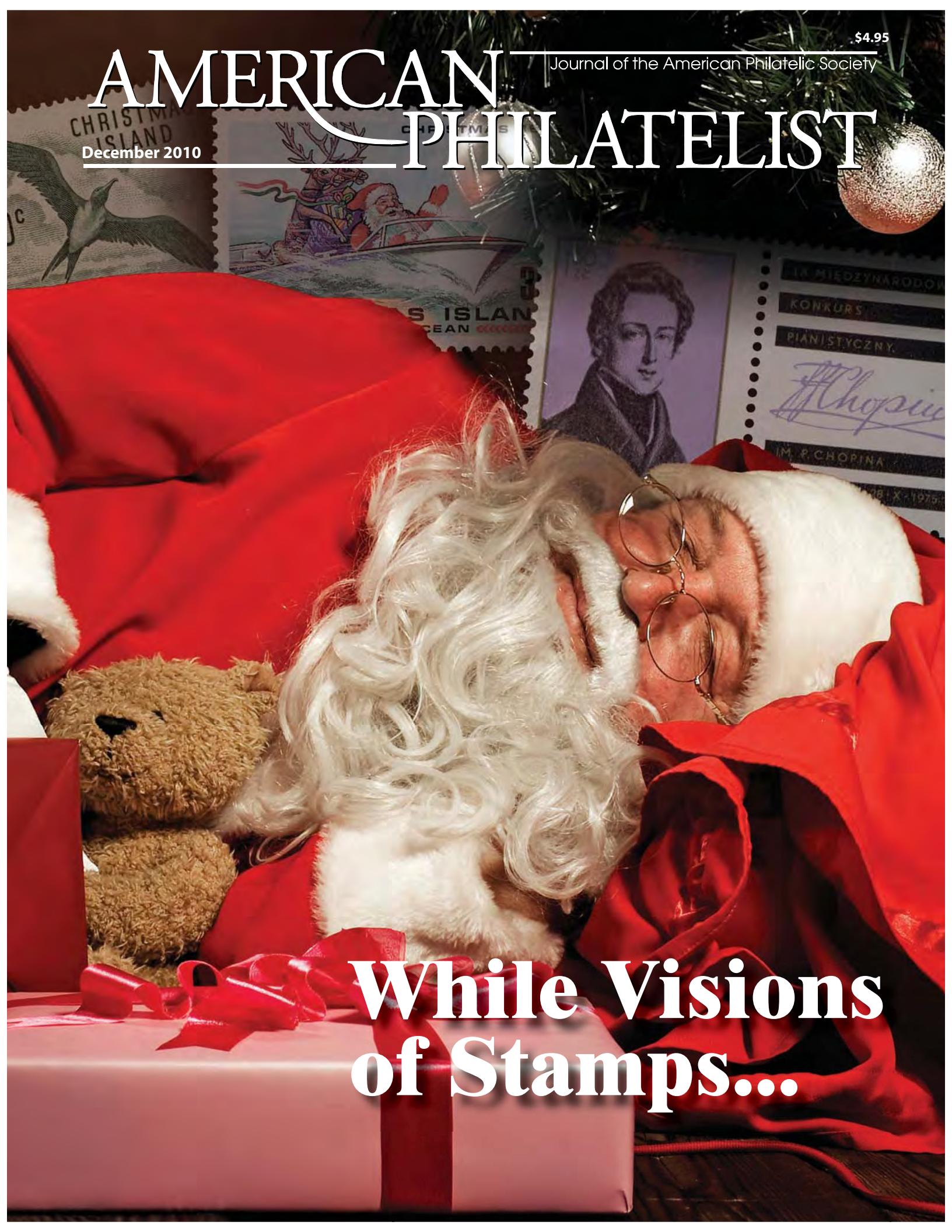


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Journal of the American Philatelic Society

December 2010



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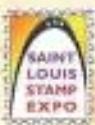
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Ken Martin, ext. 218
kpmartin@stamps.org

Assistant to the Executive Director

Becky Magyar, ext. 204
bmagyarr@stamps.org

Director of Internal Operations

Rick Banks, ext. 216
rbanks@stamps.org

Director of Information Services/Librarian

Tara Murray, ext. 246
tmurray@stamps.org

Manager of Membership Administration

Judy Johnson, ext. 210
judy@stamps.org
Address Changes: requests@stamps.org

Director of Education

Gretchen Moody, ext. 239
gretchen@stamps.org
Young Stamp Collectors of America
Janet Houser, ext. 238
jehouser@stamps.org

Director of Expertizing

Mercer Bristow, ext. 205
mercer@stamps.org

Director of the Sales Division

Thomas W. Horn, ext. 227
twhorn@stamps.org

Director of Internet Sales

Renee Gardner, ext. 270
StampStore@stamps.org

Director of Shows and Exhibitions

Dana Guyer, ext. 207
dana@stamps.org
Barb Johnson, ext. 217
barbj@stamps.org
Show Time Listings
showtime@stamps.org

The American Philatelist

Barbara Boal, ext. 221
baboal@stamps.org
Articles
aparticle@stamps.org
Letters to the Editor
lettertotheeditor@stamps.org
Advertising Information:
Helen Bruno, ext. 224
adsales@stamps.org
Associate Graphics Designer, ext. 223
Doris Wilson
doris@stamps.org

Webmaster

Wendy Masorti, ext. 202
wendy@stamps.org

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APS Official Family

-2010-2011-

President

Wade E. Saadi
93 80th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11209
wade@pencom.com

Board of Vice Presidents

Nicholas A. Lombardi
8605@comcast.net
Steven J. Rod
sjrod@aol.com
David L. Straight
dls@mophil.org
100 Match Factory Place
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Secretary

Steven Zwillinger
804 Lamberton Dr.
Silver Spring, MD 20902
stevez@stamps.org

Treasurer

W. Danforth Walker
P.O. Box 99
Lisbon, MD 21765
danforthwalker@comcast.net

Directors-at-Large

Kathryn J. Johnson
100 Match Factory Place
Bellefonte, PA 16823
KJ5217@aol.com

Joann Lenz

P.O. Box 296
Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0296
joann@stampsjoann.net

Denise L. Stotts

P.O. Box 690042
Houston, TX 77269-0042
stottsd@swbell.net

Wayne Youngblood

P.O. Box 111
Scandinavia, WI 54977
WYStamps@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Janet Klug
6854 Newtonsville Road
Pleasant Plain, OH 45162
tongajan@aol.com

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Stamp Theft Committee

Ephraim W. Day
2700 Lake Avenue
Cheverly, MD 20785-3038
stamptheft@msn.com



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AMERICAN PHILATELIST

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BARBARA BOAL • Editor

baboal@stamps.org

lettertotheeditor@stamps.org

aparticle@stamps.org

BONNY FARMER • Associate Editor

bfarmer@stamps.org

DORIS WILSON

Associate Graphics Designer

doris@stamps.org

HELEN BRUNO • Advertising Manager

hlbruno@stamps.org

adsales@stamps.org

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Fiscal Responsibility & Awareness

There is a lot to be happy about at this year-end for the American Philatelic Society and the American Philatelic Research Library, especially at this time when much of our nation is struggling with unbalanced budgets and uncontrolled spending. We achieved the vast majority of our fiscal goals for 2010 and the budget for 2011 is balanced and very strong. I have taken the 2011 budget proposal from our Finance Department and will cover some of the highlights below. Thanks to Rick Banks for his diligence in preparing this budget. The complete budget, with all the charts and graphs can be seen at www.stamps.org/Financial-Information.htm.

2011 Proposed Budget

Combined Summary under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) — On a combined APS/APRL, the 2011 Budget is balanced with a net surplus of \$41K. This combined surplus is after depreciation expense of \$379K. Both the APS and the APRL results are an improvement over the 2010 Budget and anticipated 2010 actual results. Also, the budget reflects no use of cash donations other than those designated for operations by donors.

On a combined APS/APRL basis, the 2011 budget covers all operating costs, all interest expense, all principal payments, and 52% of all depreciation expense. This is an improvement over all past years since the APS and APRL have relocated to the Match Factory in that from 2003 through 2008 no interest, principal, or depreciation was covered and in 2009 we were able to cover interest and principal but no depreciation.

Key Assumptions — Following are the Key Assumptions that are a part of the 2011 Budget Proposal.

- No dues increase; approved increase in surcharge for foreign delivery of AP.
- Excluding depreciation, the APS/APRL combined surplus is \$427K. This is nearly five times the requested \$88K for new capital expenditures.
- New tenant Graymont beginning May 2011, resulting in \$77K additional rental revenue in 2011 and \$115K in 2012. Interest rate on Graymont loan of 5.25%.
- Establishment of a reserve for new tenant renovation. In the event of tenant changeover, this will allow us to prepare the space for a new tenant. Annually, an amount will be set-aside in a reserve fund (\$8K in 2011) so that upon tenant changeover, funds are available to repaint unit, clean carpets, etc.
- Projected membership loss of 1,542 or 4.3% (December 2011 membership @ 34,163).
- Personnel expense includes 3% increase for salaries/bonuses, benefits, and professional development. (More information provided below.)
- Departmental income reductions match current trend in actual performance, target to maintain accurate budget projection expectation.
- Investment portfolio income of 4% return.
- 25% increase in electricity rates due to expiration of Allegheny Power rate cap on December 31, 2010. (\$14K additional expense in 2011).
- Investment portfolio income of 4% return.

Personnel Expense — Personnel expense includes 3% increase for salaries/bonuses, ben-

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efits, and professional development. Why? Because, in the past year and a half, we have reduced staff, eliminated bonuses of about \$25K, eliminated the automatic 4% employee pension contribution, and provided no pay increase for employees for 2010. We have also changed health insurance providers twice in the last five years, instituted an employee premium contribution, and cut coverage. By changing providers and increasing the deductible from \$250 to \$500, our health insurance costs will decrease 9% in 2011.

We cannot afford to restore all the personnel cost cuts that have been made, but we have budgeted for a 3% overall payroll increase to be broken down as follows:

- 2% of total payroll for merit-based raises, with up to 2.5% for persons employed the entire year and pro-rated for partial year employees.
- 1% for bonus and professional development pool.

Summary — This proposed 2011 Budget is balanced with a net surplus of \$41K. Both the APS and the APRL individual budgets are an improvement over their 2010 budgets and anticipated 2010 actual results. On a combined APS/APRL basis, the 2011 Budget covers all operating costs, all interest expense, all principal payments, and 52% of all depreciation expense.

What is making this budget work?

- Ability to hold the line on spending consistent with Phase I and II savings initiatives.
- Creative cost savings reductions — reduced AP publishing expenses.
- Holding the staffing levels down.
- Success of outsourcing the IT function.
- Removal of litigation expenses.
- Procurement of a new major tenant in 2011 (Graymont).
- Success of new revenue initiatives — buyers fee on circuit sales.

So, as you can see from our close monitoring of expense (and income), there is still a lot of sacrifice and extra work

for our Staff and others. Yet, these tactics help to insure the future of our Society and in the long run will put us more in control of our destiny. It is a tough row to hoe, but focus and diligence will help to assure the outcome.

I would like to wish a happy and healthy holiday season to our membership and to the APS/APRL Staff, and ask that you all spread the joys of stamp collecting to everyone you touch. Please remember that giving is an essential part of making us realize our full potential, and choose to be generous to the APS during this season of giving. There are many ways you can help the APS/APRL with a donation to our Campaign for Philately, to help us grow our hobby and Society.

Staff Profile

Kay Peters, Circuit Clerk

I started working at APS on August 16, 1999 when I took a job as a circuit clerk in the Sales Division. I processed returning clubs, direct, and multiple circuits, and microfilmed every book that was submitted.

I moved into the position as retirement secretary in 2001. I prepare the retirement books to send back to our sellers after they have been circulated for 18 to 24 months. I send out new books and mount orders for our sellers. I also prepare examiner circuits for mailing and process returning examiner circuits.

Every day is always something different with my work. I take pride in satisfying our members.

I live in the small town of Howard with my husband of thirty-five years, Merle. We have two children and three grandchildren. I enjoy spending time with my grandchildren and my boxer dog Buddy.



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Letters to the Editor



The Spirit of Giving

I was saddened, quite surprised, and very moved recently. Why? A collecting friend had died — something that happens all too often these days — and he had left me part of his cover collection.

What a clever and heart-warming idea! I'm thrilled. And, even more than usual, his memory will be with me for a very long time.

Maybe more of us should leave our specialized collections to other collectors who will truly appreciate them. An alternative is to sell a collection to a specialist friend or a dealer while we can control the action. Or sell on the open auction market. What to do with the proceeds? One suggestion is to give it to the APS.

Alas, all too many collectors pass on without making much effort regarding the disposal of their treasures. And whatever effort we do make should be in writing and kept current.

I will be forever grateful to my friend and his understanding family for not only having a good disposal plan but one that was of benefit to me, too.

Ted Bahry
Arcadia, Michigan

Thank You

Barbara Boal, Bonny Farmer, and *The American Philatelist's* production group all helped to turn my initial "ugly duckling" narrative into what I consider to be the "beautiful swan" article that was printed in full color in the October 2010 issue ("Judging an Album by Its Cover," page 914). I now have a much greater understanding (and appreciation) for just a few of the processes and details of what goes on behind the scenes in getting out our hobby's fine magazine each month. How they can turn the mayhem of handling/editing multiple articles into a steady flow for timely publication is still a mystery to me. Best wishes for continued success!

Rick Thompson
Beavercreek, Ohio

[*Editor's Note:* The other person who works on the magazine layout is Doris Wilson. The fourth (and only other) member on the AP staff is Helen Bruno who handles our advertising. It is our pleasure to work with members each and every month. Thank you, members, for your time and commitment.]

New Member

I recently visited the SESCAL 2010 Stamp Show in Los Angeles, California for a day of enjoyment, education, and camaraderie. Being a new member of the American Philatelic Society, I stopped at the APS table and had the opportunity of meeting Gretchen Moody. What a wonderful time I had visiting with her as she presented to me all the different services that the APS provide for members. I recently signed up to participate in my first stamp circuit and had a list of questions that were running around in my mind. Gretchen answered them all and then some! She noticed that I was lugging around a rather tattered International Junior Postage & Stamp Album c1932 which was my grandfather's. She pointed me into the direction of the "Stamps in the Attic" table, and before I could even turn around she introduced me to Bob Lamb. She told me this was the man I needed to talk to regarding my grandfather's album.

Bob was very patient with me and my questions, and gave me some great insights not only to my stamps but also to my grandfather's collecting style and that specific period. I showed him a stamp from the Roman States c1862–1868 that caught my eye as a child. He explained to me that there have been a lot of counterfeit stamps issued for that specific stamp and it might be interesting for me to research it further in the future. Then, as I was preparing to leave for the day, Bob waved me down because he had done some further research of his own and wanted to share it with me! It

APS & APRL Holiday Schedule

The holiday season is rapidly approaching. When you are planning your travels, please note that the American Philatelic Center will be closed Friday, December 24, and Friday December 30.

The APS and APRL will maintain their usual hours, 8 a.m.–4:40 p.m. EST, on the remaining days of those weeks. The American Philatelic Center staff wishes all APS members and their families the happiest of holiday seasons.



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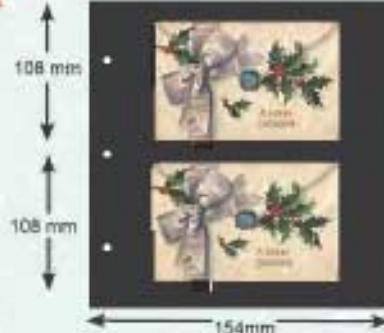
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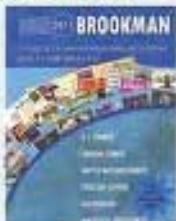
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turns out that my copy is probably a fake, but the sincere interest that Bob showed to me is priceless.

I've started my collecting interests in U.S., but after spending time with Bob, I'm looking forward not only to researching my grandfather's worldwide stamp collection, but also to starting my own. I commend the APS not only for the services that they provide for members but for the quality of the individuals that represent the APS. Hats off to Gretchen and Bob, for they brought much joy to me that day. I read *The American Philatelist* word for word and now I've met some of the actual people I read about. I'm proud to be a member of the APS pursuing the "world's greatest hobby"!

Troy Bowen

Ventura, California

Great Visit

My sincere appreciation to Ken Martin and rest of the APS staff for being so helpful and professional during our visit to the "Match Factory" for three days in late September. My wife Susan and I received a tour and I purchased some

stamps to fill album holes, but the best part of our visit was interacting with the staff, who went out of their way to make our visit meaningful and pleasant.

Our deepest appreciation goes to Connie at the reception desk, for greeting us so warmly; to Janet of the education department, who gave us a first class tour; to Tom, Bill and Carol of the sales book division, who helped me relieve APS of a few Polish stamps; to magazine editor Barbara and her great editorial staff; to Richard of special sales, whose volunteerism is beyond the call of duty, and to Becky, Ken's executive assistant, for being so helpful. Their "can do" attitude most favorably reflects on our society.

We are in good hands!

Bill Harris

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Displaying Online

Gary Diley's note in the October *AP* ("Rare Material," page 896) suggests that a museum to display the APS's rare items would be a great idea. The editor's reply agreed and cited budgetary constraints.

It occurred to me as I sat listening to digital audio while my wife was being digitally scanned for some medical issue that a digital museum could put the treasures on display for everyone able to access the Web. Auction houses do this on a regular basis and great art museums let you browse their possessions anytime you wish on your PC.

I can list a batch of advantages and a few disadvantages for this proposal. I expect budget issues and available scanning time and some security issues to slow progress the most. To address the budget issues, I'll contribute \$100 at dues time toward this specific project and challenge others with a desire to view the Society's holdings to match or better this figure.

G. Brinton Ingram

Magnolia, Delaware

[*APS Executive Director Ken Martin's reply:*] Some quick notes — As noted in the October issue, this is indeed an ongoing project. Member Don David Price has pledged \$25,000, if we can raise an additional \$75,000, for a Rarities Gallery



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in the American Philatelic Center. Unfortunately, we won't have the space for this until we can find the funds to renovate buildings 3 and 4. (It seems to be one of those unwritten rules that there's always something to do before you can do the thing you want to do.)

However, an online gallery is also a great idea. We have been adding collections of photos to the APS website (www.stamps.org/Tours/). In particular, each month we are including another section of the Reference Collection, beginning with the smallest collections. These are listed by country, and links are available under "Reference Collection" on the Tours page given above. We would also be glad to add a section featuring images of members' rarities if they could provide a digital image and a signed release allowing us to post on our website.]

Argentina Revisited

I was disappointed with Alexander MacGregor's comments (Letters to the Editor, June AP, page 524) on my article regarding semiotics and stamps, and the fact that it was placed under the title "Ar-

gentine Errors." His letter was in considerable contrast to favorable comments printed earlier in the AP.

I confess to exactly one error (singular) of fact, namely the statement regarding Argentina's first long-running definitive stamp. I stand corrected, and appreciate Mr. MacGregor's bringing it to my attention.

Regarding other errors of fact and omission, it seems to me that we are not dealing with "errors" as much as with differences of opinion, word choice and style. His letter uses my "errors" to elaborate on a number of topics which are not central to the main purpose of my article. I could have elaborated, as he did on a number of points, but the result would have been to make a long article even longer.

With respect to my translation of "gorro frigio" as "liberty cap," I recall that while growing up in Argentina the two terms were used interchangeably: "gorro frigio" and "gorro de la libertad." I simply felt that "liberty cap" would be understandable by more readers, and that

I should avoid the lengthy explanation MacGregor gives us.

His comment that my treatment of the historical context was not sufficiently broad is a matter of judgment, and reflects my feeling the need to keep the article's length down to a reasonable level.

MacGregor's implication that I did not understand the nature of Peron's shirtless bully-boys is misplaced. As a member of an American family living in Argentina in the Peron years I knew full well their nature. And yes, the use of the term "descamisado" is indeed Peronist propaganda, and that was precisely my point. But "descamisado" is a colorful word in Spanish which sounds much better than the multi-word explanation required when putting it into English: "the urban worker ... who supposedly was too poor to even own a shirt."

By focusing and elaborating on these details it seems that MacGregor is missing the main point of the article: that semiotics, the study of signs and their meaning, can help us understand our stamps better.

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I was even more disappointed with the very superficial letter from Michael Mahler ("Olé Letters," August AP, page 718) which followed Macgregor's, and which called his letter a "devastating critique." For the reasons outlined above I do not feel particularly devastated, and I stand by my opening comment that my article contained only one error of commission and a number of short comments which can be (and were) the object of extensive comment by MacGregor, but which were not "errors." Regarding the hyperbolic statement that MacGregor's letter was one of the most impressive ever to appear in a philatelic publication, I don't think anyone is collecting such letters, but I would mention that *The American Philatelist* once said that the Postmaster General of the U.S. "has a splendid chance of being elected Philatelic Enemy No. 1."

Jack Child
Washington, DC

All It Takes Is a Little Salt

This is a belated response (I'm catching up on a backlog of reading) to Greg-

ory Epshtain's article on Alchemy in the May 2010 issue ("Alchemy Examined Through the Prism of Philately," page 454). He ended by saying, "Perhaps it is not fair to relegate [alchemy] to the status of pseudo-science; better to consider it an early stage in the development of modern science." It's true that alchemy was the ancestor of modern chemistry, but there's more to the story. Unfortunately, alchemy is still alive and well and has firmly ensconced itself in the pseudoscientific camp. I recently wrote about it on the Science-Based Medicine website at www.sciencebasedmedicine.org/?p=6276.

Nicholas Collette and others claim to have found alchemy's Philosopher's Stone, to be able to transmute lead into gold, and to have produced an Elixir of Life that will vastly prolong life, cure all disease, and even give you psychic powers. You can buy it on the Internet. Best of all: they tell you how you can make it yourself out of dew and Celtic sea salt.

Harriet Hall, MD
Puyallup, Washington

Uncanceled Stamps

Referring to the letter from Don McDaniel in the October AP ("Uncanceled Postage," page 896) relative to how Japan solves the uncanceled stamp problem, I left the Post Office about thirty years ago and it seems to me that around the middle 1970s they came up with a self-inking dauber that was about four inches long by two inches wide which we attached to every letter carrier case, sorting case, and box section. It was part of what they called a "revenue protection plan." The point being that if an employee saw an uncanceled stamp, they merely reached up and touched the stamp to the dauber. Simple as ABC. Like I said, that was thirty-five or so years ago.

Jim Luddy
Swansea, Massachusetts

Don't Blame Carriers

This is in reply to James Dolan's letter in the May AP ("April Fool," page 416) regarding the use of a felt tip pen to cancel stamps on mail. He calls the use of the pen callous and lazy. The carrier is

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neither: he is simply doing his job, canceling uncanceled stamps to stop lost revenue. The lack of a cancellation was probably noticed on the delivery route, not in the post office. Each carrier has his a simple bar cancelling device at his sorting case, which he will use if he notices the lack of cancellation when sorting mail. If he notices the lack of cancellation on the route he will use whatever he has at hand — usually a pen.

I am a retired carrier and I'm weary of hearing letters from philatelists complaining about the Post Office service. They act as if they were a group which should get special treatment. Remember the old saying — never complain about someone until you walk a mile in his moccasins.

Claude J. Hornbacher
Sebewaing, Michigan

Contributing Through eBay

I have followed the financial struggles of the APS for some time now in *The American Philatelist*. These struggles are in a large part due to the declining membership. Each year, the APS Board



Another Cancel

Numerous letters to the editor have decried the use of ball point pens and magic markers to cancel stamps. The illustrated cover, posted in London, England on September 13, 2010, provides an interesting alternative. The stamps escaped cancellation in London and, upon arrival in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, received two neat strikes of the Windsor Operations postal facility handstamp dated September 27, 2010. As an aside, normal transit times for mail from England to Canada is four to five days. Somewhat the worse for wear, this cover was, for whatever reason, delayed in transit and was delivered on September 28, fifteen days after posting. The cover now resides in my oddity collection.

Marty Bratzel
Windsor, Ontario

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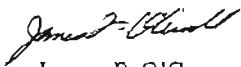
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Sincerely,



Dr. Meir Barnea
Eagan, Minnesota



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must perform a balancing act by setting membership fees at a level that will cover costs, yet not scare off members. Due to the declining membership, the total revenues available to the Society decline nearly every year.

I believe that stamp collecting is the greatest hobby in the world and that we are fortunate to have spectacular resources in the American Philatelic Center, APS, and APRL. These resources are considerable when compared to the small annual membership fee of \$45. I personally would like to give more to the Society to ensure that these resources are not reduced or eliminated. However, it is always difficult to write a check for a significant sum once each year, so like many of you I rarely contribute to the various capital campaigns. For me, it would be much less painful to contribute a small amount with each stamp transaction. I recently learned that this is possible whenever you buy or sell stamps through eBay. Any individual may give to the APS during checkout when paying for an eBay item. There are two steps necessary to accomplish this during the eBay checkout process.

First, you will need to identify the APS as one of your favorite non-profits. By doing this, APS will appear during checkout. To accomplish this:

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3. In the **My Favorite Nonprofit** section, search for your favorite nonprofit by name and save it.

Next, when checking out after winning a lot, simply click on the APS non-profit button that appears on the checkout screen and specify the amount you wish to give. I use eBay extensively for both buying and selling and have decided to always give \$1 whenever I complete a transaction. Over the course of a year, I estimate that I will end up donating an additional hundred dollars or more, which will not affect my budget since it is given a little at a time throughout the year.

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Additionally, the APS has been reg-

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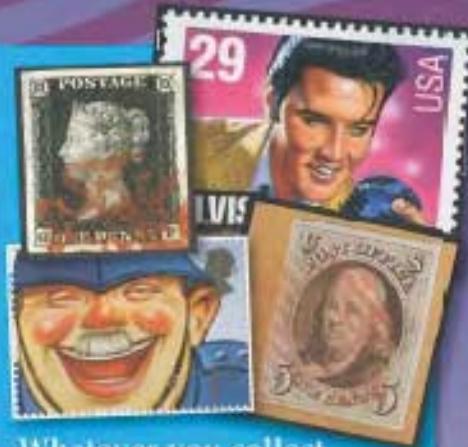
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If all members were to follow this approach, I believe the current financial difficulties faced by the Society would be resolved in short order. I therefore challenge all members to try this approach. Collectively, let's make a difference one transaction at a time! This hobby is far too enjoyable to have it slowly disappear.

Patrick S. Lemon

Charlotte, Michigan

Bicycle Post

George W. Bowman in "The Fresno-San Francisco Bicycle Post of 1894" (September *AP*, page 831) asks if O.J. and/or B.J. Treat printed the bicycle mail stamp. The 1898 Fresno city directory shows an O.J. Treat, printer,¹ and the 1900 U.S. census for Fresno shows an Orie J. Treat, job printer.² Bert Treat, a student, is also listed in the 1898 Fresno directory.³ Bert Treat, shown as Burk E. Treat, and his older brother Orie J. Treat are listed together in the 1880 U.S. census.⁴

1. *Fresno City and County Directory*, 1898 (Fresno, California: C.T. Cearley), p. 180. Viewed on *Ancestry.com*.
2. 1900 U.S. census, Fresno Ward 3, Fresno County, California, Enumeration District 7, p. 3B (written), National Archives and Records Administration series T623, roll 86. Viewed on *Ancestry.com*.
3. *Fresno City and County Directory*, 1898 (Fresno, California: C.T. Cearley), p. 180. Viewed on *Ancestry.com*.
4. 1880 U.S. census, Ovid, Branch County, Michigan, Enumeration District 35, p. 20 (written), National Archives and Records Administration series T9, roll 573. Viewed on *Ancestry.com*.

James R. (Jim) Miller

Haguenau, France

R.M.S. Queen Mary

I enjoyed the article "Love, the Great Depression, and War: A Correspondence" in the September *American Philatelist* (Daniel Ring, page 820). Howev-

er, I was puzzled by the picture of H.M.S. *Queen Mary*, which was sunk at Jutland on 1916 May 31st. The "Queen Mary" with a maiden voyage in May of 1936 was the Cunard-White Star liner (and Royal Mail Ship) R.M.S. *Queen Mary*. This designation is visible in the red notation on the cover shown at the bottom of page 821. The later R.M.S. *Queen Mary* is preserved in Long Beach, California.

Duncan H. Barber

Deep River, Ontario

[Editor's Reply: Apologies to both Queens. Under 10x magnification, what looked like an "H" on the handstamped cover to the naked eye is indeed an "R." The cover imprint actually reads: VIA R.M.S. "QUEEN MARY" MAIDEN VOYAGE.]

Wrong City

The article in the October *AP* by Charles Fricke about leather postcards ("The Lowly Leather Postcard," page 928) was extremely interesting — just another facet of philately which I had not previously known about, which is why I enjoy so much every issue of *The*

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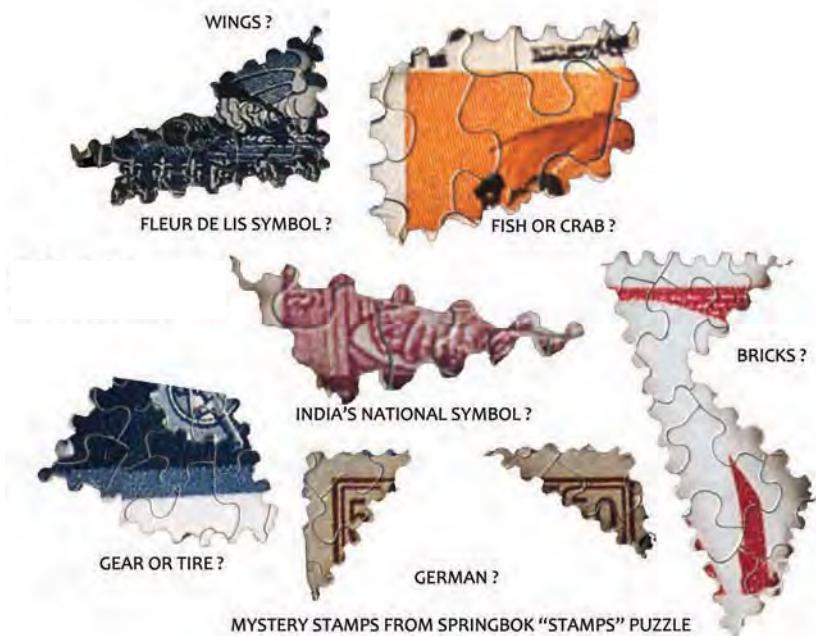
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Stamp Puzzles

When my article titled "When Hobbies Collide" was published in the June 2009 AP (page 558), a section of additional "mystery" stamps had to be omitted for space considerations. These were stamp fragments that I am trying to identify for another stamp puzzle (Springbok, "STAMPS"). I would be grateful for readers' help in identifying these remaining fragments.

Roger Black
Idaho Falls, Idaho



American Philatelist.

However, there is one minor error in the text, which refers to "Harbach," when in fact it should be "Marbach," as is clearly shown in the illustration.

Marbach, a city on the Neckar River, northeast of Ludwigsburg, is most famous as the birthplace (the house still stands) of the great German poet and dramatist, Friedrich Schiller. Although Schiller moved away as a child, he is commemorated in Marbach by the *Schiller-Nationalmuseum und Deutsches Literaturarchiv* (*Schiller National Museum and German Literature Archive*), one of

the main archives of literature history in Germany.

Nick Shestopole
Temecula, California

Keep an Inventory

I truly feel sorry for all the folks looking to sell a lifetime of collecting and facing wolves (see Richard Novick's September Letter to the Editor, "Dealer's Experience," page 898).

My strong advice therefore is to each and every collector to have an inventory of the expensive things in a safe place, such as a safe deposit box, and make sure that it is attached to a will so that any executor/executrix at least knows what the collector beholds.

Karl Biniarz
Tigard, Oregon

Selling a Collection

Whipping a dead horse not being my intent, but I still thought I might add something to the recent spate of letters bemoaning the less than polite responsiveness by stamp dealers when, for whatever reason, a collector wants to sell his/her stamp collection. In most of our cases, it seems that ultimately before we die there comes a point when it is time to share our collections with newer collectors.

Or as in my situation, similar to Mr. Broder, economic realities placed me in a position to sell. I don't have nearly the nice collection of Mr. Broder but

how would the dealers who advertise, "I buy it all," etc., know this as they do not return phone calls or e-mails? To the collector who suggested that the ASDA should be involved, I will share this: Guess what? When you e-mail them about this problem you get the same result — nothing. They also don't respond. As with the major philatelic newspaper, there is a wall of silence about this problem which only the APS journal has had the guts to give light.

Jim Harlow
Templeton, California

Center of Europe

With reference to Bob Lamb's September column on the Slovak Republic (page 888), I offer two clarifications:

1. "...Krahule...is considered the geographical center of Europe." By Slovaks, for sure, but they're on a bit of a line, because "Europe" can be defined differently, depending on whether certain islands are taken into account. As per Wikipedia, the current contenders, all with legitimate claims to the title are: "the small town of Rakhiv, or the village of Dilove near Rakhiv, in western Ukraine; Bernotai, or Purnuðkës, near Vilnius, in Lithuania; a point on the island of Saaremaa in Estonia; the village of Krahule, near Kreminica, in central Slovakia; Suchowola, north of Biaùystok, in northeast Poland; and Toruñ, in north-central Poland; a point near Polotsk in Belarus ... As noted below, Guinness World Re-



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cords recognises Bernotai, 26 km. north of Vilnius, Lithuania, as the 'official' geographical midpoint of Europe. But that does not preclude other centres, depending on the methodology used in making the determination."

2. Bratislava and Vienna, forty miles apart, are "...the two closest national capitals in the world." However, two other pairs are closer: Rome, Italy, and, within it, Vatican City; Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, across the river from each other.

But a fun read, as always!

Andrew Kapochunas
Jersey City, New Jersey

Mauch Chunk Postmaster

Charles Frick's "Mauch Chunk 'Switchback' Railway" article (September AP, page 845) was of particular interest to me, since I live only about ten miles away, in Palmerton, Pennsylvania, and am involved in several local historical societies. One philatelic connection that Mr. Frick did not mention: Erskine Hazard was the first postmaster of Mauch Chunk when it was established in 1819. He was a Quaker, and the early postmarks gave the number, rather than the name, of the month. One minor "quibble": the name of the company was (after several earlier forms) the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, without Valley as part of the name.

George Ashman
Palmerton, Pennsylvania

Bravo

"Bravo" to Melissa Stanton. Her article on "Breast Cancer" in the October issue of the AP (page 932) was well written and well documented. I hope this budding young philatelist will contribute more articles to the magazine in the future. If this is the future of American philately, I am sure we are leaving it in capable and competent hands.

Steven Scheibner
Bayside, New York

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COCOS ISLANDS	1945 Air Letter to Wales, B.F.P.O. 46 & censor. A love letter. Rare.	\$400.
CYPRUS	1944 Scarce line perf 1pi, SG 154a marginal block of 4 nh.	\$2,900.
FALKLAND IS DEPS.	1944 Essay opt on F.I. 1/- mounted on De La Rue card, dated & initialled. Unique & lovely.	\$5,200.
GIBRALTAR	1938-51 10/- Pair of printers working frame proofs in issued color.	\$560.
K.U.T.	1942 1c Error "A" of "CA" omitted from wmk, nh. SG 131ab.	\$350.
K.U.T.	10c MOUNTAIN RETOUCH, SG 135a in nh block of 4.	\$115.
LEEWARD IS.	1944 10/- Early stage of BROKEN LOWER RIGHT SCROLL flaw, SG 113ae superb mint.	\$2,650.
MALAYA - STRAITS	1945 BMA \$1 Error "A" of "CA" omitted from wmk superb used. New find. Variety of SG 15.	\$4,000.



NEWFOUNDLAND	1941-44 3c major perf shift. Variety of SG 278.	\$120.
NIGERIA	1938 Perf 13 by 11½ 2/6d, SG 58 imprint block of 4 nh.	\$260.
NORTHERN RHODESIA	1941 1½d Yellow-brown "TICK BIRD" flaw, SG 30b nh.	\$160.
PAKISTAN	1948-56 Printers working proof of 6p imperf block of 4 also with offset of 1949-53 1a blue.	\$135.
SEYCHELLES	1952 15c Corner block of 6 with CROWN OMITTED FROM WMK, SG 161a nh.	\$920.

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Removing Self-Adhesive Stamps from Paper — Our Readers Comment

In the October issue of *The American Philatelist* we published a guest column by Peter Butler, titled "It's Like Magic: Removing Self-Adhesive Stamps from Paper" (page 910). The column discussed the use of the solvent Bestine and an air freshener marketed as Pure Citrus to remove self-adhesive gum from U.S. postage stamps. A number of our readers (many of them chemists by profession) wrote to offer additional suggestions and cautions for the use of these materials.

Magic Indeed

Thank you for the article on Bestine (Peter Butler, "It's Like Magic: Removing Self-Adhesive Stamps from Paper, October AP, page 910). It is indeed "magic." I use a child's paint brush to "paint" the Bestine onto the paper and wait ten seconds, then I can peel the stamp off the paper. I dust with talcum and the stamp is ready to be mounted in my album. Thanks again.

Jim Clougherty
South Park, Pennsylvania

Fruitful Letter

I was delighted to see Peter Butler's article in the October AP and have the satisfaction of seeing that my letter to the editor of two years ago is bearing fruit. That being said, I want to offer two small quibbles with the article and add a comment on the "Pure Citrus" method. First of all, Peter says that "Bestine" contains heptane. That's not quite true — it doesn't contain heptane, it *is* heptane. There is no other ingredient. The second is his allegation that old-time watermark fluids contained benzene. In truth, they contained benzene — a very different chemical. Benzene (spelled with an "i") is an old name for a light hydrocarbon fraction that is chemically very similar to heptane (Bestine). It has none of the dangerous properties of benzene but because of the similarity in names, it was confused by non-chemists with benzene and such watermark fluids got a bad reputation and a bum rap.

Secondly, after reading Peter's article, I bought a can of "Pure Citrus" to give

it a try. In recommending "Bestine," I had tested a number of substances and found that most of them, although they removed the stamp, contained material that did not evaporate and could thus leave a residue in the stamp. I have now tested "Pure Citrus" and found that, like "Bestine," it leaves no detectable residue. It does take a bit longer to evaporate but it appears to me to be every bit as good. The slower evaporation rate might even be an advantage in removing multiple stamps because I have found that the Bestine evaporates so fast that I have had to make multiple applications on large pieces. Now all that remains is for some enterprising individual to patent and package these substances, give the product a clever name, and reap financial rewards that Peter and I will never see.

William P. Winter
Silver Spring, Maryland

Orange Solvent

I just read Peter Butler's article about removing self-adhesive stamps. I am a dentist and we use a liquid called orange solvent, \$9.29 a quart.

Rubbing a little on the back of an envelope with a Q-tip will release the stamp before you can turn the item over, and the sticky stuff is gone also.

Russell Bradley
Bryan, Texas

Heptane Not Recommended

I do not recommend the use of heptane — Bestine is 100% heptane — in a home or any enclosed area. Vaporized heptane and air form an explosive mix-

ture, when proper portions are combined, which can be ignited with such a simple ignition source as a static electricity spark. Mineral spirits is a safer, equally effective, and less costly alternative.

Limonene (the d- or D- just tells a chemist about configuration and has nothing to do with adhesive-removal utility) should also be effective because of its chemical nature. An advantage for limonene is probably odor. A disadvantage is cost. Limonene is similar to mineral spirits in flammability characteristics and, therefore, safer to use than heptane. Both will burn but not as readily as heptane.

All three compounds are hydrocarbons and present similar health hazards. The flammability hazards are a difference. The preferred place to use any of these compounds is outside where there is plenty of ventilation and no ignition source.

If you have respiratory and/or dermatological problems, you should avoid all three. And all are about equally bad in eyes.

Basically, you are trying to separate a sandwich into its three components when you try to remove the adhesive. The stamp, the adhesive layer and the substrate, such as an envelope, are the three components. The adhesive is attached most firmly to the stamp, so the adhesive-to-envelope bond is broken most easily. Some solvolytic action may be involved, but it is probably more bond disruption than actually dissolving much adhesive.

I take a piece of paper towel roughly two inches square, hold it with tweezers and saturate it with mineral spirits. I then saturate the face of the stamp with mineral spirits from the towel and then saturate the inside of the envelope where the stamp is. I continue to rub mineral spirits from the towel onto the inside of the envelope until opaque white areas disappear, normally a matter of seconds. The stamp can now be removed from the envelope with stamp tongs if you use care.

I rub the back of the stamp with the mineral spirits saturated paper towel until I push all of the adhesive from the back of the stamp. You can use an additional piece of paper towel with additional mineral spirits if any adhesive remains. I take another fresh piece of paper towel to ensure that all traces of adhesive are removed. I allow the stamp to air dry, usually overnight if I am not in a hurry.

A stamp on cardboard will take longer since the mineral spirits must penetrate through the cardboard to the adhesive. Corrugated cardboard takes even longer, unless you removed the corrugated section before using mineral spirits.

I suggest treating probably no more than half-a-dozen stamps at one time because you will inevitably get mineral spirits on your fingers. And you should avoid prolonged and repeated contact with mineral spirits. You should wash affected skin areas promptly with soap-and-water and then rejuvenate your skin with hand lotion.

You can wear gloves, but you must use expensive, hydrocarbon-resistant gloves. The ordinary gloves that you might use for dishwashing or other types of water exposure are degraded by hydrocarbons and, therefore, provide no protection. They become a hazard instead.

The 1974 Christmas stamp, Scott 1552, discolored in twenty-three years or less because of adhesive degradation. Scott 2431 (1989) and 2475 (1990) that I have on cover still appear sound. Perhaps effective stabilizers were used in the pressure sensitive adhesives at that time.

However, I plan to continue to watch those issues for signs of adhesive degradation. But I would not hesitate to remove the adhesive completely from used copies of stamps that are not on cover just to be sure.

Not all solvents are flammable. The

Don't Soak

My experience with Bestine over a year ago suggests a word of warning regarding its use, as advocated in Peter Butler's article. I have not tried his method of using just a few drops of Bestine; I simply submerged several test stamps in it, with disastrous results to the following issues:

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| 3750 | 2¢ Navajo Necklace |
| 3752 | 2¢ Navajo Necklace |
| 3792a | (25¢) Eagle |
| 3980 | 39¢ Flag |
| 4113-4116 | Snowflake ATM |
| 4192-4195 | 41¢ Disney |
| 4215-4218 | 41¢ Christmas Knits ATM |
| 4221 | 41¢ Chinese New Year |
| 4224-4227 | Scientists |

A few examples are enclosed. On a more positive side, Bestine did not harm the current Forever issues 4126d and 4437, nor the Western Movie heroes. When trying Bestine, I would urge readers to test a disposable example of each issue first.

John D. Alden
Delmar, New York



closest compound to a universal solvent is water. And carbon tetrachloride was used in home fire extinguishers many years ago.

Incidentally, I am a retired Ph.D. organic chemist. I have collected stamps since grade or high school and my interest continues.

R. T. Stiehl
Waynesboro, Virginia

Sourcing Solvents

As a follow-up to Peter Butler's article in the October 2010 issue of *The American Philatelist*, I thought I might provide some information regarding the two important solvent materials mentioned by Mr. Butler, in case others have problems locating and purchasing them (like myself).

1) *Bestine* is packaged by the Union Rubber Inc. of Trenton New Jersey 08606. The company's telephone number is: 1-800-334-8219. It has a UPC code of: 8966500238. (I finally found it available at LEE's Art Supply, on 57th Street, half a block west of Carnegie Hall, Manhattan,

New York City.)

2) *Pure Citrus* is distributed by the Blue Magic Inc. of Conroe Texas 77307. Company telephone number is: 1-888-522-2746. It has a UPC Code of: 7954222201. This may help those not close to suppliers of these kinds of items.

Lawrence A. Daly
Newton, New Jersey

Talc Caution

It was a fascinating article on the use of Bestine and Pure Citrus by Peter Butler in the October 2010 issue of the *AP*. Actually, I had come across the technique four years ago and found that many organic solvents can be used — benzene, petroleum distillates, water mark fluid, naphtha, hexane — though I had not tried Pure Citrus or Bestine, the latter being heptane. A quite useful technique.

However, I wish to give a cautionary note with Talc and its use to eliminate the sticky residual acrylic copolymer adhesive that remains after the Bestine evaporates. Initially, the use of a small amount

SAFETY is critical. All of the listed effective compounds are flammable liquid hydrocarbons. They must be kept far away from flames and other hot objects, especially during the drying (evaporation) stage. And the vapors are heavier than air, so space heaters are a serious concern.

of talc does indeed eliminate the stickiness, but when stamps are then hinged and mounted in an album and subject to the light but constant pressure that is on them within an album or a stockbook for that matter, the acrylic's adhesiveness will return and the stamp will be stuck to the page or the stockbook pocket. I believe what happens is that the adhesive very slowly travels and spreads over the previously attached talc particles.

The return of the stickiness is cumulative with time and not every stamp will display it, but most do and if it occurs, the result is obviously problematical. I have not been able to eliminate this problem other than using the technique also described in this article to remove the adhesive from the back of the stamp with a pencil eraser while the stamp is damp with the Bestine. Also, I would not recommend placing multiple self-adhesive stamps that had the talc treatment together in the same glassine or cellophane envelope — they will eventually all stick together like mint stamps with water-based gum in atmospheres of high humidity, especially if the envelopes are faced down and subject to pressure.

Dr. Reed E. Phillips
Glen Cove, New York

Try Mineral Spirits

In Peter Butler's October article, he discusses the use of "Bestine" and other hydrocarbon solvents to remove self-adhesive stamps from paper. I've tried

them and they work just as he wrote. A less expensive source of a suitable solvent is mineral spirits. This is a mixture of hydrocarbons having a boiling range or evaporation rate that is in the same range as the other mentioned products. Odorless mineral spirits is available at any paint store or paint department, at a very reasonable price. If you don't want to buy a gallon at a time, try charcoal starter fluid. This is mineral spirits used to light charcoal briquettes.

As pointed out, these solvents are flammable and should only be used in a well-ventilated place. I place my stamps in a wide-mouth jar to soak and then go outside to peel the stamps from their paper backing. The stamps are placed face down on a clean paper towel to dry.

Max Statman P.E.
Judson, Texas

Safety Concerns

Outside of the hyperbole in the title, Mr. Butler's article on freeing self-adhesive stamps was very interesting to this chemist. Unfortunately, there were two major omissions.

SAFETY is critical. All of the listed effective compounds are flammable liquid hydrocarbons. They must be kept far away from flames and other hot objects, especially during the drying (evaporation) stage. And the vapors are heavier than air, so space heaters are a serious concern.

On the other hand, many other

products should be equally effective. It looks like all you need is a colorless (so it won't stain your stamps) hydrocarbon or hydrocarbon mixture. Lower boiling points (such as the 100°C for heptane/Bestine) give faster drying but are more dangerous. Higher boiling points (such as the 176°C for d-limonene/Pure Citrus) give slower drying but are less flammable. In-between products include pure compounds like toluene and xylene and mixtures like turpentine and VM&P naphtha. You should find a few such products at any store with a full selection of paints — whether arts & crafts or hardware.

Harry V. Ellis III
Chicago, Illinois

Highly Flammable

With reference to the Guest Editorial column by Peter Butler in the October issue, "Bestine" is highly flammable and toxic. Sometime it pays to check things out. See the Bestine Solvent & Thinner Safety Data Sheet at the Ohio State University's College of Biological Science Safety Page (www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/safety/MSDS/BESTINE%20SOLVENT%20%26%20THINNER.htm).

Jerry Jensen
Bloomington, Minnesota

Not News!

I just wanted to mention that an article on removing self-adhesive stamp gum using heptane appeared in the Springfield-Delco Stamp Club newsletter last January. Rather than promoting a specific product, i.e., "Bestine," you could have pointed out that any brand of lighter fluid is also heptane or that odorless mineral spirits is essentially the same, is much cheaper, and works better.

G. Hulings Darby
(Retired Chemist)
Haverford, Pennsylvania

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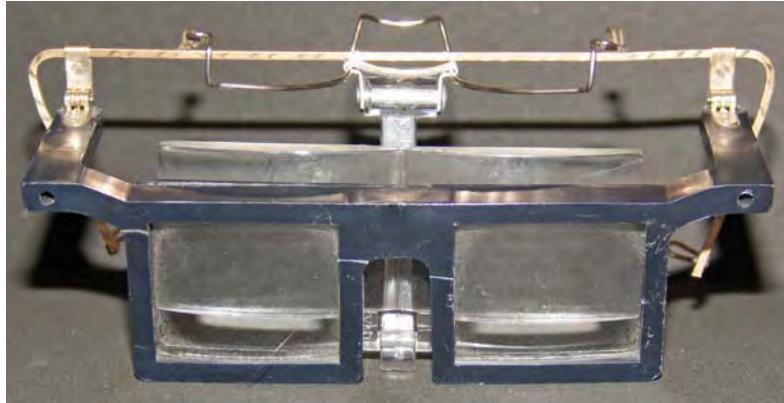
In Our Hobby They Can Be Both!

When our children were young and when they frequently played with items that weren't intended for amusement, we had the standard admonishment, "tools or toys?" So frequently did we challenge their use of items that this became a household mantra. Over the years, my wife and I have used the same question for each other occasionally, and it serves as a good reminder for many things. Some years ago, while working on my collection, I suddenly realized just how blessed we are in our hobby that many items we use are both tools *and* toys! Even better, there's a long history of stamp tools and toys.

Sometimes the best toys are simply antique tools of the past. Take for example, the item shown that dates from around 1915. It is a round, black watermark tray made of glass. These trays, once plentiful, are now fairly scarce, having been replaced by plastic. Certainly, as a tool the tray is still quite useful for its intended purpose and even adds an air of class to an otherwise mundane task, making it both a tool and toy. But the instructions, printed in the lid of the box, are pure entertainment for me.

While the technique is essentially the same, the recommendation to use benzene [sic], Carbona or carbon tetrachloride is a little dated. Although benzene is an organic petroleum distillate with a pleasant odor, it is a known carcinogen. Oddly, because of its pleasant odor, benzene was used as an after-shave lotion during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Carbon tetrachloride fell into disuse decades ago, because its use as watermark fluid (and inhalation) can affect the central nervous system, liver, kidneys and other organs. I don't know what "Carbona" is, but it was likely a brand name of some other hazardous chemical. I've heard there are watermark trays made of obsidian (volcanic glass), but have never seen one. One of these would be a marvelous thing to have.

Among my favorite types of toys are all kinds of magnifiers,



These magnifiers are all intended to keep a collector's hands free while examining stamps.



Black glass watermark trays are rarely encountered today and are fun to use, but the author finds the instructions for use with benzene and carbon tetrachloride extremely interesting.

one of the most essential tools of our trade. My fascination with these items began long before I collected stamps — perhaps as early as the first time I tried to fry a grasshopper with a magnifying glass!

About forty years ago, when I was a boy working for my father in his craft and jewelry store, I ordered a 10X triplet; that is, a fold-out magnifier protected by its own metal case. That item, which still resides in my pocket, has been my primary tool of choice over the years. Still, one magnifier is never enough, right?



It's interesting to see what collectors have done over the years — not only in order to see what they're doing, but to keep their hands free as well. To that end, items were created either to clip on to glasses or to stand free, allowing the use of both hands. Obviously, some work better than others. One intriguing item is advertised on a postal card: the "Kimac Master Electric Viewer." By simply plugging in this gadget (ca. 1947), one could see repairs, plate varieties, and even "hidden creases." Further, the comfortably large (three-inch) lens permitted "tireless two-eye vision." This baby, priced at a mere \$19.75 (almost \$200 in today's dollars!), sounds like a dream, although I've never seen the actual item.

Magnifiers can come in many different strengths and designs, but I find that much less than 10X doesn't allow the necessary magnification and more than 15X can allow you to see too much for everyday use. Illumination is helpful as well, and I find that magnifiers that include this feature can be a great help. The example shown not only features lighted magnification but also has a built-in millimeter gauge!

However, not all tools or toys are as practical as magnifiers. Illustrated is one of my absolute favorite more-or-less useless time killers, likely dating from the late 1930s to early 1940s. It is a hinge stacker! That's right, to speed your mounting of



The "Kimac Master Electric Viewer," advertised on this 1947 postal card, was supposed to be a wonder tool indeed.



A more modern tool, such as this illuminated magnifier with a built-in millimeter gauge, is very useful for a number of purposes.

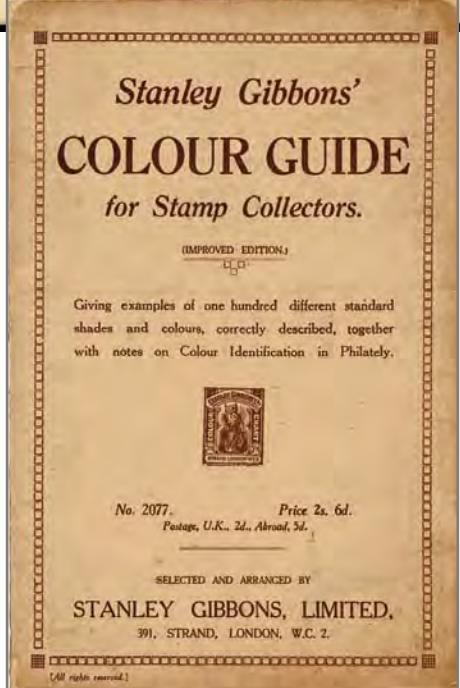


The Stamplift was designed for removing stamps whose colors might run from paper. It's also useful for unsticking stuck unused stamps.

Perhaps the height of useless but interesting philatelic toys is this 1930s-era hinge stacker. Hinges could be aligned and stacked, making it convenient to remove one at a time.



Of all the color guides manufactured, this one is the author's favorite. Stanley Gibbons created an intricate "stamp" design and printed it in 100 different colors.



Stamp presses were a very effective but somewhat labor intensive way to keep stamps flat while drying.

stamps along, all you have to do is empty a package of flat hinges, carefully get them all aligned, then stack them in this handy gadget for one-at-a-time dispensing. I can't imagine why this product apparently never caught on....

During the ensuing decades, more and more toys masquerading as tools were created for the hobby and, by the time the 1950s and 1960s arrived, there were loads.

Also shown is a gadget marketed as "Stamplift." In essence it is a form of sweat box: an interior pair of sponges (top and bottom) and plastic grate sandwiched between allow humidity to permeate a stamp in order to remove it from backing paper. Although some collectors routinely used these items for all stamp removal, they were created specifically for use with stamps whose colors bleed when soaked. They also are quite effective for removing stamps from paper and leaving most of their gum intact. There is at least one form still on the market, but I find the older ones the most fun.

Somewhat related to the Stamplift is the stamp press. This item looks a bit like something left over from the Spanish Inquisition. In reality, it's simply a small screw press stuffed with blotters. Soaked stamps are placed between the various layers of blotter paper and then pressed until dry. This keeps stamps from curling. Although the stamp press is highly effective, it is a bit labor intensive and its use has been essentially

supplanted by drying books, which can process larger numbers of stamps at one time.

Another interesting remnant of the past is the "Philatector." This item, originally created in 1915, was manufactured into the 1980s; the example shown is likely from the mid-1960s. The Philatector, created as a watermark detector, relies on a series of blue, red, yellow, green and violet filters to match and "cancel out" interference of a stamp's color, allowing the watermark to be seen. Although I've never found it to be particularly useful for watermarks, it can filter stamp designs out well enough to see cancellations clearly.

Color guides never fail to amuse me. These items have been marketed for well over 100 years and continue to



Although no longer manufactured, the Philatector was produced from 1915 through the 1980s. Its primary purpose was to detect watermarks, but it was more useful for filtering colors from cancels.



be popular. Countless types of them exist, ranging from paint chips on card stock to intricately printed stamp-like cinderellas. As a matter of practical function, there never has been — and likely will never be — an accurate stamp color guide. For reasons detailed in my November column about color and its highly transitional nature, philatelic color guides simply cannot be very accurate, other than in the most general sense. I've collected dozens of types over the years and find that my favorite was produced by Stanley Gibbons, sometime during the 1920s or 1930s. The guide opens out to a four-paneled strip, with special labels printed in 100 different shades! If nothing else, this is a beautiful item.

Finally, one of the best tools a stamp collecting boy or girl could hope for is a vintage tool that is now a toy: a Schermack stamp vending machine. I was able to locate one a few years ago. By placing a quarter in the machine and cranking the handle, the machine spits out stamps. I keep a coil of older stamps in the machine at all times and require most house guests to use the machine (I give them the quarter). Even most non-collectors find it amusing — or at least they find the eagerness of their host to make them use it amusing!

A vintage Schermack coil dispenser is one of the author's favorite toys. House guests are usually given a quarter and instructed to use it.

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Clarissa's Stamp Den

by Jessica Welch

Clarissa's stamp den is unique but cozy. Nestled under the stairs, there are no windows and no doors, the walls are lined with orangutan, dinosaur, and bird stamps from around the world. There is just enough room for her desk, a single floor lamp, and a rack to hold her stamps. It's a magical place that she and her sister, Linden, enjoy for hours and hours. What makes it unique? It's not a room in her parents' house, it's a room in her dollhouse.

I lovingly restored her mother's dollhouse for Clarissa's third birthday. The restored house was fairly traditional with a kitchen, dining room, living room, bedroom, nursery, bathroom and attic, although it was far from traditionally decorated. The furnishings were a blend of new and old. I made stainless steel appliances and countertops from cardboard and stainless steel laminate, laid tile in the kitchen, used pink, blue, and green felt as carpet, lined the walls with colorful paper, and installed flower boxes — just to name a few of the updates! It wasn't until this year, when the dollhouse was in need of repair, that it even crossed my mind to add a stamp den.

I'm not a philatelist so why a stamp den?

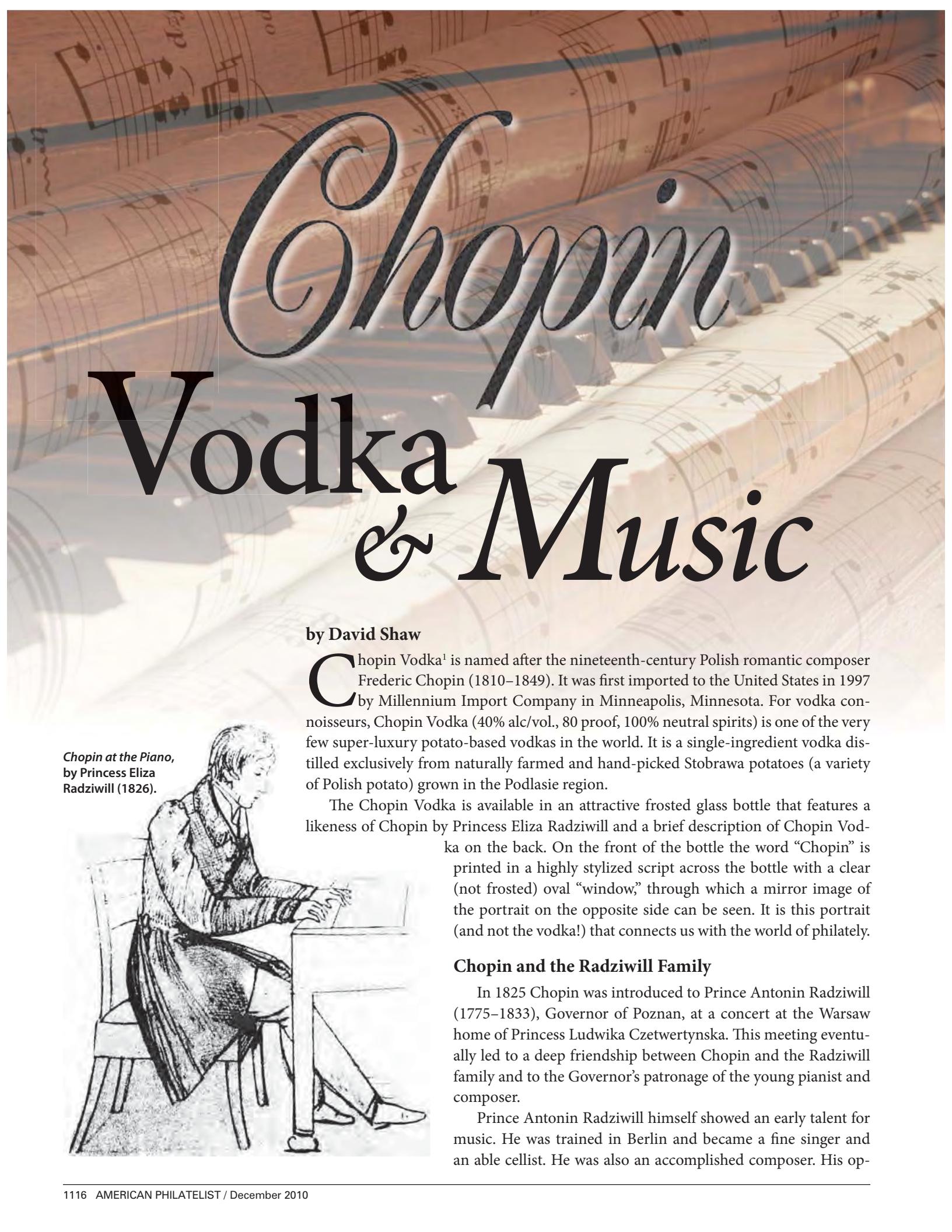
My father, Bill Welch, who died last September was an avid philatelist his entire life. When I was growing up he tried his best to bring me and my two sisters, Jennifer and Justine, into the philatelic fold but, alas, to no avail. I spent many hours with him in his stamp den. Unfortunately, my appreciation of philately is, well, limited at best. He would show me his philatelic treasures and I would say something like "Oooh I love the purple one!" or "This triangle stamp is awesome." Then in 2007 he invited me to accompany him to Bogota, Colombia for a philatelic exhibition. It was an honor for him to exhibit in Colombia and an even bigger honor when he received the Grand Award. That trip to Colombia is the best travel memory I have with Dad. I got to see first-hand his impressive Colombian Revenue exhibit on display in its native Colombia.

I still do not consider myself a philatelist but somehow, some way philately has entered my consciousness. And when it was time to do some more work on his now six-year-old granddaughter's dollhouse, the idea of a stamp den first took hold and then took on a life of its own.

It was with great passion and excitement that I restored the cozy nook under the stairs. I lined the walls with animal and bird stamps that I thought would appeal to a six-year-old and even went so far as to add stamp art work throughout the dollhouse. The large dinosaur stamp on the wall is in honor of Little Linden's dinosaur impression. She is just two years old and does the best dinosaur impression I have ever heard! Clarissa and Linden have been introduced to philately in an "out of the box" sort of way. Stamps are simply a part of the world in which they have grown up. Philately is not a foreign word to Clarissa, it is part of her lexicon. Her Aunt Dana and I have always sent her fun mail or packets of stamps as a way to introduce her to the hobby and to the world in general.

I hope Clarissa's stamp den is a conversation piece for this budding philatelist and offers her a daily reminder of her "Pop." Pop would be so proud that Clarissa and Linden have been introduced to stamp collecting. Will she grow up to be a card-carrying member of the APS? Only time will tell. Her one request for the next remodel is an addition with a laundry and sewing room — I guess I should start looking for laundry and sewing related philatelic material! Hmmm, maybe I'm becoming a philatelist after all.





Chopin Vodka & Music

by David Shaw

Chopin Vodka¹ is named after the nineteenth-century Polish romantic composer Frederic Chopin (1810–1849). It was first imported to the United States in 1997 by Millennium Import Company in Minneapolis, Minnesota. For vodka connoisseurs, Chopin Vodka (40% alc/vol., 80 proof, 100% neutral spirits) is one of the very few super-luxury potato-based vodkas in the world. It is a single-ingredient vodka distilled exclusively from naturally farmed and hand-picked Stobrawa potatoes (a variety of Polish potato) grown in the Podlasie region.

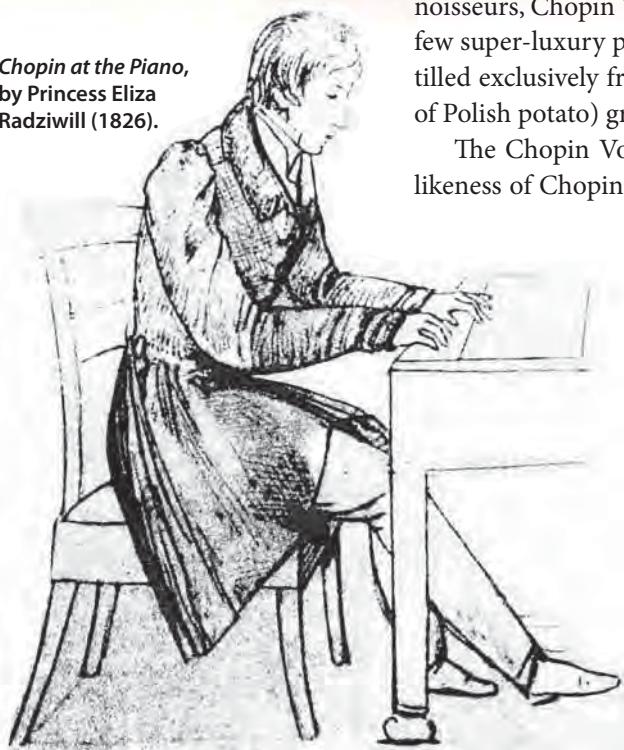
The Chopin Vodka is available in an attractive frosted glass bottle that features a likeness of Chopin by Princess Eliza Radziwill and a brief description of Chopin Vodka on the back. On the front of the bottle the word "Chopin" is printed in a highly stylized script across the bottle with a clear (not frosted) oval "window," through which a mirror image of the portrait on the opposite side can be seen. It is this portrait (and not the vodka!) that connects us with the world of philately.

Chopin and the Radziwill Family

In 1825 Chopin was introduced to Prince Antonin Radziwill (1775–1833), Governor of Poznan, at a concert at the Warsaw home of Princess Ludwika Czetwertynska. This meeting eventually led to a deep friendship between Chopin and the Radziwill family and to the Governor's patronage of the young pianist and composer.

Prince Antonin Radziwill himself showed an early talent for music. He was trained in Berlin and became a fine singer and an able cellist. He was also an accomplished composer. His op-

Chopin at the Piano,
by Princess Eliza
Radziwill (1826).



era based on the first part of the tragic drama *Faust* by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749–1832) was greatly admired by his contemporary composers, including Franz Liszt (1811–1886). At Prince Antonin Radziwill's Poznan residence, in the town of Antonin, he maintained a permanent string quartet, in which he himself played the cello at the weekly salon.

Prince Antonin Radziwill (1775–1833) also had two beautiful, elegant, and intellectual daughters: Princess Eliza Radziwill (1803–1834) and Princess Wanda Radziwill (1808–1845). The young princesses took piano lessons from Chopin, and each evening was turned into a family concert. Both princesses played the piano with genuine musical feelings, especially Wanda. According to Chopin, they were his favorite pupils.

The older daughter, Eliza, besides being gifted in music was also an accomplished artist. She kept a sketchbook in which she portrayed members of her family and friends. Eliza immortalized Chopin with two excellent pencil drawings, both of which are now in the Warsaw Chopin Museum.

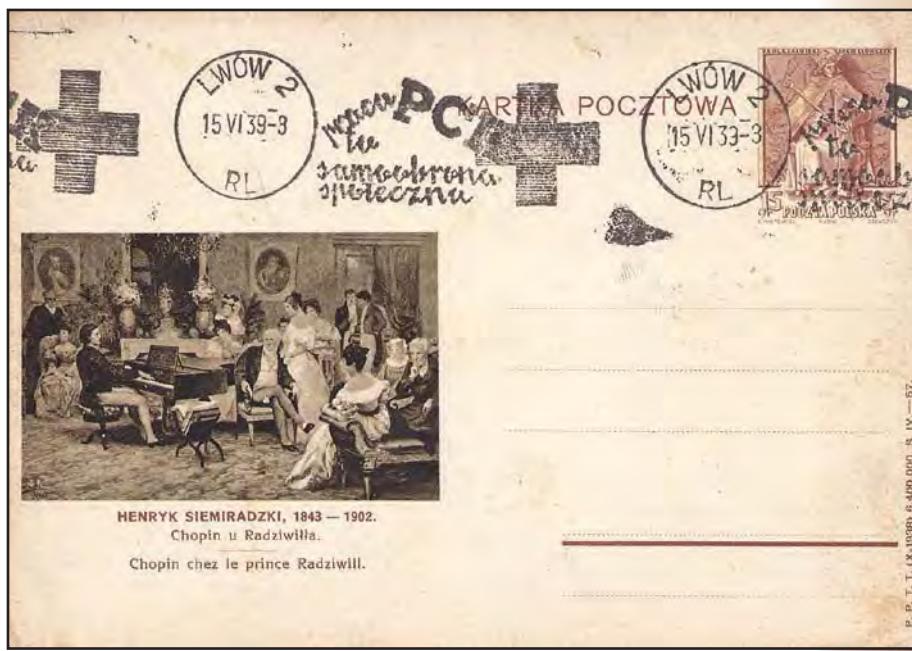
The first sketch, *Chopin at the Piano*, was drawn in 1826 (page 13 in her sketchbook). The second, *Profile of Chopin* (which was reproduced on Chopin Vodka bottle), is dated November 4, 1829 (page 32 in her sketchbook), the year Chopin graduated from the Warsaw Conservatory at age nineteen.

One of Chopin's early compositions, "Alla Polacca" for cello and piano, was written at the end of October 1829 when Chopin was a guest at the country house of Prince Radziwill. It was specifically written for the Prince to play with his daughter Wanda.

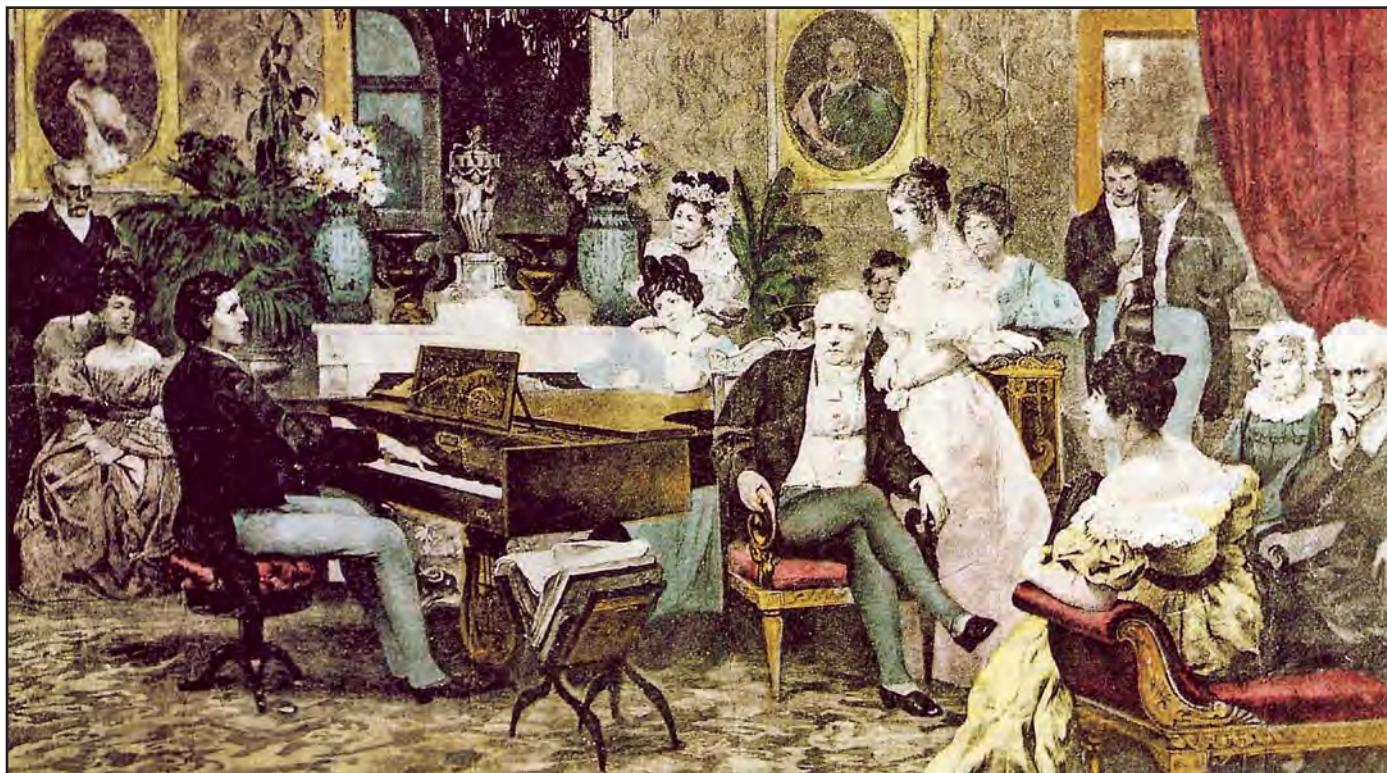


Profile of Chopin, by Princess Eliza Radziwill (1829).

Chopin Vodka bottle showing Princess Radziwill's 1829 portrait of Chopin.



Postal card issued November 11, 1938 featuring the 1887 Siemiradzki painting of Chopin in private concert in 1829.



A Concert by Chopin in the Salon of Prince Antonin Radziwill in 1829, by Henryk Siemiradzki (1887).

In a letter sent to Tytus Woyciechowski (1808–1879, one of Chopin's closest friends and confidants at the Lyceum) dated November 14, 1829, Chopin wrote:

I have written during my visit at Prince Radziwill's an Alla Polacca for piano and violoncello. It is nothing more than a brilliant salon piece for the ladies. I would like Princess Wanda to learn it. I was giving her lessons at the time. She is only seventeen [sic., should be 21] years old and beautiful; it would be delightful to have the privilege of placing her pretty fingers on the keys. But, joking apart, her soul is endowed with true musical feeling, and one does not need to tell her whether she is to play crescendo, piano, pianissimo, faster, slower and so on

In 1830 Chopin added an introduction to "Alla Polacca" and dedicated it to the Austrian cellist and composer Josef Merk (1795–1852), whom he met in Vienna in 1829, with a new title: "Introduction Polonaise Brillante in C major for Cello and Piano." It was published in 1831 and catalogued as op. 3.

In spite of Chopin's close relationship with Prince Antonin Radziwill, he dedicated only one composition to the Prince: "Piano Trio in G Minor for Piano, Violin and Cello, op. 8." The trio was completed in early 1829 and was first performed at the Prince's residence in Antonin, with the Prince playing the cello and his daughter Wanda at the piano, during Chopin's one-week stay there in October 1829.

On November 4, 1829, Prince Radziwill wrote to Chopin, thanking him for dedicating the trio to him:



Postmark based on portrait of Chopin from Siemiradzki painting.

I gratefully accept the dedication of your Trio which you are kind enough to offer me. I should even be glad if you would hasten its publication so that I might have the pleasure of playing it with you when you pass through Poznan on your way to Berlin. Accept, my dear Chopin, my renewed assurances of the interest which your talent arouses in me and of the high esteem in which I hold you.

Chopin was always an honored guest at Radziwill's salons. An oil painting titled *A Concert by Chopin in the Salon of Prince Antonin Radziwill in 1829*, by Henryk Siemiradzki (1843–1902), painted in 1887 after Chopin's death, exquisitely depicts one of these intimate soirées. In this painting, Chopin is playing the piano surrounded by his hosts and their guests. In the center, Prince Radziwill is seated on an armchair, with his daughter Princess Eliza standing by him and Princess Wanda behind her. Professor (Baron) Alexander von Humboldt (1769–1859, German naturalist, traveler and statesman) is at the far right. The piano that Chopin played is now in the Museum of Musical Instruments in the Market Square in Poznan. The painting is now in the Archiv für Kunst und Geschichte (Archive of Art and History) in Berlin.

The cachet for a 15-groszy postal card issued November 11, 1938 (Fischer catalogue CP86:57) shows the painting. The text underneath is in Polish: "Chopin u Radziwilla" (Chopin at Radziwill) and in French: "Chopin chez le prince Radziwill" (Chopin at the house of Prince Radziwill). The slogan cancellation, dated June 15, 1939, across the top of the card

reads: "Praca PCK to samoobrona społeczna" (The work of the Polish Red Cross is a social self-defense). PCK is an acronym for Polski Czerwony Krzyz (Polish Red Cross).

A special postmark dated October 17, 1999, canceled in Poznan was issued to commemorate the 170th anniversary of Chopin's 1829 visit to Poznan. The text on the upper rim reads "Fryderyk Chopin w Poznaniu" (Frederic Chopin in Poznan). The line drawing of Chopin playing the piano is a detail of the above-mentioned oil painting by Henryk Siemiradzki.

1848 Visit to England & Scotland

Chopin arrived in London on April 21, 1848 and subsequently gave a series of public concerts and private recitals at the homes of British nobility in various localities in England and Scotland. His appearances were considered great events in the musical world. During the three months he stayed in London, he gave five public concerts and three recitals at private homes. The grandest of these private engagements was on May 15 at the Duchess of Sutherland's Stafford (now Lancaster) House where Chopin played in the presence of Queen Victoria and her husband Prince Albert.

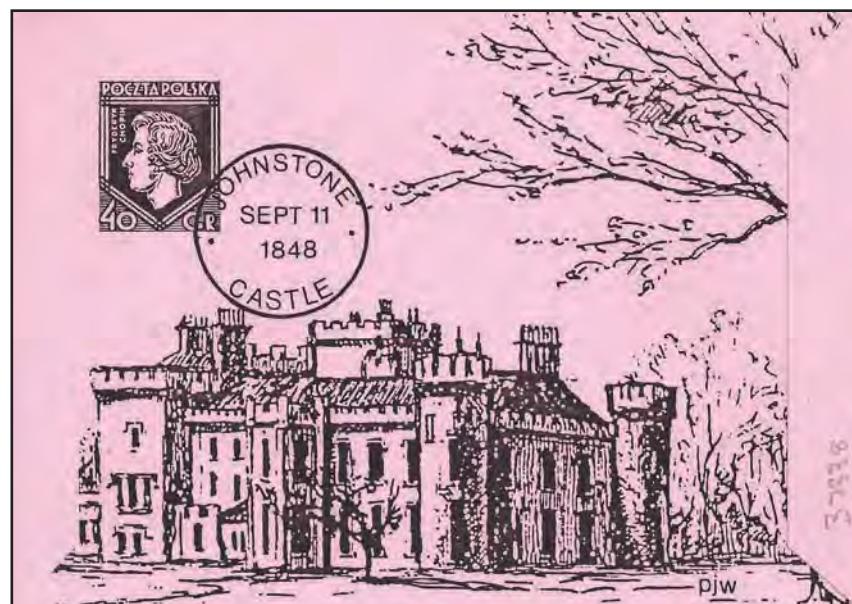
Another recital took place on June 23 at the house of Mrs. Edward John Sartoris (née Adelaide Kemble, 1814–1879). She was a famous opera singer, daughter of actor Charles Kemble and the younger sister of Fanny Kemble (1809–1893), the famous actress and anti-slavery activist. The June concert featured other musical luminaries. Singers included Giovanni Mario (1810–1883), an Italian tenor worshipped by London concert-goers, and Swedish soprano Jenny Lind (1820–1887), with whom Chopin had become acquainted.

On September 2 Chopin traveled to Johnstone Castle, some eleven miles from Glasgow. The castle was owned by widowed Mrs. Ludovic Houstoun (née Ann Stirling, a sister of Chopin's former pupil Jane Stirling²). Chopin stayed there most of the month of September.³

On September 27 Chopin gave a matinée concert at Merchants Hall in Glasgow before an aristocratic audience. All of Chopin's new friends came to the concert. He repeated his August Manchester program and was, again, well received by the enraptured listeners as well as by the press. After the concert there was a reception at Johnstone Castle. Many distinguished people of the vicinity were there, among them were Lord Torphichen (Jane Stirling's brother-in-law), Lord and Lady Murray, Prince Adam Jerzy Czartoryski (1770–1861,



Cover commemorating 175th anniversary of Chopin's birth and his 1848 visit to Scotland. Below: Back of envelope with drawing of Johnstone Castle and replica of 40-groszy Chopin stamp issued 1927.



Polish statesman) and his wife Princess Anna Czartoryska (1799–1864), and Dr. and Mrs. Adam Lysczynski.

A special cacheted cover from Great Britain was issued on September 27, 1985 to commemorate both Chopin's 175th birth anniversary and his 1848 visit to England and Scotland. The drawings of Chopin's birth house and profile of Chopin on the front of the envelope are identical to those on the Polish postal card mentioned hereafter.

The postmark, canceled at the Glasgow Philatelic Counter on September 27, 1985, shows a line drawing of Glasgow City Chambers (roughly equivalent to City Hall), located on the eastern side of George Square, the heart of Glasgow. The back side of the cover shows a drawing of Johnstone Castle, where Chopin stayed before and after the matinée recital at Merchants Hall in Glasgow and a faux postmark from the



Profile of Chopin on the 1927 40-groszy stamp is based on a bronze medal created in 1837 by Jean François Antoine Bovy. French sculptor Jean Baptiste Auguste Clésinger created a similar profile for Chopin's tomb in Père Lachaise Cemetery, Paris.

castle dated September 11, 1848.

The reverse also includes a reproduction of the 40-groszy Chopin stamp issued February 28, 1927 (Poland Scott 243) to commemorate the first International Chopin Piano Competition, held in Warsaw January 23–30, 1927. The profile of Chopin on this stamp is based on an uniface bronze medal (110 mm) by Jean François Antoine Bovy (1795–1877) created in 1837. It is now in Franz Liszt Museum in Weimar, Germany. In 1847 Bovy made two other medals of Chopin's head, one in bronze and the other in plaster.

Chopin's last concert in Scotland took place on October 4 in the Hopetown Hall (now the Hall of the Mary Erskine School) in Edinburgh. Again, the concert was attended by all the local aristocracy.

On October 31 Chopin left Scotland and returned to London. His health had deteriorated considerably. Despite his frailty and a fever, he gave his last concert on November 16 for the benefit of Polish Émigrés at Guildhall in London. Chopin left London on November 23 and arrived in Paris about noon the next day.

Death of Chopin

Less than a year later, on October 17, 1849, Chopin died of pulmonary tuberculosis in his Parisian flat in the Place Vendome at age thirty-nine. He was buried next to the graves of Italian composers Vincenzo Bellini (1801–1835) and Luigi Cherubini (1760–1842) in Père Lachaise Cemetery in Paris.

The monument on Chopin's grave can be seen on a Chinese lottery postal card from 2006. The sculpture depicts Euterpe, the muse of music and lyric poetry, created by the nineteenth-century French sculptor and painter Jean



Left: Ca. 1950 postcard with replica of *Chopin at the Piano*. The grand piano postmark was canceled in Chopin's birth house in Zelazowa Wola.

Above: Stamp issued 1975 to publicize the 9th International Chopin Piano Competition.

RONDEAU.



Left: Beginning six measures of Chopin's "Rondo (Rondeau) in C Minor for Piano, op. 1," published in 1825.
Below: Aerogramme issued May 25, 1970 to publicize 8th International Chopin Piano Competition. Portrait based on Radziwill's 1829 drawing. Chopin's manuscript of "Rondo in C Minor for Piano, op. 1" forms background of stamp design.

Baptiste Auguste Clésinger (1814–1883), son-in-law of George Sand (1804–1876; pseudonym of Amandine Aurore Lucie Dudevant, née Dupin), the famous French novelist and Chopin's lover. Immediately following Chopin's death, Clésinger made about seventeen sculptures devoted to the composer, including the monument on his grave.

In accordance with Chopin's will, his heart was taken from his body after death and brought by his sister Ludwika Chopin-Jedrzejewiczowa (1807–1855) to Warsaw where it was sealed in an urn entombed in a pillar of Kosciol Sw. Krzyza (the Holy Cross Church). The inscription above the pillar is an epitaph with a verse from the *Gospel of Matthew* VI:21 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

International Chopin Piano Competition

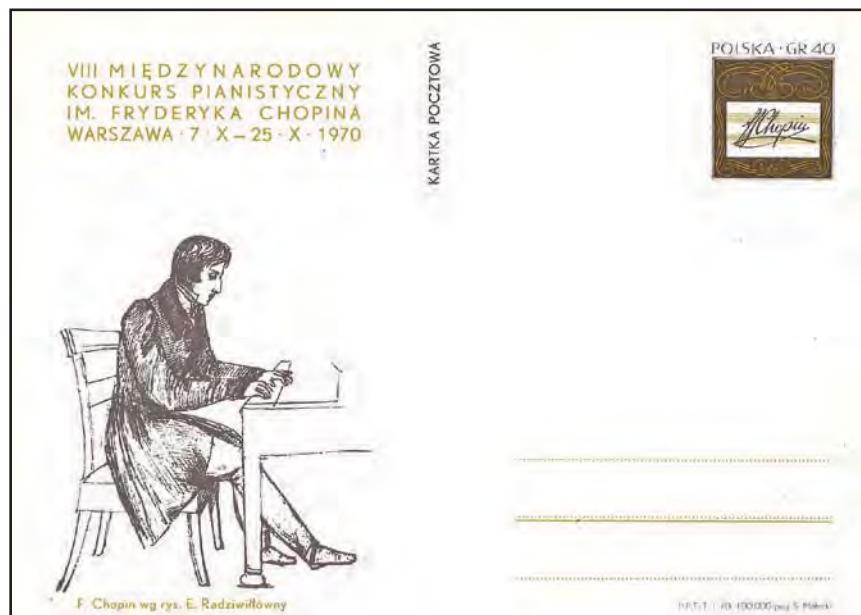
The idea of organizing an International Piano Competition devoted to Chopin's music occurred in 1925. The initiative came from Jerzy Zurawlev (1886–1980), pianist, pedagogue, composer, and professor of what was then called the Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw. After two years of preparation, when the President of Poland, Ignacy Moscicki (1867–1946), became a patron of the enterprise, all difficulties were overcome and the first competition was held from January 23 to 30, 1927 at the Warsaw Philharmonic Hall.

The resolution passed that year stipulated that the International Chopin Piano Competition was to take place every five years. The invasion of Poland by the Nazis interrupted the 1942 and 1947 competitions, but the competition survived the destruction of the World War II. The first competition after the war, held in 1949 and the fourth by number, was organized to coincide with the 100th anniversary of Chopin's death. As of October 2010, sixteen



such competitions have been held.

Princess Radziwill's two portraits of Chopin have appeared on numerous philatelic items associated with the international piano competitions. A postcard printed ca. 1950 in Warsaw shows a nice reproduction of the original *Chopin*.



Postal card issued July 28, 1970 to publicize the 8th International Chopin Piano Competition. The indicium shows a facsimile of Chopin's signature.

Right: Beginning six measures of Chopin's "Polonaise in F Minor, op. 71, no. 3."

Below: Postal card issued October 2, 1980 to publicize the 10th International Chopin Piano Competition. The drawing is of Chopin's birth house; the indicium features the 1829 *Portrait of Chopin*. Musical notation is Chopin's "Polonaise in F Minor, op. 71, no. 3."

Polonaise.



Stamp depicting Chopin's birth house was issued in 2000.



pin at the Piano. The stamp with label (Poland Scott 2125) affixed to the card was issued on October 7, 1975, to publicize the 9th International Chopin Piano Competition held in Warsaw October 7–28.

The portrait of Chopin on the stamp was based on an 1833 lithograph by Pierre Roche Vigneron (1789–1872). The label shows commemorative inscriptions on five black piano keys. You have to use your imagination to see the "white keys" on which the facsimile of Chopin's signature is printed between the E and F keys. The May 19, 1984, postmark in the shape of a grand piano, was canceled at Chopin's birth house in Zelazowa Wola, Sochaczew County. The text below the cancel reads "Kolebka Chopina," which means "The Cradle of Chopin."

A indicium on a Polish aerogramme issued on May 25, 1970 (Fischer Catalogue CK50) to publicize the 8th International Chopin Piano Competition held in Warsaw October 7–25 features both the 1829 sketch of the young composer, *Profile of Chopin*, and some bars of music. The vertical text on the two sides of the stamp reads: "VIII Miedzynarodwy Konkurs Pianistyczny im. Fryderyka Chopina — Warszawa 7.X–25.X. 1970" (8th International Piano Competition in the Name of Chopin.).

The music in the background of the indicium is the manuscript of Chopin's "Rondo (Rondeau) in C Minor for Piano, op. 1," published in 1825 by Andrea Brzezina in Warsaw when Chopin was only fifteen years old. Chopin dedicated it to Madame Linde (née Ludwika Nussbaum, the wife of the rector of the Warsaw Conservatory, Dr. Samuel Bogumił Linde, 1771–1847, a distinguished Polish philologist and lexicographer) with whom Chopin often played duets.

A postal card issued later that same year on July 28 (Fischer Catalogue CP451), also intended to publicize the 8th International Chopin Piano Competition, uses a rather crude version of Princess Radziwill's 1826 sketch of *Chopin at the Piano* as its cachet. The imprinted 40-groszy stamp shows a facsimile of Chopin's signature on two musical staves in a decorated frame.

Ten years later a postal card with a cachet featuring the 1829 Radziwill drawing *Portrait of Chopin* (Fischer Catalogue CP770) was issued to publicize the 10th International Chopin Piano Competition held in Warsaw, October 2–19, 1980. The text at the top of the cachet reads: "Zelazowa Wola. Fryderyk Chopin." The bottom reads: "Dom urodzenia F. Chopina" (Birth House of F. Chopin). This manor house is in the town of Zelazowa Wola, Sosnowiec County, about forty miles west of Warsaw. It is now known as Chopin Museum and is maintained by the Warsaw Chopin Society. The music on the cachet is Chopin's manuscript of "Polonaise in F Minor, op.71, no.3," composed in 1829.

A stamp depicting Chopin's birth house was issued April 14, 2000 (Poland Scott 3512), part of a set of stamps depicting Polish Country Estates. The text on the bottom of the stamp reads "Dwor w Zelazowej Woli" (Manor in Zelazowa Wola).

That same year (1980) a stamp was issued on October



Above: First Day Cover issued October 2, 1980 to publicize the 10th International Chopin Piano Competition. Chopin's name in cancel resembles piano keys.

Right: 1980 stamp based on portrait of Chopin by Jean François Antoine Bovy and contemporary, stylized willow trees.



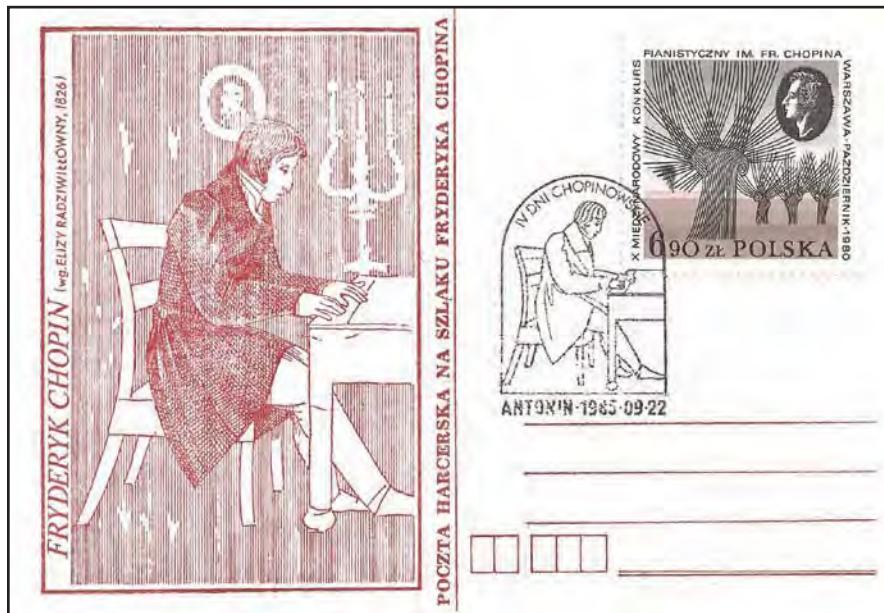
Postcard depicting monument of Chopin in Lazienki Park, Warsaw. Note the willow trees in the background. The photo above shows the trees and flowers in full bloom.



One of two known photographs of Frederic Chopin, taken by Louis-Auguste Bisson in 1849.

2 to publicize the 10th International Chopin Piano Competition. The cachet on the First Day Cover is an even farther removed rendition of Princess Radziwill's sketch of *Chopin at the Piano*. In the center of the postmark, Chopin's name is spelled out in a typeface intended to resemble piano keys.

In the upper right of the stamp (Poland Scott 2418) is a portrait of Chopin based on the bronze medal by Jean François Antoine Bovy shown earlier. The center design of the stamp shows four stylized willow trees in a barren winter



Privately printed postcard issued in 1985 continues to echo Princess Radziwill's 1826 *Chopin at the Piano*.

landscape, presumably the Lazienki Park in Warsaw where the famous Chopin monument by sculptor and painter Waclaw Szymanowski (1859–1930) is situated amid willow trees. To many Poles, a willow tree is synonymous with the Polish landscape. It is, in many instances, considered the semi-official national tree.

Chopin at the Piano Continued

A special privately printed postcard was issued in 1985. The vertical text reads "Poczta Harcerska na szlaku Fryderyka Chopina" ("Scout post in pursuit of Frederic Chopin" or "Scout mail on the trail of Frederic Chopin"). The arched postmark was canceled in Antonin on September 22, 1985, to publicize "IV Dni Chopinowskie" (The Fourth Chopin Day).

2010 Anniversaries Commemorated

The year 2010 marks the 200th birth anniversary of Chopin and the 16th International Chopin Piano Competition (held in Warsaw October 2–23). Poland's parliament has officially declared 2010 to be the "Year of Chopin." Celebrations span the globe, from Europe to Asia, including special concerts, exhibitions, and symposia. Incidentally, year 2010 is also the 200th birth anniversary of the German composer Robert Schumann (1810–1856).

The following countries have issued Chopin stamps to celebrate the occasion. Issuing dates are in parenthesis:

Bosnia & Herzegovina (October 18. Chopin and

Schumann)

Bosnia & Herzegovina — Serb Administration

(March 1)

Bulgaria (March 1)

Chad (March? Five mini-sheets)

Guinea-Bissau (July 12. Mini-sheet

of 5 stamps plus s/s)

Hungary (June 18)

Japan (November 19. Private stamp)

Macedonia (June 8. Chopin and

Schumann)

Moldova (March 1)

Peru (date of issue not yet known)

Poland (February 22)

Portugal (March 1. Chopin and
Schumann)

Romania (March 1. Two prestamped
envelopes and on epostal card)

San Marino (October 5. Chopin and
Mahler)

Serbia (March 1)

Spain (March?)

Uruguay (July 21. Souvenir sheet of
2 stamps)

Vatican (September 20. Chopin and
Schumann)

Vietnam (February 22)

Endnotes

1. Not intended in any way to promote alcohol consumption, nor to endorse Chopin Vodka, this article attempts to share a unique ephemera with fellow Chopin aficionados.
2. A wealthy Scottish spinster, Jane Wilhelmina Stirling (1804–1859) became Chopin's pupil in 1842 in Paris. She came from a well-to-do and prominent Scottish family. Her father, John Stirling, had acquired a great fortune in West India trade and then became a banker in Edinburgh. Kindhearted and gentle, she bestowed boundless admiration and devotion upon Chopin. By Chopin's own account, she was a very good pianist. In May 20, 1844, Chopin dedicated two compositions to her, the "Nocturnes in F Minor and E Flat Major, op.55." She was, to a large degree, responsible for Chopin's public appearances during his extended visit to England and Scotland in 1848.
3. Johnstone Castle remained in Houstoun hands until the early 1900s. During World War II, it was used as prisoner of war camp. Polish servicemen also were billeted here for a time. After the war, the castle was sold to the Johnstone Town Council. In 1956 the castle was declared unsafe and demolished to make way for a housing development. At present, only the central tower remains in the square and it serves as an information bureau.

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The Author

David Shaw has collected philatelic and numismatic materials related to western classical music/ballet/opera most of his life. He is retired from the Norlin Library, University of Colorado in Boulder. He can be reached at ddshaw69@hotmail.com.



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Origins & Destinations



by Charles M. Posner

I have become an insatiable collector of covers displaying the 1869 3-cent definitive stamp affectionately known as "The Little Train" (Scott 114). The attraction to me is that it was designed and engraved by the most consummate practitioner of the art at that time, James Smillie. The life span of the stamp was relatively short, and from mid-1870 it was gradually replaced by a more conservative and conventional vignette featuring George Washington.

Part of my obsession was to collect a stamp postmarked in every county of the northeastern states of the American union. I happily dedicated time and effort to searching for them among the offerings of the better auction houses, as well as by dipping into the ubiquitous \$5 boxes that one finds at many stamp shows.

I have now nearly reached my goal, missing only about fifteen counties. Three of these are from Pennsylvania (a state with sixty-seven counties), so I pounced on a cover originating in that state with a "Little Train" stamp but with an otherwise illegible town cancellation. My appetite was whetted by this challenge to my deciphering abilities. I hoped that with the aid of a powerful magnifying glass and a list of post offices, I would find one of my missing counties. Further, there was an enclosure, and the possibility of a letter or, more likely, a bill or receipt of payment in the envelope was an added bonus, because it might supply the name of the town from which the letter was dispatched.

So I happily, and expectantly, purchased a cover ad-

dressed to a Thomas Appleby in Mount Union, Pennsylvania. It proved to contain a letter, so I thought my task would be easy. It was not. The contents offered no clue as to the letter's origin. Above the dateline, where the name of the town or location is often mentioned, I found nothing more than the word "home." But as I read the letter I became more and more intrigued. The writer's words resonated on several levels, and my philatelic interest began to compete with my instincts as a social historian.

The letter was far from mundane, displaying an intimacy and a turn of phrase that was clearly the product of subtle irony and keen observation. It was most certainly written by an educated woman, who signed herself "Mattie," to what

seemed to be her beau, Tom. Mattie was a person of strong ideas and ideals who was not afraid to express them. Nor was she hesitant in delicately criticizing her Tom. Above all, she wrote openly of her feelings with an unexpected intimacy and insight. Such frankness and provocative turns of phrase might be expected from the pen of famous literary women of the nineteenth century who were known for their social commitment — like the Grimké sisters, Lucy Stone, or Lucretia Mott — but Mat-



Cover of letter sent to Tom from Mattie.

work, don't work too hard. I wish you success in business, and that this lot of goods may prove satisfactory, and your highest efforts realized. I know you would be pleased with your little niece, she is just precious & go more to fact & love, and it may be, give more to fact & love, and it may be, if you have not sent little shoes, keep them.

Our Father directs all our way, and will give us what is best for us.

Your nice little letter was read the other day, thank you for the favor. It may be as long as "decent" but not as long as I like. Am glad to know you got home safely, and are quite safe. You might contact color while I am out of fire, it was a terribly bad time Sabbath I saw the

afternoon of the 20th of October, 1867. I
say it is too bad to say, I am not
afraid of it, but it is very bad, and now it is
every body's business not to go out in
the evening, or at night.

Home, Saturday eve, Oct 27, 1867.

Dear Tom,

I can not shake off a

depressive feeling of loneliness. Can't account for it otherwise than that home is far, far away over the Western hills, and I can not expect him to visit me this evening, nor for many evenings, but I shall try to shake off the unpleasant feeling by writing him which is the next best thing to talking to him. He is well and it is not right that I should be sad and lonely, besides I know God would be sorry to have me feel so, or allow my thoughts to be so disagreeably employed, when I have so much to make me happy and contented. It is very seldom that I have the "blues"; I am very much inclined to take life as it comes, and hope always to be able to find some something no matter how dark the day. There is no good reason why we should ever be discontented.

is duty. I think Mr. Forbes was a man and zealous for his Master's cause had heard of the death of Mr. David

It was terribly sudden, and I am now warning to all to be prepared. He, all must have been a great shock. I heard she was the first to die. This Providence admonishes us again to be watchful. I am told that John of New Compton Mother & son the Mr. Peterson united with the church while Mr. McGinnis was living up there was here, and had their children all except the youngest. They were & perhaps Mrs. Peterson may have children done herself. Her son sent her little baby photograph. I did not see it one day she was saying it is pretty, has black hair & it is something unusual for a baby. It is very similar to mine after that one.

My dress on Wednesday, I am one. Come over tomorrow morning to church and I will wear in honor of the compliment, given yesterday, Mother's day at Dickiburg. Mother got her new calico dress pretty, price \$14.00 Please send me calico I want a new

white you had a pleasant weather has very favorable + all wonderful pleasant days are all I have

age 6. This sheet is full and

The enclosed letter.

Home, Saturday Eve, Oct 9th 1869.

Dear Tom,

I can not shake off a depressive feeling of loneliness. Can't account for it otherwise than that Tom is far, far away over the Western hills, and I can not expect him to visit me this evening, nor for many evenings, but I shall try to shake off the unpleasant feeling by writing him which is the next best thing to talking together. 'All is well' and it is not right that I should be sad and lonely besides I know Tom would be sorry to have me feel so, or allow my thoughts to be so disagreeably employed, when I have so much to make me happy and contented. It is very seldom that I have the "blues." I am very much inclined to take life as it comes, and hope to always be able to find some sunshine no matter how dark the day. There is no good reason why we should ever be discontented. Our Father directs all our way, and will give us what is best for us.

Your nice little letter was read this P.M. Thank you for the favor. It may be as long as I "deserve" but not as long as I like. Am glad to know you got home safely, and are quite well. I was fearful you might contract cold while here, for want of fire. It was a terribly disagreeable time, Sabbath. I see by the papers that the storm was general from east to west and many places sustained considerable damage. Appearances are favorable for another wet Sabbath tomorrow. My cold is better thank you, and my head much clearer than when you left. Sister Mollie is also better, but still looks badly. I have been trying to persuade her to go to the doctor. I think she needs medicine. And so the New Goods were on hand when you returned, and Tom was tired and didn't feel for working much I guess but a night's sleep would make him all right and he would be ready for duty Wednesday. I know you [...] be very busy all this week. Don't work too hard. I wish you success in business, and that this lot of goods may prove to be satisfactory, and your highest expectation realized. I knew you would be pleased with your little niece. She is just a nice size now to pet and love, and it may be, spoil. If you have not sent Kate's shoes, keep them until papa goes out next week. We heard that brother was up at the fair this week, but don't know for sure. If he was, he might have taken me along if he had ever thought of it. I have never been to a fair and it would have been quite a treat. I must try and brighten up my brother's ideas. I have no doubt the ladies vests you speak of are very nice & comfortable. Thanks for your kindness in offering me one at a reduced price, but don't send the article at present. I shall be glad to see samples of Dry Goods, shall expect themmy letter on Monday. I know you will be sorry that Mr. Forbes has left, for you liked him, and one will naturally become much attached to a Minister that tries to do his duty. I think Mr. Forbes was a good man and zealous for his Master's cause. I had heard of the death of Mr. David Peterson. It was terribly sudden, and ... without a warning at all to be prepared for death. It must have been a great shock to his wife. I heard she was the first to find him. Thus Providence admonishes us again to be ready, "for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." Mother says she thinks Mr. Peterson united with the church either while Mr. McGuinnis was living or when Mr. Morrison was here, and had their children baptized, all except the four oldest; they were but perhaps Mrs. Peterson may have had the children done herself.

Mattie Reese sent her little babe's photograph to her mother. Kate saw it one day she was in town. She says it is pretty, has black hair and eyes, that is something unusual for if either of the parents are red haired the child generally takes after that one.

I finished my dress on Wednesday. I am glad it is done. Come over tomorrow morn and take me to church and I will wear the new dress in honor of the compliment. Papa finished seeding yesterday. Mother and Kate were down at Vicksburg at the store today. Kate got her a new calico dress. I think it right pretty. Price 15 cts. Please send me samples of your calico. I want a new dress. Maybe I will be able to purchase a calico if I get it at its first cost. Hope you had a pleasant time at the fair, the weather was very favorable and I have no doubt all would be pleasant. Mr. Blair's folks and Mrs. Sipes are all I heard of going from Shade Gap. This sheet is full and it is time for me to retire.

Good night, pleasant dreams. May bright angels guard you through the quiet hours of slumber, and bring you safely to see the light of the blessed Sabbath morning. Bye bye.

Mattie

tie was a young woman from a small rural town, unknown outside the circle of her family and intimate friends. She had strong and confidently expressed opinions, and possessed a knowledge of the world that surpasses the expectations of the monographs and books dedicated to the social history of rural women.

Hence, the enigma of Mattie led me astray. My search for the point of origin of the letter was transmuted into a search for more information about Mattie and her Tom.

Most people who sent and received letters in the middle of the nineteenth century did not leave an easily discernable historical trail. Occasionally the Internet can help, but more often than not if we find record of a name it is no more than part of a long list of begats, sometimes with the added bonus of dates of birth, marriage, and death. And even these are far from reliable. Thus, I started my search without great expectations.

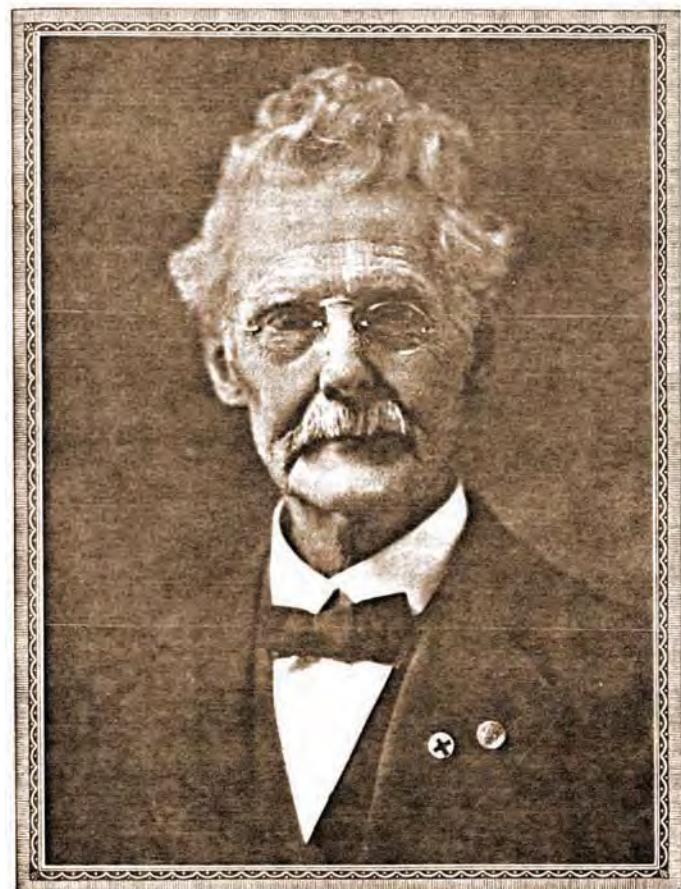
However, to my amazement, I found that the University of Michigan possessed an archive of 184 letters between Tom, whose full name was Thomas Alexander Appleby, and Mattie, born Martha Skinner McNeal. Their contents confirmed my hunch that these ordinary people were, in fact, extraordinary. I then found other letters, transcripts of talks, and even lectures and essays produced by Tom, as well as quite a bit written about both him and Mattie. Here are their histories.

Mattie McNeal was born April 23, 1842, the third child of James McNeal and Mary Glenn McNeal, both of whose families arrived as part of the first wave of settlers to what became the small farming community of Shade Gap, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania.¹ Mattie's father owned a farm just outside the village and Mattie grew up with a deep affection for her siblings, especially her two sisters: Mary Mustard (called Dutton or Mollie) and Catherine Campbell (called Kate). Her uncles and aunts lived on neighboring farms and the community was close-knit one until the Civil War. The effects of war itself and subsequent emigration to the West destroyed the earlier solidarity. Among her neighbors were the Applebys, and one of them was her near-contemporary Tom.

Tom later described the people among whom he and Mattie were raised:

They were in large measure the common people whom Abraham Lincoln loved.... They gained their living in those early days by industry and economy. Very little was wasted that could sustain life. Markets were poor, and little could be sold for money. Trade was largely the business of exchanging what one had for something else which the land did not produce.

Despite their relative poverty, the three girls were, perhaps unusually, as well-educated and literate as their brothers. Both Mattie and her younger sister Kate would become teachers. Initially, Mattie moved away to take a teaching position in Boonsboro, Maryland. However, as her relationship with Tom prospered she was loathe to be able to spend



Photograph of Tom as an elderly man (there are no images of Mattie herself, alas).

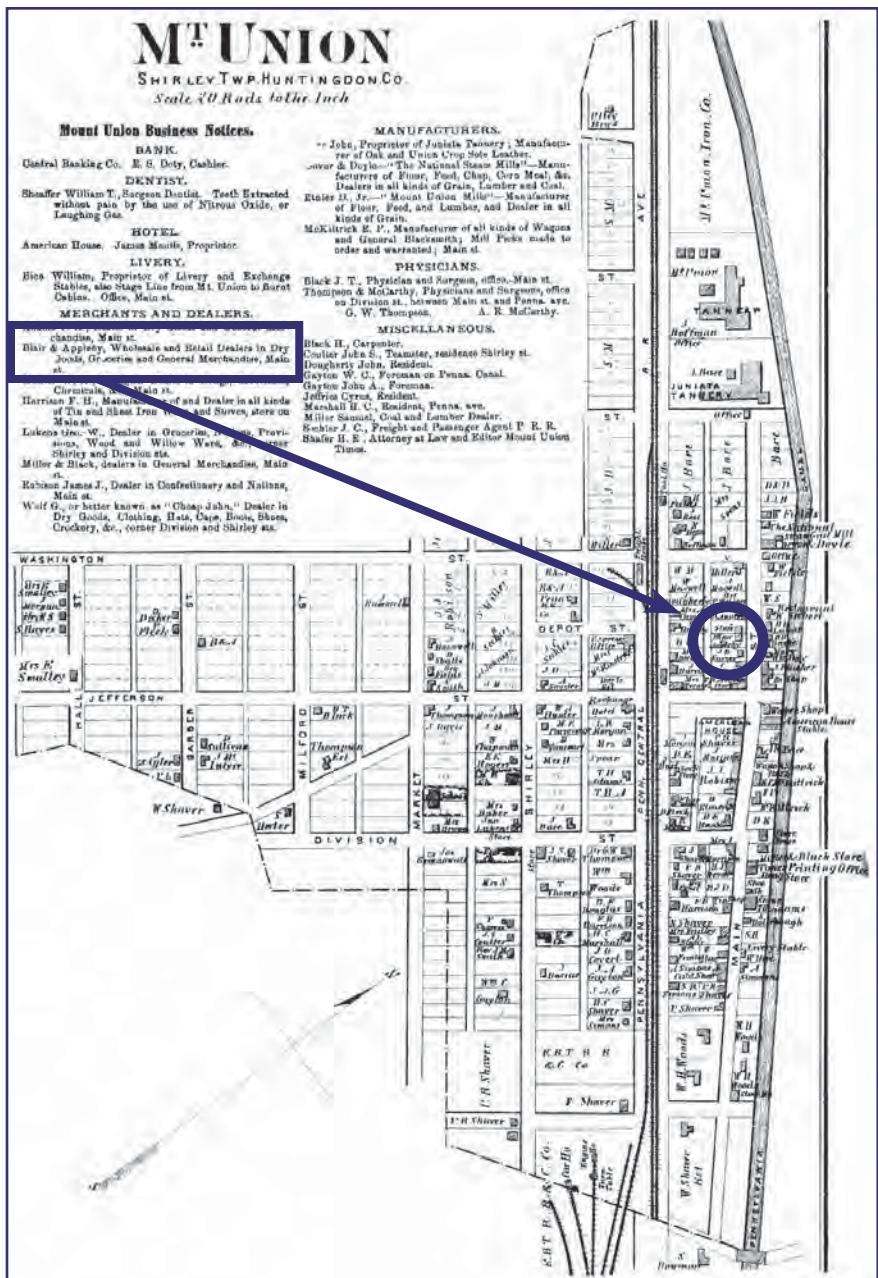
only the summer holidays with him, and she took teaching jobs closer to home. Her last employment was in neighboring Franklin County, a job she left after only a few months, declaring: "I am happy as a lark, lately released from prison." (March 31, 1869)

Thomas Appleby was born in 1843, one of five boys, at Pleasant Hill, Dublin Township, in northern Fulton County, Pennsylvania, a short distance from Shade Gap. He wrote of his family with great fondness:

[My ancestors] brought very little with them. A cow, a feather tick, a flintlock rifle, an axe, a pot, and a kettle; some flour and some meal; and if quite well to do a horse. Their wives were as brave as the men and as hardy....

They believed they could make a home where only the unbroken forests had reigned for a thousand years. They cut down the trees and planted corn and wheat and flax in their stead. They widened the trail that a wagon might pass; they bridged the streams; they built a log house so strong that it was home and fortress in one; they built a log church which was meeting house and school house, community building and sanctuary....

Ours was a very happy home, well-governed and orderly. Father was the ruler absolute, and mother was the good angel of the home. We were very happy until July 14, 1856, when father died from being kicked by a horse. Thus suddenly all was changed. We were orphans and too young to know what it meant. Through the goodness of our Mother and the goodness of God we grew up.



A contemporary map showing the location of the Appleby shop in Mount Union.

After the death of Tom's father, his mother dedicated herself to the farm and to her family. She never remarried. Tom's early school days were spent at the Milnwood Academy of Shade Gap, a preparatory school where he excelled as a pupil and became a friend of Mattie McNeal. Much to his family's pride he qualified as a teacher and accepted a job at the Weaver's School near Saxton, Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, a teacher's salary did not provide a sufficient income to provide the needed extra support for his family on their farm and the school itself was far away.

Following the example of his brother Daniel, Tom had volunteered to fight in the Union Army in 1864. He attended Abraham Lincoln's second inauguration and met Generals Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan. According to him, the experience defined the rest of his life. Decisions about his future could no longer be left to circumstance but had to be made

quickly. He became determined to find a way of providing himself with enough security so that he could dedicate himself to his religious beliefs and to his community. In 1866 he gave up teaching and became a clerk at a store in Shade Gap. A short time later he formed a partnership with his employer and opened up what was to become a large dry goods shop in Mount Union, a much larger town located about twenty miles north of Shade Gap. There he established his home, and in 1869 was named postmaster.

Tom and Mattie's voluminous surviving correspondence is a reflection of two young minds struggling to make sense of the tumultuous times in which they lived. Both were voracious readers and both were political creatures with strong views about the abolition of slavery. The area of Pennsylvania in which they lived had a strong percentage of "Copperheads" — northern Democrats who wanted the Union "the way it was," including slavery, in addition to native sons who chose to fight for the Confederacy. Their letters discuss the need to live somehow with those in their community who either were anti-abolitionist or else seemed hellbent on punishing the Confederacy when the war was over.

If the end of the war had left Tom focused on improving the lot of his family as much as possible, it seems to have left Mattie a fledgling feminist:

Men do well term all their weaknesses "woman like," when women would scorn to employ their minds for a moment with the narrow thoughts that men confine themselves to, not speaking of their degrading habits and vulgar speeches. (January 4, 1870)

Legally, women still remained little more than chattel. Only recently had the law come to recognize women's right to own property separately from their husbands, and if there were a divorce the husband usually had the right to keep control of their children and all joint property. Although they had known one another very nearly from childhood, as their plans to marry matured, Mattie had doubts. What if marriage transformed Tom, she wrote to him, and he became a philanderer like his brother? What if one of them were to die young?

I often wonder which is happier, an independent maiden, or a loving and loved wife. But guess Paul is about right, in his conclusion that those who marry do well, but those who remain single do better.

In a letter written July 25, 1869, Mattie further worries:

Hope neither of us may love an imaginary being of our own fancy, but each other as we are, with many faults and failings.

Tom and Mattie were married October 27, 1870 and she joined him in Mount Union. They had two children and Tom's business interests prospered. He became a prosperous merchant and ultimately president and director of the First National Bank of Mount Union. Tragically, Mattie's health quickly deteriorated, and after six short years of marriage she died at the age of thirty-four leaving Tom a bereft widower with two small children in his charge.

Mattie's younger and much loved spinster sister took charge of the two children, and two years later Tom and Kate married. They eventually had five more children of their own. Kate died in 1902 and Tom survived her by another twenty-eight years before his death in 1930.

Although Mattie died still full of promise, Tom went on to evolve from successful businessman to a writer who appeared in local newspapers such as the *Mount Union Times*, the *Huntingdon Daily News*, *The Twice-a-Week Republican*, and others, writing about the lives of what he called ordinary people. He was an elder of the Presbyterian church for fifty-seven years and clerk of sessions for the same period. He was the superintendent of Sunday school for fifty-nine years, served on the School Board Election Committee, and sat on the City Council. But what pleased him most at the end of his life was his work as a publisher, editor, writer, and historian. In 1928, at the age of 85, he paid the following tribute to his community:

We should know each other better. We are brethren of the same tribe. Our history is common to all. Our ancestors were good people and worthy of remembrance. Let us cherish their memories and practice their virtues. They were industrious and they were honest. This is our heritage and it is good, better than silver or gold.

Hence, my cover enclosed a letter written by a young woman, who would never have seen herself as extraordinary, to a young man who would become a historian of their world. There is a melodramatic aspect to Mattie's life. She died at an age that we now think of as young, before Tom blossomed. All of this I learned because I wanted to find out where my cover originated.

When you examine a cover, do not stop with discovering its origin, how it was postmarked, and its destination. Please try to remember that it once enclosed a part of someone's life. Each letter is a reflection of people's lives, their expectations and their aspirations.

So, when you examine a cover, do not stop with discovering its origin, how it was postmarked, and its destination. Please try to remember that it once enclosed a part of someone's life. Each letter is a reflection of living people, their expectations and their aspirations. There are many Matties and Toms. Their travails and their views of the world in which they lived enrich our understanding of the everyday existence of these people who made our modern life possible.

To return to my mania as a postmark collector, my research was successful in another way. I could now read the postmark! It was, of course, Shade Gap, Huntingdon County, where both Mattie and Tom were born. I already had a much more elaborate and "valuable" cover in my possession from that county, but it cannot match the value of the cover that contained Mattie's letter.

Endnote

1. Shade Gap is a short drive south of the American Philatelic Center. The town featured in a dramatic kidnapping on May 11, 1966 when 17-year-old Peggy Ann Bradnick was seized a by shotgun-toting man as she walked home from school with her five brothers and sisters. The abduction lasted a terrifying eight days, during the course of which the former mental patient, Bill Hollenbaugh (known locally as "The Mountain Man"), dragged Peggy Ann from hideout to hideout in the mountains around her home, eventually shooting and killing an FBI agent named Terry Anderson. Hollenbaugh himself was finally shot and killed, and Peggy Ann was returned to her family suffering only cuts, bruises and severe dehydration. A 1991 made-for-television movie titled *A Cry in the Wild: The Taking of Peggy Ann* dramatized the story. In a 1966 Post interview Peggy Ann said of her captor, "He was about as lonely as a human being can get. So he was fighting back in the only way he could figure out, trying to capture by force the human companionship he couldn't get any other way."

The Author

TCharles Posner is a professor of the University of London and an advisor in educational innovation to the Mexican government. His interest in American philately is the 3-cent stamp of the 1869 Pictorial series on cover.





A Philatelic Memoir

A Stamp Is Just a Stamp — Or Is It?

by John C. Chapin

For millions of people a stamp is just a stamp: you put it on an envelope, it goes out in the mail, and that's that.

Not really! Fortunately, there are also millions around the globe who know better. They are stamp collectors, and this is the story of one who learned many remarkable things and met many fascinating people during seventy-five years of collecting.

Life was very different in 1928 when my father one day came home from work and said to me, "Son, I have a surprise for you." Holding out a large package, he continued, "Here are a number of envelopes that have come to our office from abroad and here is a beginner's stamp album. You can learn from these." So I learned how to clip and soak, and had my first experiences with strange names like Sverige, Helveticia, Deutsches Reich, and Suomi. I was hooked.

Spurred by the desire to fill all those empty spaces in my little album — to the exhaustion of my modest weekly allowance — I was led to another new world called "approval sheets" with even more exotic names and pictures. Through school days I thus became familiar with a multiplicity of obscure places around the globe and their famous men and women, their buildings, their battles, their animals, and all the other subjects depicted on their stamps.

Next I heard of and acquired a reference book, the *Scott Stamp Catalogue*, and discovered still *more* wonderful, un-

Spurred by the desire to fill all those empty spaces in my little album — to the exhaustion of my modest weekly allowance — I was led to another new world called "approval sheets" with even more exotic names and pictures.

known places: Van Diemen's Land, King Edward VII Land, Tannu Tuva, Tacna-Arica, Rio de Oro, Vancouver Island, Scinde Dawk, and dozens of others — remote, intriguing, and stimulating to a young mind.

Then came a day I have always remembered: my father came home and said, "You better save this whole envelope," and handed me one with a U.S. stamp for the *Graf Zeppelin*.

This exciting series of experiences with stamp collecting was interrupted by a pattern that would be shared by many other young collectors: other priorities during college, four intensive, bloody years in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, then marriage and starting a family. But by 1950 I was ready to continue with my hobby. This was when my eyes were opened by an exposure to auction catalogues.

Now I learned about the all-important term "condition," the vital difference between "fine" and "extremely fine," the crucial variations in perforation count, the value of watermarks, and the importance of gum — all reflecting that important equation: "market value" vs. "catalogue value."

Over these years I developed friendships with the major auction house owners: Bob Siegel and his successor, Scott Trepel; Bernard Harmer and his son, Keith; Andy Levitt; Charles Shreve; Wally Mader; and Stan Richmond. I also was fortunate enough to get to know four of the greatest philatelic experts: Robbie Lowe, Raymond Weill, Mort Neinken, and Herbie Bloch — what a quartet of scholarly knowledge!

As it became obvious that a collection of all the world was impossible, I gradually sold off my serious collections of 20th Century United States, U.S. Revenues (with a perfect "Persian Rug"), Scandinavia (with the tough-to-find, well-centered first issues of Sweden), Hawaii (and the complex Numeral issues), classic French imperforate blocks (with those gorgeous colors), 20th Century British Empire and then the 19th Century (with the ruby brilliance of an un-cracked Scinde Dawk A3), and a specialized collection of the U.S. Pan-American issue (with sheets and all the invert).

Having started buying on a small scale in the 1950s, I was amazed at the rise in values as the decades went by. Thus I was able to rotate the income from the sale of one collection to build the next collection.

My learning process went on steadily; I became a Life Member of the American Philatelic Society, joined the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, was elected a member of the Collector's Club of New York City, and got involved with the Philatelic Foundation, leading to a 25-year stint as a Trustee. Attending meetings (when I could), listening to some really serious researchers and writers, and reading carefully the publications of those organizations, including the APS' *The American Philatelist*, taught me a lot. Then there were the commercial publications: the wonderful *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* in the old days, and then *Linn's*.

Other valuable resources were the exhibits at the national and international stamp shows that I had the good fortune to attend. These took me to Boston, New York City, Toronto, Chicago, Washington, and San Francisco. Who could forget the unbelievable material in those Courts of Honor!

In the early 1970s I was working with a Cabinet Officer in Washington, and he asked me to be the Department's representative to the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. This led to my being appointed chairman of the Philatelic Observance Committee. I was able to assemble an all-star cast of committee members — perhaps not well-known to the younger collectors of today, but power figures thirty years ago! They included Bill Amos, publisher of *Linn's*; Ezra Cole, president of the American Stamp Dealers Association; David Lidman, philatelic columnist for *The New York Times*; Harry Lindquist, publisher of *Stamps Magazine*; Jacques Minkus, president of Minkus Stamps and Publishing Company; a senior representative of the U.S. Postmaster General; a philatelic curator from the Smithsonian; and the presidents of the



July 4, 1972, First Day of Issue Colonial Craftsmen Sheet and American Revolution Stamp Album. As chairman of the Philatelic Panel of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, the author (shown) inaugurated both these items.



Collectors Club of New York, the American Philatelic Society, the Society of Philatelic Americans, and the American Topical Association.

We all went to work to reach the American people through stamps. Discussions with the U.S. Post Office and its Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee produced an annual flow of stamp issues. The first, an 8-cent stamp released July 4, 1971, featured the logo of the ARBC; it was followed by a series of colonial forerunners to the events of 1776. The outreach to localities saw Bicentennial packets being sent to 256 stamp clubs and a poster being displayed in 50,000 post offices.

When I left my pressure-packed job in the Federal Government, I felt that it also was right to resign from the ARBC. Then I was able to concentrate on my own collection: the 19th Century United States and British North America that I had withheld from earlier sales. Many times I was grateful that I had started so many years before when prices were a fraction of the values they rose to later!

A few of my U.S. single/pair favorites were:

- An original gum pair of the 1847 10-cent black, Scott 2, from the famous Caspary collection.
- A top left sheet margin pair with original gum, Type II, Scott 7 — the 1851 1-cent with the “Big Crack.”
- A used pair of the 1856 10-cent, Types I and IV, Scott 13 and 16, found amazingly enough in London.
- A well-centered, faultless original gum copy of the 1857 10-cent perforated green, Type IV, Scott 34.
- A similar quality 1862 24-cent original gum in the rare blackish violet shade, Scott 78c, ex Caspary and Lilly.
- The hard and soft paper Special Printings of 1875 and 1880, all well centered.

Some items I liked in the British North America area:

- British Columbia's 2½-pence, 1860, pair, original gum, left sheet margin with imprint, Scott 1.
- Canada Scott 4, an original gum block of four, 3-pence red of 1852, ex Hilmer.
- Canada Scott 9, the 7½-pence in a lovely green shade with original gum and full margins, 1857, RPS cert.
- Canada Scott 13, the 6-pence brown-violet, original gum,



Scott No. 1432 American Revolution Bicentennial, issued July 4, 1971.

well centered, 1859, found through a dealer in Paris, Bernard Behr.

- Canada “Small Queens,” 1868–93, the six subtle shade and paper variations of Scott 37, the 3-cent stamp, and striking imperforate pairs and blocks for the ½–10 cent stamps. The Canadian catalogue became invaluable! It revealed strikingly different values for stamps that were watermarked or had original gum or were never hinged.
 - Canada Scott F2c — a modest single, but a beautiful copy of the 1875 5-cent stamp with original gum and huge top left sheet margins and a “5” counter.
 - Newfoundland 1857–60, Scott 2–15, the pence issues, so elusive sound and with good margins.
 - Nova Scotia — the riddle of the blue shades of the 3-pence (Scott 2, 2b, and 3), 1851–53, and the violet shades of Scott 6–7 (British = “cold violet”)
- But, more and more, I developed an attraction to classic nineteenth-century U.S. plate number blocks, and over many years, I was able to gather together a substantial number — with patience and persistence as the essential requirements. Here, again, I had favorites:
- The 1-cent blue of 1851, Type II, plate number and full imprint, Scott 7, block of eight, no gum but one of only two known.
 - The 1-cent blue of 1852, Type IV, Scott 9, two original gum blocks of four, found ten years apart, which fit together perfectly to form a plate number and full imprint unit of eight, ex Klep and then Eno.
 - The 24-cent gray lilac of 1860, Scott 37, original gum block of twelve with plate number and full imprint, the basis for the Scott listing as “Unique,” ex Worthington, Ward, Sinkler, and Hill.
 - The 10-cent dark green of 1861, Scott 62B, block of four, no gum, plate number and partial imprint, with re-entry, ex Ward, unique.
 - The unusual 1867 original gum block of eighteen of the 3-cent with a strip of six on the reverse with plate number and full imprint, Scott 94d, “F” Grill, unique.
 - The well-known pair of the 1867 15-cent and 24-cent blocks of eight, original gum, plate number, and full imprint, Scott 98 and 99; Scott 98 ex Picher and Gibson, Scott 99 ex Worthington, Ward, Sinkler, and Eno.
 - The 1869 15-cent, Type II, never hinged, block of twenty, bottom right sheet corner, with plate number and full imprint, Scott 119, ex Ackerman, 1 of 2.

Like 99 percent of collectors' wives, mine looks briefly at an album page I have sweated over for years, and comments, “Oh, aren't they pretty.”

And there are others I could add.

As I was immersed in the search for these blocks, I was struck by the fact that there were no facts about the number of blocks in existence — only unsubstantiated claims: “rare,” “few known,” etc. This gap in accurate knowledge led me to a big project: I set out to assemble real data. Thus I began a multi-year effort to read through the auction catalogues of the major dealers, going back twenty-five years.

I found a wealth of information, but discovered that many plate blocks in the “old days” were not illustrated because their value then was too low. However, for those illustrations that were available, when their perforations were studied with the aid of a magnifying glass, distinctions could be made between apparent duplicates.

As my accumulation of data grew, some interesting things were revealed:

- some blocks had been sold three or four or five times;
- some were clearly unique, one-of-a-kind;
- some large multiples of famous past collectors had been reduced (e.g., the sheets owned by Col. Green);
- some plate numbers were much rarer than others (e.g., the scarcity of plate numbers other than Plate 10 of the 1-cent blue, Type V, 1857–61, Scott 24);
- the variations in rarity, which depend on color or whether it was a top or bottom block;
- the multiple provenances of certain key pieces, and for stamps that ranged up to 150 years old and had passed through previous collections; and
- the need for the acceptance of different standards of “condition” — perforation separations or thins or heavy hinges, so repugnant to collectors of more modern issues, have to be regarded as irrelevant when one asks the question, “When will I ever see this again?” Answer: “Never!”, so treasure it.

There were other data sources: the occasional obscure auction, inquiries to experts, and letters from a great number of collectors I didn’t even know that arrived in response to my published appeals for information — and these wonderfully helpful, devoted philatelists would usually add, “Be sure you contact X for further facts.”

When I finally had my data assembled, after years of research, I found that I had 524 listings, ranging from the 1851 1-cent blue, Type II, Scott 7, up to the 1882 5-cent Garfield, Scott 205. Because plate blocks after that became more common, I decided that Scott 205 would end the study.

At that point I went to the Collectors Club of New York,

Finally the day came when I stepped back and took an objective look at collecting. I had been involved with stamps for seventy-five years, following my hobby intensively for the last fifty years. It had been a continuous learning experience, bringing me great pleasure.

and they agreed to publish my *Census of U.S. Classic Plate Blocks*, with each listing in chronological order by Scott number and giving full details about each item: size, gum, imprint, auction transactions, provenance, etc. It was exciting when I finally held the completed book in my hand!

For five subsequent years, I did an annual update of new data, which the Club published. By then I was starting to see in some auction catalogue descriptions, “Chapin Census Number xyz” — very satisfying!

As the years rolled by, I had a variety of experiences in auction telephone bidding. In some instances, the excitement of acquiring an item I was missing (but at a reasonable price), and sometimes the disappointment when I lost out when the price rose to what I knew was too high an amount (i.e., proper market value vs. *Scott Catalogue* value).

Finally the day came when I stepped back and took an objective look at collecting. I had been involved with stamps for seventy-five years, following my hobby intensively for the last fifty years. It had been a continu-

ous learning experience, bringing me great pleasure as I came to recognize the crucial differences that came from variations in paper, printing, gum, perforations, etc. Then there was the enormous range of geography and history that stamps had taught me. Added to these assets were the people I had come to know — such as George Holschauer, pipe smoking, gregarious expert on the issues of the British Empire; Cal Hahn, acerbic author of countless articles, a fount of obscure information; lovely Tracy Shreve, auctioneer extraordinaire; Liz Pope, philatelic sparkplug of St. Louis and winner of numerous awards; and a long line of committed men who served with me at the Philatelic Foundation, such as Lou Grunin, John Boker, Kelly Stryker, and my recruit, Thurston Twigg-Smith (Mr. Hawaii).

I thought of the superior men and companies with whom I had dealt but never met in person, because they were located in London, Paris, Geneva, Toronto, and Sydney, Australia.

I gave thanks that, over all the years, I had managed to avoid the overwhelming task of collecting covers; my pleasure was found in the pristine colors of unused stamps. There was one exception to that, however. The school I went to before college



Scott No. 1474 Stamp Collecting, issued November 17, 1972.

The final outcome of my objective review of collecting was that, in my mid-eighties, I decided it was time to retire. It was not an easy task to write those letters that said "Take me off your mailing list," and I miss all those wonderful people I knew, but I did end my collecting with happy memories!

had been in business for a very long time, and I was once able to help it on a project. The headman wrote a nice letter of thanks and then added, "I know you have this curious hobby of stamp collecting and here is a souvenir for you from our early files." It was a flawless cover with a superb, four-margin, 1847 U.S. Scott 1, perfectly tied with a New York red grid cancel!

An episode of a different nature was my purchase of a lovely 3-cent 1875 Reissue (Scott 125) of the 1869 3-cent (Scott 114), a much rarer stamp than the original. When a certificate proved that it was the common 1869 stamp, I returned it to the auctioneer for a refund, No reply. Letters, phone calls — no refund. Finally, when I said I was going to the Licensing Office of the State of New York, he reluctantly returned my money. Now he is long dead.

Other episodes were light-hearted domestic ones. Like 99 percent of collectors' wives, mine looks briefly at an album page I have sweated over for years, and comments, "Oh, aren't they pretty." But I evened the score! She is a very fine painter, so I casually toss into an examination of one of her paintings color terms that are so familiar to me: ocher, bistre, Prussian blue, lake, puce, etc.

Well, the final outcome of my objective review of collecting was that, in my mid-eighties, I decided it was time to retire. It was not an easy task to write those letters that said "Take me off your mailing list," and I miss all those wonderful people I knew, but I did end my collecting with happy memories!

Once the stream of auction catalogues, the buying and selling, and the farewells had ended, one big problem remained: the

disposition of the collection. This provided an interesting challenge. Fortunately, I had made plans more than twenty years earlier. I had met with a small group of professionals in law, tax, and finance, and this resulted in the formation of a Sub-chapter S Corporation, the Green Mountain Co. (later GMC), named in honor of my home state of Vermont. A board of directors was organized and, since I had a long experience with the complexities of serious philately, I was elected president.

Our first action was the gift of the collection to the corporation, in return for which I was given the 5,000 shares of stock it had. Then began an annual process of regular appraisals of market value; based on that, the directors at their annual meeting voted to allocate a set number of shares to each of my children. By the late 1990s they owned 4,998 of the shares, leaving me with two.

The directors then voted to sell the collection, and I was asked to manage that. To this end I wrote a contract with an agent, one who had been involved with philately for many years and who knew well the key dealers and auctioneers. Most important of all, he was a friend whom I fully trusted to carefully represent the best interests of GMC.

So he picked up the collection from my bank vault, arranged generous publicity for the sale, and hosted a series of visits by potential buyers who wanted to make a detailed examination of the stamps. As one might suspect, there was a frequent exchange of letters and phone calls between the two of us during this process. This included having to arrive at a minimum price for a collection that had been built as a result of fifty years of effort, and contained some wonderful stamps and unique plate blocks. One nice thing was a souvenir he prepared for each of my children: a color reproduction of every page in the collection.

The conclusion came when each interested buyer was required to submit a sealed, written bid for the whole collection as a unit by a deadline. On that day eight envelopes lay before me, and, with an expectant and excited heart, I opened them. There was a considerable range of dollars offered, with a couple close to the top bid, but there was a clear winner, whose bid I knew was fair to the stockholders of GMC. So I phoned him, and he picked up the collection. Then, with some sorrow, my hobby of all those years went away forever — but my children benefitted, and that is worth something, too!

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Uncovering History from a Postcard

by Yechiel M. Lehavy

One day I was going through my German stamp collection and a few words in Hebrew on a postcard from an obscure town called Tuchel caught my eye. The card is franked with a half-groschen German stamp (Scott 16). I had passed over this intriguing item many times before, not realizing the wealth of information a person can uncover from an old, previously overlooked postcard.

The first problem I faced was that no one had ever heard of a Jewish community in Tuchel. I contacted Yad Vashem — the Jewish Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem — and the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv, both in Israel, and was given more paths to follow. But I still had no hard evidence in hand, besides my postcard. It was this that led me to engage in a full search for Tuchel's Jewish history.

The Postcard

The postcard was mailed by a rabbi from Tuchel, East Prussia — nowadays Tuchola, Poland — to Berlin on July 29, 1872. The card also has a Jewish year date of 5,633 written in Hebrew תרל"ג. The postcard is addressed to a second-hand or antiquarian book seller, by the name of H. Wormann. It is signed by Dr. Grünfelled, Rabbi. The card is handwritten in Old German but doesn't always employ the proper German spelling. For example, the Rabbi's name is spelled with a double letter "L" — Grünfelled — rather than the normal spelling of the suffix "feld." The message is primarily religious in nature. The rabbi is asking for information on the following items and their prices:

1. Phylacteries and phylacteries straps for his sons¹

תפילין ודוצעות תפילין

2. A box of citrons

אתדוגים

3. A book on mortuary practices

מعبد יבוק

4. Door posts

מזרוחות

5. A good sermon book

The religious requests are written in German with the Hebrew equivalents inserted into the text.

The Jewish Community of Tuchel

Tuchel is a small East European town whose geopolitical affiliation has changed a number of times. In the nineteenth century it was a part of Prussia but, following World War I, Tuchel became part of Poland and its name was changed to Tuchola. In September 1939 Nazi Germany overran Poland, and Tuchel became part of German territory once more. After World War II it reverted back to Poland and resumed the name of Tuchola. The town lies southwest of Danzig (today's Gdansk) Poland.

Although Jews were forbidden to live in the Kingdom of Prussia, it seems that their presence in Tuchel was tolerated, perhaps because there were so few of them. The first account of a Jewish presence in Tuchel is found in a list of residents maintained in the Tuchel castle.² The 1727 document lists two Jews: "der Blinde Jude" (which can mean both "the blind Jew" and "the hidden Jew") and "der Cerulik Jude ("the physician Jew"). A 1736 document noted that a Jew by the name of Salomon Salmonowicz was rumored to live in the town. By 1767 a church inquiry reported that the number of Jews was now up to thirty-three (Szwankowski, 1992). The number of Jewish residents continued to grow: within fifty years the total had risen to 321 (according to an 1813 report).

After Napoleon's conquest, conditions started to improve for all Prussian citizens,



Front and back of postcard mailed from Tuchel, Prussia, in 1872.



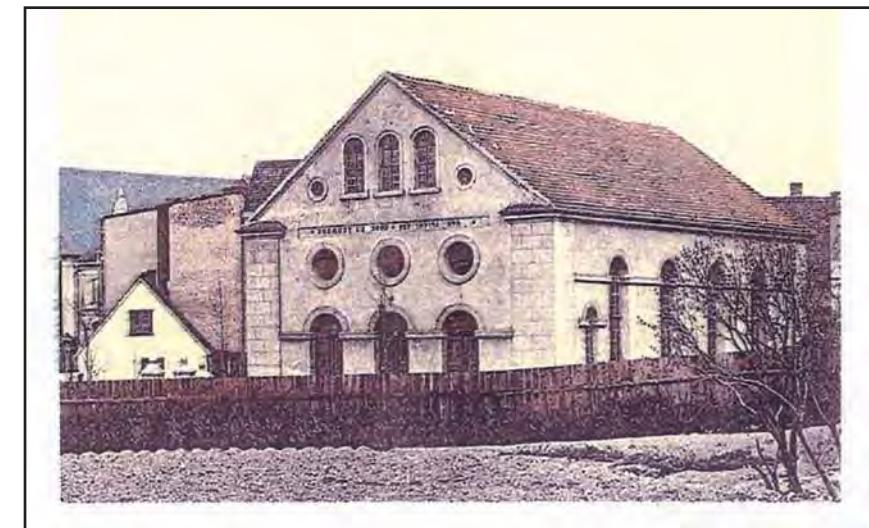
including the Jews. This continued during the reign of King Friedrich William II, Friedrich the Great. People throughout Prussia were granted the freedom to worship as they chose. Every sphere of life became open to Jewish citizens. The entire social spectrum changed, and many Jews moved from being small shop keepers and peddlers to full participation in the economic life of Germany. Finally, in 1871, the German Empire formally granted basic religious freedom to the Jews. The postcard sent by Rabbi Grunfelled was written in 1872, a year after this religious emancipation. Throughout Germany Jews would experience a period of equality that lasted from 1848 until the rise of Nazi Germany in 1933.

It was during this time that Tuchel witnessed a growth of its Jewish population. A synagogue was built between 1844–1848 and stood until September 1939, when it was burned by the Nazis. An 1876 town census report listed a total population of 2,776 — of which 956 were Jews, 904 Catholics, and about the same number Protestants. A Jewish cemetery was established in the town.

By the end of the nineteenth century, however, the internal migration patterns throughout Eastern Europe changed as people moved to the cities in response to new economic opportunities. Tuchel reflected this change as well, particularly with reference to its Jewish population: by 1885 Jews only numbered 576 people out of a total population of 3,061. In Tuchel, however, this trend was further acerbated by a blood libel. A local student was found murdered and his body was reported to have been drained of blood. Several Jewish butchers from the area were arrested and accused of murdering the young man for religious rituals, among them a butcher from Tuchel (Wesler Smith, 2002).

The migration away from the small town accelerated following World War I, when Tuchel again became a part of Poland. Local Jews identified themselves as part of the German culture rather than the Polish and so chose to leave their homes in the once again renamed Tuchola. In 1932, just prior to the rise of Nazi Germany, there were only 118 Jews left in the village (*Pinkas Hakehilot*, Vol. VI).

On September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland, and Tuchel changed hands once more. Right after the conquest, the remaining forty-six Jews, those who had not fled, were arrested; towards the end of September all were shot to death. The synagogue was burned; the cemetery was vandalized and completely destroyed. Nowadays there remains no trace of either in the town (Simon Wiesenthal, 2001–2002). The only thing that remains from the small Jewish community in Tuchel is the *Kether* (also *Keter*) *Torah*, also known as the “Crown of the Law” — an ornamental “crown” usually in silver, gilt, or even gold that is made to fit over the upper



The Tuchel synagogue before its destruction by the Nazis in 1939.

ends of the scroll rollers when the *Torah* is closed. The *Torah* Crown was given to the Jewish Museum Berlin by Ms. Emma Selbiger, one of the handful of Tuchel Holocaust survivors.

Acknowledgment

I wish to thank Mr. Gerd Stoltz of Kiel, Germany, who transliterated the old “Gothic” German on the postcard into modern German.

Endnotes

1. Religious item worn by observant Jews during morning services, except Saturdays. It consists of a written scripture passage inside a small leather box that is strapped to the forehead and arm and worn throughout the service.

2. According to the document the two Jews were the “property” of the castle — they belong “zum Tuchler Schloss gehorte.” They lived in the town (*Tuchler Burgschaft*) or in the district (*Tuchler Gebiet*). Jews at that time were not free; they were “Schutz Juden,” or protected Jews who belonged to the castle lords.

References

Simon Wiesenthal Center Reports. *Efforts To Prosecute Nazi War Criminals*, January 1, 2001–March 31, 2002; *Districts of Poznan and Pomerania, Gdańsk* (Institute of National Remembrance, Jerusalem). See www.ipn.gov.pl/wai/en/20/53 for online text.

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Walser Smith, Helmut. *Murder and Anti-Semitism in a German Town* (W.W. Norton & Co., New York/London, 2002).

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The Author

Tyechiel M. Lehavy is a retired college professor who taught anthropology, geography, and sociology at Atlantic Cape Community College for thirty-five years. As an archaeologist he excavated in Israel and Cyprus (where he was the principal investigator at the Neolithic site of Dhali-Agridhi). He has collected stamps since the age of ten. His main areas of interest are Palestine, Israel, the postal history of the Holy Land, and everything that has to do with Judaica and Israel.

American History Meets N.Y. Giants Baseball, 1908



"Our 25 Presidents," culminating with "T.R." — Theodore Roosevelt.

by Rick Herman

I recently "discovered" a gem of a picture postcard. Actually, I have owned it for nearly fifty years. It was one of a large group of late nineteenth and early twentieth-century postcards I had received in a trade for Indian Head pennies. I had always considered it the worst trade I ever made; I was about fourteen years old.

This long-neglected Teddy Roosevelt/"Matty" card is the sole survivor of the dozens I'd received in the trade. The design side included portraits of "Our 25 Presidents" and the years they served. Theodore Roosevelt was the twenty-fifth president, and "T.R." was president in 1908, the year of our tale.

The postcard was addressed to "Mr. A. Laviolette¹ / Yulan / Sullivan Co. / Box 7 N.Y." It had been machine cancelled on September 18, 1908, at 8 p.m., at the Hudson Terminal Station, New York. A 1-cent Franklin (Scott 300b) paid the postcard rate during that era. A hand cancel indicates that the card was received at Yulan, New York (in the Catskills) the following day, September 19.

An intriguing note from the sender, "El," at the top margin of the card reads "Note Pst. Mark." Perhaps this indicated that El would depart from a Hudson River pier to upstate New York to visit Mr. Laviolette or the track at Saratoga, or maybe he was about to take a sea cruise departing from New York City.

The dog-eared card had been archived with other patriotic covers in my collection. The artwork and American History theme were the reasons I had retained it.

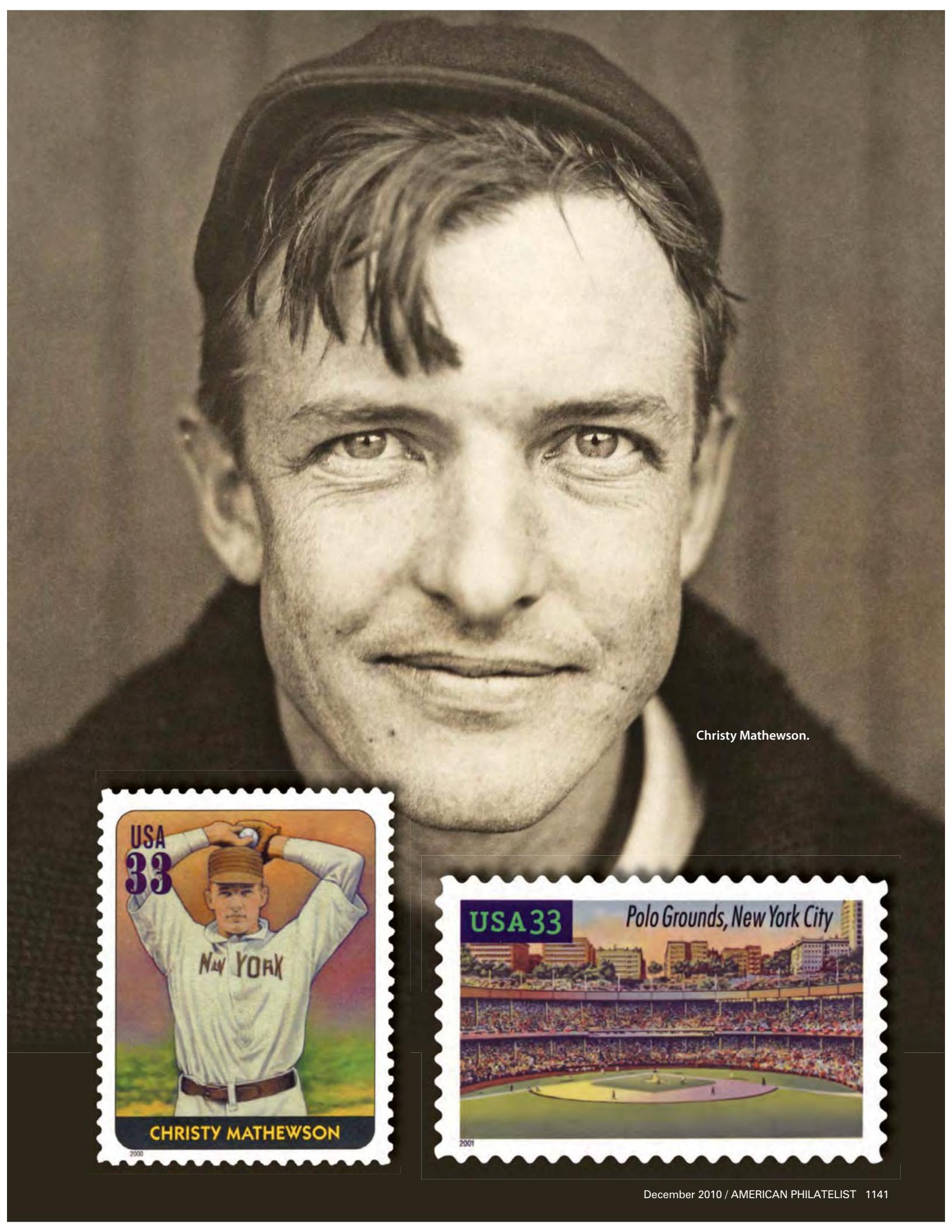
Upon a recent re-examination, however, I noticed the message side of the card and its baseball story. El had just watched Christy

Mathewson, or "Matty" — college man, gentleman, later an officer and veteran of the Great War and the first pitcher ever elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame — pitch a game for the New York Giants.

Fascinated by this tidbit, I wanted to learn more. As a visitor and "Friend" of the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, I was able to use its research

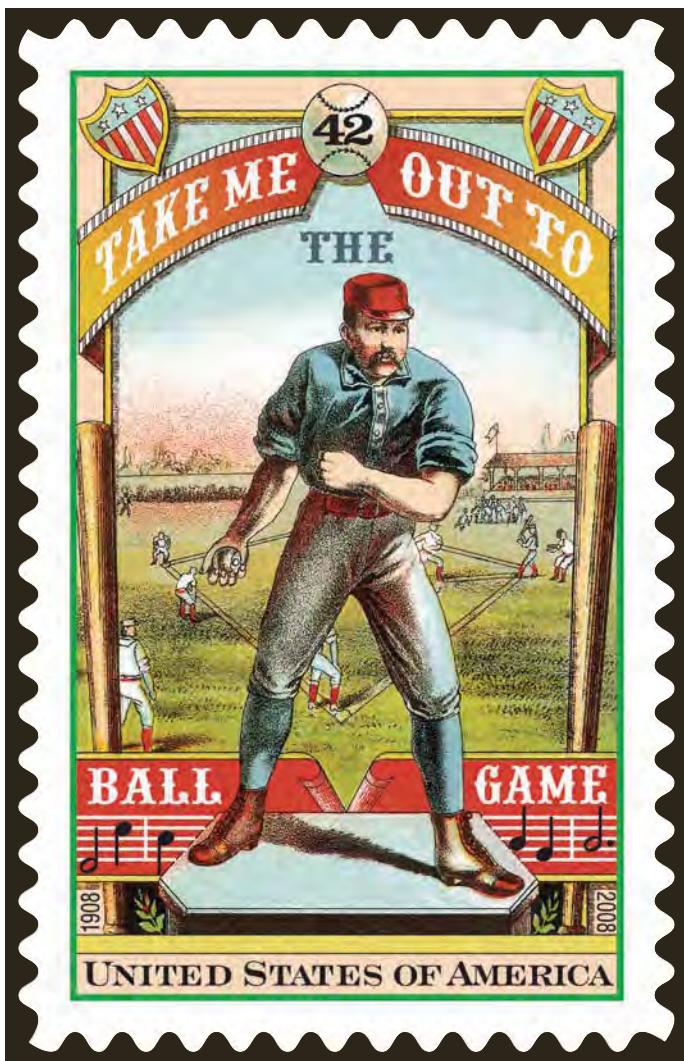


Note report of double-header to the left of the message.



Christy Mathewson.





In 1908, Jack Norworth wrote the classic sport song "Take Me Out To the Ball Game" on a scrap of paper during a train ride to Manhattan, New York. In fifteen minutes, he transformed the seventh inning for all baseball fans. A second version appeared in 1927. The legendary baseball announcer Harry Caray is credited with first singing it during a game in 1971. Fans began to join in the songfest and, as they say, the rest is history.

library. Here the tale of the 1908 season began to unfold: a three-way race for the National League pennant, "Merkle's Boner,"² ticket scalping, and more!

The message side of the postcard reads:

Say, kid. the Gaints [sic] can't help it, 40,000 fans on the job today. "OK crowds."

El had attended a double-header on Friday, September 18, 1908 at the Polo Grounds in upper Manhattan. The crowds were large and willing to pay dearly to see the spectacle. *The New York Times* on September 19 noted:

The speculator pest was upon the Polo Grounds yesterday. The vendors must have reaped a harvest, for ordinary admissions were going at \$1.50 each, seats in uncovered stands at \$2, grandstand reserved seats for \$3 to \$5, and box seats from \$5 up, according to the gullibility and wealth of the purchaser.

Yesterday a canvass was made of regular ticket

agencies in a dozen hotels along Broadway and 42nd Street, but only one reply was received: "We can't do anything for you; go to the speculators, they have all the tickets."³

El closes with "Am off for the Mud Grass tonight." Another bit of intrigue: was sportsman El off to the horse races at Saratoga? (Remember the Hudson Terminal postmark, a possible point of departure.)

Pennant Race

According to contemporary newspaper accounts, as provided in *The Unforgettable Season*, by G.H. Fleming, the National League pennant race of 1908 was a season-long struggle. No less than a three-way fight between the league's dominant trio: the great Chicago Cubs; the Pittsburgh Pirates, led by the peerless shortstop Honus Wagner; and John McGraw's N.Y. Giants. The teams chased each other from April to September, like energetic boys playing ring-a-levio. As the summer and baseball seasons waned, a potentially decisive double-header was scheduled at the Polo Grounds for September 18. *The New York World* reported:

The greatest throng of humanity ever attracted to a baseball game saw the Giants in a vicious, terrific five hours' battle defeat the Pirates twice and drive them out of the pennant race.⁴

A handwritten "sidebar" in the margin illustrates the exciting events of the day: Giant manager John McGraw's lads, Christy Mathewson and George Wiltse, had pitched the Giants to double victories:

N.Y. - 7 Matty
PIT - 0
N.Y. - 12 Wiltse
PIT - 7

As events unfolded, however, neither the Pirates nor the Cubs would be driven from the 1908 race. The double-header sweep momentarily gave the Giants first place, with twenty-one games remaining. "Matty" and "Hooks" Wiltse, both twenty-seven years old, ultimately combined for sixty wins that season. Matty was 37-11, had an earned run average of 1.43, completed 34 games, and 11 (or 12) shut outs. And throw in five saves in relief!⁵

Although the Cubs ultimately won the pennant in 1908, the three great teams dominated the era. From 1901 to 1913, the Giants, Cubs, and Pirates divided the thirteen pennants nearly evenly. The competitive tone for the modern National League had been set.

The Giants finished second in 1908 by the slimmest of margins, tied with the Pirates, one game behind the Cubs. No pennant for McGraw's stalwarts; no World Series games for Giants' "cranks" (fans); they merely went home. The rival teams had endured an "unforgettable season."⁶

This fascinating postcard now rests in a loftier place in my collection. Although patriotic covers still rank high in my preferences, the "Matty and T.R." piece of history now is

in my "Diamond Club," along with an autographed Bobby Thomson cover. And the trade I had made five decades ago, as some baseball trades, turned out to be a better deal than first thought!

Endnotes

1. Mr. "Algie" or Algernon Laviolette. As I recall from my lot of postcards, most correspondence was addressed to Mr. Laviolette of Pennsylvania Avenue, Long Beach, New York. Long Beach is located on the south shore of Long Island, "45 minutes from Broadway."
2. The September 23, 1908 game between the Giants and the Cubs may have been the most controversial game in major league history. An apparent Giants victory (2–1) was declared a tie. A hit in the bottom of the ninth inning seemed to have won the game. But the Cubs noticed that the Giants rookie Fred Merkle, the runner on first base, had failed to touch second . . . a story unto itself and with the pennant at stake! A season remembered for the base-running blunder.
3. G.H. Fleming, *The Unforgettable Season* (New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1981), page 231.
4. *Ibid.*, page 228. Quotation ascribed to *The New York World*, September 19, 1908 edition.
5. David S. Neft, Richard N. Cohen, and Michael L. Neft, "1908 National League," *The Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball 2002* (New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 2002). Christy Mathewson's thirty-seven wins is the modern National League record.
6. *Ibid.*, "1908 National League Leaders" as follows:

Hitting

- Batting Average:* Honus Wagner, Pittsburgh Pirates: .354 (league leader 1903–1904, 1906–1909).
- Home Runs:* Tim Jordan, Brooklyn Dodgers: 12.
- Runs Batted In:* Honus Wagner, Pittsburgh Pirates: 106.
- Stolen Bases:* Honus Wagner, Pittsburgh Pirates: 53.



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1908 National League Standings

Club	Won/Lost	%	Games Behind
Chi Cubs	99–55	.643	—
NY Giants	98–56	.636	1
Pitt Pirates	98–52	.636	1

Pitching

Winning Percentage: Ed Reulbach, Chicago Cubs: 24–7 (.774); Christy Mathewson, New York Giants: 37–11 (.771).

Shut Outs: Christy Mathewson, New York Giants: 11 (or 12).

Strike Outs: Christy Mathewson, New York Giants: 259.

Wins: Christy Mathewson, New York Giants: 37.

Complete Games: Christy Mathewson, New York Giants: 34; Kaiser Wilhelm, Brooklyn Dodgers: 33.

Earned Run Average: Christy Mathewson, New York Giants: 1.43; Mordecai ("Three-Finger") Brown, Chicago Cubs: 1.47.

The Author

Trick Herman has been an APS member since 1971, and is a former municipal personnel administrator. He earned an MPA from Long Island University in 1983. Currently a personnel consultant and a New York/Florida "snow bird," he has collected U.S. stamps since the 1950s as a youth in the Bronx, NYC. Current interests include first day covers from the 1930s, playing poker, and attending Yankees' games.

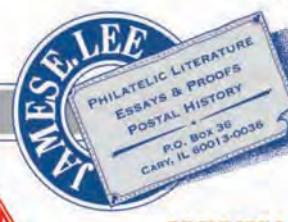
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Spanish Philippines

Reprints of the “HABILITADO POR LA NACION” Handstamp

by Don Peterson

Almost 140 years ago, the “HABILITADO POR LA NACION” (HPLN) handstamp was first used to overprint Philippine stamps, and, in the half century that followed, the philatelic event was described in detail in classic studies by Mencarini (1896), Bartels et al. (1904), Hanciau (1905), and Palmer (1912). Since then, almost nothing new has been added to the story about the Philippine HPLN overprints. This article, however, provides new information about the overprints — that is, the existence of *reprints*.

Historical Background

As a result of the 1868 Spanish revolution, the ineffectual Queen Isabella II was deposed and a republic was declared. A provisional government was established, but people were willing to see a constitutional monarchy established and after much deliberation, Amadeo of Savoy, the second son



Original HPLN type (actual size) used in the Vizcaya Province of Spain and in the Philippines.

of Victor Emmanuel, king of Italy, was elected king of Spain on November 16, 1870. Although he abdicated the throne less than three years later (ultimately to be replaced by Alfonso XII, the son of Isabella), the republican legacy persisted.

On September 30, 1868, the Revolutionary Committee in Madrid ordered that the legend “Habilitado por la Nacion” (“Made Valid for the Nation”) be overprinted on all postage, telegraph, and other stamps of Spain and her colonies. It further directed the National Stamp Factory (Fabrica Nacional del Timbre) in Madrid to prepare “dies” (a printing term often incorrectly confused with the term “handstamp”) for this purpose. On October 21, 1868, twenty-seven handstamps were sent to the Governor-General of the Philippines. They arrived in December 1868 and were used to overprint the stamps on hand.¹

In his 1912 publication *The Postal Issues of the Philippines*,¹ F.L. Palmer stated that all twenty-seven handstamps sent to the Philippines were identical “so there were no varieties of type to complicate these surcharges.” In an earlier publication, *Postage Stamps of the Philippines*² (1904), J.M. Bartels and his co-authors F.L. Palmer and F.A. Foster reported that

all of the handstamps sent to the Philippines were the “so-called Viscaya type,” but provided no explanation of what this meant. Antonio Fernandez Duro, in his 1881 work *Reseña Historico-Descriptiva de los Sellos de Correo de España*,³ described the various HPLN handstamp types used in Spain, of which there were at least eight different types. These types were prepared by the National Stamp Factory in Madrid and distributed to one or more of Spain’s provinces for use with the existing postage stamps already on hand. The “Viscaya” type cited by Bartels in 1904 is believed to be the “Vizcaya” type earlier identified by Fernandez and used in the Vizcaya Province in the Basque region of northern Spain. This was the only Spanish type similar to the *original* HPLN Philippines type cited by Bartels.

On January 24, 1872 (and again in 1873 and 1874), the same handstamps, now somewhat worse for wear, were used to overprint some of the older, obsolete issues, supposedly to offset shortages of on-hand stock. In the *Scott Catalogue*, the HPLN-overprinted postage stamps are listed as Scott 24A-38. The overprint also occurs on several Philippine revenue and telegraph stamps and on revenue-stamped paper (*papeles sellados*).

Identification of HPLN Reprints

After inspecting literally hundreds of HPLN-overprinted stamps from the Philippines, it became evident to me that another very distinct type of the overprint exists. The differences between what I hereafter refer to as *original* and *reprint* HPLN handstamps are listed in Table I. All of these differences generally can be observed with the naked eye or with low magnification. It is the first two differences, however, that are considered the most important indicators for determining whether the HPLN overprint is an original or a reprint.

A word of caution about comparing one handstamp with another: the *original* HPLN handstamps show considerable variations in the shape of the lettering between stamps (e.g., breaks or no breaks in the letters, presence or lack of serifs, etc.). These variations are caused by the amount of ink present on the device, how hard (or soft) it struck the stamp, and the angle at which it struck the stamp as it was applied to each of the stamps in a full sheet. These variations often are evident in large multiples of HPLN-overprinted stamps. Of-

ten the "H" and "A" are completely filled in with color, whereas the other letters sporadically range from completely filled to open. Another example is the lower curve of the "C" in "NACION," which can end in either a point or a rough serif, depending on the amount of ink present. Further, postal employees in Manila often applied the *original* HPLN handstamps "sloppily." Overprints from Manila occur right-side up, upside down, diagonally, sideways reading up (or reading down), as multiple strikes, or as heavy- or light-inked strikes.

All copies of the Philippine HPLN *reprints* are mint. There are no genuine examples known of used reprints with clearly identifiable Philippine cancels. Although a few reprint singles and blocks are known with a black padilla cancel, the cancel and/or the circumstances regarding its application are questionable. No reprints are known on Philippine covers or on Philippine papeles sellados. The *original* HPLN-overprinted handstamp, on the other hand, is well-known on Philippine stamps, covers, and papeles sellados. In fact, I would estimate that there are more than a hundred Philippine covers known with the *original* HPLN handstamped issues affixed.

Reprints of the HPLN overprint exist for all of the *Scott Catalogue*-listed HPLN postal issues, and for some of the Warren-listed⁴ HPLN-handstamped fiscal stamps. Mint reprints, particularly those of the high-valued HPLN-overprinted stamps, occasionally are found in international auctions. To further complicate the issue, all sixteen illustrations of the HPLN type in Edifil's *Catalogo Unificado Especializado*⁵ are examples of the *reprinted* HPLN type. With no explanation provided in that catalogue, this has created a source of confusion for collectors and dealers. The illustration of the HPLN overprint in the current *Scott Catalogue* is the *original* type. It is possible that other cataloguers, such as Edifil, may have inadvertently selected *reprint* types for



(Left) original HPLN (Scott 34) and (Right) reprint HPLN (Scott 29).

catalogue illustrations, since they are crisp images; whereas, it remains difficult to find a "good looking" example of the blotchy *original* type.

Handstamp Production

Information regarding the production of the HPLN handstamps is meager. What we do know comes mostly from Spanish Antilles philatelic references, which, I believe, also are applicable to the Philippine HPLNs. For example, Fernandez⁶ stated that the electrotype printing process was used by the National Stamp Factory in Madrid for producing the Cuba HPLN handstamp. Specifically, he calls the process "galvanoplastia y fueron," which is synonymous with electrotyping. An article regarding the HPLN-overprinted stamps of Cuba by Barreras⁷ stated that the handstamps sent from Spain were made of bronze (an alloy of copper and tin). It is likely that, in 1868 and through the early 1870s, the National Stamp Factory used the same printing process to produce the HPLN handstamps for Spain and for the colonies.

Given the small amount of philatelic information available on the Philippine HPLN handstamps, I decided to investigate the handstamp production process from a printing standpoint, as it would have occurred in the mid to late nineteenth century. With reference to the research cited above, two assumptions were made: (1) the electrotype printing



Cover sent from Manila to Puerto de Santa María, Spain, in 1870. Two original (blotchy) 6-2/8 centavos stamps affixed to satisfy the 12-4/8 centavos overseas single-weight rate to Spain.



Comparison of the *original* Scott 30 (left) and *reprint* of Scott 25 (right) HPLNs using Crimescope CS-16

process was used to produce the Philippine HPLN handstamps, and (2) the twenty-seven handstamps sent to the Philippines were made of bronze. Based on these assumptions, plus printing information found in Baxter,⁸ Williams,⁹ and other references,¹⁰⁻¹² the following is my assessment of how the original and reprint HPLN handstamps could have been produced. At several points in this assessment, optional printing techniques are identified, which also could create differences between the original and reprint HPLNs. The preparation of the HPLN handstamps can be condensed into two stages.

First stage. The *first stage* for developing the HPLN design involved the preparation of an etched engraving or line block (usually for designs with straight, curved, and filled-in lines) from an artist's original design or drawing. The line block is actually a type of engraved design that is etched into a hard, end-grain block of wood or metal. In this stage, the engraver cuts away parts of the wood or metal that will be white or non-inked, producing the HPLN design — a form of relief printing.

One printing option is that the *original* HPLN could have been produced from an etched engraving, whereas the *reprint* could have been produced from a line engraving. In a line engraving, the lines can diminish gradually to a fine point (e.g., the fine lower curve of the "C" in "NACION" of the reprint), which is problematic when using the etched engraving process. Additionally, in the 1890s a new line block technique called photographic engraving frequently was used, which could produce a sharper image. Thus, since the *reprints* are crisper than the *originals*, the reprints could have been produced in the 1890s or later from either a line engraving or by the photographic engraving process. The final product of this first stage is a die of the HPLN design that reads from right to left (mirror image).

Second stage. The *second stage* involved the electrotyping process. This requires pressing wax onto the die of the HPLN design to form a mold. The wax impression is next coated with an electrically-conducted substance, such as graphite. The mold is then immersed in an electrolytic bath and, in the case of the original HPLN, a bronze coating is deposited on the surface. Finally, the wax is removed, revealing a bronze plate of the HPLN overprint (reverse image).

A variation on this process involves using lead rather than wax to make the first impression, which can result in a sharper image. Thus, it is possible that the *original* HPLN was created from a wax mold, whereas the *reprint* could have been created from a lead mold. This option, along with the use of the photographic engraving process, more likely would have been used in the 1890s and later, rather than in 1868 when the original handstamps were produced.

In both cases, the final product would be a metal plate of the HPLN. The bronze plate then would be attached to a handstamp application device, which was a wooden handle (as illustrated in Barreras).

There are several methods for producing additional handstamps. The most likely of these would be to use the die from the first stage repeatedly to produce identical molds. For the Philippines, twenty-seven identical bronze plates were produced of the *original* HPLN die. As discussed later in the article, I believe that only one handstamp (i.e., mold) was produced of the *reprint* HPLN.

It is my belief that the original and reprint HPLNs probably were produced from an engraving process. Under high magnification, the *reprint* HPLNs show occasional lines and dots in the letters, whereas the *original* HPLN letters usually were filled or solid. This indicates that a more advanced or refined printing process was used to produce the reprints.

Forensic Analysis of HPLN Overprints

To further facilitate this analysis, I submitted examples of stamps with the *original* and *reprinted* HPLN overprints to the American Philatelic Expertizing Service (APEX). The stamps included Philippine postal and revenue HPLN issues of both types, and an example of the original type on revenue stamped paper. Mercer Bristow, Director of APEX, photographed the examples using a state-of-the-art CrimeScope CS-16. The CrimeScope utilizes various light sources (ultraviolet, infrared, and visible), filters, a monochromator, an imaging device (video camera and monitor), and two recording devices (video tape recorder and paper printer). It tests luminescence and frequencies of reflected, transmitted, and absorbed light. The equipment can identify tagging, the backs of stamps on paper, watermarks of stamps on paper or covers, cleaned cancellations, altered or enhanced postmarks, and counterfeit overprints.

Using the CrimeScope CS-16 equipment, a series of photographs was produced. Analysis of these photographs confirmed that the original and reprinted handstamps were produced from the same design or die. For example, although the edge of the letters and inking is more defined on the reprints, the originals are similar, in spite of the fact that the letters are blotchy (interior spaces are generally filled with ink, which often spills out of the letter). The letters of both types are nearly exact "twins" in design. To illustrate that the original die also was used for the production of the reprints, note the similarities of the "L" of "HABILITADO," the word

"POR," and the "AC" of "NACION," as well as the spacing between the letters of both types.

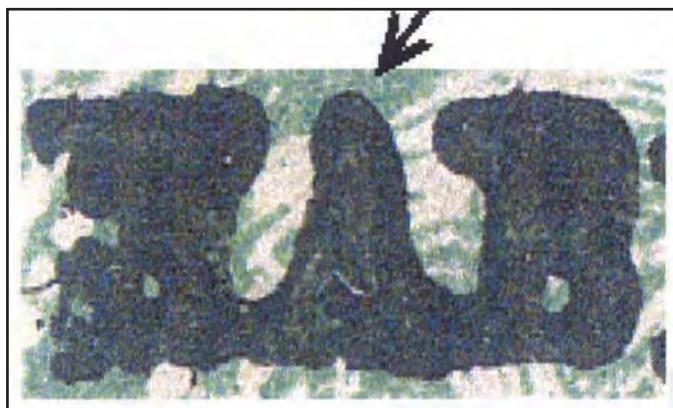
Under high magnification, the ink in the *reprinted* HPLN usually remains within the boundary of the letter, although it often thickens somewhat on the letter's edges, creating the appearance of a defined border. The reprinted HPLN letters often have erratic, minute white spots and thin white lines on parts of many of the HPLN letters. The reprints generally appear crisp and clear. This analysis did not reveal any noticeable differences of the inks between the original and reprint HPLNs, suggesting that the same or similar ink was used for both. My own analysis, using hand-held ultra-violet fluorescent (long wave) and phosphorescent (short wave) lamps, led me to the same conclusion.

The most interesting characteristic of the *reprint* that occurs in most, but not all, of the HPLN reprints is the occurrence of a broken first "A" in "HABILITADO." It is an important mark for identifying most of the reprints. While this flaw can usually be seen with the naked eye, it is most evident under magnification. This flaw does not occur in the *original* HPLN type.

The broken first "A" in the reprint appears to be a progressive flaw — gradually deteriorating during the hand-stamping process, thus creating repetitive but changing examples. It first occurs, although apparently only briefly, as an unbroken "A" on the reprints. Very few of the unbroken "A" reprints are known, which leads me to believe that the "A" began deteriorating very early in the handstamping process. In the early stage of deterioration, the top right part of the "A" is missing, giving it the appearance of a shorter, but pointed "A." In the late stage of deterioration, the top of the "A" is worn down, giving it a round or blunt appearance. Occasionally, in the late stage, the center portion of the shortened "A" is missing, thus resembling a "cup." Throughout the deterioration process, the "A" appears shorter than the adjacent letters. The condition of the "A" is not the result of under-inking, since the flaw on all of the reprints inspected is consistent with the stages described above. The progressive nature of the flaw and its prevalence suggest that only one handstamp application device was used to produce the reprints.

Under high magnification, the "HAB" of the *original* HPLN overprint typically has "blotchy" letters. The ink tends to fill in all or most portions of the letter and sometimes overflows the boundary of the letter. Whether over-inked or not, it is easy to see that the first "A" of the *original* "HABILITADO" is the same height as the other letters.

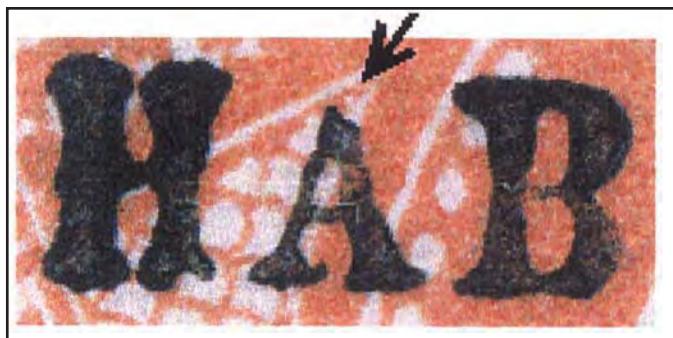
How could this "flaw" occur? I believe that the "A" simply wore down or broke early in the handstamping of reprints. A number of causes are possible. For example, Williams¹³ stated that when lead, rather than wax, is used in the mold, internal stresses can occur — such as the weakening of part of the design (in this case the first "A"), if the lead is not pure. This is a plausible explanation for the deteriora-



"HAB" of "HABILITADO" in the *original* HPLN (Scott 34) showing the first "A" to be the same height as the other letters.



Highly magnified views of the "HAB" of "HABILITADO" from *reprinted* HPLNs depict (top) an unbroken first "A" (Scott 38); (middle) early stage deterioration (Scott 29) with top right part of the "A" missing; and (bottom) late stage deterioration (Scott 29) with all of the top missing.



tion of the “A” in the reprint.

Like medical decisions, I needed a second opinion. I compared the original and reprint overprint types using the Smithsonian National Postal Museum’s recently acquired VSC6000 (video spectral comparator) system for philatelic research. This apparatus has a magnification range up to 140 optical magnification, uses a sophisticated light source to discriminate between inks and ink colors, has multiple filters that provide a total of 80 wavebands of available illumination, and has a lensing system to provide either broad beam or focused light. Sounds complicated? Thanks to the assistance of Tom Lera, Blount Research Chair

at the NPM, we compared the stamps by creating a variety of images of the overprints. The result confirmed APS’s CS-16 findings, that the original and reprinted HPLN handstamps were produced from the same design/die.

When Were the Reprints Produced?

There are several clues that indicate when the reprinted HPLNs were produced. First, because the reprints have crisp, sharp letters, they were likely produced from a photographic engraving process that was not commonly used until the 1890s. Secondly, my review of stamp catalogues (*Moens, Stanley Gibbons, Scott, Friederich, etc.*) and articles on file at the American Philatelic Research Library revealed that no reprints were illustrated in any catalogue prior to 1894. Although illustrations of both the original and reprint HPLNs were found in these early catalogues, no catalogue specifically stated the existence of HPLN reprints. There was no evidence, then, in any published account, that cataloguers were aware of reprints. The existence of reprints simply



Same design/die confirmed by using VSC6000 by superimposing portions of the original HPLN (in black) of Scott 34 over the reprint HPLN (in green) of Scott 25.

were aware of these differences between the overprints, they simply may have brushed them off as variations or nuances caused by the handstamping process.

Where Were the Overprinted Stamps Produced?

The *original* HPLN handstamp application devices discussed by Bartels and Palmer were produced in Spain and sent to the Philippines, where the overprinting was done in the late 1860s through the mid 1870s. The fact that the *original* devices were produced in Spain is confirmed by Provanza and Rojas,¹⁶ Fernandez, and Barreras. As discussed earlier, since the *reprints* were produced from the same design or die used for the *originals*, it is reasonable to assume that they were produced at the National Stamp Factory in Madrid where the handstamp design and die were located. However, unlike the *original* handstamps, no handstamp application devices of the *reprints* were sent to the Philippines. Mint Philippine stamps that received the reprinted overprint were collected in Spain where the reprinted overprint was

Comparison Between Original and Reprint HPLN Handstamps

Original HPLN Handstamps

1. HPLN overprint letters botchy.
2. Full-sized first “A” of “HABILITADO.”
3. Bottom curve of “C” in “NACION” *usually* thicker and occasionally ends in a serif.
4. HPLN overprint *usually* sloppily applied on the stamp, often in a variety of positions.

Reprint HPLN Handstamps

1. HPLN overprint letters crisp and sharp.
2. Top of first “A” of “HABILITADO” *usually** broken off and looks like a short “A.”
3. Bottom curve of “C” in “NACION” *usually* ends in a very fine point.
4. HPLN overprint *usually* applied on the stamp neatly, with great care, and often diagonally, so that the handstamp does not overlap onto another stamp.

*My use of the terms “usually” and “often” means that the vast majority of examples inspected fit the stated description, but that exceptions exist. There are no discernible differences between the measurements of the original and reprint HPLN overprints.

wasn’t on their “radar.” I believe that the reprints most likely were produced about 1893.

There is no mention in any early Philippine philatelic writings about the reprints. Juan Mencarini, in his classic catalogue,¹⁴ does not mention them. Nor do Bartels, Hanciau,¹⁵ or Palmer mention them — either as regular issues or forgeries, which Bartels covers in great detail. Yet, these writers were known to have been meticulous in recording postal events in Manila. Two reasons are possible for this omission. *First*, the reprints were not included in their catalogues because the stamps were never sent to the Philippines as regular postal issues. *Second*, even if they

applied. This would have included stamps originally printed in Manila (such as Scott 1, 4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16–18, 20, and 20a), as well as stamps originally printed in Madrid (such as Scott 8, 9, and 21–24). Although the Madrid printings easily could be obtained from dealers or collectors in Spain (probably as holdovers from stocks at the National Stamp Factory), I believe the Manila printings also were obtained easily from dealers or collectors in Spain, where the stamps are known to have been widely circulated. As stated earlier, no confirmed Philippine cancels are known on stamps with the reprints. Likewise, none of the reprints exist on Philippine covers or on Philippine papeles sellados.

Reprints or Forgeries?

Should the reprints be considered forgeries? H.E. Harris¹⁷ defined a reprint as “a stamp printed [or overprinted] from the original plates (usually after an issue has become obsolete), but not intended for postal [or fiscal] use.” A number of factors suggest that the HPLN-overprinted stamps with a crisp, broken “A” are reprints. First, both the original and reprinted HPLN overprints appear to have been produced from the same handstamp design or die. Second, if they were produced from the same design or die, then it is reasonable to assume that they were produced at the National Stamp Factory in Madrid where the design and die were located. Finally, these stamps were never used or sent to the Philippines, as was typical of most reprints and proofs of other Philippine stamps produced at the National Stamp Factory as “favors.”

Conclusions

Based on the evaluation presented in this article, I draw the following conclusions:

1. The *original* HPLN-overprinted stamps were produced between 1868 and 1874, whereas the *reprinted* stamps likely were produced about 1893.
2. The *original* and *reprint* HPLNs were produced from the same design or die.
3. The *original* HPLN handstamps could have been produced from an etched or line engraving or from a wax mold; whereas the *reprinted* HPLN handstamp could have been produced from a line or photographic engraving or from a lead mold, which could have resulted in the differences between the original and reprint HPLN types.
4. Twenty-seven identical handstamp application devices were used to produce the *original* HPLNs, where as only one handstamp device likely was used to produce the *reprinted* HPLNs.
5. The *original* HPLNs were handstamped in Manila, whereas the *reprinted* HPLNs were handstamped at the National Stamp Factory in Madrid.
6. There are notable differences between the *original* and *reprinted* HPLN overprints, the most prominent being the broken first “A” of “HABILITADO”

on most of the reprints and their crisp, sharp impressions.

7. The *reprinted* HPLN handstamp and the resulting overprinted stamps were never sent to nor used in the Philippines, which explains why such stamps have never been found with confirmed Philippine cancels on covers or papeles sellados.

A Comment on the HPLN Issues of Cuba and Puerto Rico

HPLN handstamps also were prepared in Spain and sent to Cuba and Puerto Rico. Like the Philippines, both blotchy and crisp HPLN-overprinted handstamps exist on Spanish Antilles stamps. Although not a focus of this study, it is possible that these HPLNs also are reprints. In that regard, I hope my study of Spanish Philippine HPLNs is helpful to other researchers.

Acknowledgments

I wish to thank Douglas K. Lehmann for encouraging me to undertake this study and for invaluable assistance in providing highly magnified pictures of the reprints; and Ernesto Cuesta, a Spanish Cuba specialist, for providing access to and translating Spanish Antilles references. I thank Mercer Bristow, Director of American Philatelic Expertizing Services, for his expertise and use of the Crimescope CS-16 forensic equipment to analyze the HPLN overprints. Finally, I wish to thank the helpful staff at the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) for providing access to mountains of information.

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The Author

Don Peterson is a member of the International Philippine Philatelic Society. He has collected Spanish Philippine stamps and covers for more than forty years, and has written three books and more than 260 articles on the topic. Don has won many Gold awards, including a Grand Award for his Spanish Philippine postal history exhibit.

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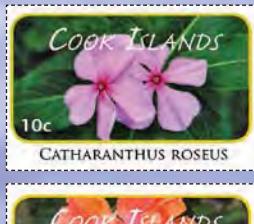
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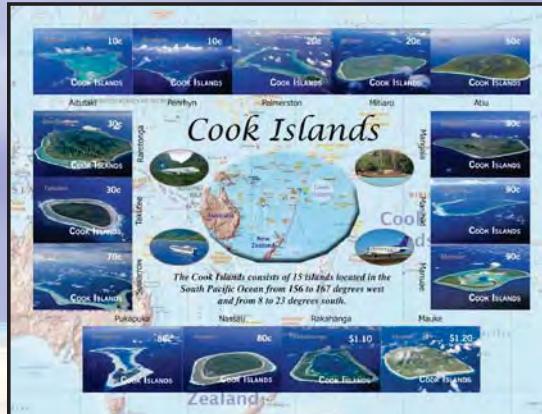
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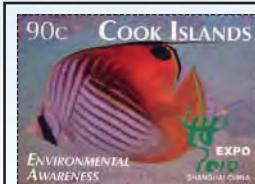
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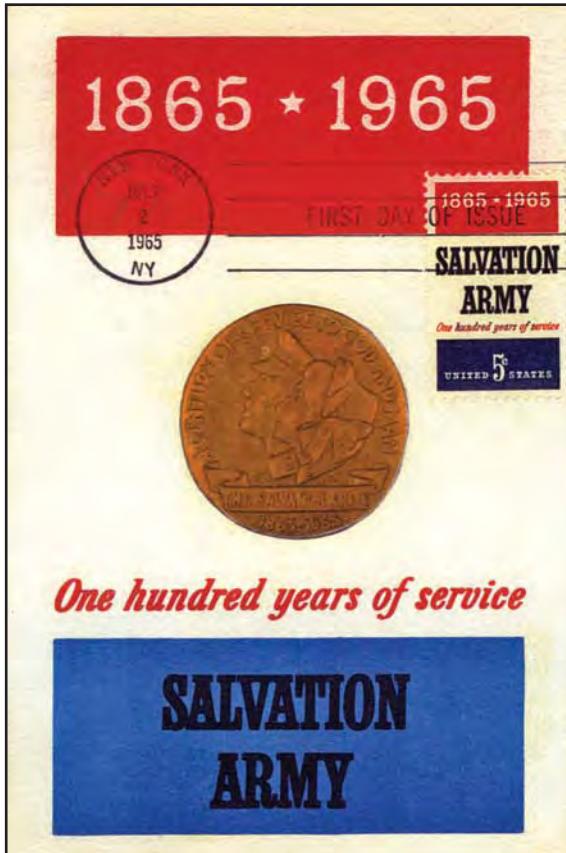
by Charles A. Fricke

In 1852 William Booth (1829–1912), an ordained Methodist minister, decided to take his ministry out into the streets where it could reach the destitute and hopeless with a message of hope and salvation. After unsuccessful attempts to integrate the poor into mainstream churches, he became an evangelistic preacher, traveling throughout England. Following a series of extremely popular “meetings” in the East End of London in 1865,¹ Booth founded the East London Christian Mission. He began with ten full-time helpers; by 1874 the Christian Mission was served by 1,000 and forty-two evangelists.² Booth gave himself the title of General Superintendent; his followers shortened it to General.

In 1878 Booth asked his son, Bramwell, and a close friend to proofread the Mission’s annual report, which included the banner: *The Christian Mission is a volunteer army*. Bramwell is said to have objected to the term “volunteer,” saying that he was compelled to work for God. Booth replaced the offending term with the word “salvation” and the Salvation Army was born. Bram would succeed his father as General of the Salvation Army in 1912.

The issuance of the 5-cent Salvation Army stamp (Scott 1267) celebrated the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Salvation Army in the London. The maximum card illustrated with the anniversary stamp is postmarked New York / NY / July 2, 1965.

The Salvation Army arrived in the United States in October 1879 with Lieutenant Eliza Shirley, who had left England to join her parents in America. Her personal efforts were so successful that Booth sent Commissioner Scott Railton and seven women officers to the United States the follow-



Maxicard with stamp commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Salvation Army.

ing year to establish a formal ministry in New York City. Within three years the operation had expanded into California, Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Today, the Salvation Army is quartered in 106 nations worldwide.

Although not philatelic, a collateral item of interest I added to my collection is small pink ticket that reads: “Admit One to ‘Three Hours at the Cross’ in Summerfield M.E. [Methodist Episcopal] Church, Thursday Evening, Oct. 1st, 1891.” The location is not specified further, but it is likely to have been the Summerfield M.E. Church in Brooklyn, which stood on the corner of Washington and Greene Avenues.

At the top of the ticket are printed the names “Rev. Wm. Booth, General” and “Com. B. Booth, Commanding U.S. Forces.” General Booth, of course, is William Bramwell Booth, founder of the Salvation Army. He was in England, still mourning the loss of his beloved wife Catherine the previous year, and would not visit the United States again until 1895. “Com. B. Booth” was Ballington Booth (1857–1940), the second son of Reverend Booth, who had been appointed to the command of the American operation in 1887.

The text on the back of the ticket reads:

1. As this meeting is expected to be the largest one of its character yet held, all who expect to attend are urgently desired to be in their seats not later than 7.15.
2. It should be remembered that this meeting is one especially for soldiers and Christians, and all invited should come resolved to assist with their faith and

- prayers and influence in a SPIRITUAL meeting.
3. Special song sheets will be sold — price, two cents. All should purchase one and assist in the singing.¹
 4. All attending the meeting are particularly requested NOT TO LEAVE before the close.

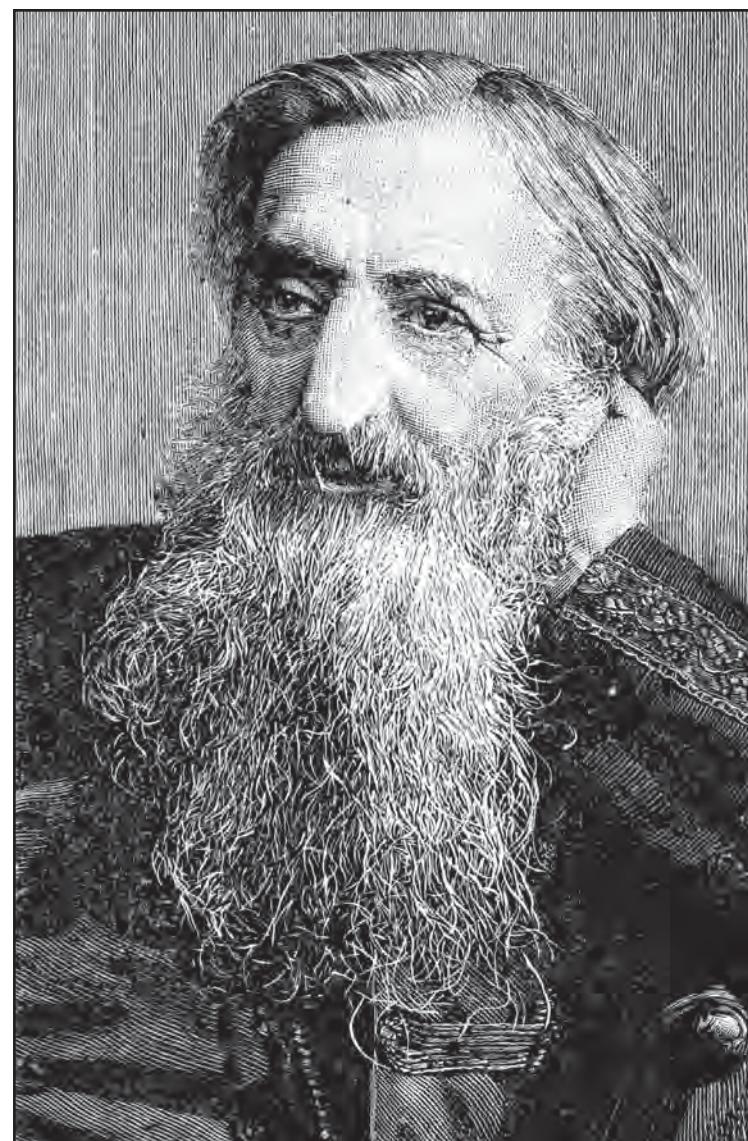
So this was not a call for converts but a meeting of the faithful, most likely run by Ballington Booth himself, given the nature of the gathering.

For nine years he and his wife Maud were a great success at this post, but a falling out with his older brother Bramwell (1856–1929) and his father eventually led Ballington to resign and form his own organization, the God's American Volunteers (later renamed Volunteers of America) in 1896. The new organization, which put a greater emphasis on national social work than international spiritual conversion, continues to offer human service programs — particularly housing and health care — for thousands of Americans today.

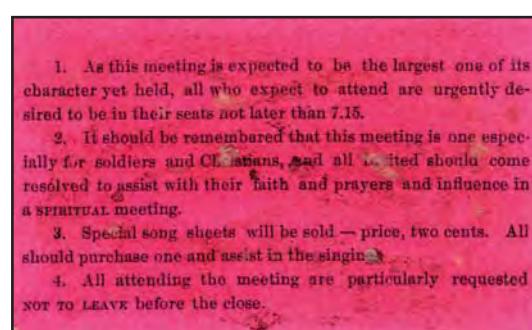
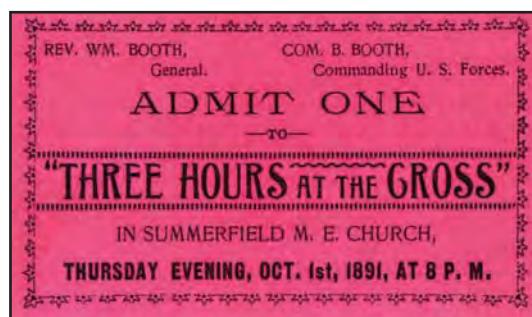
Two additional items return us to the world of philately — they are Salvation Army picture postcards. The postcards carry the Army's shield insignia on both the front and the back as well as a printed message: "Send contributions for Salvation Army Home Service Fund to nearest Salvation Army Headquarters." This dates the cards to World War I when the Salvation Army was an active part of troop support on the front lines as well as contributing to civilian morale at home. Both appear to be from a set of postcards published by the Salvation Army in the United States.³

Evangeline Cory Booth (1865–1950), the seventh child of William and Catherine and called "Eva" after the heroine in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, was sent to America in 1896 when her brother Ball broke with the original Salvation Army. It is a measure of her "get it done" nature that when she found the doors to the New York headquarters locked against her, she simply climbed in through a rear window. In 1904 she was named Commander of the United States, a position she held until 1934 when she was elected General of the Salvation Army, the first woman to hold that position.

When the United States entered World War I, Eva immediately wired President Woodrow Wilson placing the Salvation Army at his disposal. The first group of Salvation Army officers left with General Pershing's American Expeditionary Forces on August 12, 1917. The Salvation Army "lassies," as they were



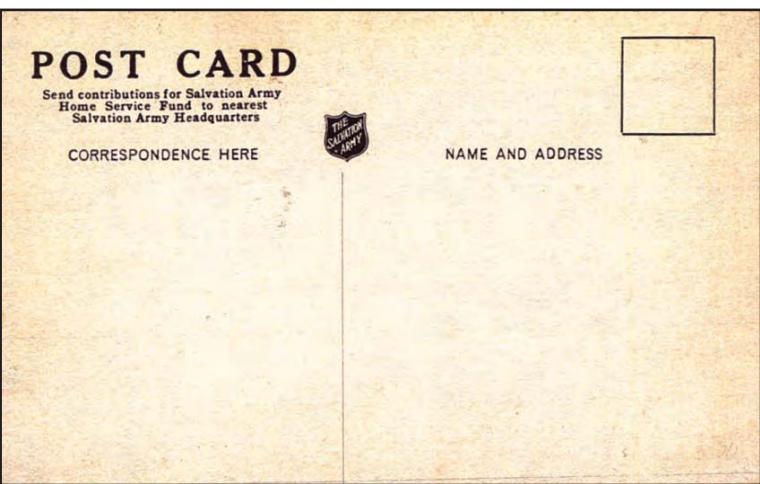
William Booth.



Front and back of an admission ticket for a special Salvation Army meeting, "Three Hours at the Cross."

popularly called, maintained a lifeline to home during the horrors of war. They became famous for their homemade doughnuts, originally improvised by Ensign Helen Purviance using a tiny frying pan over a pot-bellied stove so low the women had to kneel to cook. Eventually doughnuts and pies were turned out by the thousands each day and handed out to soldiers on the front lines. A United War Work Campaign poster from 1918 shows a young woman with a platter of doughnuts and a smiling soldier. The printed message reads: "Oh, Boy that's the Girl! The Salvation Army Lassie. Keep Her on the Job."

Another free service was



Verso of one the postcards issued by the American Salvation Army during World War I.



"Lassie Mending Soldier's Clothes Front Line with Gen. Pershing's Troops."



"Slum Babies Orange Box Nursery."

mending, as the postcard titled "Lassie mending Soldier's Clothes Front Line with Gen. Pershing's troops" shows. The young woman sits in the ruins of a building with her sewing machine set up on a couple wooden crates.

Nor was the home front neglected. The second picture postcard, titled "Slum Babies Orange Box Nursery," depicts Salvation Army ladies, nursemaids, and infants in what appears to be an orange grove. The babies are tucked into orange box cradles.

The comfort the Salvation Army volunteers brought at home and particularly abroad during World War I cannot be underestimated. It far exceeds the actual number

of volunteers at the front (only about 500 in all, including supplemental workers). Many period songs were written in their honor, including "Salvation Rose" and "Salvation Lassie of Mine."

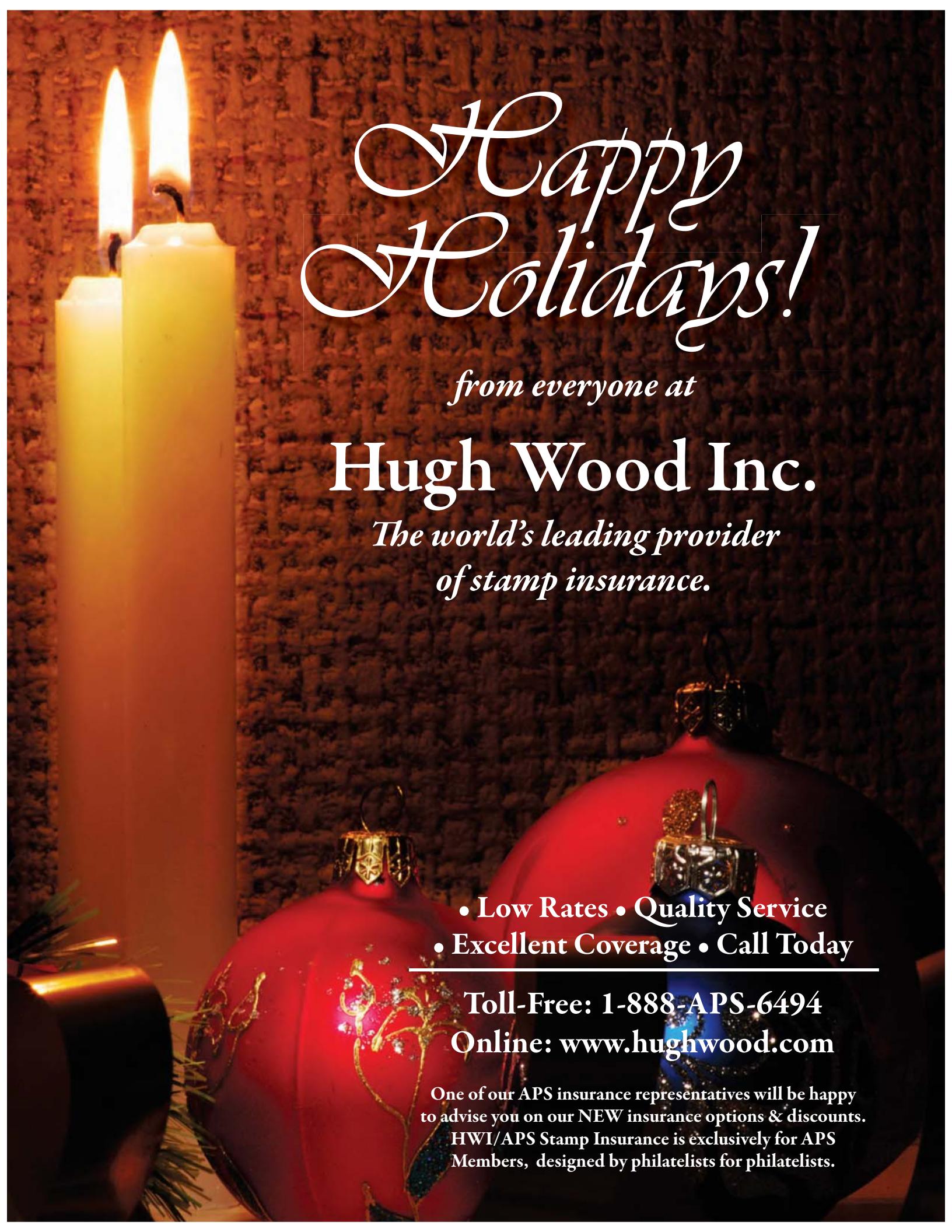
Evangeline Booth went on to serve as the international head of the Salvation Army from 1934–1939, but America had become her home. She retired to her upstate New York property when her term in office was over; the last child of William Booth to serve as General in the Salvation Army.

Endnotes

- Once, when criticized for his penchant for simply adopting popular music for his hymns, Booth famously replied, "Why should the devil have all the best tunes?" (see www.salvationarmyoxnard.org/quotes.asp).
- See the Salvation Army website at www.salvationarmyusa.org/.
- Salvation Army Collectables [sic], "The Salvation Army During WWI," www.sacollectables.com/wwi.html.

The Author

Charles A. Fricke has received the APS Luff Award for distinguished philatelic research and has been inducted into the APS Writers Unit 20 Hall of Fame. He continues to enjoy research and writing on unusual philatelic items.



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Holiday Cheers

Congratulations to former APS Board member **Robert Odenweller** and APS member **Michael Madesker**, recipients of the Smithsonian's 2010 Philatelic Achievement Award. Odenweller researched and wrote *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, 1855–1873: The Chalon Head Issues* and *The Stamps and Postal History of Nineteenth Century Samoa*. His exhibits have won the APS Champion of Champions and the International Federation of Philately Grand Prix d'Honneur. Among his other philatelic accomplishments are service as chair of the International Federation of Philately Commission for Traditional Philately and as a director of the International Association of Philatelic Experts. Bob is also an expert examiner for the American Philatelic Expertizing Service.

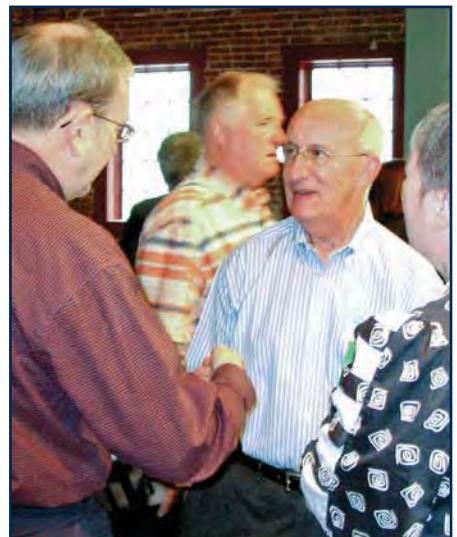
Madesker, from Canada, is best known for his work with youth. Teaching philatelic seminars and workshops in a local hospital and libraries have led him to directing International Youth Exhibitions in Toronto and Montreal. After being elected Chair of the International Federation of Philately Commission for Youth Philately, he helped to establish a philatelic program in Asia, similar to the one he created in Canada.

While Odenweller and Madesker have served philately on the international stage, many other APS members provide less heralded service. This includes Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship mentors; On the Road, Internet, and Summer Seminar instructors; authors; chapter and affiliate officers; members of the Translation Committee, Expert Committee and our many other committees; and a lot of others who may not even hold any formal position in the hobby.

The APS established its John Luff awards in 1940 to recognize exemplar work for the hobby. In 2007 then APS President Nick Carter recognized there are a lot of relatively unknown individuals who also have made our hobby much stronger. The Board agreed and established Volunteer Recognition Awards that were subsequently named in memory of Nick. Please consider helping us to recognize some of these lesser known volunteers by nominating one or more individuals. The criteria and nomination form are available on the APS website.

One APS member who has had a significant impact on U.S. philately is Terry McCaffrey. Although he has attended the occasional APS show, served an elective speaker at Summer Seminar, and even been the distinguished philatelist at an APS Tiffany Fund-raising Dinner, Terry is best known to fellow members for his leading role in U.S. stamp design. On December 31st he is retiring after forty years with the U.S. Postal Service.

McCaffrey joined the Postal Service in 1970 as a designer in the communications department, but his heart was with stamp design. His first major opportunity came in 1976 when he told the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee that the large image selected would not reduce well to postage stamp size



Terry McCaffrey chats with Summer Seminar attendees.

and suggested an alternative design, which was accepted; Interphil 76 (Scott 1632) was Terry's first stamp. In 1977 he designed two additional U.S. stamps and continued to work on numerous stamp-related projects, including lobby posters, stamp yearbooks, and First Day Ceremony programs. He transferred to the stamp design team in 1990, was named creative director in 1992, and by 2000 was manager of Stamp Development. During his tenure he has influenced the creation and final design of about 2,500 U.S. stamps and a few foreign stamps as well.

Terry, we wish you well — and hope to see you at a few more APS shows!

While we may not offer enough in the way of awards for our chapters, we do try to recognize their longevity. In October I was delighted to be able to help the William C. Stone Chapter of Springfield, Massachusetts celebrate its 115th birthday and, a little belatedly, to celebrate their becoming the eleventh club to have been an APS chapter for 100 or more years. To my delight, I was far from the only visitor for their luncheon celebration. Mark Butterline, President of the Northeast Federation of Stamp Clubs, and members of several other area clubs enjoyed fellowship with their members.

Two attendees recognized each other's name, but had never met. Stan Alsis and Ed Helitzer both joined the APS in 1979 and live about sixty miles from each other. They also

are both long-time buyers from APS sales circuits and frequently follow each other on APS circuits.

The William Stone Chapter is one of the thirty-four clubs (spanning five states) belonging to the Northeast Federation of Stamp Clubs that together put on Philatelic Show, the World Series event in Boxborough, Massachusetts each year. The Federation exemplifies what can be accomplished when philatelists work together.

While the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs does not have quite as many member clubs, it also produces a World Series of Philately show and actually serves more states. Congratulations to Charles O'Brien who has been elected the Federation's new president. Some of you may recognize Charles as one of the preeminent exhibitors of first day covers. He is also president of an architectural firm with offices in Atlanta and Pittsburgh that was the low bidder for renovations on the latest phase of the American Philatelic Center development and, thus, whose services APS has engaged.

Roger Quinby, who has previously served on the exhibition committee for the American Stamp Dealers Association New York City shows was, elected vice president. Cass Rejent, who helped with our AMERISTAMP EXPO in Atlanta in 2006, was elected Treasurer. And Gene Zhiss, the Show Chairman of CHARPEX, the Annual exhibition and bourse of the Charlotte Philatelic Society and Fortnightly Club and

CANADA 1897 LEAF ISSUE

Special Offer #241

The Canadian Leaf Issue began to appear in 1897. Eight different values appeared, from half cent to ten cents (Scott #66-73). As you might expect, the ten cent is the key value although the five, six and eight cent are also scarce and well worth acquiring.

The Leaf Issue had a very brief life. Shortly after it was issued, post offices began receiving complaints. Non-English speaking Canadians were having difficulty with the new stamps, as the denomination was expressed only in words. The Leaf Issue is unique in this respect among Canadian definitive sets. The problem was corrected the following year when a new series of stamps showing the values in numerals at the lower corners began to appear.

This set is very scarce in never hinged mint condition and is highly sought-after whenever it appears. An F-VF NH complete set now lists at \$3,290.00. I can supply the complete set for just \$1,695.00.

I also have a very few sets of plate proofs of this issue remaining in stock. These come from the archives of the American Bank Note Company, which printed this issue.

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a Director of the Mourning Stamps and Cover Club, was elected Secretary.

One APS chapter is actually a member of *both* the Northeast and Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs: the Cape Cod Area Philatelic Club. Members Nancy and Doug Clark were instrumental in getting the Southeast Stamp Expo accredited as a World Series of Philately show before relocating from the Athens, Georgia area to Massachusetts. Nancy's track record is not that different from Michael Madesker — being known for her extensive work with youth, running an international show (OLYMPHILEX 96), and currently serving as host for APS Stamp Talk, an Internet based biweekly radio show on philately. Doug currently serves as President of the Postal History Society and as a Director of the American Topical Association, both affiliates of the APS.

The APS Estate Advisory Service (www.stamps.org/Estate-Advice) is run for the benefit of members who have inherited philatelic collections and for the families of deceased APS members. Often this philatelic legacy comes to someone with no knowledge of how best to handle the bequest, and we are proud to offer this advisory service to help with issues related to appraising and selling inherited philatelic material.

Many of the issues and difficulties faced by the legatee, however, can be avoided with advance planning by the collector. Who knows your collection and its

Why APS/APRL Donations Are Important to Us All

by Eliot A. Landau, APS/APRL Life Member

I learned about stamps when I was three years old and my dad brought stamps home that fell off in the Railway Mail Service car he worked in. As my interests expanded, I became an accumulator, a collector, an exhibitor, an active member and officer of the Chicago Philatelic Society and many other societies, a philatelic judge, writer, and donor to the American Philatelic Society. The more I learned about collecting and telling stories through exhibiting, the more deeply I became involved in philately. The involvement with my local and specialized clubs taught me to step up, not only with money for my own collections but to give money and time to the organizations I supported.

I learned to serve on committees and special projects for the APS, including fund-raising for our new headquarters in Bellefonte and the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL). By putting my efforts and some of my own money forward, I helped raise money for the Bud and Dodie Hennig Room, the U.S. Stamp Society Room, the Military Postal History Society's Gung Ho Room, and the Maryann Owens and George Guzzio Topical and Thematic Collections Area — all at the American Philatelic Center. I set aside \$25,000 from two major auctions of part of my Abraham Lincoln collections to fund the Eliot and Eileen Landau Reading Lounge at the APRL.

While that was a major donation for me, I often give smaller gifts, from \$50 to \$1,000 to assist particular projects or to serve as seed money to encourage others to join to help APS.

The donation of *time* to support the APS is one of the most important things that I can give. As an APS philatelic Chief Judge, I donate the many hours of preparation that it takes to become familiar with each exhibit that we will judge, and also the time to mentor exhibitors on how they can improve their exhibits, and the time to conduct seminars for collectors, exhibitors, and judges on how to focus their collecting interests, organize exhibits to better tell the story each is trying to share and how to judge them. Every year, I donate more than \$5,000 by paying my own expenses where I exhibit, judge, or lecture for various stamp shows including the APS STAMPSHOW. While many of those shows do give a modest honoraria to judges, they never cover air fare, meals, transit and hotel expenses, and study materials from the APRL.

The reward for all of the collecting, exhibiting, judging, and writing is to be a participant in our hobby, sharing what I have already learned with others who can benefit from it and will share with others in turn. If you are selling some or all of a collection, please donate part of your proceeds to carry our hobby onward. I thank Ken Martin for offering the opportunity to reflect back on all the different ways that we can contribute to the hobby and improve it, ourselves and APS/APRL.



For More Information

On Odenweller and Madesker —
www.postalmuseum.si.edu/

On McCaffrey —
www.beyondtheperf.com

On APS Stamp Talk Internet Radio
— www.wsradio.com/internet-talk-radio.cfm/shows/APS-Stamp-Talk.html

On the Carter Volunteer Award
Nominations — www.stamps.org/Almanac/alm_VolunteerAwards.htm



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worth better than you? Yet, according to a national survey conducted by *The Nonprofit Times*, much of the public, philatelic or otherwise, does not have a will. While we might wish to avoid the subject, advance planning helps insure that your wishes are carried out, can reduce the burden on your family, and possibly even reduce estate taxes.

The Nonprofit Times reports, “In the United Kingdom, if you don’t make a will you will die at an average age of 69. If you make a will you will die at an average age of 79, and if you make a will and include a legacy to a charity you will die at an average age of 82.” We want to keep you around as long as possible, so please make a will — and consider including a legacy to charity, be it the APS or other organizations.

The staff and board extend our wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season. We hope you have the opportunity to relax, enjoy family activities, and find a little time for your hobby.

We are prepared to assist you (or your significant other) escape last-minute shopping pressures. We offer philatelic treasures for gift giving, from specialty items such as magnifiers and letter openers to books to gift certificates that could be used for Circuit Sales, StampStore, expertizing, advertising, or other products and services. Young Stamp Collector of America and regular APS gift memberships are also available. Judy Johnson at 814-933-3801 would be pleased to help you.

Thanks to dealer and Summer Seminar auctioneer and instructor Irv Miller for an early gift to the APS — a pledge of \$5,000 over five years. While dues cover our basic operations, your generous gifts help us create free downloadable album pages, support Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship, pay for APS Stamp Talk Radio show, create Teacher Lesson plans, and distribute stamps and supplies.

Finally, thanks to those of you who have already paid your 2011 dues renewing your membership in the APS.

Mick Zais To Be Tiffany Dinner Speaker at AMERISTAMP EXPO 2011

Mick Zais's stamp collecting gene was activated at age eight and has never gone dormant. Beginning with a *Minkus Comprehensive Worldwide Stamp Album*, received as a gift from his parents, Zais diligently began filling as many spaces as possible up until leaving for college at the United States Military Academy. After graduation in 1969, Zais trained and deployed to Vietnam as a lieutenant. Upon his return to the United States in 1971, he began collecting actively again. Following his attendance at the 1976 International Philatelic Exhibition in Philadelphia (INTERFIL 76), Zais joined the American Philatelic Society and has remained a member ever since.

"For me, stamp collecting has provided countless opportunities to learn about history, culture, international affairs and every aspect of human behavior," says Zais. "I cherish the time I spend working on my collection and keeping up with philatelic world news through five different journals and periodicals."

In addition to Zais's reengagement with philately, he became an Army paratrooper, Ranger, and rose to the rank of brigadier general. He spent three years as a classroom teacher at West Point teaching leadership, management, and organizational behavior. Zais also earned master's degrees in military history and social psychology, followed by a doctorate in social psychology from the University of Washington.

Between Zais's retirement from the Army in 2000 and June 2010, he served as president of Newberry College, founded in Newberry, South Carolina in 1856. Under Zais, enrollment nearly doubled, the endowment reached an all-time high, new facilities were constructed, and Newberry athletic teams competed for regional and national championships. For the first time in its history, and for two consecutive years, Newberry College was named one of America's best colleges by *U.S. News and World*



Mitchell M. Zais

Report.

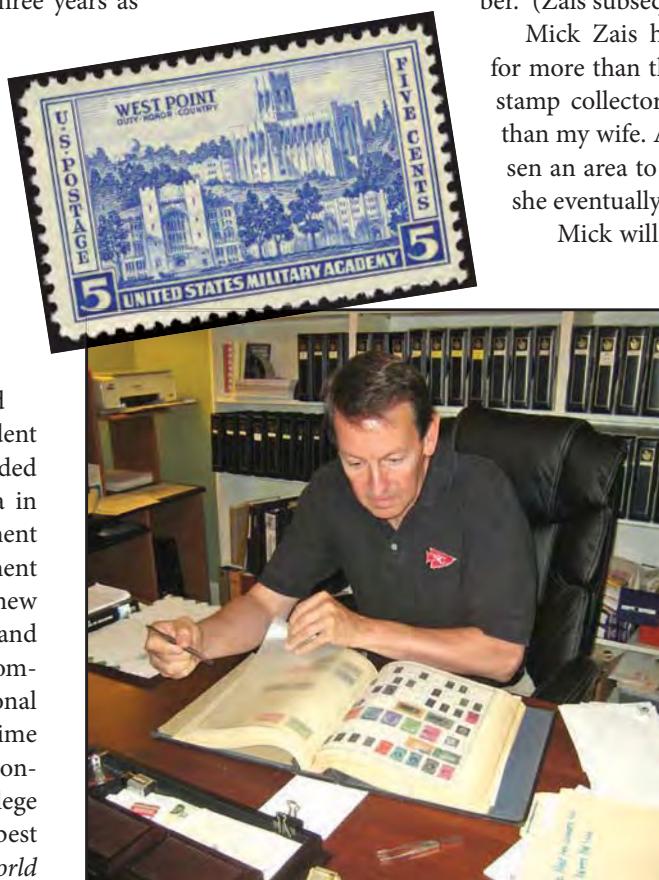
During Zais's tenure as president of Newberry College, he also began attending national-level stamp shows all over the United States on a regular basis. "These wonderful events changed my collecting path considerably, because I was able to see great material at dealers' booths and in exhibit frames, which helped focus my own interests in exhibiting. The greatest benefits of my attendance at these shows, and a factor that increased my passion for the hobby considerably, were my personal interactions with fellow collectors, exhibitors and dealers."

Much to the chagrin of his campaign staff, Zais (who was the Republican Party's candidate for State Superintendent of Education for South Carolina) attended this year's APS STAMPSHOW in Richmond,

Virginia for three straight days. "I know I have a full campaign underway, but with the proximity of this year's APS show, it was too close not to attend," explained Zais earlier this fall. "Those few days gave me a chance to recharge before jumping back on the campaign trail leading up to election day in November." (Zais subsequently won the election.)

Mick Zais has been married to his wife, Susan, for more than thirty years. "I want to believe that few stamp collectors have a spouse more understanding than my wife. After thirty years, she still has not chosen an area to collect, but I'm holding out hope that she eventually will," said Zais.

Mick will be the guest speaker the APS AMERISTAMP EXPO's Tiffany Dinner, to be held February 12, at the Charleston Convention Center, Charleston, South Carolina. The Tiffany Endowment Fund was established in 1995 in recognition of the visionary leadership of John Kerr Tiffany, the most prominent American philatelist of the nineteenth century and the first president of what was to become the American Philatelic Society. In recent years, dinners that help support that fund have been held annually at the APS winter and summer stamp shows and have featured speakers who showcase the finest traditions of philately in America.



Discounts on Retired Sales Books

I mentioned last month that we were considering two suggestions relating to the selling of a sales book's remaining items at a specified price. This month, we are asking for your thoughts on those suggestions. I'll begin with **Teaser #1** from last month and the suggestion that we offer a discount on the remaining value of books that are in circulation on regular circuits. This might be how we look at the process:

1. *Seller* submits sales books with a note saying he/she wants to participate in this program.
2. *Seller* specifies a percentage discount acceptable if a buyer wants to purchase the remaining contents of the books.
3. *Sales Division* applies a label stating the terms of sale in this program.
4. *Buyers* purchase items as normal from all books, but the participating books may be bought at a percentage of the entered price. This percentage only applies to the purchase of the remaining contents of a book.
5. *Buyer* calls APS or adds the prices of the remaining items to obtain the value on which to apply the discount.
6. *Buyer* removes the contents of the book and returns the cover to

APS with payment, leaving a note for the next circuit list members concerning the purchased book's absence from the circuit.

7. The *Sales Division* would adjust the sales book total to reflect the discount.
8. The book is placed into the *retirement* area when the circuit returns to APS.

Next, we have **Teaser #2** from last month. It involves the establishment of a "clearance" circuit, consisting of previously circulated sales books that have had their total remaining values reduced by a chosen percentage. It would be a "buy everything in the book or nothing" arrangement. For this reason, we may need to be more selective with what will be accepted for these circuits. These books would be a separate inventory from our regular 38,000-book inventory and would only circulate to members who request a "clearance" circuit or would be shown to visitors here at the American Philatelic Center. This is the thought on how it might work:

1. *Seller* may send us books that he/she has not remounted since they were retired, or a seller may choose to have newly retired books placed back into circulation as clearance books.

2. *Seller* stipulates a percentage decrease (20% or more) in the price asked for the remaining content.
3. *Buyers* request a direct clearance circuit that would contain sales books from their chosen categories.
4. Each clearance book would be presented for sale as a "buy all or nothing" book.

This arrangement could potentially provide sellers with the opportunity to re-circulate material in the same books they had originally submitted, eliminating the time spent remounting the material at lower prices and eliminating the purchasing of new sales books and mounts for the material. It could also give buyers a way to buy material at better prices for their collections.

For the next two months, we are soliciting your opinions as buyers and/or sellers regarding these ideas. Please let us know what you think.

- What would you like to see in these services?
- Would you take advantage of what they have to offer?
- In what capacity might you use them?

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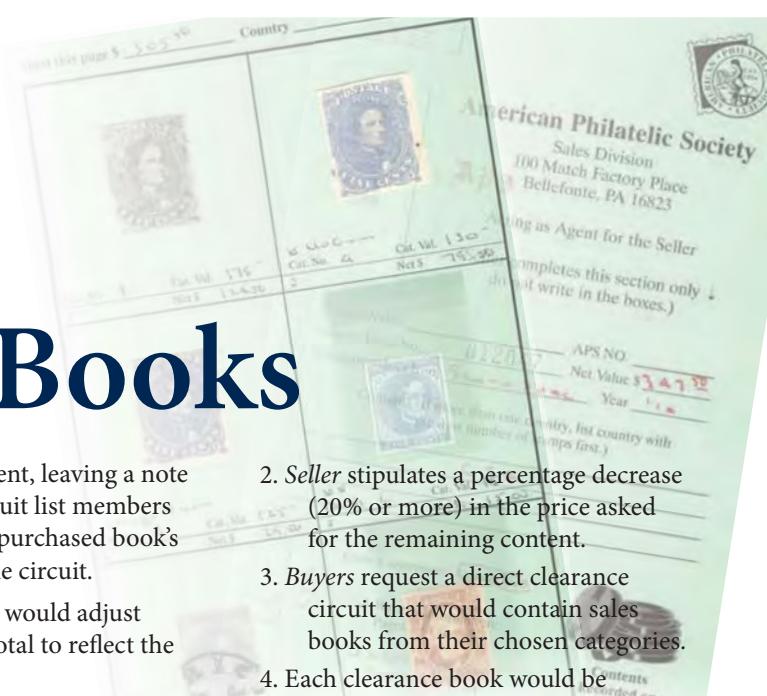
ATTENTION All Collectors!

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pend on your responses. Call 814-933-3803, ext 227, fax 814-933-6128, e-mail twhorn@stamps.org, or write to me at APS 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823. We are very open to your ideas and comments.

Holiday Circuit Arrival

If you will not be available to handle circuits during the holidays for two weeks or more, let us know. We will send letters to bypass your name on the circuit lists during your absence. Please give us advance notice of at least two weeks to process these notices. If a circuit is waiting for you to handle after the holidays, just process it as soon as you can. Be sure a circuit is not near the holiday decorations or gift wrappings. On one occasion, a member could only surmise that a circuit he received had been thrown out with the discarded wrapping paper, and another member found a circuit in the trash just before it was picked up.

2011 Dues

The notices for 2011 dues are out. Send your payment by the end of this year to avoid interruption of your circuits and access to Stampstore. We pull names off of the circuit lists at the end of January, after reminders are sent in mid-January.

Direct Circuit Offer

For December, we are offering a one-time direct circuit of **Switzerland** (mint, used, early, and recent), waiving the \$5-fee for members in the U.S. and discounting by \$5 the \$20 fee for members outside the United States in countries to which we can send approvals. Just send us a note saying that you saw this offer, provide us with your membership number, mailing address and your preference



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in this category. The other featured category is **Independent Africa**. The direct circuit will be sent to you using Priority Mail or flat-rate Priority Mail. You will need to obtain one of these boxes at your post office (for free) for returning the circuit to us, because they may not be used a second time. Delivery Confirmation may be used for sending the circuit to APS only from the fifty states and Puerto Rico.

Mini-Circuits Available

Two years ago, we began sending four-book mini-circuits to members who had not used the Sales Division in the last five years or who had never used it. They were offered from January through March and July through September each year. We are now offering them at any time of the year as a way to introduce members to the workings of our approval services. Each circuit includes an introductory information sheet as well. The sales books are selected from the categories requested. If you haven't experienced the APS sales books, visit www.stamps.org (then click services, then Sales Division and then Circuit Request form) to complete the form online or contact us at salesdiv@stamps.org or (814) 933-3803, ext. 228 to have one sent to you.

'5 for 10' Categories (Needs)

We need U.S. items, except U.S. First Day Covers, U.S. Mint post-1950, U.S. Used post-1950 and U.S. Plate Blocks post-1950. You can earn coupons for free blank books and mounts for every ten completed books containing material from a set list of categories. (Each group of ten or more qualifying books must be received at the same time and at least \$50 per book. The coupons are issued when the qualifying books are reviewed soon after arriving.) Each book must be designed to fit one of the categories, exclusively. Details are sent with blank sales book orders. You may also visit www.stamps.org and click Sales Division and How to Sell. {Single-country books usually have better sales.} Below are categories that are in very short supply at this time:

- U.S. Back of the Book
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- British Oceania
- China
- India & States
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- Spanish Colonies
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Giving Owney a New Look

In the last few months I've talked about the exciting opportunity the museum has to expand its philatelic exhibit holdings through the creation of the William H. Gross Stamp Gallery, as well as the coming additions of exhibits looking into the history and development of mail processing and the emotional and critical importance of military mail. I would like to share one more exhibition tidbit with you this month. This exhibit update is a tiny, modest feature in comparison to the vast changes I've outlined in past columns.

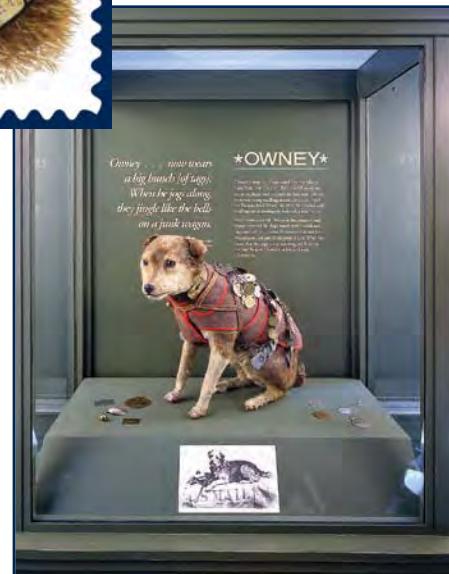
Among the additions to the museum in 2011 of "Systems of Work" and "Mail Call" exhibitions, the museum is giving Owney a new look. For those who don't know, Owney was a terrier-mix mutt who wandered into the Albany, New York post office in the late nineteenth century. The pup began following mail-bags onto railway mail train cars, and was soon riding the rails all across the United States. He became the unofficial mascot of the Railway Mail Service and a good luck charm for the clerks. Before long local reporters would write up Owney's visits and townspeople began adding tags to the dog's collar. By the time of his demise in the summer of 1897, Owney had traveled around the world and had become a national celebrity.

After his death, mail clerks arranged for the dog's body to be preserved. He was given to the U.S. Post Office Department, which then passed him along to the Smithsonian Institution. Owney has



The USPS will honor Owney with this stamp, to be released in 2011.

Owney in his current display at the National Postal Museum.



been on almost continuous display since the early 1960s.

The museum has been looking for an opportunity to freshen up our Owney exhibit. The planned issuance of an Owney stamp in 2011 has given us a great opportunity. The museum is "refreshing" Owney's taxidermy work and will surround him with a fresh new exhibit. I invite you to visit the museum at the end of July 2011 to see this new exhibit.

Because the Owney story is a national (and even international) one, we are reaching out to Owney's friends and potential fans in a number of ways. For those who would like to follow the numerous events and projects associated with Owney's new look, I'd like to invite you (and your kids or grandchildren) to follow the talkative pup through his Facebook page (www.facebook.com/owney) or on Twitter (www.twitter.com/owneythedog).

The museum will be celebrating Owney with re-vamped school tours

that will allow us to share a richer, fuller story of Owney's life and times with local school children. We also will be creating teacher resources and lesson plans for teachers who have been begging for additional Owney resources. The biggest of all these events will be a series of family festivals in July and August that will include a number of dynamic activities that include the geographic richness of Owney's travels and the lives and work of the Railway Post Office clerks.

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Looking Back on My Year



by James Chenevert, YPLF Fellow, Class of 2010

My year-long Fellowship started off at the 2009 APS STAMPSHOW in Pittsburgh, PA. I had never been to a World Series of Philately (WSP) stamp show or the APS Summer STAMPSHOW before. I left that show with an unmatched enthusiasm for philately and a realization that our great hobby was much larger than I ever suspected.

Of the three YPLF Tracks (Dealer, Author, Exhibitor), I chose to tackle the *Exhibitor Track*. I figured with so much of my time in the YPLF program focused on the new and unknown, I wanted to have my YPLF Track be in an area where I had some previous experience. I put together my first philatelic exhibit at age 11 while my family was living in Singapore. My grandfather has worked for NASA since 1988 and his excitement for everything “space” related focused me on a space-themed exhibit.

Collecting the material for this first exhibit helped develop my philatelic interests, including the discovery of my favorite U.S. postage stamps (at least to this point in my collecting/exhibiting career) — the five pentagon-shaped “Exploring The Solar System” stamps from the 2000

Space Issue. I also discovered postal history in the creation of this exhibit, which resulted in the addition of many space-related covers to my collection and ultimately to the final exhibit. The exhibit, “Exploring the Universe” went into competition at an exhibition sponsored by the Singapore Philatelic Museum, where it received a Silver medal.

I dabbled with other exhibits but did not decide to plunge back in until I was in the midst of the frames at the APS STAMPSHOW in Pittsburgh. I knew I had the perfect opportunity within the YPLF Fellowship to build a new worthwhile exhibit. In addition to meeting my fellow YPLF participants, I also met my Exhibit Track Mentor, Jeff Shapiro, at the show. Initially I thought about expanding my space-themed exhibit, but in the end, I picked a topic I believed would interest the casual observer at any U.S. stamp show. This mindset led me to develop an exhibit focused on the security features of U.S. postage stamps between 1974–2009.

At this point I have to acknowledge my father, Don Chenevert’s tremendous assistance in my efforts — from the moment the initial exhibit concept was in place to the acquisition of material to the developing the finished pages. I wish every exhibitor could be as lucky as I am to have a constant sounding board, source of advice, knowledge, and financing. (Although a benefit of this exhibit topic and scope is that modern U.S. postage stamps haven’t skyrocketed in price — yet!)

The YPLF program promised to connect its participants with the people that make our hobby particularly special in all its many aspects. Looking back as a graduate of the YPLF, I am here to attest that the program did not disappoint! My mentor, Jeff Shapiro, helped me understand the mindset of philatelic judges. The importance of his assistance cannot be understated as it helped me create an exhibit, that would have a real chance of receiving high scores and at the same time be accessible by casual observers (as was my original intent).



Mark Banchik presents John with a youth gold award at STAMPSHOW this year.

Janet Klug guided my understanding of how to create an exhibit from scratch and also helped me refine my scope and follow-up text. As the exhibit took shape, John Hotchner provided incredibly thorough feedback on my early efforts. Mr. Hotchner’s assistance put me on firm footing as I continued to receive feedback and additional content input from Tom Fortunato, stamp dealers Jim Lee and Michael Ball, and the staff of the APS Research Library.

My exhibit’s first competitive outing was at the 2010 Philatelic Event in Boxborough, Massachusetts, where it received a Gold and the Youth Grand Award. Since the Boxborough Show, I have made countless changes to the text, organization and presentation, and I am particularly proud of my exhibit being awarded the Innovations in Philately honor at the MILCOPEX Show this past September.

I look forward to expanding my exhibit to encompass earlier security features of U.S. stamps and exhibiting in the future. To learn more about the security features of U.S. postage stamps between 1974–2009, including close up pictures of the individual design characteristics, please take a look at the series of blog posts entitled “Innovations in U.S. Postage Stamp Security” that I have written for the Smithsonian National Postal Museum Blog — *Pushing the Envelope* at <http://postalmuseumblog.si.edu>.

Thank You Dealers

On behalf of the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship, we want to specifically thank the following dealers who recognize the importance of cultivating our hobby's future leaders. They have supported the YPLF through their cash gifts and pledges, sale contributions on eBay Mission Fish, and service as YPLF mentors.

Michael & Cecilia Ball

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**For a complete list of YPLF
donors, visit www.stamps.org/
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show time

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

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

Florida **December 3-5**
FLOREX The Florida State Stamp Show, FSDA & Central Florida Stamp Club, Central Florida Fair Grounds, Commercial Exhibit Hall, 4603 West Colonial Drive (SR 50), Orlando. *WSP*
Contact: Francis Ferguson, 407-493-0956-Cell
E-mail: show@florexstampshow.com

Website: www.florexstampshow.com

Michigan **December 4**
FERNPEX Ferndale Stamp Club, Oak Park Community Center, 14300 Oak Park Blvd. (9 ½-Mile Rd.-West of Coolidge), Oak Park.
Contact: Fred Como Jr., 313-527-2059

California **December 4-5**
PENPEX Sequoia Stamp Club, Redwood City Community Activities Bldg., 1400 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City.
Contact: Kristin Patterson, 408-267-6643
E-mail: penpexredwoodcity@yahoo.com
Website: www.penpex.org

Kentucky **December 4-5**
LOUIPEX 2010 Metro Louisville Stamp Society, St. Leonard's Catholic Church, 440 Zorn Avenue, Louisville.
Contact: German Dillon, 502-558-0046
E-mail: german.dillon@insightbb.com
Website: www.louisvillemetrostampssociety.org

Ohio **December 4-5**
Worthington Stamp Club Annual Show and Bourse Worthington Stamp Club, DiSalle Center at the Ohio Expo Center, 717 East 17th Ave., Columbus.
Contact: Chuck Wooster, 614-560-3689
E-mail: cwooster@aol.com

2011

Louisiana **January 7-9**
New Orleans Stamp Expo, Stamp Expo 21 Radison New Orleans Airport, 2150 Veterans Blvd., New Orleans.
Contact: Sy Bricker, 941-993-0919
E-mail: mto.stamps@gte.net

Michigan **January 8-9**
BIRPEX Birmingham Stamp Club, Birmingham Masonic Temple, 37357 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills.
Contact: John Schuelke, 810-235-2641.
E-mail: jschuelke@webtv.net

Arizona **January 14-16**
ARIPEX Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs, Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church Street, Tucson. *WSP*
Contact: Steven Staton, 520-572-8980;
520-794-3921
E-mail: mman3@comcast.net
Webiste: www.aripexonline.com

Pennsylvania **January 21-22**
York County Stamp Show White Rose Philatelic Society of York, York Fairgrounds, Horticulture Hall, 334 Carlisle Ave., York.
Contact: John Hufnagel, 717-235-1528

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California

January 21-23

SANDICAL San Diego County Philatelic Council, Al-Bahr Shrine Temple, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., San Diego. ***WSP***
Contact: Linda Mabin, 760-746-1505.
E-mail: lmabin@juno.com
Website: www.sandical.org

South Carolina

January 22-23

Annual Winter Stamp and Postcard Show Columbia Philatelic Society, Spring Valley High School, 120 Sparkleberry Lane, Columbia. ***B***
Contact: Bob Wilson, 803-237-1184.
E-mail: wilson0800@bellsouth.net

Connecticut

January 23

NHPS 4th Sunday Show New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA Hall, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. ***B***
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-389-2863
E-mail: soggy3@aol.com
Website: www.NHPS1914.org

California

January 28-30

ORCOEXPO Quality Stampshows, Embassy Suites Anaheim South, 11767 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove.
Contact: Stephen Pattillo, 888-995-0548
E-mail: number1banana@hotmail
Website: www.stampshowsteve.com

Florida

January 28-30

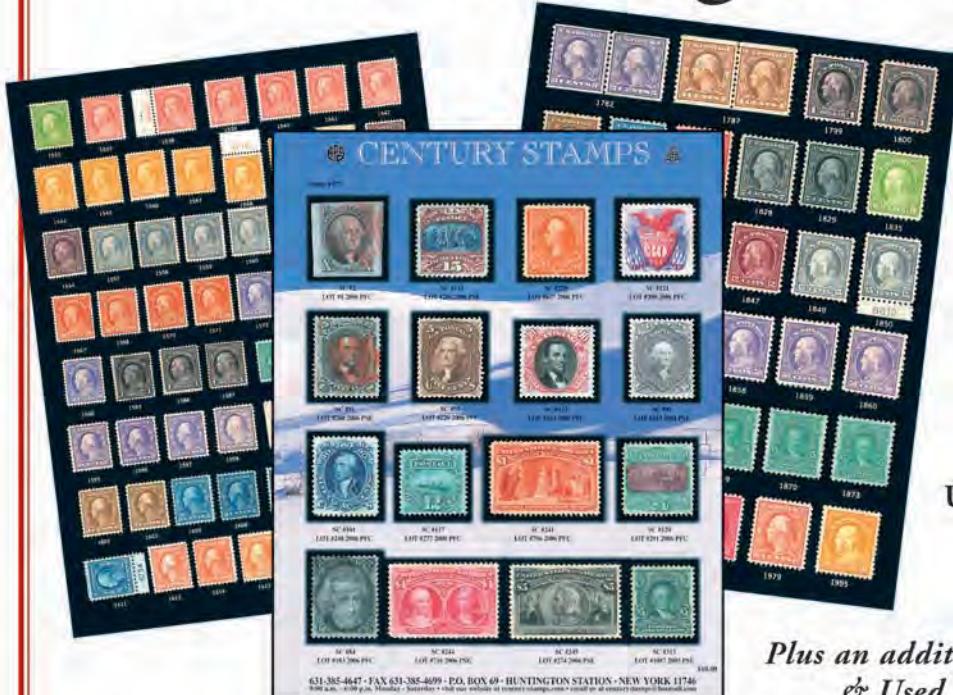
ASDA Winter Postage Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Association, Courtyard Marriott, 1601 N. Congress Ave., Boyton Beach. ***B***
Contact: Joseph Savarese.
E-mail: jsavarese@asdaonline.com
Website: www.asdaonline.com

Florida

February 4-6

Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition Sarasota Philatelic Club, City of Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, (US 41) 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. ***WSP***
Contact: Jack Seaman, 941-922-7191
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Ohio	February 4-6	Website: www.lincolnstampclub.org
COLOPEX	Columbus Philatelic Club, DiSalle Center at the Ohio Expo Center, 717 East 17th Ave., Columbus. *WSP*	
Contact:	Chuck Wooster	Ohio
E-mail:	cwooster@aol.com	February 26-27
Website:	www.colopex.com ; 614-560-3689	Toledo Stamp Expo Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, Holland Gardens, 6530 Angola Rd., Holland.
South Carolina	February 11-13	Contact: Clifford Campbell, 419-874-6241
APS AmeriStamp Expo	American Philatelic Society, Charleston Convention Center, Charleston. Contact: Barb Johnson, 814-933-3803 ext 217.	Website: www.toledostampclub.org
E-mail:	stampshow@stamps.org	
Website:	www.stamps.org/Ameristamp-Expo	
Kansas	February 19-20	California
The Cessna Show	The Cessna Stamp & Coin Club, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita.	March 5-6
Contact:	Ralph E. Lott, 316-747-2118	NOVAPEX Redding Stamp Club, Senior Citizens Hall, 2290 Benton Dr., Redding.
Alaska	February 25-27	Contact: Bob Grosch, 530-549-4872
Anchorage Philatelic Exhibition	Anchorage Philatelic Society, Post Office Lobby Ship Creek Center, 344 W. 3rd Ave., Anchorage.	E-mail: bobgrosch@frontiernet.net
Contact:	Patrick Hoffmann, 907-346-2717	Website: www.reddingstampclub.com
E-mail:	phoffmann@alaska.net	
Website:	www.home.gci.net/~akphilsoc	
Nebraska	February 26-27	Michigan
LINPEX	Lincoln Stamp Club, Holiday Inn Downtown, 141 N. 9th St., Lincoln.	March 5-6
Contact:	Kenneth Pruess, 402-464-6939	MICHPEX 2011 Michigan Stamp Club, Sokol Hall, 23600 West Warren, Dearborn Heights.
E-mail:	kppruess@aol.com	Contact: John Bendzick, 313-277-2298; 313-554-2171
New York	February 25-27	New York
BUFFPEX	Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga(Buffalo).	March 5-6
Contact:	George Gates, 716-633-8358	E-mail: gghg53@aol.com
Ohio	February 26-27	Ohio
McKinley Stamp Show, McKinley Stamp Club	St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW, North Canton.	March 5-6
Contact:	David Pool, 330-832-5992	E-mail: lincolnway@sssnet.com

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Call for 2011 Winter Meeting

Pursuant to Article 3, Section 3.4 of the Bylaws, I hereby issue this official call for the 52nd Winter Meeting of the American Philatelic Society for transactions of such business as may be legally brought before it. The convention will assemble at the Charleston Convention Center, 5001 Coliseum Drive, Charleston, South Carolina 29418, from February 11-13, 2011.

All meetings of the American Philatelic Society will be held at the Exhibition Hall. Proposed resolutions shall be submitted to APS National Headquarters at least thirty days prior to the general membership meeting, which will be held in the Exhibition Hall at 9 a.m. on Saturday, February 12.

Wade E. Saadi
President, American Philatelic Society

Illinois **March 11-13**
ASDA Midwest Postage Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Association, Lindner Conference Center, 610 East Butterfield Rd., Lombard. *B*
Contact: Joseph Savarese
E-mail: jsavarese@asdaonline.com
Website: www.asdaonline.com

California **March 12-13**
FRESPEX 2011 Fresno Philatelic Society, Veterans Memorial Building, 435 Hughes Ave., Clovis.
Contact: Dick Richardson, 559-431-5013
E-mail: starstamps@thegrid.net;

Illinois **March 12-13**
Rockford 2011 Stamp Show Rockford Stamp Club, Forest Hills Lodge, 1601 West Lane Rd. (Hwy 173 West), Loves Park.
Contact: Tim Wait, 815-670-5869
E-mail: t.wait@comcast.net
Website: www.rockfordstampclub.org

Missouri **March 18-20**
St. Louis Stamp Expo, Area Clubs St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. *WSP*
Contact: David Kols, 800-782-0066;
 Fax 314-361-5677
E-mail: expo@regencystamps.com
Website: www.stlstampexpo.org

Florida **March 19-20**
NAPLEX Collier County Stamp Club, The

Conservancy, 1450 Merrihue Drive (just off 14th Ave. North from Goodlette-Frank Rd., Naples.
Contact: Robert Hasin, 239-732-8000;
 239-732-7701
E-mail: newengstamp@aol.com;

Ohio **March 25-27**
Garfield-Perry March Party Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Masonic Auditorium, 36th & Euclid Ave., Cleveland. *WSP*
Contact: Roger Rhoads
E-mail: rrrhoads@aol.com
Website: www.garfieldperry.org.

Michigan **March 26-27**
KAZOOPEX Kalamazoo Stamp Club, Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds and Expo Center, 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo.
Contact: Mike Dennany, 269-623-5836
E-mail: irishdennany@yahoo.com

New Mexico **March 26-27**
Mesilla Valley Stamp Show Mesilla Valley Stamp Club, Las Cruces Convention Center, 1214 E. Madrid Ave., Las Cruces.
Contact: Richard Hiss, 575-202-1937
E-mail: RHiss@comcast.net
Website: www.meetinlascruces.com

Pennsylvania **April 1-3**
Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks. *WSP*
Contact: Steve Washburne, 215-843-2106
E-mail: info@pnse.org; www.pnse.org



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Wisconsin April 2-3

WISCOPEX 2011 Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs & Central Wis., Holiday Inn Convention Center, 1101 Amber Ave., Stevens Point.

Contact: Laurence Glenzer Jr., 715-341-6767
E-mail: mcdillaauto@att.net;

New York April 7-10

ASDA Spring Postage Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Assn., APS & USPS, New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave., New York.

Contact: Joseph Savarese, 718-224-2500;
 718-224-2501.

E-mail: jsavarese@asdaonline.com
Website: www.asdaonline.com;

Indiana April 9-10

Spring Stamp Fair Indiana Stamp Club, Sterrett Center @ Former Ft. Harrison, 8950 Otis

Ave, Lawrence.

Contact: Tom Chastang
E-mail: tchas5@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.indianastampclub.org/fair.html

Texas April 15-17

TEXPEX Southwest Phil. Foundation, Doubletree Hotel Dallas Near the Galleria, 4099 Valley View Lane (LBJ Freeway at Midway Rd.), Dallas. ***WSP***

Contact: Tom Koch, 972-883-4951;
 972-883-2473

E-mail: tkoch@utdallas.edu
Website: www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex.htm

Pennsylvania April 16

Spring Stamp Expo Cumberland Valley Philatelic Society, Eugene C. Clark, Jr. Community Center, 235 S. Third Street, Chambersburg. ***B***

Contact: Quinn Witherspoon, 717-264-1252

E-mail: rspran@pa.net

Pennsylvania April 16-17

WILKPEX Wilkinsburg Stamp Club, Garden City Hall, Inc., 600 Garden City Drive, Monroeville.

Contact: Tom Donohue, 412-373-8697
E-mail: wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com
Website: www.wilkinsburgstamp.com

California April 29-May 1

WESTPEX Western Phil. Exhibitions, Inc., San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame. ***WSP***

Contact: Edward Jarvis, 415-387-1016
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Massachusetts April 29-30-May 1

Philatelic Show Northeastern Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn Boxborough Woods, 242 Adams Place (I-495 @Rt. 111 Ex. 28), Boxborough. Contact: Jeff Shapiro, 508-460-0078.

E-mail: coverlover@gmail.com
Website: www.nefed.org *WSP*

Canada April 30-May 1

ORAPEX 2010 RA Stamp Club, Ottawa Philatelic Society, RA Sports Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ont. Contact: Robert Pinet, 613-745-2788.
E-mail: pinet.robert@gmail.com
Website: www.racentre.com/raweb/ESports/Stamp.html

Michigan April 30-May 1

Plymouth Show West Suburban Stamp Club, Central Middle School, 650 Church Street, Plymouth. Contact: Rod Watts.
E-mail: dwatts1@peoplepc.com
Website: www.plymouthshow.com *WSP*

Pennsylvania May 6-7

BUTLERPEX Butler County Philatelic Society, Tanglewood Senior Center, 10 Austin Ave., Lyndora. Contact: Stanley Snyder, 724-443-5740.
E-mail: stampdad@zoominternet.net

Canada May 7

Saugeen Stamp Club's 13th Annual Show Saugeen Stamp Club, Knights of Columbus Hall, Hwy #4, Hanover, Ont. Contact: Jim Measures, 519-327-8265.

Ohio May 7

TRUMPEX 2011 The Warren Area Stamp Club, J.V. Johnson Community Center, 800 Gillmer Road, Leavittsburg. Contact: Howard Lutz, 330-924-5124.
E-mail: howrex2@aol.com

Colorado May 13-15

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

New York May 13-15

ROPEX, Rochester Phil. Assoc. ESL Sports Centre, 2700 Brighton Henrietta Townline Rd, Rochester. Contact: Tom Fortunato, 585-752-6178.
E-mail: stampmf@frontiernet.net
Website: www.rpstamps.org/ropex.html;
WSP

New Jersey May 27-29

NOJEX North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, Inc., Meadowlands Crown Plaza Hotel, Two Harmon Plaza, Secaucus. Contact: Robert G. Rose, 973-966-8070; 973-210-8521.
E-mail: rrose@daypitney.com
Website: www.nojex.org *WSP*

St. Pierre and Miquelon June 2-4

SPM EXPO 2011 Philatelic Society of St. Pierre and Miquelon, Centre Culturel De Saint-Pierre. Contact: Jean-Jacques Tillard or David Allen, 604-263-0029.
E-mail: texspm@cheznoo.net
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Virginia **June 3-5**
NAPEX, National Phil. Exhibitions of Washington D.C. McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean. *WSP*
Contact: Thomas Lera, 703-205-0600
E-mail: frontier2@erols.com; www.napex.org

Wisconsin **June 24-26**
National Topical Stamp Show American Topical Association, Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield, 375 S. Moorland Road, Brookfield. *WSP*
Contact: Robert J. Mather, 262-968-2392
E-mail: burrobob@wi.rr.com
Website: www.americantopicalassn.org

California **July 8-10**
ASDA Northern California Postage Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Association, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1177 Airport Blvd., Burlingame. *B*
Contact: Joseph Savarese
E-mail: jsavarese@asdaonline.com
Website: www.asdaonline.com

California **July 16-18**
ASDA Southern California Postage Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Association, Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel, 5711 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles. *B*
Contact: Joseph Savarese
E-mail: jsavarese@asdaonline.com
Website: www.asdaonline.com

Indiana **August 5-7**
AMERICOVER American First Day Cover Society, Wyndham West Indianapolis Hotel, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis. *WSP*
Contact: Norm Elrod, 931-473-6164
E-mail: showinfo@afdc.org
Website: www.afdc.org/americancover/ americancover2011.html

Michigan **August 6-7**
COLPEX Collectors Club of Michigan, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights. *B*
Contact: Charles Wood, 248-546-1282
E-mail: jarnick@wowway.com

Ohio **August 6-7**
CINPEX 11 Greater Cincinnati Philatelic Society, Hugh Watson (Greenhills) American Legion Hall, 11100 Winton Road, Cincinnati. *B*
Contact: Jim Siekermann/Ron Maifeld, 513-825-4379/714-759-5580 Cell
E-mail: jims150320@aol.com
Website: www.freewebs.com/gcps

Ohio **August 11-14**
APS Stampshow, American Philatelic Society, Columbus Convention Center, Columbus. Contact: Barb Johnson, 814-933-3803 ext 217; Fax 814-933-6128. *WSP*
E-mail: stampshow@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/Stampshow

Wisconsin **September 16-18**
MILCOPEX Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Inc., Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel & Convention Center, 4747 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee. *WSP*
Contact: Rob Henak
E-mail: henak8010@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.milwaukeephilatelic.org

Indiana **September 30-October 1-2**
INDYPEX Indiana Stamp Club, Wyndham

Hotel Indianapolis West, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis. ***WSP***
Contact: Randy Marcy
E-mail: indypex@indianastampclub.org
Website: www.indianastampclub.org

New York **October 13-16**
The National Postage Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Association, New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave., New York.
Contact: Joseph Savarese, 516-759-7000; Fax 516-759-7014.
E-mail: jsavarese@asdaonline.com
Website: www.asdaonline.com

California **October 14-16**
SESCAL Federated Phil. Clubs of Southern California, Hilton LAX Hotel, 5711 West Century Boulevard, Los Angeles. ***WSP***
Contact: Carl Shaff II, 213-383-7111
E-mail: c2shaff@aol.com
Website: www.sescal.org

Oklahoma **October 21-22**
OKPEX Oklahoma City Stamp Club, Express Events Center, 8512 NW Expressway, Oklahoma City. ***WSP***
Contact: Joe Crosby, 405-749-0939.
E-mail: joecrosby@cox.net;

Illinois **October 22-23**
CUPEX Champaign-Urbana Stamp Club, Urbana Civic Center, 108 E. Water Street, Urbana.
Contact: Louise B. Toft, 217-359-9115
E-mail: ndx4031r@att.net
Website: www.custampclub.org

Pennsylvania

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

Michigan

AAPEX Ann Arbor Stamp Club, Morris J. Lawrence Bldg., Washtenaw Comm. College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor.
Contact: Harry & Dottie Winter
Website: www.aastampclub.googlepages.com/

California

Filatelic Fiesta 2011 San Jose Stamp Club, Santa Clara Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Road, San Jose. ***WSP***
Contact: Stephen Schumann, 510-415-6158
E-mail: sdsc@earthlink.net
Website: filatelicfiesta.org

Virginia

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

Illinois

CHICAGOPEX Chicago Philatelic Society, Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd., Itasca. ***WSP***
Contact: John Kevin Doyle
E-mail: doyle-stamps@att.net

October 29

Cumberland Valley Philatelic Society, Eugene C. Clark, Jr. Community Center, 235 S. Third Street, Chambersburg. ***B***

Website: www.chicagopex.com

Florida

FLOREX The Florida State Stamp Show, FSDA & Central Florida Stamp Club, Central Florida Fair Grounds, Commercial Exhibit Hall, 4603 West Colonial Drive (SR 50), Orlando.
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December 1-3

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Georgia

APS AmeriStamp Expo, American Philatelic Society, Cobb Galleria Centre, 2 Galleria Parkway, Atlanta. Contact: Barb Johnson, 814-933-3803 ext 217; Fax 814-933-6128.
E-mail: stampshow@stamps.org
Webiste: www.stamps.org/Ameristamp-Expo

Florida

Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition Sarasota Philatelic Club, City of Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, (US 41) 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. ***WSP***
Contact: Jack Seaman, 941-922-7191
E-mail: jakcman@verizon.net
Website: www.sarasotastampclub.com

February 3-5

Missouri **March 16-18**
St. Louis Stamp Expo Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. ***WSP***

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g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publisher #4 (page #2))	1,537		1,212		
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)	37,810		36,923		
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)	95.93493%		96.74728%		
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required in the December 2010 issue of this publication					
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Barbara Boal					
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).					
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membership report

No. 10, October 31, 2010



NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during October 2010. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to December 31, 2010, these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the March 2011 issue.

Adenubi, Larry (218169) **Croydon, Surrey, England**; 34
Allen, Rex M. (218182) **Seattle, WA** US; 58; Civil Engineer
Andresen, Warren C. (218179) **Richland, WA** US; 90; Retired
Baker, Cheryl (218161) **Emden, IL** PLATE BLKS-FDC; 64; Farming
Bates, William R. (218140) **Lafayette, LA** GER-GB-WORLDWIDE; 65; Steel Sales
Berkowich, Leonard D. (218190) **Bloomington, IL**; 65
Berukoff, John (218156) **Woodburn, OR** N AM CONTINENT; 70; Semi Retired
Bissonnette, Mark K. (218171) **Amherst, NH** US; 54; Retired
Blose, Arthur R. (218128) **Lancaster, PA** MINT US, PLATE BLKS-COILS-BOOKLET PANES; 52; IT Consultant
Bonfanti, Christophe (218181) **Dasle, France** FRENCH PERFIN-FRANCE-REUNION ISLAND; 42
Bowers, Joseph C. (218173) **Philadelphia, PA** US PRESIDENTS-US HISTORY-WORLD LEADERS-NATURE; 57; Teacher
Brunstrom, Chister (218186) **Halmstad, Sweden**; 62; Journalist
Cade, Charles D. (218174) **Kenosha, WI** US, DEFINITIVES, COMMEM, FDC; 74; Retired
Castor, Susan K. (218192) **Indianapolis, IN** PRE 1940 US, USED SINGLES, MINT & USED PNB; 61; RN Case Manager
Catledge, Gary L. (218204) **Glennallen, AK** US; 55; Coordinator
Cholewa, Olivia M. (218188) **Eugene, OR**; 52
Chow, Bennett (218159) **San Diego, CA** CHINA; 48; Professor
Clulee, Kris A. (218172) **Waggaman, LA** AIR MAIL PLATE BLKS & COVERS-EARLY STAMPS; 44; Horticulturist

Comer, Frederick E. (218130) **Cornelius, NC** US, FDC; 70
Cowin, R. P. (218133) **Nelson, BC** PRE 1940 WORLDWIDE; 62; Retired
Dinsmore, Robert H. (218162) **Newcastle, ME** US-BRIT COL; 69; Retired
Donovan, Kathleen I. (218158) **Naugatuck, CT** 1850/1980 WORLDWIDE, PLATE BLKS, FDC; 54; Attorney
Dull, Donald F. (218145) **York, PA** US; 57; Retired
Erikson, Carl A. (218193) **Dillsburg, PA** US; 63; Professor
Evans, Timothy J. (218134) **Colonial Heights, VA** US-GER-CZECH; 60; English Professor
Fitch, Lee (218211) **Rochester, NY** PRE 1940; 70; Architect
Frawley, Patrick E. (218210) **Carlsbad, CA** US; 71; Retired
Frogel, Jay A. (218202) **Potomac, MD** GB-BRIT COL-SPAIN-GREECE; 66; Astronomer
Fudge, Kim A. (218146) **Saint Charles, IL** PRE 1920 US; 63; Retired
Gerle, Robert (218152) **Gettysburg, PA**; 70
Gimjani, Muhamrem Y. (218151) **Tirana, Albania** ALBANIA; 50
Girton, Rebekah (218195) **Augusta, GA** PEOPLE-ANIMALS-FLOWERS-NATURE; 70; Retired
Glasgow, Thomas E. (218147) **Madison, WI** US-PLATE BLKS-WORLDWIDE-FDC; 48
Glover, Eddie D. (218144) **Rio Rico, AZ** US; 67; Retired
Green, Dan (218196) **Austin, TX** US-CSA-FRANCE-CANADA-GB-GER-JAPAN; 71; Retired
Gussoni, Joseph M. (218206) **Toronto, ON** BRIT COMM; 72
Hackmann, Agnes C. (218163) **Fairview Heights, IL**; 84; Retired
Halper, David (218148) **Orono, MN**; 69; Self Employed

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 217616, 217738, 217772 through 217866, and 217868 through 217875, 217877, 217878, and 217880 through 217889, and 217891 through 217913, and 217915 through 217956 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, Sept. 30, 2010	35,833
New Members	181
Reinstated	220
	401
	36,234
Deceased	49
Resignations.....	5
Expelled	2
Dropped, Non-payment of Dues	1 57
Total Membership, Oct. 31, 2010	36,177

Hartman, John (218127) **Aurora, OH**; 52
Hatch, Bruce E. (218135) **Glade Spring, VA** OLD US & CANADA; 70; Retired
Hatch, Thomas E. (218217) **Sun City West, AZ**; 71; Retired
Helweg, Paul F. (218191) **North Kingstown, RI**; 62
Herridge, Gary (218153) **Washington, WV** US; 68; Retired
Hicklin, Thomas (218126) **Pasadena, CA** 1800s US; 68
Houlgate, Laurence D. (218180) **San Luis Obispo, CA** PRE 1940 WORLDWIDE; 72; Retired
Hughes, Robert E. (218149) **Ocean City, MD** WORLDWIDE; 62; Prep Cook
Ingram, George B. (218168) **Price, UT** 1700-2010 WORLDWIDE-FDC-COVERS-PLATE BLKS-STAMLESS US; 63; Business Owner
Jacob, Walter W. (S-218189) **Chalfont, PA** US-NFLD-GEORGE VI CORONATION SERIES; 67
Jeffries, Genevieve (218125) **West Orange, NJ** MINT US SINGLES; 78; Retired
Kowalski, John F. (218141) **Oak Creek, WI** US-MINT NH; 61; Retired
Krygier, Anthony R. (218164) **Macomb, MI** POST 1900 MINT US, AIR MAIL-POLAND; 48; Grocery/Clerk
Kupfer, Timothy (218165) **Richland, WA** US-WORLDWIDE; 56; General Contractor
Laenen, Gert (218157) **Morkhoven, Belgium** BELGIUM; 29
Larkin, John A. (218199) **Staten Island, NY** SHIPS-US; 57
Matys, Estelle A. (218175) **Chicago, IL** US-WORLDWIDE; 61; Computer RM Associate

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McAlevy, Ian G. (218209) **Gresham, OR**; 68; Retired
 McIntosh, William C. (218203) **Santa Fe, NM** AUST-UK-US; 65
 McKee, Shirley (218142) **Beavercreek, OH** PRE 1990 US-S AFRICA; 63; Retired
 Monaco, Raymond A. (218129) **Staten Island, NY** US, REV, ERRORS-SAUDI ARABIA; 36; Computer Scientist
 Morrow, William R. (218154) **West Monroe, LA** US; 68; Retired
 Niemczyk, Ed H. (218155) **West St. Paul, MN** US; 75; Retired
 Noone, Robert P. (218213) **Netcong, NJ** PRE 1960 MINT US; 71; Retired
 Pillage, Derrick H. (218200) **Middleton on Sea, West Sussex, England**; 80; Retired
 Pompa, Adrian (218166) **Houston, TX** US-UN; 57; Accountant
 Postle, Douglas Cam (218197) **Houston, TX** 1875-1935 US & BRIT AFRICA; 66; Real Estate Broker
 Pryor, Joseph (218215) **Rye Brook, NY**
 Ratliff, Donald H. (218176) **Newcastle, CA** US-WORLDWIDE; 67
 Raymond, Paul (218184) **Evansville, IN** BRIT COMM-US; 58
 Riera, Gabriel (218137) **Chicago, IL** ARGENTINA-ARCHEOLOGY; 47
 Ringler, Stephen M. (218183) **Goleta, CA** BASEBALL; 66; Retired
 Rodriguez, Daniel (218150) **Santa Ana, CA** RESEARCH-DISCOVERY; 32; Recovery
 Rudd, Darrell J. (218185) **Lincolnwood, IL** EARLY US; 57; CEO
 Scharfman, Daniel (218198) **West Hills, CA** US COMMEM-UN; 53; Education
 Schiefer, Suzanne M. (218167) **Lynchburg, VA**; 45
 Simons, Robert M. (218160) **Woodland Hills, CA** US, LINE PAIRS, FARLEY'S; 46; Editor
 Smidt, John D. (218170) **Marblehead, MA** WORLDWIDE; 68; Retired
 Smith, Kirby C. (218208) **College Station, TX** GER; 70; Retired
 Sousa, Jose M. (218214) **Lisbon, Portugal** TELECOMMS; 54; Engineer
 Spradley, Kathryn V. (218212) **Mustang, OK** US NEW ISSUES; 63
 Taft, Michael A. (218138) **Shepherdsville, KY** WORLDWIDE; 40; Senior Software Engineer
 Taylor, John T. (218143) **Independence, MO** US-CLASSICS-LOCALS-WASHINGTON/FRANKLINS-MATCH & MEDICINE-BOB-EUR-MEX-C & S AM; 60; Truck Driver
 Taylor, Robert C. (218177) **Lake Lure, NC** THIRD REICH-US AIR MAIL; 68; Real Estate Sales
 Trammell, John (218187) **Ashland, VA**
 van der Caaij, Theo G. (218194) **Monster, Netherlands** 1946-1951 POSTAL NOTES; 52; Technician
 Wagner, Michael P. (218136) **Shelbyville, MI** US; 55; Factory Worker
 Wallace, Kirk (218216) **Springville, NY** PRE 1960 US, COMMEM, FDC; 59; Merchant
 Wallace, Wayne T. (218218) **Defiance, OH** MINT US, PLATE BLKS; 94; Retired
 Wells, Sam (218205) **Walla Walla, WA**; 43
 West, Eric S. (218132) **Eagle Point, OR** WORLDWIDE; 62; Retired
 Wictor, Timothy J. (218207) **La Puente, CA** FIRST FLIGHTS-AIR MAIL; 50; Investor
 Willoby, Randolph L. (218178) **Webster, TX** US; 66; Retired
 Wolfson, Mitchell (218201) **Miami, FL**; 71
 Yazgan, Kamil Serdar (218131) **Istanbul, Turkey** WORLDWIDE-FDC; 53; Engineer
 Zuluaga, Hector J. (218139) **Englewood, NJ**; 43; Accountant

DECEASED

Arnold, Stanley W. (5684-042144), Indianapolis, IN
 Barnes, Joan E. (084901), Asheville, NC
 Becker, Donald W. (9942-069408), San Antonio, TX
 Blakeway, Dale R. (196022), Belfair, WA
 Braun, H. Myron (151634), Mesa, AZ
 Conroy, William D. (094360), West Redding, CT
 Cooper, Rex (156492), Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
 Engelder, Katherine K. (163250), Pearland, TX
 Ferrarone, Waldo (9712-066780), Danbury, CT
 Garnett, Jeanne (141187), Wichita, KS
 Grandahl, Roland L. (098014), Windsor, CT
 Harrison, Arthur (109398), New York, NY
 Hourvitz, Clarence (8617-018614), Jupiter, FL
 Jubera, Fred (133695), Sterling Heights, MI
 Julienne, Charles H. (163471), Glendale, CA
 Kaufman, Charles E. (087420), Bridgeville, PA
 Kerby, Clifford F. (9261-062535), Berea, KY
 Kvale, William O. (7534-052709), Ellenton, FL
 Lachmann, Ernest B. (10393-072140), Old Bridge, NJ
 Linnemann, Robert L. (160603), Baltimore, MD
 Lobdell, David H. (6613-036637), Bridgeport, Ct
 Loew, Kenneth F. (4382-027811), Newton, MA
 Logan, Edwin M. (201139), Williamsburg, VA

Luster, Stephen (096355), Lansdowne, VA
 Margolis, Gustave S. (6902-050021), Johnstown, PA
 Mayer, Dan L. (190668), New Orleans, LA
 Mayriscn, Lenard, Jr. (7369-051105), Sonoma, CA
 McConnell, James A., Jr. (7805-051107), Red Bank, NJ
 Morrill, John B. (204034), Sarasota, FL
 Nickerson, Herb (211321), Pocatello, ID
 Parcell, John C. (207897), Canton, NY
 Perre, Joseph (11263-054785), Flourtown, PA
 Phillips, Jack (202686), Waynesville, NC
 Pieper, Marguerite A. (130884), Grass Valley, CA
 Rice, William (171891), Pittsburgh, PA
 Schmitt, Marjorie A. (137553), Cincinnati, OH
 Seligman, Herbert (089324), Canoga Park, CA
 Sherman, Randall (171273), Chicago, IL
 Slifer, Lyle L. (11093-070362), Guadalupe, CA
 Slone, John N. (130237), Annandale, VA
 Smith, Blair T. (102335), Grants Pass, OR
 Smith, Jean C. (4555-033935), Harrisburg, PA
 Smith, John J. (2378-020453), Lancaster, PA
 Smith, Richard G. (198790), Simsbury, CT
 Stephani, Adolph H. (5514-040749), Glen Cove, NY
 Thomas, Walter D. (092051), Lewiston, ME
 Van Horn, Irvin (10244-033386), Webster, TX
 Weiss, Herbert (7314-051678), Orangeburg, NY
 Zahler, Charles W. (8498-056272), Lakewood, NY

APPLICATION RETURNED

Howard, Byron
 Pederson, Robert A.

EXPELLED

Ford, Richard J. (175802), 3404 Winchester Ct., Modesto, CA, for conduct unbecoming a member for substituting stamps in the APS Sales Circuits (violation of APS Code of Ethics #10).
 Stewart, Gregory V. (196607), 252 E. 4700 N., Provo, UT, for conduct unbecoming a member for failure to account for Sales Circuits (violation of APS Code of Ethics #8), and failure to respond to official Society correspondence.

DEALER LISTING

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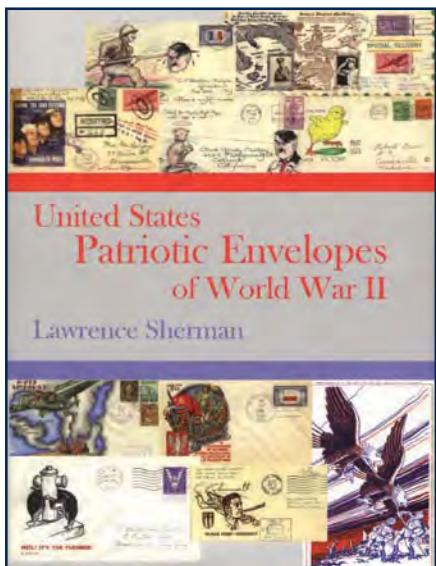
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by bonny farmer



United States Patriotic Envelopes of World War II, by Lawrence Sherman. Published 2006 by James Lee Publishing, Cary, Illinois. Hardcover, 420 pp., approx. 600 color illus., ISBN 0-9712608-8-5. Available for \$75 from Philatelic Bibliopole, P.O. Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233; telephone 502-451-0317, e-mail Leonard@pbbooks.net, website www.pbbooks.com.

This is a belated review of an excellent volume on postal stationery, in this instance the U.S. patriotic envelopes of World War II. As the author points out, it was the American Civil War that "unleashed the power of the patriotic cover," which came to a second crest during World War II with more than 650 professional artists and printers producing some 12,000 patriotic designs (apart from all the amateur artists — soldier and civilian — who embellished envelopes).

There is so much information that each chapter could generate a review of its own, but Chapter 1, "Through Ameri-

can Eyes," can stand in for the rest. The chapter is divided into the five stages of war, as the author sees it, which he describes and illustrates in detail. Among the many fascinating examples shown are a mock letter label addressed to President Franklin D. Roosevelt with the message "Get U.S. Out of War and KEEP U.S. OUT OF WAR!!" and signed John Q. Public; a first day cover to mark the "Dedication of New Post Office in Honor of General MacArthur" (MacArthur, West Virginia, April 15, 1942); a War Bonds cachet showing a Minute Man pulling free of the 1925 Battle of Lexington-Concord stamp (Scott 619) and racing off to the battlefield, musket in hand, with the caption "To Hell with Defense!! I'm on the Offense!!"; a January 1944 envelope with all-over cachet showing two American eagles swooping down on the surprised, tiny figures of Premier Tojo and Adolf Hitler and the title: "You asked for it!"; and a D-Day cartoon cachet of a soldier in an American tank towing a long line of disabled German tanks with the caption "I'm Out To Win the Scrap Drive in Our Division." The letter was returned, unopened, marked K.I.A. Private George Karkella was killed in action during the first days of the Normandy campaign.

This chapter is followed by "The Way They Were," which looks at printing & marketing methods as well as fakes; "Brief Biographies," which celebrates the lives of ten wartime cachetmakers; "Handpainted Envelopes," which includes lists of cachets by best-known artists, including Gladys Adler, Leonard Borkowski, William Clendennen, Everett Klass, Dorothy W. Knapp, Arthur F. Knoll, Abram Legallez, and Corporal A.E. Shaffer, followed by an alphabetical listing of less well-known artists. "From Here to Everywhere: Postal History" looks at cachets and stamps, such as the Presidential Series of 1938 ("Prexies"), National Defense (1940), Win the War (1942), Allied Nations and Four Freedoms stamps (1943), Overrun Countries commemoratives (1943-44), Iwo Jima commemorative (1945), and the Transport Plane Air Mail issue (1941-44), concluding with Other Wartime Issues

1940-45 (patriotic or otherwise) that found their way onto patriotic covers. The last chapter in the first section is "Wartime Journeys of Minkus Patriotic Envelopes," the most well-traveled and publicized of the patriotic envelopes.

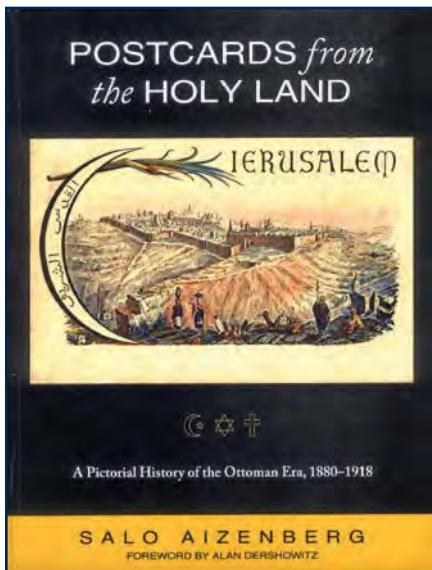
The second two-thirds of the book includes a Cachet Catalogue (pp. 129-397) listing more than 11,060 different cachets (versus 9,660 in the 1999 edition) created during World War II, "arranged alphabetically [by cachet text] and numbered consecutively." Thus, "A day ..." is No. 1 and "Zip your lip ..." is the last (No. 10637). Cachets without text are listed alphabetically by the first word of description and follow the "Z" listing of cachets with text. The last chapter is a Publisher Imprints Catalogue, an alphabetically ordered and numbered list that includes a number; the imprint and site; and the full name of the publisher, city and state. This is followed by a Select Bibliography" and a very short index.

One of the strong points of the author's presentation is that it emphasizes the point that *postal* history doesn't occur in isolation from *human* history. Indeed, this is one of the those rare and satisfying crossover books, in this case a gem for the military as well as the postal historian. Further, the quality of the writing and the amazing variety and depth of the images selected ensures that the general reader who picks it up is unlikely to avoid becoming enthralled as well.

Postcards from the Holy Land; A Pictorial History of the Ottoman Era, 1880-1918, by Salo Aizenberg. Published 2010 by the Society of Israel Philatelists. Softcover, 385 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-615-31135-7. Available for \$40 from the Society of Israel Philatelists, 19807 Malvern Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44122; website www.israelstamps.com.

This is a masterful presentation of the value the picture postcard (which the author calls "a severely neglected historical medium") can hold for the researcher. As Aizenberg writes in his discussion of why he chose postcards as his primary research tool, from the end of the nineteenth century through the early years of

All the books reviewed in this column are available for loan through the American Philatelic Research Library
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the twentieth, "Instead of television and the Internet, [picture] postcards were the window to the events and peoples of our world." He goes on to note: "The development of photography went hand-in-hand with the growth of the postcard industry, and indeed, a large proportion of postcards were based on the works of professional photographers." However, because more postcards than copies of photographs were produced during this period "many photos survive in postcard format only." In addition, postcards often include detailed captions, while written messages provide historical context; postal cancellations and stamps used for franking also contain useful data for the researcher.

The section on why he chose the Holy Land as his subject begins with the name itself, tracing its historic use and that of other names for the region, including "Palestine," which dates back to the Romans who coined the term "Palaestina" following an unsuccessful Jewish rebellion against the authority of Rome in 135 CE, "to refer to the province within their empire that comprised the Holy Land, replacing the prior name of 'Judea.' 'Palaestina' was derived from 'Philistia' ... the land of the Philistines, a nation that once inhabited the coastal region of the Holy Land."

Thousands of postcards survive from the Palestine region during the Golden Era when tourism (primarily European and American) was exploding. "The overlap of the Golden Era with the final period of Ottoman rule provides us with an unusual opportunity to employ postcards to gain a new perspective on the

Palestine of before the Arab/Jewish conflict ... I believe it is important to understand the region as it was during the late Ottoman period when the seeds were sown for what we hear and see today."

The postcards themselves comprise more than 400 examples from the author's personal collection. The views are based on photographs, paintings, and drawing produced, for the most part, by Europeans and Americans.

This is one clear instance of a book in which the pictures *do* say it all; however, the text is so well done that it amplifies and enhances the presentation. The historical background is clearly laid out in the text, but the postcards and their captions add details to the story. (For example, one souvenir postcard dated April 4, 1911 includes stamps and cancels for the French, Russian, Turkish, Austrian, German postal options available in Jaffa. Another postcard depicts the coins of Turkey used in Holy Land and includes a foreign currency exchange table beside them.) A classic example of a fine cross-discipline volume.

The Bombardment of Acre, 1840; A Study in Postal History, by V. Denis Vandervelde. Published 2010 by the Holyland Philatelic Society. Perfect bound, 20 pp., art paper, color illus., ISBN 978-0-9505571-5-1. Available for \$24 (plus \$4 shipping) in the U.S. from Mr. S.P. Kaplan, 3238 Belvoir Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122; *e-mail* spk@skaplanassociates.com. A British Association of Palestine & Israel Philatelists (BAPIP) monograph.

The bombardment of Acre by the British Navy on November 3, 1840 lasted only a matter of hours and yet it was considered "the most import naval engagement between close of the Napoleonic Wars and the Crimean War, forty years later."

The attack on Acre, Syria came as the concluding push in a British campaign to limit the power of Egypt, then governed by Viceroy Mehemet Ali, and to protect Turkish interests (thus keeping them in the British sphere and not Russia's). Turkish Syria had been conquered by Egyptian forces in 1832, and the decision was made in Parliament to kill the proverbial two birds with one stone by forcing the return of Syria to Turkey. By October 1840, British, Austrian and Turkish land forces had reconquered

The bombardment of Acre, 1840

*A study in postal history, by
V. Denis Vandervelde*



A B.A.P.I.P. Monograph published by the Holyland Philatelic Society, 2010
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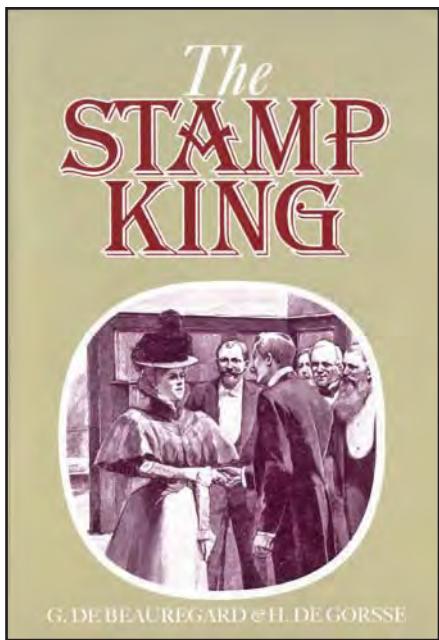
most of Syria, leaving the fortress at Acre as the only remaining Egyptian stronghold.

The British ships were devastatingly accurate in their fire power, but the fortress continued to hold out until late afternoon when a shell made a direct hit on the main powder magazine, the ensuing explosion and rain of rocks killed between 1,100 and 1,200 men. As night fell, British troops entered the city with the total cost to their forces of 18 men killed and 41 wounded. The total loss of life for the Egyptians was estimated at approximately 3,000.

An Acre illustrated envelope published by R.W. Hume of Leith was offered for sale in 1844 with two different inside engravings, only three examples of which are known to exist.

The author has made brilliant use of the only two detailed accounts of the bombardment in the public domain, letters written by two English sailors to their fathers. Lieutenant R.N. Samuel Hood Henderson (who cross-wrote his text for maximum content) was on board HMS *Edinburgh* and John Ayshford Sanford was a 16-year-old midshipman on HMS *Revenge*. Both enclosed drawings of the battle plans with their accounts of the assault on the ancient port city. Vandervelde also incorporates material from other contemporary sources to help round out the picture.

This is a fascinating view of an historical event and emphasizes the importance of traditional letters in maintaining an understanding of the world in



which both the original writers and we today live.

The Stamp King, by G. De Beauregard and H. De Grosse; translated from the French by Edith C. Phillips. Published 2010 by Stanley Gibbons. Softcover, 119 pp., b/w illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-746-0. Available for £9.95 from Stanley Gibbons Publications, 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringswood, Hants. BH24 3SH, U.K.; e-mail orders@stanleygibbons.co.uk; website www.stanleygibbons.com.

The Preface informs the reader that “*The Stamp King* was published in installments in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* between February 1904 and December 1905.” The present volume is a reprint of those original pages — small, occasionally blurry type, line drawings and all. The story follows the breathless adventures of two competing stamp collectors: William Keniss and Betsy Scott, members of the New York Philatelic Society, who travel the world in search of the rare “Brahmapootra stamp.” Each installment was a cliff-hanger in the finest tradition, from Chapter I, “In which one sees to what lengths the Love of Postage Stamps is carried by true Philatelists,” to the concluding Chapter XXVII, “Showing how one may always leave something to chance,” where the Stamp King wins the hand of the fair maiden and a merger of their two collections. Theft, forgeries, betrayal, desperate plunges into the ocean, espionage — this is stamp collecting as high melodrama. Who knew?

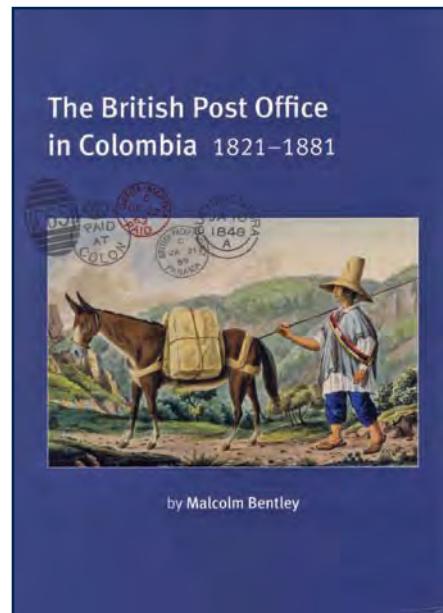
The British Post Office in Colombia, 1821–1881, by Malcolm Bentley. Published 2010 by The Postal History Society. Hardcover, dj, xiv + 141 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-85377-031-2. Available for £40 (members £30) plus shipping from the Publications Officer, Graham Mark, Oast House West, Golden Hill, Wiveliscombe, Somerset TA4 2NT, U.K.; website www.postal-history.org.uk.

The Bay of Cartagena was discovered by Europeans in 1501 and proved to be the most convenient port for Spanish transport of gold and silver from their empire in the New World to the royal treasury. The town was pillaged and burned time and again by the French, English, and Dutch. The first British Post Office in Colombia was set up in 1821, following Colombia’s independence from Spain, and the first handstamp was made available in the British Consulate at Cartagena in 1823. Mail from the capital at Bogotá was transported down river to Cartagena and put aboard Royal Navy Packets for Jamaica and to Europe. By 1841 Royal Mail Steam Packet Company steamships had arrived, but the harbor could not accommodate them and the ships had to stand offshore while ferries transported goods, passengers, and mail.

Despite this early and continued British presence, however, the first international treaty between Colombia and a foreign government was signed with France in January 1844 (although there was no French post office until 1865 at Santa Maria); the second was with the United States in March 1845. British postal service continued though the packet steamers, but a convention with Colombia wasn’t signed until May 1847.

In addition to providing details of the postal relations between the two countries, the author records and illustrates the various cancels and handstamps used by the British, although actual examples of use are not always known. The work is filled with sumptuous illustrations that include photographs, paintings, old maps, wrappers, folded letters, covers, and modern maps created for the book by the author’s daughter. Many of these illustrations have never before been published, and their detailed captions are extremely helpful. Also useful are the extensive footnotes throughout the book.

Although there have been nearly 200



by Malcolm Bentley

years of close postal commerce between Colombia and Great Britain, the author observes that “Despite the glorious ‘War of Independence’ from the Spaniards, Colombians today still feel more affinity with the Spanish. Spain is still their Motherland. The British have never truly had their contribution acknowledged.” Postally speaking, at least, not until this book.

United States Postal Card Catalog 2010; 65th Anniversary Edition, edited by Lewis E. Bussey. Published 2010 by the United Postal Stationery Society. Hardcover, xxxviii + 248 pp., b/w & color illus. Available for \$72 (members \$57.60) from the UPSS, P.O. Box 3982, Chester, VA 23831; website www.upss.org.

The new edition of this catalogue comes in an enlarged format to accommodate both the classic and modern (post-1948) entries. The addition of color is a welcome update (the 2000 edition is in black and white). Other changes include updated postal rate tables, a completely updated and revised section on Specimens, and five new appendices: Color and Semi-Fancy Cancels, Known Examples of Unofficial Postal Card Overprints and Endorsements; a Quick Reference to U.S. Administrative Area Overprints; Known Postal Savings Card Varieties, and Reverse Search of U.S. Postal Card Subjects. The section on “Additions, Delistings and Number Changes” allows readers to stay current when comparing past catalogues.

The 38-page Foreword offers a thor-



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1947; Brussels Convention, 1952; UPU Rates in Practice; Summary Tables; Other Postal Agreements and Conventions: The British Empire Postal System; Other Colonial Postal Systems; The Pan-American Postal Union (later the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain); Other Concessionary Rates to or from USA; New Zealand and "Universal Penny Postage"; Nordic Countries; and Other Local Agreements.

One interesting technique was employed in the Tables of Rates section, which are intended to show rates to Great Britain. As the author explains: "Various conventions have been used in presenting the tables. Rather than explain them out of context, I have invented a page of rate tables for Ruritania to demonstrate them." He then goes on to explain how he created the tables, illustrated by a two-page "dummy table" that includes (British) Ruritania, Outer Ruritania, and the Ruritanian Republic. The Tables themselves are listed by country: Aden through Zanzibar. A Bibliography concludes the presentation.

The volume can best be described as a useful but not exactly scintillating publication. Sometimes there is just no way to present reference material other than straight out in a plain format.

Precanceled Postal Cards 1874–1961: A Handbook and Album, by Josh Fur-

man. Published 2010 by API Print Productions. Perfect bound, 8½ x 11 inches, viii + 182 pp., color illus., tables. Available for \$65 plus \$6 S&H (checks and M.O. only) from Josh Furman, 6214 Wynfield Court, Orlando, FL 32819; jfurman@rivercross.com.

Warning: this important new book had a press run of 100 copies, approximately twenty of which had been placed at the time of reviewing, so anyone interested in this worthy subject is urged not to dawdle. "It was a labor of love," the author said in an interview. "I am not going to make any money."

Precanceling saves a step in the mail-handling process that usually benefits both the Post Office and the mailer. Precanceled postage stamps are a dime a dozen. Precanceled postal cards are very uncommon, scarce or rare. A serious collector of postal cards may go many years without ever seeing one, or not realizing that he has seen one until it got away from him.

Precanceled postal cards date from 1874 when the Berkshire Courier of Great Barrington, Massachusetts imprinted a penny postal card, Scott UX3, for use in its newspaper subscription renewals. Only one example is known of this classic-era treasure.

Furman wrote in the Introduction that he bought an auction lot of postal

stationery, which "contained a few of these strange creatures ... I had no idea what they were. So I began the research process. I found that no comprehensive listing of these cards existed, so I decided to make one. The process has taken a few years and has required a great deal of help."

The author gratefully acknowledged assistance from stamp dealer Arnold Selengut, the Grand Award exhibitor and guru of precancels, and from Scott Shaulis, among several others.

The book is laid out like a stamp exhibit, the pages in alphabetical order by state and town or city, with full-sized color illustrations of each known card, a brief description, and a rarity rating. The book also shows cards with permit cancels (without the words "Mailer's Postmark") that might have been intended as precancels. It contains some examples of cards inspired by collectors. An appendix includes proofs, printer's waste, look-a-likes, fakes and other peripheral cards.

It is said about stamp collecting that the only other hobby that has produced as much literature is angling. To understand the depth of interest in this subject and paucity of information until now, the reader needs to know that the last list of precanceled postal cards was compiled by Frank Penar and published in the Precancel Forum in May 1959.

— Rob Haeseler

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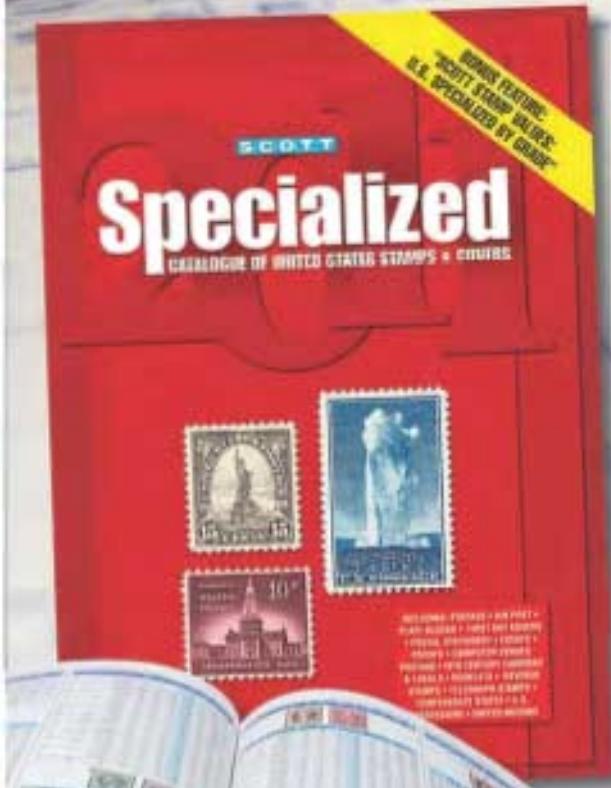
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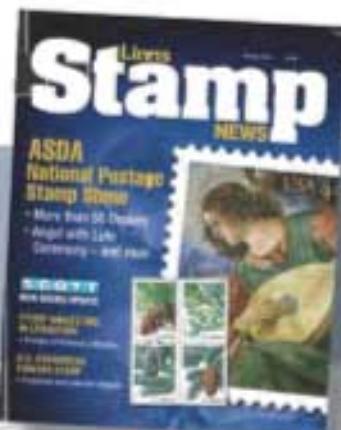
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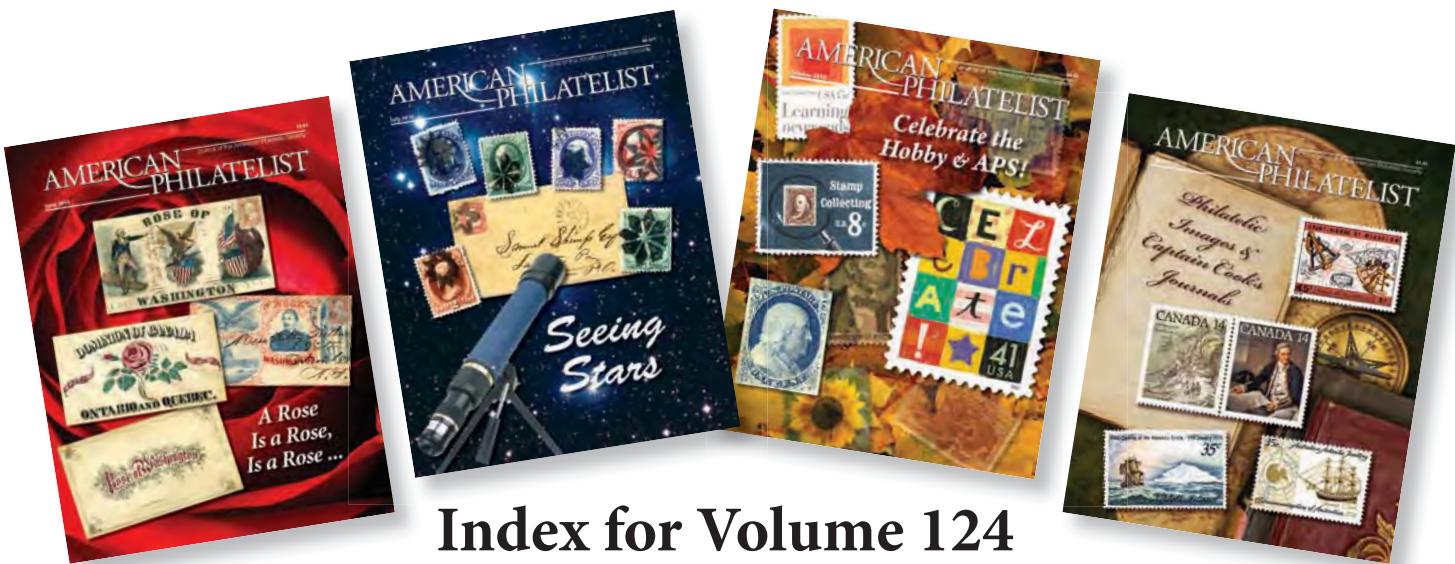
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The American Philatelist

January 2010–December 2010 • Whole Numbers 1,308–1,319

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Geographic Index: Articles and columns are grouped by country or by larger geographical area, as appropriate, and listed alphabetically by the author’s last name. Some entries are cross-referenced.

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Christmas Island

Status: A non-self governing territory of Australia
administered by the Australian Attorney General's Department

Population: 1,402 (2010 est)

Area: 52 square miles

Currency: 100 cents = 1 Australian Dollar (AU\$1= US\$ 0.99)

Christmas Island is a volcanic island slightly smaller than the District of Columbia, located in the eastern Indian Ocean, about 1,600 miles northwest of Perth, Australia and about 300 miles south of Jakarta, Indonesia.

The island was named by Captain William Mynors of the British East India Company when he spotted it on Christmas Day 1643. The earliest recorded visit occurred when William Dampier, skipper of the British *Cyngnet*, landed on the uninhabited island in 1688. It was not until the second half of the nineteenth century that the island was explored — by naturalists motivated by a keen interest in its many unique species of flora and fauna.

Among the rocks found on the island were some samples of nearly pure phosphate of lime. This discovery led to the annexation of the island by the British on June 6, 1888. Soon afterwards a small settlement was established on the northwestern coast as a support base for the growing industry on the Cocos Islands. Phosphate mining in the 1890s brought to the island indentured workers from Singapore, Malaya, and China.

Initially, the British Colonial Office administered Christmas Island as part of the Straits Settlements. After 1900 it was placed under Singapore, which was then a crown colony. A Straits Settlements postal agency was opened on the island in 1901. The Japanese occupied the island from March 1942 until October 1945. In the immediate post-war era, stamps of the British Military Administration in Malaya were used. After 1948 they were replaced by those of Singapore.

In 1957 Australia bought the island £2.9 million, which was the estimated value of the phosphate exports, although national security was probably a greater interest to Australia than the phosphate revenue. On October 15, 1958, Australia acquired the island. Special Christmas Island stamps were placed on sale the same day. The island's postal services were managed by the Phosphate Commission from 1958 to 1969 and the island administration from 1969 to 1993. On March 2, 1993 responsibility for the island's postal administration was taken over by Australia Post.

Christmas Island stamps are valid for postage in Australia and, conversely, Australian stamps may be used on Christmas Island mail.



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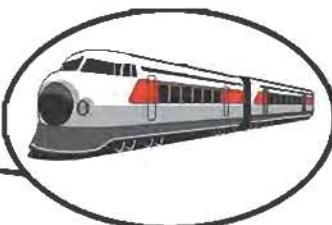
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Date of Birth (Required for Regular & Family Membership) _____

What stamps do you collect? _____

For Family Membership only (name, date of birth, and collecting interests for each additional family member)

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

If applicant is under 18 years of age

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

Visa or MasterCard No. _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ Expiration _____ • _____ Date V-Code _____

Signature of Name on Card _____

Daytime Phone _____ Date _____

Questions: Call 814-933-3820 or E-mail ysca@stamps.org

Send to: YSCA • 100 Match Factory Pace • Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823



2010-2011 Young
Philatelic Leadership Fellows

Year-End Giving

As the holidays approach and you are planning your year-end giving, don't forget the American Philatelic Society, the American Philatelic Research Library, and the Campaign for Philately. Our members have always been very generous with donations and pledges. Your continued support creates a solid foundation for the future of the hobby.

Whether you donate cash, stamp collections, or philatelic literature, your tax-deductible gifts are extremely helpful. Your 2010 donations will enable us to:

- support the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship, Young Stamp Collectors of America, and other youth-oriented programs
- digitize resources and create finding guides
- create a Rarities Gallery
- help strengthen our Internet presence at www.stamps.org
- complete the renovations to the American Philatelic Center
- promote stamp collecting
- improve membership services

Your contributions, large or small, are very important and greatly appreciated. You will receive a letter to use as a receipt of your tax deduction to the APS, a 501(c)3 nonprofit. Thank you for your generosity.

Name: _____ APS No. _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

My pledge is \$ _____ . I will pay \$ _____ annually.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____

Form of Payment: Check MasterCard/Visa

Money Order (*Checks/money orders should be made payable to: APS/APRL*)

Card No. _____ • _____ • _____ • _____

Expiration Date: _____ • _____ V-Code: _____ (*last three digits on the reverse side of the card*)

Signature _____ Date _____

Giving Through eBay

Donations to the APS may be made at checkout when you make a purchase on eBay. You also may designate a portion of the proceeds from a sale. Contact us for instructions.

Within the Campaign for Philately, you have the option to direct your gift.

American Philatelic Center Renovation Website Development

Please use my gift where it is most needed

Digitization of Philatelic Material Rarities Gallery Youth Programs

Other _____

Contact APS for other Designations/Naming Opportunities.

All gifts receive written acknowledgment. Donors also are listed in the annual recognition issue of *The American Philatelist*.

Please check here if you wish this gift to remain anonymous. Please contact me about planned giving opportunities.

I am interested in beginning a monthly giving plan with automatic deductions from my checking account or credit card.

I would like to include APS/APRL in my will. Please contact me about how to make a bequest.

Mail your contribution to: American Philatelic Society, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823-1367

**For more information on donations, naming opportunities, planned giving, and bequests
contact Ken Martin at 814-933-3803 or kpmartin@stamps.org**

*The American Philatelic Society and American Philatelic Research Library have non-profit tax-exempt status under IRS Section 501(c)3.
No goods or services will be provided in exchange for your gift.*



Preregistration for APS AMERISTAMP EXPO 2011

February 11–13 • Charleston Convention Center
5001 Coliseum Boulevard • North Charleston • South Carolina

If attending the show,
please complete form
even if not ordering
tickets. Your badges
will be prepared
in advance and
save you time
at the show.

Name _____ APS No. _____
Names of other adults attending _____
Youth attending _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

All those who preregister will receive a coupon for a discount on any show souvenir.

Quantity	Amount
—	Tiffany Dinner — Friday, February 11 \$125 \$ _____ Cash bar 6:30 p.m., Seating 7:15 p.m. 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Filet Mignon & Roasted Salmon, Arugula Salad, Raspberry Cake (Includes \$50 donation per ticket.)
—	Awards Banquet — Saturday, February 12 \$50 \$ _____ Cash bar 6:30 p.m.; Seating 7:15 p.m. (\$55 after January 15) Salad, Marinated Pork Loin, & Chocolate Duo Mousse
—	Stamps In the Classroom — Saturday, February 12 \$10 \$ _____ 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Learn how stamps can help students master state standards. Laptop computer will be helpful, but not necessary.
—	Boy Scout Merit Badge — Saturday, February 12 \$15 \$ _____ 10 a.m.–4 p.m. — A necessary, 6-hour session for Boy Scouts interested in completing the requirements for the stamp collecting merit badge. (\$20 after January 15)
—	Stamp Collecting 101 — Sunday, February 13 APS Member/Spouse \$15 \$ _____ General Public \$20 12:30 p.m.–3 p.m. Learn about soaking, identification, catalogues, . and tools. Participants receive tongs, magnifier, stamps, and more.

*Please attach a note indicating any special dietary needs.

Total \$ _____

*Tickets and badges will NOT be sent but may be picked up at
the registration desk in the exhibit hall.

Advanced prices available until January 15, 2010.

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

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

Signature: _____

Expiration date: ____ • ____ V-Code: ____

Daytime Phone: _____

Return Form and Remittance
by January 15, 2010, to:

APS AMERISTAMP EXPO 2011
100 Match Factory Place
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Fax: 814-933-6128

For more show information, hotel
options, or to preregister visit
www.stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo