St. Cloud (MN) Area Stamp Club, the Conejo Valley (CA) Philatelic Society, the Riverhead (NY) Stamp Club, the Winter Haven (FL) Stamp Club, the Simi Valley (CA) Stamp Club, the Brentwood (TN) Philatelic Society, the Gladstone (MO) Philatelic Club, the Topeka (KS) Stamp Club, the Central Wyoming Philatelic Assoc., the (NY) International Stamp Club, the Lynchburg (VA) Stamp Club, and the Morrisville (PA) Stamp Club.

Let me end with some reminders and deadlines. While by the end of March a couple courses were nearly full for our **June 17–22** Summer Seminar on Philately, I expect we should still be able to accommodate a few more students. And remember that the National Topical Stamp Show in Lancaster, Pennsylvania immediately follows the Summer Seminar. Single-frame exhibits will likely be long oversubscribed, but we may be able to still accommodate some multi-frame exhibits for our **August 16–19 STAMPSHOW** in Sacramento.

May 31 is the deadline for entries in our 3rd YouTube Contest as well as for the receipt of applications for the 2012–2013 Young Philatelic Leader Fellowships. **June 1** is the deadline for paper proposals for the 7th Postal History Symposium, to be held November 2–4. This year's theme is "Blue and Grey: Mail and the Civil War."

Our third annual Volunteer Work Week at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania is **July 23–27**. The second Congressional Exhibit at the Rayburn Office Building in Washington, DC is the same week, running from **July 24–27**.

Even if you can't make any of these events, we hope you will stop by if you are in the Central Pennsylvania area or are crossing Pennsylvania on Route 80.

Thanks to every member for all you do for the hobby!

P.S. Please note the position description for the Development (fund raising) position discussed in the President's Column.

TRUE STORY OF THE STAMP TRADE'S BIGGEST PROBLEM

The solution wasn't obvious, but with your help (Collectors) — would it work?

Managing Director Andrew McGavin of Universal Philatelic Auctions explains:

Twenty years ago, and I suspect the same is true today, the typical stamp dealer's biggest problem was not what sold, but what would not sell. In those days mail-bid postal auctions would parcel up their unsold lots (unsolds) and sell them on to other auctions which hopefully had different collectors in their database to whom such material would be new.

In this way they would "release" funds in order to be able to purchase new stamp collections. Other auctions not participating in this exercise would spend a significant proportion of their describing time in re-describing "unsolds" in order to represent them as "new."

The significance of re-cycling/re-presenting material should not be underestimated — too high a proportion of unsold material stymied dealers from purchasing new stock — a problem many collectors may recognize today when re-visiting suppliers who never seem to have something new to offer: ultimately collectors stop going back to dealers who offer only stale stock.

In essence, a dealer selling the best stamps out of any collection he or she has purchased may cover costs, but the profit in any typical collection lies in slower moving stock which is more difficult and takes longer to sell.

Try as they might, there didn't seem to be a satisfactory solution, although today many dealers use eBay to clear unsold stock even at a loss.

Universal Philatelic Auctions (UPA) puzzled long over the problem, seeking to turn a "negative" into a "positive." The breakthrough came when its Director took the view that if it was not selling it must be too expensive. This soon led to the conclusion "why don't we reduce the estimate (and reserve) until sold or given away" — after all — everything must be worth something, and if not it should be given away to make way for new stock ... and so ... ten years ago ...

The Universal Unique Reducing Estimate lot system was born

In 1999 a 6,500-lot UPA auction was created. The director agonized — "would it work?" No dealer or auction, to his knowledge, had ever done this before.

Would collectors hold off from bidding and wait until the next auction when the estimate was lower?

— or, worse still, the following auction — when the estimate was reduced even lower? Would collectors pass up the first opportunity at new stock and wait — and, if so, for how long?

It was a tense few months, but in the end the director need not have worried. There were 650 different collectors who bid in that first auction, spending £65,000 (US \$100,000+). Collectors who saw something they really wanted would bid first time. But, what of the unsold stock — did it sell? Universal had done something never seen in stamps before, or since — it actually told collectors in subsequent auctions how many times a lot had been unsold — so that collectors could work out how much it had been reduced by from the original estimate ...

... and did the unsolds sell? Collectors bid on the unsolds in following auctions — so that sometimes an unsold lot reoffered actually sold for more than available before.

And now, some ten years later, we come to today. UPA runs quarterly auctions with approximately 13,000 lots in each auction and over £400,000 (US \$600,000+) of stamps from all over the world offered — including Thematics, British, US, and most countries of the world. Today UPA holds the United Kingdom record for the most stamp collectors bidding in a single auction — 1,341 collectors who live in all corners of the world ... and yet, surprisingly 9 out of 10 bidders are successful due to the auctions significant 13,000+ lots size. Could you be one of them?

**If you would like to see Universal Philatelic Auction's next World Auction catalogue FREE OF CHARGE,
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Circuit Category Adjustments — It's About Time!

It is time for another review of the categories we offer. Since the arrival of the twenty-first century, some categories associated mostly with the twentieth century are now ripe for spin-offs into time periods. We have already done this with Great Britain, British Empire, France, Germany, Europe, and Global. Many members have chosen to request those new circuits as additions to their want lists, as a way to receive more selections in the same general interest areas. Still others have switched from the original circuit categories to the new ones, because the narrower focus was better suited to their needs. When requesting these new categories, just let us know if they are "additions to" or "instead of" the originally requested categories.

First, here are updated descriptions of each of the present circuits from which these new circuits were spun:

- **U.S. General** will continue as THE general U.S. category, and will include all eras and all types of items.
- **U.S. Covers**, formerly U.S. 20th Century Covers, becomes the general-focus category, including covers of any type and any period.
- **Canada General** will still be the broadest, all-inclusive category for Canadian material.

The spin-offs are:

- **U.S. 1900–1940**, which will include anything and everything from that period.

For the topical categories, we STRONGLY suggest that each book be organized by topic and then by country within each topic. If possible, make the focus of the entire sales book on one topic.

- **U.S. Covers 1900–1945**, including any covers from that period.

- **Canada pre-Elizabeth**, including mint and used stamps and covers from the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century.

The categories in bold type below will undergo a change of focus, while those in italics will be dropped:

- **U.S. Blocks**, originally called U.S. Blocks of Four. This category will have a general focus on multiple-stamp items, including blocks of four, U.S. Zip and Mail Early blocks, booklets and booklet panes. *U.S. Zip & Mail Early Blocks* category will be dropped for lack of material to support this as an independent category.

- **Animals and Flora**, which combines the present categories: *Animals*, *Birds*, and *Flowers*. Supply of material and the demand associated with each have played parts in this decision. We will be trying to structure this new circuit so that all three areas are represented in each circuit you receive. Sellers will be encouraged to provide full books of each. Also, many stamps contain all elements from all three categories in their designs.

- *Stamps on Stamps* does not receive enough material to support its own circuit. The last new book we received in this category was May 2011

and there is a total of only ten sales books in our system at the moment. We will include any books of this topical in the Topical General category circuits beginning this month.

- **Transportation** will be combined with *Ships*, for the supply and demand reasons noted above. Circuits in this category should include ships, trains, cars, buses, planes, and other forms of travel. At the suggestion of one collector, we will attempt to include material that is related to transportation, such as railroad cancels, paquebot cancels, ship event covers, and picture postcards.

A typical circuit in one of the categories being dropped might wait two to four months for enough material before we can fill them. Consequently, members might receive only one or two circuits of them per year. Combining them as noted will increase the chances for receiving circuits more often that may contain some items of interest.

Sellers

Please note the above category descriptions when mounting sales books. There is a need to have sales books that specifically conform to the focus of the new U.S. and Canada categories. For the topical categories, we STRONGLY suggest that each book be organized by topic and then by country within each topic. If possible, make the focus of the entire sales book on one topic. For example, it is better to submit a book of birds only than to mount birds, horses, and insects in one book.

And speaking of topicals, the following is the list of current categories and what you might find in circuits for them. Please make special note of these category descriptions:



- Air Mails Worldwide** — while this is not necessarily a topical, members might find stamps and covers related to air mail flights, even though the stamps may be regular issues. Most of the items in this category are air mail stamps and covers, including first flights, and Zeppelin stamps and flights. We select books from various countries to augment the material in the general worldwide air mail books.
- Animals & Flora** — all types of animals and plant life, including birds, flowers, trees, forests, farm plants, sea life, dinosaurs, mammals, invertebrates, etc.
- Art** — paintings, sculptures, pottery, fiber arts, textiles, Disney and animation in general, movies, comics, jewelry, metal artwork, origami, architectural design, and other art forms.
- Europa** — European stamps and cov-

ers with the Europa theme and common designs.

- Space** — stamps, covers, and related items showing space vehicles, space travel and special events, astronomical subjects, and science fiction or fantasy subjects related to extraterrestrial activity.
- Sports** — Olympic, professional, amateur, collegiate, scholastic and “pick-up” sports. All sports depicted on stamps and covers are included, from stickball to baseball and cricket, from soapbox derbies to NASCAR, from marbles to basketball, from kickball to football, rugby and soccer, from sledding to bobsled, from exercise to Olympic track and field. Almost all recreational activities that lead to competition within those activities can qualify for this category.
- Transportation** — buses, cars, planes, rickshaws, ships, trains, skateboards,

buggies, stagecoaches, wagons, scooters, bicycles, unicycles, go-carts, soapbox cars, sleds, and even horses and mules. Anything used for traveling might be in circuits of this category.

Possible New Categories

It is also time to put out feelers about other category possibilities. Many suggestions are received throughout the year, but few can be implemented due either to shortages in appropriate material or to limited demand. This is a listing of possible categories that *could* be established, based solely on supply at this point:

- Switzerland pre-1940
- Berlin
- Italian States
- Global Mint Only

Let us know if you are interested in any one or more of these four categories. If we receive enough responses, we will

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contact you about the projected start of the first circuit mailings.

Check the circuit request form on the back mailing wrapper of this issue for the complete list of offered categories, including the revisions noted here (but not including the four categories suggested in the paragraph above). If you have questions about the content of a category's circuit, contact us at 814-933-3803, extension 231 (Carol), by e-mail at salesdiv@stamps.org, or visit the "Still have questions?" section at <http://>

stamps.org/How-to-Buy for a complete listing of category content.

Count the Books!

When you receive a circuit, the first item of business upon opening the box should be to count the number of books to make sure the numbers listed on the report sheet match the enclosed books. Counting them once more when you have already processed your purchases and are preparing the circuit for mailing is also a good idea, but if the *only* time

the books are counted is in preparation for mailing and a book is missing, you may find that you need to look in your albums and catalogues, under piles of papers, on the floor, or between furniture cushions for the missing book!

We have experienced a rash of missing books from circuits lately, especially when a member has more than one circuit at a time. This leads to extra work at both ends: for the member *and* the Sales Division. Each circuit should be processed without opening the others to keep from accidentally switching the books and paperwork between circuits. The area where you handle the circuits should be clear of any other papers and books.

'5 for 10' Categories (Needs)

You can earn coupons for free blank books for every ten completed books containing material from a set list of categories — Clearance books do not qualify. (Each group of ten or more qual-

ifying books must be received at the same time and contain at least \$50 of material 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. Visit <http://stamps.org/Stamps-Needed> for more information and the list of qualifying categories or contact us to obtain a hard copy of the list. [NOTE: Single-country books usually have better sales.] Below are categories mentioned in this column and that will qualify for this offer, if the contents fall completely within the described focus of each:

- U.S. 1900–1940
- U.S. Blocks
- U.S. Covers 1900–1945
- Canada pre-Elizabeth
- Air Mails Worldwide
- Animals & Flora
- Space
- Transportation



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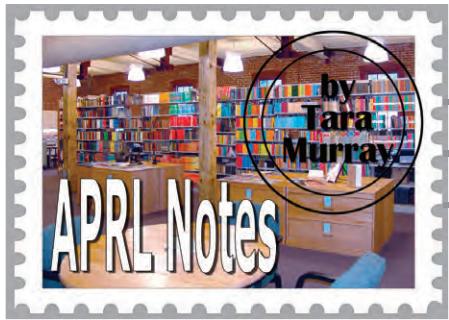
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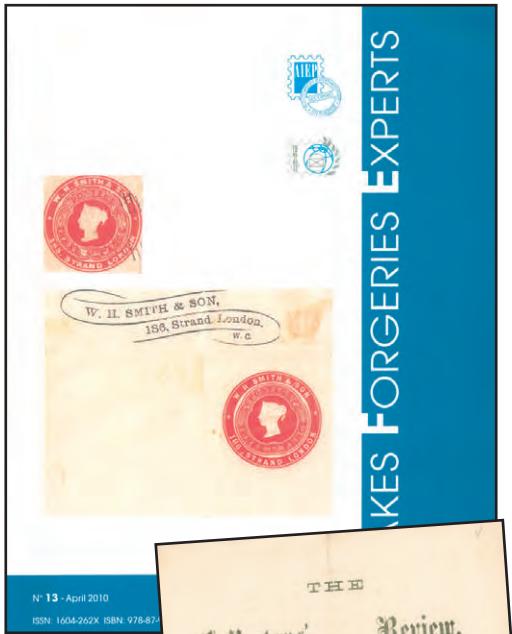
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APRL Notes

The Wide World of Periodicals



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The search results for articles about Ceylon.

The Philatelic Union Catalog
philatelic library holdings and article index
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1. The 4 cents stamp of Queen Victoria's reign, 1936 May. London Philatelist (Article) Full Display Add to Cart
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3. 1935 Pictorials, 1937 Jul 12. Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News (Article) Full Display Add to Cart
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5. 1964 60c Railway Stamp / anon., 1964. Stamp Collecting, UK (Article) Full Display Add to Cart

When I first came to the American Philatelic Research Library, I was amazed at the variety of journals and newsletters in philately. The APRL has about 5,000 different periodical titles; of these, about 500 are currently received.

They range in size from the tiny *Collectors' Review*, published in Toledo, Ohio in 1873 and consisting of one small folded sheet, to *Fakes Forgeries Experts*, an annual publication with about 200 oversize pages. The early issues of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* are in a newspaper format so large it can be difficult to copy on a standard photocopier. (Luckily the APRL was able to purchase a large-format book scanner through the generous donations of the Mighty Buck Club, and it can scan *Mekeel's* pages easily.) Some publications arrive regularly every week, like *Linn's Stamp News*, while others appear at more widely spaced intervals, and others arrive oc-

casionally and sporadically.

Many journals, like the *AP*, now are published in both print and digital formats. Some are moving to online-only publication, and new journals may be "born digital."

Journals have been published on just about every aspect of philately. There are even journals that focus on the literature itself, like the APRL's own *Philatelic Literature Review*.

Finding an article in all this material that will answer a collecting question might seem like a daunting task, but the APRL has several tools available to help you in your quest.

The Philatelic Union Catalog

The APRL online catalogue (<http://catalog.stamplibrary.org>) includes a database of more than 180,000 article references. When searching for articles, be sure to select "All libraries and locations." If you only want to retrieve article references and not books, also put "article" in the record type box.

To search for a known article — for example, if you remember reading an article in the *AP*, but can't remember which issue it was in — try searching on a few words from the title or the author's last name. You could also try the journal name — leave out initial articles like "a" or "the" — and the author's last name or a keyword.

If you don't know what's been written on your topic, do a keyword search. You may need to try several variations, because most indexing of philatelic journals is done by volunteers and there is no standardized list of keywords used by all indexers. (The bulk of the article references in our catalog were created by Gene Fricks.)

For example, you might do a search on “postmarks” and then one on “postal markings.” You also can add a wildcard character to the end of a word to find variations. Searching on “catalog*” will retrieve records containing “catalog,” “catalogs,” “catalogue,” etc. Be cautious in using the wildcard, though — searching on “cat*” will retrieve a large number of records.

Specialized Indexes and Digitized Journals

If you don’t find what you are looking for at first, keep in mind that, big as it is, the article index in the Philatelic Union Catalog is not comprehensive. Journal indexing is a monumental task, and our hobby relies on dedicated volunteers for the majority of our indexing.

In addition to the Philatelic Union Catalog, the APRL has many specialized indexes and bibliographies. Some are available online, like the article bibliography included in *Riley’s Fiscal Philatelic Literature Handbook*, and can be accessed by links from the Philatelic Union Catalog. Library staff are happy to check indexes that are not available online for you.

Digital publishing and digitization can be a boon to researchers, allowing keyword searching across multiple issues of a journal. When the entire run of a journal has been indexed — for example, the *London Philatelist*, *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, or most recently, *First Days* — a keyword search of the entire journal is possible.

Getting Copies of Articles

While the APRL has a very good collection of journals, finding an article reference in the online catalogue or in an index doesn’t necessarily mean that we have that issue on hand. To find out if we have a journal, search the catalogue for the journal title and select “APRL” instead of “All libraries and locations.” Once you find a record for the journal, click on “Full display” to see more information about our holdings.

You also can simply add the article to your cart in the online catalogue and submit it as a request. Library staff will check our holdings and contact you to let you know if we can supply the article or to suggest another source.

The screenshot shows the Philatelic Union Catalog search interface. The search term 'American Philatelist & Pendleton' is entered in the 'Any Word(s)' field. The 'Record Type' dropdown is set to 'Article'. The 'Libraries' dropdown is set to 'All Libraries and Indexes'. The right sidebar contains library codes and their descriptions, such as APRL, CCNY, and WPL.

Search Results:

34 records found.

1.	America's Antarctic Pioneers / Pendleton, Steve., 2002. American Philatelist (Article)	Full Display Add to Cart
2.	Antarctic Museum: A Visit to Port Lockroy pp. 54-59 / Pendleton, Steve., 2005. American Philatelist (Article)	Full Display Add to Cart
3.	British Antarctic Territory : Post Offices and Postmarks / Pendleton, Steve., 1989. American Philatelist (Article)	Full Display Add to Cart
4.	British Indian Ocean Territory - History and Postal Markings of the BIOT, British and American Military Postal Systems; [book review] / Pendleton, Stephen., 2004. American Philatelist (Article)	Full Display Add to Cart
5.	Canton Island, For Whom the Bell Atolls / Pendleton, Steve., 2001. American Philatelist (Article)	Full Display Add to Cart
6.	Diamond in the Rough / Pendleton, Steve., 1992. American Philatelist (Article)	Full Display Add to Cart
7.	Endurance, Shackleton's Philatelic Legacy / Pendleton, Steve., 2001. American Philatelist (Article)	Full Display Add to Cart
8.	Falkland Memories / Pendleton, Steve., 1997. American Philatelist (Article)	

Searching for articles by author, Steve Pendleton, in the AP (above) and the results (left). Below is an example of “Full Display” listing the title, author, publication date, subjects, pages, and a listing of Letters to the Editor about the article.

Search Results : Full Display Format

Record 1 of 34

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Title	America's Antarctic Pioneers
Author	Pendleton, Steve
Publication Date	2002
Subjects	United States, Antarctic, Polar Mail, Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, Nathaniel Palmer, Charles Wilkes, Frederick Cook, James Ault, Lincoln Ellsworth, Finn Ronne
Type	Article
Month	Sep
Number	116/9:812 116/11:972 Letter from Ralph M. Myerson 116/12:1071 Letter from Richard Ropak 117/2:106 Letter from John C. Swanson Jr.
Phys Desc	812 - 819
Source	American Philatelist

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World Philatelic Periodicals

To get a feel for the vastness of philatelic journal publishing, check out Chester Smith’s *World Philatelic Periodicals*. This publication (available online on the APS website at <http://bit.ly/ysE9PS>) is an attempt to list every philatelic periodical. It contains more than 12,000 titles!

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

Listings are free to World Series of Philately shows, those sponsored by APS chapters and affiliates, and any stamp show that includes exhibits.

Listings for shows/bourses **not** including exhibits may be purchased for the month of the show/bourse and the month prior **only**. The listing fee is \$25 per show per issue. These shows are designated ***B***.

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

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

Massachusetts May 4-6

Philatelic Show Northeastern Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn Boxborough Woods, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough. ***WSP***

Contact: Jeff Shapiro, 508-460-0078

E-mail: coverlover@gmail.com

Website: www.nefed.org

Pennsylvania May 5

HAVEX 2012 Havertown Stamp Club, Union Methodist Church, Alston Rd. & Brookline Blvd. (#200), Havertown.

Contact: Stanley Sandler
E-mail: stanshel@msn.com

Indiana May 6

AWSS 2012 Anthony Wayne Stamp Society, Fort Wayne Community Center, 233 West Main Street, Fort Wayne. ***B***

Contact: Jim Mowrer, 260-422-1716
E-mail: stamp4@frontier.com

Ontario May 6

ORAPEX 2012 RA Stamp Club, Ottawa Philatelic Society, RA Sport Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa.

Contact: Robert Pinet, 613-745-2788
E-mail: pinet.robert@gmail.com
Website: <http://orapex.ca>

Maryland May 6

Eastern Shore Stamp Club's 51st Annual Stamp Show Eastern Shore Stamp Club, American Legion Post #64, 1109 American Legion Drive, Salisbury.

Contact: Bert Raymond, 410-208-2929
E-mail: esstampclub@yahoo.com
Website: www.sites.google.com/site/easternshorestampclub/

Pennsylvania May 11-12

BUTLERPEX Butler County Philatelic Society, Tanglewood Senior Center, 10 Austin Ave., Lyndora.

Contact: Stanley Snyder, 724-443-5740
E-mail: stampdad@zoominternet.net

Louisiana May 12

Baton Rouge Stamp Show Baton Rouge Stamp Club, East Baton Rouge Council on Aging, 5790 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge.

Contact: Zbigniew Cypel, 225-802-7919
E-mail: mrbretired@aol.com

Ohio May 12

TRUMPEX 2012 The Warren Area Stamp Club, St. Demetrios Community Center, 3223 Atlantic St., NE, Warren, Trumbull County. ***B***

Contact: Howard Lutz, 330-924-5124
E-mail: howrex2@aol.com

Tennessee May 12

HOLPEX 2012 Holston Stamp Club, YWCA Bristol, 106 State Street, Bristol. ***B***

Contact: John Tullock, 423-574-1181
E-mail: j2loch@btcs.ty

Oregon May 11-13

Third Festival for Philatelic Women Women Exhibitors, PIPEX/Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, 1000 NE Multnomah Street, Portland. ***B***

Contact: Liz Hisey
E-mail: lizhisey@comcast.net

Oregon May 11-13

PIPEX Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, Doubletree Hotel at Lloyd Center, 1000 NE Multnomah St., Portland. ***WSP***

Contact: Michael Dixon, 503-257-4110
E-mail: md10@att.net
Website: www.pipexshow.org

Colorado May 18-20

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (ROMPEX) Rocky Mountain Phil. Exhibition, Inc., Crown Plaza Denver International Airport Convention Center, John Q. Hammonds Trade Center, Chambers Rd & I-70, Denver. ***WSP***

Contact: John Bloor, 720-529-5942
E-mail: president@rockymountaintstampshow.com
Website: www.rockymountaintstampshow.com

New York May 18-20

ROPEX Rochester Phil. Assoc., ESL Sports Centre, 2700 Brighton Henrietta Townline Rd., Rochester. ***WSP***

Contact: Tom Fortunato, 585-752-6178
E-mail: stampmf@frontiernet.net
Website: www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html

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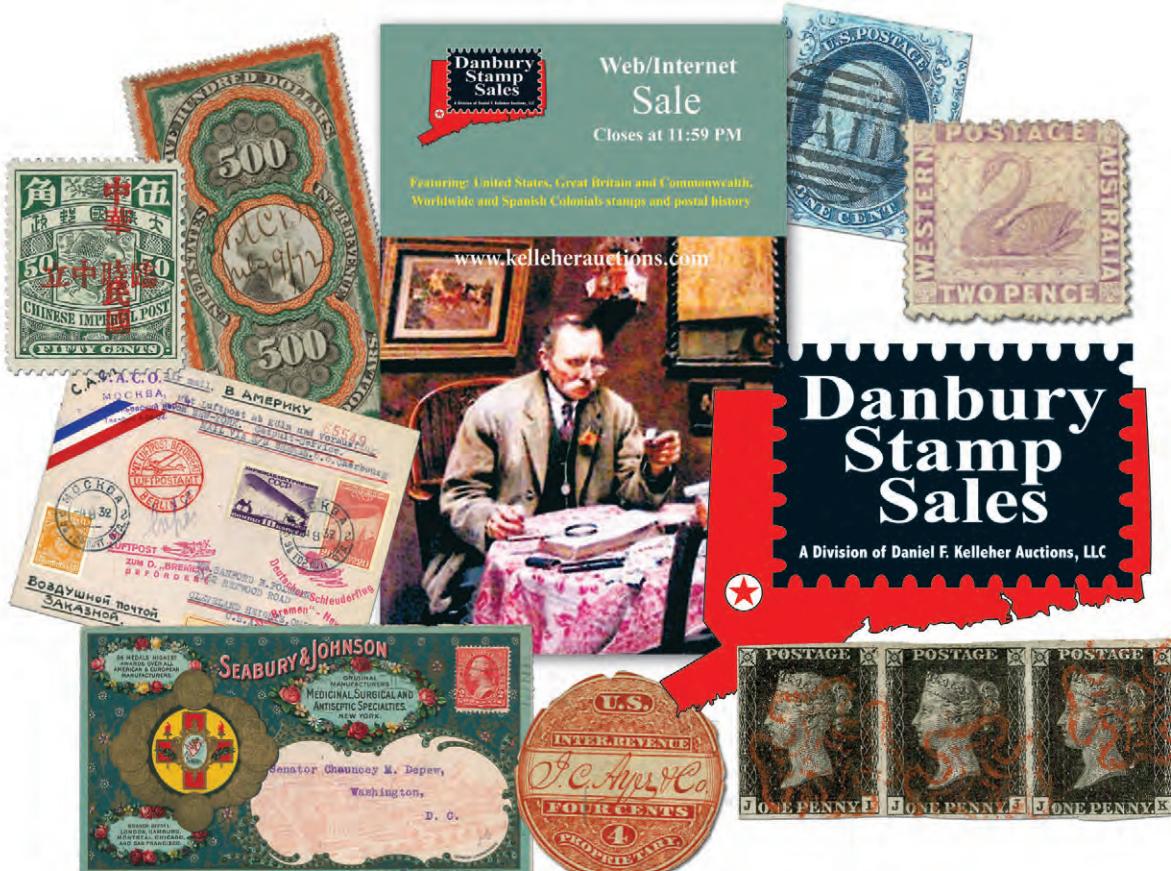
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May 20
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Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway,
Hudson. *B*

Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992
E-mail: lincolnway@snsnet.com

New Jersey

May 25-27
NOJEX North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs,
Inc., Crown Plaza, Meadowlands, Two
Harmon Plaza, Secaucus. *WSP*
Contact: Robert G. Rose, 973-966-8070
E-mail: rrose@phks.com
Website: www.nojex.org

Connecticut

May 27
Fourth Sunday Stamp Show New Haven
Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554
Woodward Ave., New Haven. *B*
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net
Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Washington, DC

May 30-31
U.S. Great Americans Series On-the-Road
Course, Prior to NAPEX, National Postal
Museum, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.,
Washington. *APS*
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/
On-the-Road-Courses

Alberta

June 1-3
ROYAL 2012 ROYALE Edmonton Stamp Club,
West Edmonton Mall Convention Centre,
170 Street and 90 Ave., 3rd Floor Conference

Ohio

Centre above Europa Boulevard, Edmonton.

Contact: David Piercy
E-mail: dpiercy@telus.net
Website: www.royal2012royale.com

Virginia

June 1-3
NAPEX National Phil. Exhibitions of
Washington D.C., McLean Hilton at Tyson's
Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean.
WSP
Contact: Darrell Ertzberger, 703-548-3366
E-mail: mteton@aol.com
Website: www.napex.org

Alabama

June 2-3
HUNTSPEX 2012 Huntsville Philatelic Club,
Beville Center, University of Alabama in
Huntsville, 301 Sparkman Drive, Huntsville.
Contact: Henrich Hahn, 356-536-7785
E-mail: hhahn256@comcast.net
Website: www.stampshows.com/huntsville_hpc.html

Florida

June 2-3
Clearwater/Largo Stamp & Coin Expo Tampa
Collectors Club, Honeywell Minnreg Building,
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Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
E-mail: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.floridastampdealers.org

Ohio

June 8-10
COLOPEX Columbus Philatelic Club, DiSalle
Center at the Ohio Expo Center, 717 East 17th
Ave., Columbus. *WSP*
Contact: Chuck Wooster, 614-560-3689
E-mail: cwooster@aol.com

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Great Bay Stamp Club,
K of C Hall, 40 Columbus Ave., Rochester.

Contact: Edmund H. Vallery, 603-868-5523

E-mail: ehvallery@aol.com

Pennsylvania

June 14-15

Collecting Union and Confederate Civil War

Patriotic Covers On-the-Road Course, Prior to Summer Seminar, American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte.

APS

Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803

E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org

Website: <http://stamps.org/>
On-the-Road-Courses

Pennsylvania

June 14-15

CSI Philately 2011 - Uncovering the Less Than

Obvious On-the-Road Course, American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. *APS*

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June 16-17

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Pennsylvania **June 17-22**
Summer Seminar Annual week long seminar, American Philatelic Society, Hosted at the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
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Jakarta, Indonesia **June 18-24**
INDONESIA 12 World Stamp Championship

and Exhibition, Jakarta.
Contact: Kees Adema, 38 Fallow Field Road, Fairfield, CT 06824
E-mail: keesandulla@yahoo.com

Kentucky **June 22-23**
LOUIPEX 2012 Metro Louisville Stamp Society, St. Leonard's Catholic Church, 440 Zorn Avenue, Louisville. ***B***
Contact: German Dillon, 502-558-0046
E-mail: german.dillon@insightbb.com
Website: www.louisvillemetrostampsociety.org

Pennsylvania **June 22-24**
National Topical Stamp Show American Topical Association, Lancaster Host Resort

and Conference Center, 2300 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster. ***WSP***
Contact: Robert J. Mather, 262-968-2392
E-mail: american topical@msn.com
Website: www.americantopicalassn.org

Connecticut **June 24**
Fourth Sunday Stamp Show New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. ***B***
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874
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Michigan **July 7**
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E-mail: triplejump@charter.net

Minnesota

July 18-19

Inverts & Misperfs & Curios, Oh My! On-the-Road Course, Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Minneapolis. *APS*

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

Minnesota

July 20-22

Minnesota Stamp Expo Twin City Philatelic Society and Various Local Clubs, Crystal Community Ctr., 4800 Douglas Dr. N., Minneapolis. *WSP*

Contact: Randy A. Smith, 952-431-3273
E-mail: rasmary4@frontiernet.net
Website: www.stampsminnesota.com/MN%20Stamp%20Expo.htm

Nevada

July 21-22

Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show Nevada Stamp Study Society, Reno National Bowling Stadium, 300 N. Center St., Reno.
Contact: Harvey Edwards, 775-246-4769
E-mail: renostamp@earthlink.net
Website: www.home.earthlink.net/~renostamp/

North Carolina

July 21-22

CHARPEX 2011 Charlotte Philatelic Society, Grady Cole Center on the campus of Central Piedmont Community College, 301 N. Kings Drive, Charlotte.

Contact: Gene Zhiss, 704-553-8110
E-mail: show2012@charpex.info
Website: www.charpex.info

Connecticut

July 22

Fourth Sunday Stamp Show New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. *B*

Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874

E-mail: hukeda@comcast.net

Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

Missouri

July 25-28

PMCC Convention Post Mark Collectors Club, Grand Plaza Hotel, 245 North Wildwood Dr., Branson.

Contact: Gary Hendren, 314-249-0731
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Illinois

August 4-5

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Association, White Eagle Banquet Hall, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles. *B*
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Michigan **August 5**
Northwestern Michigan Coin & Stamp Show Northwestern Michigan Coin and Stamp Club, Odawa Casino, 1760 Lears Road, Petoskey.
Contact: Richard Silet, 906-643-7941
E-mail: rsilet@charter.net

California **August 10-12**
AMERICOVER American First Day Cover Society, Irvine Marriott, 18000 Von Karman Avenue, Irvine. *WSP*
Contact: Cynthia Scott
E-mail: showinfo@afdc.org
Website: www.afdc.org/americover/
americover.html

Michigan **August 11-12**
COLPEX Collectors Club of Michigan, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights. *B*
Contact: Charles Wood, 248-546-1282
E-mail: jarnick@wowway.com

Washington **August 11**
Strait Stamp Show Strait Stamp Society, Sequim Masonic Lodge, South 5th and Pine, Sequim.
Contact: Cathie Osborne, 360-683-6373
E-mail: rickcath@wavecable.com

California **August 14-15**
Exhibiting for the Prize On-the-Road Course, Prior to APS StampShow, Hyatt Regency Sacramento, 1209 L Street, Sacramento.
APS
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/>
On-the-Road-Courses

California **August 16**
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Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
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California **August 16-19**
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WEST GERMANY YEAR SETS (Stamps + Souvenir Sheets)			Year	Mint NH	Used	Year	Mint NH	Used
Year	Mint NH	Used	1982 (30 v)	32.00	29.00	1983 (74v + 7)	29.00	28.00
1975 (46v + 1)	37.50	14.00	1983 (19 v)	27.00	25.00	1984 (62v + 4)	24.00	30.00
1979 (34 v + 1)	45.00	19.50	1984 (22 v)	27.00	25.00	1985 (62v + 4)	24.00	30.00
1976 (35v + 2)	30.00	14.00	1985 (20 v)	25.00	23.00	1986 (59v + 5)	24.00	28.00
1977 (39v + 2)	40.00	18.00	1986 (22 v)	25.00	23.00	1987 (67v + 4)	22.00	28.00
1978 (39v + 2)	42.00	19.50	1987 (22v + 1)	27.00	30.00	1988 (66v + 8)	24.00	28.00
1979 (33 v)	35.00	18.00	1988 (32 v)	45.00	75.00	1989 (66v + 5)	24.00	35.00
1980 (35 v)	30.00	14.00	1989 (30 v)	50.00	125.00	1990 (70v + 1)	32.00	45.00
1981 (36 v)	32.00	14.00	1990 (20 v)	32.00	42.50			
1982 (39v + 1)	60.00	19.50						
1983 (35 v)	45.00	14.00						
1984 (34v + 1)	45.00	19.50						
1985 (34 v)	42.00	19.50						
1986 (35v + 1)	42.00	17.00						
1987 (41 v)	45.00	19.50						
1988 (50 v)	52.00	22.00						
1989 (47 v)	68.00	30.00						
1990 (43v + 2)	68.00	39.50						
WEST BERLIN YEAR SETS (Stamps + Souvenir Sheets)								
EAST GERMANY YEAR SETS (Stamps + Souvenir Sheets) (DDR Used are CTO)								
Year	Mint NH	Used						
1975 (84v + 4)	22.00	22.00						
1976 (83v + 4)	22.00	25.00						
1977 (76v + 6)	22.00	25.00						
1978 (87v + 4)	22.00	30.00						
1979 (79v + 5)	22.00	28.00						
1980 (83v + 6)	29.00	28.00						
1981 (86v + 4)	29.00	28.00						
1982 (85v + 5)	29.00	28.00						

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Index of Advertisers

Academy Stamp & Autograph	489	Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC	481	interasia auctions	490	Richard Friedberg Stamps	486
American First Day Cover Society/ AMERICOVER 2012	482	Davidson's Stamp Service	489	Jacques C., Schiff, Jr., Inc.	476	Richard Pyznar	433
Antonio M. Torres	486	Delcampe International	433	James E. Lee	435	Rising Sun Stamps	482
APS Credit Card/U.S. Bank	503	Denali Stamp Co.	480	James T. McCusker, Inc.	490	Rocky Mountain Stamp Show	434
APS Development	414	Don S. Cal	491	John Sheffield Philatelist, Ltd.	489	RUBBER STAMPS	489
APS Education — On-the-Road Course: Exhibiting for the Prize	C7	Downeast Stamps	487	Kay & Company	487	Rupp Brothers	415
APS Estate Advice — Including APS In Your Will	490	Dr. Robert Friedman & Sons Stamps	419	Kristal Kare, Inc.	482	Sandafayre (Holdings) Ltd.	472
APS In-Kind Donations	502	Earl P.L. Apfelbaum, Inc.	471	Lawrence J Mozian	468	Saskatoon Stamp Centre	486
APS Sales Division/Circuit Books	C8	Edward D. Younger Co.	422-423, 424-425	Linn's Stamp News, Amos Hobby Publishing, Scott Publishing	499	Scott A. Shaulis	489
APS StampShow 2012 Registration	C2	Eric Jackson	487	Michael Eastick & Associates Pty. Ltd.	489	Sismondo Experts/The Classic Collector	491
APS Volunteer Work Week	C5	E.S.J. van Dam Ltd.	489	Mountainside Stamps, Coins and Currency	498	Space Cover Store	489
Argyll Etkin Limited	486	F & J Collectibles	490	Mowbray Collectables Ltd.	489	stampsinc.	490
Bellmore Philatelics	467	FLOREX 2012	489	Muscott's	426	Stephen T. Taylor	475
Bermuda Coin & Stamp Co.	489	Frank Bachenheimer	490	Mystic Stamp Company	C4, 485	Steve Cripe	489
Bernie Hopp	487	Frank Coppola	502	New England Stamp	490	Suburban Stamp Inc.	432
bidStart	430	Gary Lyon (Philatelist) Ltd.	470	Palo Albums Inc.	431	The Stamp Center/Dutch Country Auctions	477
Brian and Maria Green, Inc.	480	Gregg Nelson Stamps	489	Paradise Valley Stamp Company, Inc.	489	The Washington Press	475
Brookman Barrett & Worthen	468	Guernsey Post	428	Patricia A. Kaufmann	484	Tropical Stamps Inc.	487
Campbell Paterson Ltd.	468	Have Tongs Will Travel		Penny Black Stamp Company	486	Universal Philatelic Auctions	473
Century Stamps	483	Harmers Auctions Switzerland	453	Peter Mosiondz, Jr.	490	Vance Auctions, Ltd.	443
Collins	487	HB Philatelics	484	Philasearch	421	Varisell	480
Colonial Stamp Company	483	Henry Gitner Philatelists, Inc.	427	Philaton	490	Westminster Stamp Gallery, Ltd.	486
Columbian Stamp Co. Inc.	490	HGI Stamp Co. Zeppelin	490	Postage Stamp Paintings	498	WIP Inc. International	465
Confederate Stamp Alliance	486	H.J.W. Daugherty	490	Quality Stamps	459	Zhaonline	416
Cover Collector Store	489	H.R. Harmer GPN LLC	413	Rasdale Stamp Co.	429		
		Hungaria Stamp Exchange	468	Regency-Superior Auctions	409		
		Ideal Stamp Company	432				

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E-mail: stampshow@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org

California August 17-18
Boy Scout Stamp Collecting Merit Badge Scouting Merit Badge Program at STAMPSHOW, sign up for 1 day Only! Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 J Street, Sacramento. ***APS***
Contact: Janet Houser, 814-933-3803 ext. 238
E-mail: jehouser@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Scout-Merit-Badge

California August 18
Stamp Collecting 101 Adult Beginner Course at STAMPSHOW, Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 J Street, Sacramento. ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Stamp-Collecting-101

Kansas August 18-19
The Wichita Show Wichita Stamp Club, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita.

Contact: Ralph Lott, 316-683-6593
Website: www.wichitastampclub.org

Ohio August 25-26
AIRPEX Dayton Stamp Club, IBEW Local (Crossroads Expo Center), 6550 Poe Avenue, Dayton.
Contact: Mike Komiensky, 937-299-9297
E-mail: info@daytonstampclub.com
Website: www.daytonstampclub.com

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

Canada August 31-September 2
BNAPEX 2012 British North America Philatelic Society, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 700 Centre Street, Calgary.
Contact: Earle Covert, 403-752-4548
E-mail: ecovert@telusplanet.net
Website: www.bnaps.org

New Jersey August 31-September 1
MERPEX Merchantville Stamp Club, St. Cecilia School, 4810 Camden Avenue, Pennsauken. Contact: Macario Sarreal, 856-424-2389
E-mail: macsar530@aol.com
Website: http://mysite.verizon.net/vzexkfun/

New Hampshire September 8
Carroll County Stamp Show White Mountain Stamp Club and Wolfeboro Stamp Club, The Moultonborough Lions Club, 139 Old Route 109 off Governor Wentworth Highway, Moultonborough. ***B***
Contact: Barbara Savary, 603-447-5461
E-mail: bmsavary@gmail.com
Website: www.virtualstampclub.com

Florida September 8-9
FSDA Ocala Stamp Show Florida Stamp Dealers Association & General Francis Marion Stamp Club, Circle Square Culture Center, 8395 SW 80th Street, Ocala. ***B***
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
E-mail: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.floridastampdealers.org

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Nebraska

September 8-9

Omaha Stamp Show Omaha Philatelic Society, Metro Community College-South Campus, 2909 Babe Gomez Ave., Omaha. *WSP*

Contact: Herb Eveland, 402-397-9937

E-mail: tuaenterprises@hotmail.com

Website: www.omaphilatelicsociety.org

Wisconsin

September 19-20

100 Ways to Collect Germany On-the-Road Course, Milwaukee Airport and Convention Center, 4747 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee. *APS*

Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803

E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org

Website: <http://stamps.org/>

On-the-Road-Courses

Texas

September 21-23

Greater Houston Stamp Show Houston Philatelic Society, Humble Civic Ctr., 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy., Humble.

Contact: Denise Stotts, 281-923-1601

E-mail: stottsdj@swbell.net

Website: www.houstonstampclub.org

Wisconsin

September 21-23

MILCOPEX Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Inc., Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel & Convention Center, 4747 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee. *WSP*

Contact: Mary Ann Bowman/Dona Fagan, 262-251-0617

E-mail: faganfalls@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.milwaukeephilatelic.org



No. 3, March 31, 2012

Membership Report

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during March. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to May 31, 2012, these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the July 2012 issue.

Aaron-Barrada, Tammie M. (220152) **Ruffs Dale, PA** WORLDWIDE-EGYPT; 48
Bacon, Michael J. (220136) **Scottsdale, AZ** US, COILS, CLASSICS, COIL LINE PAIRS, CANCELS, 19TH C, BUREAU ISSUES; 53; Merchant
Badiner, Cynthia S. (220077) **New Orleans, LA** 53; Art Sales
Bamford, Stephen (220096) **Tallahassee, FL** US BOOKLETS/PANES, DEFINITIVES, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, PATRIOTIC COVERS, CIVIL WAR COVERS, PHILATELIC/NUMISMATIC COVERS; 60; Social Worker
Barnes, Thomas P. (220095) **Moody, AL** AUTHORS/LITERATURE/LIBRARIES-WORLDWIDE; 65; Retired
Bayham, Edward L. (220153) **Saint Louis, MO** GERMANY, STATES, COLONIES; 65; Biotech Consultant
Bell, Len (220099) **Simi Valley, CA** CANADA-AUST-ISRAEL-CLASSIC US; 72; Retired
Berger, Michael B. (220078) **Macungie, PA** US-WORLDWIDE; 39; Engineering Supervisor
Berky, Robert (220164) **Wilson, WY** US 19TH & 20TH C, COMMEMORATIVES-LIECHTENSTEIN-HAWAII-CANADA; 63
Bernato, Richard (220117) **Sayville, NY** US; 64; Professor
Black, George W. (220110) **Pacific Palisades, CA** MASONRY-US ERRORS, FREAKS, ODDITIES-TOPICAL-COATS OF ARMS-FAMOUS PEOPLE; 83; Retired
Blake, Gary E. (220145) **Clark, MO** PRE 1950 WORLDWIDE-PRE 1965 US PLATE BLOCKS-PRE 1940 US COVERS-CZESLAW SLANIA; 62; Farmer
Bledsoe, Ola M. (220154) **Saint Louis, MO** AFRICAN AMERICAN; 61; Retired
Blount, Alan W. (220141) **McDonough, GA** US; Retired
Bossler, Glenn A. (220079) **Reading, PA** US PLATE BLOCKS-EUROPE-CHRISTMAS; 62; Retired
Braendel, Felix (220144) **San Rafael, CA** US 19TH & 20TH C-BAVARIA-CANADA-GERMANY-ITALY; 70; Retired

Brawner, James E. (220080) **Atlanta, GA** US; 83; Retired

Brown, Paul A. (220081) **APO, AP**

Bruna, Frank (220128) **Miami, FL** US 19TH C-SPAIN-FRANCE-CUBA-CANADA-BELGIUM; 59; Travel Owner

Butcher, William T. (220112) **Houston, TX** US 19TH C, ADVERTISING COVERS, CANCELS, CIVIL WAR COVERS, COVERS, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES; 56

Cassella, George (220113) **Richmond Hill, NY** US, SHEETS/SMALL PANES, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, FDC, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, COMMEMORATIVES-COOK IS

Clarke, Raymond E. (220155) **Saint Louis, MO** WORLDWIDE; 68; Retired

Condemi, Julius (220082) **Palm Desert, CA** CHINA-ITALY; 61; Retired

Conner, Cory (220108) **Sulphur, LA** US 20TH C, COMMEMORATIVES, COVERS, POSTAL CARDS, POSTAL HISTORY; 23

Crabb, Richard B. (220118) **Milford, DE** PRE 1960 US; 78; Retired

Cross, Rebecca A. (220123) **Questa, NM** US, FDC, CANCELS, COVERS-CANAL ZONE-WWII; 62; Self Employed

Damashek, Marc (220107) **Hampstead, MD** US COMMEMORATIVES

Davis, Rockwell F. (220158) **Falmouth, ME** US-WORLDWIDE; 69; Dentistry

DeHoek, William R. (220146) **Grand Rapids, MI**; Attorney

Dohrn, Michael R. (220098) **Dover, DE** US COMMEMORATIVES, FDC-CANADA-GERMANY-JAPAN-SPACE/JET/ROCKET COVERS; 49

Douglas, Liz (220111) **Tooele, UT** US 19TH & 20TH C; 58; Lighting Designer

Doyle, Diane P. (220124) **Framingham, MA** US-WORLDWIDE; 49; Nurse Practitioner

Driese, James R. (220121) **Seattle, WA** US COVERS, AIR MAILED; Auditor

Dube, Diane L. (220075) **New Fairfield, CT** US COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES, AIR MAILED, BOOKLETS/PANES; 63; Retired

Edgecomb, John C. (220147) **Waynesboro, VA** MINT US; 62; Teacher

Ellsbury, Michael M. (220074) **Fairbury, NE** US, COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS, 19TH & 20TH C, AIR MAILED, DEFINITIVES; 65; Retired

Exum, Ashe (220109) **Kinston, NC** US 19TH C

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 219794, 219803 through 219926 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, Feb. 29, 2012	34,928
New Members	125
Reinstated	12
	137
	35,065
Deceased.....	41
Resignations.....	31
Expelled	3
Total Membership, Mar. 31, 2012	34,990

Fiske, Kelly G. (220137) **Medina, OH** US, COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES, AIR MAILED, OFFICIALS/OFFICIAL MAIL, PARCEL POST, POSTAGE DUE; Business Systems Manager

Flewallen, David (220116) **Fresno, CA** US, CLASSICS, COMMEMORATIVES, SPECIAL DELIVERIES, 1847/1934; 63

Furgiuele, Carmelo (220067) **Fairport, NY** US COMMEM, DEFINITIVES, 20TH C; Retired

Furst, Thomas M. (220105) **Bavaria, Germany** DELTILOGY POSTCARDS; 42; Engineer

Goss, Richard D. (220083) **Matteson, IL** MINT; 68; Retired

Goyer, Tamsie (220084) **Bixby, OK** COVERS-CEREMONY PROGRAMS (AIR FORCE-BASEBALL-HORSES-HOLLYWOOD LEGENDS); 68; Account Representative

Graper, John C. (220159) **Wilmington, DE** CANADA QEII DEFINITIVES-US JOINT ISSUES-DELAWARE; 73; Retired

Green, Anthony F. (220100) **Brackettville, TX** US FDC, ODDITIES; 50

Greening, Frank (220072) **Saint Louis, MO** US, COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES, AIR MAILED; 68; Retired

Hadlock, William (220070) **Ellicott City, MD** BRAZIL-FRANCE-COLOMBIA; 72

Hansen, Shirley (220097) **Mansfield, WA**

Harmsen, Calvin E. (220085) **Marble Falls, TX** 66; Retired

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- Hayes, George (220115) **Hartland, MI** US, COMMEMORATIVES, FDC, PLATE BLOCKS-CANADA-BRITISH EMPIRE-JAPAN; 58
- Hodas, Richard (220086) **Harper Woods, MI** MINT US-WORLDWIDE-SOUVENIR SHEETS-POLAND-VATICAN CITY; 59
- Jantz, Andrew (220087) **Arlington, MA** US-BERMUDA-SPACE-VATICAN-FRANCE; 50; Retired
- Jensen, Gwyneth (220088) **Hillsboro, OR** US COMMEMORATIVES-MEDICINE-ARTISTS-HISTORY; 75; Retired
- Juanillo, Nicetas (220160) **Swansboro, NC** PHILIPPINES-SPANISH PHILIPPINES-US; 61; Caregiver
- King, Jack E. (220073) **Canyon Country, CA** US 19TH C-ALAND-IRELAND-JUDAICA-RELIGION; 65; Retired
- Klamut-Kurycz, Nancy (220165) **Gettysburg, PA** US, DEFINITIVES-HORSES-CHESS
- Kovens, Ed (220119) **Timonium, MD** US; 72; Sales
- Loew, Judith M. (220161) **Port Jefferson Station, NY** US-ISRAEL-GREECE-CANADA; 76; Retired
- Longhi, Pierfranco (220127) **Lecco, Italy** CHRISTMAS-POLAND; 44
- Ma, Chieu (220094) **Staten Island, NY** CHINA-PRC; 46
- MacFarland, David (220131) **Needham, MA** US-AMERICAN INDIANS-BALLOONS-WORLDWIDE-WAR COVERS/STAMPS; 61
- Macie, Mary Christine (220156) **New Oxford, PA** PAPUA NEW GUINEA-CHRISTMAS; 70
- Manz, Matthias (220125) **Baltimore, MD** 57; Retired
- McFarland, Roger (220138) **Riverside, CA** US-CANADA-PITCAIRN; 69; Retired
- Meyer, Glennon (220071) **Saint Louis, MO** US 19TH & 20TH C, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, ERRORS, FREAKS, ODDITIES-MO POSTAL HISTORY, SOUVENIR SHEETS; 74
- Miller, Saralea (220162) **Thomas, WV** US-IRELAND-ISRAEL-GERMANY-BRITAIN; 58; Nurse
- Mohr, Donald E. (220101) **Mesa, AZ** US; 78; Retired
- Moyer, Ray M. (220163) **Euless, TX** US; 66; Retired
- O'Brien, Richard (220126) **North Mankato, MN** US; 78; Retired
- Oberg, Michael (220089) **Warsaw, IN** US, PUBLICATIONS; 40; Paramedic
- Olson, Ralph C. (220102) **Frazee, MN** FDC-POSTCARDS-COLONIAL; 73
- Owen, John W. (220122) **Columbia, SC** SCOUTS-MEDICINE/DRUGS/HEALTH; 67; Pharmacist
- Palagonian, Joseph (220148) **Howard Beach, NY** MINT US; 65
- Papucciani, Brian (220130) **Brossard, QC** 23
- Paris, Don (220090) **Buffalo, NY** MINT US-UN; Retired
- Pelton, Scott L. (220129) **Seattle, WA** US 19TH & 20TH C, AIR MAILED, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES;
- Phillips, Charles (220132) **New York, NY** 63
- Prince, James P. (220091) **Brooklyn, NY** US; 80; Retired
- Rebman, James (220106) **Dripping Springs, TX** US COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, AIR MAILED, OFFICIALS/OFFICIAL MAIL
- Rice, Jennifer L. (220120) **Yulee, FL** SPACE-ASTRONAUTS-ROCKETS; 69; Retired
- Richardson, Marvin (220076) **Alamogordo, NM** US, FDC, COVERS, AIR MAILED, BLOCKS/GUIDELINES BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVES, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING; Retired
- Rush, Robert (220068) **Holyoke, MA** US, 19TH & 20TH C, MA POSTAL HISTORY, SAVINGS (POSTAL/TREASURY/WAR), POSTAGE DUE, PATRIOTIC COVERS
- Santa Rosa Stamp Club (1584-220151) **Santa Rosa, CA**
- Schmucker, Ken (220134) **North Adams, MI** EARLY US; 72; Retired
- Schreiber, Fred (220133) **Rockport, ME** US; 64; Photographer
- Shmunis, Leonid (220114) **Rockville, MD** RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-SOCCE; 40
- Shuman, John T. (220135) **Biloxi, MS** US; 82; Retired
- Siegel, Barry L. (220103) **Fountain Hill, AZ** COMMEMORATIVES; 65
- Slyker, Robert G. (220149) **Nevada City, CA** US-PRE 1940 CLASSICS; 70; Geophysicist
- Stumpo, David C. (220140) **Sterling, CT** US DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, CT POSTAL HISTORY, AIR MAILED-ART-ANIMALS; 65; Artist
- Taylor, George T. (220092) **Cutler Bay, FL** CONFEDERATE STATES-US 19TH C; 76; Retired
- Wacker, Robert H. (220104) **Montgomery, TX** MINT US; 73; Retired
- Wallace, Paul D. (220093) **Loveland, CO** US-UN-CANADA-FDC; 78; Retired
- Walsh, Siobhan (220143) **Manchester, England** 51
- Weiblen, Pete (220069) **Tucson, AZ** US, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVES, FDC; 73; Retired
- Wemhoener, John D. (220157) **Kirkwood, MO** 65
- Wiens, B. (220142) **Mercer Island, WA** CANADA-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH
- Yarry, Monica J. (220150) **Pompano Beach, FL**; Zaplotnik, Hermann (220139) **North Bergen, NJ** BRAZIL; 70; Retired

DECEASED

Aitken, George D. (9979-067291), Edmonton, AB, Canada

Albertson, Lawrence P. (9562-048004), Gainesville, FL

Alsen, B. (164882), Los Angeles, CA

Barker, Jon M. (200125), Clearlake Oaks, CA

Bartlett, Charles R. (2715-037782), Laguna Woods, CA

Bogart, William H., Jr. (9555-064926), Oak Ridge, NC

Brown, W. Barry (195212), Morrisville, PA

Cullen, Evelyn (4630-036893), Titusville, FL

Donaldson, Robert (4655-037704), Rockland, ME

Fairbanks, Owen A., Jr. (076376), Atkinson, NH

Gratz, J. Roger (7779-055473), Elizabethtown, PA

Gross, Wilfred E., Jr. (172133), Columbus, GA

Johnson, Gary L. (182870), Clarkfield, MN

Kaminski, Edmund J. (7800-055892), Doylestown, PA

Keys, Paul E., (178548), Sheffield Lake, OH

Kirsteuer, Ernst (203891), Delhi, NY

Kowalczyk, Edward (216840), Shorewood, IL

Lienke, Dana (216401), Maplewood, MN

Lifsey, Jeremy (109910), Flourtown, PA

Lohman, Garvin F. (8414-056177), San Francisco, CA

Mallard, Karl L. (6020-043786), San Leandro, CA

Mittenzwei, Fred (217090), Sacramento, CA

Mooney, Roy E. (7578-051818), Cleveland, GA

Niemaszky, Kasimer T. (6976-050039), Union, NJ

Ogle, David J. (11045-053202), Bakersfield, CA

Overholt, Linford G. (1534-058165), Madeira Beach, FL

Page, Robert C. (196944), Columbus, OH

Perkins, Robert B. (204268), Bath, NY

Pozzato, Ronald P. (192263), Southington, CT

Roth, John J. (138102), Cincinnati, OH

Salz, Richard H. (6589-047736), San Francisco, CA

Scott, Steven R. (207841), Scottsdale, AZ

Shortell, Robert W. (098944), Seymour, CT

Sieckert, Egbert (126694), Lodi, CA

Skullestad, P (166694), Honolulu, HI

Speiden, Michael R. (171990), Rockville, MD

Turin, Dimitry M. (9020-061186), Grosse Ile, MI

Walters, Doris M. (148235), Westminster, MD

Wiener, Sol (100311), Port Townsend, WA

Wolf, Iris R. (202872), Dunnellon, FL

Ziemann, Frederick S. (108680), Wausau, WI

EXPELLED

Harper, Michael (215733), 307 W. Broad St., Gibbstown, NJ, for conduct unbefitting a member for failure to settle philatelic indebtedness to the Society (violation of APS Code of Ethics #8), and for failure to respond to official Society correspondence.

Lord, Frank (103717), 515 W. Oakdale Ave., Apt. 219, Chicago, IL, for conduct unbefitting a member for failure to settle philatelic indebtedness to the Society (violation of APS Code of Ethics #8), and for failure to respond to official Society correspondence.

Montealegre, Michael (181587), 5437 Downington Dr., Jacksonville, FL, for conduct unbefitting a member for failure to settle philatelic indebtedness to the Society (violation of APS Code of Ethics #8), and for failure to respond to official Society correspondence.

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Celebrating Louisiana

On April 30, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the Postal Service issued a Louisiana Statehood commemorative stamp (Forever® priced at 45 cents), in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of twenty stamps. With the issuance of this stamp, the USPS commemorates the bicentennial of Louisiana's statehood. Art director Phil Jordan selected a photograph by Louisiana photographer C.C. Lockwood for the stamp art; the photograph shows the sun setting over Flat Lake in Louisiana's Atchafalaya Basin, capturing the beauty of the lake's bald cypress trees hung with Spanish moss. The "Pelican State" entered the union as the eighteenth state on April 30, 1812. Today, nearly 4.5 million people call Louisiana home.

Denomination: First Class Forever Commemorative

Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)

Designer/Art Director/Typography:

Phil Jordan, Falls Church, VA

Photographer: C.C. Lockwood, Baton Rouge, LA

Engraver: Trident

Modeler: Avery Dennison, Designed and Engineered Solutions

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR), Clinton, SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type II

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black, Blue

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 21.34 x 36.07 mm (image);
25.15 x 39.62 mm (overall); 148.59 x
184.15 mm (pane)

Plate Numbers: "V" followed by five single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2011 USPS; USPS logo; Plate position diagram; Barcode 469000 in upper right and lower left corners of pane; Promotional text

Jose Ferrer

On April 26, in New York City, the Postal Service issued a Jose Ferrer commemorative stamp (Forever® priced at 45 cents), in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of twenty stamps. The USPS honors actor, director, writer, musician, and producer Jose Ferrer (1912–1992) with a stamp in its Distinguished Americans series. Considered one of the most versatile talents of his generation, Ferrer performed on stage and in more than sixty films. He won the first Tony Award for Best Actor — in 1947, the inaugural year for the awards — for playing poet Cyrano de Bergerac on Broadway; and for the 1950 film version, he won the Oscar for Best Actor, the first for a Latino. He remains one of the few actors to ever win both awards for playing the same character on stage and on film. The portrait featured on the stamp is an oil



painting by Daniel Adel, based on a photograph of Ferrer. Verso text appears on the back of the stamp sheet. Art director Antonio Alcala designed the stamp.

Denomination: First Class Mail Forever

Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)

Series: Distinguished Americans

Designer/Art Director/Typography:

Antonio Alcala, Alexandria, VA

Artist: Daniel Adel, Coldspring, NY

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset/Microprint "USPS"

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

Press Type: Mueller, A76

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

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 (pane)

Colors: Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Gold, Grey, Red

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by seven single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Header: "DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS" — "Number 14 in a series"; Plate numbers in bottom two corners. *Back:*





©2011 USPS; Plate position diagram; USPS logo; Barcode 470200 in lower left and upper right corners of pane; Biographical information on back of each pane; Proprietary notice at bottom left corner of pane.

The Civil War: 1862

On April 24, in New Orleans, Louisiana, the Postal Service issued a The Civil War: 1862 commemorative se-tenant pair (two designs) (Forever® priced at 45 cents) in a pressure-sensitive adhesive souvenir sheet of twelve stamps. The \$5.40 The Civil War: 1862 souvenir sheet may not be split, and the stamps may not be sold individually.

With this 2012 issuance, the USPS continues its series commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, joining others across the country in paying tribute to the American experience during the tumultuous years from 1861 to 1865. A souvenir sheet of two stamps is being issued each year through 2015. For 2012, one stamp depicts the Battle of New Orleans, the first significant achievement of the U.S. Navy in the war, while the other depicts the Battle of Antietam, which marked the bloodiest day of the war and was a major turning point in the conflict. The stamp sheet includes comments on the war by David G. Farragut, James C. Steele, Walt Whitman, and the *New York Times*. It also includes some of Charles Carroll Sawyer's lyrics from the popular 1862 song, "Weeping, Sad and Lonely" (music composed by Henry Tucker).

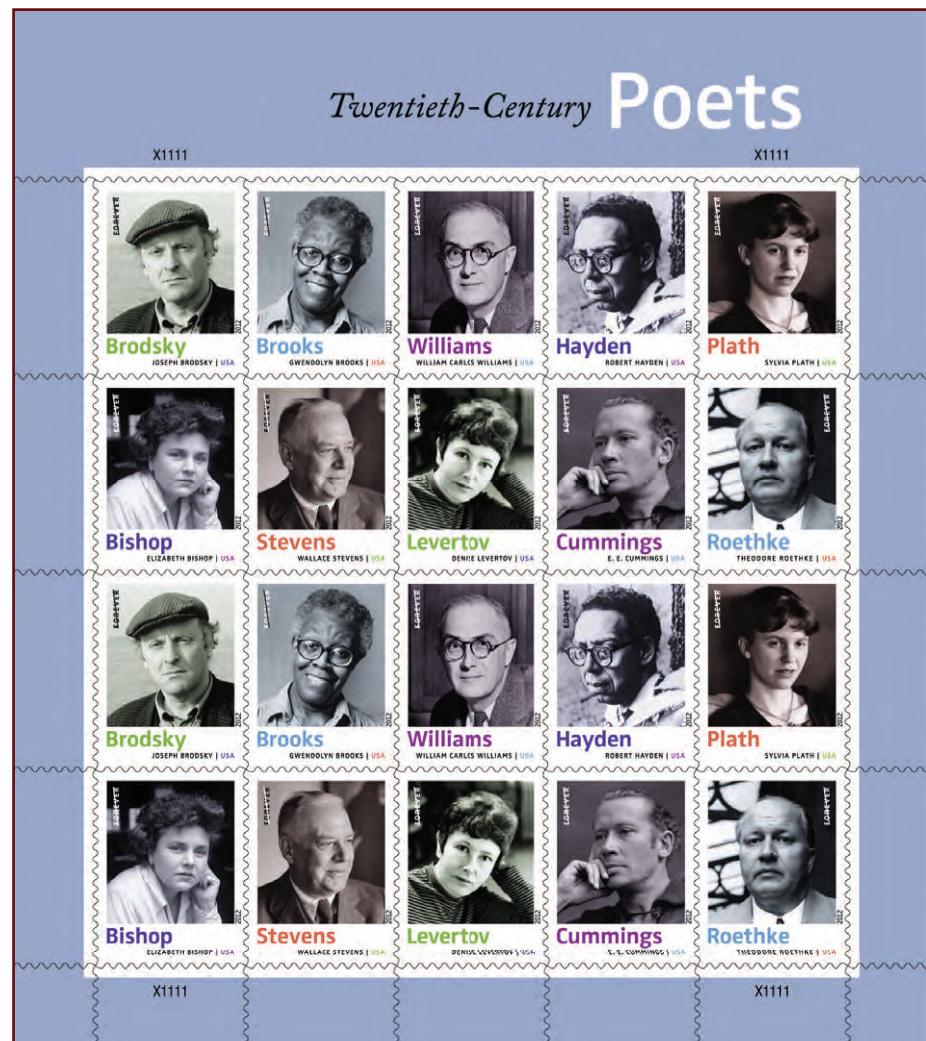
Denomination: First Class Forever
Commemorative
Format: Souvenir Sheet of 12 (2 designs)

Series: Civil War Sesquicentennial
Designer/Art Director/Typography: Phil Jordan, Falls Church, VA
Modeler: Joseph Sheeran
Manufacturing Process: Offset
Printer: Ashton Potter (USA) Ltd., Williamsville, NY
Press Type: Mueller Martini, A76
Paper Type: Nonphosphored, Type III, Block Tag
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal
Sizes (w x h): 50.81 x 26.87 mm (image); 54.37 x 30.42 mm (overall); 225.55 x 171.45 mm (pane)

Colors: *Front:* Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Warm Gray, Blue, Red. *Back:* Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Warm Gray, Blue, Red.

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Header: "THE CIVIL WAR, 1862, A Nation Touched with Fire"; Verso-text. *Back:* ©2011;



USPS Header: "THE CIVIL WAR, 1862, A Nation Touched with Fire"; Verso-text; USPS logo; Plate position diagram; Barcode 577000 at bottom right corner of pane; Promotional text at bottom of pane.

Twentieth-Century Poets

On April 21, in Los Angeles, California, the Postal Service issued a Twentieth-Century Poets commemorative stamp, in ten designs (Forever® priced at 45 cents) in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of twenty stamps.

With the issuance of Twentieth-Century Poets, the USPS honors ten of our nation's most admired poets: Elizabeth Bishop, Joseph Brodsky, Gwendolyn Brooks, E. E. Cummings, Robert Hayden, Denise Levertov, Sylvia Plath, Theodore Roethke, Wallace Stevens, and William Carlos Williams. The many awards won by this illustrious group include numerous Pulitzer Prizes, National Book Awards, and honorary degrees. Each stamp features a photograph of one of the ten poets. Text on the back of the stamp sheet includes an excerpt from a poem by each poet.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Forever Commemorative

Format: Pane of 20 (10 designs)

Designer/Art Director/Typography:

Derry Noyes, Washington, DC

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset

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

Press Type: Mueller Martini, A76

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 19.56 x 26.67 mm (image);

23.11 x 30.23 mm (overall); 140.97 x

160.02 mm (pane)



Colors: Black, Green, Blue, Red, Purple, Orange. **Border only:** Blue

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by six single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front: Header:* "Twentieth-Century Poets"; Plate number in bottom left corner of pane. *Back: Side Header:* "Twentieth-Century Poets"; ©2011 USPS; Excerpt from each poet; Plate position diagram; USPS logo; Barcode 468800 in lower left and upper right areas of pane; Promotional text at bottom left of pane.

William H. Johnson

On April 11, in Baltimore, Maryland, the Postal Service issued a William H. Johnson commemorative stamp (Forever® priced at 45 cents), in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of twenty stamps. The eleventh issuance in the American Treasures series showcases a still-life painting by William H.

Johnson (1901–1970). One of our country's foremost African-American artists, Johnson is now recognized as a major figure in twentieth-century American art. He is best known for his dramatic Scandinavian landscapes and colorful, folk-inspired scenes of African-American daily life. *Flowers*, an oil-on-plywood painting created in 1939–1940, depicts a vase of boldly rendered, brightly colored blooms on a small table.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Forever Commemorative

Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)

Series: American Treasures

Designer/Art Director/Typography:

Derry Noyes, Washington, DC

Original Art: William H. Johnson

Engraver: Trident

Modeler: Avery Dennison, Designed and Engineered Solutions

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR), Clinton, SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type I

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black, Dark Blue, Gray Green

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 21.34 x 36.07 mm (image);

24.89 x 39.62 mm (overall); 148.59 x

184.15 mm (pane)

Plate Numbers: "V" followed by six single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front: Header:*

"AMERICAN TREASURES • WILLIAM H. JOHNSON", "Eleventh in a series" at bottom left corner of pane; Plate numbers in four corners of pane. *Back: Header:* "AMERICAN TREASURES • WILLIAM H. JOHNSON"; ©2011 USPS; USPS logo; Plate position diagram; Barcode 468900 in upper right and lower left corners of pane; Promotional text; Narrative text on back of each pane.

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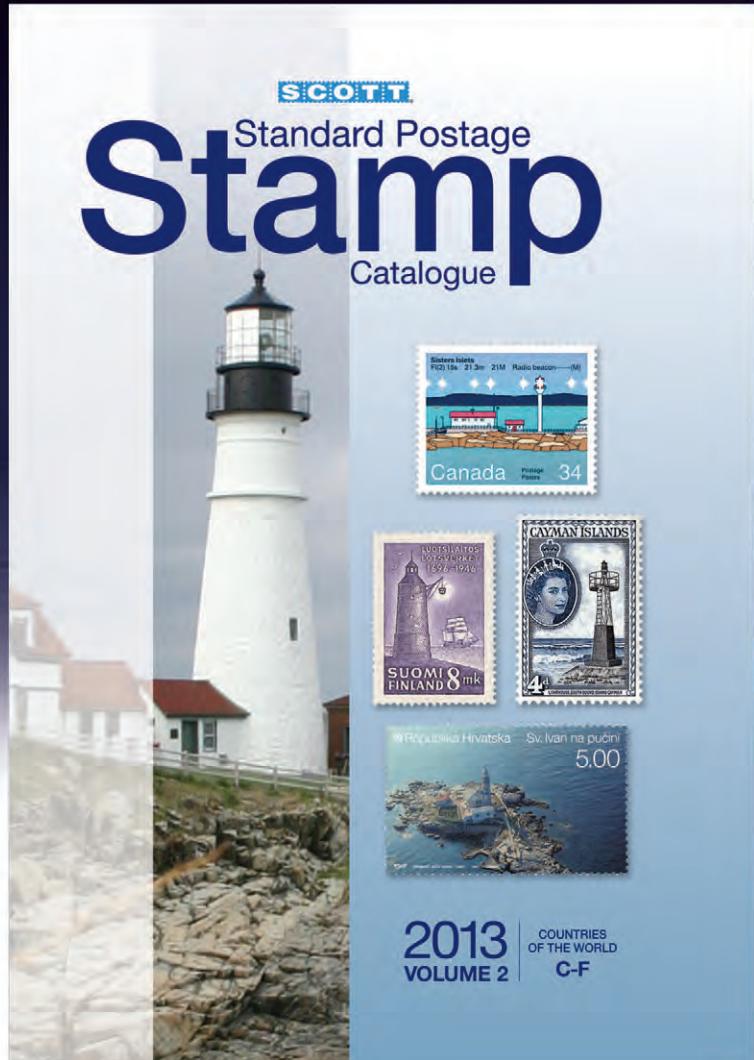
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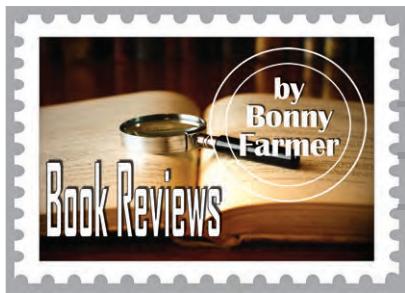
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Stamp Counterfeiting; The Evolution of an Unrecognized Crime, by H.K. Petschel. Published 2011 by HKP Publications, Sandpoint, ID. Softcover, ix + 174 pp., 8 b/w illus., ISBN 978-0-615-50885-6. Available for \$26 plus shipping from Keokee Company Publishing, 405 Church Street, Sandpoint, ID 83864; website www.KeokeeBooks.com.

Written from the point of view and experience of a U.S. postal inspector, the book examines early twentieth century stamp counterfeiting schemes in the United States. For some cases, most of the details are known, for others the historical information can be garbled or incomplete. Concern for this vanishing postal history led the author to begin his research into the archives. As Petschel notes in his preface: "Initially, protecting postal revenue and combating postal counterfeiting played a large role in the thinking of postal administrators across the world. As time went by, the reasons

why certain things were done were forgotten.... You forget there was a reason why stamps had grills, watermarks and perforations."

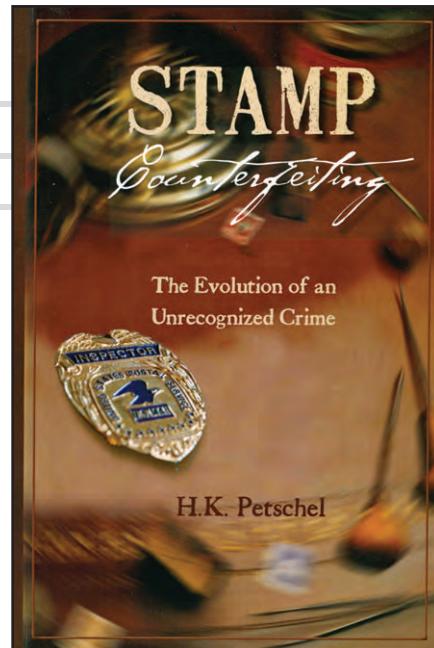
This volume takes an in-depth look at the law enforcement investigations surrounding some of the early cases of U.S. postal fraud, beginning in Chicago 1895 and ending with the story of Jacob Hoffman and Herman Herst and the Fourth Bureau Issue in 1935–36. And if the chapter headings are bit more light-hearted than enlightening, the information presented within them is solid.

The concluding chapter — "Odds and Ends; Is It Illegal To Collect Counterfeit Stamps?" — examines some of the details of relevant U.S. laws, including a brief discussion on the reuse of stamps that have gone through the mail and a short section titled "Organized Crime and the Art of Counterfeiting." Also included in this chapter is the subhead "For the Stamp Collector; A Definition of Terms." This is a well-written analysis of the philatelic use of terms such as counterfeit and forgery. Although the author is careful to identify them as "the definitions that I use," still they might have served the reader better had they appeared at the beginning of the text.

One regret is that there are only eight black-and-white uncaptioned illustrations within the book, and these are not of high quality. It would have been very nice to have been able to see high resolution, color images on a glossy insert.

Hawaiian Missionaries, by Anthony R. Kassel. Published 2011 by the Author. Softcover, 210 pp., b/w illus., ISBN 978-1461157564. Available for \$20 at www.Amazon.com (also available in a Kindle edition) or from www.HawaiianMissionaries.com.

Inspired by his first encounter with



the Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary stamps at Washington 2006, the author began to research the postal history of Hawaii as created and operated by American missionaries. The resulting book, however, is intended for the general reader with a primary interest in the role of American missionaries in the Hawaiian islands and details their activities to an occasionally repetitious fare-thee-well.

The story of American missionary work in the Sandwich Islands begins with the founding of the Pioneer Missionary Company, which sailed from Boston October 23, 1819, arriving in Kawaihae Bay, Hawaii in March 1820. Two years later, on January 7, 1822, the first page of a Hawaiian language primer was produced on the island's first printing press. The first Hawaiian language newspaper, *Ka Lama Hawai'i (The Light of Hawaii)*, published by students at the Lahainaluna school on the island of Maui, appeared in 1834. Correspondence home to the states and elsewhere abroad created a need for a postal agency and the establishment of printing services laid the groundwork for the production of Hawaiian stamps.

Five chapters are of particular interest to philatelists: Chapter 10 "Honolulu Gets a Post Office"; Chapter 11 "Hawaiian Missionary Postage Stamps"; Chapter 14 "Philately Flourishes in France"; Chapter 15 "Grinnell Hawaiian Mission-

ary Stamps"; and Chapter 16 "Grinnell Lost the Court Battle But Not the War." These provide detailed information on the series of events surrounding early Hawaiian postal history — who, what, when, and where — and as such can prove a valuable resource for researchers.

The volume concludes with a timeline of events, several period maps, and a chapter-by-chapter bibliography.

Paris to Shanghai, 1903; A Trans-Siberian Journey to China, by Philip E. Robinson and Stephen P.S. Yen. Published 2011 by Yen Ping Sei Publications, Hong Kong. Softcover, 30 pp., color illus., maps, ISBN 978-988-98691-9-9. Available for US\$20 from P.E. Robinson, 9 Old Rectory Gardens, Scunthorpe, DN17 2BF, U.K.; e-mail probin391@aol.com.

Seldom do we get such a complete glimpse into the journey of mail as is provided by this small (30-page) book. C.E. Tanant was employed by the Imperial Customs Service of the Da Qing Empire, and perhaps the reader will not be surprised to learn that he had been a stamp collector from an early age. The picture postcards he sent to his mother in St. Dié, France documents his return to Shanghai from Paris in 1903, beginning with a view of the "Gare du Nord" railway station in Paris on May 26, 1903 and ending with view of a majestic Chinese pagoda on February 22, 1904. The

authors note that Tanant's trip was made "via the Trans-Siberian and the Chinese Eastern Railways, before the official inauguration of 'Via Siberia' mail service in China in October 1903."

The book follows the custom official's journey east through reproductions and transcriptions of the postcards, and includes information on rates, routes, and postal agreements among countries along the routes between Paris and Shanghai. The centerfold offers two-page maps of the Trans-Siberian Railway from Warsaw to Samara (top) and the Trans-Siberian Railway from Samara to Vladivostok and the Chinese Eastern Railway from Manchouli to Port Arthur via Harbin (bottom). The inside back cover presents and identifies the circular Russian postal wagon datestamps that were used on the postcards.

One regret: it is a great pity that the reproductions are so tiny. Otherwise, this is a postal history gem.

Catalogues Received and Noted

Sierra Leone Registration (2nd edition), by Frank L. Walton FRPSL and Philip G. Quirk. Published 2010 by the West Africa Study Circle. Softcover, 48 pp., b/w illus., ISBN 978-1-905647-06-4. Available for £6 plus postage from Ian Anderson, 57 Manse Road, Edinburgh EH12 7SR, Scotland. Checks should be made payable to the West Africa Study Circle and in sterling drawn on a U.K. bank. Website: www.wasc.org.uk.

The first edition of this catalogue was published in 1994. The present volume includes much new material and lists all registered stationery, registered datestamps, village rubber handstamps, and blue registration labels. Earliest and latest dates of use are provided for each of these categories. It is profusely illustrated with all known types of datestamps and labels, as well as no fewer than 100 village rubber handstamps (the first edition only illustrated 55). Information is provided for both pre- and post-independence.

Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Specialised Stamp Catalogue, Vol. 1: Queen

Sierra Leone Registration



Frank L. Walton FRPSL
& Philip G. Quirk

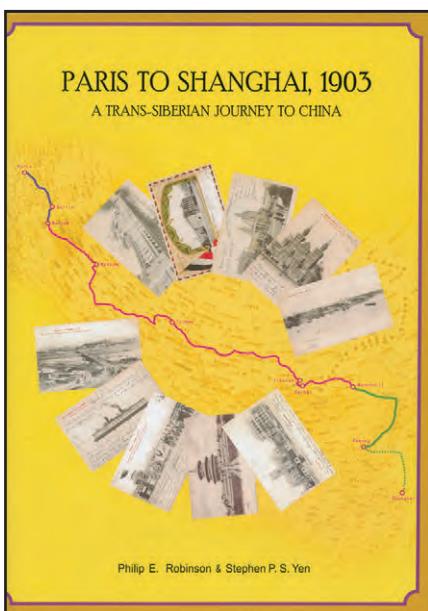
West Africa Study Circle
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Victoria (16th edition). Published 2011 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Hardcover, xii + 356 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-816-5. Available for £84.95 from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, England; website stanleygibbons.com; e-mail orders@stanleygibbons.com.

This edition provides a detailed price listing of all British postage stamps of the nineteenth century including Departmental Officials, Postal Fiscals and Post Office Telegraph stamps, with appendices covering Mulready Letter sheets with advertisements, protective overprints and underprints, specimen and cancelled overprints, and stamps of the Circular Delivery Companies and Oxford and Cambridge Colleges. Following the Historical Introduction, the broad table of contents includes detailed information on Mulready Letter Sheets and Envelopes, the Line-Engraved Issues, the Embossed Issues, the Surface-Printed Issues, Departmental Official Issues and Government Mail, and Postal Fiscal Stamps. The entire catalogue has been carefully revised and repriced in line with the current market.

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue: Southern & Central Africa (1st edition)

Published 2011 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, xxxii + 362 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-823-8. Available for £29.95



from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, England; website stanleygibbons.com; e-mail orders@stanleygibbons.com.

The former Central and Southern Africa volumes in the Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Catalogue series have been combined under this new title. The volume contains comprehensive priced listings of the stamps of present-day Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique (from 1995), Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. It also includes the earlier stamp issuing authorities of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, British Central Africa, British South Africa Company, Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand West, Natal, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Orange Free State, Rhodesia, Rhodesia and Nyasaland, South West Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Stellaland, Transvaal, and Zululand. In addition, there are the Boer War provisionals for Mafeking and other towns, and the "Homelands" of Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei, and Venda. Finally, there are priced listings of Transvaal Republic stamps used in Swaziland and British stamps used by the Army in South Africa as well as on cover "multipliers" for all stamps to 1945.

Stanley Gibbons Collect Channel Islands and Isle of Man Stamps 2012 (27th combined edition). Published 2012 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Soft-cover, v + 348 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-827-6. Available for £27.95 from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7

Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, England; website stanleygibbons.com; e-mail orders@stanleygibbons.com.

The 2012 edition provides the collector with a comprehensive priced listing of stamps of the Channel Islands and Isle of Man, including the Wartime occupation issues of Guernsey and Jersey, the British Post Office "Regional" issues, and the stamps of the independent postal administrations of Guernsey (including Alderney), the Isle of Man and Jersey. Contents include Channel Islands Liberation Issue 1948; *Guernsey*: The German Occupation 1940–45, Regional Issues 1958–69, Independent Postal Administration, Postage Due Stamps, and Stamp Booklets; *Alderney*: Stamp Booklets; *Isle of Man*: Regional Issues 1958–71, Independent Postal Administration, Souvenir Postal Stationery Postcards, Manx Postal Museum Postcards, Postage Due Stamps, and Stamp Booklets; *Jersey*: The German Occupation 1940–45, Regional Issues 1958–69, Independent Postal Administration, a Commemorative Postal Stationery Envelope, Postage Due Stamps, and Stamp Booklets.

Stanley Gibbons Collect British Postmarks 2011 (8th edition). Published 2011 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Soft-cover, ix + 378 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-759-0. Available for £29.95 from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, England; website stanleygibbons.com; e-mail orders@stanleygibbons.com.

Produced in collaboration with the British Postmark Society, this eagerly awaited catalogue was last published in 1997. It allows collectors to identify any British postmark and determine a minimum value of any cover with a comprehensive number system widely used by postmark collectors. The catalogue has a new, easy-to-use layout with clear illustrations throughout, and helpful guidance is provided to assist new and seasoned collectors alike. It has been completely re-set, with the introduction of color designed to make the catalogue visually more exciting. Completely re-priced throughout to reflect current market conditions. Areas covered in this comprehensive volume include The General Post to 1839; Free Franks; London Local Posts to 1839; Marks of the Provincial Post to 1839 (England and Wales); Early Scottish Marks to 1839; Early Irish Marks; The Great Post Office Reforms 1839–44; Numeral, Spoon and Duplex Postmarks; Squared Circle Postmarks; Later Circular Hand Stamps; Machine Cancellations; Slogan Postmarks; Special Event Postmarks; Railway Postmarks; Maritime Markings; Military and Camp Postmarks; Aviation; Islands; Charge, Instructional and Explanatory Remarks; Newspaper, Parcel, Registered, Express and Triangular Postmarks; Posted in Advance for Christmas Postmarks; Parliamentary; Royalty; British Post Offices Abroad; Tourist Cachets; Meter Marks; Printed Postage Impressions; Postal Mechanisation; Post Office Names; Abbreviations; Postal Rates; and concludes with a three-page Bibliography.

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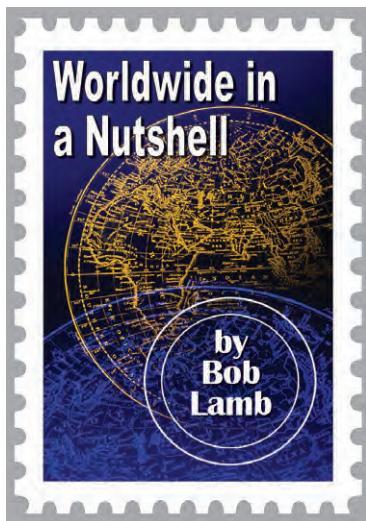
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³ U.S. Bank provides zero fraud liability for unauthorized transactions. Cardholder must notify U.S. Bank promptly of any unauthorized use. Certain conditions and limitations may apply.

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Nevis



Status: Part of the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis

Population: 12,106 (2006 census)

Area: 36 square miles

Currency: 100 cents = 1 Eastern Caribbean Dollar (US\$1 = EC\$2.67)

Nevis is a volcanic island located in the northern Lesser Antilles. It is separated from St. Kitts by a shallow two-mile channel known as "The Narrows." The island was first sighted by Columbus in 1493 but it

appears that a sixteenth-century Spanish cartographer gave it the name Nuestra Señora de las Nieves (Our Lady of the Snows), which was eventually shortened to Nevis. The Spanish claimed the island and took most of the indigenous Amerindians as slaves.

The island was a popular stopover for British ships. Captain John Smith landed here in 1607 on his way to Jamestown to establish the first British settlement in the Western Hemisphere. It is also significant for Americans as the birthplace and childhood home of Alexander Hamilton.

The first European settlers arrived in 1628 when eighty colonists came over from St. Kitts. In the seventeenth century, Nevis enjoyed considerable prosperity. It was the center of the slave trade for the Leeward Islands and was noted for its high-quality sugar cane. When the Leeward Islands separated from Barbados in 1671, Nevis briefly became their administrative seat.

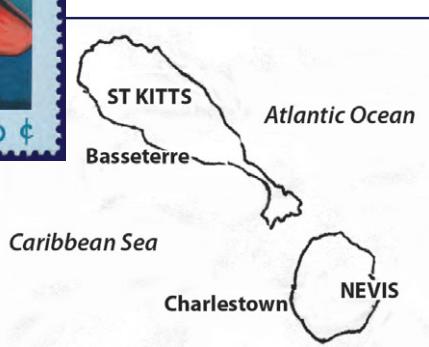
For years, the Colonial Office tried in vain to unite the six Leeward Islands colonies to reduce administrative costs. The relatively more prosperous islands — especially St. Kitts and Nevis — did not want to share their income with Antigua and Montserrat, which were both bankrupt at the time. In 1869 the islands agreed to a weak federal system in which each island maintained its separate finances. Britain did, however, unite St. Kitts and Nevis in 1882, over the bitter opposition of the Nevisians.

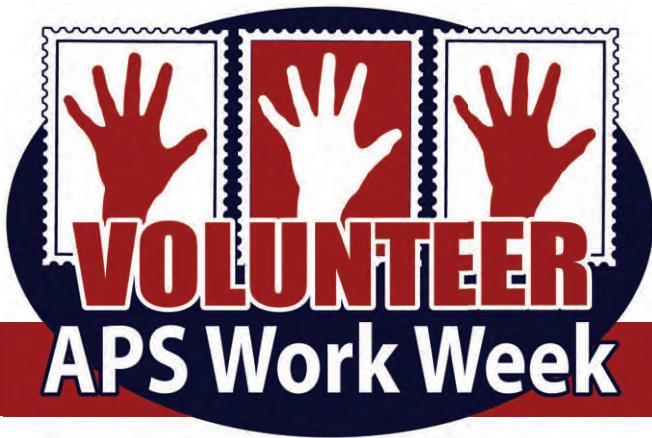
Prior to 1967 the government of St. Kitts and Nevis (and Anguilla) was centralized in Basseterre. Dissatisfaction with the allocation of government services caused unrest in the two smaller islands. Anguilla seceded in 1971 and secessionist sentiment was strong in Nevis. St. Kitts and Nevis became fully independent in 1983. A 1998 referendum for separation from St. Kitts barely fell short of the two-thirds majority required for passage, but Nevis retains a constitutionally protected right to secede.

A branch of the British GPO was opened on Nevis at the end of the eighteenth century. British stamps were valid on the island from May 1858 until the colonial authorities assumed responsibility for the postal service on May 1, 1860. A crown circle handstamp was used on international mail from that date until Nevis stamps were introduced in 1861. Use of Nevis stamps ceased on October 30, 1890, when stamps of the Leeward Islands came into use. In 1903 stamps inscribed St. Kitts Nevis were issued and used concurrently with those of the Leeward Islands. During this period Leeward Islands stamps were not widely used in Nevis.

In 1952 postage stamps inscribed "Saint Christopher Nevis Anguilla" were placed on sale recognizing the new Legislative arrangements. A version of that inscription remained on all the island's stamps until 1980, despite the secession of Anguilla in 1973. On June 23, 1980, each island inaugurated its own postal administration with its own stamps. Today, stamps inscribed Nevis are sold only in Charlestown and those inscribed St. Kitts are sold only on that island.

But the stamps of both islands are valid on either island.





3rd Annual APS Volunteer Work Week

July 23 - 27, 2012

Volunteer Work Week is becoming a tradition for some APS members and their families. Please join them and the APS staff at the American Philatelic Center to work on projects for both the Society and the Library.

The week includes a kickoff breakfast on Monday, a tour and overview of each department and programs, and ends with a thank-you pizza party on Friday.

Travel, lodging, and most food will be the participants' responsibility, but your out of pocket expenses are tax deductible. Although the principal purpose of the week will be to accomplish tasks, volunteers will have evening opportunities to use the American Philatelic Research Library, peruse Circuit Sales and donations materials, and view the Reference Collection.

Individuals may spend the entire week on one project or help with several different projects over the week by spending as little as half a day on a single project. Many tasks do not require special skills and are open to spouses or other non-member guests. Sample opportunities are listed below, but we are open to suggestions if you have a particular talent that you would like to share.

Come for the week, come for a day — we look forward to working with you!

If you can't make it to the APC, but still would like to be an APS Volunteer, please get in touch with Gretchen Moody at 814-933-3803, ext. 239 or gretchen@stamps.org.

Administration

- Apply stamps/pictorial permits
- Prepare member mailing

Circuit Sales

- Organize, identify, and prepare Insurance Fund holdings of stamps for sale.*
- Digital imaging of new circuit books

Development

- Help sort/organize donated materials
- Filing

Editorial

- Adding Scott numbers to scans
- Scanning material for future articles

Education

- Duplicating audiovisual programs

- Development of lesson plans**

Internet Sales

- Preparing material to be returned

Library

- Inventory APS/APRL archives*
- Place bar codes in bound periodicals
- Sort periodical & auction catalogues*
- Label and shift books
- Read shelves to make sure books are in the correct order
- Assist in development of finding aids for Library Resources*
- Training to index publications (half-day)**
- Cleaning and dusting

Shows

- Prepare badges for APS STAMPSHOW 2012
- Assist with sign preparation
- Assemble show notebooks & banquet programs

Youth

- Make packets for give aways**
- Trim stamps from envelopes**
- Write article(s) for YSCA Newsletter**
- Prepare Youth Area supplies for STAMPSHOW**

* Projects not likely to be accomplished without volunteer help

** Tasks that could be continued after the week from home.

Name (as desired on badge) _____ APS # _____ T-Shirt Size _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

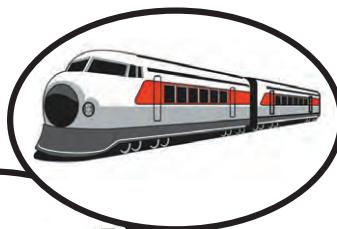
Preferred Task(s) _____

Please send information on housing options. Please send information on area attractions

For more information contact Gretchen Moody at volunteer@stamps.org or call 814-933-3803, ext. 239
or visit Volunteers online at www.stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week

Return this form to Gretchen Moody • APS • 100 Match Factory Place • Bellefonte, PA 16823
or register online at www.stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week

• By Car • By Plane • By Bus • • By Train • By Boat •



We Want
To Buy!!

We Want
To Visit!!

HAVE TONGS, WILL TRAVEL!!

"SELLING A STAMP COLLECTION SHOULD BE A REWARDING EXPERIENCE." The "BEST SALE" is when the buyer will personally visit your city and view your collection. The dealers listed will travel to "any city" to view appropriate holdings.

UNFORTUNATELY many collections in the \$2,000 to \$20,000 range do not economically justify the time and expense for a professional buyer to travel long distances to personally view your collection.

WE OFFER A SOLUTION: Each dealer listed has designated a state, and region, he will make every effort to personally visit. Contact that dealer direct and discuss your collection and options. If your state is not listed, contact the closest dealer, or a dealer of your choice.

YOUR GUARANTEE: While each dealer listed is an independently owned business, all are members of either the ASDA or the APS (most are both), insuring fairness and integrity in purchasing your collection.

IF YOU LIVE IN:

New York,
Connecticut,
Maryland,
or New Jersey:

Wisconsin,
Northern Florida,
Southern Florida,
or Canada:

Ohio, Michigan,
Kentucky, Indiana,
or Tennessee:

WRITE OR CALL:

Legion Stamps, Inc.
Marvin Frey
1000 Park Blvd., Suite 209
Massapequa Park NY 11762
Phone: 516-882-9345
Fax: 516-882-9005
Toll Free: 866-882-9345
bellphilat@aol.com

Dr. Robert Friedman & Sons
Phone: 800-588-8100
Fax: 630-985-1588
drbobstamps@yahoo.com
www.drbobfriedmanstamps.com
Coins also wanted.

Randy Scholl Stamp Co.
7460 Jager Court
Cincinnati, OH 45230
Phone: 513-624-6800

IF YOU LIVE IN:

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Nevada, or Arizona:

Newport Harbor Stamp Co.
P.O. Box 3364
Newport Beach, CA 92659
Phone: 800-722-1022 (Dave)
E-mail: davidmcobb@earthlink.net

North Carolina,
South Carolina,
or Georgia:

PRM Enterprises, Inc.
Randall T. Scribner
4110 French Fields Ln.
Harrisburg, NC 28075
Phone: (704) 575-2795
E-mail: scrib1@ctc.net
Coins also wanted

Illinois, Iowa,
Minnesota, Kansas,
Nebraska, South/
North Dakota,
or Missouri:

Coins, Stamps 'N Stuff LLC
Jerry & Barb Koepp
8190 Hickman Road
Des Moines, IA 50325-4405
Phone: 515-331-4307
Orders: 800-999-5964
Fax: 515-331-2527



APS Course “On the Road”

August 14–15, 2012

Hyatt Regency Sacramento, California
Prior to STAMPSHOW

Exhibiting for the Prize

And, the winner is... will become familiar to attendees.

Starting with a quick review of the basics, this course will delve into intermediate and advanced level topics of exhibiting to help exhibitors who wish to win a Grand Award or beyond, or to compete at the challenging international levels.



Exhibiting for the Prize with Rich Drews

Rich Drews is an APS- and FIP-accredited philatelic judge and winner of the APS 1997 Champion of Champions. Rich has been collecting since 1951 and was the owner of Stamp & Coin King and Richard Drews Philatelic Auctions.

The students will be guided through the intricate judging procedures that take place in all of the various exhibiting divisions. Students also will discover what considerations — including treatment, succinctly conveying knowledge and research, and difficulty of acquisition — will affect award level, and gain insight into what the judges are thinking as they make their decisions.

Attendees will be encouraged to bring their exhibits for assistance and comparison with a wide range of successful exhibits from all disciplines.

Register Now!

First Name _____

Date _____ APS No. _____

Address _____

Last name _____

City _____

State/Province _____ ZIP code _____

E-mail _____

Daytime Phone _____

Person/number to call in case of emergency: _____

Exhibiting for the Prize —

Register by July 24 — \$AVE • \$15

2-day registration — \$195, APS member \$ _____

2-day registration — \$295, non-member \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Method of Payment: Check (Payable to APS) Visa MasterCard

Visa or MasterCard number: _____ • _____ • _____ • _____

Expiration date: _____ • _____ V-Code: _____

Signature: _____

Mail completed form to APS Seminar, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.
For more information, phone 814-933-3810, fax 814-933-6128, or e-mail gretchen@stamps.org.

Register Online at
[www.stamps.org/
On-the-Road-Courses](http://www.stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses)

Spring Sales

Direct to You with APS Sales Circuits

U.S. General (Mint &Used)	British Oceania Mint	Guatemala
U.S. Mint Only	Australia	Honduras
U.S. Used Only	Australia States	Hungary
U.S. 1900-1940 (Mint & Used)	New Zealand	Iceland-Greenland
U.S. 19th Century*	Topicals (General)	Iran (Persia)
U.S. Back of the Book*	Animals & Flora	Israel
U.S. Air Mails*	Art and Painting	Italian Colonies*
U.S. Officials*	Europa	Italy
U.S. Cut Squares*	Space*	Japan
U.S. Revenues*	Sports	Korea
U.S. Possessions*	Transportation	Latin America
U.S. Ryukyu Islands*	Africa	Latin West Indies*
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U.S. Plate Blocks	Argentina	Liberia
U.S. Coils*	Asia	Liechtenstein
U.S. Plate No. Singles*	Austria	Luxembourg
U.S. Fancy Cancels*	Balkans	Mexico
U.S. Precancels*	Baltic States*	Middle East
U.S. Covers	Belgium	Miniature Sheets
U.S. Covers (19th C.)	Benelux	Monaco
U.S. Covers 1900-1945	Bolivia	Netherlands
U.S. Picture Postcards	Brazil	Netherlands Colonies
U.S. Postal Stationery	Central America	Nicaragua
U.S. First Day Covers	Central Europe	Norway
British Empire	Chile	Panama*
British Empire-Victorian Era	China	Paraguay*
British Empire Mint only	Colombia	Peru
British Empire Used only	Costa Rica	Philippines
British Pre-Elizabeth	Cuba	Poland
British Atlantic Islands	Czechoslovakia	Portugal
British Africa	Danzig*	Portuguese Colonies
Southern Africa	Denmark	Romania
British America	East Germany	Russia (USSR)
British West Indies	Eastern Europe	Saar
British West Indies Mint	Ecuador	Salvador
Bahamas	Egypt*	San Marino
Bermuda	Ethiopia	Scandinavia
Br. Caribbean Saints	Europe	Siam (Thailand)
Jamaica	Europe(1840-1940)	South America
British North America*	Far East	Southeast Asia
Canada General	Finland	Southern Europe
Canada pre-Elizabeth	France	Spain
Canada Mint Only	France & Colonies	Spanish Colonies*
Canada Used Only	France 19th Century	Sweden
British Asia	French Africa	Switzerland
Hong Kong*	French Colonies	Trieste*
India & States*	German Colonies*	Turkey
Malaysia-Singapore	German Covers	United Nations*
British Europe	German States	Uruguay
Channel Islands	Germany	Vatican
Great Britain	Germany Pre-1945	Venezuela
Great Britain 19th Century	Global (1840-1940)	West Germany
Ireland	Global Covers	Yugoslavia
British Middle East	Global General (Mint & Used)	* These circuits may incur long delays due to frequent shortages of material. We urgently solicit books for these areas.
British Oceania	Global Used Only	
	Greece	

* These circuits may incur long delays due to frequent shortages of material.
We urgently solicit books for these areas.

05/12

For more than 100 years, the Sales Division has served as a middleman for APS members who wish to buy and/or sell stamps and covers. It offers a leisurely at-home perusal of these items for members in search of new items for their collections.

Circuits of up to twenty books containing a maximum value of \$4,000 will be sent to any member requesting them.

Names will be added in order of receipt, with up to ten names per circuit. Waiting lists are maintained for those circuits now filled.

We do not have exclusively Mint, Used, 19th or 20th Century circuits, except those listed. No minimum purchase is required and circuits may be retained for a MAXIMUM of seven days per circuit. A new circuit of the same category is not started until the previous circuit returns to the Sales Division. Members will receive between three and five circuits of each requested category, annually. Members outside the fifty states and Puerto Rico should write for details of direct circuits.

APS Sales Division Supplies — Sales circuit books for single stamps, blocks and covers, and the STAMPMOUNTS for each are available for purchase at a nominal fee.

*Circuit request forms and selling supplies also are available online: www.stamps.org
by e-mail: salesdiv@stamps.org
or by writing or calling the Sales Division*

Check here if currently receiving circuits or awaiting them, based on a previous request. Members presently receiving circuits may have more than six categories listed with us.

Enter up to **SIX CIRCUITS** below and send to:
APS Sales Division, 100 Match Factory Place
Bellefonte, PA 16823 • Phone: 814-933-3803

Your Circuit Selections

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____
5. _____ 6. _____

APS No. _____ Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Daytime Telephone No. _____

E-mail address: _____

If you wish to receive circuits at other than the above address, please list below:

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