

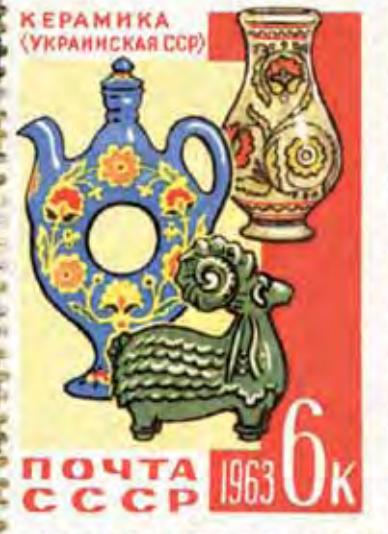
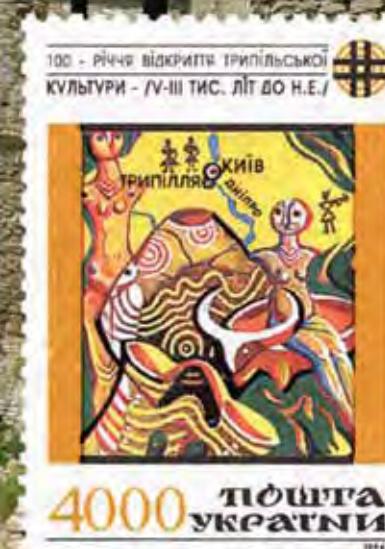
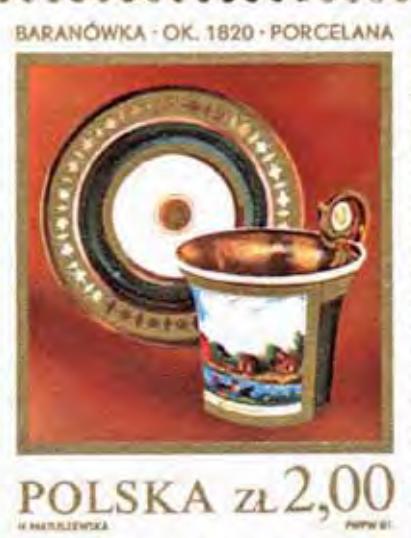
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AMERICAN PHILATELIST

January 2010

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AMERICAN PHILATELIST

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U.S. Classics 2009 at the American Philatelic Center

"A Philatelic Woodstock — without the mud."

That was a quote that my friend Rob Lund overheard at U.S. Classics 2009. From October 30th through November 1st 2009, more than 300 visitors attending a myriad of events scheduled during the weekend rocked the American Philatelic Center. The basic snapshot was:

- More than 300 guests — probably 100 who had never been to the American Philatelic Center. Some collectors traveled from Great Britain, Czech Republic, Belgium, and Portugal to participate.
- 170 frames of invited non-competitive extraordinary U.S. classic material — much never before exhibited. The 1-cent "Z" Grill on display, along with an "Inverted Jenny," just added to the excitement.
- Postal History Symposium — presented thirteen excellent talks on nineteenth-century postal reform. The lecture room was filled for nearly every presentation. Sponsored jointly by the Smithsonian National Postal Museum and the American Philatelic Society, the symposium is held at Bellefonte in odd years and at Washington during even years.
- Fifteen dealers from all over the United States, specializing in U.S. material, attended the show and helped us to underwrite the expenses of the show with their booth fees. They left with smiles on their faces, hopefully due to their sales, but also because they support our hobby and fill an integral role in the success of stamp collecting.
- APS services were available during the weekend including Circuit Sales, Expertizing and, of course, the library — a researcher's dream. So many people commented about how help-



Above from left: Outstanding exhibits filled the halls of the APC. The bourse catered to the classics collector. Harvey Mirsky spoke on how the 1847 issue changed the postal system. The exhibitors!

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ful and friendly the staff was in their interactions with them. I am not surprised by , but certainly very proud of, such widespread comment.

- Additional participation from the Carriers & Locals Society, the decenary meeting of the 1869 collectors (always held in the “9” year), the U.S. Classics Study Group, and the Postal History Society.
- The U.S. Philatelic Classics Society dedicated its meeting room at the American Philatelic Center, after having funded the room in 2005 entirely from donations.
- A Charity Auction was held at the Classics Society dinner on Saturday night and eleven lots were offered for sale. More than \$8,000 was raised from the auction alone. Dealers and collectors, to support the efforts of the Society, generously donated these lots. Giving is such an important part of keeping the hobby healthy and vibrant. The U.S. Philatelic Classics Society will donate half of the proceeds from the event to the American Philatelic Society — an amount that is forecast to be more than \$6,000.

While the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society planned the event, working very closely with the staff of the APS, it was the staff that in reality did all of the onsite work and preparation — all of the heavy lifting. Without the APS staff and the use of their beautiful facilities, this event could never have occurred. The reason the event was such a success was “Teamwork,” an essential element in any endeavor, and it played the starring role in this effort. This was an inclusive exercise, with co-operation between and

among the American Philatelic Society, the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, and the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society as the main characters. The mission was “how to get X accomplished.” There were no detractors in the mix, so absent of critics or naysayers, everyone pulled in the same direction and the results are still being talked about.

No hard working volunteer wants to be sniped at by another who has done little or nothing to contribute. Teddy Roosevelt perhaps said it best in his speech given at the Sorbonne in Paris in 1910. It has been a favorite of mine since childhood:

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again, who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause, who at best knows achievement and who at the worst if he fails at least fails while daring greatly so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

Let's give Roosevelt the benefit of the doubt, that when he wrote this he was using “man” in the generic sense of the word, mankind, and that the above was meant to apply to women as well. Regardless, the meaning is clear; if you see something is not going as you think is proper, don't criticize it, fix it!

Volunteerism is the backbone of the American Philatelic Society and the entire hobby. Without volunteers, stamp collectors would be as separate cells, without the presence of stamp clubs, specialty societies, and the entire panoply of advantages they bring about. What can *you* do to help promote our hobby?

By the way, the APS is always looking for nominees for the various Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Awards the Society gives out each year. Do you know someone who has made contributions at the National Level or the Local Level; or do you know an Outstanding Young Philatelist (25–40) or an Outstanding Youth Philatelist (15–24)? If so, please contact Joann Lenz at joann@stamp-sjoann.net or at her address on the masthead of *The American Philatelist*.

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the American Philatelic Center? Groups of all sizes can be accommodated and it would give everyone a first-hand look at the beautiful home of America's Stamp Club.

Staff Spotlight

Gini Horn, Librarian of the American Philatelic Research Library

I joined the APS staff as Librarian in September 1984. Although I wasn't a stamp collector, I had been exposed to the hobby as a child, since my father was a collector. He tried to get me interested in stamps, but I was more inclined to handicrafts and music. I attended Juniata College, less than an hour south of Bellefonte, for my undergraduate work and majored in history and music, but I also worked in the campus Post Office. Every Saturday, the head accountant for the College would come in and ask if we had any new stamps; if we did, she would buy a plate block.



My library degree is from the University of Pittsburgh. While I was in school there I worked for the Pittsburgh Regional Library Center Clearinghouse for Interlibrary Loan. Initially, I was one of a crew of four that was microfilming card catalogues of several libraries in the Pittsburgh area. Later, I worked in the Clearinghouse as an Intern. Libraries associated with the PRLC would send in book titles requested by their patrons, and we would tell them where the books were and suggest which library they should approach first, trying to lessen the load on the larger libraries and increase use at some of the smaller facilities. Computers were mainframes, PCs were still in the future, and most public libraries didn't have access to computers in 1975. We would transmit most information by telex. Ahhh, ancient history indeed!

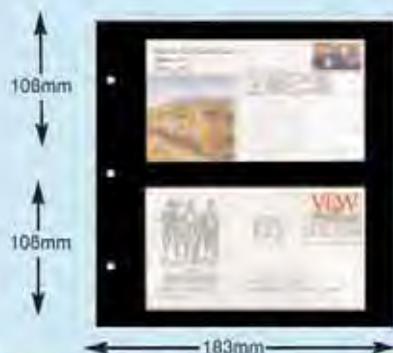
Today, the whole world is networked, and communication moves so much more quickly. Philately has changed over the past twenty-five years, and I would imagine it's going to continue to evolve. Regardless of the speed, or the mode of communication, it is always the human factor that is the most interesting part of this job. The questions sometimes take us by surprise, but we do our best to figure out what information will help you make your hobby as interesting and as much fun as possible. Just keep those questions coming — we love a challenge!



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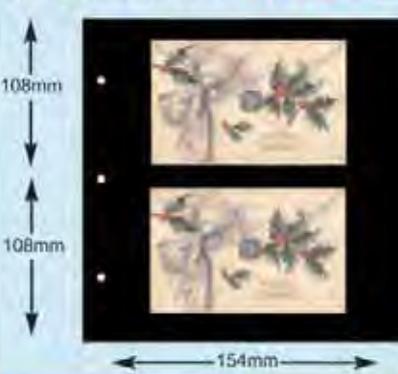
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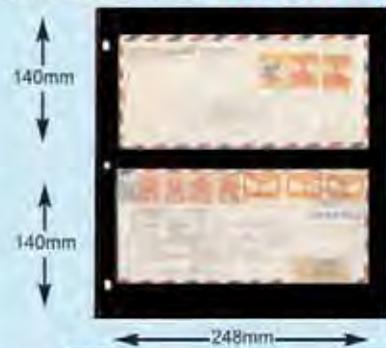
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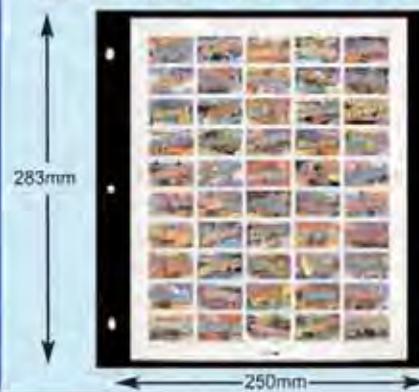
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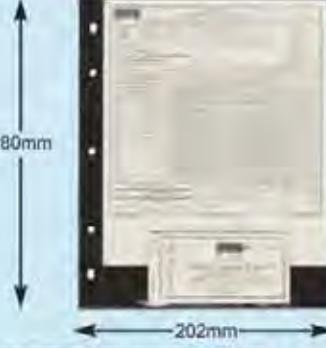
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Letters to the Editor

Insightful Article

I have been an APS member for 30+ years. "Selling Stamps Can Increase Your Collection" by Forrest H. Blanding in the November 2009 *American Philatelist* (page 1044) is the most interesting and insightful article I've ever read in ANY philatelic publication. I hope I remain half as articulate as Mr. Blanding when I'm 92. Thank you for a superb article.

Bob Finkle

Phillips Ranch, California

Author Remembered

I am sure many of your readers enjoyed "State of the Hobby: History Through the Post — Ireland to Canada in 1874" by George Nicholson in the November issue of *The American Philatelist* (page 1058). Unfortunately, George passed away before the article was published. He was a wonderful person and will be missed by his family, friends, and the stamp collecting community. George had recently become the editor of *The Revealer*, the journal of the Eire Philatelic Association and was bringing his creative talents to that publication.

Paul Bento, President
Eire Philatelic Association
Auburn, Massachusetts

Philatelic Mayor and Friend

I would like to add a late tribute to Bill Welch from Scotland. I only discovered the terrible news when I picked up *The American Philatelist*, a bit late as usual. Perhaps because I live in Europe people didn't realize how much his friendship meant to me.

When I left the philatelic wilderness and joined the APS in the late 1980s, no one helped me make up for lost time more than Bill. We had something in common as I was an editor on a daily newspaper, and he heaped praise on my first modest article for the magazine. He urged me to do more, and I'm still doing them, including a column for *Canadian Stamp News* for nearly fifteen years.

When a planned trip to CAPEX 96 and the APS summer seminar was in jeopardy because of transportation problems, he rescued it by offering a ride from Toronto to State College. We stopped at Niagara Falls on the way, a real treat for my Scottish wife. And Bill was no elitist: We also stopped at one of his favorite Dairy Queens.

We were even house guests for a few days, and I can report that "good service" took on a new meaning when you dined out with Bill, Nadine, and family in State

College. I was pleased to play host to Bill and Nadine when they made it to Edinburgh, and he was not the least fazed when my work schedule mix-up meant he and Nadine had to collect a key from our neighbors, let themselves in, and settle for Scotch broth from a slow cooker for dinner.

He once wrangled me an invitation to help him teach a summer seminar elective on writing and research for the philatelic media, and got me signed up for another session on my philatelic adventures in Europe. He was no soft touch, however. He rejected two of my articles and gave very good reasons for doing so.

He loved people and loved to tell the human story behind a stamp or envelope, which has strongly influenced me and, I'm sure, many other people. When my wife drove to the APS building to pick me up at the end of the seminar week he would appear as if by magic to talk to her. Another time one of my



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Thank you so very much for your assistance with my father's stamp collection. Your knowledgeable and quick assessment of the material and generous price paid made a hard time much easier and it was a pleasure spending the day looking through the material with you. It was also wonderful doing business with you, too.

Ginger Monka
Indianapolis, Indiana

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brothers was looking for us and was delighted and astonished that the mayor of State College noticed a slightly lost visitor and started talking to him.

Bill was an astute political observer, and not just on the local scene. He was certain Bill Clinton would win re-election despite plummeting ratings in the polls. My foreign desk colleagues at *The Scotsman* newspaper scoffed at this idea, but changed their tune when Clinton romped home to a second term.

At LONDON 2000 I bumped into Bill, and that evening I ended up leading several tableloads of Americanos he had corralled to a Thai restaurant I knew. He just laughed when I then had trouble finding it.

Stamp events without the possibility of running into Bill just won't be the same.

Chad Neighbor
Montrose, Scotland

Wrong Note Struck

I like to point out an observation about an illustration in the interesting article "Ancient Greek Theater on

Stamps" by Barbara M. Soper. While the author correctly points out on p. 947 of *The American Philatelist* for October 2009 that the souvenir sheet from The Gambia on p. 946 shows Melpomene, the Greek Muse of tragedy, the text of the souvenir sheet itself contains an error. It reads: "Melpomene, the music of tragedy...." It should read: Melpomene, the "Muse" of tragedy.

My compliments to the author for a great article and to you for a great magazine.

Jerry Cole

Utica, New York / Jakarta, Indonesia

APS Outreach

I think I have an idea that may generate positive results for outreach for APS, for satisfaction among existing members, and revenue for stamp catalog/periodical publishers. The idea was driven by a recent incident at my local public library in Jersey City, the state's second-largest city after Newark, having a population of over 220,000. Like many collectors, I have relied each year on my library's subscription to *Scott's*

Stamp Catalogue to update my valuation of stamps for the countries I collect, and, in my case, for the countries for which I examine stamps for APS. But actually finding a library that has a catalogue subscription has been problematic over the last twenty years, as I have moved around the state: Ridgewood, New Jersey stopped its subscription, as far as I know, over ten years ago as a cost-cutting measure. Midland Park, New Jersey's library then became my library of choice, and when I moved to Jersey City I was pleased to find, two years ago, that their reference room had a yearly subscription. Just the other week, however, when I stopped in to see how many volumes had been cataloged so far this year, I was told that, to save money, they decided to skip the 2010 edition, and to go with an "every other year" subscription.

I wondered how many other of the 16,604 public libraries and branches in the United States (American Library Association), not to mention the other 106,000 libraries in the U.S. that perhaps used to get *Scott's Catalogue* have either dropped or curtailed their subscriptions.

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No library *Scott's Catalogue* = loss of collector interest, and loss of opportunity to interest new collectors, in my book. Every time I sit in the reading room and update my notes, random adults and kids look to see what I'm doing, and ask questions about stamp collecting. So, in the face of New Jersey's second largest city switching to an every other year catalogue subscription, I wondered whether the APS and *Scott's* — and *Linn's*? — might not support an action committee to get stamp catalogues (and stamp periodicals!) back into public and school libraries.

Donating to the APS is one thing, but how about a local opportunity for APS members to donate? How about using Scott internal info — and why wouldn't they try to help? — to find out what libraries have, and don't have, yearly subscriptions to catalogues, then offer local collectors the opportunity to contribute to a fund that will enable their local libraries to get catalogue subscriptions? I know I would donate to such a fund — but would never buy a full set of catalogues.

It's also become a real chore to find which library might have a set. (A published list of libraries who do have yearly subscriptions available for collector perusal would be a valuable perk of APS membership!) Also, I do subscribe to *Linn's*, but recently dropped *Scott's Monthly* because it was all becoming just too much stamp news to read, in addition to the weekly news and the *AP*. But I might read it occasionally if it were in my library — which it's not. I can't think of why the stamp publishers wouldn't be for such a plan, and can't think of a better organization than the APS to run it. Smarter folks than me could fill in the details of how it might work, but I'm ready to participate, and I think my fellow collectors would be, too. Thank you for listening.

Andrew Kapochunas
Jersey City, New Jersey

APS Interim Executive Director Ken Martin replies: Thanks for the suggestion regarding *Scott Catalogues* that you made to President Wade Saadi. As a first step I have contacted *Scott Catalogue* Editor Jim Kloetzel and am await-

ing a reply as to whether they would be willing to release a list of libraries with subscriptions. It will be interesting to see whether they view release of such a list threatening to potential sales (because collectors could more easily find copies without having to purchase themselves) or good promotion of the hobby, potentially leading to more sales.

Making such a list would be the easiest part of your suggestion. Soliciting money to obtain subscriptions would be more challenging. And assuming we were successful in soliciting funds, selecting which libraries would receive the subscriptions would probably be the greatest challenge. What would be the appropriate criteria: population served, distance to nearest library that does carry the *Scott Catalogue*, etc. Once the libraries were selected, there is also no guarantee that they would accept the subscriptions. Although not common, we occasionally receive reports of local libraries that refuse to accept *Scott Catalogues* that a member wishes to donate, and some libraries also have refused subscriptions to *Linn's Stamp News* and *The*

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Pound Ridge, NY 10576

Nov. 7, 2007

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He arrived promptly at the agreed upon time and went right to work. He left the entire work area in very good order and was most congenial. It very much was a pleasure selling the collection to him.

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A handwritten signature in cursive script.

Edna K. Hill
Midland, North Carolina

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October 5, 2007

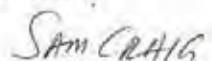
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Sincerely,



Sam Craig/APS 19605

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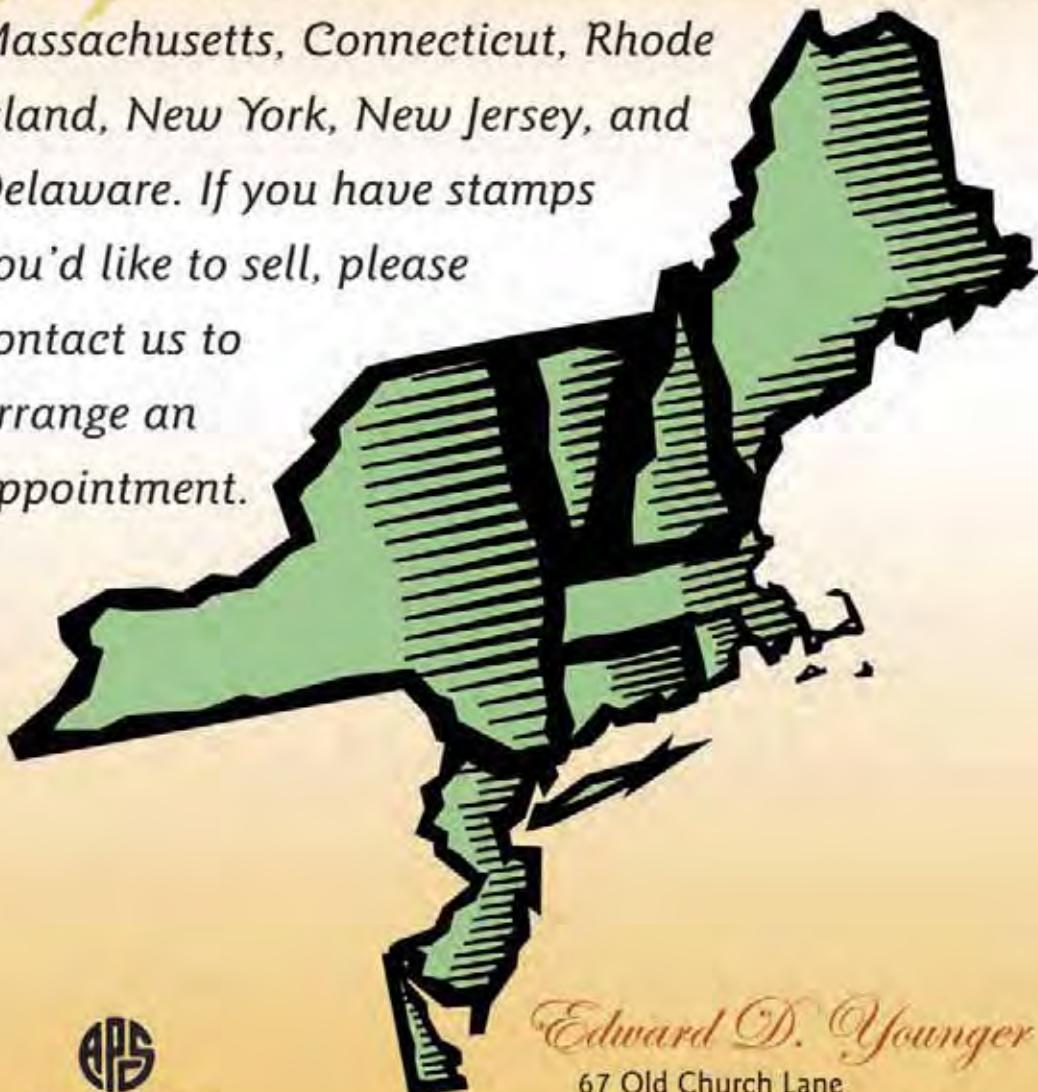


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American Philatelist that APS chapters or individuals have offered to provide.

While I await a response from Scott Publications I can certainly begin by using my monthly *American Philatelist* column to encourage members to donate philatelic literature that they no longer need or want (*Scott Catalogues*, *American Philatelist*, or other general nature publications for which the APS probably has as many copies as it can use) to their local libraries.

APS Mini Albums

I just read the latest e-Newsletter from the Society and went to the Mini Albums page. What a fantastic idea! And what a great way to reach people, particularly kids. My wife is from Pittsburgh and I am from Philadelphia, so I have a feeling that our grandkids are going to have a couple of the Mini Albums in their future. Just wanted you to know that you really got my attention!

You all have hit a home run as far as I am concerned. It is important to find new ways of interesting people in our history, our culture, and our values

— as stamps and first day covers do so very well. And with such a rich field of interest, if we can find new ways tap into niche areas, so much the better.

John Lehr
Germantown, Maryland

Entertainment Value

The letter from Ralph Sutter in the November AP ("Resale Value," page 1028) was disappointing. Young people need all the encouragement we can give today to take up the marvelous hobby of stamp collecting.

Mr. Sutter, in my opinion, provides a poor analogy in comparing the purchase of stamps to the immediate depreciation experienced by a car buyer after he/she leaves the showroom. One thing has nothing to do with another. A car is a utilitarian purchase, where stamps are for entertainment.

Stamp collecting is a hobby to be enjoyed. At the lower levels it certainly should not be considered an investment. A better comparison: a person reads a book for pleasure, not expecting to earn any sort of appreciable resale return af-

ter reading it. The same can be said for a magazine, a concert, play, sports event, restaurant dinner, or the like. This is also true for the electronic games and toys that are so popular with the kids today. We all do these pastimes solely for enjoyment. Should we give up enjoyment, if it does not come down to dollars and cents after the experience?

It is a shame when collectors pass on negatives, based on unfortunate perceptions, to younger generations. Young people today need all the support and guidance we can give them, and stamp collecting is a fine beginning.

Fred Schmitt
Northport, New York

Shared Interests

I've been reading a lot of references lately in *The American Philatelist* regarding the need for diversity in the hobby. Diversity is neither good nor bad, but it is bound to be absent in a single interest hobby. The APS is a club of people with shared interests, namely philately and stamp collecting. Trying to expand it to people who are unlikely to share that in-

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terest is not only a dumb idea, but virtually impossible.

For example, there is a big push to introduce youth to stamp collecting, but, in my mind, that is like recruiting senior citizens to play Little League baseball. Sure you may get 1 person in 1,000 to join up, but you will do 100 times better recruiting among 12 year olds. So why don't we spend our advertising and recruitment resources on people over 45? These are empty nesters with free time looking for new friends. They will be members for 20–30 years and then maybe leave the society part of their estate.

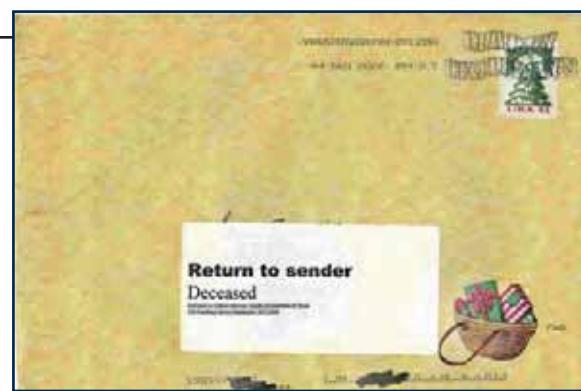
Of course, I am in favor of embracing anyone who shares our philatelic interests. There was a letter recently referenced in the President's column from a man stating that he felt excluded because of his race. I find that hard to believe from the people I know in the hobby. Perhaps he misunderstood/exaggerated the situation, especially with the dealers he encountered. I have been put off by dealers on my first visit also. In busy periods like the one mentioned, the dealer is naturally giving priority to proven

Not Quite Mourning Covers

The article in the October issue related to stamps and covers showing the topic of death led me to search through my miscellaneous box for the attached cover. My family had sent out Christmas cards and we received this one back. It would be interesting to collect covers returned to sender by reason of the death of the intended recipient.

Stevan Adler

East Hampton, New York



customers. I understand this and do not object. It's time for people to stop taking offense at every presumed slight and get on with their lives. No one is accepted immediately into a new group, because most people are not as comfortable with strangers as with old acquaintances. Persevere slightly and it will happen.

Let's get off the whining and political correctness and start acting realistically.

Mike McNutt

Lake Forest, California

Escape to France

I am writing to let you know how much I enjoyed the November issue of



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the AP. I especially enjoyed the article about the Saarland, written by Howard Geisler ("Saarland: A German State with French Philatelic History," page 1050). The article reminded me of the story my father told me of his and my grandfather's escape from Nazi Germany.

In 1933, on the ascension of Adolph Hitler to the Chancellorship of Germany, my father and grandfather (who were Jewish) saw the writing on the wall. They made the decision to leave Germany; the question was how they could do it. When the Nazis took over, their external

passports were revoked, so they could only travel within Germany.

What they decided to do was travel to the German side of Saarbrucken with all the belongings they could carry, with dirt rubbed on their faces and dressed as coal miners. There they boarded the street car and rode to France! On the way to France, German border patrol guards boarded the street car, but they didn't bother to check my father and grandfather's papers because they were "coal miners."

So, as you can see, if it weren't for the

French having half of the Saarland at that time, I probably wouldn't be here.

Thanks again for running such a great article and keep up the good work.

Jeff Orbach

Rockaway, New Jersey

Canadian-Americans?

So, William L. Farrar of Kansas City Missouri seems fretful that Canada Post honours the Canadian Dr. James Naismith, the inventor of basketball ("Basketball Commemorative," Letters to the Editor column, November AP, page 1030). Perhaps, he should just consider Doctor Naismith another one of our excellent exports!

John Carley

Toronto, Canada

P.S. McGill University is in Montreal, not Toronto!

P.P.S.: Did Canadians arise and complain when the U.S. Postal Service appropriated Alexander Graham Bell, a well-known Canadian, as their poster boy for American Inventors? (Scott # 893).

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Remembering Bill Bauer (1934–2009)

William H. Bauer was born November 20, 1934 in Adams, Massachusetts. He attended school in New York state and graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1956 with a degree in geology. He subsequently obtained a Masters of Geological Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in 1959.

A young Bauer began collecting stamps in 1940 or 1941. First elected to the American Philatelic Society Board of Vice Presidents in 1973, he served as recorder until he was elected Secretary in 1977. In 1981 he was elected President of the APS, serving until 1985. A founder member and charter Vooys Fellow of the American Philatelic Research Library, Bauer served as a Library Trustee from 1981 to 1987 and again from 1999 to 2005. He was one of the most generous supporters of the Society and Library, giving more than \$50,000. This included the first large challenge gift to the Campaign for Philately in 2002.

Part of the original group of nationally accredited judges in 1971, Bauer served as chair of the APS Committee for Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges from 1986–1995 with primary responsibility for the third edition of the *APS Manual of Philatelic Judging*. He was also an experienced and highly respected FIP International Judge, accredited in Postal History at the Prague International Exhibition in 1978. Most recently he served on Juries at POLAND 93, NORWAY 97, PACIFIC 97 (San Francisco), CHINA 99, and WASHINGTON 2006.

Bauer's competitive exhibits included *Colorado 1858–1876 — Pre-Territorial and Territorial Periods* and *Otsego County, New York*. A member of the founding council of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, Bauer was a generous mentor to many exhibitors and shared his knowledge by serving as an instructor for an Exhibiting and Judging Course at the APS Summer Seminar in 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, and 1999.

Bauer served on the Society's Hall of Fame Committee and APRL Space Requirements Committee. In 1985 he received the Society's Century Award for recruiting at least 100 new members and in 1987 he received the Luff Award, the highest honor given by the APS to living collectors.

Bauer also served as the President of the APS Writers Unit 30 and wrote for philatelic publications. Since 1985 he has been editor of the *Colorado Postal Historian* and was a contributor to many other publications including *The Congress Book*, *The Philatelic Exhibitor*, and the *SPA Journal*. With James L. Ozment and John H. (Jack) Willard, he published *Colorado Post Offices 1859–1989*, last updated in 1990, and was nearing completion of a 10,000+ entry reference work, *The Colorado Postal Encyclopedia*.

Bauer was a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and a member of the Collectors Club of New York, the Collectors Club of Chicago, and the Collectors Club of Denver. He served as Secretary and Second Vice President for the United Postal Stationery Society and was a founding supporter of the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. Membership in other national philatelic groups included the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, the American Philatelic Congress, the Arizona Philatelic Rangers, the Colorado Postal History Society, the Empire State Postal History Society, the Falkland Islands Philatelic Study Group, the Germany Philatelic Society, the Illinois Postal History Society, the International Society for Japanese Philately, the Korea Philatelic Society, the Mobile Post Office Society, the Postal History Society, the Ryukyu Philatelic Specialty Society, the Society of Australian Specialists — Oceania, the Society of Philatelic Americans, the Southern Philatelic Federation, the Texas Philatelic Association, the United States Cancellation Club, the United States Philatelic Classics Society, and the Western Philatelic Society.

No matter where he lived Bill was always active on the local level. He served as President of the Sonoma (California) County Philatelic Society; the Sea Gull Stamp Club of Corpus Christi, Texas; and the Crescent City Stamp Club of New Orleans. He also was general chair of several different philatelic exhibitions.

Bauer was a geologist for Standard Oil which became Amoco. After living in several states upon retirement he returned to Otsego County, New York, which he considered home.

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Event Covers Are Cheap Fun!

One of the cheaper and, for that matter, more interesting forms of philatelic entertainment to be found is the lowly special event cover. I periodically like to drag my accumulation out and feature a few. These items, which can be found in large quantities in cover remainder lots and in dollar boxes, mark everything from significant historical events to first flights and post office dedications, or even the establishment of the neighbor's lawn service (okay, maybe not the lawn service). Each was produced with a varying degree of expertise, ranging from lovely to lubberly. When the typical special event cover was created (by individuals, stamp clubs, dealers, companies, and others), it was designed to be sold, usually as a minor fund-raiser. Others were given as souvenirs.

Although they are still being produced, special event covers enjoyed their

heyday from roughly 1930 until the early 1960s. Arguably, more special event covers were produced for the 1932 bicentennial of George Washington's birth than any time since. Some had VERY loose connections to Washington. One cover, created in 1932, commemorates the 157th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Post Office Department (now there's a significant anniversary!). The cachet pictures the oldest tunnel in

the United States, the Union Canal in Lebanon, Pennsylvania (started in 1825, finished in 1827), which is where the Washington connection comes in. He visited the tunnel three times between 1792-94 (and is pictured on the cachet, along with Ben Franklin). I'm still not sure what the connection is between the tunnel that Washington visited and the 157th anniversary of the establishment of the USPOD, but it's a fairly attractive cover. The cachet was sponsored by the United National Association of Post Office Craftsmen (UNAPOC).

During the years that special event covers were popular, thousands of events, anniversaries and other happenings — both major and mundane — were marked with the creation of these items. Over the years, however, the original significance of either the creator or the event has been lost, and interest has waned. The overwhelming majority have been destroyed by soaking, consigned to remainder lots, or simply dumped into a box in the back of the garage.

One of the fun things about pursuing special event covers is that they give us a link and even an insight to collectors who have gone before (both recent and long past), and what their thoughts and interests were. Virtually all such covers were created or at least conceived by a stamp collector.

In recent years, however, some of these covers have begun to undergo a revival of sorts and come back into the light, as they either have significant topical interest, difficult stamps, scarce pictorial cancels, or are simply interesting.

When the typical special event cover was created (by individuals, stamp clubs, dealers, companies, and others), it was designed to be sold, usually as a minor fund-raiser. Others were given as souvenirs.



Created in 1932 to cash in on the huge interest in the bicentennial of George Washington's birth, this cover has only the most tenuous of connections. George Washington visited the bridge shown on the cachet that honors 157 years of the U.S. Post Office Department — and he's pictured with Ben Franklin.

In fact, many now sell for prices in excess of \$1!

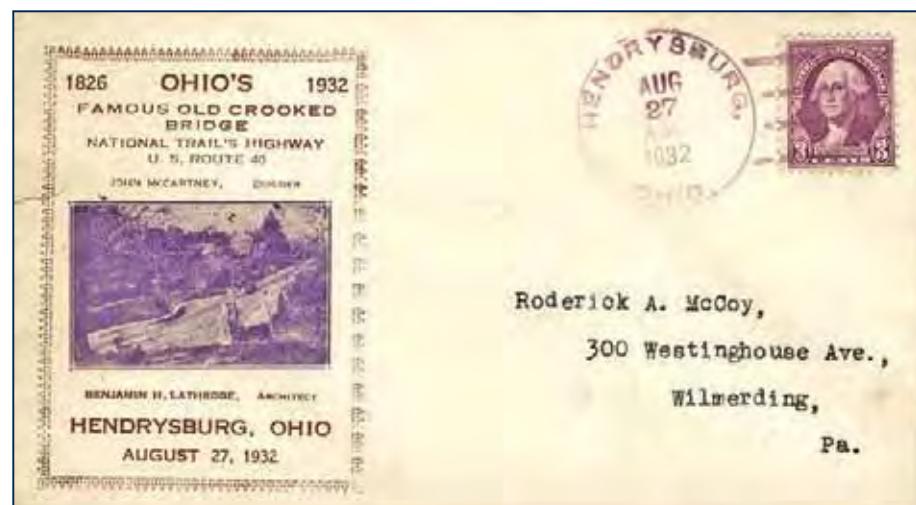
As I posed the question once before, what constitutes a special event? Obviously, the fact that a special cacheted cover was created must mean a given cover represents a notable event, right? Maybe not.

One cover in my collection simply marks the existence of Ohio's "Famous Old Crooked Bridge," on U.S. Highway 40, near Hendrysburg. The attractive cachet is printed in brown and violet (similar to the shades of the cancel and George Washington stamp). I can find no significance to the date or year (the 106th anniversary of the building of the bridge). Nonetheless, commemorating the crooked bridge apparently was a good idea, as it was straightened out the following year, in 1933. The cover was created by the Hilltop Stamp Club of Barnesville, Ohio.

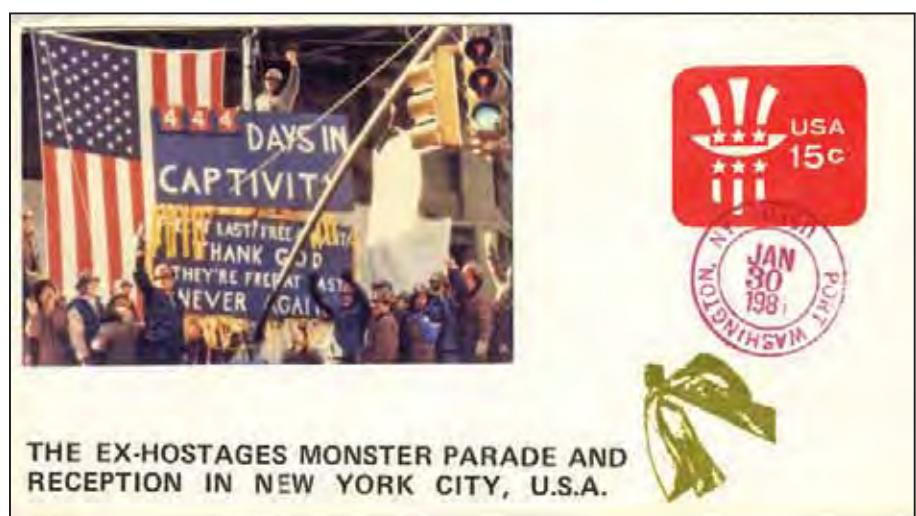
Some covers, however, do mark significant events or anniversaries. On January 20, 1981, minutes after Ronald Reagan was sworn in as U.S. President, Iran released the American hostages it had been holding for 444 days. A little over a month later, there was a massive heroes' parade in New York City to honor the return of the ex-hostages. That event was marked by a cover postmarked at Port Washington, New York, and featuring a printed gold ribbon and an affixed snapshot of the parade. Other types of special event covers marking events include inaugural, disaster, spacecraft milestones, and many others.

Another cover illustrates a significant anniversary in American cultural history. It is a specially cacheted cover marking the fiftieth anniversary of the repeal of prohibition. Libations and philately have been known to go hand-in-hand at various events.

One of the natural types of special event covers for our hobby, of course, involves philatelic-related events. Illustrated are three representative examples of some of the most interesting stamp club and stamp show covers I've seen. These include a July 8, 1949, first-anniversary cover of the founding of the Denver Masonic Stamp Club, with the all-seeing eye hovering above the state of Colorado and an old prospector; a May 2, 1959, cover for the Northern Regional Exhibit of the Oklahoma Philatelic Society, showing a line drawing of the dead



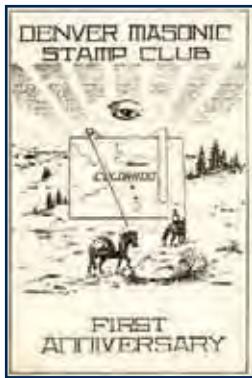
A non-event marked in 1932 (with a George Washington stamp and purple cachet and cancel) is this cover showing Ohio's "Famous Old Crooked Bridge," which, as it turns out, was straightened the following year!



The massive parade celebrating the return of the Iran hostages in 1981 was marked with this cover.



The 50th anniversary of the end of the failed "Noble Experiment" (Prohibition) was deemed noteworthy enough to mark with a special cover in 1983.



These three covers show different aspects of interesting stamp show and stamp club covers, including Masonic interest, the Dalton Brothers, and a little guy in a big earthmover.



COMPEX, the annual show of the combined clubs of Chicagoland, regularly produces nice covers with related cachets and cancels. This one features a very scary clown.



bodies of the Dalton Gang; and a cute bicolored cachet for the 1952 Peoria (Ill.) Philatelic Society Exhibition, held at the Hotel Jefferson March 22–23. The cachet notes that Peoria is the “earthmoving capital of the world,” and the cover contains a picture postcard of the Hotel Jefferson.

A cover I feel must be mentioned at this point was created for COMPEX '98, in Rosemont, Illinois. Carrying on the tradition of many great shows, COMPEX not only created a special cachet, but a pictorial cancel as well. The theme that year was “Fun in Philately,” and while the show certainly lived up to its billing, the clown in the cancel is one of the most evil-looking I’ve ever seen!

Another related type of hobby special cover includes dedications of new APS/APRL buildings each time headquarters has been moved; for example, the cover that was created for the dedication of the last headquarters building in State College, Pennsylvania. That building, dedicated April 24, 1982, lasted for just over twenty years, before basement flooding and overcrowding forced a move that led to the purchase and renovation of the Match Factory in nearby Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, current headquarters of

Dedication of the APS building in State College, Pennsylvania, in 1982 was cause for creation of this cachet and cancel.



Two post office event covers show a huge contrast. The 1934 cover is quite simple when compared with the foil-stamped item with a high-value stamp produced in 1991.

APS. The Match Factory, with its attractive Victorian-era bricks and beams, is rapidly becoming a stamp mecca. Appropriately, the cover contains a donation solicitation for the building fund.

No discussion of special event covers can be complete without featuring at least a couple of post office dedication covers. There is a distinct difference to be seen between older and modern special event covers. For the dedication of the Flushing, New York, post office on February 3, 1934 — a dedication presided over by Postmaster General James A. Farley — the cachet is a one-color green photographic style and the franking is a simple 3-cent National Recovery Act single. The 1991 special occasion cover, produced for an open house at Eastern Regional headquarters in Philadelphia, however, is a different matter. This modern cover is a glitzy, foil-stamped, legalized affair showing the Eastern Region of the U.S. Postal Service in gold. The franking is a \$2.40 Moon Landing Priority Mail stamp, and the special cancel, which measures about 4 inches by 1½ inches, contains the text identifying the event. If I am not mistaken, this cover was distributed only to postal employees.

We'll end this time with a non-philatelic special event cover from 1956. This item has to rank among the more attractive and informational promotional covers I have encountered. It is a cover



One of the author's favorite special event covers is this example from the 1956 Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival. There is a great deal of visual and textual cohesiveness between cancel, cachet, and franking.

postmarked in Winchester, Virginia, marking that year's Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival.

First, the bi-colored cachet (green and peach) match the color of the pair of 1½-cent Mount Vernon stamps that make up the 3-cent franking very nicely. The text and illustrations give information on Shenandoah Valley Week, the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival, and even list a few events.

To top everything off, whoever was responsible for the cover even managed to gain USPOD approval for a metal die hub cancel, which was presumably used

on all mail from Winchester during the ten days of the "week." The cover's stuffer gives historical information on the festival, which "has been held each year since 1924, except during World War II." The stuffer goes on to describe the festival, the area, and its environs. This showcase cover crosses at least a half-dozen different topics.

If you dig around, your collection will no doubt contain some very interesting covers as well; covers received at banquets or stamp shows, or perhaps bought on a whim.



A Postal History of Ukrainian Ceramics

by Andrij D. Solczanyk



Ukraine stamp commemorating the Trypillian culture; design incorporates clay female statuettes and ceramic vessels.

The first known ceramics were produced in Ukraine during the so-called “Trypillian culture,” approximately five to three thousand B.C.

The name derives from the village of Trypillia (now Obukhiv raion, Kyiv oblast), where neolithic bronze culture artifacts were uncovered by archaeologist Vinkentiy Khvoika (1850–1914) in 1898. This culture extended to the west of the Dnipro River.

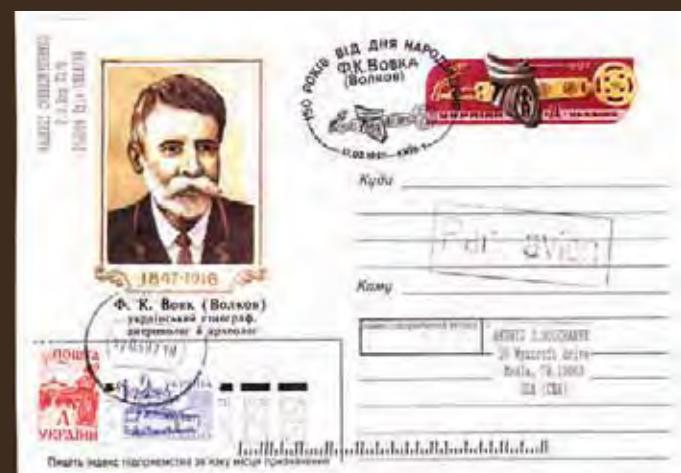
In the early period pottery was decorated with inscribed ornamentation: spiral bands, meander lines, punch areas. Later pottery had multi-colored decorative motifs. Many clay figurines of women were decorated with the same type of designs.

Although pottery continued to be produced in Ukraine from this time on, apart from a stamp illustrating Trypillian ware issued in 1994 (Scott 196), the only pottery illustrated on Ukraine philatelic items is from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Many examples of these later ceramic wares can be seen on postal cards.

Various pottery centers existed throughout Ukraine, wherever a suitable deposit of clay could be found. Some of the best known were Bubnivka (now Haisyn raion, Vinnytsia oblast), Dybyntsi (in Kyiv oblast), and Ichnia and Nizhyn (in Chernihiv oblast). Kyiv produced expensive wares until well-to-do people began to buy porcelain products. Another well-known center was found in the village of Opishnia (now Zinkiv raion, Poltava oblast). A stamp



Ceramic wares from the Trypillian culture on display at the National Museum of History of Ukraine, Kyiv: water jar, female statuette, bowl in the form of a steer.



Both the indica and the postmark show earthen wares from the Trypillian era found near Rzhyshchiv by archaeologist Fedir Vovk, shown in the cachet.



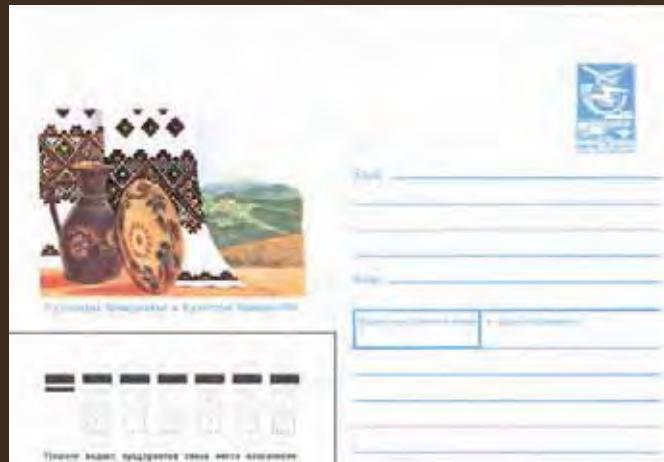
Potter in the village of Opishnia at work at his potter's wheel, surrounded by examples of his wares.



Postal card showing ceramic bowls and jugs in the Museum of Folk Architecture and Everyday Life, Lviv



Ukrainian ceramics from Opishnia, including a vase, doughnut-shaped kumanets, and ram figurine.



Decorated ceramic jug and plate from Zakarpatska (Transcarpathian) oblast.



Large decorated ceramic plate, jar, small green cup, and bowl with handle from Transcarpathian oblast.



Women artists decorating Ukrainian ceramic ware.



Cachet commemorating birth anniversary of ethnographer M. Nomys (1823–1901) showing Ukrainian ceramic wares.



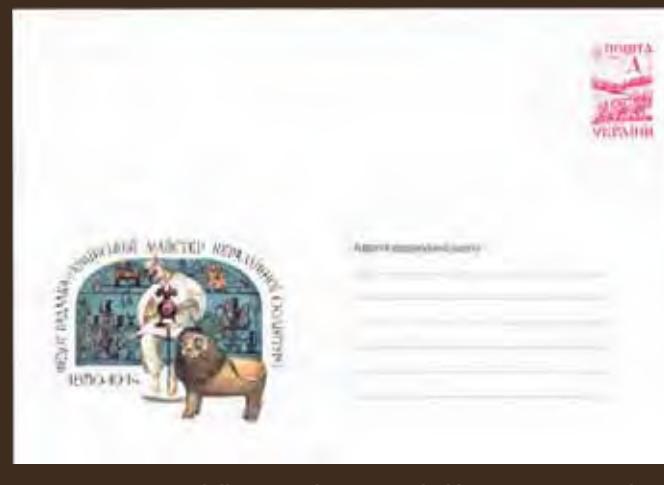
Cachet showing decorated plate from Vorokhta.



Humorous illustrations of "Fair at Sorochyntsi," a story by Nikolai Gogol, showing various pieces of ceramic ware.



Austrian postmark showing Ukrainian vase.



Master potter F. Padalka at work, surrounded by various examples of his ceramic creations.



Postal card showing ceramic wares on display in recreated 19th-century room at the Museum of Folk Architecture and Everyday Life, Lviv.

from the Villagers at Work series (Scott 186) shows a potter in the village of Opishnia working at his wheel, surrounded by examples of his wares.

The basic potter's wheel consisted of two wooden wheels joined by a long shaft. The larger, lower wheel was rotated by the potter's feet, while the smaller upper wheel was used to form earthen wares by the potter's hands. Most household wares were produced this way into the nineteenth century. These included jars, jugs, *kumanets* (ceramic ware in the shape of a doughnut or a flat, round vessel; once used to hold water or wine, it is now considered a decorative object), *tykvas* (containers with a narrow neck for holding water, wine, etc.), *baklahas* (flat containers for holding water, wine, etc.), and a variety of other useful containers.

Although there were many well-known potters, only one has been recognized by the Ukraine postal system. Fedot Padalka (1850–1914) is featured as a cachet on a postal stationery envelope issued in 1999. He lived and worked in the village of Mezhyrich (now Lebedyn raion, Sumy oblast), where he was the manager of a workshop founded by Varvara Kapnist. His decorative earthen ware was displayed at a handwork exhibition held in Kharkiv in 1887, where he received a silver medal.

Near the end of the eighteenth century, plants manufacturing porcelain ware began to be opened in Ukraine. In 1783 the Polish nobleman Josef Czartoryski founded a porcelain plant in Korets (now Rivne oblast). By 1793, under the management of the French brothers François and Michel Maser, the factory employed about 1,000 workers and seventy-three "painters." It continued to thrive until 1831 when, due to financial problems, the plant finally closed. A porcelain jug from Korets made in about 1820 is shown on a Polish stamp from 1981 (Scott 2445), and a pictorial cup and plate produced ca.1790–1796 appears on a Polish stamp from 1982 (Scott 2503).



Porcelain cup and saucer, ca. 1820, produced in Baranivka.

Porcelain cup and plate produced ca. 1790–96 in Korets.



Porcelain jug produced ca. 1820 in Korets.

Porcelain inkstand, 1844, from Horodnytsia plant



Stylized ram vessel used for alcoholic beverages, created by V. Omelianenko from Opishnia village.



Cachet honoring 2002 bicentennial of porcelain plant at Baranivka.



Cachet showing plates, tea pot, and cup and saucer made at the porcelain plant in Polonne.



Postal card showing ceramic wares on display in the Museum of Folk Architecture and Everyday Life, Lviv.



Indicia shows a doughnut-shaped *kumanets* in the coat of arms of Polonne, as well as various pieces of ceramic ware.



Porcelain tureen and gravy boat produced in Baranivka, ca. 1830.



Indicia shows ceramic jug among the objects representing subjects taught at the Lviv Art Academy.

In 1799 another porcelain plant was opened, this one in Horodnytsia (now Novohrad Volynskyi raion, Zhytomir oblast). This company specialized in dinner and tea sets, as well as small decorative items (Poland Scott 2505), all of which it continued to produce until 1835–36.

François Maser, who had helped operate the Korets porcelain works, opened his own plant in Baranivka (now Zhytomir oblast) in 1802 with 100 workers, which quickly rose to 500. Two Polish stamps show a porcelain cup and saucer from ca. 1820 (Scott 2444) and a tureen and gravy boat from ca. 1830 (Scott 2504). By 1895 the company was owned by the Hrypari family. The plant was modernized in 1966–70, and in 1976 it recorded the production of 39,924 pieces of porcelain ware. In 2002 a special postal stationery cachet was issued to celebrate the bicentennial of the Baranivka plant.

By the second half of the nineteenth century, however, the porcelain industry in Ukraine had declined,

mostly due to foreign competition and to the absence of free labor after the 1861 abolition of serfdom in the Russian empire. By 1895 there were only eight porcelain plants in Ukraine, employing 430 workers. A latecomer was the porcelain plant opened in Polonne (now Khmelnytskyi oblast) in 1889. The cachet on a 1999 Ukrainian postal stationery envelope shows two plates, a teapot, and a cup and saucer from this plant. Polonne was also home to a plant that produced decorative ceramics; some of its wares can be seen on the indicia of a Ukrainian stamped envelope from 1996.

Despite the porcelain industry's overall decline, the rich tradition of ceramics in Ukraine dating from the early Trypillian ware has led to the inclusion of separate departments of ceramics in many Ukrainian art schools, such as Lviv Art Academy, founded in 1946. A stamped postal envelope, issued in 1996 to celebrate the school's 50th anniversary, shows a ceramic jug among the objects representing the various arts taught at Lviv Art Academy.

Decorative ceramic wares remain very popular among Ukrainians, and the Trypillian designs, in particular, are enjoying a resurgence in the public eye. Today, decorated pottery can be seen on display in private homes, public museums, and business establishments.

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The Author

T Andrij D. Solczanyk worked for the U.S. Navy as an electrical engineer. He has written many philatelic articles on religion and Ukraine-related topics and has exhibited on the same subjects.

A number of countries have issued stamps showing Ukrainian ceramics. Collectors of Ceramics on Stamps might wish to peruse the following list, which also includes postmarks and postal stationery.

Austria

Postmark: Vienna (1/28/94) — Ukrainian ceramics (vase).

Poland

- Stamp:* Scott 2444 (6/15/81) 2 zł — Porcelain cup and saucer ca. 1820, manufactured at porcelain plant in Baranivka, now Zhytomyr oblast.
- Stamp:* Scott 2445 (6/15/81) 2.50 zł — Porcelain jug ca. 1820, produced at Korets porcelain plant, now Rivne oblast.
- Stamp:* Scott 2503 (1/20/82) 2 zł — Porcelain cup and plate ca. 1790–1796, made at Korets.
- Stamp:* Scott 2504 (1/20/82) 2.50 zł — Porcelain tureen and gravy boat ca. 1830, made at Baranivka.
- Stamp:* Scott 2505 (1/20/82) 6 zł — Porcelain inkstand, 1844, from Horodnytsia porcelain plant, now Novohrad Volynskyi raion, Zhytomyr oblast.

Ukraine

- Stamp:* Scott 142 (11/27/92) 5 kb — Ceramic jug.
- Stamp:* Scott 186 (11/12/94) 17,000 kb — Potter from Opishnia village at work on potter's wheel and various ceramic products.
- Stamp:* Scott 196 (12/17/94) 4,000 kb — Ceramic wares from Trypillian culture, five to three thousand B.C.
- Stamp:* Scott 291 (12/20/97) 40 k — Ram-shaped ceramic ware used for alcoholic beverages, made by V. Omelianenko of Opishnia.
- Stamp:* Scott 490b (12/6/02) 45 k — Woman holding ceramic jug with semicircular handle.
- Envelope:* Order #6-3113 (9/18/96) — Indicia: doughnut-shaped *Kumanets* vessel in coat of arms, also various ceramic ware to right.
- Envelope:* Order #6-3163 (10/11/96) — Indicia: jug representing ceramic arts at Lviv Art Academy.
- Envelope:* Order #7-3024 (3/14/97) — Indicia: earthen wares from the Trypillian era found near Rzhyshchiv, now Kaharlyk raion, Kyiv oblast.
- Envelope:* Order #8-3387 (10/19/98) — Cachet: two plates and a ram figurine.
- Envelope:* Order #9-3125 (7/16/99) — Cachet: various porcelain wares from plant in Polonne, now Khmelnytskyi oblast.

(continued on next page)

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Envelope: Order #9-3390 (8/9/99) — Cachet: ceramic wares from Trypillian culture.

Envelope: Order 9-3710 (1999) — Cachet: Fedot Padalka, master of ceramic sculpture, at work at potter's wheel with his wares in the background.

Envelope: Order #1-3173 (2001) — Cachet: ceramic plate from Vorokhta, now Nadvirna raion, Ivano-Frankivsk oblast.

Envelope: Order #2-3081 (2002) 40 k — Cachet: bicentennial of Baranivka porcelain plant.

Envelope: Order #4-3366 (6/4/04) 45 k — Cachet: "Fair at Sorochyntsi," a humorous design after the tale by Nikolai Gogol (in Ukrainian Mykola Hohol) of the same title, showing various ceramic wares including a pig jug with handle. Sorochyntsi is Gogol's birthplace.

Postmark: Kyiv-1 (3/17/97) — earthen ware from Trypillia era.

USSR

Stamp: Scott 2702 (1/31/63) 6 k — Ceramics from Opishnia village.

Stamp: Scott 3786 (11/29/70) 12 k — Ceramic ware from Opishnia.

Envelope: (12/14/60) 4 k — Cachet: woman and various types of Ukrainian ceramic wares.

Envelope: (5/5/68) 6 k air mail — Cachet: Ukrainian ceramics.

Envelope: (10/23/73) 4 k — Cachet: Ukrainian ceramics.

Envelope: (7/20/84) 5 k — Cachet: ceramic wares from Zakarpatska (Transcarpathian) oblast.

Envelope: (10/26/87) 5 k — Cachet: decorative ceramic wares from Zakarpatska (Transcarpathian) oblast.

Envelope: (4/19/89) 5 k — Cachet: decorative ceramics from Zakarpatska (Transcarpathian) oblast.

Envelope: (6/26/91) 7 k — Cachet: Ukrainian ceramic wares.

Postal Card: (12/23/88) 4 k — Ceramic wares in the Museum of Folk Architecture and Everyday Life, Lviv.

Postal Card: (12/23/88) 4 k — Ceramic wares on display in recreated 19th-century living quarters, Museum of Folk Architecture and Everyday Life, Lviv.

Postal Card: (12/23/88) 4 k — Ceramic wares on display in recreated 19th-century living quarters, Museum of Folk Architecture and Everyday Life, Lviv.

Postmark: Velyki Sorochyntsi (8/25/70) — Decorative kumanets.

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FOUND An Unsuspected Connection!

by Nan H. Burby

Several times a year I find myself traipsing off to the antique shops in Pittsboro, North Carolina, a small town in Chatham County only sixteen miles from my home in Chapel Hill, to check out their postcards. I am always on the lookout for Chapel Hill cards in particular and was delighted on one of my trips several years ago to pick up several from the mid-1940s. At the same time I picked up a few others for my collection — a couple from Yellowstone, one from New Orleans — but it was only last spring that I sat down to add them to my books.

Suddenly it was very clear that they were all connected — the five Chapel Hill cards, the one from New Orleans, and two from Yellowstone. Now, I wish that I had dug deeper in the basket of cards that day as I'm sure there must have been more, but I was focused only on my "big three."

What was the connection? A lovely set of cards sent to

a serviceman by his family, and three sent by him back to them.

Paul Clyde Campbell, born June 3, 1921, enlisted in the U.S. Army on July 25, 1945. He had just turned twenty-four and was a new father. Paul Marlon Campbell had been born on March 18, 1945. The war in Europe was over (V-E Day was May 8, 1945) and the war with Japan was in its final days (V-J Day was August 14, 1945). In the three cards I have written by him he never mentions the war, but maybe if he had known World War II would have been over in less than a month, he wouldn't have enlisted. I do know that his family missed him terribly. Four of the cards to him are written in the voice of his baby son Marlon and are very touching.

The first card from Marlon to his father was sent November 14, 1945 and is a lovely black-and-white view of Mangum Hall on the University of North Carolina (UNC) campus. It is addressed to Pvt. Campbell at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, just south of the city of Alexandria. More than half a million men went through this camp, which was used primarily for basic training and artillery practice — in hot and humid conditions — between 1939 and 1946. Near the end of the war, German prisoners of war (POWs) were held there. The camp was deactivated in 1945, perhaps soon



Mangum Hall, University of North Carolina campus

Mangum Hall, University of North Carolina campus; mailed November 14, 1945 to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana.



after Clyde's assignment there, and is now managed by the U.S. Forest Service. According to one Internet link, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently evaluating the grounds to see if it would be feasible to remove possible unexploded ordnance.

Marlon "writes:"

Hello Daddy. How is my daddy? I am well. I'm in my chair. Mama is fine but blue. Are you going to get out darling? Hope & trust you do. I love you so very much daddy. Mama promised me a sister daddy. Can I have one. Your son, Marlon.

Pretty good writing for an eight month old!

A second card, dated February 8, 1946 is mailed to Pvt. Campbell at Camp Stoneman in Pittsburg, California, but someone has marked that address out in red and written, Ft. Warren. If Clyde was ever at Camp Stoneman, it must have been only briefly. The camp was located forty miles northeast of San Francisco and used as a staging area for troops going overseas and for rifle range training. Chuck Wullenjohn in a history of Camp Stoneman writes (see www.militarymuseum.org/cpstoman.htm/) that the camp was the principal "jumping off point" for more than one million American soldiers destined for military operations in World War II's Pacific Theater and, later, during the Korean War. Wullenjohn notes that the largest telephone center in the world was operated there in 1945. The seventy-five phone booths were the first spots visited by soldiers returning from overseas duty. Also, a telegraph office was located on base, with the most frequent message being, "Arrived safely, be home soon." Although most soldiers were there only for a short period (those bound overseas only for one to two weeks; returnees often less than forty-eight hours), all stops were pulled out for entertainment: three motion picture theaters, a 10,000-seat outdoor theater, weekly USO shows throughout most of World War II, featuring Hollywood stars such as Groucho Marx, Garry Moore, and Red Skelton.

Perhaps since Clyde arrived at Camp Stoneman after V-J Day, the Army was already beginning to reduce the number of men stationed there. At any rate, he must have been rather quickly reassigned to Ft. Warren in Cheyenne, Wyoming, a cavalry post established in 1867 by the U.S. Army. (In 1947 it



First Presbyterian Church, Chapel Hill; mailed February 8, 1946 to Camp Stoneman in Pittsburg, California, and forwarded to Ft. Warren.



First Presbyterian Church, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

became an Air Force base, officially entitled F. E. Warren Air Force Base, and is now home to the 90th Space Wing.)

At any rate Marlon's second card is a view of the First Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill. He writes:

Hello Daddy. How are you daddy. Me and Mama are fine. I was a good baby yesterday, daddy. I am sweet. Mama washed yesterday.... She loves you dear daddy. She is sweet for you. She will always be sweet for you. I love you daddy. Come home to us daddy. Write me daddy. So long. Your son. Marlon.

A third card written three days later (and sent first to Camp Stoneman, then forwarded to Ft. Warren) indicates that Marlon did not get his wish for a baby sister, as he reports that "David" is sick. He writes:

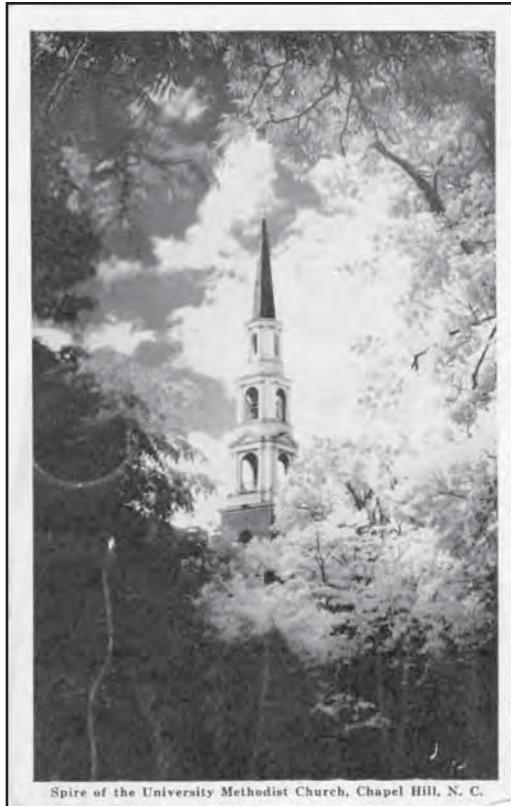
I'm sitting on a quilt on the floor. David is sick. He won't laugh with me. I love you daddy. Mama loves you. Come home soon. Your son, Marlon.

This Chapel Hill postcard shows a view of the spire of the University Methodist Church.

Two days later, on February 13, 1946, Marlon again writes:

Hello Daddy. I am fine. Hope you are 2. I am a sweet baby daddy. I love you.... Mama loves you daddy. She is sweet for you.... I love David. He is kindly sick. I love you daddy.... So long Daddy. Love, son.

(Since I couldn't find David listed as a child of Clyde, and he did have lots of children, I wonder if this child didn't sur-



Spire of the University Methodist Church, Chapel Hill, N. C.



Spire of the University Methodist Church, Chapel Hill; mailed February 11, 1946 to Camp Stoneman in Pittsburg, California, and forwarded to Ft. Warren

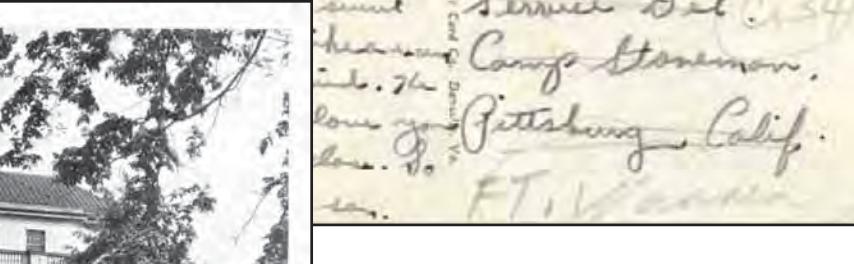
Memorial Auditorium, University of North Carolina;

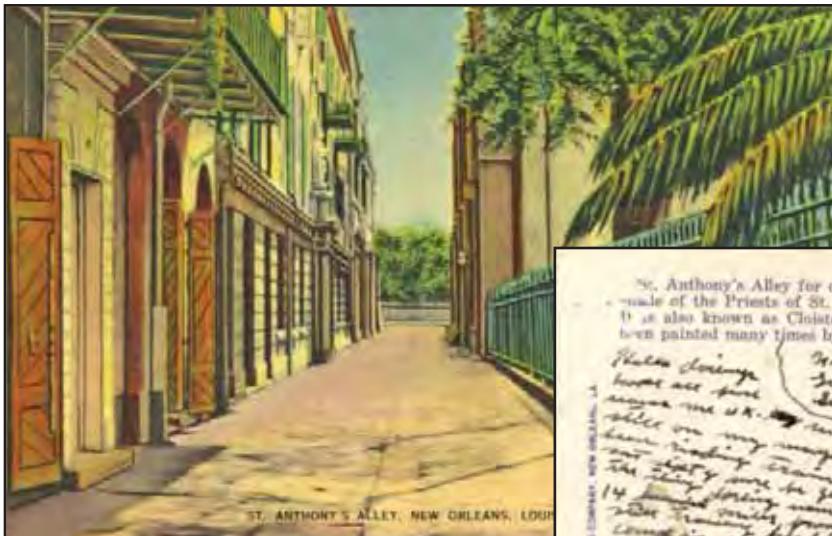
mailed February 13, 1946 to Camp Stoneman in
Pittsburg, California, and forwarded to Ft. Warren.



Memorial Auditorium, University of N. C., Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Mailed February 8, 1946 to Camp Stoneman in Pittsburg, California, and forwarded to Ft. Warren. This card features "Old Well," at the University of North Carolina campus on the front.





St. Anthony's Alley, New Orleans;
mailed September 10, 1945 to
Pittsboro, North Carolina.



vive.) This card is a view of UNC's Memorial Auditorium.

There is one other Chapel Hill card, a view of the Old Well on the UNC campus, in front of Old East Dormitory and South Building, sent February 8, 1946. This card, however, is from Mrs. George Woody, the mother (I think) of Clyde's wife. She writes:

Dear Clyde. Just a few lines to let you hear from me. This leaves (?) us all very well. Hope you are getting along fine and will soon get home to your wife and baby. Wish you could be here now with [us] (?). Will close. Will write more when I have time. Marlon (?) and the baby are fine. Mattie (?).

While I have trouble reading Mattie's writing, it seems clear that the purpose of the card was to reassure Clyde that things at home were fine. As with all the February mailings, this one was sent first to Camp Stoneman and then forwarded.

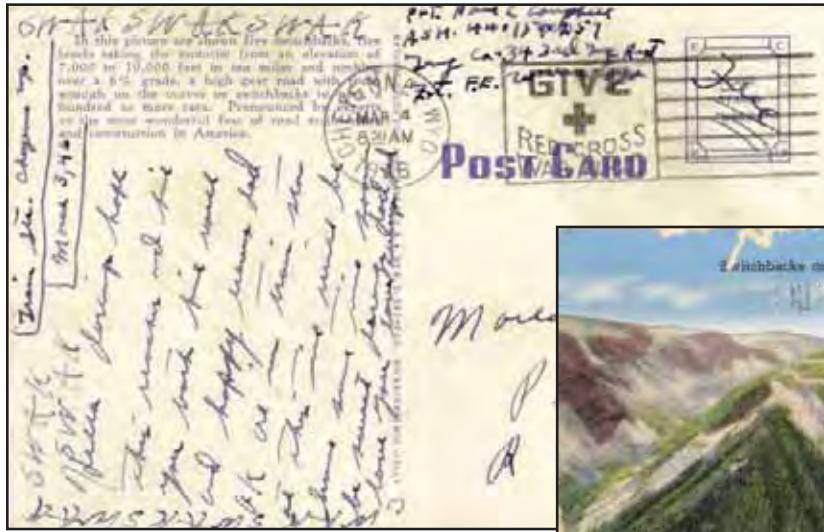
Now for the three cards I picked up un-

knowingly from Clyde to his wife and family. One was addressed to Mrs. Paul C. Campbell, Pittsboro, N.C., R#3, and two to Marlon Campbell. At the bottom is the note "c/o George Woody," most likely his father-in-law.

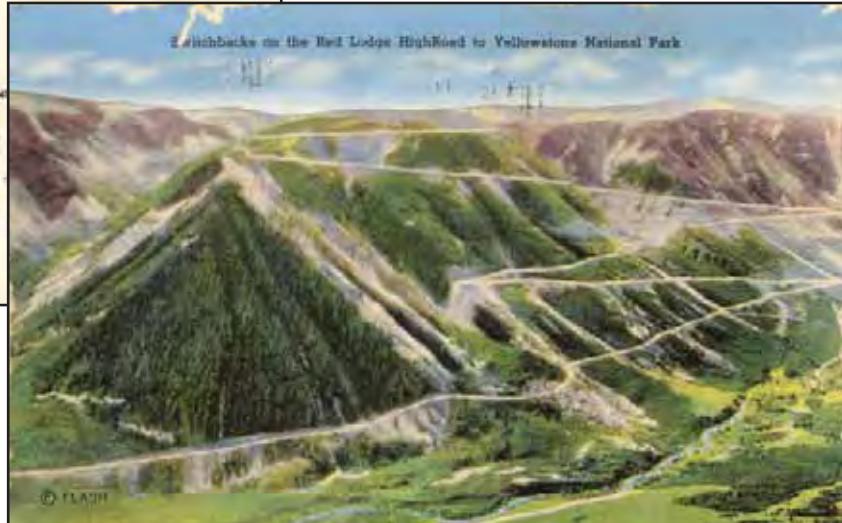
The earliest card is of a New Orleans scene, St. Anthony's Alley — also known as Cloister Alley, as it was used for centuries as a promenade for the priests of St. Louis Cathedral. The card was mailed September 10, 1945 and shows a train cancellation, RPO, N.O. & Marshall, most likely sent as he was en route to Camp Claiborne. He writes:



Twin Lakes in the Beartooth Mountains; mailed February 13, 1946 to Pittsboro, North Carolina.



Switchback on the Red Lodge High Road to Yellowstone National Park; mailed March 3, 1946 to Pittsboro, North Carolina.



Hello Darlings. Hope all fine. Mama me ok. Wore out riding. Still on my way somewhere. Been riding train ever since Sat., Sept. 4. Sure he glad to get to the thing. Darling now I am over 14 hundred miles from home and still traveling. Headed for some camp in Louisiana I think. Don't worry sweetheart. Be back some sweet day. If you don't hear from [me] often, don't fret for I am a long way from home. Your hubby keeps your letters. Sweet chin up for I love it. Take good care of my babies always. Your true lover. Love always, Pvt. Paul C. Campbell.

The plural of baby worries me, but I assume he knew his wife was pregnant and was referring to both 6-month-old Marlon and the expected child.

The two Yellowstone National Park cards Clyde sent both feature my favorite entrance to Yellowstone — the Red Lodge-Cooke Highway.

He sent the first one February 13, 1946 (marked Free and with a Fort Warren, Wyoming postmark), and the return address is Ft. F.E. Warren. The card is a spectacular photo of the Twin Lakes, along the highway, viewed from 1,000 feet above their water level. The card is addressed to Marlon Campbell but the note is to the whole family. Clyde writes:

My darlings. Hope this finds my babies fine. Leaves me as worry (?) what dad's baby doing. Wish Dad could be there to love his baby and mother. Hope to some day soon. Darlings I have seen lots places like this and more prettier than this. Be sweet darlings. With my heart. Love, Dad.

On two of the borders he has written seven SWAKs — Sealed with a Kiss.

The second card, again mailed Free but with a Cheyenne, Wyoming cancellation, features switchbacks on the famous highway. The following description is printed on the other side:

In this picture are shown five switchbacks, five levels taking the motorist from an elevation of 7,000 to 10,000 feet in ten miles and nothing over a six percent grade, a high gear road with room enough on the curves or

switchbacks to park a hundred or more cars. Pronounced by experts as the most wonderful feat of road engineering and construction in America.

Clyde indicates that this is written March 3, 1946 from the train station. Maybe he was on his way home. The card again is addressed to Marlon. He writes:

Hello darlings. Hope this reaches and finds you both fine, well and happy.... Mama dad OK. Am in train sta[tion] at this time. Will be home some time soon. Be sweet darling, Dad. Love you, love always Dad.

And again he has written on two of the borders six SWAKs.

I'm glad that at least these three cards caught my eye, but I'm sure there were many more from this loving man so far away from his family. If I had sat down and looked at these cards earlier, I would have been tempted to call Clyde up and ask him to share his feelings during that period of his life. I do know though that he died June 25, 2001, so it is not to be. It does make me sad though to realize that most of the correspondence between soldiers of today and their families is on the Internet. I hope some spouses are printing out hard copies to keep in an album!

The Author

TNAN H. BURBY IS A RETIRED JOURNALIST WITH DEGREES FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA. SHE AND HER HUSBAND RAY, THE TRUE PHILATELIST IN THE FAMILY, LIVE IN CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA, WHERE RAY IS A RETIRED FACULTY MEMBER FROM THE UNC DEPARTMENT OF CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING. SINCE BECOMING A "COLLECTOR OF POSTCARDS," NAN FINDS THAT ONE OF HER FAVORITE ACTIVITIES ON TRIPS IN THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD IS TO SEEK OUT ANTIQUE STORES, AS WELL AS THRIFT SHOPS, THAT STOCK OLD POSTCARDS.

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| RE156 | \$3.60 | \$200.00 | \$150.00 |
| RE158 | \$4.80 | \$175.00 | \$131.25 |
| RE163 | \$50.00 | \$125.00 | \$93.75 |
| RE164 | \$100.00 | \$375.00 | \$281.25 |
| RE165 | \$200.00 | \$190.00 | \$142.50 |
| RE176 | \$5.00 | \$100.00 | \$75.00 |
| RE178 | \$7.00 | \$100.00 | \$75.00 |
| RE187 | 20 2/5 | \$110.00 | \$82.50 |
| RE189 | 38 1/4 | \$150.00 | \$112.50 |
| RE194 | 80 2/5 | \$175.00 | \$131.25 |
| RE197 | 1.88 3/10 | \$325.00 | \$243.75 |
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| RJA78b | \$.03 | \$125.00 |
| RJA80a | \$.02 | \$375.00 |
| RJA85b | \$.09 | \$50.00 |
| RJA92b | \$.02 | \$90.00 |
| RJA93b | \$.03 | \$160.00 |
| RJA95b | \$.09 | \$225.00 |
| RJA96b | \$.10 | \$210.00 |
| RJA98b | \$.10 | \$400.00 |
| RJA99 | \$.20 | \$500.00 |
| RJA103b | \$.18 | \$60.00 |
| RJA105 | \$.01 | \$110.00 |
| RJA105a | \$.01 | \$140.00 |
| RJA106b | \$.25 | \$250.00 |

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|---------|---------|----------|----------|
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| REA193 | 1 BBL | \$100.00 | \$75.00 |
| REA194 | 5 BBL | \$100.00 | \$75.00 |
| REA195 | 10 BBL | \$200.00 | \$150.00 |
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Equibank Pittsburgh ATM Sheetlets: *A New Development*

"The Stamp Stop" ATM at Equibank in Pittsburgh shown in action on the first day of use in December 1988.

by Jim Noll and Frank Norulak

In April 2009 a sale lot appeared on eBay that included an all-blue Equibank "Teddy Bear"-type sheetlet with nine one-cent 1986 Omnibus stamps (Scott 2225). The question raised was: what would such a sheetlet be used for, as it is very unlikely that Equibank would have wanted to sell one-cent stamps?

We have established that these sheetlets were made to test methods of affixing coil strips of three to the carriers and then to determine if the carriers with the stamps affixed could run through the ATM (Automatic Teller Machine) without the stamps coming off. This the first major new development to the story of the Equibank ATM carrier sheetlets in a number of years.

As the authors of an earlier article on the topic, "ATM Precursors Had PNCs"¹, we wish to use this development to revisit what is known about the Equibank ATM Carrier Sheetlets, which were the forerunners to the USPS issued ATM sheetlets.

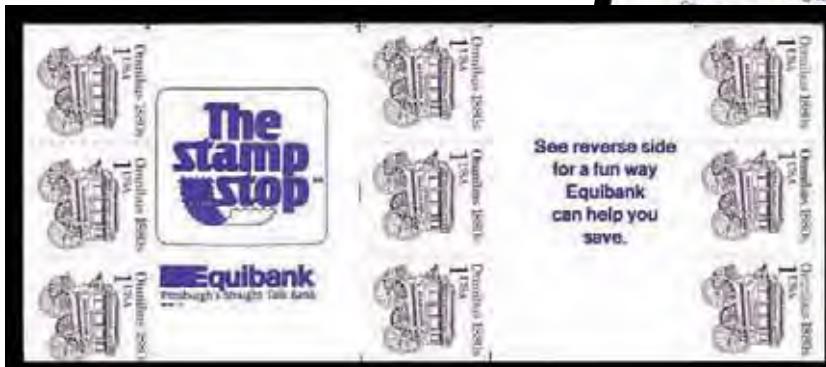
a k round

When the 25-cent Flag USPS ATM sheetlet (Scott 1990) was issued on May 18, 1990 for a six-month test period in Seattle, Washington, the Equibank of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania already had eighteen months experience dispensing stamps through its own ATMs. Equibank began its "Stamp Stop" program on December 14, 1988, using nine 25-cent

Flag Over Yosemite stamps (Scott 2280) on each carrier. The stamps were available for purchase in quantities of one, two, or three carriers in a single transaction; that is to say, in quantities of nine, eighteen, or twenty-seven stamps at a time. The stamps sold at face value, for the convenience of customers, but the cost of preparing the sheetlets meant that this was done at a loss to the bank. The program continued until January 1991.

The carriers holding the stamps were the size of a dollar bill and were printed by a California firm using Equibank information and promotional advertising. Stamps were affixed to the carriers in three strips of three coil stamps by lightly moistening the left and right edge of each strip and affixing them to the sheetlet. This work is believed to have been performed by workers from a charitable group, presumably at minimum wage. As the three stamp strips were taken from large rolls, several carriers exist with Plate Number Coil identification (PNCs).

Stamps originally were offered at forty-five ATMs with expansion planned to forty additional machines, for a total of eighty-five ATM amchines.² The three-strip, dollar-size arrangement was required in order for the carriers to travel through a standard ATM. The driving rollers feeding the carrier used the spaces between stamp strips to dispense them to customers. The ATM type used was a Fujitsu model 6000 equipped with three dispenser cassettes that could hold up to 3,000 carriers or pieces of currency.



Front and back of horizontal Type 1 from eBay sale lot, a blue color Equibank sheetlet with nine one-cent Omnibus stamps. PNC examples are known.



Front and back of horizontal Type 2. "The Stamp Shop" and "Equibank" logos on the front are in red ink, while the strip of stamps and text are in blue. All of the back is printed in blue, except "Equibank." The six-digit control number is red. Stamps are block tagged. PNC examples are known.

To date we have identified seven types of paper "carriers" (illustrated and described below). There may be others that are still unknown. Both sides of the sheetlets are shown, except for those carriers that have plain backs. The highest control number seen to date is in the 236,000 range.

It was reported in the original *Equibank News Release* of December 14, 1988, announcing the kickoff date of the Stamp Stop project, that Equibank was planning to sell advertising on the carriers in 1989, and that Pepsi-Cola was to be the first advertiser. However, to date we have not seen carriers bearing any advertising other than that of Equibank itself.

The Stamp Stop program was a clever promotional concept, but a lack of available stamps, coupled with problems involving dispenser design, secure stamp affixing, programming the ATMs, printing problems, and assorted accounting issues ultimately led to the demise of the program. The total cost of the program was borne by Equibank; the expenses ranged from the cost of the stamps, to the design and printing of the carriers, to the placement of the stamps on the carriers, to the loading of the carriers into the ATM machines. The entire Stamp Stop operation was a loss leader for the

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Equibank
Pittsburgh's Straight Talk Bank



bank, and operations finally came to a halt in January 1991 when USPS issued its own 29-cent "F" stamp ATM sheetlets (Scott 2522). Equibank then sold USPS stamps through its ATMs, but it will continue to hold a unique, pioneering place in postal history.

Questions

A number of questions remain to be addressed, although we have some provisional answers, listed below.

Q1: Did Pepsi-Cola ever become an advertiser on the carriers?

A1: Pepsi-Cola's Marketing Manager in Pittsburgh in 1988 was contacted in 2005, but due to lack of records could provide no new information.



Front and back of vertical Type 3. "The Stamp Stop" and "Equibank" logos and a six-digit control number preceded by an "N" on the front are printed in red, as is the entire back. Stamps are block tagged. PNC examples are known.



Front of horizontal Type 4. Two "The Stamp Shop" logos are in red ink. The four-digit control number preceded by "No." is in red. Plain back. Stamps are block tagged. PNC examples are known.



Front of horizontal Type 5. Two "The Stamp Shop" logos and two "Equibank" logos are in red ink. The six-digit control number preceded by "No." is in red. Plain back. Stamps are block tagged. PNC examples are known.

Front of vertical Type 6. "The Stamp Stop" and "Equibank" logos and a six-digit control number preceded by "No." are in an unknown color. The image is reproduced from *Scott's Monthly Journal* (April 1990). What may be on the back and tagging is unknown.



Front of vertical Type 7. Two "The Stamp Stop" logos are in pink. Paper on this carrier is glossy, like the liner on self-adhesive coils. Stamps are on prephosphored paper first issued February 14, 1989. PNC examples are known.

Q2: Who in California prepared the carriers and who attached the stamps?

A2: The Equibank's former project manager for the Stamp Stop project was contacted in 2005, 2006, and 2009. He provided two contacts who had been with Fujitsu in San Diego during the Equibank project. One of them reported that Fujitsu in San Diego helped find a vendor or vendors to prepare the stamp carriers and that the vendor or vendors were in the San Diego area. Data indicates that carriers were prepared by a firm in the "East" San Diego area, most likely in the area of El Cajon, Santee, or Lakeside. Carrier production later was moved to Pittsburgh.

Q3: Do more than the above identified seven carrier types exist?

A3: Unknown.

Q4: Does a color illustration of the Type 6 carrier that was shown in Scott's Monthly, exist and what does the back look like?

A4: Scott's Monthly was contacted in 2004, and no additional information is available.

Q5: How many carriers were printed and sold? What was the order in which the carriers were issued and/or used?

A5: Serial Number ranges are reported to date, but it is unknown if they were issued in this order:

Type 1 — None (No serial number used)

Type 2 — 001087 to 067009

Type 3 — N 204782 to N 204785

Type 4 — No. 1780 to No. 1785

Type 5 — No. 203494 to No. 212593

Type 6 — 236901

Type 7 — None (No serial number used)

Q6: Do any "Stamp" people in Pittsburgh have additional information on the Equibank issues?

A6: A number of "Stamp" people in Pittsburgh were contacted, including collectors, dealers, and the manager of the PITPEX stamp show; however, only limited new information

was uncovered. Several pieces of supporting material were obtained, including the News Release from Equibank issued at the start of the Stamp Stop program and a photo of an ATM vending a stamp carrier shown in this article.

Q7: Were the additional forty ATMs ever brought into the Stamp Stop program?

A7: Unknown.

Clearly, there is more to learn, and we are asking for help in completing the Stamp Stop story. Information is lacking about quantities issued, costs, the printer, and the affixer. Please write to either Frank Norulak, 1880 West Carson Street, F325, Torrance, CA 90501, e-mail: fnorulak@yahoo.com, or Jim Noll, P.O. Box 3410, Escondido, CA 92033, e-mail jenca@pacbell.net. All data will be acknowledged and used to update the Equibank ATM Carrier story.

Endnotes

1. Jim Noll and Frank Norulak, "ATM Precursors Had PNCs," *The Plate Number* (September 1995): 114.

2. The December 14, 1988 *Equibank News Release* announced the initial number of ATMs as forty-five. *Linn's Stamp News* on January 9, 1989 also gave the figure of 45 but in its April 10, 1989 issue reported the initial number of ATMs as 43; perhaps a typo. Both the *Linn's* issues reported the planned addition of forty machines.

The Authors

T Jim Noll has been a stamp collector since age 9. His collecting interests are wide in the back-of-the-book areas with a focus on Postal Notes and Money Orders. Prior to retirement he worked as a computer system field engineer and his work prompted collecting Postal Buddy and ATM-related issues. He also collects in the Paper Money and Casino Collectibles fields. He is an active supporter of the San Diego Philatelic Library and the Philatelic 25 collectors group in San Diego.

Frank Norulak has collected stamps for well over fifty years, with used United States and Japan as his primary collections. A long-time member of the USSS, he has always had a fascination with unusual modern postal history and items not catalogued in the *Scott* system.

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Semiotics and Stamps

How the Academic Discipline of Linguistics Can Help Us Understand Our Stamps

by Jack Child

(NOTE: This article uses material from the newly released Duke University Press book, *Miniature Messages: The Semiotics and Politics of Latin American Postage Stamps.*)

Semiotics, a little-known and arcane branch of the academic discipline of linguistics, can help us understand what our stamps are and what they can do. Semiotics is the study of signs and the messages they carry, and forms the basis for important advances in advertising, propaganda, the media, and visual communications generally, among other things. Semiotics considers that signs can be just about anything: the written word, pictures, colors, symbols, icons, and, of course, postage stamps, to the point that the father of the American school of semiotics, Charles Sanders Peirce (1839–1914) once claimed that “the entire universe is perfused with signs, if it is not composed exclusively of signs.”¹

The postage stamps of Argentina can be used to show how a semiotic approach can tell us things about our stamps and the messages, sometimes subtly and sometimes openly, that they can carry. I picked Argentina because I grew up

As a boy starting my stamp collecting I was drawn to the larger format, the use of color, and the attractive designs of the Perón-era stamps. It was not until much later, when I began my graduate studies of Latin American affairs, that the political and economic significance of the message these stamps were delivering began to sink in.

there, and first became interested in collecting stamps as a boy when I realized the difference between stamps of the period before the first presidency of Juan Domingo Perón (1946–1955) and those that were produced during his administration. As a boy starting my stamp collecting I was drawn to the larger format, the use of color, and the attractive designs of the Perón-era stamps. It was not until much later, when I began my graduate studies of Latin American affairs, that the political and economic significance of the message these stamps were delivering began to sink in. Since then I have used the postage stamps of Latin America in my academic career to illustrate lectures, articles and books.² In this article I will use some of the tools of semiotics to take a look at the stamps of Argentina from the first ones issued in 1858 through the first Perón era.

Peirce developed a complicated semiotic classification system for signs, but for the sake of simplicity we can reduce his scheme for organizing signs into three categories:

- An *index* is a pointer taking the viewer somewhere. The classical example is smoke, which takes you to the fire. A philatelic example would be a national flag or (in the case of the stamps of Great Britain) the silhouette of the monarch.
- An *icon* is a graphic, a picture, a photograph, or an abstract design. All stamps have icons of one kind or another, and it is the icon that provides the basic semiotic message of the stamp. Even very simple stamps, such as the earliest Brazilian ones consisting of nothing more than a number, have design features such as typography and ornamental abstract lines that make it hard to forge.
- A *symbol* is a conventional sign that stands for something else. An example would be the symbol “\$,” which stands for the monetary value of the stamp. Another would be the post horn, a common symbol for postal service.

First Stamps of Argentina

The earliest Argentine stamps delivered the clear message that what we know as Argentina today was not yet really a single nation, but rather a loose federation of provinces that resisted the organizing of a centralized national government. These stamps, from the 1856 to 1879 period, were issued by individual provinces such as Buenos Aires, Corrientes, and Córdoba. There is a story behind the design of the Corrientes stamp, which features the head of the Roman goddess of agriculture (Argentina-Corrientes Scott 1). It was designed and printed by a baker's delivery boy, Matías Pipet, who had been apprenticed to a French engraver before coming to South America. No one in Corrientes had any experience preparing stamps, so the boy was asked to take on the task. He simply copied the only stamp he knew, an early French stamp that featured the goddess Ceres.³

Another philatelic message that showed the absence of a national government in the remote reaches of Argentina can be found on the 1891 Tierra del Fuego local stamps privately issued by a Rumanian mining engineer named Julius Popper, who used them to cover the cost of moving letters from his scattered gold mining camps to the nearest post offices in Chile (Punta Arenas) or Argentina (Ushuaia). Popper was a ruthless and cruelly efficient boss who boasted of the number of local indigenous Onas he had killed. He was known as "the Patagonian Dictator," and his legend lives on in the Tierra del Fuego region.⁴ The stamp (not catalogued by Scott) is well-designed, with iconic elements that deliver his message: mining tools, an envelope, and the letter "P."

The first stamps of the Argentine nation came out in 1858 (Argentina Scott 1 — NOTE: all subsequent stamp numbers are Scott Argentina unless otherwise specified) and carried the icon of the Argentine Confederation, a pair of clasped hands holding a staff capped by the



The 1856 Corrientes "Ceres" stamp.



Popper private mail.



Seated Liberty.



The first stamp of the Argentine nation.

"gorro frigio" (cap of liberty) and the sun, symbols of independence.

From a semiotic perspective, Argentine stamps present both a problem and an illustrative example of the difficulties in using a graphic as an icon. The problem is the official name of the country ("República Argentina"), and the fact that Argentine stamps carry this typographically long name (sometimes shortened to "Argentina") as a semiotic index taking the viewer to the country of origin. Argentina, like other Latin American countries, has not been able to come up with an icon or symbol that could also serve the indexing function of identifying the country. Great Britain has done this with the reigning monarch, and France with the



image of Marianne, and these images have permitted Great Britain and France to minimize the need to put the name of their country on stamps. Since Argentina has not achieved this, its postal administration has been forced to put the full name of the country on the stamps, thus occupying valuable space that otherwise could be used for iconic or symbolic purposes.

Argentine stamps offer several examples of the attempted use of a graphic as an icon. One is the image of Independence hero General José de San Martín, whose visage is familiar to every Argentine (and many Latin Americans), because he is a symbol of self-perceived Argentine values and nationhood. A second iconic graphic, albeit a political one, is the portrait of Evita Perón. After her death the only stamps that could be used in Argentina for a full year were the ones showing her portrait, and because of her iconic status it was not felt necessary to put her name on all of these stamps.

At the turn of the century, Argentina issued a stamp that could have become, in semiotic terms, an index, an icon, and a symbol: the allegory of seated Liberty (Scott 129), in service from 1899–1903. The design was simple: Liberty rests her hand on the seal of Argentina and gazes out over the ocean to the rising sun. A second possible iconic stamp was the head of Liberty, with no allegorical symbolism, issued

as a stamp for official mail (Scott O31–O36; the prefix “O” indicating official mail). However, neither of these became generally accepted as a sufficiently strong symbol of the nation to become truly iconic.

Early Commemoratives

More impressive was the high-quality 1910 Centenary commemorative set — a series of sixteen stamps that laid out the events and main characters of the 1810 break with Spain, then under Napoleon’s control. The 1810–1910 dates make the purpose of the stamp clear, and the stamps (Scott 171, for example) capture some of the more enduring images of Independence: the monument in the Plaza de Mayo, and the rainy morning of May 25, 1810, when demonstrators outside of the Cabildo in that same plaza launched the Independence movement. The stamps were well-received by collectors and the general public, and the presidential resolution of July 1, 1909, authorizing the issue gives an indication of the increasing awareness of the propaganda message and value of stamps: “...considering that the postage stamp, besides serving as postage, will also permit the country’s achievements to be known abroad....”⁵

One unusual set of stamps in this period was the fiscal stamp series (i.e., revenue stamps not for postage) used to pay for the medical inspections of prostitutes in Rosario by the “Servicio Sanitario” or public health service, which were issued in that city between 1893 and the 1920s. Prostitution was legal and controlled during this period, and government regulations required a monthly medical inspection, for which the woman had to purchase a fiscal stamp to cover costs. The stamp would be placed on her medical identification card, which was required to be shown to customers, with a cancellation to indicate she was healthy, infected, or “under observation” (inconclusive). The fiscal stamps varied from one to four-and-a-half pesos, with the higher values presumably for late exams or failure to get treatment.⁶

Early Definitives

Argentina’s first long-running definitive stamp was the 1911–1915 “labrador” or agriculture icon (Scott 179), showing a farmer in his field looking past the furrows to a rising sun on the horizon. The Post Office Director’s decision to use this allegorical theme reflects the continuing search for a national icon: “Postage stamps should show, by means of an allegory, the outstanding characteristics of our national life.”⁷ However, the laborer, like the seated Liberty allegory before him, failed to be a sufficiently convincing icon, and in 1916 the new postal director felt that it was impossible to find a single symbol that could represent a complex nation with so many accomplishments in so many fields. He chose instead to use the figure of San Martín (for example, Scott 226)

as the one man who best represented Argentine ideals, and this definitive theme in one form or another was used until 1933.

Commemoratives in this period began to be more numerous, and established certain themes that would reappear in future years. The July 9, 1816, Declaration of Independence in Tucumán was duly celebrated, although not to the extent of the 1810 Independence commemoration. “Hispanidad” (the glorification of things Hispanic on the Iberian Peninsula as well as in the New World) was on the rise, and in 1929 the 437th anniversary of Columbus’ voyage was celebrated with a three-stamp set honoring Spain. The decree authorizing the stamp was appropriately hyperbolic: “Considering ... that the discovery of America is the most transcendental event that humanity has carried out throughout all time ... and considering that Spain was the discoverer and conqueror who poured into this enigmatic and magnificent continent the bravery of its warriors, the fearlessness of its explorers, the faith of its priests, the perceptions of its geniuses, the work of its artisans....”⁸

Probably the most significant set of stamps in this 1910–1943 period was the 1935 definitive series, which was in use until 1951. Its significance derives not only from this very long period of active use, but also due to the variety of themes and the full realization of the economic, nationalistic, and political messages delivered by the postage stamps. In a November 1932 letter⁹ from the Postal Director to the Minister of Interior discussing plans for the stamps, the following policy guidelines were expressed:

- The design of a postage stamp must have a determined purpose, be it patriotic, ideological, propagandistic, or commercial, but always with cultural and educational value for the people.
- Economic themes should be stressed, because this would be free advertising of unquestioned value, inasmuch as the postage stamp, circulating throughout all the countries of the world, will bring to mind the country of origin and its products and will thus awaken new markets.

The same letter goes on to say that the lower face values



Manuel Belgrano definitive.



Merino ram definitive.



“Labrador” (laborer).



The “with borders” map.



The “no borders” map.



The Perón era map.

such as Manuel Belgrano (Scott 418), which in general were to be used for internal domestic mail, should carry nationalistic and patriotic themes, while the higher values, primarily intended for international mail, should feature economic themes. These latter presented a balanced and comprehensive portrayal of the country’s agricultural wealth, and included a Merino ram (Scott 442), a prize bull (Scott 440), a laborer in his field similar to the 1911 “Labrador” issue (Scott 441), sugar cane and an “ingenio” sugar mill (Scott 443), fruit (Scott 147), wine grapes (Scott 449), and cotton (Scott 450).

This series also included the infamous map stamps that caused political problems with Chile, Peru, and the United Kingdom (Scott 445–446). The so-called “with borders” stamp (Scott 445) included the frontier demarcations of all the South American nations, and shaded the Malvinas/Falklands Islands the same color as the Argentine mainland, although it did not name or label the islands as Argentine. Predictably, there were a number of protests over the boundaries and shadings. Peru objected because its border with Ecuador favored the latter in the age-old dispute over the Amazon area. Chile noted that the geography around the Southern tip of the continent (Tierra del Fuego and the Magellan Strait area) seemed to favor Argentina at Chile’s expense. And the British were not happy at seeing the Falkland Islands shaded the same color as mainland Argentina. The British Foreign Office was not eager to get into a diplomatic spat with Argentina over the matter, and attempted to resolve it by informal conversations at a lower level between embassy staff and junior Argentine authorities.

In light of the various protests, the Argentine Dirección General de Correos acknowledged that the stamp contained errors, especially on the matter of the southern boundaries with Chile, and said that it was willing to withdraw the stamp and redraw it to correct the errors.

However, it was not willing to disown the stamp, or redraw the shading of the Malvinas Islands, because to do so might imply that it was retreating on Argentina's Malvinas claim. As the Director of the Postal Office put it in a April 22, 1936, memo to the Ministry of the Interior: "...the withdrawal of the stamp could lead to the belief that the Argentine Republic was backing off from its rights to the Malvinas Islands..."¹⁰

Ultimately, the stamp was indeed redrawn and reissued without the borders that had caused problems (Scott 446). To assuage the Chileans, the stamp showed a greatly exaggerated piece of Chilean territory in the South, so exaggerated that one must wonder if this was a deliberate attempt to make the Chileans look foolish. However, there was no attempt to satisfy the British concern, and the Malvinas continued to be shaded in the same color as mainland Argentina. To add insult to injury, several propaganda postcards showing the Malvinas Islands as Argentine and featuring the Argentine flag also were issued in the 1936–37 period. The British continued to be reluctant to raise the level of diplomatic tension over the stamps, and in answer to a question in the House of Commons, Foreign Minister Anthony Eden noted that there was little Great Britain could do to stop Argentina from issuing stamps labeling the islands as Argentine.¹¹ A sequel came in 1951 during the Perón era, when the Argentine Antarctic claim was added to the basic design (Scott 594).

Enter Politics

This period also saw the first blatant insertion of politics into a postage stamp issue. The event was the September 6, 1930, coup that removed the aging and unpopular Radical Party President Hipólito Yrigoyen from office. The issuing decree of September 30, 1930, explains the reason for the stamp: "This is the most beautiful example of the communion of ideals between the Army, the Navy and the Air Forces joined with the people in their struggle to return full constitutional freedom to the country."¹² The semiotic messages contained in the two stamp designs make clear the notion of a joint civilian-military revolt. The first design (Scott 376) shows military and civilian revolutionaries standing side-by-side with the allegorical figure of Liberty in the background. The second design is larger in format and features a civilian flag-bearer in a dramatic pose in the foreground next to a military drummer leading a victory parade of intermingled civilians and military. The line of the horizon is broken by a pattern of raised arms, bayonets, naval ship masts,

and soaring military aircraft. The stamps were prepared in haste and issued only three weeks after the coup; as a result they contain numerous errors and irregularities. A year later a corrected set was reissued; the official decree noted that it was "the anniversary of this patriotic civic-military event, which put an end to the disastrous prior regime."¹³

First Perón Era, 1943–1955

The years of the first Perón era saw dramatic changes in Argentine postage stamps. Although Perón did not assume presidential office until June 4, 1946, any discussion of this period should begin with the military coup of 1943, which marks the start of his rise to power. The changes in the Perón era were in part quantitative, since a full 26 percent of all the postage stamps up to that time (1858–1955) were issued during the 1943–1955 period. However, what was more significant about this era were the changes in their design, size, quality, and especially their semiotic messages in support of the Peronista government.

An intriguing explanation for these changes lies in the similarity between the Perón era stamps and many stamps of the Mussolini era in Italy. From 1938 to 1940 Perón was the Argentine military attaché in Rome, where he studied the techniques of the fascist movement, and developed an admiration for Mussolini.¹⁴ Italian stamps of that period stressed the historical glories of Rome, and the output of Italian industry and culture, as well as incorporating the symbols of fascism to the extent that semiotically these symbols began to assume the role of indexes pointing to the fascist government. Some of the design features of Italian stamps of this period appear in Argentine stamps of the Perón years, such as classical and historical themes, and the heavy use of Peronista symbols of work, agriculture, and the icons that illustrate the Peronista movement's rise and consolidation of power. Italian cancellation markings in this period made heavy use of slogans, a feature that also was repeated in the Perón years in Argentina. Walter B.L. Bose, the dean

of Argentine philatelic writers, notes that an Italian design team came to Argentina shortly after World War II and was influential in the preparation of a number of important stamps in the Perón years.¹⁵ Perón himself told U.S. philatelic writer Ernest Kehr that he had "an amateur's interest in stamp collecting,"¹⁶ and discussed Argentine stamps with Kehr during one of the writer's visits to Argentina.

Another philatelic legacy of the Perón years was Argentina's role in the creation of the United Nations Postal



The 1930 coup.

Another philatelic legacy of the Perón years was Argentina's role in the creation of the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) and its subsequent U.N. stamps.

Administration (UNPA) and its subsequent U.N. stamps. These became the first stamps ever issued by an international organization, although in the 1920s the League of Nations did use Swiss stamps overprinted with “Société des Nations,” as well as cancellations on mail from Colombia during the League’s peacekeeping activities in the Leticia conflict between Peru and Colombia in the 1930s. While it is not clear what role Perón himself had in this process, the record shows that his U.N. Ambassador in 1947, Dr. José Arce, was an enthusiastic stamp collector, and as President of the General Assembly presented the original motion to create the UNPA, and lobbied to have it issue the first U.N. stamps.¹⁷

1943 Coup/Revolution

Compared to the 1930 revolution that brought down Yrigoyen (and the stamps that celebrated its joint civilian-military nature), the 1943 coup was considerably more militaristic, rejecting significant civilian participation and showing the strong influence of the “Grupo de Oficiales Unidos” (GOU — Group of United Officers), in which Perón had played a leading role. The first stamp celebrating the new regime in 1943 (Scott 511) was semiotically revealing: it featured a national crest, the date (June 4, 1943), and the GOU slogan “Honesty, Justice, Duty.” A first anniversary stamp used the same national crest, but omitted the slogan, leading critics to comment waggishly that the officers seemed to have lost their original revolutionary values. The official decree authorizing the stamp cites the need “to commemorate the date because of the authentic and genuine democratic bases and the deep and spontaneous roots of the popular movement.”¹⁸

San Juan Earthquake

One of the key moments in the early Perón years was the effort he organized as Secretary of Labor and Social Welfare to aid the victims of the devastating January 15, 1944, earthquake in the Andean province of San Juan. He met Eva Duarte at a benefit performance in support of earthquake relief, and their powerful political partnership dates from that encounter. Philatelically, a postal cancellation was prepared — “Ayude a las víctimas de San Juan” (“Help the San Juan victims”) — and a set of surtaxed stamps (Scott B6) was issued to raise funds. Over the years Argentina has made heavy use of surtaxed stamps, but the San Juan earthquake issue was one of the first.

The basic stamp value was five centavos (the going postal



The 1943 GOU coup.



San Juan earthquake, 1944.

rate for domestic mail), but the surcharges were available in four denominations: +5 and +10 centavos, and +1 and +20 pesos. At the time the exchange rate was four pesos to the dollar, so the higher value represented a considerable amount of money. Despite the charitable and political significance, the stamps did not do well: a total of 3,600,000 were printed, but only about 278,000 were sold and the rest were destroyed. The 20-peso value had especially modest sales: of the 100,000 printed, fewer than 14,000 were sold.¹⁹

“Loyalty Day” and the Perón Inaugural

A major landmark in the history of Peronism is the October 17, 1945, “Loyalty Day” when massive demonstrations by Peronista workers in Buenos Aires forced the military to release Perón from jail, and launched him on a virtually unstoppable trajectory to the 1946–52 presidential term. The first anniversary stamps (Scott 556, issued October 17, 1946) show an allegory of Argentina receiving acclaim and popular support from the masses of Peronista supporters, including

workers, professionals, women, children, and the elderly. Two years later the anniversary was noted by a commemorative showing Liberty surrounded by the symbols of Peronista progress, with a strong resemblance to Mussolini-era Italian stamps.

Perón's presidential inaugural on June 4, 1946, was commemorated with an allegory showing Liberty standing in front of an Argentine flag and administering the oath of office to Perón, who is represented only by his right hand resting on the Constitution (Scott 552). This ingenious design device was used to get around the Argentine philatelic tradition (shared with the United States) of not placing the face of any living person on a postage stamp. A first anniversary stamp features an allegory of justice, but no Perón hand.



Peronista “Loyalty Day,” October 17, 1945.

Focus on San Martín

The Perón administration made heavy use of the figure of Independence hero General José de San Martín, converting him into something of a semiotic symbol that automatically would stand for the Argentine nation at home and abroad.²⁰ Perón himself often was associated with San Martín, and compared to him by his followers. Besides the definitive sets featuring San Martín (especially the 5-centavo red stamp, which was by far the most commonly used postage stamp in this period), these years saw a lavish and well-designed set

of stamps honoring San Martín on his 1950 death centennial (Scott 587–593), which was proclaimed “the Year of the Liberator San Martín.” The transfer of the remains of his parents to Argentina also was celebrated, and several other issues featuring San Martín followed. Numerous cancellations in this period honored San Martín with slogans such as: “America gives eternal homage to General San Martín”; “Glory to the Liberator General San Martín on the Centennial of his death”; “San Martín’s triumph in the Battle of Maipú determines the independence of Chile”; and “San Martín lives eternally in the Argentine people.”²¹

Peronista Constitution and the Perón Stamp

Unique philatelic circumstances surround the Peronista Constitution of 1949 and the Perón stamp that “never was” — at least not until after his death. A major development in the Perón years was the re-writing of the old national constitution and its replacement by the Peronista Constitution of 1949. The engraved stamp commemorating the new Constitution (Scott 585) is attractive and well-designed, the product of the Italian team mentioned by Bose. The head of the allegorical figure of Liberty dominates the central medallion, which is surrounded by the symbols of Peronismo: agricultural products, drafting tools, a hammer, the cogs of industry, a blacksmith’s anvil, the scales of justice, and a medical caduceus; those symbols representing industry and agriculture are to the left, and the arts and sciences are to the right.

There is a story behind the design. The original proposal of Italian designer Renato Garrasi portrayed the head of Perón in the central medallion, but the President apparently rejected that idea based on the policy that no living Argentine appears on a postage stamp. The sequel is that when the Carlos Menem administration sought to honor Perón on the 1995 Centennial of his birth the 1949 Constitution stamp was resurrected and the Perón head was indeed placed in the center of the design (1902).

Although Perón never appeared on an Argentine stamp during his life-



General San Martín centennial.



Perón inaugural, 1946.



Peronista Constitution, 1949.

Unique philatelic circumstances surround the Peronista Constitution of 1949 and the Perón stamp that “never was” — at least not until after his death.

time, he, along with his friend General Alfredo Stroessner of Paraguay, did appear together in an April 1955 series of Paraguayan stamps (Paraguay Scott 486–490, C221, printed at the Argentine Mint) celebrating Perón’s visit to the neighboring country. Only a few months later Perón was to flee into exile on board a Paraguayan gunboat conveniently positioned near Buenos Aires on the River Plate.

“Descamisado” Voluntary Label

One of the scandals of the Perón era whose dimensions emerged after his fall in 1955 was the scheme to raise funds for an enormous monument in the central Plaza de Mayo dedicated to the “descamisado,” the prototypical and mythological urban worker supporter of Perón who supposedly was too poor to own even a shirt. To raise funds for the project, the Post Office printed more than 7½ million stamps (not catalogued by Scott), which were technically “non-postal labels” since they would not actually carry the mail (regular postage was required in addition to the “descamisado” label). The labels were placed on sale in early 1947, and there is no publicly available data on how many were sold and how much money was collected.

The face values of the labels ranged from five centavos (equivalent to the normal letter postage rate) up to \$100 pesos (equivalent to \$25 U.S. dollars). To increase the likelihood that they would be purchased, the government decreed that no charity seals or other non-postal labels (used to support other campaigns such as the fight against tuberculosis) would be sold for the next several years. There also were no surtax stamps sold between 1944 and 1950.

I lived in Buenos Aires during this period and I remember the energetic campaign to place these “voluntary” stamps on all mail in these years, when it was generally assumed that postal patrons wishing to get their mail past pro-Peronista mail clerks had best include a generous amount of the descamisado labels next to their regular postage stamps on letters. The monument itself was never built, and presumably the funds raised went into



Perón birth centennial.



Generals Perón and Stroessner of Paraguay.



"Descamisado" voluntary label.

the Peronista political coffers, or individual secret bank accounts.²²

International and Economic Themes

International themes were well represented in the Perón years, and many of them simply reflect international congresses or anniversaries, as might be expected. Others carried political messages, such as those related to the Malvinas issue or Antarctic sovereignty. The 1946 stamp honoring U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt (Scott 551) was somewhat surprising, considering the often strained state of Argentine-U.S. relations during those years. These strains peaked during the 1946 election campaign when Perón accused the United States of interfering with the process through the actions of Ambassador (and later Assistant Secretary of State) Spruile Braden. A possible clue to the interest in honoring Roosevelt lies in the legend on the stamp, which calls him "the standard-bearer for new social justice," a label that Perón often applied to himself. A year later a set of three stamps celebrating the Argentine children's crusade for world peace seemed innocuous enough, but according to a contemporary Argentine philatelic journal they were issued to support a Perón speech calling for world peace that same year.²³

Economic themes continued in one sense via the previously mentioned 1935 set of definitive stamps, which were in use through 1951, featuring the basic strengths of Argentina's agricultural economy in the higher values of the 24-stamp set, intended for use abroad. National Agriculture Day was celebrated with a 1948 stamp (Scott 580), as were wheat and cattle in the new definitive series of 1954–1959.

However, the Perón administration was more interested in promoting Argentine economic development and its role in the international market, and in reinforcing the image of a modern, industrial, and technologically advanced nation. And so we have stamps honoring Argentine industry in 1946 and 1954; aviation in 1947 and 1955 (Scott 595–597, 660), including a celebration of the tenth anniversary of the state-owned airline; the 1949 nationalization of the railway



Franklin D. Roosevelt.



National Agriculture Day.



National Productivity and Social Welfare Congress.



Aviation.



Peronista Five-Year Plan.

system; communications, including television; and the National Productivity and Social Welfare Congress of 1955 (Scott 644).

Most notable in the economic category are the stamps issued to propagandize the “Plan Quinquenal” (Five-Year Plan) in 1951 (Scott 595). These were created by the Italian team, and feature elegant designs that mixed mythological figures and wildlife to illustrate the major features of the Plan:

- Pegasus is shown racing a train (transportation),
- Mercury is depicted set against communication equipment,
- a dolphin is seen following a vessel of the national steamship line, and
- a condor accompanies a modern airplane.

Influence of Evita

It was Perón's wife Evita (María Eva Duarte de Perón) who had the most significant direct and indirect impact on Argentine stamps of the Peronista 1943–1955 period. Evita was instrumental in achieving voting rights for women, and this event was celebrated by a well-designed stamp showing the allegorical figure of a female Argentina accompanying and protecting a woman on her way to vote, a ballot in her hand (Scott 598). The building housing the “Fundación Eva Perón” appeared on a 1954 stamp, and an extraordinarily high surtax stamp to support the Foundation was produced in 1951. The stamp itself (Scott CB6) is an attractive presentation of Michelangelo's “Pieta” showing the Virgin Mary cradling the body of Christ. But the air postage rate of \$2.45 Argentine pesos was surtaxed with \$7.55 destined for the Eva Perón Foundation, costing the postal patron an even \$10 pesos (about U.S. \$2.50) to mail a letter normally costing \$2.45 pesos. The decree authorizing the stamp explains the reason: “...this stamp has as its purpose to exalt the laudable work of universal transcendence carried out by this institution, and providing it with funds coming from the users of the stamps as well as philatelists...”²⁴

But it was Evita's tragic death of cancer at the young age of 33 in 1952 that had the greatest philatelic impact. Evita stamps were but one among the many tributes that reflected and stimulated the paroxysm of national grief at her death. To honor the President's wife, the Postal Administration pro-



Women's vote.



Eva Perón Foundation surtax.



Evita, 1952.

posed (and Perón accepted) the suggestion that a whole series of stamps bearing her likeness would be issued immediately, and that no other stamps would be sold or be valid for the period of one year; an executive decree gave the suggestion the force of law.²⁵ Besides the emotional and political aspect, there was a financial consideration, since all other stamps were useless for one year, and persons holding stocks of these older stamps were forced to buy the new Evita stamps and thus provide the government with additional revenue. Although the idea was new to Argentina, other countries had also promulgated edicts that prohibited all but certain types of stamps for specified periods of time. A relevant example is Franco's stamp portrait, which was the only one authorized in Spain for a period of several months in 1941.²⁶

The Argentine stamps bear an attractive likeness of a young and smiling Evita (Scott 616), and they immediately raised the troubling question of how they were to be cancelled. It would clearly not do to have the beautiful and venerated face of Evita insulted by an ugly black cancellation mark. However, there was a precedent for the solution reached by Argentine postal authorities: in the nineteenth century King Ferdinand II of Sicily ordered that his likeness on stamps not be touched by black ink cancellation marks, and so the Post Office prepared a special hand-cancellation device which had a cut-out to prevent this from happening (in philatelic lore these cancelled stamps are known as the “Bomba Heads,” using the unpopular monarch's irreverent nickname). A similar approach was taken with Spanish stamps of Queen Isabella II.

In Argentina the order went out in postal channels that clerks had to be extremely careful not to cancel the face of Evita, under severe penalties, which could include being fired. Cancellations of the Evita stamps in this period show a generally careful attempt to have the black ink touch only the frame, and not the face of Evita. When Perón fell in September 1955 the Evita stamps were still in circulation (although not exclusively), and some cancellations with dates after Sep-

tember 1955 show a deliberate attempt to cancel the stamp squarely on Evita's face (Scott 612).

The first Perón administration ended in 1955 with his overthrow by the military, with considerable upper and middle class support. His overthrow by the military “Lib-



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Perón falls, 1955.



Evita 1955 (after Perón falls).

erating Revolution" was celebrated with an allegorical stamp (Scott 647) showing a semi-nude Liberty breaking her chains, delivering the semiotic message that Argentina was now free of the authoritarian Perón regime. Irreverent observers suggested that the figure was supposed to be Evita or a female "descamisada."

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18. *Filigrana* (January–June 1947): 15, (May–June 1947): 50. *New York Times* (June 11, 1944), II, p. 8.
19. *New York Times* (March 12, 1944), II, p. 4.
20. On a personal note, I vividly recall the serious and formal "Acto de Desagravio" (a ceremony of redress or amends) carried out at my English-style boarding school outside Buenos Aires after an inebriated British faculty member broke the obligatory statue of San Martín at the school and then allegedly insulted the memory of the national hero by urinating on the shards.
21. José Omario, "Bandeletas Sanmartinianas," *Revista de Comunicaciones*, 288 (August 1961): 37–38, 48.
22. Argentina, Decreto 23.529/46 (December 21, 1946). *Revista de la Sociedad Filatélica Argentina* (January–April 1947): 17. *Linn's Stamp News* (January 8, 1996): 50. Also correspondence between H.G. Stanton (in Buenos Aires) and Ernest Kehr, 1947, in the Kehr clipping files, Argentina folder 3, American Philatelic Research Library.
23. *Filigrana* (January–June 1948): 10. Argentina, Decreto 9.379/46 (April 1946). *Revista de Correos* (September 1947): 5–9.
24. Argentina, Ministry of Communications, decree of December 22, 1951, "Emisión Sello Postal Extraordinario con Sobrecargo 'Pro Fundación Eva Perón'."
25. Argentina, *Boletín Oficial*, Decreto 3.399 (July 31, 1952). *Revista de la Sociedad Filatélica Argentina* (July–August 1952): 97–99. *New York Times* (July 28, 1952): 15.
26. *New York Times* (January 26, 1941), X, p. 6.

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Register for both courses online at www.stampcampus.org or by calling the APS at 814-933-3803.

The Author

Jack Child is professor of Spanish and Latin American Studies at American University, Washington, DC. He was born in Buenos Aires of American parents and lived in Argentina for eighteen years before coming to the United States to attend Yale University and then begin a first career as a U.S. Army Latinamericanist, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1980. His philatelic interests include Argentina, South America, the Falklands/Malvinas Islands, and Antarctica, which he has visited twelve times as a guide and lecturer on board expedition cruise ships.

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‘Muskoka’

A Gem of a Postcard

by Charles A. Fricke

Bidding blind, relying only on the description in the auction catalogue, sometimes can be disastrous. But sometimes the results are as bright as a new silver dollar. The card's description read, in essence, that it was a short paid picture postcard with views of Niagara Falls on the front and mailed with a 2-cent U.S. stamp postmarked Niagara Falls, New York, August 31, 1898 with New York and London tax markings.

When I purchased the card, I found that it does indeed have an opera glass marking of T/CENTIMES/N.Y./15 and a 3D/F.B. handstamp indicating it was short paid fifteen centimes by being uprated to the five-cent UPU first class letter rate, with three-pence postage due in London. There is also a receiving mark of September 10, 1898. But while the card is postmarked Niagara Falls, New York, the multi-view design is not of that grand landmark — it is titled “Muskoka.”

So where is Muskoka?

Research turned up the information that Muskoka is a district in the province of Ontario, Canada, with three major lakes (Joseph, Muskoka, and Rosseau), about 1,600 small lakes, and numerous waterfalls. By the late nineteenth century it had become (and remains today) a popular summer resort area with hotels, steamers, and all categories of activities, as evidenced by the views on the card. (Vintage and modern photographic views can be found at www.muskokaheritage.org/.)

The full-color vignettes on the card reveal some of the delights to be found for those who could afford a summertime lakeside escape. The most striking scene shows four young ladies in their 1890s bathing suits (one wearing a hat), all holding hands while standing knee-deep in an unidentified lake. Canoes, sail boats, and a large hotel also appear in the background. Another vignette shows two fishermen in a canoe with their fishing rods at the ready as a large fish jumps free of the surface.



Bidding blind, relying only on the description in the auction catalogue, sometimes can be disastrous. Sometimes the results are as bright as a new silver dollar.

A circular vignette of “South Falls” with a bridge in the background is in the upper left, and just below is a tranquil backwater scene titled “Shadow River.” A small vignette tucked into the overall collection of views shows a shoreside building labeled “House Boat,” but it actually appears to be a “Boat House” with a dock for boats.

Another tiny vignette demonstrates the chance to relax offered by accommodations at Muskoka: it shows a man in a hammock reading and (with some imagination) smoking a pipe. It would appear there was something for everyone at the resorts of Muskoka.

The vignette composition appears to have been cut from a larger illustration, because the legs of two women wearing black bathing stockings can be seen on the shore beyond the bathing beauties (just below the stamp box) and a corner has been cut out of the fishing scene. The publisher is identified at the bottom of the card as Toronto Litho Co.

The message is to Master J.L. Thomison in London:

Toronto Sept. 1, 1898
Dear Jordon

I cannot tell you on this card all I have seen in this country, everything seems different the people & the scenery. I have just left your Uncle John and Aunt Emily

who send you all their best love & hope you may some day be able to come out & see them.

With love to all
Your loving Father
W. Thomison

Note that the date on the message is September 1, while the postmark is August 31. Quite probably this is because traveling Father forgot that August has thirty-one days, not thirty, and accidentally postdated the card. An intriguing possibility is that the card was purchased in Muskoka and written in Toronto, before being mailed in Niagara Falls, New York.

But why was it uprated, and thus short paid? The heading "Muskoka" was not in compliance with the U.S. postal regulations at that time. The Act of Congress of May 19, 1898, stated that, as of July 1, 1898, privately produced postcards with a written message had to include the inscription "Private Mailing Card" (PMC) and other notations in order to be mailed at the one-cent postcard rate. Further, to comply with the UPU Agreement then in effect, the card also had to

have "Postal Card" or its equivalent in order to be mailed at the two-cent UPU first class postcard rate.

Because it is an international postcard and does not have either the PMC inscription or "Postal Card," it was uprated to the five-cent UPU first class letter rate. Since it was franked with only a 2-cent stamp, the card was considered short paid and marked with a T and fifteen centimes (or three cents) and double the postage due of three pence (or six cents) in London.

Had the boy's father mailed the card in Canada the postage would indeed have been just two cents, but by mailing it in Niagara Falls with a U.S. postage stamp, he created this fantastic example of U.S. postal history on a Canadian pioneer souvenir/picture postcard of Muskoka. A gem to look at for its picturesque splendors and one-of-a-kind usage.

The Author

Charles A. Fricke has received the APS Luff Award for distinguished philatelic research and has been inducted into the APS Writers Unit 30 Hall of Fame. He continues to enjoy research and writing on unusual philatelic items.

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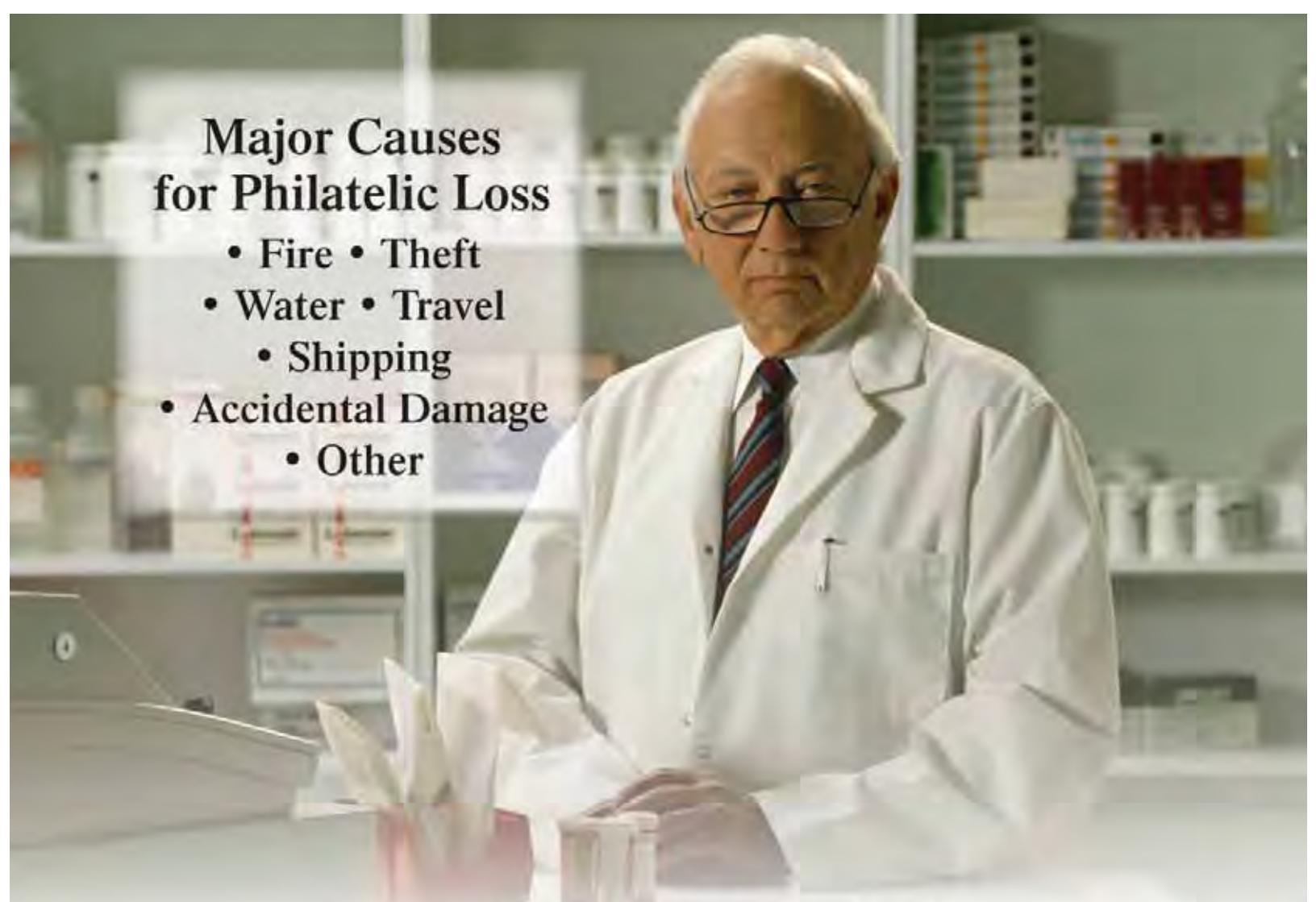
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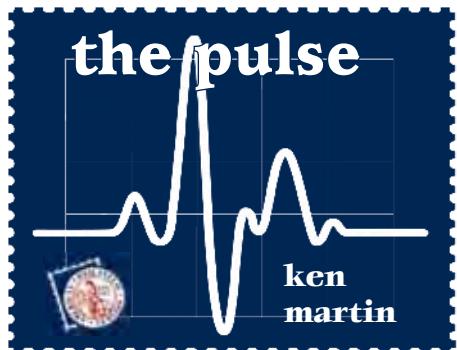
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A New Year & New Opportunities



Happy New Year! We hope that you and your family had a happy, healthy holiday season. We look forward to working to increase your enjoyment of the hobby and to more effectively promoting the hobby.

By the time you read this, the fourth quarter *Philatelic Literature Review* should be available on our website as a pdf file. The *PLR* focuses on indexes, book reviews, current philatelic research projects, and highlights of the American Philatelic Research Library holdings. It includes literature exhibit award winners and a clearinghouse of literature for sale. Subscriptions to the 96-page 6 x 9-inch quarterly are available for \$18 per year for U.S. residents. Check out the pdf file to see if this publication might be of interest. (Note that the pdf will include color illustrations while, other than the cover and wrapper, the hard copy mailed to subscribers is not in color.)

Not long after the *PLR* appears on our website, the January issue of *The American Philatelist* will also be available in a digital format — actually two different formats, a pdf format and a proprietary Flash-based format similar to that used by *Linn's* and the *Numismatist*. This first digital *AP* issue will be available to everyone, regardless of their membership status; however, subsequent issues will only be available to members. The digital format will not replace the hard copies you are used to receiving in the mail (unless you want to go green and request such). It will be an additional member benefit. I prefer hard copies myself, but the digital version will offer some advantages including search capabilities and clickable links in both articles and advertisements.

Members are invited to try out both digital versions and provide feedback to me at kpmartin@stamps.org. Your comments will help us improve the online *AP* and assist us as we consider making past issues of the *AP* available digitally (on our website and or via CD-ROMS).

I'm hoping that I will be able to announce a new member service or benefit every month in 2010. This is going to be a real challenge as our staff has been cut by 20 percent to achieve a balanced budget. The balanced budget includes all depreciation and excludes most donations as we want your gifts to be able to help us do more. To achieve this we are relying more on volunteers. Connie Hines and Vincent Lewandowski are two recent additions.

Connie, who is not a stamp collector called one morning in late October to volunteer, and she was here working that afternoon. She began helping to assemble the registration packets for CLASSICS 2009 and the Postal History Symposium, and then came back to assist with registration on both the Friday and Saturday of the show. Since then she has helped out with Education and Youth and with our dues processing.

Vincent recently moved to our area when his wife accepted a new position. While he is seeking employment, he is helping out in our Library.

While both of these volunteers found us, we are also seeking support through the Experience Works government program, which provides minimum wage and insurance for qualifying participants to work at

nonprofits. We are also pursuing volunteers through the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. And we haven't forgotten about the majority of members who live outside of Central Pennsylvania. We're working on plans for the July 26–30 Volunteer Work week, which I have mentioned previously. Next month's *American Philatelist* should provide full details and provide an opportunity to sign up.

In my September column I mentioned Kathy Johnson, who surfaced after nearly thirty years of relative philatelic inactivity. She has not wasted any time reestablishing herself in the hobby. Kathy visited the APS in May for the Women's Festival, in June for the Summer Seminar, and in August/September (over her birthday) to help us identify cost savings and new revenue streams. She also has become a member of the Finance Committee, the Long-Range Planning Committee, and the Membership Committee. Now, I am happy to welcome her as the newest member of the APS Board, appointed to fill the vacancy from Bob Odenweller's resignation.

Bob suffered a fall in late September, and while a full recovery is expected, it was not happening as quickly as he hoped, and with all his many other commitments to

the hobby he felt that he did not have the time his position on the APS board required. We will miss his wisdom greatly and wish him a speedy recovery.

Kathy is a superwoman but with her Board appointment requested that we find a replacement for the Membership Committee. Rebecca (Becky) Magyar, previously mentioned in my July column, has agreed to add this position to the formal and informal responsibilities she has been providing to the APS. She filled in this past year when our Youth Coordinator had an extended absence because of health issues. Thankfully, Janet Houser is fully recovered, but Becky is still helping. Becky also laid out the second volume of Dick Winter's *Understanding Transatlantic Mail*, which is now available. An additional skill I did not know of was her artistic talents. She is an Art Cover Exchange Society member (APS Affiliate 243) and prepared the original artwork for and has individually signed the cached covers provided to contributing members.

We also have two Library trustees who, although they have been serving since August, have largely flown under the radar. Larry Nix was appointed by President Saadi to replace Society historian, Hall of Fame Committee Chair, and longtime Trustee Herb Trenchard who was recognized for his long service by being made an Trustee Emeritus.

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Before retiring Larry spent the last twenty-three years of his career in the Wisconsin State Library System. From 1983–2003 he directed the Public Library Development Team for the Wisconsin Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning. Long before Larry became a Trustee, I had the privilege of viewing several exhibits Larry assembled on the “Evolution of the American Public Library,” the “America’s Libraries Stamp,” “America’s Libraries First Day Covers,” and “American Presidential Libraries and Museums.” Larry has already proven to be a great resource as we explore the issue of digitizing library materials.

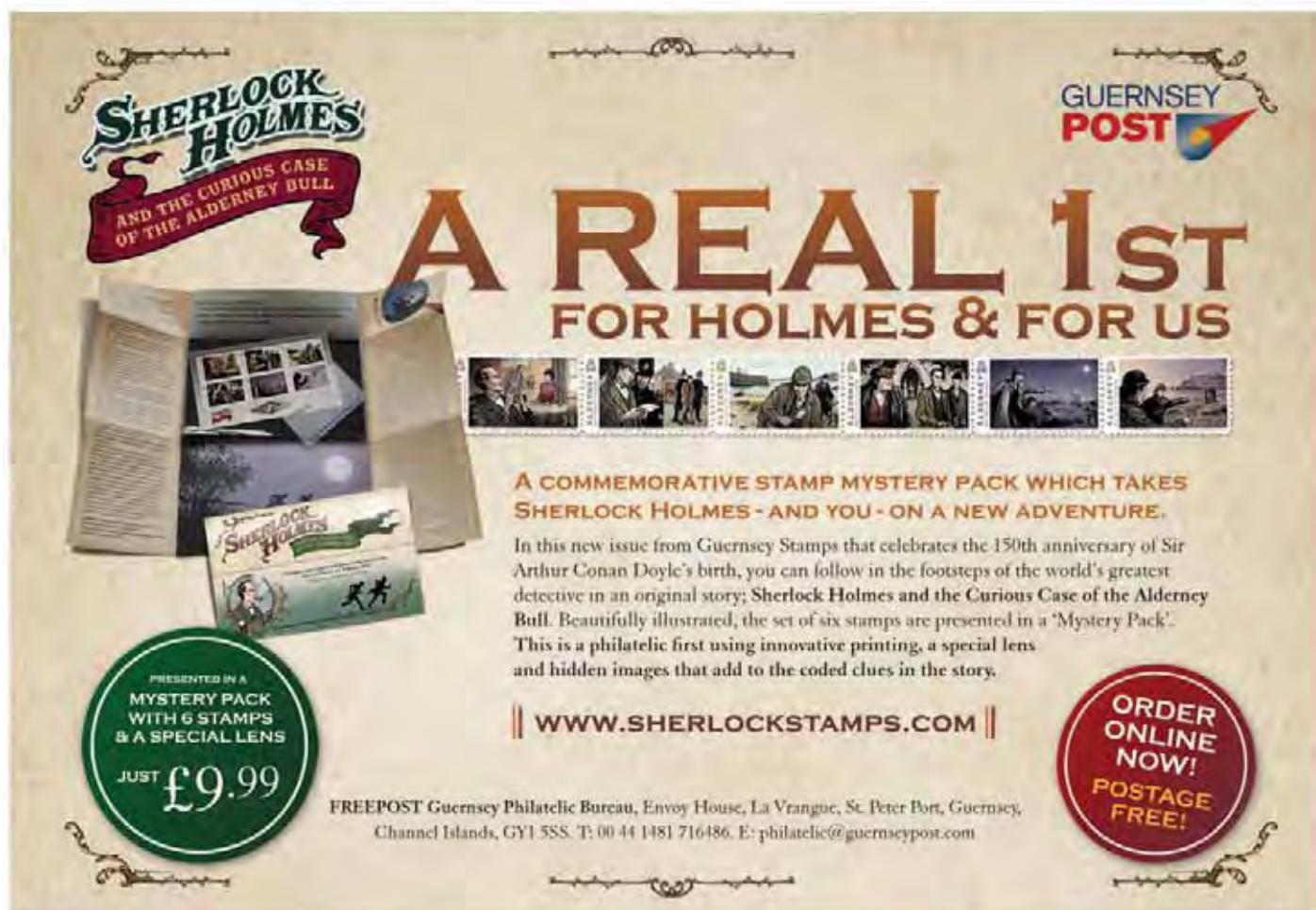
Steve Schuman was elected by the APRL Founder Patron members. His experience is more from the user side of the library, as he is a well-known specialist on Postal Stationery, an accredited national and international judge, chair of our International Committee, and chair of the Filatelic Fiesta world series of philately show held in San Jose, California.

We were very pleased with a wide variety of first time visitors for CLASSICS 2009 and the Postal History Symposium at the end of October. We were not surprised

that some traveled from places abroad, including England and the Czech Republic. However, I was surprised two weeks later when, without any other event to attract them, we had a Library user from Nairobi, Kenya and one from Glasgow, Scotland.

While the APRL is an often under-appreciated world-class resource, we need all libraries to carry stamp collecting publications so that the beginner who may not know about the APS or APRL can grow in his or her understanding and enjoyment of the hobby. Some members purchase either a single volume or a full set of *Scott Catalogues* on a periodic basis. Public libraries have not been immune to the economy and many have had to cut their catalogue subscriptions. The APRL generally receives sufficient donations of *Scott Catalogues*, so before you recycle your old catalogue consider checking to see if your local library needs and would accept them.

I've greatly enjoyed meeting James, Jimmy, and Melissa, our inaugural class of Young Philatelic Leader fellows. While their term runs through our August STAMPSHOW in Richmond, Virginia, we are now soliciting applications from fellows (as well as financial support) for the second



The advertisement features a vintage-style design. At the top left is a banner with the text "SHERLOCK HOLMES" and "AND THE CURIOUS CASE OF THE ALDERNEY BULL". To the right is the "GUERNSEY POST" logo. The central text reads "A REAL 1ST FOR HOLMES & FOR US". Below this are six postage stamps depicting scenes from the story. A green circular badge on the left says "PRESENTED IN A MYSTERY PACK WITH 6 STAMPS & A SPECIAL LENS" and "JUST £9.99". A red circular badge on the right says "ORDER ONLINE NOW! POSTAGE FREE!". At the bottom, it says "FREEPOST Guernsey Philatelic Bureau, Envoy House, La Vrange, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands, GY1 5SS. T: 00 44 1481 716486. E: philatelic@guernseypost.com".

class. Visit our website or contact us for details.

The Education Department also has been busy developing courses for 2010. Registration is now open for our thirty-first annual summer seminar. We're also trying to take courses on the road to all parts of the country and have courses planned in conjunction with WESTPEX ("Computers in Philately," April in San Francisco), NAPEX ("Washington-Franklins," June in Washington, DC), the Minnesota Stamp Expo ("Revenues," July in Crystal, Minnesota) and FLOREX ("Printing," December

in Orlando, Florida). We also will offer a course at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte ("Expertizing First Day Covers," in June) and at STAMP SHOW ("Computers in Philately," August in Richmond, Virginia). Contact Gretchen Moody in our Education Department for more information.

With January comes your opportunity to vote for the best article in last year's *American Philatelist*. Use the

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wrapper of this issue to help decide the winner of the third annual United States Stamp Society Barbara Mueller Award.

Our thanks to Schuyler Rumsey who recently made a five-year \$10,000 commitment to the Society. Also thanks to a member who wishes to remain anonymous who has agreed to provide a \$10,000 matching gift if we can get ten APS dealer members to each contribute \$1,000. Richard Clever of Asia Philatelics has already stepped forward, so we only need nine more dealers to get the \$10,000 match!

All gifts, cash and in-kind, no matter how small, help. As I write this, dues have started coming in and with the dues will be many gifts. Unless requested otherwise your names will be published in our April recognition issue of *The American Philatelist*, but we don't want to wait that long to thank you publicly. Your support is tremendous.

We hope you have paid your dues. If you have not, please do so as soon as possible. (If you don't plan to renew you can save us the cost of follow ups by letting us know.) If we don't have payment by January 15 you may see an interruption in the delivery of *The American Philatelist* and if dues are not received by the end of January, a suspension in other services including Sales Circuits.

I hope to see many of you at our February 19–21, 2010 show in Riverside, California. For those of you who can't make it to the West Coast, I'd also enjoy talking to you at the Sarasota, Florida show, February 5–7. Both should be excellent shows and offer a change of climate for many of us in the more northern areas of the country.

P.S. After the deadline of this column, we learned of the death of APS Past President Bill Bauer. An irreplaceable friend of the hobby, Bill will be missed by many.

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Buyers Fee Coming in March 2010

The November 2009 edition of this column referred to some changes we would be making in 2010: "We will be making some adjustments in procedures and charges within the next few months that will give us the stability we need to insure a strong operation that contributes to the Society's financial health." The major change is the addition of a **buyer's fee** on purchases made from sales books. It was determined in discussions with the APS Long-Range Planning Committee that increases in revenue were needed to eliminate the yearly deficit incurred by the Sales Division. In March 2010, there will be a line on the report sheets of all types of circuits we offer (multiple-name, direct, chapter and local visitor circuits) indicating that 5 percent must be added to the purchases recorded on the sheet.

We have chosen not to increase the insurance fund fee or to add a postage and handling fee to the buyers on the multiple-name circuits. As announced in November and December, the direct circuits will have an additional postage and handling fee of \$5, which was already in place for the Busy-Person circuits. The buyers' fees in the open market are in the range of 5–18 percent, with the standard fee set at 10 percent. The **members who have sold material** through the Sales Division have been paying a 20 percent commission for more than forty-five years (in mid-1963 it went from 15 percent to 20 percent).

The variety and volume of philatelic material — on consignment from more than 650 seller-members, backed by the Society's money-back guarantee, and actually in your hands for



inspection before purchasing — is unmatched in today's market. We are developing circuit weight limits for postage costs and suggestions for seller presentation of material to make the circuits more attractive to buyers. Look for these in my February column.

e Pri in uidelines or Sales i sion Sta Store

For years, we have responded to members' questions about how best to price material for sale in the sales books with this suggestion: 10–20 percent below retail will place your material in the ballpark with other sellers in our system. With the changes for buyers noted in this column, we have some more specific guidelines for sellers when pricing the items they want to sell.

First, most members use the *Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogues* for catalogue values to use as comparisons with their pricing scheme. When sellers use other U.S. catalogues, buyers will still want a favorable comparison with Scott's before deciding to buy items. Some members use specialized catalogues for areas such as Germany, France, British Commonwealth, Scandinavia, and others. These catalogues refer to the markets other than the U.S. stamp market and sellers should keep in mind that those markets may command a different pricing level. Remem-

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ber that you are selling mainly within the U.S. market and your asking prices should be developed to compete in the U.S. market. Items not found in Scott's catalogues might be listed in those other specialized catalogues or in specialized dealer price lists and auction realized price lists. The listed prices could be considered retail and the 10–20 percent suggestion should be followed. In addition, don't forget that the condition of the item must be considered when determining your price. Presentation also is important, since a messy mounting method can make a very-fine item look fine or average.

In general, items should be priced at no more than 65 percent of the catalogue values. The listed values for never hinged, mint (unused), and used in Scott's is for very fine condition. Your chosen pricing percentage could be used for unused and used material. For example, U.S. Scott 621, the 5-cent Norse-American stamp, is valued in the *2010 Scott's U.S. Specialized Catalogue* at \$24 for never-hinged, \$11 for unused, \$11 for used, and \$17.50 on cover. If you were to choose 50 percent as your pricing percentage, you could use it for all four items, making your asking prices \$12, \$5.50, \$5.50 and \$8.75, respectively. The condition of the items might affect that percentage. Check Scott's description of the value assigned to the stamps.

The material submitted by most sellers falls within 40–60 percent of the catalogue values. Our more successful sellers price their items below the 50 percent level. Faults — such as pulled perfs, thins, tears, scuff marks, no gum on mint stamps, etc. — would reduce the asking price considerably. For example, do not expect to sell a stamp with a rounded corner for more than 20–25 percent of the catalogue value. Of course, there is always an exception to these pricing limits. As an example, the "Match & Medicine" revenues of the United States are not usually in very fine condition. The catalogue values for them are for stamps with some faults. In this instance, those stamps in very fine or excellent condition can sell for much more than catalogue value.

Sales books and StampStore items might be rejected if you price your material at higher than 65 percent of catalogue value and we determine that the material will not compete well with oth-

APS Publications Committee

Call for Manuscripts

The APS Publications Committee is soliciting book and monograph proposals. If you have a book idea, or a completed manuscript, submit your APS Publications Proposal Form to:

Ken Martin
100 Match Factory Place
Bellefonte, PA 16823
kpmartin@stamps.org

Peter Martin
P.O. Box 463
Naugatuck, CT 06770
pmartin2525@yahoo.com

Proposal forms are available by contacting:
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er members' material. You may appeal a rejection, but please have supporting information for your pricing policy.

In summary:

- Pricing between 40 and 60 percent is within competitive range of other sellers.
- Pricing below 50 percent is very competitive.
- Pricing for condition, with faults noted, is a must.
- Presenting the material to make it look attractive is also a must; viewing your material as a buyer would be very important in the pricing process.

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We need U.S. items, except U.S. First Day Covers, U.S. Mint post-1950, and U.S. Used 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 must contain 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 or-

ders. You also may visit www.stamps.org and click Sales Division and How to Sell. [NOTE: Single-country books usually have better sales.] Below are category areas that are usually in very short supply.

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Not Hibernating — Reorganizing

You may be thinking that the Chapter Activities Committee is hibernating this fall and winter season, but that's not the case! We are simply in the process of reorganizing and realigning our priorities with your club needs.

After much consideration we have decided to suspend the publication of the *CAC Newsletter*. Our 20+ year-old publication has simply run its course, even after undergoing an all-digital conversion not too long ago.

Issues from 1990 to the present continually have been posted on the APS website, available for one and all to read, download and print, creating what we consider the Internet's number one informational archive for and about stamp club operations. Much of its content has withstood the test of time and remains as relevant today as when originally published. We are thankful to Fred Baumann who agreed to compile a master index of the newsletter's subjects and articles soon to be online at http://www.stamps.org/cac/cac_arch.htm for everyone to use.

The CAC Committee will be focusing our efforts in the upcoming months and years in building our online presence with meaningful content not necessarily possible in an exclusively newsletter format. That will include things such as colorful, customizable posters to advertise your club meetings, templates to keep track of your members, spread-

sheets for tracking basic club finances, etc. So one "chapter" (excuse the pun!) is closing on the Chapter Activities Committee and another is just beginning. If you have items like these you'd like to contribute, or expertise to lend a hand, please let us know!

Jane Fohn has announced the resumption of the CAC Stamp Show Program Competition. Programs from local, regional and nationals level exhibitions held in 2009 are eligible and will be critiqued and judged by three experienced APS members: Tim Bartsche, John Hotchner, and Janet Klug. To participate, program editors or club officers of CAC Chapters may submit three copies of the program along with an official entry form by January 31 to Jane. Forms may be downloaded from the APS CAC website or by requesting one from Jane (please include an SASE). There is no entry fee. All entries become the property of the APS and will be on display at STAMPSHOW 2010.

In addition, Jane manages the CAC Chapter Newsletter Competition, which also has a deadline of January 31 and is free to enter. APS Chapter clubs with newsletters are eligible to participate. Three copies of three separate issues of the club's 2009 newsletter are to be submitted by an editor or club officer along with the official entry form, again available via download or through Jane, and all copies become the property of the APS. The newsletter jury includes Rob-



ert Odenweller, Hal Vogel, and Patrick Walters.

Jane may be reached by email at janekfohn@sbcglobal.net or by writing to her at: Jane King Fohn, Manager, 10325 Little Sugar Creek, Converse, TX 78109-2409.

Our Chapter Chatter column here in *The American Philatelist* will continue to run regularly three times a year in January, May and September. We also will send out news occasionally through the monthly APS e-Newsletter.

Is your club doing something newsworthy? How did your Chapter celebrate Stamp Collecting Month? What issues would you like to see covered in the next column? Send me an e-mail or a letter and let me know! Tom Fortunato, 28 Amberwood Place, Rochester, NY 14626-4166; *e-mail* stampmf@frontier-net.net.

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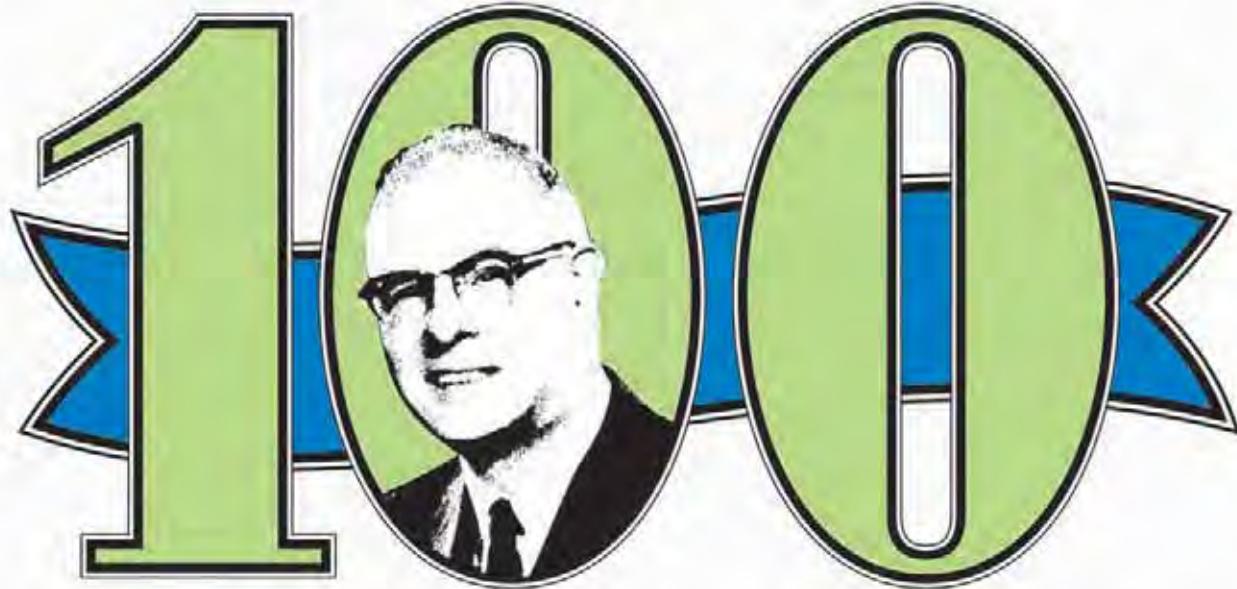
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William H. Gross Stamp Gallery To Open

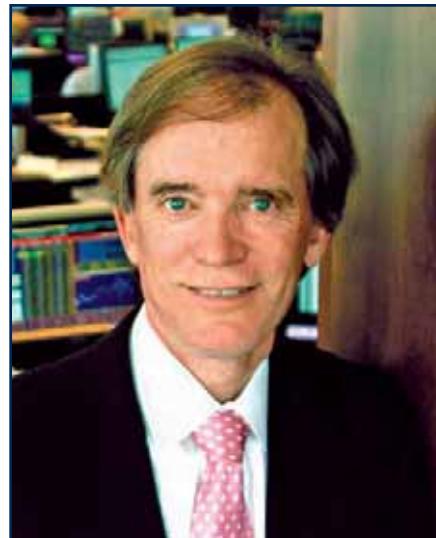
I am proud and excited to announce the addition of the William H. Gross Stamp Gallery (scheduled to open in 2012) to the National Postal Museum. The new gallery will add 12,000 square feet of space to the museum and will provide our visitors with a remarkable opportunity to view a far wider range of philatelic objects and topics than we have been able to present to this time. Mr. Gross, the founder of PIMCO and a stamp collector, is the title sponsor of the new gallery and also will be loaning the museum three wonderful and rare items to display in this magnificent new addition to the museum. These items — a Pony Express cover; a cover featuring the 10-cent George Washington stamp,

dated July 2, 1847; and a block of four of the "Inverted Jenny" — will join a selection of wondrous items from the museum's collections in a special showcase of gems. This extraordinary new gallery will move the philatelic galleries out of the lower Atrium level to street-level space, only one-quarter mile from the Capitol. I look forward to welcoming more visitors to the museum through our new street-level entrance, where they will be greeted with a colorful and engaging welcome center that will showcase the entire museum and offer an exciting introduction to the museum experience.

Among the items from the museum's collection that are under consideration for display in the new gallery are the 1765 stamp act revenue that precipitated the American Revolution and examples of Hawaiian missionary stamps. This remarkable new space also will enable us to expand our educational, temporary exhibition, and public program opportunities, providing the museum's visitors with a richer, more expansive philatelic experience. In addition to offering additional space for philatelic



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exhibitions, the move offers the museum the opportunity to expand its ability to present exhibition and educational opportunities documenting the history and operations of the U.S. postal system.

The expansion offers the museum the opportunity to present a wider range of objects, capturing the interest of everyone from curious youngsters to scholarly philatelists, and features space for modern and international issues, as well as the best the museum has to offer from philately's classical period. We will be able to present the museum's National Stamp Collection — more than 5,000 stamps and objects highlighting the first

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100 years of postage stamps — on permanent display for the first time in the collection's history. These items have been handpicked from the museum's collections by members of the museum's Council of Philatelists, in collaboration with museum curators and staff. Council members, comprised of thirty prominent philatelists from around the

United States and Canada, have been instrumental in this project from the beginning.

The new space will include a rotating exhibitions gallery, which will open with "Fire & Ice: Hindenburg and Titanic," an examination of the largest floating and flying post offices of their time. The exhibit, to open in 2012, will mark the 75th

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anniversary of the *Hindenburg* disaster and the 100th anniversary of the sinking of RMS *Titanic*. You can track our progress on our website by going to www.postalmuseum.si.edu/StampGallery. More information and photographs, including gallery space designs, will be added as they become available.

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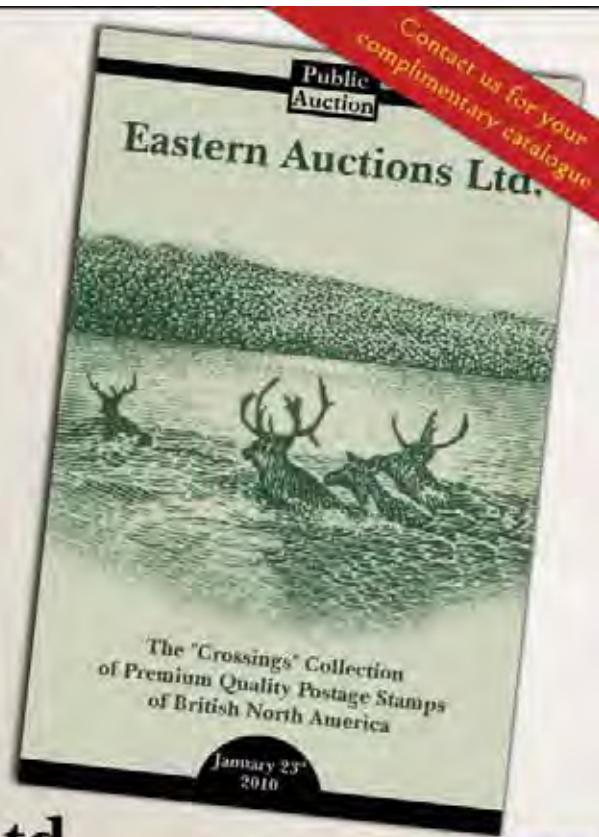
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show time

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

e erse **anuar**
37th Annual Garden State Stamp Show, New Jersey Stamp Dealers Assn., Bethwood Manor, 38 Lackawanna Avenue, just 2 blocks North of Route 46, West at the Union Blvd. exit, which is about 2 miles east of Route 23 and a short distance west of

McBride Avenue, Totowa. Contact Larry Liebowitz, njshows@optonline.net; 732-247-1093; Fax 732-247-1094.

ali ornia **anuar**
SANDICAL, San Diego County Philatelic Council, Al-Bahr Shrine Temple, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., San Diego. Contact Linda Mabin, lmabinl@juno.com; <http://www.sandical.org/>; 760-746-1505. SP

ir inia **anuar**
Metro Expo DC Stamp Show, Metropolitan Expositions LLC, Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Rd. McLearen Rd. at Rt. 28, Herndon. Contact Elaine M. Dunn, shows@stampnewsnow.com; www.metro expos.com; 603-424-7556.

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ORCOEXPO, StampWants.com, Embassy Suites Anaheim South, 11767 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove. Contact Stephen Pattillo, www.stampshowsteve.com; 888-995-0548.

Iorida **e ruar**
Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, Sarasota Philatelic Club, Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, (US 41) 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Contact Sy Bricker, mto.stamps@gte.net; www.sarasotastampclub.com; 941-933-0919. SP

io **e ruar**
COLOPEX, Columbus Philatelic Club, Franklin County Veterans Memorial Hall, 300 W. Broad Street, Columbus. Contact Chuck Wooster,

cwooster@aol.com; <http://www.colopex.com>; 614-560-3689. SP

Ari ona **e ruar**
ARIPEX, Arizona Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Mesa Convention Center, 201 N. Center St., Mesa. Contact Bill Chesser, mchesser@availe.com; www.aripelexon.com; 602-956-3497; 480-967-4827. SP

e ork **e ruar**
MetroExpo NY, Metropolitan Expositions LLC, Midtown Holiday Inn, 440 W. 57th St., New York. Contact Elaine Dunn, shows@stampnewsnow.com; www.metro expos.com; 603-424-7556 Ph/Fax *b*

Ala a a **e ruar**
ALAPEX 2010, Birmingham Philatelic Society, Bessemer Civic Center, 1130 Ninth Ave., SW, Bessemer. Contact Robert Hamill or Chuck Donaldson, mcbryerbob@bellsouth.net; 205-823-7364/204-410-8383.

ar land **e ruar**
Eastern Shore Stamp Club Annual Stamp and Coin Show, Eastern Shore Stamp Club, Civic Center, Civic Ave., Salisbury. Contact Bert Raymond, 410-422-1492-Cell.

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West Volusia Stamp Club Annual Show, West Volusia Stamp Club, Wayne Sanborn Activities Center Earl Brown Park, 751 S. Alabama, DeLand. Contact Mike Daley, miked531@bellsouth.net; http://floridacsp.com/wvstamp/; 386-668-5021.

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The Cessna Show, Cessna Stamp Club, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita. Contact Ralph E. Lott, 316-747-2118.

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St. Louis Stamp Expo, Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. Contact Penny Kols, expo@regencystamps.com; www.stlstampexpo.org; 800-782-0066; Fax 314-361-5677. SP

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BAYPEX 2010, Florida Stamp Dealers Association & Clearwater Stamp Club, Honeywell Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Avenue, N., Largo. Contact Sheldon Rogg, h.rogg@verizon.net; www.floridastampdealers.org/www.floridastampshows.com; 727-364-6897.

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LINPEX, Lincoln Stamp Club, Guesthouse Inn, 5250 Cornhusker, Lincoln. Contact Kenneth Pruess, kpruess@aol.com; www.lincolnstampclub.org; 402-464-6939.

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Toledo Stamp Expo, Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, Holland Gardens, 6530 Angola Rd., Holland. Contact C. Campbell, treasure@tolodostampclub.org; 419-874-6241.

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NOVAPEX, Redding Stamp Club, Senior Citizens Hall, 2290 Benton Dr., Redding. Contact Bob

Grosch, bobgrosch@frontiernet.net; www.reddingstampclub.com; 530-549-4872.

e ork ar
BUFFPEX, Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga(Buffalo). Contact George Gates, gghg53@aol.com; 716-633-8358.

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

ennessee ar
KNOXPEX 2010 - Scouting Centennial, Knoxville Philatelic Society, Holiday Inn, Knoxville-West, 304 N. Cedar Bluff Rd., Knoxville. Contact Tom Broadhead, twbroadhead@utk.edu; http://www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm; 865-974-1151.

ir inia ar
SPRINGPEX 10, Springfield Stamp Club, Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield. Contact James Dobbs, jdobbs@cox.net; www.springfieldstampclub.org; 703-759-0119.

is onsin ar
Stampfest 2010, Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Inc., St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall, 1414 S. 92nd Street, West Allis. Contact Carol Schutta, harryncarol@hotmail.com; www.milwaukeephilatelic.org; 414-464-6994.

ar land ar
28th Annual Stamp Show, Tidewater Stamp Club, Easton Volunteer Fire Department Auditorium, 315 Aurora Park Drive, Easton. Contact Hope Messick, phalarope@dmv.com; http://sites.google.com/site/tidewaterstampclub; 410-822-6471.

ali ornia ar
FRESPEX 2010, Fresno Philatelic Society, Veterans Memorial Building, 435 Hughes Ave., Clovis. Contact Dick Richardson, starstamps@thegrid.net; 559-431-5013.

llinois ar
Rockford Stamp Club, Rockford Stamp Club, Forest Hills Lodge, 1601 West Lane Rd. (Hwy 173 West), Loves Park. Contact Tim Wait, t.wait@comcast.net; www.rockfordstampclub.org; 815-670-5869.

diana ar
CALUPEX, Calumet Stamp Club, Highland Lincoln Center, 2450 Lincoln St., Highland. Contact John Koval, calumetstamps@sbcglobal.net; www.calumetstampclub.org; 219-924-4836.

e erse ar
CASDA 2010, Central Atlantic Stamp Dealers Association, Doubletree Guest Suites, 515 Fellowship Road North, Mount Laurel. Contact Jack Ott, jackott@comcast.net, 888-297-3536

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

Penns I ania ar
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APP A S

The following applications were received during November 2009. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to January 31, 2010, these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the April 2010 issue.

| | | |
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| Ayers, Robert L. (216722) littleton US; 66; Heating/Air Conditioning | Hyde, Richard (216786) ro alle A US- FOREIGN; Retired | Motson, Peter C. (216772) Seaton e on n land NFLD PIONEER AIR MAIL; 68; Retired |
| Baker, Carl W. (216764) usko ee US; 45; Surgeon | Jasek, Robert L. (216740) Uti a GER-WORLDWIDE; 68; Part-time Stamp Dealer | Nusca, Gerald (216781) rand Ra ids US-VAT; 80; Retired |
| Baldridge, Steve (216754) urra U CLASSIC US-WORLDWIDE; 57; Drafter | JayaPrakash, T. G. (216727) analore arnataka, India; 29 | Paxson, John N. (216792) erett A US-ISRAEL-JAPAN; 70; Retired |
| Belger, Cary L. (216734) al ar A GIBRALTAR-COMMONWEALTH-US-WWII; 46; IT Consultant | Jordan, C. K. (216741) e ort e s A US; 60; Leadership Programs Consultant | Payne, Richard A. (216748) Sarasota ; 77 |
| Boyd, Linda J. (216718) ort untin don PA WORLDWIDE; 56; Interior Designer | Karnelski, John (216779) i a o US; 66; Retired | Perdue, Jim (216737) e is US; 78; Retired |
| Braun, Raymond N. (216765) Port An eles A US; 73; Retired | Knierim, Richard M. (216783) Sunrise US REV; 65; Retired | Peterson, Charles J. (216794) Columbia, MO SWEDEN-NORWAY-FINLAND-ICELAND-ALAND-GREENLAND; 64; Retired |
| Braverman, Mark (216775) est inn R US SHEETS; 70 | Lita, Cristian (216762) ississau a ; 41 | Peterson, Lanny (216787) aurel CHRISTMAS-AMERICA SERIES UPAEP; 74; Teacher |
| Brown, J. David (216738) in ester A; 65; Retired | Lopez, Oswaldo M. (216742) u le ; 64 | Poulter, Steven (216798) ondon WORLDWIDE; 53 |
| Busch, Randall L. (216776) Saint arles 1851 3 CENT-1863 2 CENT BLACK JACK; 52; Physician | Losh, Richard A. (216755) ilo ; 57 | Pratt, Will (216716) o eland US; 50 |
| Butler, David P. (216800) Au urn CANADA; 47; Pharmacist | MacQuown, Richard (216780) Pitts ur PA; 90; Retired | Quagliano, John R. (216770) Ri ond A US, STAT-ITALY-CANADA; 47; Scientist |
| Causey, Charles R. (216729) rlan er ; 74; Retired | Mariscal, Dick (216743) alla assee UN-US VINTAGE; 74; Retired | Rangos, Nicos M. (216719) i osia rus TRADITIONAL CYPRUS-WORLDWIDE CLASSIC POSTAL STAT-CLASSIC; 65; Minister Advisor |
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| Cooklin, Gregory (216715) ort Siou it S ; 38 | McDonald, Glenn D. (216744) S el o ns i ; 21 | Richmond, Paul M. (216791) e ton i lands A MINT US PRESS SHEETS-SOUVENIR SHEETS-FDC; 65 |
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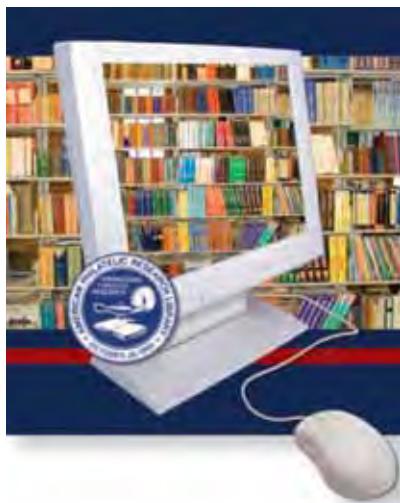
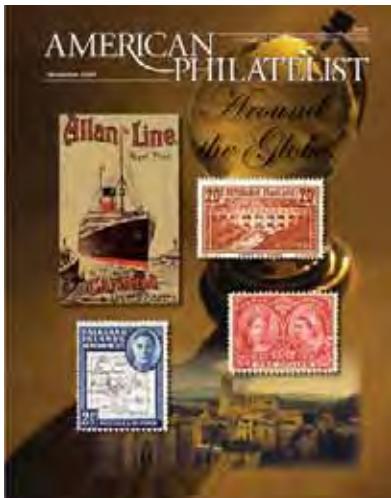
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book reviews

by bonny farmer

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Scott Catalogue of Errors on U.S. Postage Stamps (15th edition), by Stephen R. Datz. Published 2009 by Scott Publishing Company. Softcover, xiv + 218 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-89487-459-8. Available for \$49.99 from Amos Hobby Publishing, P.O. Box 828, Sidney, OH 45365; telephone 1-800-572-6885; website www.amosadvantage.com.

This catalogue is a collaborative effort between Scott Publishing Co. and leading error expert Stephen R. Datz. It lists and values all imperforate, color-omitted, and invert errors. The new addition contains more than 100 new listings, including some older items documented for the first time. It also features separate listings for modern proofs from the American Bank Note Co. archives, which now appear in the Error-Like Imperforates section. The footnoted entries (more than 400 in all), which amplify basic listings with information on form, condition, fakes, quantities known, cautions, and more, have been completely revised and updated.

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Part 2: Austria & Hungary (7th edition). Published 2009 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, xxi + 358 pp., full color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-741-5. Available for £34.95 from Stanley Gibbons Publications, 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringswood, Hants. BH24 3SH, U.K.; e-mail sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk; website www.stanleygibbons.com.

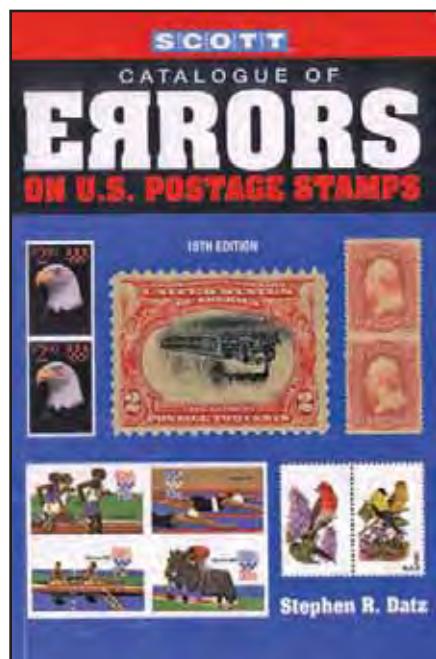
This new edition of the *Austria & Hungary Catalogue* remains the only comprehensive, single-volume listing of the stamps of both countries from the

earliest issues of Austria, United Nations (Vienna), and Hungary. The catalogue lists all major varieties including perforation, watermark and shade variations, overprint types, and major errors. Other areas of interest to be found in the volume are Lombardy & Venetia, early Bosnia & Herzegovina, Austro-Hungarian Military Post, Austrian Territories acquired by Italy, Danube Steam Navigation Company, Austro-Hungarian Post Offices in the Turkish Empire, Szeged, French Occupation of Arad, and the Romanian and Serbian Occupations of Hungary. "This is a detailed and highly informative catalogue, ideal for any collector who specializes in either country."

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Part 8: Italy & Switzerland (7th edition). Published 2010 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, xxiii + 475 pp., full color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-718-7. Available for £42.50 from Stanley Gibbons Publications, 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringswood, Hants. BH24 3SH, U.K.; e-mail sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk; website www.stanleygibbons.com.

This is the only catalogue published in English that covers the stamp issues of both Italy and Switzerland in a single volume. The new edition has been 90 percent repriced and features approximately 5,000 illustrations. Information is provided at the beginning of each country covering history, early stamp issues and currency changes, and there are new design indexes for Liechtenstein and San Marino. Design indexes for Italy and Switzerland also have been updated. The stamp-issuing countries include Italy, Liechtenstein, San Marino, Switzerland, International Organizations located in Switzerland, United Nations (Geneva), and Vatican City.

Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Specialised Stamp Catalogue, Volume 2: King Edward VII to King George VI (13th edition). Published 2009 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Hardcover, xiv + 278 pp., full color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-713-2. Available from Stanley Gibbons Publications, 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringswood, Hants. BH24 3SH, U.K.; e-mail sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk.



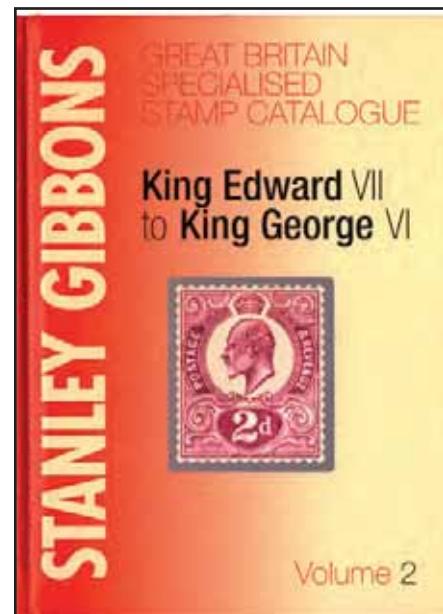
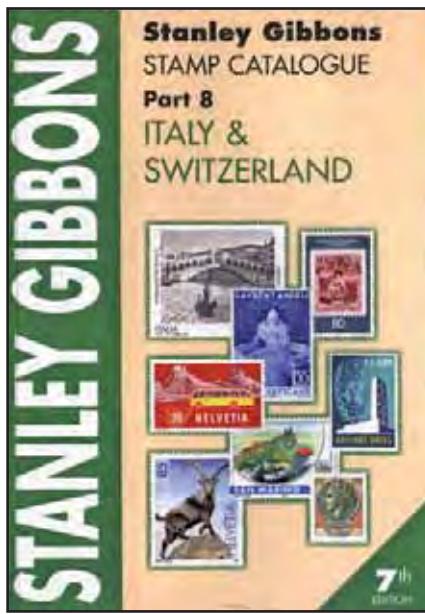
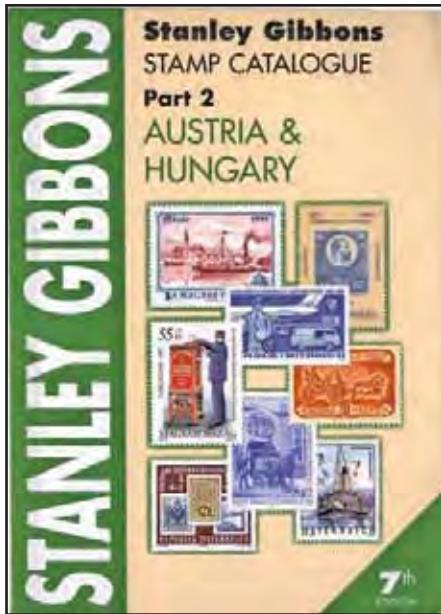
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Densely packed with information, this new edition of *Volume 2* includes a great deal of new research and extensively reviewed prices, resulting in many significant increases. Background information is given for all issues including varieties, marginal markings, plate flaws, essays, proofs, and more. Appendices cover Perforators, Post Office Stamp Booklets, Booklet Pane Precancellations, "Specimen" and "Cancelled" Overprints, Protective Underprints, Postage Rates, Channel Islands-German Occupation Issues, Guernsey, and Jersey. Special checklists for the issues cross-reference the specialized catalogue numbers to the standard Stanley Gibbons numbers from the Concise Catalogue.

Stanley Gibbons Collect British Stamps (61st edition). Published 2010 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, xlvi + 194 pp., full color illus., ISBN 978-

Ordering correction: The ordering address given for *The Mails of Bordentown, New Jersey from a Colonial Village through the Twentieth Century*, by Sid Morginstin, reviewed in the November 2009 AP, is incorrect. Updated contact information: Sidney Morginstin, P.O. Box 8101, Trenton, NJ 08650; e-mail leadstamp@verizon.net.

All the books reviewed in this column are available for loan through the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL), 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823; telephone 814-933-3803; website www.stamplibrary.org.



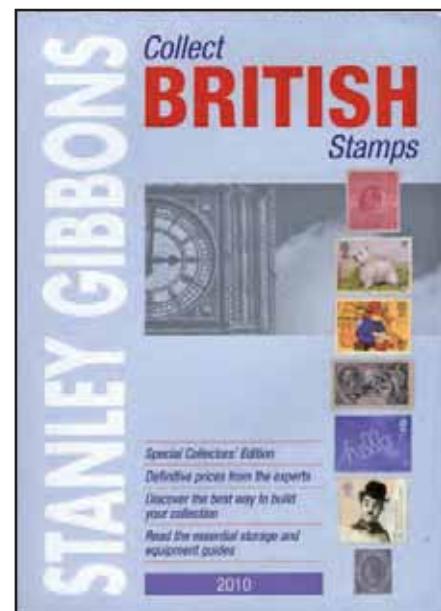
0-85259-692-0. Available for £12.95 from Stanley Gibbons Publications, 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringswood, Hants. BH24 3SH, U.K.; e-mail sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk; website www.stanleygibbons.com.

This essential handbook has been completely redesigned and is packed with new features. An extensively revised introductory section contains information on how to build a collection, understanding catalogue pricing, what makes a stamp valuable, using the SG numbering system, a survey of useful equipment and information on storing stamps safely.

The catalogue also contains an article on Machins and what makes them so popular with collectors worldwide, as

well as an article on LONDON 2010 from guest contributor Jennifer Flippance, Project Officer for the LONDON 2010 FESTIVAL OF STAMPS.

The handbook lists stamps from the famous Penny Black of 1840 up to the 2009 Christmas stamps, as well as presentation packs, first day covers for definitives from 1936, regionals and all special issues, post office yearbooks, PHQ cards (post office picture cards), war occupation stamps of Guernsey and Jersey, Guernsey, Jersey and Isle of Man stamps issued before postal independence, postage due and official stamps, commemoratives, traffic gutter pairs, and numismatic and philatelic medallic covers when issued by the Royal Mail.



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Republic of Macedonia

Status: A parliamentary democracy, located in the south-central Balkan Peninsula.

Population: 2,066,718 (2009 est.)

Area: 9,820 square miles

Currency: Macedonian Denar (MDR) (US\$1 = 41MDR)

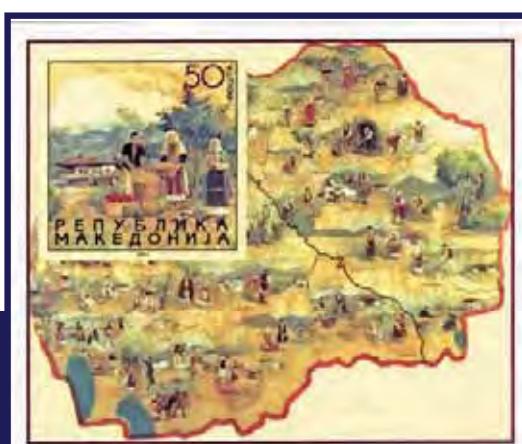
Macedonia today is a mountainous, landlocked country roughly the size of Vermont, but the name has been associated with a much larger geographical area, including the vast empire that Alexander the Great expanded eastward as far as modern India. With Alexander's death in 325 b.c., the empire declined and Macedonia fell under the control of the Romans, the Byzantines, and the eventually the Ottomans who ruled it for five centuries.

The second half of the nineteenth century saw Ottoman control over its Balkan domains greatly weakened. Following its victory in the Russo-Turkish War of 1878, Russia imposed the Treaty of San Stefano on Turkey, virtually eliminating the Ottoman holdings in Europe and giving Macedonia to Bulgaria. Several months later, the Great Powers, concerned about the expansion of Russian influence in the Balkans, persuaded Russia to accept the Treaty of Berlin, which among other things returned Macedonia to Turkey. This led to nationalistic unrest in Macedonia.

Following the two Balkan Wars (1912–13) the lion's share of what is today's Republic of Macedonia was incorporated in Serbia. In 1921 it became part of the new Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, later renamed Yugoslavia. Macedonian nationalists continued their fight for independence and in 1934 were responsible for the assassination of the Yugoslav king.

The Axis invasion of Yugoslavia in 1941 saw another partitioning of Macedonia, with the west going to Albania and the east to Bulgaria. On September 8, 1944, as Bulgaria surrendered to the advancing Russians, German troops moved into Macedonia, which declared its independence. German-occupied Macedonia released eight postage stamps on October 28, 1944, which remained in use until the German troops withdrew on November 13.

When Marshall Tito reconstituted Yugoslavia at the end of 1945, Macedonia became one of the six constituent republics, a status it retained until it declared independence on September 8, 1991. Independence came peacefully, but Macedonian nationhood was clouded by fierce Greek opposition to the new state being called Macedonia because of fears that the Greek region called Macedonia would be claimed as part of it. Macedonia was admitted to the United Nations in 1993 under the compromise name of Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia or FYROM. Ethnic unrest by the growing Albanian minority erupted into open hostilities in 2001. An agreement was brokered in July 2001 with international mediation. Since that time Macedonia has enjoyed political stability and steady economic growth. The Republic of Macedonia issued its first postage stamps on September 20, 1992.



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| Europe | Latin America | Southern Europe |
| Europe 1840-1940 | Latin West Indies* | Spain |
| Far East | Lebanon | Spanish Colonies* |
| Finland | Liberia | Sweden |
| France | Liechtenstein | Switzerland |
| France 19th Century | Luxembourg | Trieste* |
| France & Colonies | Mexico | Turkey |
| French Africa | Middle East | United Nations* |
| French Colonies | Miniature Sheets | Uruguay |
| German Colonies* | Monaco | Vatican |
| German Covers | Netherlands | Venezuela |
| German States | Netherlands Colonies | West Germany |
| Germany | Nicaragua | Yugoslavia |
| Germany (Pre-1945) | Norway | |
| Global (1840-1940) | Panama* | |
| Global Covers | Paraguay* | |
| Global General (mint & used) | Peru* | |
| Global Used Only | Philippines | |
| Greece | Poland | |
| | Portugal | |

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

Order Form for Sales Books & Mounts

| Quantity | Item | Amount |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------|
| — | Sales Books for Singles (\$1.50 each, 10 for \$8.50, 100 for \$60) | \$ _____ |
| — | Sales Books for Blocks (\$1.50 each, 10 for \$8.50, 100 for \$60) | \$ _____ |
| — | Sales Books for Blocks (\$1.25 each, 10 for \$7, 100 for \$55) | \$ _____ |
| — | Sales Books for Covers (\$1.75 each, 10 for \$12, 100 for \$100) | \$ _____ |
| Stampmounts (500 per Package) | | |
| — | Size C½ — \$22 per pkg. (for singles and standard commemoratives) | \$ _____ |
| — | Size C1½ — \$23 per pkg. (for large singles and regular blocks of four) | \$ _____ |
| — | Size C3½ — \$33 per pkg. (for normal commemorative plateblocks) | \$ _____ |
| — | Shipping \$1 Parcel Post/\$2 Priority Mail | \$ _____ |
| | Total | \$ _____ |
| PA residents must add 6% sales tax | \$ _____ | |
| Total Remittance | | \$ _____ |

Non-U.S. addresses contact us for additional postage amount.

Why Buy from APS Sales Circuits

- A "mini stamp store" arrives at your door.
- The stamps are in *your* hands for close inspection.
- No salesman looking over your shoulder.
- Each mailing provides an evening's entertainment.
- Sales books contain many items not found elsewhere.
- Central contact location for questions and problems.
- Circuits offer members an alternative buying opportunity.

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2010 APS Awards

Vote Now!



The United States Stamp Society — Barbara R. Mueller Award

for the best article from *The American Philatelist* during 2009

APS members are encouraged to vote for the best article published in *The American Philatelist* during 2009. The winner will receive the United States Stamp Society — Barbara R. Mueller Award which includes a cash payment of \$1,000 and recognition on a permanent plaque in the editorial offices of *The American Philatelist*.

Vote today by completing and returning the form at the bottom of this page or indicating your favorite online at www.stamps.org/USSS-Mueller-Award. All votes must be received by March 1, 2010. The Mueller Award Committee will select the winner from the top five as voted on by members and the top five as selected by the staff of *The American Philatelist*. The 2009 winner will be announced in the August 2010 issue of *The American Philatelist* and at STAMPSHOW in Richmond.

Nominations Always Open!



Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Awards

These awards recognize volunteers who contribute their talents to benefit stamp collecting. Awards are available for the following categories:

- National Promotion/Service — Maximum of 5 awardees/year
- Local Promotion/Service — Maximum of 10 awardees/year
- Outstanding Young Adult Philatelist (Ages 25–40) — One/year
- Outstanding Young Philatelist (Ages 15–24) — One/year

Winners receive a pin and certificate. All of these awards require at least five years of service, except for the Outstanding Young Philatelist which requires three years of service. APS board members, staff, and Luff Award winners are not eligible. APS membership is not required.

Luff Award

Since 1940, the Luff Award has been the most prestigious award presented by the American Philatelic Society. It is presented to up to three philatelists annually in categories for Research, Service to the Hobby, and Service to the Society. Winners sign the Luff Scroll, receive a ring and certificate.

Hall of Fame

The APS has been honoring deceased philatelists who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of national or international philately since 1941.

Kehr Award

Established in 1991, the APS Kehr Award recognizes one living philatelist each year who, for a period of at least five years, has demonstrated one or more of the following:

- making philately attractive as a hobby to newcomers
- working directly with newcomers, especially young people
- developing and administering programs aimed at recruiting newcomers

Nomination forms are available on the APS website or by request. Deadlines vary by award but nominations received too late for consideration in 2010 will be considered for 2011.

My choice for the best article in *The American Philatelist* during 2009 is: