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January 2013

Journal of the American Philatelic Society



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1873 30¢ Hamilton



USA #294a 1901
1¢ Pan-American
Invert (Graded 90)



USA #121-E2 1869
30¢ Shield, Eagle & Flags
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1857 7½¢ Victoria
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1859 6d
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Statement about Cultural Revolution, Strip of 5

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Tuvalu Tuvalu, or the Ellice Islands, in the South Pacific was placed in the British sphere of influence in 1886, finally becoming an independent country in 1975.

AMERICAN PHILATELIST

Since 1887 — The Premier Philatelic Magazine in the Nation

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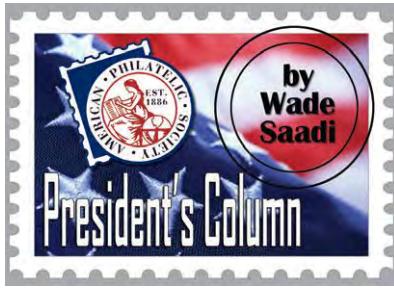
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Our Great Library — What an Approachable Resource



I would like to start off this month's column with a shout of "Happy New Year" to our membership. You are the *Stakeholders of the Society* and through your belonging we are able to accomplish as much as we do. For those of you who can handle one more "resolution," I have a suggestion. Please resolve to bring one new member into the APS this year. Membership drives our Society, and I need your help in recruiting and in retention. This is our Society and we are custodians of its future. Give the idea some thought and let me know if I can help you in this effort.

Now, on to the Library. The American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) is one of the most valuable assets in the philatelic world. It contains a wealth of knowledge unparalleled in our hobby. It is *your* Library. Think of it this way; your APS membership card is also a library card and gives you access to one of the world's largest and most accessible collections of philatelic literature. And as we say in Brooklyn, "Period, the end!"

Did you know that you can access the Library by mail, e-mail, website, telephone, or in person? Talk about being accessible! In today's impersonal world, the APRL beckons you in every which way to avail yourself of its riches, its stored knowledge, and its gems. The staff is there for you, ready to help you research a particular item or subject.

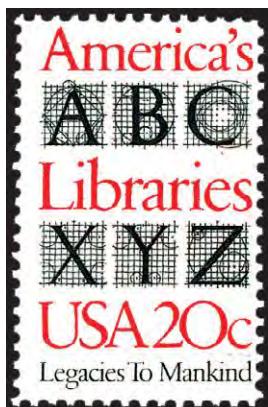
Tara Murray, our APRL Librarian, has put together some information I want to share with you about how the Library can serve you. She also mentions a few needs the Library has that you may be able to help us with.

APS members are automatically members of the APRL and entitled to book loans by mail (within the U.S. and Canada) and photocopy and scanning services at reduced prices. The APRL has more than 21,000 book titles and 5,000 journal titles, as well as special collections and archives and a growing digital collection.

APRL resources cover stamps, postal history, the history of philately, and related subjects like transportation and geography. Whether you are looking for a page from the latest catalogue or doing in-depth research, the library can help you.

Requesting material from the library is easy. Search the catalog online at <http://catalog.stamplibrary.org>. When you find a book you would like to borrow or an article you would like a copy of, click the "add to cart" link and it will be added to your cart. You can continue searching and add more items to your cart.

When you are ready to place your request, click on the cart at the top of the screen. You will have an opportunity to review the contents of your cart and remove items if you wish. Then select "request from the APRL" and click the "go" button. When the request form appears, enter your contact information and any



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special instructions for Library staff, such as whether you prefer to receive scans or photocopies of articles.

If you don't find what you are looking for in the catalogue, contact library staff at 814-933-3803 ext. 241 or aprl@stamps.org for research assistance. You can also write to the Library: The APRL, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

The Library is dynamic, and here are a few current and future projects at the APRL:

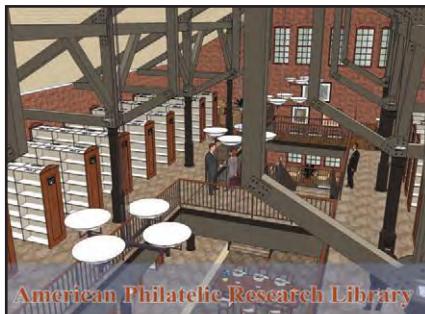
Digitization — The APRL has digitized a few books so far, three of which are available for sale on the APS website in the Specialty Publications shop, and some which are available for free through links in the catalogue, including Donald F. Lybarger's *The United States Issues of 1918-20*. A volunteer is scanning back issues of the *AP* and the *Philatelic Literature Review* using the touch-screen book scanner purchased in 2011 with funds from the Mighty Buck campaign. Future digitization projects will be guided by the priorities and standards recommended by the APRL Digital Resources Committee as well as by member input. If you would like to suggest titles or collections for digitization, please contact librarian Tara Murray at 814-933-3816 or tmurray@stamps.org. Keep in mind that anything published after 1923 may still be under copyright protection.

Book Acquisitions — Most of the APRL's books and journals are acquired by donation. They arrive one by one, or sometimes by the van or truck load. If you are interested in making a literature donation to the Library, it is helpful to contact library staff in advance. Monetary donations also help build the Library collection.

Archives and special collections — The APRL is also a repository for papers, correspondence, and research material from prominent philatelists including Ernest Kehr, Belmont Faries, John Stark, Forrest Ellis, and Cyril Dos Passos, as well as the American First Day Cover Society Archives. During their meeting at STAMPSHOW this past August, the APRL Board of Trustees approved a proposal to develop policies and procedures for the proactive acquisition of this kind of research material. The Library can always use volunteers with philatelic knowledge to create finding aids for archival collections.

Indexing — Since 2009, the APRL's online catalogue has also served as the Philatelic Union Catalog, allowing you to search the holdings of multiple philatelic libraries and an article index simultaneously. Earlier this year, the APRL joined forces with the Royal Philatelic Society London, the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, and the Smithsonian Libraries to create the Global Philatelic Library (www.globalphilateliclibrary.org), a database providing access to the holdings of libraries all over the world. The APRL is recruiting volunteers to index journal articles. Access to a run of a philatelic journal not currently indexed in the APRL's catalogue is helpful, but the APRL may also be able to supply journals for indexing. If you are interested in helping, contact librarian Tara Murray at 814-933-3816 or tmurray@stamps.org.

Future Library Space — The new Library's exterior and structural renovations are complete. We need \$1.8 million to finish the library, which includes the interior build out and all furnishings. Features include high density compact shelving, a secure rare books room, installation of an elevator for easy access between floors, research and study carrels, reading lounges, a book and





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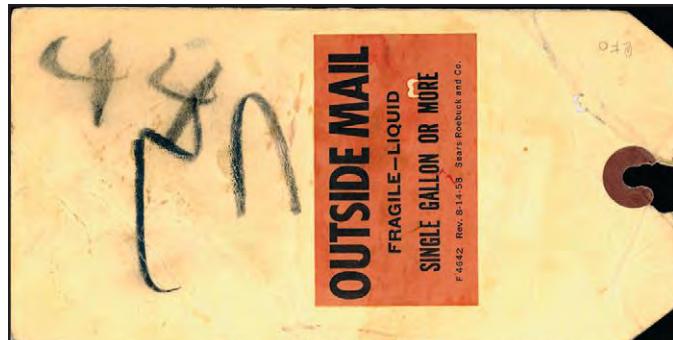
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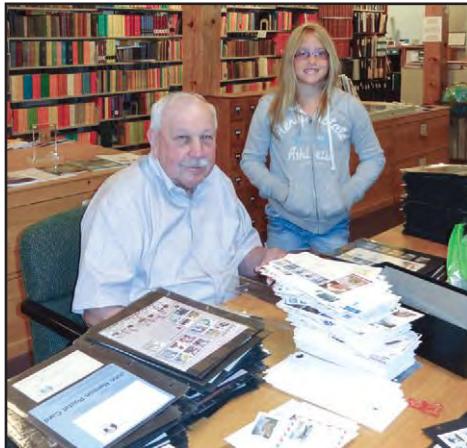
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I had a shipping tag from Sears Roebuck, franked with pre-cancelled Liberty series stamps from 1961. The reverse of the tag had a label that was dull red and had a bold black marking "Outside Mail," which I had never seen (see above illustrations). I passed it around to the attendees at Summer Seminar and no one was familiar with it. I showed it to Neil Coker, the APRL

Research Assistant at that time, and half an hour later he found several references in the Library for me. I was so delighted. Months later, when the *Postal Laws & Regulations* was digitized under the leadership of Tony Wawrukiewicz, Neil, unprompted, sent an e-mail to me alerting me to new references he had found to "Outside Mail." All this led me to the discovery of a 20-cent surcharge from 1953 (*Postal Bulletin* 19600) for Fourth Class mail handled "Outside" the mail bag, such as liquids, shovels, hazardous materials, etc., with certain exceptions. Service with a smile from the APRL staff, and then some!

Please use your Library; you will be glad you did. If you don't, you'll never know what you are missing.

"The medicine for the soul" ~ Inscription over the door, Library at Thebes



Abbey with volunteer John Baillis in the APRL.

Volunteer Profile

Abbey Masorti

Hi my name is Abbey Masorti. I am ten years old. After visiting the APS on "bring your daughter to work day," I decided I wanted to volunteer some hours over my summer vacation.

I really had fun working with the staff. I got to work with the girls in StampStore preparing the envelopes for mailing out stamps (those girls always made me laugh); I stuffed expertizing forms for Krystal Harter (she always took me to lunch with my mom); I worked with Barb Johnson in the Shows Department stuffing mailings and doing odd jobs (Barb always had chocolate for me); Gretchen Moody in Education had lots of stamps for me to help sort and remove from albums (she let me keep some of the stamps I really liked!); and I worked with Richard Nakles in donations (it was supposed

to be a secret, but he snuck food into the library where we were working — he claims gummy bears are not considered to be real food so it was okay — shhhh!).

I now have a small collection of stamps. Everything from butterflies, flowers, teddy bears, pretty colorful ones, and ones that are weird-shaped. I'm not sure if I will become a real collector but it was neat to see that there are stamps for almost anything — dinosaurs, Santa Claus, hearts, even Elvis (I really don't know who he is but my gram has stamps with him on). My mom loved Snoopy and Bugs Bunny cartoons when she was little — she now has a bunch of stamps of both of them. I like to dance so one of my favorite stamps is the 32-cent Ballet stamp!

I am back to school now, but occasionally when we have days off I ask my mom to go to work with her to help out — food, laughs, and stamps are not a bad way to spend a day!

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Foreig Issues	28	Comm. Blks of 5	50
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U.N. IB-4.	74 U.N. IB-6	100
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



'This Is the Place'

What a wonderful surprise it was to see the picture postcard of the Ash Township Hall in the November issue used as a reminder to vote for George E. Lang for Treasurer ("Vote for Me," by Paul E. Petosky, page 996). My mother was also a treasurer of Ash Township and reminded me that we once lived in George E. Lang's old house!

Phillip Rabchenia
Wyandotte, Michigan

Ash Township

Looking through my November issue, I was surprised by the photograph of the Ash Township Hall. Our mailing address is Carleton, but we live in Ash Township.

The Ash Township Hall was located on Telegraph Road at the corner of Sigler around the present I-275 Interchange. Telegraph Road was a major road from Ohio into Michigan until I-75 was built.

In its last days, the Township Hall was used by the local Grange, but the building has since been torn down. I do not recall the front porch area on the building, nor was the lamp post still there. I'd be curious to know what was used to light the lamp.

Whether or not George Lang won his election is still a matter for research. However, I did learn that he was the first patron to check out a book from the Carleton Library. The Carleton Library is

part of the Monroe County Library System, which was set up June 19, 1934,

David Kloha
Carleton, Michigan

Mesmerizing Article

I would like to congratulate author David Oldfield on his wonderful article in the November *AP*, "A Cross-Border Cover; Cross to Cross" (page 1020). I am not a specialist in U.S. or covers or any of the like, but I found the article fascinating and suggested to my wife, who is not a collector and usually looks down on anything philatelic (though she is very patient with me!), that she read it. She did, and pronounced it "mesmerizing." We have lived a couple of summers in Laramie, have been to Montreal several times, were in Calgary last summer, and spend a month or so every summer in the 1000 Islands on the St. Lawrence River (Ontario), so a number of the places he mentioned have some visceral connection. (Crysler's Farm is near Cornwall and Upper Canada Village, which we love to visit.) But above all, the article is beautifully researched and extremely well written (which many philatelic ar-

ticles are not), so it was a real pleasure to read. Thanks, and I hope Mr. Oldfield has more serendipitous discoveries that will lead to similar pieces in the future!

Bill Kibler
Austin, Texas

Another Early Female Pilot

I enjoyed the November article by Charlie Wentz on the early female pilot Harriet Quimby ("Harriet Quimby; The Story Behind the Stamp," page 1038). However, Wentz erred when he stated that out of fifty stamps that commemorate famous aviators only four have featured women. There were at least five. Wentz omitted one of the most famous, Jacqueline Cochran (U.S. Scott 3066). Cochran (1910–1980) was the leader of the female army pilots in World War II (WAASP) and I think she was the first woman to fly faster than the speed of sound.

David E. Sharrier
Salrm, Virginia

Fee-based Resources

I enjoyed Norma L. Nielson's article "Using Genealogy Resources for Phila-

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Chuck Whitney
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Brad Peterson
Waterloo,

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Setting the Record Straight

Dewey J. Barker, in a letter to the editor published in the November 2012 issue ("More on Artificial Prices," page 997), makes several assertions regarding the *Scott* catalogues in his opening paragraph that some catalogue users might find misleading or confusing. This reply is provided to set the record straight.

Mr. Barker states that "some prices" in the *Scott* catalogues "are inflated to the dealer's benefit," and that the catalogues are "geared towards the dealer more so than the collector." He then goes on to state that "the pricing listed [in the *Scott* catalogues] is based on what a dealer should reasonably expect to get for an item to help offset the costs incurred in buying, stocking and cataloging items for sale."

First, the *Scott* catalogues do not list prices for stamps; they list *values*. Although many collectors and dealers use the terms "prices" and "values" interchangeably, they do not have the same meaning. This distinction is critical to a correct interpretation of the values presented in the catalogues. As clearly stated at the beginning of the section titled "Information on Catalogue Values, Grade and Condition" in the introduction to all *Scott* catalogues — the six-volume worldwide *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers*, and the *Scott Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps and Covers 1840–1940*: "The *Scott* Catalogue value is a retail value; that is, an amount you could expect to pay for a stamp in the grade of Very Fine with no faults."

Mr. Barker's assertion that *Scott* values are "based on what a dealer should reasonably expect to get for an item to help offset the costs incurred in buying, stocking and cataloging items for sale" is somewhat misleading, because it might leave a catalogue user with the false impression that *Scott* values are weighted toward the wholesale market that dealers typically use to acquire material for stock. This is not the case.

It would be more precise to say that the value listed in the *Scott* catalogue is based on what a dealer should reasonably expect to get for an item (and what a collector should have to pay for an item) to offset the costs incurred by the dealer in buying, stocking and cataloging items for sale, plus the addition of a reasonable profit margin. In this context, *Scott* catalogue values work for both the dealer and the collector.

In no way are the values in the *Scott* catalogue "inflated to the dealer's benefit," as Mr. Barker claims. As explained in the catalogue introduction, "Dealer retail price lists, public auction results, published prices in advertising and individual solicitation of retail prices from dealers, collectors and specialty organizations," along with input from dozens of collectors and specialists, are used to determine the values presented in the catalogues. Dealer prices are but one source of data that the *Scott* editors use.

The *Scott* editors take a dispassionate view toward the valuing process. As such, it is misleading for Mr. Barker to claim that the *Scott* catalogues are "geared towards the dealer more so than the collector." If, in fact, this were the case, it is likely that far more dealers than collectors would be buying and consulting *Scott* catalogues. To learn more about how the *Scott* editors value stamps for the catalogues, I heartily recommend reading the "From The *Scott* Editors" column in the July 2009 issue of *Scott Stamp Monthly*, titled "To change or not to change: the art and science of catalog valuing."

One final point: the foregoing should make clear that a careful reading of the introduction is essential, if one wishes to be a more competent and informed user of the *Scott* catalogues.

Charles Snee

Catalogue Editor, *Scott Publishing Co.*
Sidney, Ohio

telic Research" (November AP, page 1014), and share her interest in promoting collaboration among philatelists and genealogists. I understand Dr. Nielson's focus on freely available genealogy resources, but was curious what additional information could be found in fee-based genealogy resources for the 1877 "Case Study" envelope sent from Ellesmere, England to Philadelphia discussed on page 1018.

The addressee was Miss H. S. Blackburne of 15 South 13th Street, Philadelphia. An 1877 Philadelphia directory shows Sarah S. Blackburne, widow, and



John S. Blackburne at this street address, and the 1870 U.S. census of Philadelphia has Sarah, John, and Hannah Blackburne living together.¹ The 1850 U.S. census of Philadelphia has "Christian J. Blackburn" with his apparent wife Sarah and children John and Hannah.² C. J. Black-

burn appears in an 1858 Philadelphia directory at 15 South 13th Street.³ Christopher John Blackburne, born in England, declared his intention to become a U.S. citizen in Philadelphia on 3 October 1834. He died in Philadelphia on 3 October 1859 and was buried at the Friends (Quaker) Southwestern Burial Ground in Upper Darby.⁴ Sarah S. Blackburne, widow of Christopher John Blackburne, is listed in an 1862 Philadelphia directory at 15 South 13th Street.⁵ Sarah Jane Blackburne and Hannah Sharp Blackburne (1847–1932) also are buried in the Friends cemetery.⁶ John S. Blackburne

married Ida Pauline Croll in Philadelphia in 1888, and they are listed as living in Philadelphia in the 1900 U.S. census with two children.⁷ A great-nephew of this couple donated the Stevens family papers to Cornell University, including Christopher John Blackburne's notebook and Blackburne-Sharpe family genealogy charts and notes.⁸

Postal history holds great interest for genealogists. Finding the exact location where an immigrant lived before coming to America is one of the most challenging questions faced by American genealogists, because records generally indicate no more than an immigrant's country of origin. The envelope's starting point in Ellesmere, England is intriguing, because Christopher John

Blackburne was born in England.

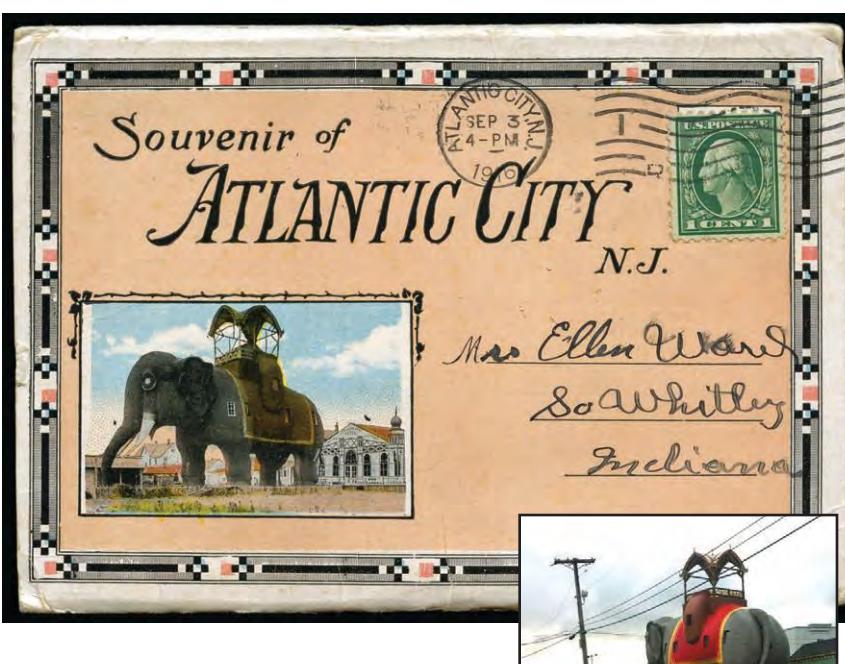
The cover's owner has a second envelope and letter sent in 1857 from Ellesmere to C. J. Blackburne in Philadelphia. The letter begins "My Dear Brother and Sister," is signed "Sister Caroline," and refers to "Mama" and "Edward." A Jane and Caroline "Blackburn," mother and daughter, and an Edward Blackburne are in Ellesmere in the 1851 England census.⁹ These envelopes and letter enable a genealogist to connect an immigrant to the United States with his family in England.

James R. (Jim) Miller

Haguenau, France

Sources:

1. Isaac Costa, compiler, *Gopsill's Philadelphia City Directory for 1877*; digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com/>); 187, entries for



Lucy Survives Sandy

Lucy survived Sandy. The beloved old wooden National Historic Landmark elephant building, apparently survived hurricane Sandy in reasonably good shape as the post-storm photo shows. Built in the early 1880s by real estate developer James V. Lafferty Jr., Lucy seems to be a testament to the surprisingly resilient nature of many things in life, and may reflect the resilience of the people of New York and New Jersey in their efforts to come back from the tragedy of hurricane Sandy. The attached Souvenir Folder, postmarked 1916, shows her standing tall and proud at the beginning of the 20th century.



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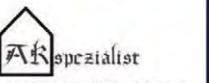
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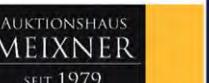
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John S. and Sarah S. Blackburn; 1870 U.S. census, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, population (pop.) schedule, Philadelphia post office, page 10 (penned), dwelling 45, family 50, Sarah Blackburn; digital image, Ancestry.com; citing National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) microfilm publication M593, roll 1393.

2. 1850 U.S. census, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, pop. schedule, north ward, page 299 (stamped, recto), dwelling 982, family 1346, Christian Blackburn; digital image, Ancestry.com; citing NARA M432, roll 817.

3. *McElroy's Philadelphia City Directory for 1858*; digital image, Fold3.com (<http://www.fold3.com/>); 51, entry for C. J. Blackburn.

4. "Philadelphia, 1789–1880 Naturalization Records," database, Ancestry.com, entry for Christopher John Blackburn; "Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates Index, 1803–1915," database, Ancestry.com, entry for Christopher John Blackburn; "Find A Grave," database (<http://www.findagrave.com>), entry for Christopher John Blackburn, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, memorial 67947925. Find A Grave is a free database.

5. *McElroy's Philadelphia City Directory for 1862*; digital image, Ancestry.com; 51, entry for Sarah S. Blackburn.

6. "Find A Grave," database, entries for Sarah Jane Blackburn, memorial 67947929, and Hannah Sharp Blackburn, memorial 67947927; both Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

7. "Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Marriage Index, 1885–1951," database, Ancestry.com, entry for

John S. Blackburn; 1900 U.S. census, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, pop. schedule, Philadelphia, ward 15, sheet 9A (penned), dwelling 142, family 148, John S. Blackburn; digital image, Ancestry.com; citing NARA T623, roll 1458.

8. Cornell University Library, Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, "Guide to the Stevens Family Papers," Collection No. 1210 (<http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/EAD/htmldocs/RMM01210.html> : accessed 17 November 2012).

9. "1851 England Census," database and digital images; Ancestry.com; entries for Edward Blackburn (age 38) and Caroline Blackburn (age 30), Ellesmere, Shropshire; citing PRO HO 107/1994, folio 245 verso, p. 23, household 95 and folio 246 recto, p. 24, household 98; Ellemere RD, Overton SD, ED 2a.

Life Member O'Connor Honored

The Eire Philatelic Association International announces its most recent recipient of the Thomas Edwin Field Memorial Award, given for outstanding contributions to Irish Philately, at its meeting in Dublin, Ireland. The EPA was one of the societies invited to STAMPA, the Irish National Philatelic Show, October 5–7, 2012.

William (Bill) O'Connor, the honoree, is a past president of the association, and has held numerous other positions with the EPA. Additionally, he is a past president of the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California, past president of the San Diego Philatelic Council, and a life member of numerous organizations, including the American Philatelic Society.

Bill O'Connor has written for many stamp journals, has exhibited, and was a merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts of America. He has been honored with the Distinguished Service Award of the FPCSC, the John Tracy Memorial Award from SANDICAL, and the John J. Clark Award for distinguished service to the EPA.

John B. Sharkey

*Secretary, The Eire Philatelic Association
Mountainside, New Jersey*

Hinge Removal

I read with some sorrow Mr. Ladron's Letter-to-the-editor in the November,

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After seven years in the professional side of the hobby, I have noticed one common denominator among APS members ... they enjoy sharing the fun of collecting with others. You brave the possibility of being rebuffed for the pleasure of seeing someone get excited about stamp collecting. That's

why I am asking you to focus your attention on young collectors, ages 13 to 25, who have a zeal for the hobby and encourage them to apply for the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship. Here's an example for you in James Weigant, a fellow member from Oklahoma. — *Gretchen Moody*

**Application forms are available on the APS website,
<http://stamps.org/Fellowship-Details>.**

Applications will be accepted through April 30, 2013.

Perhaps you know a young person from your house of worship, Scouts, or YMCA that you can recommend.

Go to <http://stamps.org/Recommend-a-Fellow> or contact Gretchen Moody, APS Director of Education, 814-933-3803.



As an APS member in my early 30s, the only complaint I have with the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship is that it did not exist when I could have joined. Selling the attributes of the program is easy, but made especially easy as I want each and every young person to be aware

of this great opportunity that I never had a chance to experience. That's why I approached Caleb, a regular attendee of OKPEX and a local stamp club in my area. He turned me down at first, but I persisted because I thought he rejected the idea before he had enough information about the program. When I told him that his expenses and most of his chaperone's would be paid, he began to reconsider. He's not planning to apply for the upcoming year, but he's considering it for 2014. I continue to communicate with several leads and hopefully the program has representation from Oklahoma in the near future! — *James Weigant*

Applications are now being accepted for 2014 Fellows.



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The American Philatelist reserves the right to edit letters for length and content;
not all letters that are received are able to be printed in the AP.

AP ("Both Worthy of Collecting," page 1004). Sorrow over the many stamps that must have been forever degummed by Mr. Ladron. He claims to "salvage" stamps, mint and used, in order to preserve them. But a stamp consists of more than paper, ink and perforations; it also consists of the gum originally applied to it and that should be preserved, too. I too wish to "freshen up old stamps," to "expose thins and potential repairs," and

to "eliminate all the old 'licked on' brown hinges." However, I do not just throw up my hands in frustration and fully wash that gum right out of my hair.

Used stamps are never a problem: I simply wash them in a very dilute solution of bleach (5–10 drops in an ashtray of water). Problem toning ("foxing") spots can be specifically treated with minute drops of bleach alternated with a water wash until the paper is an uniform shade.

Mint stamps, on the other hand, must be given much more careful treatment. To remove hinges and any other unwanted paper or cardboard, I paint with a blade of my tongs drops of water onto the offending surface, but only to that surface. After sufficient water has been applied to the hinge, I allow the water to sit and soak in for a few seconds (from 10–30 seconds depending on the quality of the hinge paper). In time the hinge usually begins to warp away from the stamp; then I gently use my tongs' blade to coax the rest of the hinge up away from the stamp. If I've done things well, I can lift the hinge bodily up off the stamp leaving the original gum quite well intact. Sometimes I have to repeat the water painting before the hinge is ready to be lifted.

When painting the hinge it is important to ensure that even the extreme edges are painted; otherwise, when the hinge is lifted, an outline of hinge paper may be left and that can be difficult to remove without really disturbing the gum.

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I am not too concerned if I get a little water on the stamp's gum because a timely and quick wipe of my finger can remove any excess water without disturbing the gum.

Usually, after lifting the hinge, I find a second or further layers of paper or hinges. I repeat the treatment until all layers are removed. My record is removing nine layers of hinge paper from an Italian state stamp. I believe the most difficult "hinges" to remove are those made from stamp selvedge — the paper is much thicker and has a heavy coat of gum of its own. It may take two or three layer removals just to eliminate one such "hinge."

After all the unwanted debris has been removed from the stamp gum, I perform three more operations. I next thoroughly dry the stamp — I hold the back close to (without touching) an open incandescent light bulb (fluorescent bulbs are cooler). It must be thoroughly dry before the next operations can be performed.

Once I am sure that the gum is dry, I ensure that the stamp is flat — stamp paper many times curls upon undergoing the above treatment. If it is not flat, I place it into a small glassine (I use a #3 glassine) so that the axis of curl is perpendicular to the bottom edge of the glassine. Then, holding the glassine so that the curl is upward with axis parallel to the edge of a table or desk, I tightly run the glassine back and forth over the edge in a manner similar to using a scissors' blade to curl wrapping ribbon. If I have overdone this task, creating a curl in the opposite direction, I just flip the glassine over and give it one or two more strokes, so that I have finally a flat stamp.

When I am sure that the stamp is flat, I place it face down on a flat hard surface and, with an edge of my tongs, I lightly scrape the gum surface where the hinge once lay. This leaves the gum surface smooth to the touch and feeling like the surface of a stamp that has never seen a hinge.

True, all of the above takes time and

care, but we are a patient lot, are we not? The stamps look so much better, have most of their original gum intact, and are not subject to subsequent creasing due to layers of paper on their backs.

Michael A. Rainer
Huntington Beach, California

Stamps & Special Needs

I work at a high school with Special Needs students. The APS Education Department offers lesson plans with its Stamps Teach program, and I began using the work sheets and lesson plans with my students. They so much enjoyed these lessons that they did not even know they were *learning*. The English lessons were fun, but they enjoyed the Math sheets best. The one on predictability was hard for them to understand until I took a bowl of candy kisses and put in one small candy that was different. At the end of this activity, they understood the concepts of more, less, equal, etc. They all made 100% on that page!

I am an active stamp collector and



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APS Election



As of December 5, 2012, 2 candidates are seeking election to the APS Board of Directors for the 2013–2016 term. The American Philatelic Research Library board positions are to be filled by the vote of APS members. One position is for the term 2013–2016 and one for 2013–2019.

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

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

An asterisk has been placed before the names of those candidates who have secured the seconding nominations required to be placed on the ballot. Ten seconds are required for the APS Board positions and one second is required for candidates for the APRL Board of Trustees position.

so it is particularly exciting to do these lessons plans with my students. I cannot wait to get into the Science and Social Studies work sheets. This is such a great way for students to learn. Thanks so much, and I am looking forward to more new ideas.

P.S. I have some students who are showing interest in doing more with stamps. That is exciting!

Elizabeth J. York

Tomball, Texas

Editor's note: For more information on the APS Stamps Teach program, contact Gretchen Moody, Director of Education, by phone (814-933-3810) or e-mail (gretchen@stamps.org) or visit the APS website at <http://stamps.org/Pilot-Program>.

Postal Training

All over rural America, thousands of communities will no longer have a Postmaster of their own. Their post offices will be open two, four, or six hours a day. Part-time postal employees will operate these offices as part of the POST Plan.

While this program keeps a post

office open, the new clerks will have enough to do with normal retail operations and they may have limited knowledge of what stamp collectors want.

Postal training is generally brief. APSers and other stampers will have a great opportunity to educate these newest employees on what we like to buy: A side benefit will be improved service for everyone at a post office.

For example, at an Illinois office recently, I asked the postal clerk what commemoratives were available. There was a good selection. When we got to the coiled stamps, I asked if she had the new State Flag coil. That drew a blank; she had never heard of them.

Before she served the next customer, the clerk handed me the USA Philatelic catalogue that was behind the counter. I found the State Flag coils and, after the customer left, showed them to her for the first time.

The clerk was quite interested in these since she knew of customers who would like a coil of fifty stamps. She looked at the list and learned these stamps were available from her supply source; before this

2013 APS Election Nominees

President

Stephen Reinhard, Mineola, New York

Vice Presidents (run as a team of 3)

Alex Haimann, Michigan

Yamil Kouri, Massachusetts

Mick Zais, South Carolina

Secretary

Ken Grant, Baraboo, Wisconsin

Treasurer

Director at Large (four to be elected)

Kristin Patterson, San Jose, CA

APRL Trustee (2 positions)

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

she did not know what that listing was for. Now this person knows another way to learn about stamps for their customers.

My suggestion was that they order ten of the State Flag coils the next time.

Steven J. Bahnsen

Chicago, Illinois

Liechtenstein's Rulers

In regards to the letter in the November issue regarding Franz Joseph II of Liechtenstein ("Around the World," by Clarke Ellis, page 1008), he was the first ruler to actually live there (previous princes lived in Vienna). Because his title is von & zu (of & from) the people of Liechtenstein are actually named after their rulers, the House of Liechtenstein, a distinction shared only by the people of Saudi Arabia who are named after their rulers, the al-Saud family.

Gordon Brooks

Montreal, Quebec

Remembering Miles Manchester

Miles B. Manchester (1923–2002) was born in Nebraska, served in the U.S.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 24th AUCTION

21st to 25th January 2013

We received many top-class consignments during the last weeks and we are happy to already give you a first insight to our next auction in January.

Please have a look:

- **BRITISH COLONIES & GREAT BRITAIN**, Raffles-collection, catalogue value more than 3 million british pound £, mainly offered in country collections
- **BRAZIL prephilately & PORTUGUESE INDIA prephilately**, exhibition collection Frazao
- **POLYNESIAN COLLECTION**, covers / cancels / stamps
- **GREAT COLLECTION GANDHI**, covers
- specialized **SWISS COLLECTION**, with numerous covers with interesting destinations
- fantastic **SPAIN COLLECTION**, stamps
- **CHINA, JAPAN, THAILAND & BRITISH ASIA**, great offer single lots stamps and covers
- **OVERSEAS**, covers from Asian stock
- **LUXEMBURG**, single lots and collections from canadian estate
- **ALLIED OCCUPATION**, fine offer cancels and postal stationery
- **GERMAN STATES**, attractive offer single lots and collections

Visit us online:

On www.auktionen-gaertner.de you will find every information about our 24th Auction.

On our special page www.stamp-auctions.de you can download all current auction catalogues and selected complete collections.



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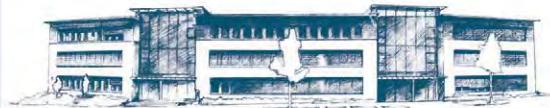
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Army in Europe in World War II, graduated from the University of Nebraska and worked for the Federal Government (GSA) for more than 30 years, ending up in the executive level in charge of the rules and regulations for travel expenses for all non-DOD agencies.

I met Miles in the late 1980s when I joined the Ayrhill Stamp Club. He was a dedicated club member and an enthusiastic and generous supporter of all things philatelic. Miles' contributions to stamp collecting during the past 50+ years (31 as an APS member), while primarily confined to state and local concerns (Vienna, Virginia) were extensive. He acted as a weekly docent for the National Postal Museum 25+ years; was a charter member in 1974 and president for several years of the local Ayrhill Stamp Club in Vienna; helped to create another stamp club in Manassas, VA in which he also served as president and continued as an active member; officer in the Virginia Philatelic Society for many years; exhibitor and award winner for his "pride and joy" collection of singles plate number Jefferson stamps (down to 13 missing of more than 1,000 numbers printed); officer and sorter for Stamps for the Wounded of Lions International for 25+ years; manned tables at stamp shows for both Stamps for the Wounded and Book Fair; made available for sale to local stamp collectors recent used singles for several local service organizations; spoke frequently on stamp collecting to public school classes; and manned a table at the annual local Chamber of Commerce Fair advertising the local Vienna Stamp Club.

He and his wife, Jean who passed away in 2010, had 5 children, 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

We will miss him.

James R. Woglom
Reston, Virginia



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Have Fun Selling Your Stamps!

by William Weismann

We read that some APS members have had unpleasant experiences while selling their collections. So, I thought I would share with readers what I've been doing.

My children and grandchildren did not want to continue my collections. My wife, who knew the value of my holdings, told me she did not want the responsibility and that I should sell them myself. About twelve years ago I contacted a few large auction houses, including one in Australia, one in the U.K., and one on the East Coast. I sent each of them a couple of my collections. They came back with estimates of 10–20% of catalogue value. I asked them to return my stamps. I figured I could do better selling them myself.

I sell my stamps one at a time, just like I collected them. I choose to sell one country at a time. It is fun to remove the stamps from my album and re-examine them — most have been in mounts for decades. I still marvel at the great beauty and the fine workmanship of the engravers. In checking the catalogue number, perfs, color, and watermarks, I have found some errors and faults that I missed years ago when I first got them.

But what's really fun is when I discover some treasures, like the Australian OS perfins collection I bought more than twenty years ago. While getting the duplicates ready for auction, I found three with sideways watermarks. So, instead of \$20 they were worth \$300 each.

I prefer to sell on eBay. While it is not cheap, it is easy to list stamps, and eBay has lots of buyers from all over the world. And Paypal is fast and easy.

When I started, my computer skills were very poor and I had little knowledge of cameras. My first few visits to eBay were most discouraging; I kept getting lost and could not find my way around. I made a few blunders and gave up. Weeks later, my daughter suggested I buy a "Dummies" book. I found the perfect one: *eBay for Dummies*.

I also sent several e-mails to other stamp sellers, telling them that I liked their site and asking



for some advice and help. One seller had a 10-page "How to" booklet that was full of common sense suggestions. Another suggested an inexpensive camera to buy, one that had easy-to-use close-up features. I even found on eBay an excellent device for \$15 that one fellow was making in his shop. It holds my camera firmly in place while I take close-up photos of my stamps. I was quite impressed with the results.

As an example of my "sales," I had several thousand of the New Zealand 1893 issue with advertising on the back. I had visited several stamp shows over the years in New Zealand and here in the states, looking for these guys. A few dealers didn't even know what I was talking about. Dealers who did have them were eager to work a deal with me. A few admitted I was the only one who had ever asked them about these adverts. So I figured there were not many who collected them; that is, until I started putting them up on eBay. Buyers from not only New Zealand, Canada, and the U.K. but also from China, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, and other countries came back each week to bid and buy. No matter how many I put up, they would all sell.

I started getting private requests for certain plate positions and for some of the rare blue, purple, and green color ink. One gentleman bought an order for more than \$5,000. Another gentleman in Nova Scotia who had bought dozens from me now wanted to put together an exhibit for a stamp show. I mailed him copies of several articles and copies of plate positions I had obtained from the APS and others over the years. He got a blue ribbon.

On eBay auctions, for identification and pricing, I use Scott and Stanley Gibbons. I also check to see what has been selling on eBay. Not what the asking price is, but the actual selling price, which can be accessed by clicking on the advanced search and then clicking on completed listings. I start my auctions at a price that I would be happy with if I only got one bid — usually this is 25–50% of catalogue.

It is rare when a stamp sells for more than catalogue, but it does happen. Last year I was selling my Panamanian stamps. Scott still has the 1906 set with inverted centers at \$25 each. I sold the few I had for \$100–\$150 each. A few years ago I would have sold my whole Panama collection for \$500. On eBay I sold them, one at a time, for more than \$4,000.

I prefer to give my customers as much information as I have: front and back photos, mint or used, full gum, no gum, hinged or not; also the year issued, stamp value and color,

I prefer to give my customers as much information as I have: front and back photos, mint or used, full gum, no gum, hinged or not, also the year issued, stamp value and color, subject, perfs, watermark, quantity printed, and plate position if I have it, as well as catalogue number and catalogue value.

.....

subject, perfs, watermark, quantity printed, and plate position if I have it, as well as catalogue number and catalogue value. I stay away from terms like GEM, FVF, excellent, and lovely. I leave it up to the buyer to look at the item and decide if he wants to own this stamp. I offer 100% satisfaction. If you are not happy with your purchase, I will refund your money. I've only had three stamps returned and only one has gone missing. I maintain a 100% feedback rating.

I don't recall thinking I was going to make a profit when I bought my stamps. It does not matter what I paid, it only matters what I can sell it for this week.

I don't get discouraged if all my stamps don't sell. I re-list them. Maybe my buyer was not looking this week. I have had some very nice stamps re-listed four and five times before they sold. One I had up at \$24.95 for two weeks, then at \$19.95; finally I put it up at \$14.95, got four collectors bidding and ended up selling it for \$27.50. You just never know, but it's fun!

.....

If I can learn how to use a camera and work a computer, anyone can. So I suggest you have some fun and learn to enjoy your stamps all over again by selling them one at a time.

.....

Stamp collectors and sellers from all over the world are very friendly and helpful; and most of us love to talk about our stamps. A few years ago an Australian gentleman emailed me to say that one of the stamps I had up for auction at \$49 was actually a very rare stamp and not the one I thought it was. I pulled it off eBay, re-listed it correctly, and sold it for several hundred dollars. I have had many pleasant e-mail exchanges and even a few phone calls with fellow stamp enthusiasts.

If I can learn how to use a camera and work a computer, anyone can. So I suggest you have some fun and learn to enjoy your stamps all over again by selling them one at a time.



Yamil Kouri, MD

APS Member Since 1988

1985–Present — Physician in Hematology-Oncology field
1992–Present — Partner, Commonwealth Hematology-Oncology, PC
1998–2005 — President, Cuban Philatelic Society of America
2008–Present — Board Director, Postal History Society
2010–Present — Board Director, Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History

Alex Haimann, MBA

APS Member Since 1996

2005–2010 — Collections Specialist, Smithsonian National Postal Museum
2008–2010 — Board Director, American Stamp Dealers Association
2008–Present — Founder & Board Director, Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship
2012–Present — Associate Director, Center for Experiential Learning & Adjunct Professor of Management at the Olin Business School at Washington University in St. Louis

Mick Zais, Ph.D

APS Member Since 1976

1969–2000 — Officer, U.S. Army — retiring as Brigadier General
2000–2010 — President, Newberry College in Newberry, SC
2011–Present — State Superintendent of Education for South Carolina
2011–Present — Member, APS Campaign for Philately Committee

Happy New Year



Yamil Kouri, Alex Haimann, and Mick Zais

Dear Fellow APS Members,

As our campaign for APS Vice Presidents continues into the New Year, we would like to invite you to join us at AMERISTAMP EXPO in Louisville, Kentucky, January 18–20. All three of us will be in attendance throughout the show and we would love to meet you at any point during AMERISTAMP EXPO.

We have scheduled two *Connect with the Candidates* sessions during the show, located adjacent to the APS Society Booth at 3 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. on Sunday. We look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you might have. We also would love to learn about your concerns and any ideas you might have to improve the APS as we move forward.

Additionally, please consider joining us for the *APS Candidates Forum* on Saturday in Room L4 from 1–2:30 p.m.

We hope to see you in Louisville at AMERISTAMP EXPO and we ask for your vote this upcoming May.

Thank You,

Yamil Kouri, Alex Haimann & Mick Zais

**Learn more about our BVP Team at
www.vote-aps-vp.org**



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January 18–20

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For more information, visit the show online at www.stamps.org/Ameristamp-Expo

AMERISTAMP EXPO 2013

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The daily bourse, exhibits, youth activities, and auctions are on the show floor in Hall AB of the Kentucky International Convention Center. All events are free, except those that indicate a ticket is required.

Statements made and opinions expressed in the workshops and seminars are not necessarily those of the American Philatelic Society.

The schedule is subject to change. Please check the show program for meetings and locations.

Show hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Enjoy the show!

Thursday, January 17

Noon

- American Philatelic Society Board Meeting Hyatt Regency Louisville

Friday, January 18

10 a.m.

- Show Opens Exhibit Hall AB
- Stamps In Your Attic Booth A

11 a.m.

- Challenges and Opportunities in Exhibiting and Judging Literature — *Rich Drews, John Hotchner, Tim Bartshe, Jim Graue & Peter McCann* (Official CANEJ Seminar) Room L-3

1 p.m.

- Exhibit Tour Frame 1
- Auxiliary Markings Club Show & Tell — *Ralph Nafziger* Room L-5
- Postal History in the William H. Gross Stamp Gallery Room L-3

2 p.m.

- American First Day Cover Society Regional Meeting Room L-1
- Future Digitization of U.S. Postal Documents — Reports of the PMG, the PL&Rs, and/or the Postal Guides — *Tony Wawrukiewicz* Room L-3

4:30 p.m.

- American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Board Meeting Room L-9

6 p.m.

- Show Closes

Saturday, January 19

9 a.m.

- American Philatelic Society — General and Town Hall Meeting Room L-4

10 a.m.

- Show Opens Exhibit Hall AB
- An Overview of the First International Symposium on Analytical Methods in

Philately — *David Herendeen*

Room L-3

- Boy Scout Merit Badge Class (Reservation Required) Exhibit Hall AB Youth Area

- Europa Study Unit Meeting Room L-11

- Stamps In Your Attic Booth A

11 a.m.

- All About Precancels — *T. G. Rehkop* Room L-3
- Committee on the Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges Meeting Room L-4

Noon

- Canal Zone Study Group Meeting Room L-3
- Errors, Freaks, and Oddities Collectors Club Membership Meeting Room L-5
- Yes, You Can Collect the World — General Meeting/ information about ISWSC — *John Baumert* Room L-11

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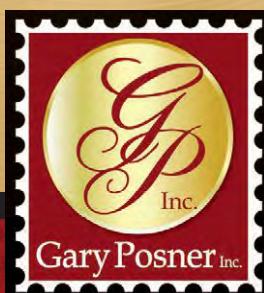
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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1 p.m.

- American Philatelic Society
— Candidates Forum Room L-4
- Exhibit Tour Frame 1
- Judges Roundtable — Steve Reinhard Room L-11

1:30 p.m.

- ABCs of Collecting Perfins — Jerry Hejduk Room L-3

2 p.m.

- American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors General Meeting Room L-1
- Ebony Society of Philatelic Events & Reflections, Inc.
— Stampin' Thru History — M. Rosina Major Room L-5
- Plate Number Coil Collectors Club Regional Membership Meeting Room L-11

3 p.m.

- Judges Feedback Forum — David McNamee Room L-4

4 p.m.

- American Philatelic Society — Chapter and Affiliates Roundtable Room L-5

- American Topical Association Roundtable Room L-3
- Liberian Philatelic Society Business Meeting Beyond 2013 Room L-6

6 p.m.

- Show Closes

6:15 p.m.

- Awards Banquet Reception (Tickets Required) Hyatt Regency Louisville

7 p.m.

- Awards Banquet Dinner (Ticket Required) Hyatt Regency Louisville

Sunday, January 20

10 a.m.

- Show Opens Exhibit Hall AB
- Stamps In Your Attic Booth A

11 a.m.

- Young Stamp Collectors of America Exhibit Hall AB Youth Area

- The APRL Delivers to Your Mailbox and Your Inbox — Scott Tiffney Room L-3

Noon

- Exhibit Tour — Ken Martin Frame 1
- India Study Circle General Meeting Room L-13
- Stamp Collecting 101 (Adult Beginner Course, Ticket Required) Room L-3

1 p.m.

- Virtual Stamp Club Meeting Room L-1

2 p.m.

- Estate Planning — Ken Martin Room L-7

4 p.m.

- Show Closes
- Thank you for attending!*
See you in Milwaukee for
APS STAMP SHOW 2013
August 8–11

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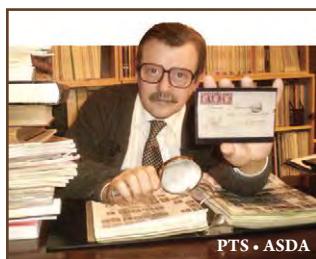
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236, 237, 237a

1840-1950 Mostly Stamps

• Milford, NH

210, 212

A & D Stamps and Coins

• Walnut Creek, CA

304, 306

A to Z Stamps

• Phoenix, AZ

325

Dave Allego

• Salem, OH

219

Bardo Stamps

• Buffalo Grove, IL

233

Big Lick Stamps

• Oakboro, NC

126

Boilermaker Stamp

• Greenwood, IN

221

Britannia Enterprises

• Orleans, MA

321

Christopher/Richard Covers

• High Point, NC

231

The Classic Collector

• Ottawa, Ont., Canada

333

Collectors Exchange

• Orlando, FL

403

Collectors Stamps Ltd.

• Louisville, KY

122

Connoisseur Stamps and Collectibles, Inc.

• Chicago, IL

301, 303

D & P Stamps

• Chula Vista, CA

328

Davidson's Stamp Service

• Indianapolis, IN

419

Dean Stamps

• Utica, OH

320, 322

Ed Dimmick

• Walnut Creek, CA

315

Doubleday Postal History

• Alton, NH

211

Fairwinds

• Beaufort, NC

209

Clark Frazier

• Redmond, WA

409

Fusco Auctions

• Willoughby, OH

418

Wayne R. Gehret

• Ephrata, PA

427

Global Philatelic Associates

• Loveland, OH

425

Hanover Stamps

• Hanover, PA

215

Labron Harris

• Glen Echo, MD

Classic 1879 Postage Due Die Essays

J1-E1d – Black

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J3-E1d – Blue

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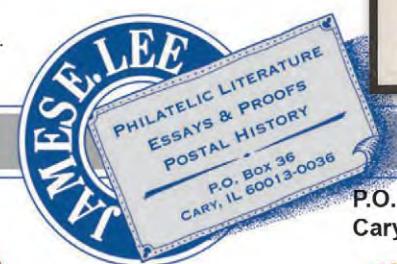


J1-E1d – Black-brown

Die essay pulled on white glazed paper with full die sinkage and signed by Dunn & Ronaldson.
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J2-E1d – Blue

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405 K & R Enterprises • Thompson Falls, MT	331 M & S. Hobbies • Indianapolis, IN	204 Stanley M. Piller & Assoc. • Walnut Creek, CA	234 Mark Reasoner • Columbus, OH
218 John L. Kimbrough • Benbrook, TX	206 Miller's Stamp Company • East Lyme, CT	233 Kenneth A. Pitt Postal History • Catharpin, VA	132 Earl T. Reeder • Kissimmee, FL
134 Terry Kurzinski • Rockford, IL	305 Noroton Philatelics • Mt. Pleasant, SC	426, 428, 525, 527 Gary Posner, Inc. • Brooklyn, NY	432 Eric Jackson Leesport, PA
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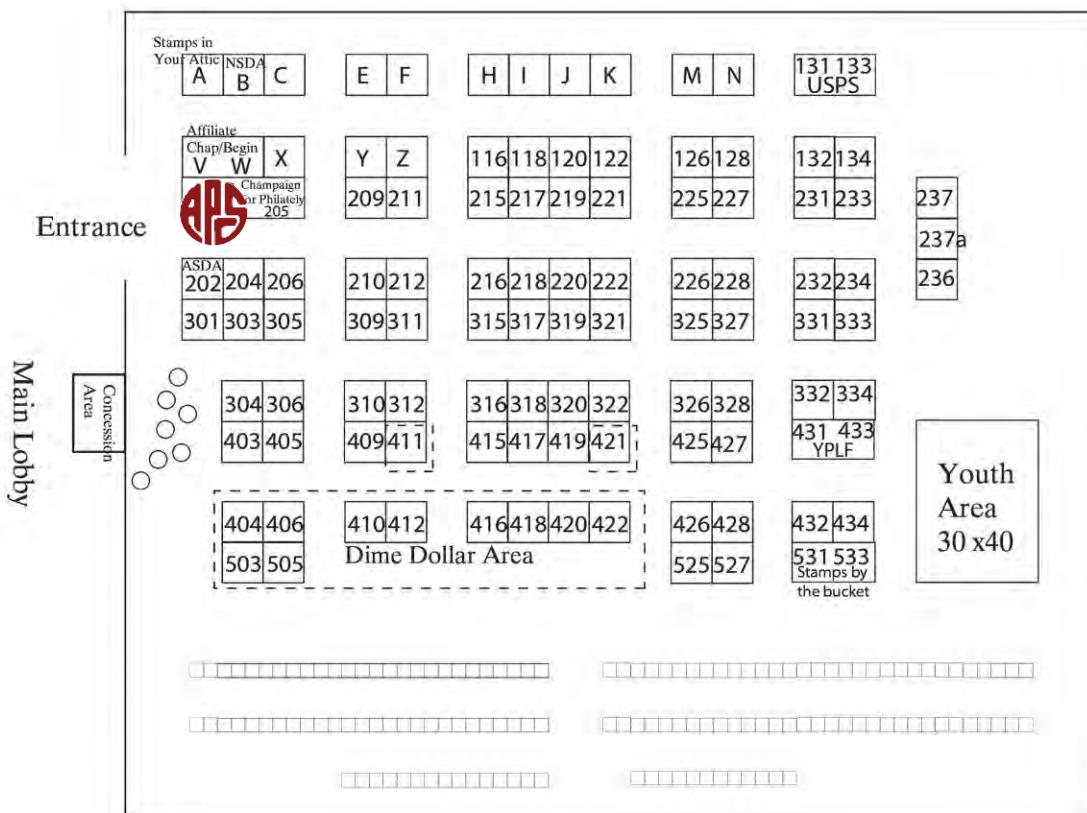
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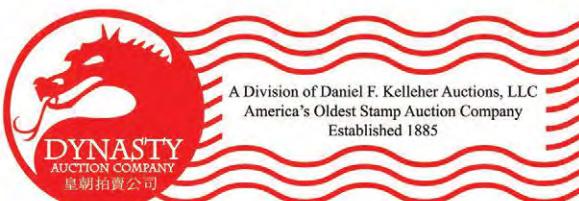
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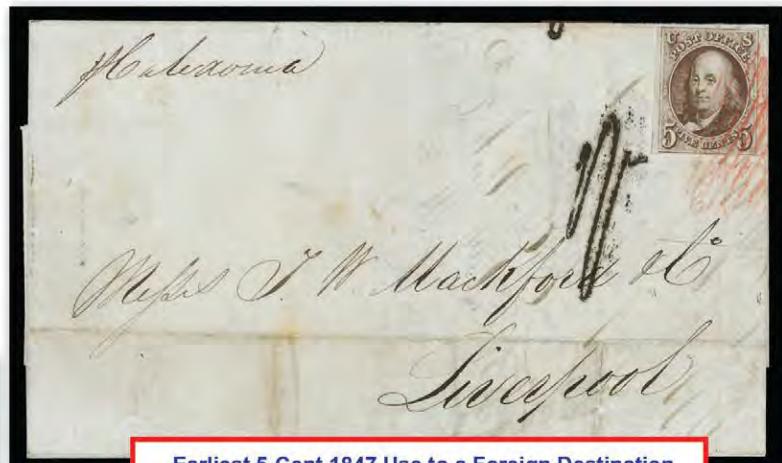
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Robert R. Johnson (1928-2010) was an iconic master numismatist internationally renowned for his extensive knowledge of rare U.S. and World coins with an emphasis on gold coins and rare stamps. In 1954, he established the Robert R. Johnson Coin & Stamp Company in San Francisco.

"Bob" handled many major numismatic and philatelic rarities, including various "Jenny Inverts." His passion for stamps started him collecting as a young boy. He would enjoy researching and cataloging, and his love of the U.S. 1847 Issues was his main focus. During his many years in the collectibles field Bob accumulated an amazing array of #1s and #2s all sound, four margin examples with certificates.



1928 - 2010



Earliest 5-Cent 1847 Use to a Foreign Destination (at right) and one of two Earliest Known Uses of the 1847 Issue Originating in New York City, this is a folded invoice dated on the inside: **July 7, 1847**—qualifying it as one of only two known Earliest known uses (EKU). With a London transit handstamp dated July 28, 1847, on the outside reverse, this cover is also the EKU of the 1847 issue to a foreign destination. One of the truly great covers of American postal history, it is listed on page 910 of Thomas J. Alexander's *The United States 1847 Issue—A Cover Census, and 2012 Philatelic Foundation certificate*.



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1847s are in this wonderful collection formed by Robert R. Johnson. Major on and off-cover material of great significance. Watch for more news about this important sale.



United States Mail to France in World War II, Part I

by Lawrence Sherman

Of all the gin joints in all the towns in all the world, Ilsa had to walk into Rick's place in Casablanca looking for an exit visa to Lisbon. These were people tossed about in the storm of war that shook nearly every corner of the world from 1939 to 1945 — people desperate to live, to escape, to communicate. And this was art imitating and illuminating life.

In World War II people communicated personally across the Atlantic by telephone, telegraph, and mail. Trans-Atlantic telephone or telegraph service was limited and expensive — when it was not altogether impossible. The ancient practice of placing pen to paper and sending a message to an absent friend or colleague — the mail — was the mode of communication for people whose lives (as Rick told Ilsa) didn't amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world; and that was just about everybody.

Unfettered, safe delivery of mail was an early casualty of the war. For six years perturbations of the mail stream flowing from the United States to France reflected the violent disruptions of French sovereignty and society. The French experienced conquest, occupation, division, and eventual liberation by force of arms. These produced in trans-Atlantic mail a baleful harvest of suspended service or no service; impermissible destinations and impenetrable borders; scissoring and sealing by censors; unexpected and unannounced interruptions; and unconventional or disappearing routes. All these — and the unbroken link Lisbon provided for American mail to France — are part of the wartime story.



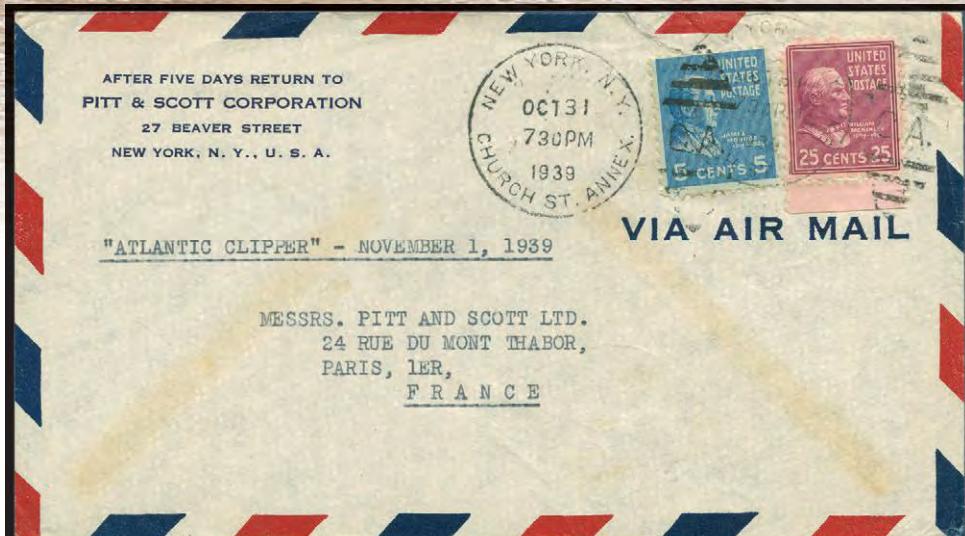
Two Kinds of War: September 1939– June 1940

Blitzkrieg, “lightning war,” was the word first used to describe the German conquest of Poland that began September 1, 1939. France and Britain entered the conflict against Nazi Germany two days after the invasion, but with a defensive mind-set. French army doctrine mandated defense from prepared positions, an extension of peacetime appeasement; British policy did not brook suggestions to bomb German territory, fearing retaliatory air raids. While Hitler completed his Polish campaign in the east, a period of military inactivity pervaded northwest Europe. American and British journalists called this period of relative calm in northwest Europe the “Phony War.”

During this time surface and air mail traveled from neutral United States to France with restrictions imposed by censorship and altered travel routes. American Export Lines steamships continued their weekly runs between New York and Lisbon, carrying people and mail. But when, in December, Imperial censors in Bermuda began intercepting and censoring transit mails carried by neutral ships, the U.S. government formally protested British interference with American mails.

Pan American Airways (Pan Am) introduced Foreign Air Mail Route No. 18 (FAM 18), the first regular trans-Atlantic air mail route, on May 20, 1939. On its inaugural flight the Boeing B-314 seaplane *Yankee Clipper* — a four-engine whale-shaped flying boat capable of crossing the Atlantic carrying passengers and mail — left New York and flew first to Horta (the Azores), then to Lisbon and Marseille carrying some 1,800 pounds of mail. On May 22, after its journey of about 4,250 miles, *Yankee Clipper* arrived in Marseille.

There were no passengers on this inaugural flight. Im-



October 31, 1939 air mail cover from New York City, uncensored.

portant as passenger service was to Pan Am's trans-Atlantic venture, mail — a large volume of mail — was essential. Since mail was “a highly lucrative part of Pan American’s business, which only increased as ship transport dwindled ... space available for passengers varied considerably. At times the volume of mail was such that no passengers were carried.”¹

Pan Am Clippers continued to fly FAM 18 when war came in September. There were restrictions, though. In accord with the Neutrality Acts of 1935 and 1937, Pan Am was prohibited from flying into belligerent countries. Its northern service now terminated at Foynes (neutral Eire), rather than Southampton; its southern service at Lisbon (neutral Portugal), in place of Marseille. In Lisbon the journey of the huge flying boats ended at a seaplane docking facility constructed at Cabo Ruivo on the Tagus River, a few miles northeast of the city’s center.

The four Pan Am seaplanes — *Yankee Clipper*, *Atlantic Clipper*, *Dixie Clipper*, and *American Clipper* — had been stopping regularly at Bermuda since mid-September, embarking and disembarking passengers and loading and unloading mail. When, in January 1940, censors in Bermuda began opening mail carried by these planes, their actions further aggravated the Anglo-American diplomatic conflict. (Clipper calls at Bermuda were discontinued for months, re-



March 12, 1940 two-ocean cover from Honolulu to Paris.

suming on a regular basis in October.)²

A letter mailed from New York City to Paris on October 31, 1939, illustrates the ease of passage that could exist in the early period of relative calm in western Europe. The sender paid the 30-cent trans-Atlantic air mail letter rate to Europe and typed clear instructions for dispatch of his missive: "Atlantic Clipper" – November 1, 1939." Perhaps the sender knew something we don't: the Pan American Atlantic timetable for 1939 stated that the *Atlantic Clipper* was scheduled to depart from Port Washington, New York on November 3, arrive at Bermuda the same day (after a 5–6 hour flight), and arrive at Lisbon on November 4.³ Whichever date the mail was flown, the October 31-postmarked letter arrived safely. No censor. No interruption.

How did the letter travel to Paris? Its route is uncertain. After being off-loaded at the seaplane dock, it was most likely trucked to Lisbon's Central Station in Rossio Square in the center of the city, and then carried by rail to Paris. Or it may have been taken to the airport, then located at Sintra. From there a land-based plane might have carried the mail.

Beginning December 1939, "the French government arranged with the government of Portugal for Air France to fly a route from Marseilles to Lisbon, via Oran, Algeria, and Tangier, Spanish Morocco. The first flight occurred on 18 December 1939. Additional flights were made regularly during January to May 1940, when the route was terminated. Air mail was carried on all flights."⁴ For a few months this extension of Air France's route

— the airline now conveyed mail from Lisbon to Paris and Marseille, major air terminals for distributing mail throughout France — played a pivotal role in carrying mail from the United States to France.

Sitzkrieg was the term used in Germany for this time of quiescence in the western Europe land war — a time to refit and redeploy its troops after the Polish conquest. Bad weather in late autumn and winter, and discussions within the German High Command over potential offensive moves, encouraged *sitzkrieg* to linger into the spring.

Near the end of this lingering, on March 12, 1940, a letter began a 9,000 mile journey from Honolulu to Paris, paying the 33-cent combined surface and air mail rate to France: Pacific surface transport to U.S. mainland, 3 cents; Atlantic air transport, 30 cents. The most remarkable thing about this "two-ocean" missive was its lack of remark-



June 15, 1940, letter to Vierzon. Front with British "No Service" handstamp. Back with receiving New York, N.Y. handstamp August 26, 1940.

ableness. It appears to have been untouched by the war. The letter steamed across the Pacific, traveled by rail over the breadth of the American mainland, and flew to Paris uncensored, uninterrupted, and undeterred by the European conflict that began six months earlier.

Blitzkrieg returned when Nazi Germany invaded Denmark and Norway on April 9. Early in the morning of May 10 German airborne units began landing in neutral Netherlands and Belgium. Three days later the German army crashed through the Ardennes. German air superiority was soon complete. By June 4 the evacuation at Dunkirk saved more than 330,000 British and French troops to fight another day, but the heartland of France was open to the invaders. Paris fell on June 14. The French humiliation was complete by June 22 when its leaders accepted an imposed armistice. Adolf Hitler visited Paris and viewed the Eiffel tower the next morning. Even then, it seems, next to one's hometown, Paris was everybody's favorite city.

The journeys of two letters mailed in June from neutral United States, then censored in Great Britain, encapsulate the rapid fall of the Third Republic. The first letter could not be transmitted into the chaos of French retreat and dissolution; the second was sent on to the occupied zone of France only to be returned because of "interrupted postal relations" with the unoccupied zone.

The first, an air mail letter, was sent on June 15 from New York City to Vierzon, a town lying along the Cher river in the Loire valley. Within a week of its mailing a new French Cabinet agreed to German armistice terms and France was divided into a German-occupied zone in the north and a "Free" vestige of France (with its government in Vichy) in the south. Straddling the Cher River, which formed a portion of the new border, Vierzon was itself fated to be divided — north, occupied zone; south, unoccupied. The letter got nowhere near its destination. It traveled to Great Britain (probably via Foynes), was opened and resealed, and went on its way — not into the cauldron of France before the armistice went into effect, but back to its sender in the United States. A boxed two-line handstamp, "No Service / Return to Sender" was applied in Britain, while the more boldly struck one-line "Return to Sender" was applied upon return of the letter to the United States. On the back of the envelope, a machine-cancel postmark (commemorating the New York World's Fair of 1940) dated the letter's return to New York City as August 26, 1940.

The French-language letter, written in ink on onionskin paper, remains enclosed in its envelope. Translated, it reads in part:



June 10, 1940 surface cover from Miami Springs, Florida with post-armistice "Return" handstamps.

Woodside 13 June 1940

Dear grandmother and aunt,

...I hope they [the people of Vierzon] are no longer in this zone of fire because it is better to see them as refugees than as civil prisoners.... How heartbreaking it is for me to know that my relatives are in such a hell. Poor France, everyone blames it. Our soldiers, our people, are so much to be pitied.... My health, which has not been very good, is now completely shattered. This shock was too unexpected and it is difficult to overcome it. And how many others like me are crying because we are all plunged into the same sadness.

The handstamped "No Service" notice could only hint at the turmoil afflicting French communications. Indeed, the military debacle of May–June 1940 "had seriously affected both the personnel and the equipment of the PTT [Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone] services. Many of the younger men in the services had been mobilized, hundreds had been lost through death, and 18,000 had been taken prisoner. Those who had been employed in the departments of the north and north-east had been evacuated far from the places in which they worked."⁵

Five days before the air mail letter to Vierzon was dispatched, a more slowly moving surface letter from Miami Springs, Florida to Paris paid the 5-cent international rate from the United States. June 10 was a cataclysmic day for France's Third Republic. As French forces retreated south of the Seine and Marne, the government fled Paris for Tours, Italy declared war on France, and President Roosevelt in response said: "The hand that held the dagger has struck it into the back of its neighbor."

By the time the surface mail reached the censors (most likely in Great Britain), the armistice terms were in force and German-occupied and "free" zones were functioning (by about the end of July), so the letter was sent on to Marseille. There, because of postal barriers erected between the two

zones, the handstamp “Retour a l’Envoyer” was applied. At an unknown time — there is no backstamp — the letter was sent to the New York City Post Office, where the violet “Return to Sender / Service Suspended” handstamp was applied.

The question of who censored international mail from the United States, and where, was vexing then and now for different reasons. There was no civil censorship in the United States during its period of neutrality. So it offended American sensibilities when in January 1940 two British Imperial censors arrived in Bermuda to examine transit air mails to and from North America. This meant that mail carried under U.S. contract was to be interrupted and examined by a foreign power. The American press fiercely opposed this extension of censorship “from the moment it was learned that British censors were opening American mails and the Royal Navy was diverting American ships to see if they carried any contraband goods destined for Germany.” So strong was the clamor that Pan American Airways “announced that ‘beginning March 18 it was abandoning all transatlantic stops of its clipper planes at Bermuda. The troublesome question of British censorship of American mail to and from Europe may thus be ended.’”⁶

Some air mail destined for France then traveled via the northern route to Foynes in neutral Ireland, where it was off-loaded to a British plane or ship that carried the mail onward. Then it was subject to British censorship on a British

carrier. Near the end of August, Pan Am reversed its decision and again “officially” landed in Bermuda.

The question of foreign censorship of American mail in 1940 is equally vexing now, because it is often impossible to trace the censorship gauntlet run by American mail to France at that time.

“The Last Time I Saw Paris”: June 1940–December 1941

Occupied France, June 1940–September 1941

The German-French armistice of June 22, 1940 partitioned France primarily into a *zone occupée* and *zone libre* (changed a few months later to the less-embarrassing, to the Germans, *zone nonoccupée*). The map appearing here illustrates both the division of France and the sense of national trauma experienced by its people.⁷ “Their country with its long and detailed history was ripped apart and pieces of it were disposed of as the victor thought fit, with scant regard for the feelings of its inhabitants.”⁸

One historian noted: “The meandering course of the *ligne de demarcation* between the zones ... marked a frontier as absolute as any dividing foreign countries: a major barrier to the movement of people, the ordinary business of communication and the operations of commerce.... Indeed, in the early days after the armistice was signed it amounted to a virtually impenetrable barrier.” Mail between the zones

was let through only in small quantities and personal correspondence was not allowed until September 1940. Even then it was restricted to printed postcards, thirteen lines long, on which the sender could tick or cross out words and fill in blanks..., a series of cryptic options powerfully evoking the sort of news the French had for each other in the autumn of 1940 [in good health ... tired ... slightly, seriously ill, wounded ... killed ... prisoner ... died ... without news of].... These cards were replaced with blank ones allowing seven lines of writing in May 1941 and then with ordinary postcards the following September....⁹

For a brief time after the armistice, some mail addressed to France was detained in foreign postal centers, “waiting for information on whether or not the German authorities would allow the mail to enter France.” Some air mail from the



Map of France occupied by Axis Powers, 1940–1944.

United States, after arriving in Lisbon, was diverted to Germany, where it was censored before being forwarded to France. "These, probably few, letters were also distributed in the occupied zone." But by July 31, 1940 both surface letters and air mail addressed to the occupied zone, upon reaching Marseille, were "marked with a three-line cachet "RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR / RELATIONS POSTALES / INTERROMPUES" or similarly phrased markings, and returned to the sender.

These special markings were stamped on the envelope in violet, or in red (beginning in the winter of 1941), then finally in blue.¹⁰ The three-line cachet in French, combined with the purple two-line "Return to Sender / Service Suspended" English language cachet, became the most commonly found handstamps on mail sent from the United States to Occupied France. The cachets appeared together on 100,000 or more pieces of returned mail.

Albert Goldman, Postmaster of the New York City Post Office during the war, recalled that in August 1940 mail service between Occupied and Unoccupied France was suspended and letters that had accumulated in the occupied zone "were returned by the direction of the German government." Thereafter,

the only communications [sic] permitted between the sections of France was a standardized post card reserved strictly for family matters such as health, general condition, and material needs. On September 9, 1941 mail service between the United States and German occupied France was suspended as a result of which this office had to return to senders approximately 180,000 letters, 250 sacks of prints, and 1,500 registered articles. They were endorsed "Return to Sender" — "Service Suspended."¹¹

The suspension merely confirmed the de facto situation. There was no public notice that mail was undeliverable from the United States to any part of France until the armistice was signed in late June. After the armistice went into effect, mail simply could not cross the frontier between "zone O" and "zone Nono," as the French had mordantly labeled their disarticulated country. From August 1940 to September 1941 an American who innocently posted a trans-Atlantic letter to Occupied France had as much chance of receiving a reply as a stranded sailor who tossed a message-in-a-bottle into the same ocean.

A rare exception: After entering the war in June 1940, Italy continued to accept and transmit mail entering its ports on ships of neutral nations. That included the United States. Since mail transmitted from Germany and Italy was deliverable to Occupied France, occasional pieces of American mail bound for that subjugated land were off-loaded from Ameri-



December 9, 1940, postal card to Paris traveled via Genoa, Italy.

can ships at Genoa and traveled on Italian carriers to France. Illustrated here is a postal card to Paris mailed from Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, on December 9, 1940. Having paid the 3-cent international surface postcard rate, it received a censor's "Verificato" handstamp in Turin, was passed by a German censor in Frankfurt, and delivered to Paris.

In neutral United States there was no civil censorship, but foreign censorship of its international mail was unavoidable. In its striving to reveal the chronological multi-national handling of a letter sent abroad, analysis of layers of World War II censor tapes is akin to an archaeological dig. This is illustrated by an unusual "four censor" cover sent as surface mail from New York City to Paris in April 1941 and returned to sender in July — unusual because the cover to the occupied zone should have been summarily returned from Marseille endorsed with the three-line "Retour a L'Envoyeur" cachet.

The letter was opened by British censors on its way to France and opened again by British censors on its way back to New York. In between, and for unknown reasons — the letter was clearly addressed to Paris — it apparently traveled to Italy and to Germany. The United States was still neutral: German officials released the letter for further processing, probably in Vichy France, before it was returned to the United States.

Handling of the cover can be read from left to right on its front. Incoming censors were, in order: British, Italian, and German. Inspection reveals an Italian censor tape and handstamp over a British censor tape, while over the Italian tape two small boxed numbers were handstamped by German censors. In the center a French postal official armed with blue crayon drew a large "X" across the name and address of the intended Parisian recipient and added a large "Retour / Zone Occupée" in manuscript. At the right front of the envelope the mail's outgoing (return) trip is marked by a British censor resealing tape placed over a German tape.

EXAMINER 4629

April 10, 1941 four censor cover, front and back.



On the back of the cover, its journey can be read from right to left. The travel included stopovers in Italy and Germany. The "Verificato per censura" Italian resealing tape is tied to the cover by a circular "Commissione Provinciale" handstamp applied by a censor in Turin. The Italian tape lies under the "Oberkommando der Wehrmacht" (OKW, German High Command) "Geöffnet" (opened) censor resealing tape, which was applied in Munich (indicated by letter code "d" below the eagle and swastika).¹² In turn, the OKW resealing tape lies under the "P.C. 90" British censor tape applied at the last overseas port of call before the wandering missive returned to New York.

Thus, the candidate overseas stops for this surface letter were: London, Turin, Munich, Marseille (?), and London again. Everywhere but *Zone Occupée*. Everywhere but Paris.

A final look at the front of the "four censor" cover reveals "at N.Y. received July 22–41" in manuscript at the top. One envisions the sender viewing his letter three months after he placed it with high hopes into a local mailbox. Now, bewildered, he can only imagine the enormity of events an ocean away.

Another encounter with German censorship of incoming mail to Occupied France is seen on a "Via Berlin" air mail letter. On July 30, 1940 a mailer in New York City attempted an end run around the postally near-impenetrable border between the zones. He or she typed "Via Berlin" on the front of the envelope and sent the letter winging "Via Clipper" to Mantes, in department Seine-et-Oise, deep in Occupied France. It did reach Germany. The back of the envelope reveals an OKW "Geöffnet" resealing tape, along with *Bewertet* (checked) handstamps over the tape. These were ap-



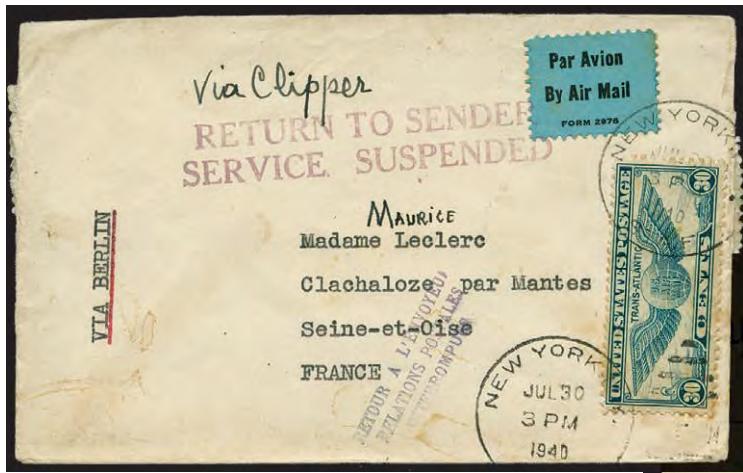
plied at the Frankfurt censorship office, indicated by the letter code "e" below the eagle and swastika of the OKW tape. Further postal markings on the front inform us this letter's story ended as did that of thousands of other letters to Occupied France in 1940–1941: "Return to Sender / Service Suspended?"

After reaching Lisbon, some air mail from the United States addressed to *zone occupée* was diverted to Germany, censored, and forwarded to Marseille in Unoccupied France for disposition. The disposition for mail to *zone occupée* remained unchanged: "Retour à l'Envoyeur." This is vividly seen in the legal-sized air mail envelope dispatched from Columbus, Ohio, to Paris on September 20, 1940.

On the front is the mailer's intention: 30 cents postage paid for air mail "Via Atlantic Clipper" to Ecole Polytechnique in Paris. The outcome: a large hand-drawn "X" through the intended address plus a standard handstamped three-line "Retour à L'Envoyeur" handstamp (in blue) plus a variant three-line "Retour" in black plus a single-line red "Zone Occupée." And, at the bottom left, two numbers in a small rectangle: German censor marks. The back of the envelope reveals an OKW "Geöffnet" resealing tape, along with handstamps over the tape. These were applied at the Munich censorship office (letter code "d" on the OKW tape), which censored international mail from Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Switzerland.

An enclosed typed letter dated September 20, 1940, may provide the reason for its diversion from Lisbon into German hands. The letter, sent from The American Chemical Society, concerned its publication *Chemical Abstracts*, exchanged on a regular basis with *Journal de L'Ecole Polytechnique*, published by the Polytechnical School in Paris:

Your journal has not been coming through to us for some time now. The last number received was No. 11 of the 3rd Series for 1939. Failure to receive your journal under present conditions has led us to believe that our journal



"Via Berlin" typed letter,
July 30, 1940, front and
back.



cannot now be delivered in France and accordingly we have discontinued sending copies as of August 20. We are not discontinuing the exchange, but are rather holding the copies of our journal for delivery at a safer, later date.... We are anxious to continue to receive ... copies of your journal.... Since copies do not now seem to get through the usual channels, please send [them] via Siberia. I hope this will be possible. We are already receiving several European periodicals routed via Siberia. [Emphasis added.]

Three notable points emerge concerning the letter and its handling:

1. The author, chairman of the Exchange Committee of the American Chemical Society, gleaned that some American mail — in this instance, scientific journals or perhaps printed matter — was not deliverable in Occupied France. He did not realize that *no mail* from the U.S. was deliverable (except via the International Red Cross or rare instances of mail off-loaded from ship in Italy). This was not published by the Post Office Department in any Postal Bulletin until Germany officially suspended mail between the United States and Occupied France in September 1941, one year later.
2. This letter to the Polytechnical School in Paris from *Chemical Abstracts* caught the eye of someone in Lisbon — someone who thought it deserved special attention. It received that attention from *Oberkommando der Wehrmacht* (OKW, Armed Forces High Command) in Munich (or an undisclosed "Munich" office in Lisbon). Having seen nothing extraordinary in this communication from the American Chemical Society, censors passed it along to the Vichy mail authorities in Marseille, where the three-line "Retour a l'Envoyeur" handstamp originated. This unusual handling reflects the entwinement of Vichy postal services and occupation authorities, which is discussed below in the

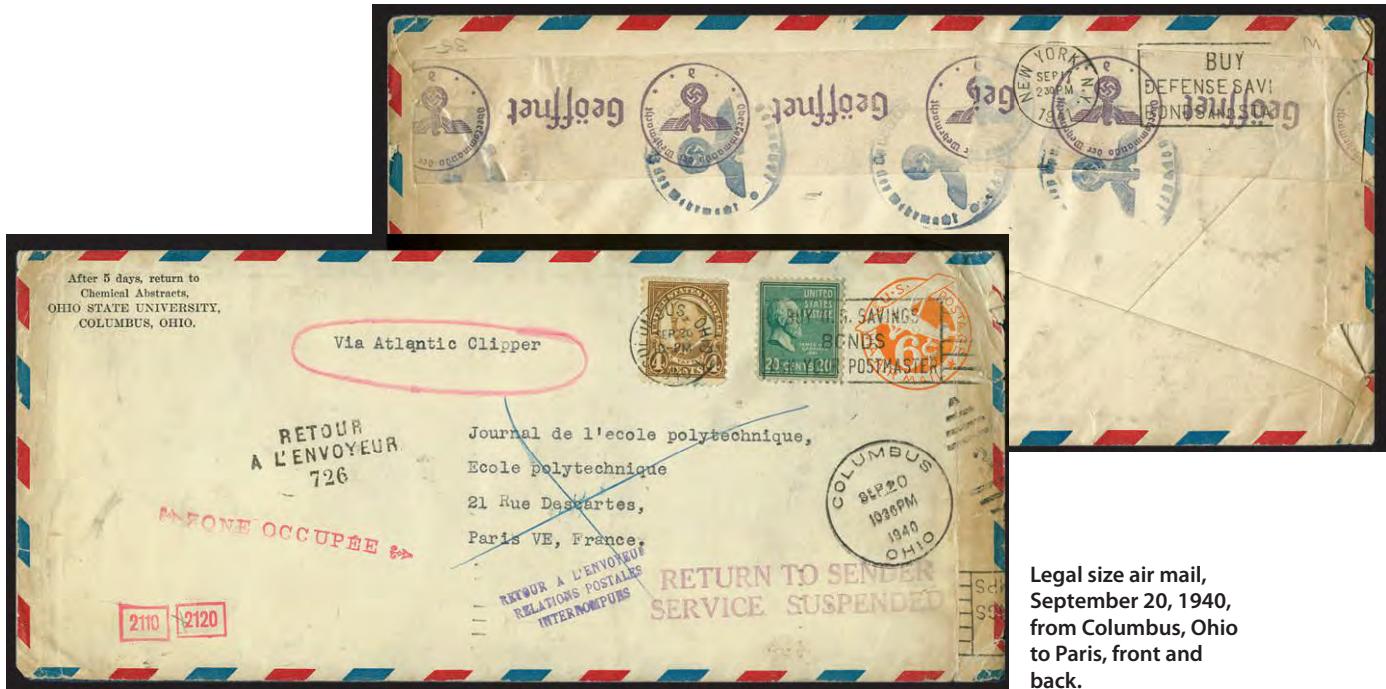
section on Unoccupied France.

3. Mail in transit to Occupied France in 1940 was detained in foreign postal centers awaiting word from occupation authorities (the German army) on shipment to France. Some mail was "routed via Siberia" — this was the period of Russ-German amity fostered by the Hitler-Stalin pact of August 1939 — before delivery. Journals from some European countries were coming to the United States, as the letter's author stated, but for scientific institutes in Occupied France there was no "via Siberia" mail route to the United States.

Although its handling was unusual, the letter's ultimate "Return to Sender" fate was predetermined.

The unsettled summer of 1940 proved a fertile time for the appearance of French handstamp varieties on air mail from the United States intended for the occupied zone. The three shown here illustrate the message common to all: "No Service," "Unable to Forward," and "Inadmissible" in addition to or in place of the standard three-line "Retour a L'Envoyeur" handstamp. It is unclear where in the unoccupied zone each of these air mail letters traveled to receive its distinctive handstamp.

Sometimes an unusual mailing circumstance parts the curtain for us. Consider the air mail letter mailed August 28 from New York City to Hossegor, department Landes. Landes, in southwest France, was a newly divided department. Its western portion lay in the coastal military zone (international mail verboten); its eastern, in the unoccupied zone. Hossegor was located in the military zone. On the front of the envelope a boxed "Retour / a l'Envoyeur" and large "X" drawn in red crayon overlay the intended address. A *Postes, Télégraphes et Téléphones* seal covered a tear at the top left of the envelope. On the back was placed a Toulouse handstamp



Legal size air mail,
September 20, 1940,
from Columbus, Ohio
to Paris, front and
back.

("Received open in the mail") with another *Postes, Télégraphes et Téléphones* seal above it. Toulouse lay in the unoccupied zone.

Thanks to the Toulouse cachet noting that the cover was received damaged in the mail, an important fact was revealed: some U.S.-origin air mail addressed to the occupied zone traveled beyond the Marseille entry point — or entered the unoccupied zone elsewhere — before being returned.

The letter could not be routed to Hossegor, so it was returned via Lisbon, as revealed by the "Lisboa" handstamps dated October 4 on the back (upside down at the bottom).

Lisbon

Lisbon: Terminus for American-origin air mail bound for France. Sea link from New York for ships of the American Export Line. Epicenter of "intrigue, betrayal, opportun-



French handstamps
on three 1940 air mail
covers intended for
Occupied Zone.



August 28, 1940 air mail cover to Hossegor with PTT seal, front and back.



ism, and double dealing, all of which took place in the *Cidade da Luz* (City of Light), and along its idyllic Atlantic coastline.” One year earlier, as Portugal struggled to emerge from the Depression, there were few foreign visitors to the city. “Decaying, shabby, and in desperate need of reinvention, Lisbon in September 1939 was a neglected sleeping beauty of a city.” But with the onset of the war

Lisbon’s hotels would be full to overflowing with refugees, diplomats, and spies from both sides of the war.... Lisbon became one of the major centers of world affairs. Its geographical location, its excellent shipping facilities for traffic to the Mediterranean and to North and South America; the strategic importance of the Azores and the Portuguese colonies in Africa and the Far East; and the existence in Portugal of vitally needed raw materials such as wolfram [tungsten] gave Lisbon a sudden importance [in] the plans of both sides of the war....¹³

Lisbon’s new Portela airport, located about four miles north of the Castle of São Jorge, an ancient fort in the center of the city, was constructed in 1940. As a neutral airport open to British and German airlines, it rapidly became a hub for smuggling people into, out of, and around Europe. It was heavily watched — and used — by both Allied and Axis agents. A novel set in wartime Lisbon captured its atmosphere: “The new airport ... had straight, hard, fascistic lines, its main building dominated by the control tower affright with antennae. Armed police moved around the halls inside looking at everyone, who in turn looked at no one, sank into themselves, tried to disappear.”¹⁴

Britain’s airline service (BOAC) and Deutsche Lufthansa (DLH), each operating flights out of the airport, “had their aircraft parked almost next to one another on the tarmac. Writing in 1944, the chief BOAC operations officer in the city described the daily scene at Lisbon’s airport as being like the movie *Casablanca*, but twenty-fold.”¹⁵

Mail from the United States to France marked “Air Mail,” or “Via Clipper,” or “Via Lisbon, Portugal” or “Lisbonne” — or handstamped with Lisbon receiving marks — testifies to

the central role played by the *Cidade da Luz* in wartime trans-Atlantic commercial service.

Endnotes

1. Ronald Weber, *The Lisbon Route: Entry and Escape in Nazi Europe* (Lanham, MD: Ivan R. Dee, 2011), pp. 84–85.
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The Author

Lawrence Sherman, M.D., has combined his interests in American history and U.S. stamps and mail by collecting and studying American patriotic envelopes and postal history of World War II.



The Post Office in Bryn Mawr, California

by Ralph C. Cline

Another rural post office has slipped into the pages of history. Change, economy uncertainty, progress, and the U.S. Postal Service have, once again, reshaped a once vibrant California locale. To the people of Bryn Mawr, California the Post Office was a symbol of identity and an anchor for the community. It was a meeting center of the sort known to nostalgia lovers of rural Americana, one that encapsulated the lore and mystique of the “plain country life” painted by Norman Rockwell. It was a place where farmers and ranchers met on the “cemento” or slab of the country store;¹ a setting where four old men played cards on a cracker barrel; a place where neighbors traded local gossip, daily greetings, and anxiously waited for the mail to be delivered.

Officially, the post office opened for service in a train station called Redlands Junction in 1895. The U.S. Post Office Department officially named the facility Bryn Mawr (Welsh for “great or big hill”), after the nearby community settled by immigrants from Pennsylvania.² Patron and box holders began receiving mail and utilizing post services that year.³

One hundred and sixteen years later, the quaint, little postal station has become a dead post office, a “DPO.” Over the years, the local school, the Catholic Church, the gas station, the railroad station, and the fruit packing houses gradually have all relocated to new sites.⁴ The Post Office on Newport Street was the town’s last community symbol. The post office flagpole was moved to the front yard of Señora Amelia Lopez Delgado-Saenz.⁵ Today, it flies a flag that commemorates sacrifice of her first husband, who died in Mindanao, Philippine Islands in World War II.⁶ Delgado Street in Bryn Mawr is named in his honor.

Across America, the United States Postal Service has closed, reorganized, and consolidated hundreds of small branches and substations. The massive campaign is a way to redefine and to reorganize postal services, to reduce ex-

penses, and to eliminate waste and duplication.

Patrons and box holders were notified of the closing in a letter from Regional Postal Headquarters in San Diego. The 275 box holders at Bryn Mawr were directed to find new facilities or to move to other locations. Many local patrons moved to the new Post Office in Loma Linda, California. Residents of old Bryn Mawr, who received mail in the Post Office, will now have mail delivery to new community kiosks centrally located on each street. According to Loma Linda Postmaster Dan Mesa, “The zip code — 92318 — will remain, as mail is [now] delivered to street addresses in Bryn Mawr.” He further commented that “It was a smooth transition.”⁷

For many local patrons caught in the crosswind of change, some local identity had been preserved; but the anchor of the community, its center, its Post Office and a way of life for more than one hundred years had disappeared. Ceremoniously, Postal Clerk Roehl Belardo, the last retail associate who ran the substation, lowered the flag on October 28, 2011, captured on a last day cover. In a fleeting moment, the United States Post Office in Bryn Mawr, California had closed “Forever.”

Endnotes

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2. These immigrants had named their new home after the small town outside Philadelphia, original settled by Welsh Quakers as part of the land grant given to William Penn by King Charles II in 1681.
3. Local Historian Peggy Christian, *Historic San Timoteo Canyon* (Morongo Valley, CA: Sagebrush Press, 2002).
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5. Interview with Amelia Lopez Delgado-Saenz, June 21, 2012.
6. Interview with Fred Ramos, *op. cit.*
7. Interview, by questionnaire, with Postmaster Dan Mesa, November 28, 2011.

The Author

Ralph C. Cline, formerly a Bryn Mawr, California box holder for thirty-four years, is a Life Member of the APS and a former Chairperson of the Linda Loma, California Historical Commission, 1989–2002.

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A Chance Meeting with Old Friends

by Sidney Fingerhood

In the course of “de-clutterizing” my collection, I recently came across a box of covers that I can only describe as a “chance meeting with old friends.” This box of covers was acquired in the late 1980s and was put aside to sort through and be placed in albums or specialty boxes, but as that hackneyed expression goes, “they fell through the cracks” and remained stored away for close to a quarter of a century.

Let me introduce you to a few of these “old friends.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt FDC

There is a 1966 FDC with a block of four stamps honoring President Franklin D. Roosevelt (Scott 1284) from the Prominent Americans series. The cover’s cachet was created by the Franklin D. Roosevelt Philatelic Society. I seem to recall finding this gem in a box of inexpensive covers that somehow escaped the scrutiny of the dealer and others. The cover was autographed by David Lilienthal. I do not believe that there are many of us around any more who will remember that name, but Lilienthal was an important member of FDR’s circle of advisors, who became the director of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and, later, the chairman of

the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). While I do not collect autographed covers, who could resist such a find?

Next Day Delivery

How about an almost perfect strike of a 1907 Chicago Street Car R.P.O.? The Chi. & N. Clark St. RPO (CH-1-c) probably missent this postcard. Look how similar the names of the two Michigan towns are: Grandville and Greenville. An easy mistake to make, especially when the handwritten address incorrectly spells the town as “Granville.” And yet, if you look at the dates on the postmark and receiving mark, it apparently still made next day delivery. The postcard was from a comic series printed in 1906, but while the tag line “Everybody Works But Father” might have seemed humorous to the 1907 recipient, it has a hollow ring today in our current economy.

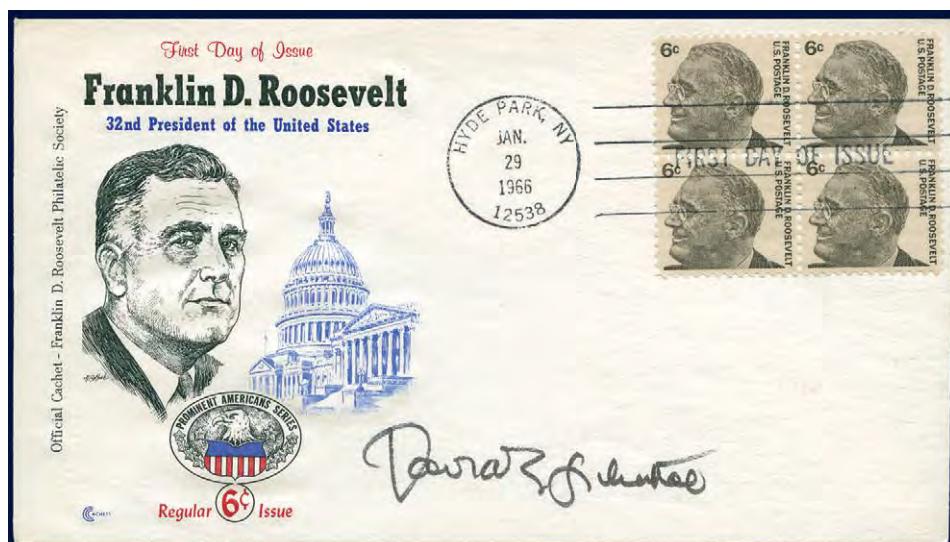
Event Postmarks

More “old friends” were some of the covers I used to design. In the second half of the twentieth century when professional societies and other groups would have conventions, there often would be a temporary branch post office set up so that attendees could make up souvenir covers and cards with this special postmark to send to friends and associates all over the world.

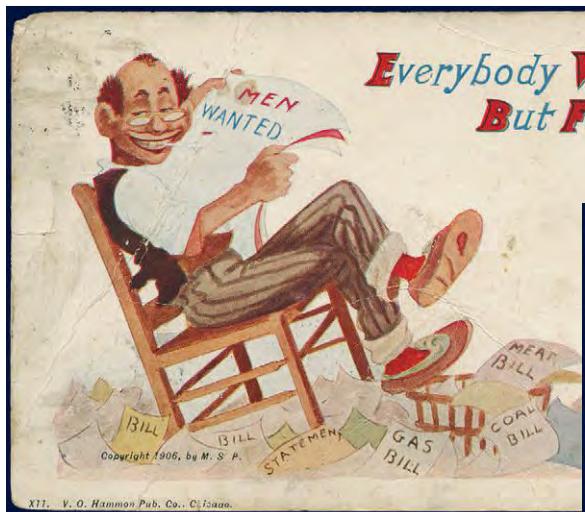
Today, what with the advances in cell phones and the Internet, this practice is all but gone. And, of course, the economically depressed USPS does not look with favor at people who are not buying postage stamps and then having to pay overtime to idle postal clerks. Shown is an example of the sort of cover I used to create. I would cut out from some magazine an appropriate picture to use as a cachet; in this instance, the 1988 World Dental Congress.

APS Member

Let me end with a true old friend, a 1901 APS cover containing “Proxy and Ballot Blanks” for the Sixteenth Annual Convention,



A 1966 FDC with a block of four stamps honoring President Franklin D. Roosevelt and autographed by David Lilienthal, a member of FDR's circle of advisors.



XII. V. O. Hammon Pub. Co., Chicago.

sent by the one and only H.E. Deats. Back in the early 1950s, when I first began to go through U.S. cover boxes, this sort of APS cover was not uncommon. Today, I can say that I have not seen one in decades.

The cover was postmarked June 20, 1901 at 4 p.m. in Flemington, New Jersey and addressed to Saltsburg, Pennsylvania. It was backstamped in Pittsburgh on June 21: "Rec'd Pitts Pa. via N.Y. & Pitts. R.P.O. TR. 9." As a former clerk on an RPO (1952–1977), when I see a cover of this sort, in my mind's eye I will often try to determine the route it took to make delivery. The late B.A. Long and John Kay, both railroad postal historians and long-time road clerks were excellent in this type of mental routing.

Please allow me to make an attempt (with some help from Dr. Frank Scheer, founder and curator of the RPO Museum in Boyce, Virginia) to follow the route this cover traveled more than 110 years ago.

Although Flemington, New Jersey had several routings used to dispatch mail, I have selected the one that would get to Saltsburg, Pennsylvania in the speediest manner. The projected process would be as follows: The clerks in the Flemington post office would first try to separate Pennsylvania, Southern, and Western states as best as they could. Then the bundled letter packages are dispatched to a closed pouch connection at Lambertville, New Jersey, a stop on the scenic 130-mile route along the Delaware River followed by the Belvedere & Philadelphia RPO. However, there wouldn't have been much

Everybody Works But Father

Even after being missent to a different town, this card still made next-day delivery from Chicago.



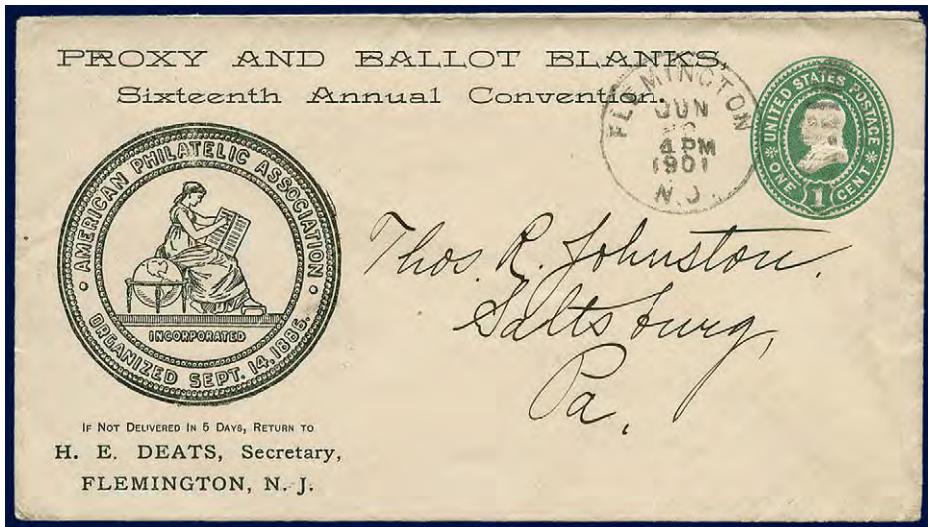
time for any distribution of mail before connecting with a westbound New York and Pittsburgh RPO at Trenton, New Jersey, just a little farther down the line.

The NY & Pitts RPO (probably a 10–15 man crew) would get all of the bundled Pennsylvania and West states and the BELV clerks (a two-man crew) would work the South states right up to reaching their terminus in Philadelphia, where the transfer clerks would give the worked and unworked southern mail to the next RPO heading south.

Meanwhile the NY & PITTS clerks would be sorting Pennsylvania and western mail and, on some trains, even Pittsburgh city mail. (And don't forget that this westbound RPO was receiving loads of mail to be worked at every con-



In the heyday of professional conferences, there often would be a temporary branch post office set up so that attendees could mail souvenir covers and cards with a special postmark.



APS cover postmarked June 20, 1901 at 4 p.m. in Flemington, New Jersey and addressed to Saltsburg, Pennsylvania. It was backstamped in Pittsburgh on June 21: "Rec'd Pitts Pa. via N.Y. & Pitts. R.P.O. TR. 9."

nection as it crossed the state of Pennsylvania.) My assumption is that the APS cover to Saltsburg, Pennsylvania found its way into a letter package labeled either PITTS DIS or BRANCH & PITTS. All the letters received by clerks in the Pittsburgh post office backstamped their mail with a receiving mark. The letter was then sent on the next BRANCH & PITTS RPO and, what with Saltsburg being a regular station along the way, more than likely made the afternoon mail delivery.

Today a letter from Flemington, New Jersey to Saltsburg, Pennsylvania travels in an entirely different manner, albeit one just as complex. First, the Flemington letter would go to a mail processing center at Edison, New Jersey, where the letter would receive a New Jersey regional cancellation. Then it would be trucked to a postal facility at the Newark Airport where it would be mechanically sorted and, in due course, flown for final processing at either Pittsburgh or Youngwood, Pennsylvania for the next truck route that stopped at Saltsburg. If all the connections are made, the

**My “old friends” are now
all dispersed with other
items of a similar interest
and will eventually find
their way into the hands
of a new generation of
collectors. Life goes on!**

letter should easily make two-day delivery. Of course, today's volume of mail is very much greater than it was 110 years ago!

My “old friends” are now all dispersed with other items of a similar interest and will eventually find their way into the hands of a new generation of collectors. Life goes on!

If any reader finds this topic of more than passing interest, you may wish to join the Mobile Post Office Society (APS Affiliate #64), where studies on mail routes and their postmarks are studied and classified: www.eskimo.com/~rkunz/mposhome.html.

The Author

T Sidney Fingerhood is a lifelong collector (“perhaps accumulator would be a better description”) mainly interested in railroad postal history, U.S. Navy, Pennsylvania, and Judaica; also in associated postcards. He has served as an officer in many philatelic organizations, and notes “I am 86 and hope, except for a few treasures, to have all my covers dispersed by age 90!”

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The screenshot shows the 'My APS' member page with several sections:

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- Special Offers:** Features a 'DECEMBER MEMBER'S SPECIAL' offer for \$5 off.
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- Stamp Authentication:** Includes links to 'Stamp Authentication', 'Stamp Identification', and 'Translations'.
- Stamp Identification:** Includes links to 'Young Philatelists', 'Stamp Thefts', 'Book Publishing', and 'Advertising'.
- Stamp Thefts:** Includes links to 'Stamp Authentication', 'Stamp Identification', and 'Translations'.
- Book Publishing:** Includes links to 'Young Philatelists', 'Stamp Thefts', 'Book Publishing', and 'Advertising'.
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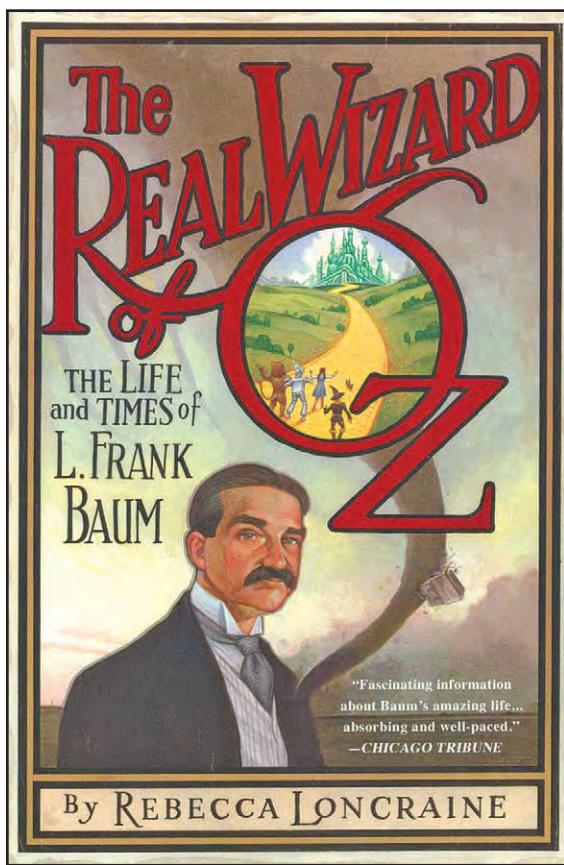
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A Modern American Fairy Tale

The Wizard of Oz

by Clete Delvaux

My oldest son recently gifted me with Rebecca Loncraine's *The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum*. He remembers my reading him the early books from the Oz series when he was a kid. Now that he has children of his own, he has borrowed the books to read to his daughters.

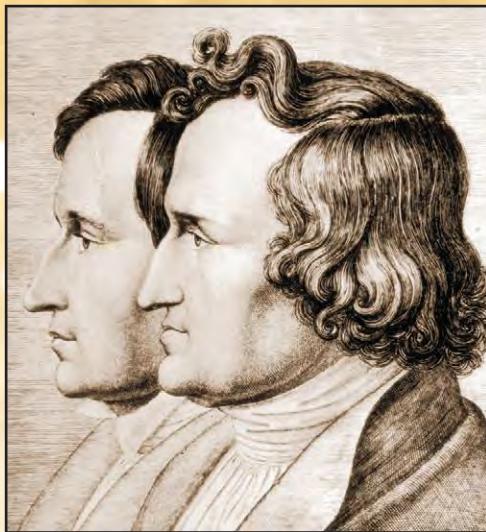


According to biographer Loncraine,¹ Baum (1856–1919) brought a highly potent mix to his storytelling — sifted from his life's significant moments. There are warm memories of his childhood in upstate New York with its farms, lakes, and forests. At the same time his dreams were haunted by memories of the terrible Civil War and other scarecrows of his early life, especially a disastrous stint at a military academy. Later there would be memories of his own family's move to Aberdeen in the Dakota Territory in 1888 where he, his wife, and four sons would experience drought, cyclones, and rural poverty.

Always an optimistic and energetic, if largely inept, businessman, Baum moved his young family to Chicago in 1891, just in time to witness the splendor of the fake White City erected to celebrate the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. All these experiences, plus a fascination with illusions and tricks, were to find a place in Baum's fairy tales.



One of a set of three stamps showing scenes from the folk tale "Die Sterntaler" (The Star Money), Germany Scott B370.



Jacob und Wilhelm Grimm: Bleistift (pencil), 1843.



Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, Scott Germany B371

But perhaps even more influential were Baum's memories of the old fairy stories he had read when he was a child — the tales of the Brothers Grimm, Charles Perrault, and Andrew Lang. Baum considered Hans Christian Andersen's writing the model of the modern fairy tale, because Andersen had been able to add new inventions of his own to traditional Danish folk stories. In 1898 Baum's contemporary, Lewis Carroll, the author of the most famous modern fairy tale, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865), died. His heroine, Alice, accidentally travels to a strange other world where she meets strange and wonderful creatures. Carroll's story of a young girl's coming of age may very well have influenced Baum's Dorothy and her coming of age story in *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*.



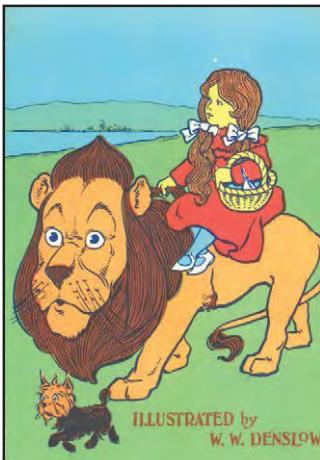
Illustration of duckling for "The Ugly Duckling" and handwritten manuscript, Denmark Scott 1325.



Hans Christian Andersen, Denmark Scott 1323.



Set of three stamps issued to mark the centennial of Lewis Carroll's birth includes a portrait of the author and two stamps showing Alice with various other characters from the book, Mali Scott C443-C445



Left: Front cover of *The Wizard of Oz* after the name had been changed from *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, but still featuring Denslow's illustrations. Right: Back cover.

Advertising poster for the 1903 musical production of *The Wizard of Oz*.



Souvenir sheet from The Gambia marking the 100th anniversary of the publication of *The Wizard of Oz*, 2000, Scott 2385.

It was while he was trying to earn a living in Chicago that his mother-in-law suggested he write down the nursery jingles he told his children. This collection led first to the popular *Mother Goose in Prose* (1897), illustrated by a young Maxfield Parrish, then to *Father Goose: His Book* (1899), which was illustrated by William Wallace Denslow, a Chicago cartoonist and painter. The book proved to be the best-selling children's book of 1899. Together, Baum and Denslow would go on to collaborate on the instant phenomenon *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* (1900) and two other books; on all of which they shared the copyright as part of their underwriting the publication costs. In 1902 Baum adapted the book for a musical theater production, for which he wrote the script and Denslow designed the sets and costumes. It premiered in 1903 at the Majestic Theater in New York and ran for 293 performances. Unfortunately, the two men would have a bitter falling out over the distribution of money based on



Monserrat celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the 1939 movie with a set of stamps, a souvenir sheets showing the Scarecrow, Cowardly Lion, Tin Man, and Dorothy as they arrive at the Emerald City, Scott 725.

their respective contributions, and in 1904 they parted ways.

In its first year *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* sold approximately 90,000 copies; by the centennial of Baum's birth (1956), more than 3 million copies of the book were in print; by the opening of the twenty-first century, *The Wizard of Oz* (the "Wonderful" had been dropped) had sold more than ten million copies in twenty-two languages. Although it had received scant literary acclaim, Baum's fairy tale was a runaway best seller of the first half of the twentieth century.

In 2000, to mark the 100th anniversary of the first Oz book, The Gambia issued three six-value, 8½ x 11 sheets of stamps (Scott 2383–2385) plus three souvenir sheets (Scott 2386–2388) featuring contemporary versions of the book's iconic characters: Dorothy, the Cowardly Lion, the Tin Man, the Scarecrow, Toto, and the rest.

Book sales undoubtedly received a boost in 1939 when Metro-Golden-Mayer adapted Baum's story for the movie screen. Although the film makers had changed certain details of the story, the movie became the most celebrated fairy



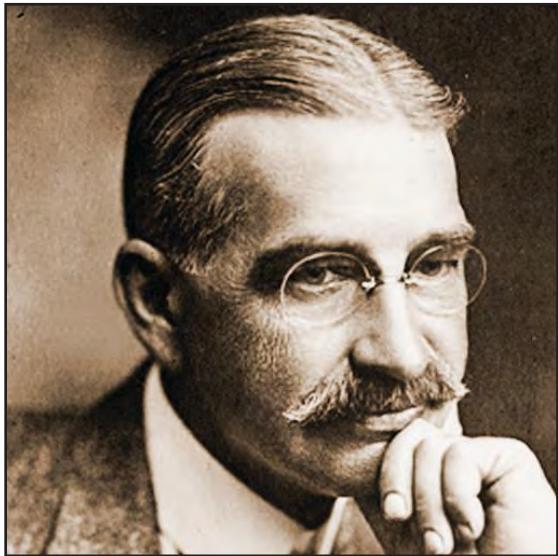
U.S. Classic Films: *The Wizard of Oz*, 1990, Scott 2445.

tale film ever made and, with a little help from numerous television reruns, an American icon.² It was not the first Oz film, however. There were nine silent films produced between 1908 and 1925 (including three by Baum's own studio, the Oz Film Manufacturing Company), and three early "talkies," one of which was an animation short.

Monserrat celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the 1939 movie with a set of stamps featuring Ray Bolger as the Scarecrow, Bert Lahr as the Cowardly Lion, Jack Haley as the Tin Man, and Judy Garland as Dorothy (Scott 721–724) plus a souvenir sheet showing the four arriving at the Emerald City (Scott 725). In 1990 the U.S. Postal Service released a set of four stamps honoring Classic Films,

one of which featured Judy Garland as Dorothy and her little dog Toto from *The Wizard of Oz* (Scott 2445).

According to *The Oxford Companion to Fairy Tales*,³ Dorothy's journey to Oz and back — much like Alice's — is a child's quest of self-discovery, a rite of passage in which she overcomes challenges by learning to use her talents. Her



Lyman Frank Baum (1856–1919), “Royal Historian of Oz.”
Photograph by George Steckel originally published in
the 1911 *Los Angeles Times*.

Philatelist Frank Baum

Stamp collectors will be interested to know that Baum was a fellow philatelist. When he was sixteen, Frank discovered stamp collecting, which was to remain a lifelong hobby. In 1870 Baum's father had bought him a printing press and Baum and his brothers soon set up an amateur publishing house. In 1872–73 Baum published his own stamp collecting magazine, *The Stamp Collector*, which, according to biographer Loncraine, “contained collectors' news, puns, jokes, and reviews of other amateur journals.” In 1873 he also published an 11-page brochure titled *Baum's Complete Stamp Dealers' Directory* printed by Baum, Norris & Co., a company he started with a fellow enthusiast, William Norris, with whom he opened a short-lived stamp dealership.

Wouldn't he have been surprised to see our modern topical stamps — especially those that honored his favorite fairy tale writers and their works, as well as his own!

companions on the Yellow Brick Road to the Emerald City also must overcome their own challenges. Dorothy wants to see the Wizard so she can go back to Kansas; the Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Lion want the Wizard to give them a brain, a heart, and courage, respectively. But their adventures on the way to the Emerald City and their ability to carry out the task the Wizard assigns them proves that they already have plenty of brain power, heart, and courage.

The success of the book and the film's wide popularity has led to other adaptations of Baum's fairy tale, including a sequel called *Return to Oz*, numerous television parodies, and stage version. Another version of Baum's story — *The Wiz* — appeared at the Majestic Theater in 1975. This popular all-black production attained a run of 1,672 performances. A film version of *The Wiz* was released in 1978.

L. Frank Baum would go on to write thirteen additional Oz books, but although he is best known as the “Royal Historian of Oz,” several of Baum's other experiments with the fairy tale are also worthy of note. (In her “A Selected Bibliography of Works by L. Frank Baum,” biographer Loncraine

lists more than five pages of Baum's titles. Two of these pages include books published anonymously or under pen names.) *Queen Zixi of Ix* (1905), a full-length story of a magic wishing cloak, proves that Baum had equal success with the more traditional fairy tale. In fact, critics consider it one of his finest works. Another tale, *The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus*, combines elements of the original saint's legend, the mythological story of Santa Claus, and an old-fashioned fairy tale. Baum came to think of himself as an expert in fairy tales — old and new. He would even brag that he appeared to be the only American whose fairy tales had become widely known.

But it is *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* for which Baum is considered the pivotal figure in the history of American fantasy — the first author to create a sustained work of fantasy with a distinctively American character. If you have not as yet read this classic to your children or grandchildren, you are depriving them — and yourself — of a great treat.

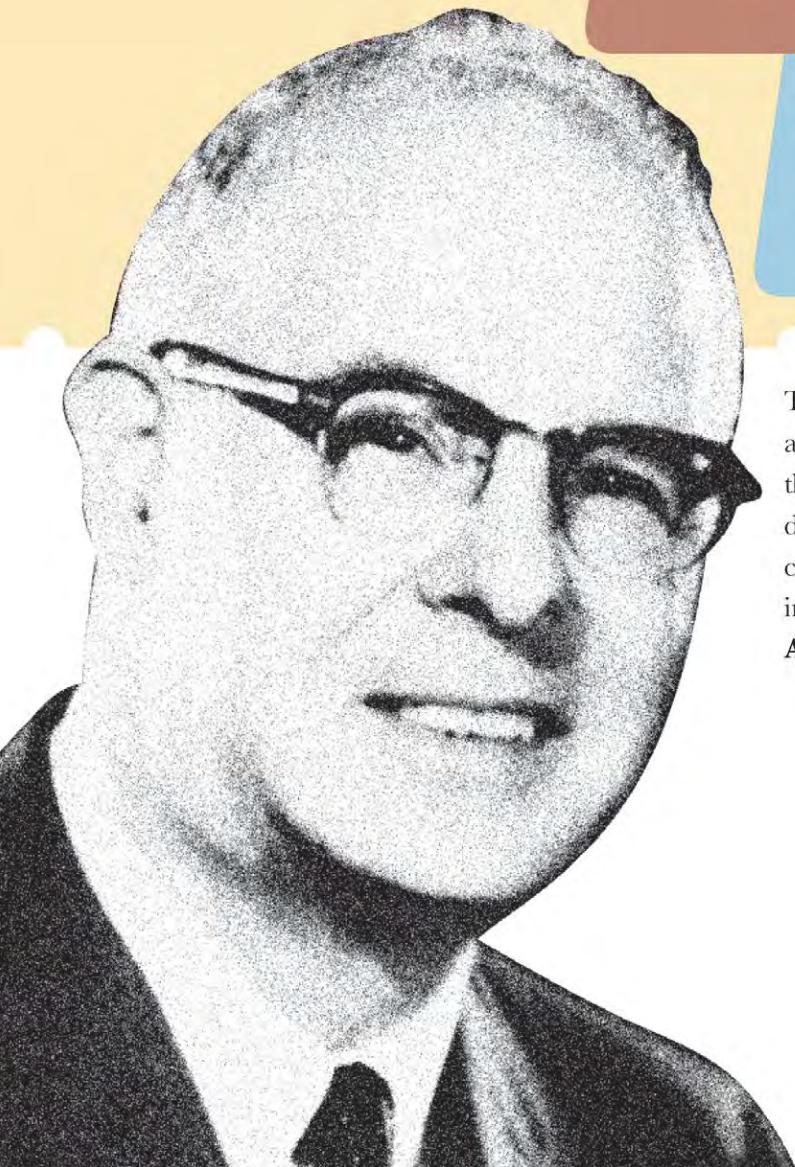
Endnotes

1. Rebecca Loncraine, *The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum* (New York: Gotham Books, 2009).
2. The American Film Institute ranks it the best fantasy film ever made and places it as number 10 overall in the top 100 films ever made.
3. Jack Zipes (editor), *The Oxford Companion to Fairy Tales* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000).

The Author

Clete Delvaux is the president of Journalists, Authors, and Poets on Stamps (JAPOS), a study unit of the American Topical Association, as well as editor of its JAPOS Bulletin. He is immediate past president of the Green Bay (WI) Philatelic Society.

But it is *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* for which Baum is considered the pivotal figure in the history of American fantasy — the first author to create a sustained work of fantasy with a distinctively American character.



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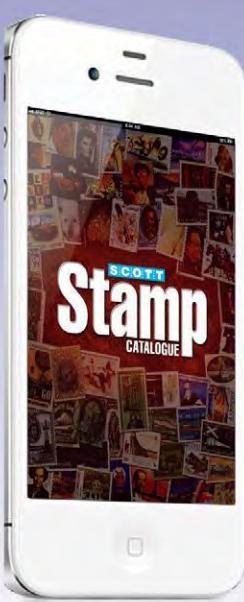
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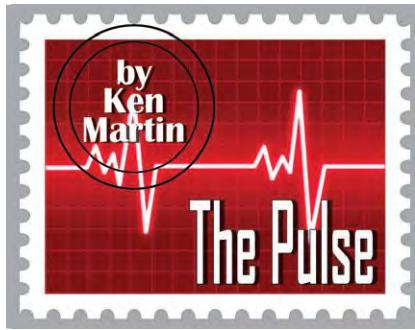
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Happy New Year!

The end of the year is always busy for us with processing of member dues, preparations for our winter show early in the New Year (in 2013 from January 18–20 in Louisville, Kentucky), and acknowledgments of cash and in-kind donations. In 2012 December also meant the beginning of the election cycle for the APS and APRL boards.

It's too early to report on December in this column, but November was busy as well. I had hoped that we would have final details on a package to tour the United States Postal Service Fulfillment Center in Kansas City, Missouri on Monday, March 25. Unfortunately, as of this writing, we are still waiting to receive the contracts.

We anticipate the package will include a hotel room night on Sunday, March 24 (the last day of the St. Louis Stamp Expo) at a hotel with free shuttle service to and from the Kansas City airport, bus transportation from the hotel to the Fulfillment Center, a two-hour guided tour, and bus transportation back to the hotel. Cost is expected to be \$135 single or \$150 for two individuals sharing a hotel room. The opportunity will be limited to approximately forty collectors with APS members having priority. If demand exceeds the capacity we will try to schedule another opportunity in the fall. Full details will be available on the APS website. If you do not have Internet access, please call us for details and to make reservations.

As we were preparing for the U.S. Classics 2012 show and exhibition and the annual Postal History Symposium, November began with some unnecessary excitement thanks to Hurricane Sandy. Although we were in the direct path of the storm, Bellefonte only experienced heavy rain



U.S. Classics 2012 Bourse.

and strong winds. While local schools closed for two days, the American Philatelic Center sustained no damage, flooding, or even interruption of power. We were very lucky compared to our members in New Jersey, the New York City metropolitan area, and many other areas.

Despite the excitement of Sandy, the show went on. And what a show it was, with incredible exhibits, wonderful speakers, and great opportunities for members to socialize. Saturday night's banquet also included a donation auction that raised nearly \$10,000 for the American Philatelic Society and the United States Philatelic Classics Society. **Thanks very much to the auction lot donors: Gordon Eubanks, David Feldman USA, Eric Jack-**

AFRICA

A brief selection from our specialized stock, QV TO QE II.

BECHUANALAND

1828 The earliest recorded letter. Written by the Rev. Robert Moffat. Full details on request. A wonderful page 1.	\$6,300.
1888 The rare trial '2d' in green, SG 23c v.f. used at Vryburg & the most attractive example we have seen. Cat \$6,400.	\$4,700.
1888 1/- opt 'Protectorate': The major rarity with first 'O' completely omitted, SG 46a fine mint. Cat \$10,400. Seldom offered.	\$7,900.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

1861 1d Carmine SG 13a. Of glorious used appearance. Small faults prevent it from being a \$3,500+ stamp. Cat \$10,400	\$1,000.
1864 1d Deep carmine-red SG 18. Magnificent marginal copy, superb mint.	\$470.
1864 1/- Bright emerald-green SG 21 v.f. used, most attractive. Cat \$960.	\$460.

CAPE-MAFEKING

1900 Bechuanaland 3d surcharged 6d type 1, SG 9 fine mint. Cat \$11,200. About 10 known.	\$5,000.
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GAMBIA

1898-1902 6d Malformed 'S' SG 43a v.f. mint. Cat \$960.	\$650.
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GOLD COAST

1935 S. Jubilee 1/- SHORT EXTRA FLAGSTAFF, SG 116b superb mint. Cat \$560.	\$330.
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KENYA, UGANDA & TANGANYIKA

1912-21 15c Bright blue INVERTED WATERMARK, SG 49w fine mint. Rare & sensibly unpriced by SG.	\$950.
1922-27 £5 Black & blue, SG 99, marginal & superb mint. Cat \$4,000.	\$2,500.
1935 S. Jubilee 65c DOT TO LEFT OF CHAPEL, SG 126g v.f. mint. Cat \$600.	\$330.

LESOTHO

1980-81 25s on 25c corner block of four containing SURCHARGE TRIPLE(2) & SURCHARGE QUADRUPLE(2), SG 412Ab & 412Ac n.h. A spectacular piece.	\$500.
---	--------



SG 38

SG 46a

SG 29b

MAURITIUS

1854 Intermediate impression 1d Bright vermilion SG 10, good even margins neatly canc '3' at Pamplemousse SG 10, position 2. No faults & attractive. Cat \$4,400.	\$2,200.
1859 Sherwin Intermediate impression 2d Blue, large to huge margins SG 38 neatly canc. Slight crease. Cat \$1,920. Another lovely stamp.	\$1,400.

NORTHERN RHODESIA

1938 1½d carmine with the ultra rare 'TICK BIRD' flaw, SG 29b v.f. mint. Cat \$10,400 for n.h.	\$6,400.
1963 £1 VALUE OMITTED SG 88a. A gorgeous corner example n.h. Cat \$1,100.	\$1,350.

NYASALAND

1898 1d cheque stamp SG 55 the stamp impression greatly misplaced downwards, f. used. The only one we have seen. Normal cat \$1,200.	\$750.
1935 S. Jubilee 1/- Kite & vertical log, SG 126k v.f. mint. Cat \$720.	\$400.

RHODESIA

1910-13 Perf 14 1/- SG 151a with mid gash in Queen's ear, v.f. mint. Rare on this stamp.	\$720.
--	--------

SUDAN

1876 Prophetic letter from General Gordon to Carl Geiger forecasting possibility of a series of wars & thanking him for 'seeing after my envelopes'. A fine historical item.	\$1,350.
--	----------

SWAZILAND

1889 1/- Green SG 3a. A lovely fresh mint block of six. Cat \$10,880. Rare.	\$6,200.
---	----------

ZANZIBAR

1896 2½a, inverted '1' in "½" SG 26j fine mint. Cat \$720.	\$540.
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son, James E. Lee, Regency Superior, Charles F. Shreve, Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, and Don Tocher U.S. Classics. Thanks also to the Classics Society and the Smithsonian National Postal Museum who were partners in the event. The papers presented at the Postal History Symposium and a few pictures from the weekend may be viewed on our website at <http://stamps.org/2012-Papers-and-Presentations> and at <http://stamps.org/Photo-Galleries>.

The following weekend I drove to Ohio to pick up the American Revenue Association Library. These materials add to our growing list of special collections including the Daniel Hines Air Mail archives; the American First Day Cover Society archives; the Colombia Panama Study Group Library; the State Revenue Society Library; post office document collections from the Aaronsburg, Pennsylvania and Milford, Iowa post offices; the Elliott Perry Cyros dos Passos files; and clipping files from Ernest A. Kehr, Forrest Ellis, John Stark and Belmont Faries. At the same time, we received a second shipment of materials from the estate of renowned postal historian Richard Graham. And during this same period we were working to inventory major donations from U.S. stamp designer Richard Sheaff and former General Manager of the Stamp Division Pete Davidson. Every one of these donations provided valuable, and in many cases unique, materials for our Library.

Over the past month we also received two additional philatelic objects to add to our growing collection at the American Philatelic Center. Joann and Kurt Lenz purchased and donated a Mail-o-Meter machine (shown below), which is now on display next to our Rosback perforator. Made in



1906, the machine sealed envelopes, and separated and applied stamps to envelopes. A few weeks later member **Stuart Keeley** visited from Canada and donated a "portable post office" from North Dakota. The oak cabinet, about the size of a file drawer, was used when there was a need to set up a postal station for events by serving as storage for stamps as well as a cash box.

Less than four days after picking up the American Revenue Association library I was headed out on the road again, this time to visit and staff a booth at CHICAGOPEX. Our budget only includes funds to send a staff member to each World Series show once every three years, but **Rich and Bonnie Drews** generously provided lodging at their home so APS could have a formal presence at the show. This year's CHICAGOPEX focused on Latin American philately and drew collectors from Central and South America. While helping to mount exhibits I commented to another attendee that I could not recall ever seeing so many Peru exhibits. Little did I know that two nights later exhibits from Peru would win both the Grand and Reserve Grand awards!



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During the show I had the opportunity to talk with a couple of members from the St. Louis area on ideas for an appropriate memorial for **David Straight**, who served on both the APS and APRL boards and unexpectedly passed away in October. The St. Louis area members would like to raise at least \$5,000 in David's memory. Several gifts in David's memory have already been received and are certainly not limited to residents of the St. Louis area.

Thanks also to **Vera Felts and the American Topical Association** who allowed us to share table space at CHICAGOPEX. They also staffed the APS area while I moderated the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors open forum. Vera has stored and delivered APS materials to several mid-west shows as well as recruited members and sold some of our products.

A few hours after leaving CHICAGOPEX, **APS Treasurer Kathy Johnson** also departed Chicago for Bellefonte. She, along with **APS Director at Large Dan Walker and APRL Vice President Pat Walker**, spent part of Thanksgiving week at the American Philatelic Center. All three of them took advantage of the library scanner to make digital copies of several of their exhibits some of which are now available at <http://stamps.org/Online-Exhibits>. Kathy and Pat spent Thanksgiving working on an exhibit, while Dan worked on

an article for the Indian Study Group in the APRL.

We would be happy to make available on our website a digital copy of your specialized collection, even if it has never been formally exhibited.

Two final notes from November. **Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions** has been selected to sell the Bill Bauer Colorado and New York Postal History Collections. Further information should be in future issues, but we tentatively expect the material to be sold at their auction in conjunction with **WESTPEX**.

Welcome to **Eric Jackson** as the new APS Dealer representative and thanks to **Roy DeLafossee** for two plus years of service in this often thankless position.

I hope to talk to many of you in Louisville at **APS AMERISTAMP EXPO from January 18-20**. All members are also welcome to attend the open board meeting that will be held the preceding Thursday afternoon. Everything you want to know about the show is available (<http://stamps.org/Ameristamp-Expo>) on the APS website and the agenda, and supporting documents for the Board meeting should be posted about a week in advance.

Your support of the Society and love of the hobby makes a difference. Thank you!

P.S. If you have not yet paid your 2013 dues, please do so as soon as possible and help us save the cost of mailing reminders.

P.P.S. This issue should be placed in the mail around December 20. With the holidays it is hard to predict when you may receive it. It is even harder to predict if and what Congress and the President may agree to on taxes, but if you receive this before January 1, cash donations to the APS and APRL postmarked by December 31 will fall under the "old" tax laws.

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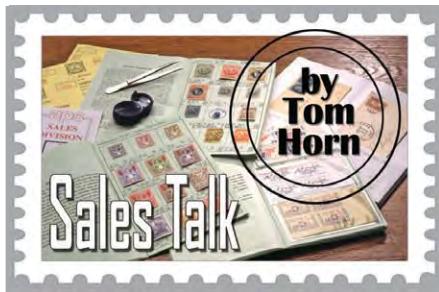
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As a first time user of this service, you will receive a mini-circuit consisting of *four sales books* from your noted interest areas (normally, a circuit has 10–14 sales books), along with informa-

tion that you will find invaluable when receiving the circuits regularly.

If you are so inclined, you may use the card to request our Clearance circuits *instead of* or *in addition to* regular circuit mailings — just note “Clearance” on the card. Clearance circuits contain sales books that have previously circulated and are now being offered at a discount for the remaining items in each book. Each book is sold as a single lot. You buy the entire book for a single discounted price with no need to return it to us. Contact the Sales Division for more information: telephone 814-933-3803, option #2 or visit <http://stamps.org/How-to-Buy>.

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tom of the Circuit Request form on the back cover of this issue.

Past in the Future

The original intent for my first-of-the-year column was to continue with the Sales Division history from 1960. Circumstances caused by an accident forced me to delay the historical account for a couple of months, but it will return!

Stereotypical Collector?

Recently, a comic strip portrayed one of its characters as showing another character a stamp. The second character sarcastically thanked him for sharing as Character 1 said he had another stamp to show. Character 2 turned away and said “the escape hatch is within reach.” And just why are stamp collectors portrayed as boring, anti-social, or narrow-minded? I’ll offer the good news answers first:

Stamp collecting must still be the most popular hobby because so many outside the hobby to make fun of it. Are they envious of our well-structured collecting organizations, or of our enthusiasm for collecting, or of the unlimited learning possibilities from studying stamps, or of the infinite variety of ways to collect? Is it because stamp collectors know how to relax and “recharge their

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batteries" with solitary activities? Perhaps they are also envious that the stamp collector is in complete, and I do mean complete, control of his/her activities in the hobby. The items are small and light and their storage does not require another whole building added to the home (although some spouses and children maintain that collections take up too much space).

The bad news answers? Because it is a very solitary hobby and the focus on our interests can be very narrow and 100 percent, some outsiders see us as anti-social recluses. All hobbies have their share of the reclusive hobbyist. Maybe our ranks are so swelled that we seem to have a higher percentage of them. There are also those who are determined to sell (and almost force) their collecting interests on others. Outsiders do not understand the relaxation, education, organization, and personal excitement and pride this hobby provides. The pushy collector turns them off quickly and permanently.

Some of the most successful people use stamp collecting to fuel their personal and mental development. Sure, we can drop names like Franklin Roosevelt, Theodore Steinway, Bela Lugosi, Boris Karloff, King Farouk of Egypt and, of course, kings and queens of Great Britain. But also consider people in these vocations and avocations: present-day actors (from film to local playhouses), singer-songwriters, writers on the best seller lists, Nobel prize laureates, financial consultants and analysts, farmers, factory workers, high-ranking military personnel, government employees, teachers, bakers and restaurant owners, postal employees,

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professional sports stars, lawyers, clergy, scientists, real estate executives, business executives, corporate "head hunters," nonprofit executives and employees, bankers, ad executives, retailers, small business owners, contractors and heavy machinery operators, bikers ... the list goes on and on.

I can think of people I have met or known who fit into each of the areas mentioned here. There are many situations where I have had conversations with collectors at shows or on the phone, not knowing what they do to make a living. And it doesn't really matter. The stamps they have and display may say something about their disposable income, but not necessarily. I know some who have placed more importance on developing their collection than they did on their residence, car, or clothes. The hobby tends to level the playing field, because in the end we are all stamp collectors. Discovering later on how one makes a living doesn't really add hills to the playing field.

The pleasure of talking with another collector increases with the level of enthusiasm and inquisitiveness exuded by

the collector. Talking about the joys of collecting, in general, and maybe providing some universally recognizable example of that joy could get outsiders interested. Talking to them about their own overall interests and offering examples of stamps or postal history that address those interests just might get them started. Listening to them rather than talking at them can usually get good results. Stereotypes are broken down one person at a time.

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Rather than list this month's qualifying categories for the free books here, turn to the back cover of this magazine for the list of available circuit categories and note the categories that have an asterisk (*). These categories qualify.

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Florida **February 16**
 Annual Stamp Show West Volusia Stamp Club,
 Wayne G. Sanborn Activities Center, 751 S.
 Alabama Ave., Deland.
Contact: Mike Daley, 386-668-5021
E-mail: miked129e@gmail.com
Website: www.floridacsp.com/wvstamp/

Kansas **February 16-17**
The Cessna Show The Cessna Stamp & Coin
 Club, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George
 Washington Blvd., Wichita.
Contact: Ralph E. Lott, 316-683-6593
E-mail: ralphott@sbcglobal.net

Internet **February 18 to March 18**
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Website: www.stampcampus.org

Alaska **February 22-24**
Anchorage Philatelic Exhibits Anchorage
 Philatelic Society, Post Office Lobby, Ship
 Creek Center, 344 W. 3rd Ave., Anchorage.
Contact: Patrick Hoffmann, 907-346-2717
E-mail: phoffmann@alaska.net
Website: http://home.gci.net/~akphilsoc

Nebraska **February 23-24**
LINPEX 2013 Lincoln Stamp Club, Oasis Inn,
 5250 Cornhusker Hwy., Lincoln. *B*
Contact: Kenneth Pruess, 402-464-6939

E-mail: kpruess2@unl.edu
Website: www.lincolnstampclub.org

Ohio **February 23-24**
Toledo Stamp Expo 2013 Stamp Collectors
 Club of Toledo, Holland Gardens, 6530 Angola
 Rd., Holland.
Contact: Clifford Campbell, 419-874-6241
Website: www.toledostampclub.org

Texas **March 1-3**
TEXPEX TEXPEX Fondation, Inc, Hilton DFW
 Lakes Executive Conference Center, 1800
 HWY 26 E, Grapevine. *WSP*
Contact: Vince King, 940-898-1173
E-mail: entech.design@verizon.net
Website: www.texpex.org



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Coil Stamps



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Coil Stamps



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Booklet Stamp



2915
Large Blue 1995



2915A
Small Red 1996



2915B
Large Blue 1996

Water-Activated Stamps



2920
Large Blue 1995



2920D
Large Blue 1996
Avery Dennison Printing



2921
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2915C
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2915D
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3133
Large Blue 1996

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Contact: Bob Grosch, 530-549-4872
E-mail: bobgrosch@frontiernet.net
Website: www.reddingstampclub.com

Connecticut **March 2**
NORPEX 2013 Norwalk Stamp Club, Norwalk Senior Center, 11 Allen Road, Norwalk. ***B***
Contact: John Leskovsky, 203-846-2490
E-mail: johnleskovsky@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.thenorwalkstampclubinc.org

New Jersey **March 2**
Westfield StampShow Westfield Stamp Club, Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield.
Contact: Ed Grabowski, 908-233-9318
E-mail: edjjg@alum.mit.edu
Website: www.westfieldstampclub.org

New York **March 2-3**
BUFPEX 2013 The Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga.
Contact: George Gates, 716-633-8358
E-mail: gghg53@aol.com

Ohio **March 2-3**
McKinley Stamp Show McKinley Stamp Club, St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW, North Canton.
Contact: David Pool, 330-832-5992
E-mail: lincolnway@sssnet.com
Website: http://mksc.webs.com

Tennessee **March 2-3**
KNOXPEX 2013 — Siege of Knoxville Sesquicentennial Knoxville Philatelic Society, Holiday Inn Knoxville-West, 304 Cedar Bluff, Knoxville.
Contact: Charlie Wade
E-mail: cwwade@aol.com
Website: http://stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm

Virginia **March 2-3**
SPRINGPEX 2013 Springfield Stamp Club, Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield.
Contact: James Dobbs, 703-887-4132
E-mail: jdobbs61@gmail.com
Website: www.springfieldstampclub.org

California **March 9-10**
FRESPEX 2013 Fresno Philatelic Society, Veterans Memorial Building, 435 Hughes Ave., Clovis.
Contact: Dick Richardson, 559-431-5013
E-mail: starstamps@thegrid.net

Florida **March 9-10**
NAPLEX 2013 Collier County Stamp Club, Cypress Masonic Lodge No. 295 F. & A.M., 5850 Tamiami Trail North (Rte 41), Naples.
Contact: Robert Hausin, 239-732-7701
E-mail: newengstmp@aol.com

Illinois **March 9-10**
Rockford Stamp Show and Cover Show Rockford Stamp Club, Forest Hills Lodge, 1601 West Lane Rd. (Hwy 173 West),

Rockford. ***B***
Contact: Tim Wait, 815-670-5869
E-mail: t.wait@comcast.net
Website: www.rockfordstampclub.org

Maryland **March 9**
Tidewater Stamp Club Tidewater Stamp Club, Easton Volunteer Fire Department Auditorium, Creamery Lane, Easton.
Contact: Hope Messick, 410-822-6471

Massachusetts **March 10**
SOPEX 2013 Samuel Osgood Stamp Club, Elks Hall, 652 Andover Street, Lawrence. ***B***
Contact: Robert A. Dominique, 978-470-0583
E-mail: radpm67@gmail.com
Website: www.norcalstamps.org/sopex.htm

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Indiana **March 15-16**
CALUPEX 2013 Calumet Stamp Club, Saint James Parish Hall, 9640 Kennedy Ave., Highland.
Contact: Jerry Emerson, 219-662-1296
Website: http://calumetstampclub.org

Ohio **March 15-17**
Garfield-Perry March Party Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, La Villa Conference and Banquet Center, 11500 Brookpark Road, Cleveland.
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Pennsylvania **March 16**
Spring Stamp Show Buxmont Stamp Club,
Benjamin H. Wilson Senior Citizen Center, 580
Delmont Avenue, Warminster. *B*
Contact: Marlene & Cy Cook, 215-355-3903
E-mail: eelliottschwartz22@comcast.net

Pennsylvania **March 17**
Spring CAPEX Stamp Show 2013 Capital City
Philatelic Society, Susquehanna Township
High School, 3500 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg.
B

Contact: Linn Kinney, 717-732-7813

Alberta **March 22-24**
Edmonton Spring National Stamp
Show Edmonton Stamp Club, West
Edmonton Mall 3rd Floor above Europa Blvd.,
17504-90 Ave. (Intersect 90 Ave & 178 St.),
Edmonton. *WSP*
Contact: Ed Dykstra, 780-421-0930
Website: www.edmontonstampclub.com

Missouri **March 20-21**
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Course, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel,
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Confederate Stamp Alliance www.csalliance.org	Lighthouse www.lighthouse.us	Westminster Stamp Gallery, Ltd. www.westminsterstamp.com
	Michael Eastick & Associates Pty. Ltd. www.michaeeastick.com	WESTPEX 2013 www.westpex.org
	Miller's Stamp Company www.millerstamps.com	Zais, Kouri, Haimann, APS Board of Vice Presidents Candidates www.vote-aps-vp.org
	Mountainside Stamps, Coins and Currency www.mountainsidestamps.com	
	Mowbray Collectables Ltd. www.mowbrays.co.nz	
	Mystic Stamp Company www.mysticstamp.com	

E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/>
On-the-Road-Courses

Missouri **March 22-24**
St. Louis Stamp Expo Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. ***WSP***
Contact: David Kols, 800-782-0066
E-mail: expo@regencystamps.com
Website: www.stlstampexpo.org

Washington **March 23-24**
2013 Apple Blossom Inland Empire Philatelic Society, Hilton Garden Inn, 9015 West Highway 2, Spokane. ***B***
Contact: J. Wilson Palmer, 509-443-8147
E-mail: ickyburg@comcast.net
Website: www.spokanestampcollectors.org

Wisconsin **March 23**
BAYPEX '13 Green Bay Philatelic Society, St. Matthew's Church Multi-Purpose Room, 2575 South Webster Ave., Green Bay. ***B***
Contact: Ray D. Perry, 920-469-8925
E-mail: fiveperry@athenet.net.

New Mexico **March 30-31**
Mesilla Valley Stamp Show Mesilla Valley Stamp Club, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 East University Ave., Las Cruces.
Contact: Richard Hiss, 575-202-1937
E-mail: RHiss@comcast.net
Website: www.meetinlascruses.com

Pennsylvania **April 5-7**
Philadelphia National Stamp

Exhibition Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks. ***WSP***
Contact: Steve Washburne, 215-843-2106
E-mail: info@pnse.org
Website: www.pnse.org

New York **April 11-14**
ASDA Spring Postage Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Assn., APS & USPS, New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave., New York. ***B***
Contact: Joseph Savarese, 718-224-2500
E-mail: jsavarese@asdaonline.com
Website: www.asdaonline.com

Indiana **April 13-14**
Spring Stamp Fair Indiana Stamp Club, Sterrett Senior Center, 8950 Otis Ave, Indianapolis.
Contact: Tom Chastang
E-mail: tchas5@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.indianastampclub.org/fair.html

Oregon **April 13-14**
SOPEX 2013 Southern Oregon Philatelic Society, Jackson County Expo, 1 Peninger Lane, Central Point. ***B***
Contact: Jerry Shean, 541-245-3136
E-mail: geraldshean@yahoo.com
Website: www.jcfairgrounds.com

Pennsylvania **April 13-14**
WILKPEX Wilkinsburg Stamp Club, Gateway Firehall, 4370 Northern Pike, Monroeville.
Contact: Tom Donohue, 412-373-8697
E-mail: wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com

Arizona **April 19-21**
ARIPEX Arizona Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Mesa Convention Center, 201 N. Center St., Mesa. ***WSP***
Contact: Ron Cipolla, 480-596-3700
E-mail: ron@cipolla.org
Website: www.aripepx.org

Delaware **April 20**
DELPEX Brandywine Valley Stamp Club, Nur Shrine CenterTemple, 198 S. Du Pont Hwy (US Routes 13 & 40), New Castle.
Contact: Bill Clark, 302-322-2719
E-mail: kmc4076@aol.com
Website: www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com

Michigan **April 20-21**
Plymouth Show West Suburban Stamp Club, Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland. ***WSP***
Contact: Tim Strzalkowski, 313-533-7737
E-mail: mywssc@msn.com
Website: www.plymouthshow.com

California **April 24-25**
Collecting Union and Confederate Civil War Patriotic Covers On-the-Road Course, San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront, Burlingame. ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: <http://stamps.org/>
On-the-Road-Courses

California **April 26-28**
WESTPEX WESTPEX, Inc., San Francisco Airport

— SWITZERLAND YEAR SETS —

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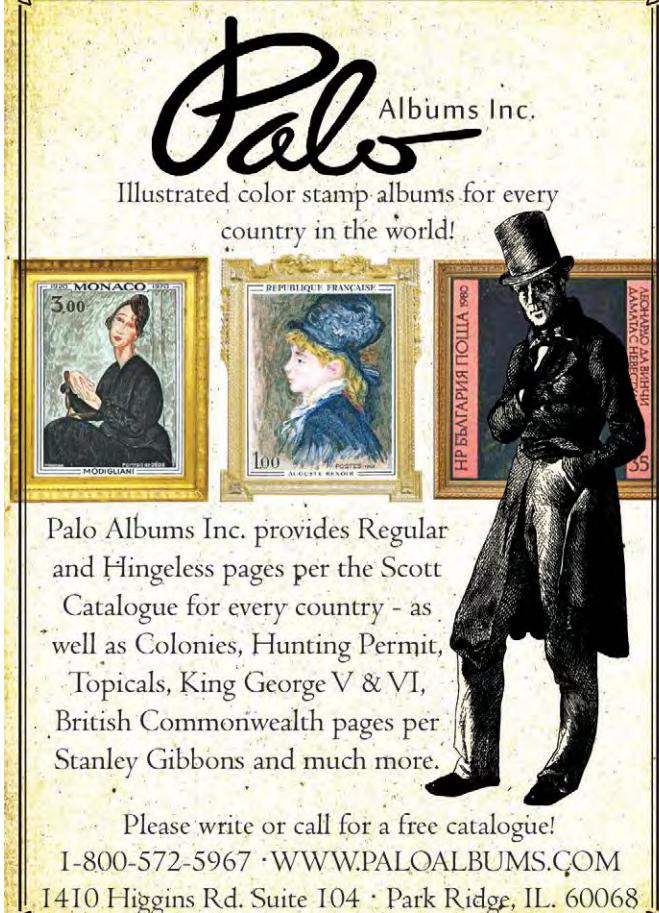
Year	Mint NH	Used CTO	Year	Mint NH	Used CTO	Year	Mint NH	Used CTO
1945 (23 + 2)	775.00	1150.00	1971 (22 + 1)	17.50	9.00	1997 (32)	57.50	26.50
1946 (10)	40.00	58.50	1972 (23)	16.00	9.00	1998 (38 + 1)	59.50	28.50
1947 (13)	35.00	52.50	1973 (28)	27.50	9.00	1999 (34)	60.00	28.50
1948 (24 + 1)	210.00	130.00	1974 (25 + 1)	28.00	11.50	2000 (33 + 1)	70.00	45.00
1949 (27)	80.00	95.00	1975 (23)	23.50	9.00	2001 (28 + 1)	67.50	32.50
1950 (10)	29.50	58.50	1976 (18)	16.00	9.00	2002 (36 + 2)	85.00	52.50
1951 (10 + 1)	265.00	225.00	1977 (29)	29.50	11.50	2003 (41 + 2)	90.00	55.00
1952 (14)	26.50	40.00	1978 (22 + 1)	28.00	17.50	2004 (38 + 2)	95.00	60.00
1953 (13)	26.50	45.00	1979 (23)	28.00	11.75	2005 (39 + 2)	97.50	65.00
1954 (14)	26.50	37.50	1980 (22)	28.00	9.00	2006 (38 + 2)	110.00	70.00
1955 (14 + 1)	115.00	100.00	1981 (23)	28.00	13.25	2007 (48 + 1)	115.00	85.00
1956 (15)	20.00	29.00	1982 (28)	34.00	13.25	• SPECIAL OFFER •		
1957 (13)	23.50	20.00	1983 (23)	32.50	11.75	1950-1959	575.00	550.00
1958 (15)	26.50	22.50	1984 (18 + 1)	37.00	13.25	1960-1969	250.00	120.00
1959 (22 + 1)	60.00	42.50	1985 (20)	31.00	11.75	1970-1979	200.00	90.00
1960 (34 + 1)	60.00	42.50	1986 (27)	32.50	14.75	1980-1989	300.00	125.00
1961 (19)	75.00	17.50	1987 (29)	40.00	21.00	1990-1999	450.00	200.00
1962 (16 + 1)	14.50	13.00	1988 (21)	26.50	15.00	• Volume Discount •		
1963 (25 + 1)	35.00	24.00	1989 (24)	42.50	18.00	Save 5% when you buy 5 years (or more)		
1964 (17)	10.50	6.00	1990 (23 + 1)	35.00	19.00	Save 10% when you buy 10 years (or more)		
1965 (20 + 1)	10.50	7.50	1991 (25)	34.00	14.50	Volume Discount ONLY applies to individual year sets.		
1966 (19)	13.25	6.00	1992 (28)	47.00	19.00			
1967 (20)	23.50	5.00	1993 (27)	50.00	21.00			
1968 (25)	17.50	6.00	1994 (24)	48.50	21.00			
1969 (23)	17.50	7.50	1995 (27 + 1)	52.50	23.50			
1970 (22)	13.00	6.00	1996 (30)	55.00	26.50			

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Marriott Waterfront Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame. *WSP*
 Contact: Edward Jarvis, 415-387-1016
 E-mail: ejarvis@westpex.com
 Website: www.westpex.com

Massachusetts **May 3-5**
 Philatelic Show Northeastern Fed. Of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn Boxborough Woods, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough. *WSP*
 Contact: Jeff Shapiro
 E-mail: coverlover@gmail.com
 Website: www.nefed.org

Ontario **May 4-5**
 ORAPEX 2013 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

Melbourne, Australia **May 10-15**
 Australia 2013 General World Philatelic Exhibition, Melbourne.
 Contact: Darrell Ertzberger
 Contact address: P.O. Box 16208, Crystal City, VA 22215
 E-mail: mteton@aol.com
 Website: www.australia2013.com

Pennsylvania **May 10-11**
 BUTLERPEX Butler County Philatelic Society, Lyndora Senior Center, 10 Austin Ave., Lyndora.
 Contact: Tom Sivak, 724-285-1931
 E-mail: tomsstamps@zoominternet.net

Ohio **May 11**
 TRUMPEX 2013 The Warren Area Stamp Club, St Demetrios Community Center, 3223 Atlantic St., NE, Warren, Trumbull County.
 Contact: Howard Lutz, 330-282-2860
 E-mail: howrex2@aol.com

Colorado **May 17-19**
 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@rockymountainstampshow.com
 Website: www.rockymountainstampshow.com

New York **May 17-19**
 National Topical Stamp Show American Topical Association, The Main Street Armory, 900 East Main Street, Rochester. *WSP*

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E-mail: americantropical@msn.com
Website: www.americantropicalssn.org

New York **May 17-19**
ROPEX/NTSS Rochester Phil. Assoc., The Main Street Armory, 900 East Main Street, Rochester. ***WSP***
Contact: Tom Fortunato, 585-752-6178
E-mail: stampmf@frontiernet.net
Website: www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html

New Jersey **May 24-26**
NOJEX North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, Inc., Crowne Plaza Meadowlands Exhibition Center, 2 Harmon Plaza, Secaucus. ***WSP***
Contact: Robert G. Rose, 973-966-8070
E-mail: rrose@phks.com
Website: www.nojex.org

Oregon **May 24-26**
PIPEX Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach, 909 N. Hayden Island Drive, Portland. ***WSP***
Contact: Michael Dixon, 503-257-4110
E-mail: mdd10@att.net
Website: www.pipexshow.org

Tel Aviv, Israel **May 26-30**
Tel Aviv 2013 Tel Aviv.
Contact: Lilach Gilad
E-mail: lilachgilad@netvision.net.il
Website: http://english.israelphilately.org.il/

Virginia **May 31-June 2**
NAPEX National Phil. Exhibitions of Washington D.C., McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean. ***WSP***
Contact: Douglas K. Lehmann, 703-820-8573
E-mail: dougklehmann@verizon.net
Website: www.napex.org

Ohio **June 7-9**
COLOPEX Columbus Philatelic Club, DiSalle Center at the Ohio Expo Center, 717 East 17th Ave., Columbus. ***WSP***
Contact: Mark Reasoner, 614-579-6526
E-mail: reasonerstamps@yahoo.com
Website: www.colopex.com

Pennsylvania **June 16-21**
Summer Seminar Annual week long seminar, Hosted at the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/Summer-Seminar

Minnesota **July 19-21**
Minnesota Stamp Expo Twin City Philatelic Society and Various Local Clubs, Crystal Community Ctr., 4800 Douglas Dr., N., Minneapolis. ***WSP***
Contact: Randy A. Smith, 952-431-3273
E-mail: rasmay4@frontiernet.net
Website: www.stampsminnesota.com/MN%20Stamp%20Expo.htm

Pennsylvania **July 22-26**
Volunteer Work Week Hosted at the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: http://stamps.org/
Volunteer-Work-Week

Bangkok, Thailand **August 2-14**
Thailand 2013 General World Philatelic Exhibition, Bangkok.
Contact: Stephen D. Schumann
Contact address: 2417 Cabrillo Drive, Hayward, CA 94545

E-mail: sdsch@earthlink.net
Website: http://thailand2013.com/

Wisconsin **August 8-11**
APS STAMPSHOW Frontier Airlines Center, 400 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee. ***WSP***
Contact: Barb Johnson, 814-933-3803 ext 217
E-mail: stampshow@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org

Washington **August 10**
Strait Stamp Show Strait Stamp Society, Sequim Masonic Lodge, 700 N. 5th Ave., Sequim.
Contact: Cathie Osborne, 360-683-6373
E-mail: rickcath@waveable.com

Ohio **August 16-18**
AMERICOVER American First Day Cover Society, Embassy Suites Cleveland-Rockside, 5800 Rockside Woods Boulevard, Independence. ***WSP***
Contact: Cynthia Scott
E-mail: showinfo@afdc.org
Website: www.afdc.org/americover/
americover.html

Maryland **August 30-September 1**
BALPEX Baltimore Phil. Soc., Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., I-83 Exit 20 E., Hunt Valley. ***WSP***
Contact: Robert E. Gibson, Sr., 410-332-4741
E-mail: balpex@verizon.net
Website: www.balpex.org

Canada **August 30-September 1**
BNAPEX 2013 British North America Philatelic Society, Rodd Royalty Hotel, 4 Capital Drive, Charlottetown.
Contact: Earle Covert, 403-752-4548
E-mail: ecovert@telusplanet.net
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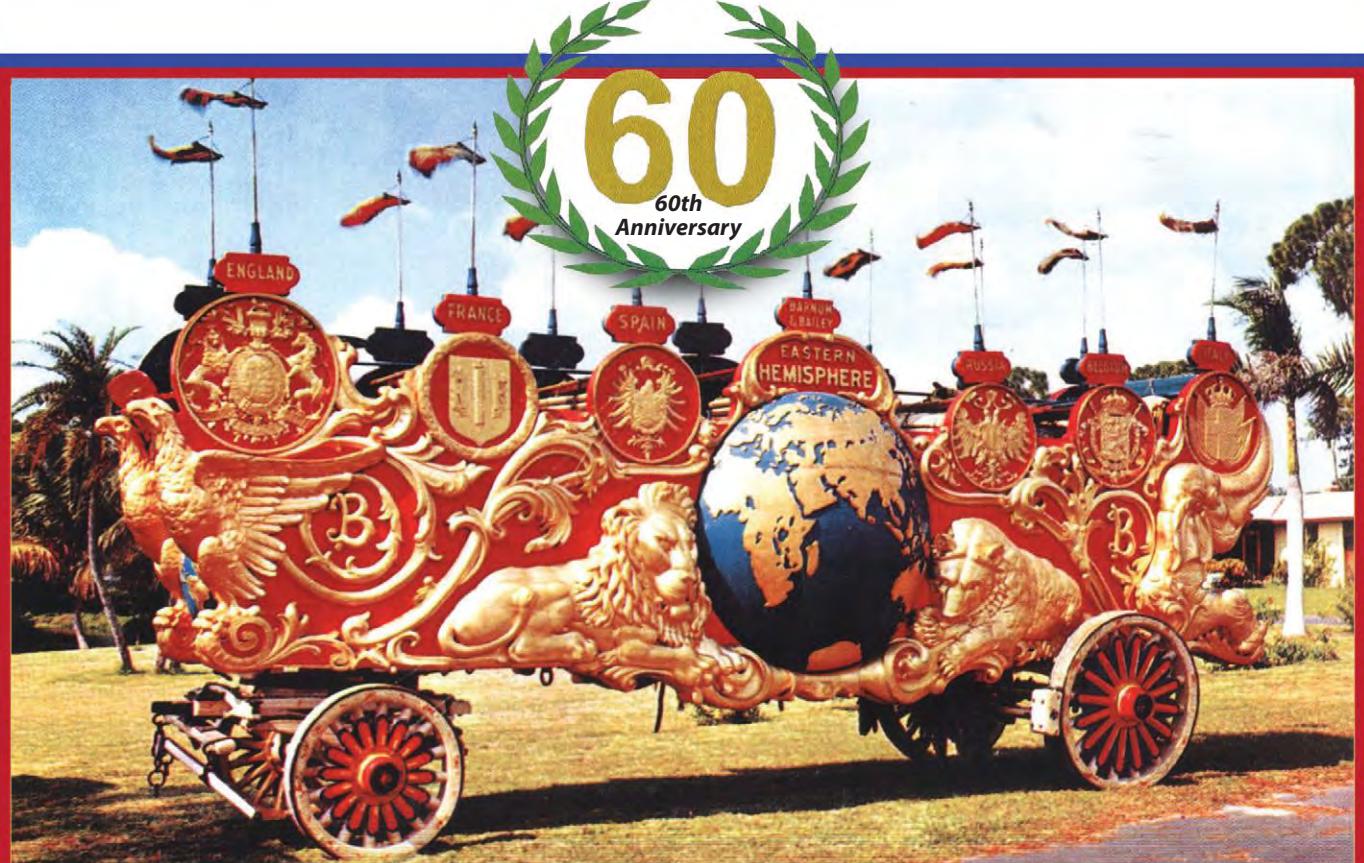
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Membership Report

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during November 2012. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to January 31, 2013, these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the March 2013 issue.

Amer, Michael G. (221134) **Masterton, New Zealand** US PRIVATE PERFS, IMPERFORATES-19TH C; 64; Retired

Bechtol, Marianne N. (221172) **Kingwood, TX** WORLDWIDE; 71; Retired

Bennett, Justin (221142) **Houston, TX**

Borodin, Paul D. (221185) **Little River, SC** MINT US, REVENUES, OLDER USED; 76; Retired

Buss, James G. (221182) **Denison, IA** US-CANADA; 52; Janitor

Ciesielski, Edward M. (221143) **Sylvania, OH** US; 83; Retired

Ciraulo, Paul (221132) **Short Hills, NJ** US COMMEMORATIVES, FDC, AIR MAILED, CLASSICS, 19TH & 20TH C, CIVIL WAR COVERS

Cobb, Douglas A. (221152) **Lee, NH** US, AIR MAILED, CONFEDERATE STATES, SAVINGS (POSTAL/TREASURY/WAR), POSSESSIONS, POSTAGE DUE; 49; CFO

Contreras, Andrew H. (Y-221167) **Kentwood, MI** PLANES-CARS-ANIMALS-BOATS-METALLICS-ARCHITECTURE; 14; Student

Cote, Pierre-Roch (221135) **Toronto, ON** CRUISE SHIPS-LOCOMOTIVES-RAILCARS; 57; Retired

Cowman, Dan C. (221149) **Spring, TX** US MATCH & MEDICINE; 57

Daugherty, Byron (221144) **Placerville, CA**; 65; Retired

Dimaliwat, Bernardo (221160) **Bellevue, WA** PHILIPPINES-SPAIN-ISRAEL-RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-JAPAN-US COMMEMORATIVES; Operations Analyst

Fenske, Jay C. (221156) **Sacramento, CA** PRE 1940 US, AIR MAIL; 57; Civil Engineer

Finder, Cary (221133) **Rockville, MD** US POSTAL CARS, OFFICIALS/OFFICIAL MAIL; 70

Foster, Kevin (221164) **Holland, MI** US 19TH & 20TH C-GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC, STATES-GREAT BRITAIN; 55

Galas, Chris A. (221168) **Turlock, CA**; 84; Retired

Gilpin, Gordon (221187) **Shawnee Mission, KS** US-BRITISH ISLES; 70; Retired

Goins, Ova D. (221169) **Grafton, WI** SCANDINAVIA; 70; Retired

Grace, James (221161) **Citrus Heights, CA** US; 65; Retired

Griffin, Aidan (221176) **Overland, MO** IRELAND-US, 19TH & 20TH C, CIVIL WAR COVERS-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH; 53

Hamburger, Edmund A. (221177) **Pinellas Park, FL** US, MINT AIR MAIL; 85; Retired

Hampton, Janet (221155) **Camberley, England** GREAT BRITAIN, BOOKLETS-ISLE OF MAN-CHANNEL ISLANDS-JERSEY-GUERNSEY/ALDERNEY; 55; Stamp Dealer

Heaton, Xenia (221130) **Hanover, NH** AUSTRIA-GERMANY-SLOVAKIA; 66

Hesselroth, Karen E. (221183) **Stillwater, MN** US-WORLDWIDE-POSTAL HISTORY-MICROSCOPES-LABORATORIES; 61; Retired

Ho, Alex (221145) **Shingle Springs, CA**; 70; Retired

Holben, Diane M. (221174) **Allentown, PA** RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-KOREA-CHINA-SOUVENIR SHEETS-MIDDLE EAST-ASIA; 47

Holland, William (221146) **Los Altos, CA**; 69; Retired

Hoyle, Dale A. (221157) **Lawndale, NC** BALTIC STATES; 59

Jacobs, Frederick W. (221148) **Chambersburg, PA** US, COMMEMORATIVES, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, PLATE BLOCKS, DEFINITIVES; Retired

Javed, Burhan (221163) **Houston, TX** MIDDLE EAST-GREAT BRITAIN-PAKISTAN; 30

Jerome, Leo F. (221158) **Surprise, AZ** WWI COVERS; 65; Retired

Larson, John C. (221136) **West Chester, PA** US, COVERS; 66; Engineer

Leedesma, Connie M. (221166) **Kentwood, MI** US-CHINA-SCOUTING; 37; Nurse Tech

Lindstrom, Soren (221184) **Albuquerque, NM** SWEDEN-ECUADOR-ALAND-US ESSAYS & PROOFS; 79; Retired

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 220768, 220842, 220878 through 220970, and 220972 through 220998, and 221000 through 221002 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, Oct. 31, 2012	33,611
New Members	125
Reinstated	79
	204
	33,815
Deceased	54
Resignations.....	117
Expelled	1
Chapter Disbanded.....	1
Total Membership, Nov. 30, 2012	33,642

Matuszak, Thomas J. (221178) **Oltewah, TN** US; 70; Retired

McKinney, Bruce (221165) **Milton, DE** US 19TH & 20TH C, AIR MAILED, POSTAGE DUE, CLASSICS-CUBA; 58

McMurray, John M. (221137) **Elmont, NY** US, COVERS, POSSESSIONS-PRE 1960 WORLDWIDE; 70

Michalak, Robert H. (221138) **Onsted, MI** US; 66; Retired

Mikosz, John M. (221170) **Harwood Heights, IL** US-POLAND; 63; Sales

Nasch, Ron G. (221162) **Los Angeles, CA** US; 55; Real Estate

Pachman, Jason L. (221181) **Bronx, NY**; 41

Paulsen, Charles E. (221153) **Sacramento, CA** US-WORLDWIDE; 85; Retired

Russ, Cynthia W. (221139) **Houston, TX**; 76; Housewife

Sacchetto, Massimo (221131) **Montreal, QC** CANADA-US-ISRAEL-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH-CHINA-FRANCE; 48; General Manager

Sawyer, Richard W. (221140) **Orange, CA** GERMANY; 66; Retired

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Semancik, Chris (221180) **Alexandria, VA**
WORLDWIDE-US 19TH & 20TH C
Semones, James J. (221179) **Leesburg, FL** US;
69; Retired
Seymour, Bill (221154) **The Dalles, OR**
Slatewala, Shabbir (221175) **Fort Mumbai, India** INDIA-COVERS
Smith, Charles G. (221188) **Fair Oaks, CA** US-UN;
Retired
Stachowski, Michael M. (221171) **Orland Park, IL** SCANDINAVIA; 59; Physician
Stanciu, Bogdan (221173) **Richmond, VA**
Sturtevant, Frederick D. (221147) **Yuba City, CA**
US, PLATE BLOCKS, BOB; 82; Retired
Sutherland, John A. (221150) **Ottawa, ON**
CANADA-US 20TH C-WORLDWIDE; 59
Thoman, Brock (221186) **Crowley Lake, CA** US;
64; Self Employed
Tearney, Steve (221151) **Gastonia, NC** US-
CANADA; 69
Tremblay, Kimberly F. (221159) **Cranston, RI** PRINCESS DIANA-ROYALTY-SPACE-
OLYMPICS-HALLEYS; 55; Retired
Turner, Jerry (221141) **Griffin, GA**; 62; Retired

NEW CHAPTER

Gold Country Stamp Club (220979), Grass Valley, CA **CONTACT:** Steven Hickok, 12531 Polaris Dr., Grass Valley, CA 95949

CHAPTER DISBANDED

Clinton Stamp Club (071064), Clinton, CT

DECEASED

Albiez, Henry O. (8743-059433), North Augusta, SC
Bacharach, Martin M. (5393-023197), Hackensack, NJ
Banks, Barry V. (115959), Ogden, UT

Mudge, John L. (6217-041369), Bandon, OR
O'Block, John A. (188560), Munster, IN
O'Dwyer, Henry (219696), Massapequa Park, NY
Odell, Edwin (219708), Longmeadow, MA
Perkins, Russ (087571), Lake Oswego, OR
Pfaff, Robert F. (5729-042603), Los Angeles, CA
Pressley, Jackson B. (6225-044748), Ojai, CA
Ramsey, Robert T., (089842), Sacramento, CA
Reno, Donald L. (210317), Medford, OR
Rupprecht, Charles F., Jr. (110464), Gladstone, NJ
Schurr, Kay (172266), Lehigh Acres, FL
Smith, William E. (110045), San Pedro, CA
Sypniewski, Hank (9515-065265), Chicago, IL
Thacker, Thomas L. (4699-036186), Fairborn, OH
Thomas, Wayne H. (141220), Westland, MI
Thomas, Raymond I. (183331), Hastings, New Zealand

Traquair, Robert S. (211429), Toronto, ON, Canada

Treat, Samuel B., Jr. (5028-030686), Ridgecrest, CA

Ullrich, Reinhold A. (3425-120261), Rolling Hills, CA

EXPELLED

Kahn, Donald H. (6729-109869), P. O. Box 6479, East Brunswick, NJ, for conduct unbecoming a member for failure to account for sales circuits (violation of APS Code of Ethics #8), and for failure to respond to official Society correspondence.

REPRIMANDED

Ziouras, John M. (219536), P. O. Box 171439, Salt Lake City, UT, for conduct unbecoming a member for failure to make payment for auction purchases as per the terms of sale (violation of APS Code of Ethics #8).

APPLICATION RECALLED

Fuller, Donald L.

DEALER LISTING

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Wave of Color

On December 1, in Orlando, Florida, the Postal Service issued \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10 *Waves of Color* definitive stamps in one design each in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of ten stamps. These elegant stamps were created to lend a contemporary appearance to packages, large envelopes, and other mailings. The \$1 Wave, \$2 Wave, \$5 Wave, and \$10 Wave each features a colorful, abstract pattern similar to an engraved currency banknote with its denomination spelled out and also shown as a numeral.

(a) Denomination: \$1 Definitive

Format: Pane of 10 (one design)

Designer/Art Director/Typographyher:

Antonio Alcalá, Alexandria, VA

Artist: Michael Dyer, Brooklyn, NY

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Intaglio/Offset

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

Press Type: Stevens, Vari-Size Security

Print Quantity: 10 million stamps

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Stardust
Adhesive Taggant

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Size (wxh): 26.67 x 19.56 mm (image);
30.23 x 23.11 mm (overall); 89.41 x
154.69 mm (pane)

Colors: Dark Purple, Blue, Purple, Pink,
Light Blue, Light Purple, Black

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by seven
single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate block
numbers in two positions. *Back:* ©2012
USPS; USPS logo; Plate position
diagram; Barcode 115500 in upper right
and lower left hand corners of pane;
Promotional text.

(b) Denomination: \$2 Definitive

Size (wxh): 36.07 x 21.34 mm (image);
39.62 x 24.89 mm (overall); 108.20 x
164.59 mm (pane)

Colors: Dark Green, Green,
Light Blue, Light Green,
Lime Green, Light Yellow,
Black

Marginal Markings:

Front: Plate block
numbers in two
positions. *Back:* ©2012
USPS; USPS logo;
Plate position diagram;
Barcode 115600 in upper

right and lower left hand corners of
pane; Promotional text.

[c] Denomination: \$5 Definitive

Modeler: Donald Woo

Printer: Banknote Corporation of America,
Inc., Browns Summit, NC

Press Type: Alprinta/Epikos

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type I

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Size (wxh): 35.71 x 27.20 mm (image);
39.62 x 31.11 mm (overall); 108.20 x
195.07 mm (pane)

Colors: Beige, Yellow, Orange, Pink, Med.
Pink, Dark Red

Plate Numbers: "S" followed by eight
single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers
in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2012
USPS; USPS logo; Plate position
diagram; Barcode 115700 in upper right
and lower left hand corners of pane;
Promotional text.

(d) Denomination: \$10 Definitive

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Size (wxh): 45.87 x 31.9 mm (image); 49.78
x 35.81 mm (overall); 128.52 x 218.69
mm (pane)

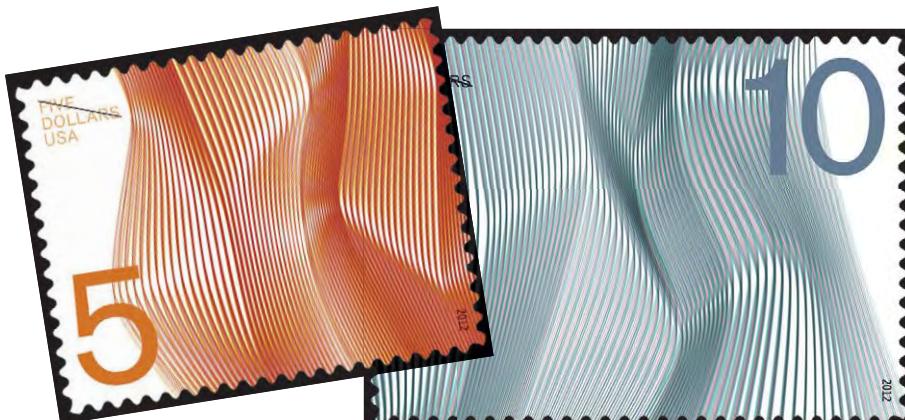
Colors: Taupe, Light Purple, Light Blue,
Blue, Gray, Black

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers
in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2012
USPS; USPS logo; Plate position
diagram; Barcode 115800 in upper right
and lower left hand corners of pane;
Promotional text.

Lady Bird Johnson

On November 30, in Austin, Texas, the Postal Service issued a Lady Bird Johnson commemorative First-Class Mail stamp (Forever® stamp priced at 45 cents) in six designs in a pressure-sensitive adhesive souvenir sheet of six stamps. The \$2.70 Lady Bird Johnson souvenir sheet may not be split, and the stamps may not be sold individually.

This new issue by the U.S. Postal Service honors Lady Bird Johnson and her efforts to beautify America. The sou-





venir sheet includes six stamps: a new stamp that reproduces the official White House portrait of the First Lady painted in 1968, and adaptations of five stamps issued in the 1960s that encouraged people to participate in the President and Mrs. Johnson's campaign "Plant for a More Beautiful America." The art from the five engraved stamps — originally issued in 1966 (Scott 1318) and 1969 (Scott 1365–1368) — has been adapted for printing in offset lithography. There is a quote by Mrs. Johnson and an additional image of the First Lady on the selvage and text about Mrs. Johnson's accomplishments on the back of the stamp pane.



Denomination: First-Class Mail® Forever Commemorative

Format: Souvenir Sheet of 6 (six designs)

Designer/Art Director/Typography: Antonio Alcalá, Alexandria, VA

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset/ Microprint "USPS"

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

Press Type: Mueller Martini, A76

Print Quantity: 12 million stamps

Paper Type: Nonphosphored, Type III

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: 5 Stamps Horizontal;
1 Stamp Vertical

Size (wxh): 36.07 x 21.34 mm (image);
39.62 x 24.89 mm (overall); 165.10 x
139.70 mm (pane)

Colors: Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Blue,
Green, Pink, Orange

Plate numbers: N/A

Marginal Markings: *Front: Header:*

"LADY BIRD JOHNSON 1912
CENTENNIAL 2012"; *Verso text. Back:*
©2012 USPS; *Header:* "LADY BIRD
JOHNSON 1912 CENTENNIAL 2012";
Verso text USPS logo; Plate position
diagram; Barcode 578500 at bottom
left corner of pane; Promotional text at
bottom of pane.

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The Postal History of Shkodër; Postal and Telegraph Cancellations and Postal Cachets Until 29th November 1944 by John L. Kelion. Published 2012 by the author. Hardcover, 269 pp., color & b/w illus., ISBN 978-0-9572644-0-3. Available for £70 + postage from Vera Trinder Ltd., 38 Bedford Street, Strand, London WC2E 9EU, U.K.; website <http://veratrinder.org/>.

The Republic of Albania is a narrow country lying north to south with ports on the Adriatic Sea (which separates the east coast of Italy from the Balkan Peninsula) and the Ionian Sea (which borders southern Italy and Sicily to the west and Albania and Greece to the east). Originally home to an ancient Mediterranean people, the Illyrians, the country became part of various Roman provinces, then fell under the control of the Goths, the Byzantine Empire, and the Serbs, before becoming part of the Ottoman Empire until 1912, when it was again claimed by Serbs. Albania finally achieved independence in 1917, became a republic 1925–28, a monarchy 1928–1939, was overrun by Italian troops and placed under the king of Italy, at the end of the war became an independent republic once again, then a communist republic in 1946, ultimately electing a non-communist government in 1992. Clearly, this is a country with an extraordinarily rich past as a historical crossroads in Eastern Europe.

Shkodër, the capital city of Albania, was founded around the fourth century B.C. Although modest in size, the city has a 2,000-year history as an important cultural and economic center. Its modern postal history begins when it was a part of the Ottoman Empire and Shkodër hosted the post offices of Turkey, Austro-Hungary, and Italy.

In his Foreword the author describes the work as “an attempt to illustrate and describe every cancellation and postal cachet used on mail sent from Shkodër.... I have included all known cancellations of the operative post offices.”

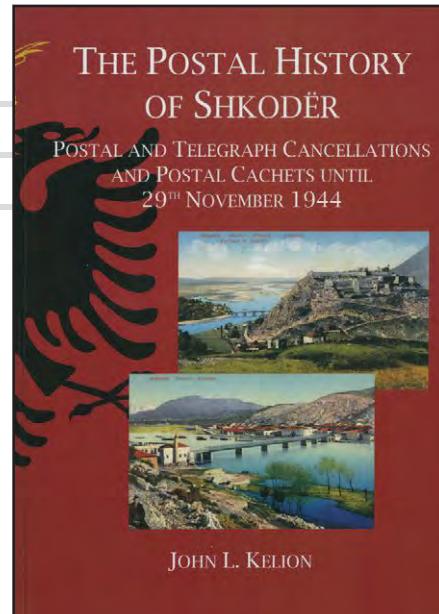
The book is divided into two basic parts: Civilian Mail, which covers the pre-philatelic period until the end of German occupation in 1944, and Military Mail, which covers mail sent by various occupying foreign troops through their own military post offices where available and mail handled for them by civilian post offices.

Although its complex history is reason enough for many philatelic collectors to focus on Albania, sadly the country never comes to life in this volume of facts. A useful reference book, but not an exciting one.

Stamps of the Polar Worlds — 1900 to 2012 by Frank R. Michel. Published 2012 by the author. Soft-cover, viii + 133 pp., color illus. Available for \$35 on www.Amazon.com (print version or Kindle e-book version).

This fifth edition of *Stamps of the Polar Worlds* is a far cry from the basic 54-page list of stamps that appeared in 1984. The present volume includes listings for about 3,200 stamps issued by postal entities that range from the Australian Antarctic Territory (AAT) to Yugoslavia — 154 countries in all. While only a selection of stamps (and countries) are illustrated, those that do appear are in full color.

A “Guide to Entries” lists thirteen points of information to be found with the individual entries. Condensed, these include: country name, stamp listing number (when known), face value (when known), color, description, current used value (when known), date of issue (when known), minor listing style,



and *Stanley Gibbons* listing number.

Following the country listings are three appendices. The three-page “Polar People” contains a list of individuals associated with the Polar regions, a number of whom have yet to appear on a stamp. The entries for those who have been so honored conclude with the page numbers (separated by hyphens for some reason) on which further details of the stamp(s) can be found. A two-page list of “Polar Ships” follows the same format. The final appendix, “Polar Miscellaneous,” is a two-page list of “Animals, places, and various items of interest to the Polar Regions.” Why this last listing is included is a mystery since the (typically) one-word entries are not referenced or explained in any way in the text.

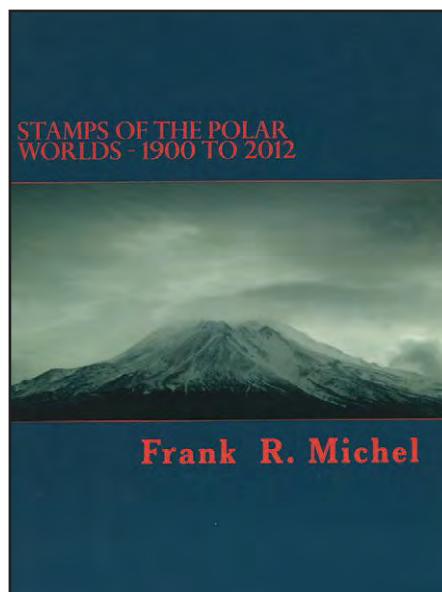
The layout of the country entries is a bit difficult to follow and could be tightened. In addition, the blocks of text have been laid out with a program that uses distractingly uneven word spacing and include typos that should have been caught with a Spell Check feature. Although this is clearly a labor of love and does include helpful information, a clearer layout would be more useful for the collector.

Danish Øre Bicolor Issues; A Primer
by Peter Bergh; edited by Sergio Lugo. Published 2012 by The Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, Denver, Colorado. Spiral bound, vii + 83 pp.,

color illus., ISBN 978-0-9773578-3-3. Available for \$40 (ppd in the U.S.) from The Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, 2038 South Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224; telephone 303-759-9921; e-mail rmp@qwestoffice.net; website www.rmpdenver.org.

The Publisher's Preface notes that this volume is "intended as an everyday reference for the emerging specialist." The Author's Introduction explains in a little further detail: "This book is directed at two groups of philatelists. First, it is intended to explore and add to the richness of understanding for the intermediate collector of Danish stamps in the very interesting world of the bicolored stamps issued from 1875 to 1905.... Second, it will serve as a primer for the beginning Danish collector seeking a better understanding of the varieties of the bicolor øre issue."

Bergh also comments that "It is helpful if the reader has some basic knowledge of Denmark's stamps," but after reading the text, I respectfully have to disagree. The presentation is of a quality that requires nothing more than a basic understanding of the English language to follow the author's clear exposition — even a beginner should have no difficulty with the text. (Although, considering



the depth of detail that follows, I would recommend that the reader has at least a modest interest in Danish stamps before opening the covers.)

The text opens with a chapter on "Currency Reform." It addresses the 1875 currency reform that led to the issuance of stamp values in krone and øre denominations, and explains the required fraction conversions, rates, and various stamp denominations.

The chapter on "Printer, Paper, and Printing Methods" is a particularly well-written look at the printing details relat-

ed to the bicolor issues. This is followed by a chapter on "Perforation," which identifies the stamp perforations from 1875 to the fall of 1895 as 14x13½, while those issued thereafter were perforated 12¾. The author then adds details on how to distinguish between "fine" and "coarse" perforations and the re-perforated bicolor forgeries.

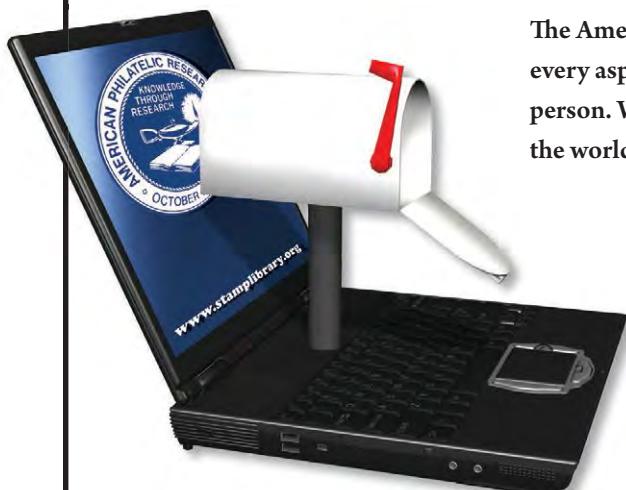
The longest section has to do with "Frame Types and Frame Flaws," of which the author identifies five types:

Type 1: thick frames (1870 and

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1875-76)

Type 2: thin frames (1870-73)

Type 3: thin frames (1873-78)

Type 4: damaged corner frames (1878-90)

Type 5: repaired corner frames (1889-1905)

These are followed by a variety of subsections: Telling the Frame Types Apart; Differentiating Frame Types from Frame-Matrix Flaws; Normal, Inverted, and Isolated Frames; and Printings with a Mixture of Frame Types 3 and 4. The chapter goes into great detail, with enlarged views of the significant details.

In the beginning of the chapter on "Printings and Shades," the author explains that the names of the shades used in the Danish literature can be confusing because they "are literal translations from the Danish, consequently representing what a Danish speaker (of an earlier generation) would have called the shade. For example, without a reference stamp it becomes impossible to deduce what a shade named 'pearl grey' looks like." He wisely then goes on to illustrate the shades that are easy to identify. After noting that identifying the various printings "can vary from very easy to extremely challenging," he establishes some basic criteria for distinguishing between them.

The chapter on "Cancellations" looks at the six cancellations commonly found in the period involving the Danish bi-colors.

"Postal History" discusses some of the available literature on Danish postal history (also listed in the References section), followed by a solid basic overview that includes a lengthy section on postage rates. "What Came Next?" looks at the transition to new stamp designs following the nearly three-decade run of the øre bicolors. A final note, "Learning More," sums up the next steps for the new collector's consideration.

The book is filled with clear, oversized illustrations in full color and includes a number of tables consolidating the information found in the various chapters. Altogether a fine example of a philatelic publication that is perfectly designed for its intended audience.

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Worldwide in a Nutshell

by
Bob
Lamb

Tuvalu

Status: A Parliamentary democracy in the central Pacific

Population: 10,619 (2012 est.)

Area: 10 square miles

Currency: 100 cents = 1 Australian Dollar (\$1 = US\$1.05)



Tuvalu, or the Ellice Islands, is a group of nine coral islands about halfway between Honolulu and Australia. The islands were settled by Polynesians from Samoa, Tonga, and other islands to the south.

The first European sighting of the islands was in 1568 when the Spanish found arrived at. They saw little of interest on the small island and did not disembark. Although Spanish ships came upon other islands over the next two centuries — without making landfall — it was an American, sailing for the

British, who is credited with opening the islands. Captain Arent de Peyster discovered Funafuti in 1819 and named it Ellice Island after Edward Ellice, a British merchant and politician. A British cartographer later applied the name to the entire archipelago. American whalers, European traders, and Christian missionaries expanded contact with the islands in the nineteenth century.

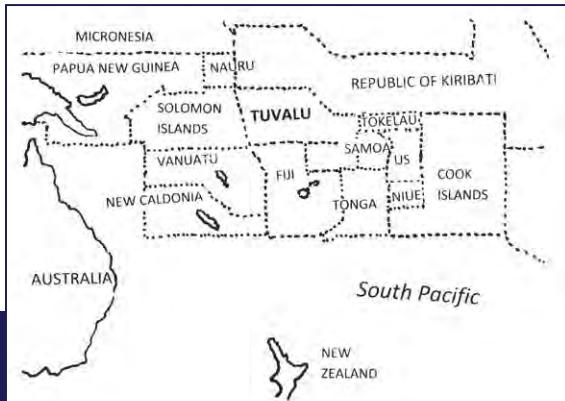
An Anglo-German agreement in 1886 placed the Ellice Islands, along with the Gilberts, in the British sphere of influence. In 1892 the British placed the islands under their protection. Mail service during this period was very limited, with letters normally being put in the trust of captains of visiting vessels. On January 1, 1911 an official mail service was established. At that time, Fiji stamps overprinted Gilbert and Ellice Protectorate were placed on sale and post offices opened on five islands in the protectorate. One office was in the Ellice Islands at Funafuti. Later that year four specially printed definitives, also produced by De La Rue, were released. On January 12, 1916 the Protectorate became a Crown Colony.

In 1916 the postmaster in Funafuti took it upon himself to surcharge a few low-value definitives with the higher denominations needed to frank packages. This created considerable outrage in the philatelic community of the day, who considered them unnecessary and speculative. The three offending stamps, called the Funafuti Provisionals, are not listed in most major stamp catalogues.

During World War II, the Ellice Islands escaped the destructive warfare experienced by Tarawa and parts of the Gilberts, but a large U.S. Marine base was established at Funafuti. The 1968 conversion to decimal currency brought stamps denominated in Australian currency. After independence Tuvalu produced its own coins, but the Australian dollar circulates freely.

When Britain began to move the islands toward self-determination in the 1970s, the Polynesian population of the Ellice Islands made it clear that they did not want to be a minority in a government dominated by the more numerous Micronesians of the Gilberts. In 1975 a peaceful separation took place and a colonial administration was established at Tuvalu's capital of Funafuti. On January 1, 1976 the current definitive issue was overprinted "Tuvalu," and in 1983 Tuvalu was one of eight countries that contracted with a London firm to produce and market its stamps. Stamps also were printed for each of the individual islands. This arrangement was terminated in 1987.

Information on Tuvalu stamps can be found at www.tuvaluislands.com.



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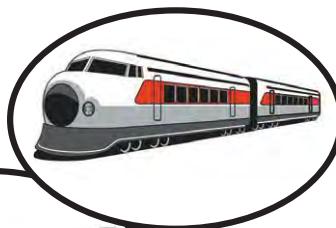
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