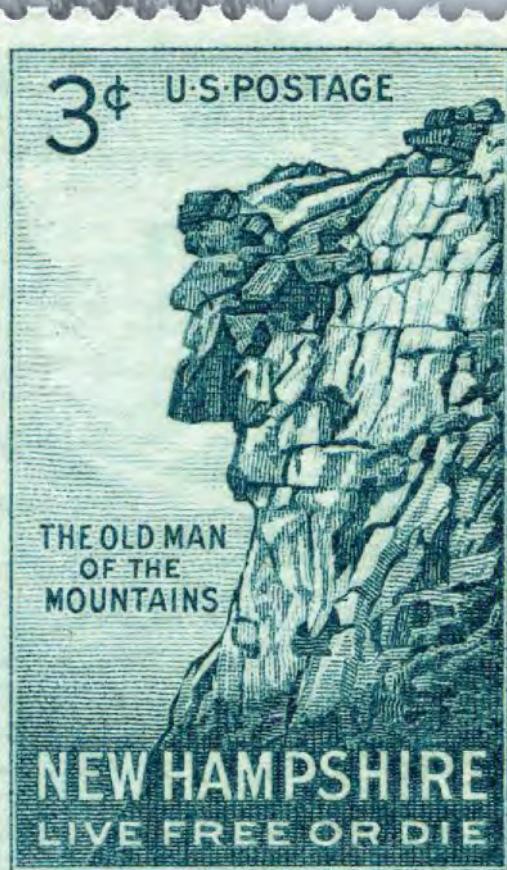


MARCH 2017 \$4.95

# THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY



## *The Old Man of the Mountains*

The United States 1955 Commemorative Stamp Explored

PLUS

Multiple Stunning  
Belgian Congo Stamps

Identify a British Stamp  
Color Error From 1935

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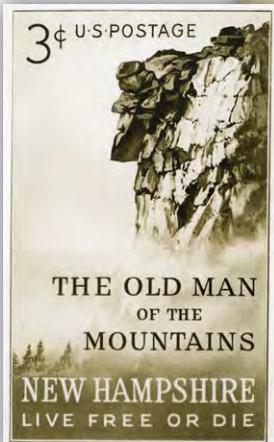


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# MARCH 2017

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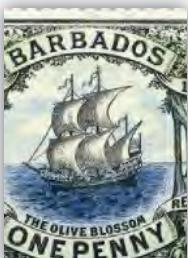
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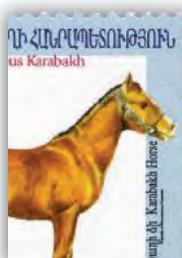
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# THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

Since 1887 — The Premier  
Philatelic Magazine in the Nation

EDITOR Jay Bigalke, ext. 221  
jbigalke@stamps.org • aparticle@stamps.org

EDITORIAL ASSOCIATES  
Jeff Stage, ext. 222 • jstage@stamps.org

Doris Wilson, ext. 223 • doris@stamps.org

ADVERTISING MANAGER Helen Bruno, ext. 224  
hlbruno@stamps.org • adsales@stamps.org

### American Philatelic Society

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100 Match Factory Place • Bellefonte, PA 16823  
814-933-3803 • 814-933-6128 (Fax)  
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Scott English, ext. 219  
scott@stamps.org

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER Ken Martin, ext. 218  
kpmartin@stamps.org

GENERAL INFORMATION apsinfo@stamps.org

ADDRESS CHANGES requests@stamps.org, ext. 201

EDUCATION/YOUTH Cathy Brachbill, ext. 239  
cbrachbill@stamps.org

EXPERTIZING/QUICK ID Mercer Bristow, ext. 205  
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LIBRARY/INFO. SERVICES Tara Murray, ext. 246  
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SHOWS/EXHIBITIONS Megan Orient, ext. 207  
meganorient@stamps.org

SHOW TIME LISTINGS  
showtime@stamps.org

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

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BY MICK ZAIS president  
mzais@newberry.edu

# Where Patriotism Meets Philately

## New Flag Stamp Carries Deep Symbolism Across the Land

**A**merican Philatelic Society President Mitchell M. "Mick" Zais, a retired U.S. Army brigadier general, was honored to deliver remarks at the first-day ceremony for the new U.S. Flag forever stamp, which will mostly be used for first-class domestic mail. Here, he shares his presentation from the ceremony January 27 at the Southeastern Stamp Expo in Norcross, Georgia, an Atlanta suburb. Additional details about the stamp issue can be found in the 2017 New Stamps column in this magazine.

I grew up on military posts around the world: Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Fort Campbell, Kentucky; MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa; Norfolk Naval Station; and in Heidelberg and Stuttgart, Germany. At all of these places I awoke at 6:00 or 6:30 in the morning to the sound of the firing of a cannon and *Reveille* echoing across the installation from strategically placed loudspeakers signaling the daily raising of the American flag. Every afternoon, at 5:00 or 5:30, *Retreat* would sound, the cannon would be fired again, *To the Colors* would play, and the flag would be lowered for the day.

As children, if we were with our fathers, or our friends' fathers, when the bugle sounded, we would stop whatever we were doing, stand at attention, face the direction of the base flagpole —



Mick Zais, APS president, at the podium for the U.S. Flag stamp issued January 27 during the Southeastern Stamp Expo show in Norcross, Georgia. Photo by Thomas Broadhead.

and they always knew what direction that was — and salute. Automobiles throughout the base would stop in the middle of the road; the occupants would dismount, and follow the same procedure.

If we were outside on our own, with no adults in sight, when we heard *Retreat* resounding across the installation, we did as we had been trained; we stopped playing, stood erect and proud, put our hands over our hearts, and honored that sacred symbol of America.

Thus, from an early age, I learned that the flag was more than a colorful banner or a piece of dyed cloth. It was important. I learned that our flag represents all that is noble about our

country and the values that define our nation. It was what my father was sworn to die defending, if war demanded it.

Then, at 18, I decamped for four years at West Point. The twice daily ritual was reenacted there as well, only, if one can imagine, with more fervor. We were learning to be soldiers. And a soldier's destiny, his sacred duty, is to place his country's well being before his own, including laying down his life, if necessary.

You know that famous picture of Iwo Jima: the one with six Marines straining to erect the American flag on Mount Suribachi? Three of those Marines died in subsequent fighting over the next few days. That flag meant something to them. It meant freedom. The fact is, more than 1.3 million American service members have died defending the nation that this flag represents. That's a lot of sons and fathers, mothers and daughters.

Cynics and scoffers will argue that our country is imperfect and thus unworthy of such devotion and our flag does not merit such adoration. But, they are wrong. Of course, our nation is imperfect. We are a nation "of the peo-

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ple, by the people, and for the people," and all people are imperfect. But our country is the *least* imperfect nation in the history of mankind.

I've been to 49 foreign countries, many in an official capacity. There is no place like America. The millions of people around the world who would abandon their nation, their culture, their language, their roots, and their families for the opportunity to start a new life in America are overwhelming evidence of this fact.

My grandparents came to America from Romania and from what is now Belarus. Despite the fact that they had little education — my grandmother

got as far as the sixth grade, and my grandfather finished third grade — they were able to earn a living, buy a home, and provide for and educate their five children. Most significantly, they lived in freedom: freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and freedom from fear.

Wisdom is where you find it. I was talking to my cab driver in Washington, D.C. He was from West Africa, Senegal, to be exact. He said, "You know, America is a great country. All you have to do is work hard, obey the law, and pay your taxes, and you can have a nice life."

Old Glory, the Stars and Stripes, the Star-Spangled Banner — the American

flag is the most recognized symbol of freedom and democracy in the world. It has flown over free American soil for 240 years. It's the symbol of our beloved country. It represents all of us and all the values we hold sacred. It has been the inspiration for immigrants, holidays, songs, poems, books, artwork, and so much more. Its history is the story of America itself.

I'm proud to be an American. I'm proud to have served our nation in uniform. And I'm proud to be with you here today to help unveil a postage stamp that, yet again, pays honor to that beautiful symbol of our nation — the American flag.



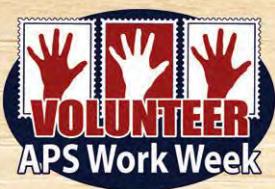
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# How Do You Stamp Show?

## Benefits to Getting Organized Before You Go

**H**ow do you prepare for a trip to a stamp show? We recently worked up a post for the APS blog (<http://blog.stamps.org>) that explored this subject and I thought it would be great to hear some feedback from other members and perhaps we could share a few ideas in a future Letters to the Editor section.

Jeff Stage, APS editorial associate, authored the piece. Some of the key points Stage made included bringing a list, checking the exhibits list, and find out the dealer list. "There's nothing worse than being at a show surrounded by millions of stamps and not knowing what you would like to buy," he wrote.

Facebook followers chimed in and agreed, saying "Don't forget the list! Right on." Another person said "The first thing I do is check my stamp budget — then I make my list!"

The Facebook post on this subject generated more than 34 shares and a hundred likes.

I'm certain all of us have duplicates of those stamps we "really liked" and ended up with those duplicates because we forgot to bring our list with us. For one of my organized parts of my collection I bring along a stamp catalog that I use as my checklist. After the show I then mount the stamps in my album and confirm that I marked it off on my list.

With stamp show season in full swing again, I hope this relevant discussion will inspire us with some great ideas before we go to that next show.

Speaking of tips, this month's issue of *The American Philatelist* might send you looking for a Great Britain stamp color error that might be lurking in your collection.

Additional features in this issue take you around the world to the Belgian Congo, Barbados, and Nagorno-Karabakh. There is also an article that explores a particular era of postmarks used in Boston.

As always, feel free to drop me a line with any suggestions of future articles or if you're interested in writing something for us.

  
Editor,  
*The American Philatelist*

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Stamp collector browses through red boxes of stamps at a stamp show. Note he has his checklist nearby. Photo by David McKinney.



One of the Belgian Congo stamps featured in this issue of the magazine.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Busted! Reader Discovers Our Trick With Text

I could be wrong, but I suspect I'm one of the few that immediately spotted the "Real Fake Odd" text hidden in plain sight on the cover of the December issue of *The American Philatelist*. This took me back six decades when in elementary school my class had fun with this technique. Thanks for the flashback, AP.

For those who didn't notice the text, possibly instead just seeing it as artwork, the text is read by viewing the cover from the right side from a very flat (slight) angle. Including this on the cover with the text/artwork highlighting the feature article on expertizing was a clever and fun way to indicate what one would expect to be discovered by an expertizer.

Eric Davis  
Gaithersburg, Maryland

### Information is Good, More Info is Better

I agree with Kent Weaver who laments there not being more information about the expertizers' reasonings when an opinion differs from what the submitter expected. Moreover, I think that the response given in the subsequent "Editor's Note" was rather glib: "Because of the limited space on the certificate we cannot elaborate further on why it's a forgery." If the majority of members feel that the certificate should have more information then increase the space of the certificate.

Michael A. Rainer  
Huntington Beach, California



The words real, fake, and odd appear in hidden text on the cover of the December issue of *The American Philatelist*.

### Proper Spelling Means Land of a Castle, Not Mountain

The article, "The Art of Expertizing" in the December issue of *The American Philatelist*, three times referenced the stamp [being expertized] as issued by Oldenberg. This is not correct. It should be "Oldenburg" as indeed inscribed on the stamp itself.

The suffix "...berg" means mountain while "...burg" means castle. There are two different cities, far apart, in Germany with just this distinction: Freiburg and Freiberg. "Oldenberg," however, does not exist.

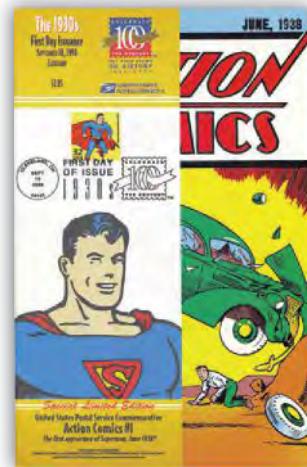
Wulf Graunitz  
Palgrave, Ontario, Canada

### USPS Reprinted Entire Vintage Comic Book

I am writing in regards to Timothy Bergquist's article, "Superheroes on Stamps," which appeared in the January edition of *The American Philatelist*.

In addition to the *Celebrate the Century Super Heroes Stamp Album* mentioned in the article, the U.S. Postal Service produced another tie-in with the CTC Superman stamp: a very special reprint of *Action Comics No. 1*, the comic book in which Superman first appeared. It was shrink-wrapped and sold for \$7.95.

This reprint is special because, whereas most reprints of *Action Comics No. 1* — such as the one shown in Bergquist's article — only included the 13-page Superman story, this one reprinted the entire comic book. Like other comic books of the day, the original *Action Comics No. 1* was a 64-page an-



The U.S. Postal Service's reprint from 1999 with accompanying first-day-cancel half-page of *Action Comics No. 1*.

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thology with many different features, not just Superman. The USPS reprint was a facsimile of the complete issue, from the iconic front cover to the paid advertisement on the back, and everything in between.

What makes this information relevant to readers of the AP who are not comic book fans is the fact that this reprint also had an extra half-cover with an example of the Superman stamp, canceled with the official first-day-of-issue cancellation.

Gary Dunauer

Flushing, New York

## Society Pursues Historic And Modern Local Posts

I read Wayne Youngblood's February "Collecting Coast to Coast" column with a great deal of interest. Whatever the real story may have been regarding James Jay's local stamps, it sounds like he stirred up quite a hornet's nest!

Although collecting local post stamps may not be a mainstream pursuit even now, I'm thankful that the American Philatelic Society welcomes those who do have an interest in such material. The Local Post Collectors Society (APS Affiliate No. 126) is comprised of individuals who collect local post stamps from the 1800s to modern day, and in many cases, we even create our own!

The LPCS publishes a bimonthly newsletter, *The Poster*, which focuses on local post stamps, especially those issued by modern private or hobby local posts. Membership is only \$20 per year (\$25 per year for international members). You can learn more by visiting [localpostcollectors.org](http://localpostcollectors.org).

Kevin Blackston

Editor, *The Poster*

Local Post Collectors Society

## Mystery of Canadian Cover Solved

In regards to the mystery cached cover from Canada that notes a modern search for the lost Franklin expedition that was shown with Steven Berlin's article on interrupted mail in Alaska, the modern cover is post-

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Shelburne, Vt.



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Laurence Davis  
Evanston, Illinois

"Many thanks for your help in purchasing my lifelong collection. I really had worried about the difficulties in selling the collection, but your professionalism and the very generous offer was and is greatly appreciated. It was a pleasure having you in my home. Please drop in and see me the next time you're in Texas."

Chuck Whitney  
Rockport, Texas

"I would recommend Dr. Bob with any transaction involving philatelic material. He deals in a very up front manner and truly pays a fair price. I was reluctant to sell my stamp collection, but he made the whole process so enjoyable and his offer even exceeded what I thought I would receive. Thanks, Dr. Bob!!"

Brad Peterson  
Waterloo, Iowa

"As you know, Dr. Bob, I have collected stamps since before World War II and have always taken a lot of pride in my collection. You were excellent to work with and I find you to be a very professional individual. I was also pleased with the offer you paid me for the entire collection."

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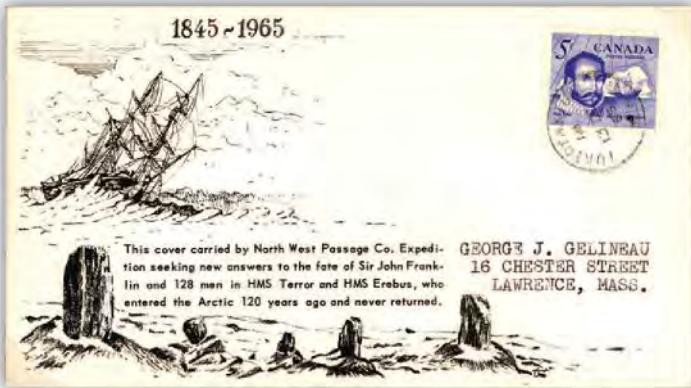
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marked in Tuktoyaktuk on the Beaufort Sea in the Northwest Territories of Canada and honors the expedition of two ships and their sailors who were lost in 1845 while seeking the Northwest Passage. What was missing from the author's cover was the enclosure card that explained the modern cover.

The enclosure says, in part:

This is a cover from the North West Passage Co. expedition into the Central Arctic in search of the grave of Captain John Franklin ... and the 129 souls aboard HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror* that sailed for the Northwest Passage in 1845. It never returned. ...

This cover is offered by Ottawa Cover Regd. In place of the cover(s) you ordered last year from the Passage 7 expedition. ... That expedition failed because its ship, MV



This souvenir cover for a lost excursion by a 19th-century British expedition with the mystery solved.

*Northland Princess*, was blown ashore on the coast of Alaska and suffered damage which prevented her continuing voyage.

The message is signed by Ottawa Cover Regd., Ottawa, a name that is also a mystery to this collector of Canadian first day covers.

Three of these covers were for sale on eBay recently.

**Gary Dickinson**

*Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada*

## Chief of Naval Operations May Have Encouraged Marking

Wayne Youngblood provided yet another interesting article with "A Little Something Extra on That Cover" in the January issue. Figure 10 in that article was a Navy cover and had a rubber stamp reading "The Importance of the Navy is Increasing." I mentioned the article and the cover

## Contact *The American Philatelist*

*Send us a Letter to the Editor by mail to The American Philatelist, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823 or e-mail us at [lettertotheeditor@stamps.org](mailto:lettertotheeditor@stamps.org).*

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*The American Philatelist reserves the right to edit letters for length and content. We are not able to print all of the letters received.*

## CANADA COMPLETE SETS FOUR GREAT SPECIAL OFFERS

Here are four very attractive offers on 1930s - 1940s era Canadian complete sets. All stamps are in fresh well centered never hinged mint condition.

### SPECIAL #285

The last regular issue that appeared during the reign of King George V was this set of eleven from 1935 (Scott #217-227). It was produced by the American Bank Note Company. Each stamp is beautifully engraved. The 10¢ value shows a Royal Canadian Mounted Policeman and has long been a favourite with collectors. List price for a very fine never hinged complete set is \$337.50. My price is just **\$119.95**.

### SPECIAL #286

After the death of King George V a new definitive issue was needed. Five new high values were issued in 1938 (Scott #241-245). The designs depict scenes and buildings across Canada, including two harbours some six thousand kilometres apart - Halifax and Vancouver. I can supply a very fine never hinged mint set for just **\$139.95**. List price is \$360.00.

### SPECIAL #287

The events of World War II influenced this set from 1942. The designs show wartime themes and the King is dressed in the various uniforms of the military. Here is the complete set of fourteen (Scott#249-262). List price for a VF NH set is \$300.00. My price is just **\$129.95**.

### SPECIAL #288

Shortly after the war a new set of high values appeared, showing scenes or industries from various areas of the country (Scott #268-273). Here is the complete set in superb unmounted mint condition. List price in VF NH condition is \$150.00. I can supply the complete set for just **\$59.95**.



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on the Facebook/USCS (Universal Ship Cancellation Society) group page and the rubber stamp that was described as “puzzling” in the caption and “confusing” in the brief write up. One of the members of that group replied that this rubber stamp was encouraged by Admiral Arleigh Burke when he was chief of naval operations, for which he served an unprecedented three terms (1955–1961).

I have also seen reference to the action cited as “Operation Free Passage as Operation Passage to Freedom” which took place in 1954–1955.

**Tom Kean**

Littleton, Colorado

### Disappointed in the Number of Articles About Stamps

I think I am a borderline philatelist. I must be because I find so little of interest in *The American Philatelist*. As I looked through the January 2017 issue, I found not a single article that I cared to read through.

I did read the letters to the editor. In the past I found information that changed my collecting practices. Because of letters, I have banned stamp hinges from new purchases and now mount all stamps in mounts attached to the page with a

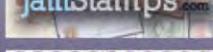
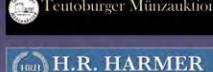
*Letters to the Editor continued on page 276.*



Auxiliary marking related to the importance of the Navy featured in Wayne Youngblood's *Coast to Coast* column in January.



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Jan., Feb., Mar.	\$36.75	\$44.25	\$51.75	\$20.00	\$36.75
Apr., May, Jun.	\$25.50	\$30.00	\$35.50	\$14.25	\$25.50
Jul., Aug., Sept.	\$14.25	\$16.75	\$19.25	\$8.75	\$14.25

<sup>1</sup> Join October–December & membership is valid through December of the following year.

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I was most pleased to meet with your representative who I found to be most knowledgeable about things philatelic. He reviewed my world collection; there was no bickering or a lot of negotiating. Your representative said, "Here's my offer." It met my expectations and he wrote me a check on the spot. Thanks for making the sale so easy and painless. It's sometimes hard to part with something you've worked on for half a century. You made it quite easy.

Sincerely,

*Bob Schauseil*

Robert I. Schauseil  
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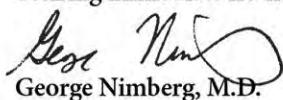
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Dear Mr. Younger:

In disposing of my 30-volume German collection I could have packaged and shipped it to a dealer and then hoped for a prompt and adequate offer while no longer having the collection under my control or, similarly, I could have delivered it for auction where payment is sure to be delayed and material returned as unsold lots. I therefore made an excellent choice in dealing with your firm, whose agent came to my home, evaluated my material without any attempt to belittle it so as to reduce its value. He made a prompt offer for all of it which I accepted. I warmly recommend your firm to other collectors desiring immediate no-hassle service.

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**OUR STORY**



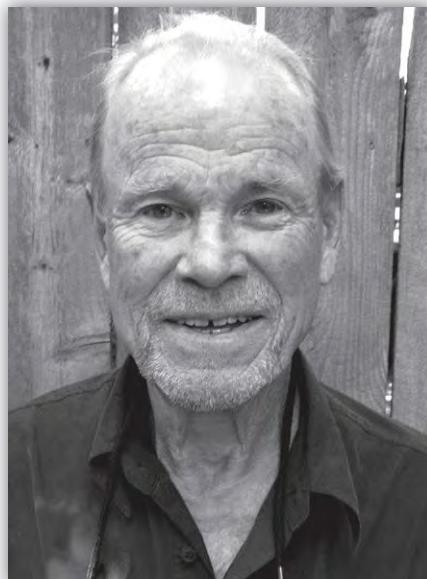
BY SCOTT ENGLISH executive director  
[scott@stamps.org](mailto:scott@stamps.org)

# Rob Haeseler Was Hobby's True Friend

## Pulitzer Prize Nominee Wore Many Hats in the Philatelic World

In January, the collecting world lost another friend in Rob Haeseler. Many members of the American Philatelic Society and the American Philatelic Research Library know Rob for different reasons. He was elected twice as an APRL Board trustee, was a former APS director of administration, chair of the McCoy Reward Committee, and a journalist, exhibitor, dealer in postal history, father, and friend.

Not surprisingly, Rob started his life's adventure working at a stamp store and took work as a rural letter carrier during college Christmas breaks. By the time he received his master's degree from the University of California at Berkeley, Rob was already a reporter at *The Chronicle*



Rob Haeseler.

in San Francisco. In reporting Rob's passing, *The Chronicle* opened with "Detail meant everything to Robin 'Rob' Haeseler — from the natty bow ties he wore even as other journalists went casual, to the jeweler's eye he brought to his editing, to the minute strokes he brushed into his reporting to make it pop." He covered remarkable news of the day, from the attempted assassination of President Gerald Ford to earthquakes to the search for the Unabomber, work which earned him a nomination for the Pulitzer Prize in 1992.

In 1995, the stamp world finally got to take full advantage of Rob's talents when he joined the staff of *Linn's Stamp News* as senior editor and soon regular columnist,



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Auction 309	March 17-18, 2017
Auction 310	May 12-13, 2017
Auction 311	July 14-15, 2017
Auction 312	September 15-16, 2017
Auction 313	November 10-11, 2017

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Excerpts from our 8-Page Price List — Ask for your copy today.

# U.S. Cut Squares Centered

Prices based on Lower 2016 Scott:  
 Fine – 30%–35% • F-VF – 40%–45% • VF – 60%  
 VF-XF – 65% XF – 70% • XF-Superb – 75%  
 Superb – 80% • Full Corners + – 10%

Scott Condition Desc Price  
 U1 VF, Slight toning ..... \$200.00  
 U4 VF/XF-Used ..... \$29.00  
 U6 VF, Tiny crease LR ..... \$2,000.00  
 U12 Fine ..... \$50.00  
 U16 F-VF/Used ..... \$40.00  
 U18 F-VF/Used ..... \$80.00  
 U19 F-VF ..... \$15.00  
 U28 F-VF ..... \$115.00



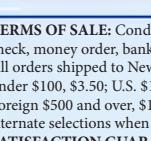
U36 Superb, Jumbo. \$62.00  
 U40 VF, Slight soiling ..... \$22.00  
 U40 Ave/Used ..... \$4.00  
 U46 XF ..... \$35.00  
 U56 VF-XF ..... \$15.00  
 W57 XF, Faint crease \$16.00  
 U58 XF, Jumbo FC ..... \$10.00  
 U59 VF-XF, FC ..... \$7.50  
 U61 F-VF/Used ..... \$13.00  
 U62 VF-XF ..... \$59.00  
 U63 XF ..... \$32.00  
 U68 Just Fine/Used Very faint cancel. \$82.50  
 U70 VF-XF ..... \$55.00  
 U70 Fine/Used, Blue Wells Fargo cancel ..... \$33.50  
 U71 XF ..... \$55.00  
 U71 Fine/Used, Purple Wells Fargo cancel ..... \$33.00  
 U72 Fine ..... \$36.00  
 U72a VF ..... \$57.00



U73 VF ..... \$60.00  
 U74a VF ..... \$35.00  
 U75 VF ..... \$18.00  
 U75 F-VF ..... \$13.50  
 W77 Superb, Jumbo ..... \$35.00  
 W77 Superb, Slight paper bend UR ..... \$32.50  
 U78 F-VF ..... \$16.00  
 U79 VF ..... \$11.50  
 U80 VF ..... \$6.00  
 U85 VF ..... \$14.00  
 U86 XF-Superb ..... \$32.00  
 U86 VF ..... \$22.50  
 U88 F-VF ..... \$25.00



U90 XF, FC ..... \$550.00  
 U91 F-VF/Used ..... \$35.00  
 U93 F-VF ..... \$45.00  
 U97 F-VF ..... \$70.00  
 U98 XF-Sup ..... \$245.00  
 U99 XF-Sup ..... \$95.00  
 U99 F-VF ..... \$57.50  
 U101 XF ..... \$180.00  
 U265 XF ..... \$12.50



U105 Fine, Repaired & stained ..... \$15.00  
 U108 VF/Used ..... \$45.00  
 U111 VF/Used ..... \$11.00  
 U113a XF-Superb, FC ..... \$6.75  
 U114 XF-XF, Natural Ink Error LL—Extra Ink ..... \$5.00  
 U115 XF, FC ..... \$3.75  
 U118 Superb ..... \$7.00  
 U122 Fine+ ..... \$50.00  
 U124, F-VF+, Nice ..... \$75.00  
 U125 XF, FC ..... \$6.50  
 W126VF ..... \$85.00  
 U128 F-VF ..... \$27.50  
 U136 F-VF+ ..... \$22.50  
 U147 XF-Sup, FC ..... \$6.75



## Time Payment Available

U328 Superb, FC ..... \$8.50  
 U329 VF-XF, Full Offset ..... \$8.00  
 U333 XF ..... \$6.50  
 U334 VF-XF ..... \$16.50  
 U335 VF-Sup ..... \$9.00  
 U336 VF-XF ..... \$32.50  
 U338 Superb ..... \$40.00

U436 var VF 2nd 6¢ ovpt inverted at LL, PFC ..... \$150.00  
 U453C XF Entire, Die 1 on Oriental Buff, Genuine surcharge, PFC ..... \$1750.00  
 U462M XF Entire with double impression, 2nd strike on foldover extending to back, PFC ..... \$1,400.00  
 U508A 1 1/4¢ on 1¢ Entire w/PFC mentioning backflap tear opposite side from stamp. Also has very faint vertical bend mark in center. Would make a Superb Jumbo Cut Square if cut. (CV for entire \$5,250.00, for cut square \$3,000.00) ..... Net \$2,600.00  
 U561a 6¢ + 2¢ Status of Liberty legal size entire with inverted surcharge at LL (cv \$225.00) ..... \$175.00



U210 Superb, FC ..... \$160.00  
 U211 XF, FC ..... \$73.50  
 U211 VF ..... \$57.00  
 U216 Superb ..... \$112.00  
 U217 Superb ..... \$129.00  
 U218 VF ..... \$21.00  
 U219 F-VF ..... \$15.00  
 U219 Fine+ ..... \$12.00  
 U224 Superb, FC ..... \$122.50  
 U225 F-VF ..... \$33.00  
 U233 XF ..... \$21.50  
 W235 Superb ..... \$16.00  
 U239 VF ..... \$16.00  
 U243 VF, FC ..... \$85.00  
 U244 VF ..... \$200.00  
 U245 VF, FC ..... \$250.00



U338a VF-XF ..... \$32.50  
 U339a XF-Sup ..... \$37.50  
 U340a VF, FC— Inclusion speck ..... \$20.00  
 U341 VF ..... \$30.00  
 U341a Superb, Jumbo FC ..... \$45.00  
 U343a Superb, FC ..... \$40.00  
 U343 Superb, FC ..... \$60.00  
 U343 VF ..... \$50.00  
 U348-51 XF, FC ..... \$30.00  
 U348-51 VF-XF, FC ..... \$28.00  
 U351 F-VF ..... \$12.50  
 U353 Superb ..... \$4.50  
 U354 XF ..... \$7.50  
 U355 XF ..... \$9.00  
 U359 XF-Sup ..... \$15.00  
 U360 F-VF ..... \$9.00  
 U361 Superb, FC ..... \$55.00  
 U367 XF ..... \$4.50  
 U368 VF-XF ..... \$6.50

U451 VF ..... \$9.00  
 W247 XF, Jumbo— Unfolded flap ..... \$50.00  
 U429b VF-XF, FC ..... \$33.00  
 U432c VF, FC Die 3 ..... \$97.50  
 U436h XF, FC Color Error ..... \$27.00  
 U436h VF, Color error ..... \$20.00  
 U436h F-VF, Color error ..... \$15.00  
 U419 VF ..... \$10.50  
 U420 XF, Jumbo— Unfolded flap ..... \$50.00  
 U490a Superb, FC ..... \$12.00  
 U490b Superb, FC ..... \$35.00  
 U491 XF ..... \$6.50  
 U491b Superb, FC ..... \$110.00  
 U494a Superb, FC— Die 3, PFC ..... \$900.00  
 U495a Superb, FC ..... \$75.00  
 U499 VF-XF ..... \$7.50  
 U500 Superb ..... \$60.00  
 U500 VF-XF, FC ..... \$48.00  
 U500b VF-XF, FC ..... \$35.00  
 U501 Superb, Jumbo FC ..... \$70.00  
 U501 VF, Few natural wrinkles ..... \$25.00  
 U504 XF ..... \$280.00  
 U509B VF-XF, FC ..... \$38.00  
 U513a Superb, FC— Die 4 ..... \$9.00  
 U439g Superb, Carmine color error APS Cert. ..... \$200.00  
 U445 XF, FC ..... \$3.00  
 U446 VF-XF ..... \$10.00  
 U446a Superb, FC ..... \$13.00  
 U447b VF-XF ..... \$9.00  
 U449 XF ..... \$5.25  
 U450 VF ..... \$10.50  
 U451 VF ..... \$9.00

W269 VF-XF ..... \$20.00  
 U270 VF-XF, FC ..... \$90.00  
 U276 F-VF+, FC 33mm x 37mm ..... \$25.00  
 PFC ..... \$525.00  
 U282 Superb, Jumbo ..... \$13.00  
 U284 XF ..... \$6.50  
 U290 VF+, 38mm x 38mm ..... \$600.00  
 U291 VF ..... \$21.00  
 W292 Superb, Jumbo ..... \$7.50



U369 XF, FC ..... \$17.00  
 U370 XF, FC ..... \$11.00  
 U371 F-VF+ ..... \$6.50  
 U372 F-VF ..... \$7.50  
 U456 . VF, Nat. Translucent spot ..... \$145.00  
 U457a VF, Die 5 ..... \$195.00  
 U458f XF, FC—Double ovpt 1 magenta ..... \$85.00  
 U459 Superb, FC— Double ovpt ..... \$30.00  
 U461e XF, FC ..... \$16.00  
 U463 XF, FC—PSAG Cert ..... \$950.00  
 U465a XF-Sup, Die 3, Type 4 ..... \$1,150.00  
 U470e Superb ..... \$72.00  
 U471e Superb, FC— Jumbo ..... \$150.00  
 U472 XF ..... \$10.50  
 U473 F-VF+ ..... \$8.00



AIRMAILS  
 UC1 XF-Sup ..... \$2.50  
 UC2 VF-XF, FC Border B ..... \$7.50  
 UC7 VF-XF ..... \$8.00  
 UC9 XF-Sup, FC ..... \$30.00  
 UC11 XF-Sup, FC ..... \$7.50  
 UC27 VF-XF ..... \$150.00  
 UC28 Superb, FC ..... \$60.00  
 UC29 Superb, FC ..... \$30.00  
 UC37a Superb, FC— Tagged ..... \$3.00  
 OFFICIALS  
 UO2 XF ..... \$14.00  
 UO5 VF-XF ..... \$7.50  
 UO6 F-VF ..... \$60.00  
 UO12 Superb, 10 1/2 mm ..... \$12.00  
 UO12 F-VF+ ..... \$6.50  
 UO15 VF ..... \$120.00  
 UO15 F-VF ..... \$90.00  
 UO67 XF, FC ..... \$140.00

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## U.S. SCARCE AND ERROR POSTAL STATIONARY ENTRIES

U436 var VF 2nd 6¢ ovpt inverted at LL, PFC ..... \$150.00  
 U453C XF Entire, Die 1 on Oriental Buff, Genuine surcharge, PFC ..... \$1750.00  
 U462M XF Entire with double impression, 2nd strike on foldover extending to back, PFC ..... \$1,400.00  
 U508A 1 1/4¢ on 1¢ Entire w/PFC mentioning backflap tear opposite side from stamp. Also has very faint vertical bend mark in center. Would make a Superb Jumbo Cut Square if cut. (CV for entire \$5,250.00, for cut square \$3,000.00) ..... Net \$2,600.00  
 U561a 6¢ + 2¢ Status of Liberty legal size entire with inverted surcharge at LL (cv \$225.00) ..... \$175.00  
 UC35b 11¢ Airletter missing blue, PFC ..... \$1100.00  
 UC42a 13¢ Human Rights Year Airletter missing Orange, PFC (cv \$1,000.00) ..... \$750.00  
 UC42c 13¢ Human Rights Year Airletter missing Black, PFC (cv \$800.00) ..... \$575.00  
 UO72 2¢ carmine Postal Savings on white legal envelope ..... \$15.00  
 UO72a 2¢ carmine Postal Savings on Manila envelope Error. Scarce! (cv \$1,900.00) ..... \$1,750.00  
 UXCl a 4¢ Deep red airmail Postal Card, slight wmk. ..... \$195.00



U571a 10¢ Compass Rose Legal size entire missing brown ..... \$75.00  
 U605e 20¢ Paralyzed Veterans Entire missing black color ..... \$175.00  
 U619b 29¢ Star VF Legal entire missing rose, with tagging, (cv \$350.00) ..... \$250.00  
 U642g 33¢ Wavy Flag VF Legal entire missing red, unpriced in Scott. APS Cert, Price base on similar entire selling at auction ..... \$450.00  
 UC23var 6¢ Centennial entire with double surcharge, one inverted at LL, Clean and Fresh! Weiss Cert. ..... \$450.00  
 UC35a 11¢ Airletter missing red, PFC ..... \$850.00  
 UO16 F-VF, Light Blue ..... \$100.00  
 UO16 F-VF, Blue, minor soiling ..... \$65.00  
 UO16 Fine, Light Blue—(small) ..... \$50.00  
 UO17 VF, FC ..... \$5.75  
 UO19 F-VF+, 32mm x 35.5mm, PFC ..... \$975.00  
 UO20 XF ..... \$42.50  
 UO20 VF-XF ..... \$40.00  
 UO51 Superb, Jumbo FC ..... \$70.00  
 UO51 VF, Few natural wrinkles ..... \$25.00  
 U504 XF ..... \$280.00  
 U509B VF-XF, FC ..... \$38.00  
 U513a Superb, FC— Die 4 ..... \$9.00  
 U481b XF ..... \$50.00  
 U490a Superb, FC ..... \$12.00  
 U490b Superb, FC ..... \$35.00  
 U491 XF ..... \$6.50  
 U491b Superb, FC ..... \$110.00  
 U494a Superb, FC— Die 3, PFC ..... \$900.00  
 U495a Superb, FC ..... \$75.00  
 U499 VF-XF ..... \$7.50  
 U500 Superb ..... \$60.00  
 U500 VF-XF, FC ..... \$48.00  
 U500b VF-XF, FC ..... \$35.00  
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 U494a Superb, FC— Die 3, PFC ..... \$900.00  
 U495a Superb, FC ..... \$75.00  
 U499 VF-XF ..... \$7.50  
 U500 Superb ..... \$60.00  
 U500 VF-XF, FC ..... \$48.00  
 U500b VF-XF, FC ..... \$35.00  
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 U501 VF, Few natural wrinkles ..... \$25.00  
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 U509B VF-XF, FC ..... \$38.00  
 U513a Superb, FC— Die 4 ..... \$9.00  
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 U495a Superb, FC ..... \$75.00  
 U499 VF-XF ..... \$7.50  
 U500 Superb ..... \$60.00  
 U500 VF-X

The Artful Accumulator. His investigative work yielded articles on all sorts of stamp mysteries, informing and entertaining readers for a decade. Rob joined the staff of the APS in 2005 and serving as director of administration and then, joining the ranks of dealer and getting elected to the APRL Board of Trustees twice — leaving the Board just last August.

One of his dearest friends, former APS Vice President Ken Lawrence, said of his stamp business, "That was Rob's retirement career, but really it was his hobby. What kind of successful businessman would spend two hours at the American Philatelic Research Library researching a \$10 cover? But his ability to discover interesting postal history that eluded other dealers, and to explain it fully to his customers, was the secret to his success."

One of the more entertaining stories was Rob's non-traditional way of acquiring stock. Lawrence confided, "Being an enthusiast, book author, and expert on the subject of collectible automobiles, he attended conventions of car collectors where he wore sandwich boards that bore the message 'I Buy Old Letters.' Every time he and I went to lunch, he brought along recently acquired philatelic treasures to share with me, all of them destined for some other happy collector's album." It speaks volumes to the passion he felt for his hobby and his fellow collectors.

For all his accomplishments, Rob's lasting legacy was



Inverted Jenny stamp,  
Position 76.

spearheading the effort to reintroduce the world to the story of Ethel McCoy and the missing Inverted Jenny stamps. Though the McCoy Block is, hopefully, well known to our members today, it was under Rob's leadership on the APRL Board and as chair of the McCoy Recovery Committee that the story gained new life and visibility, not only within the stamp community but the world.

Rob and Ken worked to promote the missing stamps from the McCoy Block in 2014 and 2015, and thanks to a generous pledge from Don Sundman, of Mystic Stamp Company of a \$50,000 reward for the return of each stamp, we were able to get the story out to a whole new audience. That work yielded incredible results when, in June 2016, Position 76 was returned safely to the APRL in a memorable ceremony at the World Stamp Show-NY 2016.

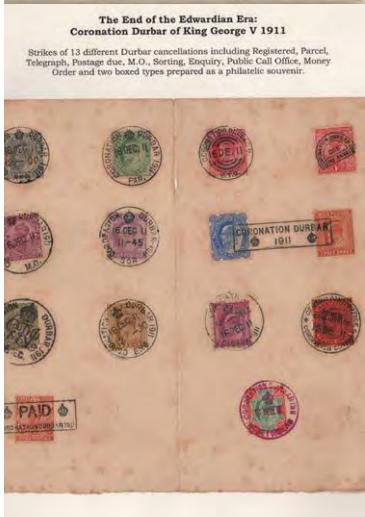
We will be putting the stamp up for sale in 2017 and when the hammer comes down on Position 76, Rob's efforts will have given the stamp world and the library another reason to celebrate. There will be more said about Rob by friends in the weeks, months, and years to come. We remain grateful that he was willing and able to give so much of his talent, insight, and great spirit to the hobby. Farewell Rob!

## Membership 2016

At the close of 2016, our membership change for the year was a loss of 541. That overall change for the year is the lowest

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 San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel,  
 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame, California



**Eight Steps to a Great Exhibit**  
*with Steven Zwillinger*  
 May 6 during Philatelic Show 2017  
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Bob Prager

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**#315 Variety.** 5c Blue Imperforate, U.S. Automatic Vending Company Coil, Type III Line Pair, Extremely Rare, 100% Sound. This Pair Last Sold in a R.A.S. Rarities Of The World Sale Back in 1988. At That Time it Sold for a Hammer Price of \$1,450 (Total Paid \$1,595) When the Scott Value Was Only \$1,350. The Scott Value Now, Which is in Italics, is \$2,250. Through Research, We Approximate that Fewer Than 12 Examples Have Been Certified as Genuine. We Believe That the One We are Offering is Among the Top 3-4. With a 1992 Philatelic Foundation Certificate & a 2017 PSE Cert.

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**#351.** 5c Blue Coil, Mint NH Guide Line Pair, Intense Shade and Detailed Impression, Outstanding Centering and Margins. Extremely Fine-Superb Gem, a Truly Beautiful Mint NH Guide Line Pair of the 5-Cent Perf 12 Double-Line Watermark Vertical Coil, Which Has Been Awarded the Grade of XF-Superb by PSE.

SMQ \$8,000

Our List Price is \$7,500  
Our Special Ad Price \$7,150



**#296a.** 4c Pan-American Center Inverted Unused, Remarkably Choice Centering, Sharp Impressions with Two Hardly Noticeable Surface Scruffs and a Thin Spot at Bottom. This is by Far One of the Best Centered #296a We've Handled Over the Last 30+ Years of Being in This Business. With 1974 & 2015 PF Certs.

SCV \$85,000 (For Stamps  
With Disturbed O.G.)  
Our Price \$17,500  
(Lay Away Possible)



**#193.** 2c Black Brown Special Printing, Without Gum as Issued, Deep Rich Color and Detailed Impression, One Perforation Repair at Bottom Right Corner. A Fine-Very Fine Appearing Example of the 2-Cent 1880 American Bank Note Company Special Printing. "Scarce!" (There are Only 48 Recorded Certified Examples.) With a 2006 PF Cert.

SCV \$19,000  
Our List Price \$9,000  
Our Special Ad Price \$8,150



Gary Posner



**#196.** 7c Scarlet Vermilion Special Printing, Without Gum as Issued, Vibrant Color, Wide Margins to Just Clear, Fresh and Fine Example of the 1880 7-Cent American Bank Note Company Special Printing. "100% Sound!" There are Approximately 80 Certified Examples. (Ex Perry Hansen Where It Hammered in 2008 at R.A.S. Auctions for \$3,750 (Plus 15% for a Total Paid \$4,125). With a 2008 PF Certificate.

SCV \$8,000  
Our Special Ad Price  
\$3,650



**#C6.** 24c Carmine 1923 Air Post, Mint NH, Brilliant Color on Bright Paper, Wide Margins, Extremely Fine Gem with 2013 PSE Cert (XF-Superb 95; SMQ \$450.00).

Our Price \$400



**#RW1.** \$1.00 1934 Hunting Permit, Mint NH, Beautifully Centered with Exceptionally Wide & Balanced Margins All Around, Wonderfully Fresh Color on Bright Paper. Extremely Fine Mint NH Example of the 1934 \$1.00 Hunting Permit Stamp, Which Has Been Graded Extra Fine 90J (Jumbo) Never Hinged by the PSE..

SMQ \$1,550 Special Ad Price \$1,350



**#Q10.** 50c Parcel Post, Mint NH, Brilliant Color on Bright Paper, Beautiful Centering with Wide and Balanced Margins. Extremely Fine-Superb Gem. A Beautiful Mint NH Example of the 50-Cent Parcel Post. This is the Most Difficult Denomination to Obtain in Such Choice Condition. With 1999 PF and 2008 PSE Cert. XF-Superb 95J NH (JUMBO).

SMQ \$3,750  
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## Welcome to our 20<sup>th</sup> auction April 3-4, 2017



Moon letter of the Apollo 15 mission  
with original Worden's, Scott's and Irwin's signatures



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membership loss since 1997 when the APS gained 27 members over the previous year. One of the biggest contributors to the improved performance was the largest number of applications for membership (1,700) since 2008, the year of the Great Recession. Our retention rate holds strong, capped by high renewal numbers to start 2017.

While we aren't celebrating losing members, I have heard from so many of you who say we should celebrate progress, even if we're not there yet. There are many active contributors to the progress: Judy Johnson, our manager of Member Administration, is leading our team to serve and recruit stamp dealers who promote the APS to customers; local stamp clubs have worked hard this past year to make the APS a hot topic at their meetings; and most importantly, there is you.

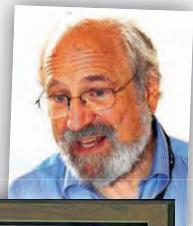
Members remain our strongest recruiters and your endorsement carries weight with a potential member. The top reason why people join an organization is because they were asked. If you have a friend or a loved one who you think would enjoy being a part of the APS, recommend us today.

### Bloom to Receive Century Award

Along the lines of members being the best recruiters, the APS was due to recognize a top recruiter at AmeriStamp Expo in Reno, Nevada. Michael Bloom, who just recently took office as a director-at-large on the APS Board of Directors has added another element of accomplishment. For those of you who travel to stamp shows, you may have met Michael at the StampBuddy booth, which welcomes newcomers to the show and the hobby and helps them navigate the booths and answer questions about stamp collecting. Though the goal is to give newcomers a welcome experience into the show and the hobby, it also yields results for the APS in new members.

The APS first awarded the Century Award in 1978 to recognize those who successfully recruited 100 new members. It does not have to be in one year, but over your membership in the APS. Michael is the first person to earn the award since 2013 and is only the sixth person to receive this award in the past decade. For those of you who take note, David Hoover has been recruiting actively for the past decade and is very close to earning the Century Award. Hopefully, we will be able to add him in 2017 to the list.

If you would like to learn more about the Century Award, you can go to our website at: [stamps.org/century-awards](http://stamps.org/century-awards) to see all the members who have been recognized. We will be looking at other recruitment recognitions with the Membership Committee and if you have recommendations on ways to recognize great recruitment efforts, please feel free to contact me at [scott@stamps.org](mailto:scott@stamps.org) or send me a letter. Thanks to all of you for working so hard on behalf of the APS, APRL, and the hobby!



Michael Bloom and the Century Award he received in March.

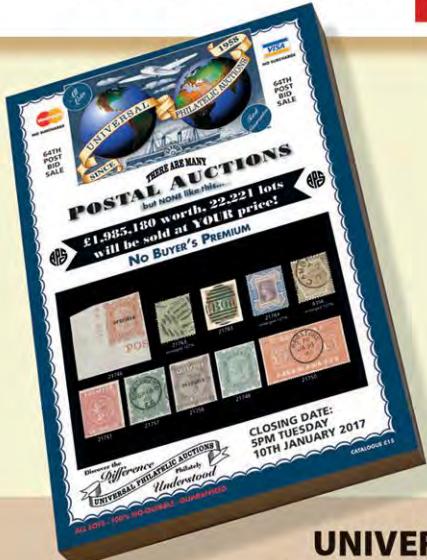
# New United Kingdom Stamp Auction Record

The Results for  
UPA #63 Auction  
11th October 2016:

Different bidders:	<b>NEW UK RECORD</b>	<b>2,311</b>
Lots Sold:		<b>9,690</b>
% Successful bidders:		<b>90%</b>
New Bidders: ( <i>First \$69 Free</i> )		<b>268</b>
Postfree qualified bidders ( <i>Excl Heavy lots</i> )		<b>2,307</b>
Packages despatched: ( <i>Including unsold lot sales</i> )		<b>2,324</b>
Bidders from different Countries:		<b>57</b>

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# The Belgian Congo Series of 1894

## A Belgian King's Imperialist Designs Upon the Heart of Africa

This month we are looking at some beautifully engraved stamps from the Belgian Congo, which were printed and used even before there was a country by that name. You don't have to grab your machete and trudge miles along overgrown jungle paths deep into the center of a continent to find these gems or become a bit confused about them. Central Africa (and its stamps) can be a bewildering place.

These handsome stamps are listed in catalogs under the Belgian Congo, even though the area was known as the Congo Free State when the stamps were issued. We will try to sort this out as simply as possible.

Today, the Democratic Republic of Congo, which gained independence in 1960, takes up a good part of the region, with only a small western tip touching an ocean coastline. Most of the country bulges inland. Its neighbors include Central African Republic (to the north); Uganda and Tanzania (to the east); Zambia (to the south); and the Republic of Congo (to the west). Prior to that, the area was Belgian Congo (1908–1960), a formal colony of Belgium.

Before that, when these stamps were issued, there was the Congo Free State (1885–1908). Well, that sounds good, right? Stepping back just a little further ...

In the 19th century, as now, the banks of the Congo River were inhabited by a variety of different Bantu (300 to 600 ethnic groups) and a lesser number of Pygmies (a dozen groups). Because it is part of the interior of the continent, the Central African Basin was one of the last parts of Africa to be reached by explorers, missionaries and commercial interests.

From 1879 to 1884, an expedition financed by King Leopold II led by Welsh-born naturalized American Henry Morton Stanley was launched to secure the territory for Leopold



The original set of six bi-color Belgian Congo stamps of 1894 (Scott 14, 17, 20, 22, 24, and 26). The stamps show different designs of local scenery and people.



**Issue Date:** 1894–1901

**1917 Scott 14–26 Values:**  
\$11.70 mint, \$6.33 used

**2017 Scott 14–26 Values:**  
\$587.25 mint, \$119.95 used

**1917 Scott 27–28 Values:**  
\$0.28 mint, \$0.23 used  
**2017 Scott 27–28 Values:**  
\$10.50 mint, \$5.25 used

**1917 Scott 29–30 Values:**  
\$1.05 mint, \$0.35 used  
**2017 Scott 29–30 Values:**  
\$360 mint, \$195 used

**Hard to Find?:**  
(scale of 1 easy and 5 difficult)



**On StampStore.org?** Most individual stamps available, no sets

**Perforation Gauge:**  
Perforations gauge 11 to 16 with many at 14, 14½, and 15

**Quantity:**  
Quantities provided in chart within article

**Printer:**  
Mostly by Waterlow and Sons of London

**Measurements:**  
Horizontal 1 15/32 inches by 1 inch (33 millimeters by 25mm)

## FAST STATS



II. Yes, that's the same Stanley who in 1871 is credited with the oft-repeated quote, "Dr. Livingstone, I presume," upon locating David Livingstone, who had been "missing" for four years in Africa. (Some reports state Stanley regretted these words — which he perhaps invented long after the actual meeting — for the rest of his life, being mercilessly mocked by society and the press. He said later that when the two Europeans met he was so tired he could not think of anything

else to say.) Based on Stanley's expedition, Leopold II formed his own organization as an individual, not as the king of Belgium, with purely mercenary intentions believing rightly that the Congo would be rich in natural resources and therefore income. Despite the humanitarian claims of "the Association Internationale du Congo" it was largely a front for commercial speculation.

At the time, the Belgian government had rejected large colonial projects as too high risk. Leopold II was economically successful in his gamble, his intentions becoming clear in the 1885 Colonial Powers Conference of Berlin, where control of the Congo was awarded to the "Association Internationale du Congo."

In 1886, now with the wider support of his government, Leopold II established the Congo Free State ruled by himself. The "Free State" in the name was certainly an understated misnomer to the native population which suffered immensely under the harsh rule of the king. Leopold gained access to the area rich in minerals, rubber, and ivory. Many atrocities ensued with contemporary works by Joseph Conrad and Arthur Conan Doyle among others exposing them.

Under Leopold's rule, the Congo Free State gained its first stamps.

The first issue of 1886 was a side-portrait of the king looking to the left, and between 1887 and 1894, a new full-portrait issue.

In 1894, a series of bi-colored engraved stamps were produced showing scenes of the Congo. These are known collectively as the "Mols," because the engraved designs are based on a diorama exhibition created by Robert Mols and Piet van Engelen. The Mols stamps all have brightly colored frames with black vignettes. Most of the Mols were printed by Waterlow and Sons of London, England.

The Scott catalogs and others break these colorful stamps into three groups. The first,

and largest, are 13 stamps from 1894 to 1901 with denominations from 5 cents to 5 francs (Scott 14–26). These have six face designs: Port Matadi; River Scene on the Congo — Stanley Falls; Inkissi Falls; Railroad Bridge on M'pozo River; Hunting Elephants; and Bangala Chief and Wife.

A set of two in 1896 (Scott 27–28) added median values of 15 and 40 cents. The designs are Climbing Oil Palms and



The 1901 issued stamp (Scott 25).

#### BELGIUM CONGO SCOTT 14–30 DETAILS

Scott No.	Denomination	Color (black plus ...)	Quantity
14	5c	pale blue	30,000
15	5c	reddish-brown	270,000
16	5c	green	450,000
17	10c	reddish brown	30,000
18	10c	greenish blue	240,000
19	10c	carmine	424,000
20	25c	yellow-orange	150,000
21	25c	light blue	252,000
22	50c	green	240,000
23	50c	olive	344,000
24	1fr	lilac	120,000
25	1fr	carmine	172,000
26	5fr	lake	53,000
27	15c	ocher	934,000
28	40c	bluish-green	234,000
29	3.5fr	red	23,000
30	10fr	yellow-green	85,000



The two stamps from 1895 (Scott 15 and 18).



The four stamps issued in 1900 (Scott 16, 19, 21, and 23).

These have six face designs: Port Matadi; River Scene on the Congo — Stanley Falls; Inkissi Falls; Railroad Bridge on M'pozo River; Hunting Elephants; and Bangala Chief and Wife.

A set of two in 1896 (Scott 27–28) added median values of 15 and 40 cents. The designs are Climbing Oil Palms and



Two additional bi-color stamps from 1896 (Scott 27–28).

#### Specialized Catalog for Reference:

COB-OBP België Officiële Belgische Postzegelcatalogus (Belgique Catalogue Official de Timbres Postes), in Flemish and French. Published annually.

**Specialty Societies:**

American Belgian Philatelic Society (APS #AF0138), promotes all philatelic aspects of Belgium and its former colonies. Produces The Belgophile, a quarterly, and a directory. Annual dues \$16. Contact: Edward O. deBary, 11 Wakefield Drive 2105, Asheville, NC 28803; e-mail: edwardqdeb@gmail.com.



Two more bi-color stamps from 1898 (Scott 29–30).

Congo Canoe, respectively.

A final pair in 1898 (Scott 29–30) printed by Waterlow Bros. and Layton of London added two more high values, 3.50 and 10 francs. The designs are Congo Village and River Steamer on the Congo, respectively. These are the final two stamps printed as the Congo Free State.

The perforations range from gauge 11 to 16, with the most common being 14, 14½ and 15.

In 1908, corruption by those in control and international outrage over the country's misrule led to the Belgian government assuming control of the Belgian Congo and making it formally a Belgian Colony.

To denote the change, existing stamp stocks inscribed "Etat Indépendant du Congo" were overprinted "Congo Belge" by handstamp.

The central designs (vignettes) continued for nearly 30 years with new frames, denominations, surcharges, and overprints. The vignettes of these stamps illustrate local scenes, people, and transportation. Forgeries of some stamps do exist and are arguably scarcer than some issues themselves.

The Congo gained its independence in 1960. Dogged by civil war and an unrest that continues today, its history as an independent country has been as dark as its colonial past.

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Overprints were created from existing stock in 1908 when the Congo Free State ended and the Belgian government took official control (clockwise, Scott 33, 31, 38).

— Paid Advertisement —



### David Bizé Jr. (1926-2016)

David Nicholas Bizé Jr. a respected stamp researcher and exhibitor passed away in Sun City West, Arizona as a result of cancer. David had recently celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with family and friends.

David's great grandfather, Jean Paul Bizé emigrated from Nantes, France in 1886 to their family homestead in Julian, Nebraska.

Proud of his military service, David served in the army during World War II. After his service, he returned to his home in Lincoln, Nebraska where he took a job at the Post Office working his way up to Postmaster.

David was an avid stamp collector. He was a long-time member and Judge Emeritus of the American Philatelic Society and a member in good standing in many other philatelic associations including the United States Stamp Society, the American Air Mail Society, a Life Member of the Lincoln, Nebraska Stamp Club, and founding member of the Beacon Study Group.

David had a special interest in the "Beacon" (U.S. Scott C11) and the "Eagle" (U.S. Scott C23) air mail stamps. His exhibits on these issues received many World Series of Philately awards including a Grand, several Golds and many Special Awards including the American Philatelic Society Award for research and was the first recipient of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Title Page Excellence Award. He also authored several papers for the American Philatelic Research Library documenting his extensive research on the stamps he loved.

David is survived by his son David III and wife Susan, daughter Chelle Bizé Yarbough and husband Chet, granddaughter Nicolette Bizé Wiley and husband Richard and great granddaughter Haydn Wiley.

He will be greatly missed by all including his many friends and stamp community acquaintances. His life was celebrated at a remembrance gathering at the Heritage Traditions in Sun City West, Arizona and was interred at the Wyuka Cemetery in Nebraska City, Nebraska alongside Barbara his loving wife of 54 years.

## LATIN AMERICA

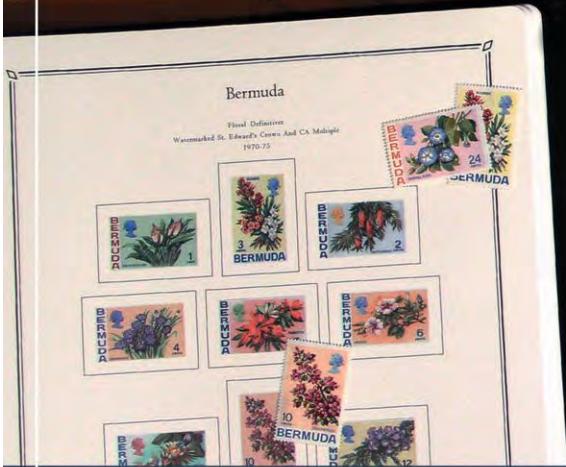
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# Is a Postal Marking Ever Truly Obsolete?

## Devices Lying Around in Clerks' Drawers Fill the Need in a Pinch

When “reading” covers for the information they provide regarding mail processing and delivery, we all encounter postal markings and postmarks that aren’t immediately or easily explained. If we are lucky, we are occasionally able to figure them out. In some cases these markings may represent obsolete markings pulled out of the deep, dark recesses of postal drawers; in others, they may represent devices not originally intended to cancel mail. Still others may be an intended postmark of sorts — albeit an arcane use. Always, however, these items represent interesting and unusual postal history that is definitely collectible and frequently worth having their stories told. This month we’ll examine a few obsolete markings.

### Obsolete Markings

When I was a kid, I used to marvel at all the stuff crammed into my local postmaster’s drawer — everything from long-out-of-use stamps to various auxiliary marking devices and other postal detritus. And then there were the postmarking devices; those lovely items showing the development of my home town through its postmarks. He had several and, at the

time, my home town was still fewer than 100 years old, in terms of having a post office (it opened in 1881). Think, then, what postal drawers in some East Coast post offices must have contained during the early- to mid-20th century (or even earlier)! These items are occasionally resurrected from “retirement” when the need arises or another device cannot be located. Occasionally, we are fortunate enough to find a few of these used on cover.

Arguably, the most common form of obsolete postal marking seen on later covers includes a number of postage due “Due” markings. Now, it can be argued that a postage due marking is truly never “obsolete,” but the type font and marking style of a device pulled out of a deep drawer is unmistakable as a non-current marking. Such is the case with three covers arriving at New York’s Union Square 1941–42 [Figure 1]. Each bears the then-current Defense issue of 1940, as well as contemporaneous postage due issues. However, the “Due 1,” “Due 2” and “Due 3” markings all appear to be from the previous century (evident also from the wear). These truly look like they were salvaged. Other similar markings are occasionally found on covers from Boston and Philadelphia us-

Figure 1. These covers each bear a postage due marking that appears as though it was salvaged from the bottom of a postal clerk's drawer. They resemble markings used during the late 19th century.



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**C.G.**

ing circled "Due" markings of various denominations.

Another odd example of an older device being pressed into service is shown [Figure 2], on a December 5, 1887, cov-



Figure 2. The circled "10" marking used as a killer in this 1887 cancel is a type that was in use during the early 1860s. The postmark is from Water Valley, New York.



Figure 3. Although this postal card may not have been mailed, it was canceled with an original August 8, 1887, Conesus Centre, New York, steel cancellation device.

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er from Water Valley, New York (14 miles south of Buffalo), utilizing a circled "10" marking that appears very similar to one in use during 1861. The marking, inverted, is used as a killer for the stamped envelope. [The marking was found in *United States Cancellations, 1845-1869: Unusual and Representative Markings* (1980), by Hubert C. Skinner and Amos Eno, American Philatelic Society, Louisiana Heritage Press of New Orleans. It is catalog No. NS-J 27.]

Among the most unusual obsolete markings I have seen is the 1958 3-cent Liberty postal card shown [Figure 3]. Although there is no evidence the card was actually mailed, it was canceled with two strikes of a steel Conesus Centre, New York (another western New York locale) marking, dated August 8, 1887. The sender, who noted the recipient might "get a kick out of this postmark," obviously had access to the original Money Order Branch cancellation device.

One of the most fascinating postal markings to me has always been the "Way" marking. Way letters, most of which traveled at least part of the way outside the mail system, were picked up and delivered by a route carrier or mailman — long before rural routes were officially established.

Some Way letters date back to Colonial times, but became official in 1794, when postal carriers were entitled to a 1-cent fee for picking up such a designated letter, in addition to whatever postage was assessed. The fee was abolished in 1853, although the service continued for another decade (until 1863). The Way marking itself, in use primarily between the 1830s-60s, may be either hand-stamped or written in manuscript. Most of the earlier ones are manuscript.

Even though Way mail was officially abolished in 1863, the 1866 *Postal Laws and Regulations* still defined Way mail as follows:

Chapter 41, Section 468 (Page 71): "Way letters are such letters as a mail-carrier receives on his way between two post offices. The carrier will deliver them to the first post office at which he arrives. The postmaster will

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Figure 4. The circled "Way" marking on the upper-left corner of this cover seems out of place until it is studied a bit.

rate them with postage, writing against the rate the word "Way."

Section 469: "It is the duty of a mail-carrier to receive and convey a letter, (and the money or a stamp of suitable denomination for its postage when tendered,) if delivered to him more than a mile from a post office, and to hand it, with the money or stamp, into the first post office at which he arrives. A penalty of fifty dollars attaches on failure to do so."

Way mail did continue, and an occasional item, such as

the one shown [Figure 4], pops up. The "Way" marking was applied at upper left and matches the type listed in Skinner and Eno's catalog as type PM-W 6, documented as in use between 1851–61. The postmark on the cover, tying a Type II First Bureau (Scott 266), from San Francisco, California, is dated August 3, 1895.

Oddly, the darker of the two receiving marks on the cover's reverse, also both San Francisco, is dated August 2. The other one is dated August 3 (6:30 a.m.). All three markings are from visibly different devices.

The mystery deepens when the enclosed letter, a chatty missive from the recipient's sister, is examined.

The letter, dated July 28, 1895, is from Tea, Missouri, a tiny community in Gasconade County in central Missouri that has never had a post office.

Based on the originating location and postmark date, it is likely the stamped letter was carried privately to San Francisco, then given to a carrier, who then took it back to his post office, where the August 2 receiving mark was applied (at 11:30 p.m.). The following morning (at 5:30 a.m.), a post office employee probably noticed the stamp was not canceled and postmarked the cover before sending it on. The final, August 3 "received" marking (an hour later, at 6:30 a.m.) was likely added at whatever station was nearest the recipient's address.

Next month we will take a look at a few markings that should never have appeared as cancellations.

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Papers are due by September 1, 2018. Accepted proposals must result in papers of 4500–5500 words, including bibliographic material, citations, and image titles. The articles must be formatted according to the guidelines of the Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press. Images should be placed and discussed within the text and image permissions must be acquired. Writers will have the opportunity to revise their papers after the symposium and before the papers are considered for publication.

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## —CATALOGING U.S. STAMPS—

BY CHARLES POSNER

# The Old Man of the Mountains (Scott 1068)



United States 3-cent The Old Man of the Mountains commemorative stamp.

### The Making of the Stamp

**O**n May 3, 2003, the famous stone face known as the Old Man of the Mountains, the Profile, or the Great Stone Face, collapsed into dust and rubble. (Right away we'll tell you that we'll discuss the debate between "mountains" or "mountain" a bit later.) For residents of New Hampshire the craggy outcropping, no matter referred to in the singular or plural, was an important symbol of their state. It was the official emblem of the state and appeared on license plates and road signs. It was a popular tourist attraction and the theme of many stories and legends. It was claimed that the first European-Americans "discovered" it in 1805, meaning that had it survived until the year 2005, the discovery would have presented the opportunity for a bicentennial.

In the pages of the June 2003 edition of *Scott Stamp Monthly*, Kathleen Wunderly discussed its past portrayal in postage stamps and suggested that no such celebration could take place ("U.S. stamps take on new meaning: The 'Old Man' Is

No More," *Scott Stamp Monthly*, June 2003). Perhaps there were no such plans because the Great Stone Face had already figured on postage stamps in 1955 and 1988, to mark the sesquicentennial of its discovery and New Hampshire's ratification of the Constitution, respectively.

Behind the collapse is a sad irony. As Wunderly pointed out, the 1955 stamp was only issued after a 20-year-long battle to have a stamp representative in some way of New Hampshire. Residents and entrepreneurs anxious to hawk the delight of a

New Hampshire holiday felt neglected. The story of how they overcame resistance is a good example of how the mobilization of a community, particularly with the unconditional backing of its major businesses and political leaders, can be effective. Yet even such a powerful coalition cannot overcome the forces of nature. Wunderly's article revisits that story. It starts in 1934.

Henry Wilder Keyes (1863–1938) — husband of the writer Frances Parkinson Keyes (1885–1970), and a cattle breeder, bank president, one-time governor, and later senator for New

### 3-CENT THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAINS COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

**Date of Issue:** June 21, 1955  
**First-day site:** Franconia, New Hampshire  
**First-day covers serviced:** 330,630  
**Scott catalog number:** 1068  
**Designer:** Alice Ericson Cosgrove  
**Modeler:** William Karl Schrage  
**Vignette engraver:** Richard M. Bower  
**Frame engraver:** John Edmondson  
**Letter engraver:** John Edmondson  
**Color:** Green  
**Format:** Electric eye plates of 200 divided into four post office panes of 50 by horizontal gutters — arranged 10 horizontally by 5 vertically  
**Perforation:** Gauge 10.5 x 11  
**Size:** 0.84 x 1.44 inches (21.34 x 36.58mm)  
**Printing:** Bureau of Engraving and Printing on Stickney rotary presses  
**Quantity:** 125,944,400  
**Varieties:** Over-inked; vertical and horizontal perforation shifts

Hampshire — heard that the Post Office Department intended to issue a series of postage stamps in honor of the National Parks system. He immediately requested that the Old Man of the Mountains be included in the series. He further maintained that New Hampshire did not figure on any stamp that had been issued until that time. His suggestion was doomed to failure because the monument, being part of Franconia Notch State Park, by definition came under the jurisdiction of the state of New Hampshire and not that of the federal government; thus it was not a national park.

Not until 1955 did an opportunity for such a stamp appear. New Hampshire's two senators — Norris Henry Cotton (1900–1989) and Henry Styles Bridges (1898–1961), the successor to Keyes — teaming up with Governor Seymour Lane Dwinell (1906–1997), claimed that 1955 marked the sesquicentennial of the discovery of the famed profile. As Wunderly pointed out, they seemed to have forgotten that prior to that time Native Americans often camped beside the waters of Profile Lake, where fishing was excellent. Obviously their gaze could not avoid the craggy rock face. Indeed, according to legend they worshiped the profile until the aptly named seer Falling Mountain said it was a symbol of their doom graven in the rocks of *waumbeket mechna* (the White Mountains).

But was 1955 really the sesquicentennial year? There are at least three stories about how European Americans discovered the great stone face. The first is that a party sent out to rescue the kidnapped John Stark (1728–1822), later the hero of the Battle of Bennington, discovered the Profile in 1752 while pursuing his Abenaki captors along the Pemigewasset Trail. The second is that according to local folklore, a Baptist minister from the nearby town of Lisbon stopped on his travels to converse with a man cutting down shrubbery on a knoll by Lake Profile and, glancing skywards as ministers of the cloth sometimes did, beheld the Old Man. The third is that in 1805, two men, Francis Whitcomb and Luke Brooks — surveying the area for Enoch Colby (1702–1780) — went out to hunt partridge for their breakfast. Looking up, they saw the impressive



**Profile Lake with a man rowing a canoe and Old Man of the Mountains in the background, circa 1900–1920. Image courtesy of the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C.**

two senators and the two representatives to whom the state was entitled — Chester Earl Merrow (1906–1974) and Perkins Bass (1912–2011) — mobilized to launch the ultimately successful campaign for a postage stamp.

On February 11, Assistant Postmaster General Albert Robertson said that discussions about a postage stamp were under way. On February 14, Cotton announced that he had received "definite assurance" that a stamp was forthcoming. He said that he was arranging for representatives of the governor and the newly organized state Jubilee Committee, headed by Noyes, to meet with the postmaster general that same month "to discuss details."

However, there was some confusion about what exactly was being celebrated. The Jubilee Committee recognized that the "Old Man" was important as a symbol of New Hampshire and as a tourist attraction. But their proposal was to mark what they called Vacation Jubilee Year, celebrating tourism in the White Mountains. The committee, made up of representatives from all regions of the state, was scheduled to begin its work in July 1954. At this point, the governor and the two senators intervened, saying that the committee was on weak ground, and convinced its members to approach the State Planning and Development Commission in the spring of 1954 to ask for advice. They did so, and what evolved from the intervention of state authorities was a campaign to concentrate on the Old Man. The idea caught fire, but typically the state, in line with Yankee prudence, did not wish to spend money unnecessarily. The governor's office issued a statement, "Ingenuity, cooperation and effort will make up for what we lack in funds."

The stage was set for the actual campaign itself. In 1955,

profile that they thought was similar to that of Thomas Jefferson.

The latter story stuck, largely because it was the first to be recorded. It became the basis for arguing that 1955 was the sesquicentennial of the discovery of the Old Man. Meanwhile, John Gayton, who had just accepted the position of publicity director for the Littleton Stamp Company, on his way to take up his new job stopped off to see the profile. He found it so overwhelming that he concluded that it "would be fitting to represent the solidarity of the Yankee pioneers who first settled nearby" on a postage stamp. He contacted John W. Gilder, and, with his support, Senator Norris Cotton and George T. Noyes, an insurance broker and community leader from Bethlehem. That started the ball rolling. Soon, the entire New Hampshire congressional delegation, consisting of the

#### PLATE NUMBER REPORT

Plate No.	Impressions	Printed
25183	164,474	May 23, 1955
25184	164,474	May 23, 1955
25185	161,999	May 26, 1955
25186	162,000	May 26, 1955

in his folksy newspaper column written for home consumption, Cotton gave us his version of the inside story of how the idea of issuing a stamp honoring the state he represented came about. Modestly, he recounted that he, Senator Bridges, and Governor Dwinell, triumphed by “being at the right spot at the right time and striking when the iron was hot.” They succeeded, he pointed out, where others had failed. Notably a relatively recent campaign to get postal recognition of the 200th anniversary of Old Fort No. 4 at Charlestown, New Hampshire, had been unsuccessful. The postmaster general’s refusal to entertain that idea strengthened the resolve of those pushing for an Old Man of the Mountains stamp. It was high time for a stamp honoring New Hampshire.

With the help of New Hampshire-born former governor Llewellyn Sherman Adams (1899–1986), Cotton cornered the president. Adams was the White House chief of staff, who served as the presidential eyes and ears. One of the Washington insider jokes at the time was “Wouldn’t it be dreadful if the president died and was succeeded by Richard Nixon his vice president.” This was countered with: “Wouldn’t it be terrible if Sherman Adams died and Eisenhower became president?” Not to concede a stamp, Adams, Bridges, and Cotton argued, was unfair because 45 other states, in their view, had already enjoyed the publicity afforded by a stamp issued directly or indirectly in their name. They launched a three-pronged attack.

First, Cotton, Dwinell, and Bridges invited the president to attend the 150th jubilee celebrating the Old Man of the Mountains. To that effect Cotton visited the White House in February 1955. He reported that “I began shedding crocodile tears on the subject of the stamp, reciting some of the lesser events that had been commemorated, protesting that New Hampshire had been left out in the cold and insisting that if the president is coming, we should have the stamp which would honor him as well as the other ‘Old Man.’” It worked, and Adams was instructed to call the postmaster general. Summerfield said it was a most impressive subject for a postage stamp and that he “thought it could be done.” So, the governor and the two senators, according to Cotton, “got busy” and organized a delegation to go to Washington to present them with “the facts.”

Meanwhile to strengthen their case, the commission called upon well-known New Hampshire artist Alice Erickson Cosgrove (1909–1971), the only woman draftsman in the state, to present them with an appropriate design for the postage stamp. Previously, she produced murals for the state as part of the WPA Federal Arts Project, in 1935.

Cosgrove was well placed to create a sketch, having in 1953 been named the official state artist. Also, from 1946 she served as the artist attached to the State Planning and Development commission and became director of the graphic arts section of the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development. She designed the New Hampshire Marine Memorial statue at Hampton Beach in memory of all New Hampshire service persons that lost their lives in war-

fare at sea. The sculpture, probably her best known work, was dedicated Memorial Day 1957. It depicts a woman, possibly a Gold Star mother or a widow, gazing wistfully out to sea while holding a mourning wreath in her hands. The statue’s granite came from a local quarry.

Cosgrove was much appreciated for her sometimes less than conventional sense of humor. Residents of New Hampshire vied with each other to be recipients of her humorous Christmas cards. With a twinkle in her eye, in 1952 she produced a poster for a ski-in-New Hampshire poster that, as we say today, “went viral.” For the poster, she created her best known and most enduring work, the cheeky “Chippa Granite,” a bright-eyed freckled-faced little boy with tousled red hair on skis, who became a much appreciated “super salesman” for advertising the state throughout the United States.

The commission organized a contest to find a New Hampshire lad who most resembled Cosgrove’s creation. The winner of the contest was 7-year old Barry Elliott, and between the promotion of milk and skis, accompanied by his mother, he was dispatched to Washington, D.C. to convince the president of his need to attend the sesquicentennial and ratify his earlier conversations about producing a postage stamp.

So thirdly, at 9 a.m. on Thursday, March 10, flanked by senators Bridges and Cotton and with Sherman Adams leading the way, “Chippa Granite” (just recovered from a bout of measles) and his mother went to the White House to deliver the invitation from Governor Dwinell. To sweeten the president, they gave him a gallon of New Hampshire maple syrup, gloves for Mamie Eisenhower (1896–1979), and a picture of the Old Man of the Mountains. Being Chippa, the young lad paid little attention to formality and sped around the president’s office brandishing the penknife the president gave him as a gift. After several minutes of mayhem, the president himself applied a calming arm to stop the situation from getting further out of hand. No harm was done, and a relieved president confirmed his decision to have a stamp issued and told Adams to expedite matters. So, after 15 minutes of “negotiations” the matter was resolved.

Chippa Granite was not the only youth who pressed the president to support the issuing of a postage stamp. The previous year a lad wrote “Next year he will be 150 years old. I am only 8. Think what he has seen. He should have a stamp.”

The Post Office Department sent Cosgrove’s sketch of the famous profile view of the “Old Man of the Mountains” as seen from Franconia Notch to the Bureau of Engraving. It was supplemented by a photograph used for a much-sold postcard, taken in 1934 by Clare Thomas “Tom” Bodwell (1893–1976), the director of the Flume Reservation, whose ashes were later scattered at the site. The photograph also was used on the cover of a more recent publication, *The Geologic Story of Franconia Notch and the Flume* (1949), by Dartmouth University geologist and professor Andrew Hamilton McNair.

Based on these items, William Karl Schrage developed



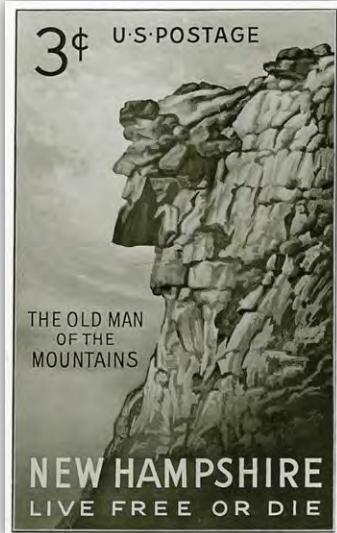
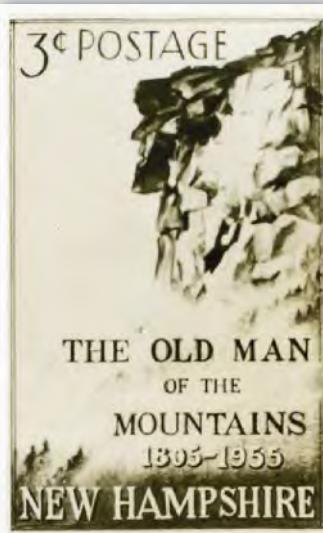
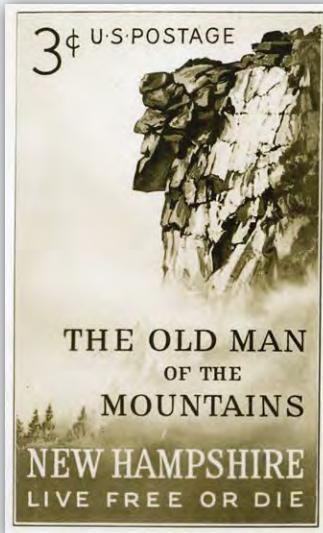
Alice Cosgrove.

three models for the consideration of the postmaster general. The main differences among them have to do with the positioning, the style, and the size of the lettering. On the two rejected designs the text “The Old Man of the Mountains” obscures the lower portion of the rock face and takes up so much room that the face itself is less prominent than it was on the approved model. The text on one model reads “The Old Man of the Mountains 1805–1955

New Hampshire. On the other the date is dispensed with, and beneath New Hampshire appears the state’s motto “Live Free or Die.”

### The Design

On the accepted design, the rock face becomes more prominent than on the two rejected models, and the wording is reduced in size to highlight the profile. Aside from a generous tribute by Senator Cotton in his weekly newspaper column, not one single account of the new stamp mentions Cosgrove as the designer. In some cases credit for the design



Two rejected designs for the Old Man stamp (left and center) and the final photoessay for the issued stamp. Image courtesy of the American Philatelic Research Library.

was given to Schrage.

As on the two rejected models, the central design is the profile as seen from Franconia Notch. Across the top of the stamp one finds the denomination “3¢” and in smaller lettering “U.S. Postage” in dark Gothic. “The Old Man of the Mountains” is inscribed in three lines, also in dark Gothic, below the center of the vignette on the left. Across the bottom are the words “New Hampshire” and in smaller lettering the state’s motto “Live free or die.” Both are in white-faced Gothic.

A similar design again was used in 1988 as part of a series marking the bicentennial of states ratification of the Constitution. The multi-colored stamp was designed by Thomas Szumowski and modeled by Richard Sennett (Scott 2344).

Wunderly tells us that there was some controversy about the inscription “The Old Man of the Mountains.” According to her, George Sloane, writing in the *Stamps* magazine of May 28, 1955, cited a letter, Wunderly writes, “from a life-long resident of New Hampshire, who said that he could not recall a single instance, in speech or print, when the plural was used in connection with the formation.” According to his correspondent, travel guides and geographical dictionaries referred to “Mountain” rather than “Mountains.” Sloane asked the authorities to check their facts before the stamp was released. He was informed that both versions were correct and “are used at will by the people of the state.”

Wunderly also tells us that in the publicity issued for the 1988 version, the Postal Service used the singular, “Old Man



The 1988 New Hampshire stamp (Scott 2344) that is part of the series marking the bicentennial of state ratification of the Constitution. The multi-colored stamp was designed by Thomas Szumowski and modeled by Richard Sennett.



Inspiration photo for the Old Man of the Mountains stamp.

of the Mountain." Moreover, when President Eisenhower visited the Old Man three days after the first-day ceremony, he spoke of "the Old Man of the Mountain."

## The Subject

The Old Man of the Mountain (or Mountains), also called the Great Stone Face by Nathaniel Hawthorne, or the Profile by many local people, was found in Franconia Notch State Park until it collapsed in 2003. It was composed of a group of five massive granite cliff ledges on the 4,100-foot-high Cannon (Profile) Mountain in the White Mountains. The formation was the result of glacial action and had the appearance of the jagged profile of a face when viewed from the north. It was located about 1,200 feet above Profile Lake and measured 40 feet high by 25 feet wide. Travelers passing through Franconia Notch or gateway were impressed by its "quiet" and "fantastic" beauty.

The first recorded sightings of it by European-Americans were in 1805. But what made it famous were the statements of Daniel Webster (1782–1852), who was born in New Hampshire, and the writings of Hawthorne (1804–1864) and John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892).

Webster wrote in his usual style as if he were addressing a very large public meeting: "Men hang out their signs indicative of their respective trades; shoe makers hang out a gigantic shoe, jewelers a monster watch, and the dentists hang out a gold tooth; but up in the Mountains of New Hampshire, God almighty has hung out a sign to show that there He makes men."

Hawthorne visited the area in 1832 and wrote a short story in 1848 called "The Great Stone Face," which he submitted to Whittier, editor of *The National Era*, where it was published in 1850. Whittier himself wrote about The Great Stone Face in his poem "The Hill-Top":

*"Beyond them, like a sun-rimmed cloud  
The great Notch mountains shone  
Watched over by the solemn-browed  
And awful face of stone"*

Hawthorne described it as "a work of Nature in her mood of majestic playfulness, formed on the perpendicular side of the mountain by some immense rocks, which had been thrown together in such a position as, when viewed at a proper distance, to precisely resemble the features of the human countenance. It seemed as if an enormous giant, or a Titan,

had sculptured his own likeness on the precipice."

A somewhat less awed and somewhat cantankerous visiting European said "It has not any nobility in its features, but resembles a very old man in a bad humor, and with a nightcap on his head, who is looking down from the mountain half-inquisitive."

Of course, tourism put the profile on the map. By the middle of the 19th century the White Mountains became the preferred summer destination for well-off New Englanders.

Several luxurious hotels such as the Lafayette House catered to them. The most famous hotel was the aptly named Profile House, built by Richard Taft (1812–1881), which had the unfortunate habit of catching fire every few years. The first time it was consumed by the flames was in 1853, one year after it opened. In 1905, it was razed to the ground, reconstructed and reopened the following year. This replacement was burned to the ground in 1923. In its heyday it could accommodate 600 guests. A narrow gauge railway was built in 1872 on the site. By the time

the Brahmins began to take their holidays further afield, winter sports took off, and the state-owned Cannon Mountain ski area became so popular that a new road was built to allow the area to be visited in the winter.

But the Old Man of the Mountain, who witnessed these various activities, was not faring well. By 1916 he was slowly crumbling away. In that year, the proprietors of Profile House hired Edward H. Geddes (1863–1944), superintendent of a Quincy granite quarry, to install the first rods and turnbuckles to steady the increasingly loose stone forehead.

The state government began to take a hand. The New Hampshire Franconia Notch Forest Reservation and Memorial State Park was founded in 1925 as a result of public demand after the destruction of the Profile House Hotel in the 1923 fire. The Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests, formed to safeguard the White Mountains from private logging operations, supplemented the state's appropriation of \$200,000. With these funds they were able to acquire more than 5,000 acres, including Cannon Mountain, Echo Lake, Profile Lake, and Lonesome Lake. (The society transferred a further 1,000 acres to the state in 1948.) In 1928, it was formally dedicated as a memorial to "the men and women of New Hampshire who served the nation in times of war."

In 1938, the Cannon Mountain Aerial Tramway opened, and in 1940, film actress Bette Davis (1908–1989), holidaying



Officials compare an enlarged image of the Old Man of the Mountains postage stamp with a hanging photo of the New Hampshire rock formation. On hand are (from left) New Hampshire Senator Norris Cotton, Assistant Postmaster General Albert Robertson, and Senator Styles Bridges.

in the region, got lost in the woods and married the man she claimed to have been her rescuer.

In 1944–45, the New Hampshire Department of Public Works and Highway recommended the construction of what was to become the Franconia Notch Parkway and later Interstate 93. The idea of heavy construction and blasting through the notch caused great concern among the keepers of the Old Man on Cannon Mountain. Their fears that vibrations might at a later date cause the rocks to move were confirmed in 1954, when a geological study showed that a crevice across the top of the head of the Old Man of the Mountain had widened by three quarters of an inch since 1937. Four large turnbuckles to fasten down loose boulders were installed, while

epoxy was used to seal several small cracks, and a sluiceway some distance in back of the head and a wire fiberglass cloth-covered canopy to cover the large crevice were put into place.

In 1945, the Old Man of the Mountain became the official state emblem and as such appeared on license plates and state route signs. Prior to Eisenhower's visit in 1955, Scouts were sent scurrying up the rock face to help make certain that it would not collapse during his participation in the sesquicentennial ceremonies.

### First-Day Ceremony

The official first-day ceremony took place at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 21 at Franconia Town Hall after weeks of prep-



The Old Man of the Mountains article is the 11th in a series by Charles Posner on the nearly 120 United States stamps issued from the 1950s to the mid-1980s. Because of the large number of annual stamp issues, and the detailed information provided, the articles on the stamps below are found online as bonus content on *The American Philatelist* webpage.

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (Scott 1064)



The stamp meant to commemorate America's first and oldest arts academy in the country is really more of an homage to one of its founders, artist and scientist Charles Willson Peale.

Rotary International (Scott 1066)



Proponents of stamps honoring the golden anniversary of a fraternal organization only celebrating its 33rd year, included (to no one's surprise) Emerson Gause, the editor of *The Rotarian*, and (to some surprise) a well-known French philatelist, Pierre Yvert. More than 24 countries issued stamps.

Land Grant Colleges (Scott 1065)



They may be fierce rivals on the football field, but Michigan State and Penn State universities peacefully coexist on a 1955 stamp dedicated to the centennial of the first Land Grant Colleges. Not surprisingly, there was a lot of lobbying in the stamp's creation.

Armed Forces Reserve (Scott 1067)



The Armed Forces Reserve was the final major branch of the armed services that fought in World War II to be honored with its own postage stamp. The composition by BEP artist Charles Chickering is similar the 1952 Women in the Armed Services and 1953 National Guard stamps.



The Franconia, New Hampshire Post Office and the mural inside, which includes an oversized reproduction of the 1955 stamp and a postal cancellation. Photos courtesy of Franconia Post Office.

aration by the approximately 600 townspeople. The event, including lunch, cost the town \$950. The day was relatively cool and marked by light rain. The national anthem was played by McLure's Band. The usual addresses, by Reginald M. Colby (1909–1992), the publisher of the *Littleton Courier*; Governor Dwinell; and Senator Cotton followed. Robertson, the assistant postmaster general, spoke, emphasizing Stark's adage "Live Free or Die," which had become the motto of New Hampshire and figured on the stamp. He also spoke of Hawthorne and recited part of Whittier's poem. He said that stamps were an important medium of education that must not be under-estimated.

He then distributed the traditional leather-bound albums housing a pane of stamps signed by the postmaster general. The first was for Eisenhower. Because he was not present, it was received by Noyes on his behalf for presentation to the president the following Friday. Albums were also given to Dwinell, Cotton, Bass, and Willard Johnson, one of Franconia's three selectmen, for the town's archives. Willis Herbert, the Franconia postmaster, and Elizabeth J. Varney, the Littleton postmaster, also received albums. The ceremony closed with an address by Bass.

More than 250,000 covers were dispatched from the tiny Franconia Post Office on the first day of issue. Local press reported that the post office was a beehive of activity. From 7:30 a.m. crowds lined up at the local post office to purchase stamps and have their covers postmarked.

According to the *Western Stamp Collector* of August 6, 1955, Franconia used a cancellation reading "Franconia/Jubi-

lee 1755–1955" on an unspecified number of first-day covers. This conflating of two anniversaries caused some confusion among collectors.

What is curious is that the first day of issue took place on Tuesday, June 21, and the president arrived three days later, when he was presented with the same commemorative album that had been given to the other recipients on the previous Tuesday. There was no explanation as to why this happened. On that Tuesday, beside his normal duties, the president, still at the White House, met members of the 4-H Clubs and gave a speech to their national conference.

On Wednesday, with Sherman Adams at his side, he flew to Vermont, arriving at 1 p.m. On Thursday, he arrived at Concord, the state capital of New Hampshire, where he was greeted by Dwinell, senators Cotton and Bridges, Congressmen Chester Merrow and Perkins Bass, as well as the mayor of Concord, Howe Anderson, and, of course, Chippa Granite.

On Friday, June 24, after a stop at Adams' hometown, the presidential motorcade arrived at Profile Lake at just before 11 a.m. to upstage the June 21 first-day ceremonies.

The day was rainy, with the temperature well below the seasonal norm. Eisenhower became the seventh president to see the Great Stone Face. At 11:20 a.m., ceremonies were held at the Cannon Mountain tramway parking area of Franconia Notch. George Noyes, the chair of the 150th anniversary committee, an audience of about 2,500, and a United States Army field band playing "God Bless America," greeted the president.

After an introduction by the governor, against the background of the famed mountain with an American flag at its summit, at precisely 11:30 a.m. Eisenhower spoke. He asked what the Old Man of the Mountain, having observed so much history, thought of us. He urged all Americans to try to achieve a better understanding of the people of other nations, and in this way "to bring about the great dream of mankind and reach a peaceful world."

"I would say our best birthday present to the Old Man of the Mountain is that we make up our minds, each in his own fashion, to do his part in bringing about that hope for mankind that the Old Man must have." His speech concluded, the dignitaries adjourned to lunch, and then the president was treated to a two-hour round of golf at Whitefield.

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# VISITING THE BRITISH EMPIRE

BY NOEL DAVENHILL

## Barbados

Caribbean Island Became British Colony in 1625

**B**arbados is the most easterly island of the Lesser Antilles in the Caribbean Sea. With its relatively untroubled history, Barbados has been a British Crown colony since 1625. Independence within the Commonwealth was granted in 1966.

As an economic measure, printing plates prepared for Mauritius and Trinidad's iconic 1851 Seated Britannia design were utilized by Perkins, Bacon for the inaugural stamps [Figure 1]. The first shipment from London was lost at sea; it was followed by a second delivery issued in April 1852. Denominations were initially indicated only by color: green (half penny), and blue (1 penny). Because of a problem with pigments, the requested purple (2p) was printed in blue gray; because it resembled the 1p stamp, sales were severely restricted.

After another non-delivery of 1p stamps in 1854, some new printings of

the 2p in grayish slate (Scott 3a)



Figure 1. The earliest stamps of Barbados designed and printed by Perkins, Bacon used the same plates as the iconic 1851 Mauritius and Trinidad stamps showing Seated Britannia. Denominations were distinguished by stamp color. Dark green was a half penny (Scott 5). A pair of green half-penny stamps (Scott 1) and a bisected 1-penny grayish slate (Scott 3b) were used on this cover of September 11, 1854 to Newfoundland. Cover image courtesy of Edmund Bayley.



Figure 2. Denominations were added in 1859, as with the black 1 shilling (Scott 9). Pin perforations, such as those found on the pale blue 1-penny stamps on this 1860 cover to Demerara, were not very efficient and are barely visible. Cover image courtesy of Edmund Bayley.

were bisected for use as 1p stamps from August 4 to September 21. A brown red (4p) was added in 1855. These were all imperforated and without watermarks.

In 1859, the original Britannia design was modified to include denominations on 6p

rose red and 1sh  
black stamps  
(Scott 9)

nations on 6p  
rose red and 1sh  
black stamps  
(Scott 9)

Type A2) [Figure 2]. In 1873, a similar 3p claret was issued (Scott 38). Until 1875, several printings of ½p, 1p and 4p stamps identified only by color were the only Type A1 denominations available. Later that year, new supplies of nondenominated pin-perforated ½p and 1p

stamps were placed on sale. Perforating technology (little more than pinpricks) improved gradually in later years.

From 1859 to 1873, eight different perforations are listed for ½p and 1p stamps, and six for the 4p denomination.

A shipment in 1863, of 50,000 1-shilling stamps (Scott 21c) wrongly printed in blue, was unacceptable and never put in use because they could be mistaken for the 1p denomination.

Perkins, Bacon reluctantly replaced the 1863 with black 1-shilling stamps on the strict under-



standing the errors would not be placed on sale. Only 14 examples of the blue stamps were retained in Barbados for reference purposes. (For more detailed information on the complex stamps of 1859 and 1863, refer to Scott or Gibbons catalogs, whose lists differ over some issue dates.)

A large star watermark introduced in 1870, was replaced in 1871 with a small star. In 1873, new 3p and 5sh stamps were placed on sale; the larger 5sh denomination with no specific postal purpose was used primarily on heavy packets. In 1874, ½p and 1p stamps were printed with the large star watermark paper.

In 1875, De La Rue inherited the printing plates from Perkins, Bacon whose contract to print British Colonial stamps was terminated because of misunderstandings with the Crown Agents. The final ½p, 1p, 3p, 4p, 6p, and 1sh Britannia designs were issued from 1875 to 1878 with crown CC watermarks and some perforation changes; all were at last unified with visual denominations (Scott design Type A2). Colors of 3p, 6p, and 1sh were revised to violet, and shades of yellow and purple respectively [Figure 3].

A delay in the arrival of 1p stamps from London in 1878, was alleviated with provisional surcharges formed by bisecting the larger 5sh denomination

(Scott 43) and surcharging “1D” sideways twice on each stamp [Figure 4]. Sheets were vertically perforated into strips to provide two 1p stamps on each half. Three different typefaces were positioned upwards or downwards,

thereby providing several collectable varieties. The 5sh denomination tablets were cut off by postal staff before the bisected stamps were placed on sale. *West Indian Press* is understood to have produced 9,600 1p stamps.

An amusing story is told of an English dealer reported to have sent payment to the postmaster in Bridgetown for a quantity of provisional 1p stamps. After several months the dealer received a packet of normal stamps accompanied by a polite note apologizing for the delay, explaining that he had awaited the arrival of regular stamps as he was sure his correspondent would not have wanted the “ugly makeshifts.”

In 1882–85, the new crown CA watermark was used for eight denominations, ½p to 5sh, bearing Queen Victoria’s portrait in a frame seen on contemporary stamps from several British colonies. A color change for 4p stamps from slate to brown was because of its similarity to the ½p denomination in some light conditions [Figure 5]. Surplus stocks of the new brown 4p stamps were surcharged “Half-Penny” by *West Indian Press* in 1892; they were vigorously promoted to encourage the public to make use of extensive supplies before the imminent release of replacement definitives.

The 1892 designs — eight stamps from ½p to 2sh6p — were significantly altered by introducing the colony’s iconic badge derived from the Great Seal of 1663. The original image of King Charles II riding the waves in a conch shell drawn by two sea horses was adapted to show Queen Victoria standing in the chariot, holding an orb and



Figure 5. A color change in 1885 for 4p stamps from slate to brown was made because of the original stamp’s similarity to the ½p denomination in some light conditions, Scott 64 and 65. In 1892, surplus stocks of the new brown 4p stamps were devalued via an overprint supplied by *West Indian Press*, Scott 69.

Neptune’s trident [Figure 6]. With modifications, the badge dominated Barbados stamps for 60 years, and inspired Bertram Mackennal’s splendid 1913 Great Britain Sea Horse design.

An official announcement on January 23 1896, proclaimed a reduced postal rate to one farthing for local newspapers. While awaiting the arrival of ¼p stamps from London, a “Paid at Barbadoes” (old spelling) circular handstamp was applied to appropriate mail from January 24 to May 5. The handstamp had been used previously to alleviate a shortage of ½d stamps in 1883.

From 1904 to 1910, the ¼p, ½p, 1p, 2½p, 6p, 8p, and 2sh6p definitives were printed with the multiple crown CA watermark. Color changes for ¼p, 2p and 6p stamps plus a new 1sh denomination were added in 1909–10.

Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee in 1897 was marked by nine stamps from ½p to 2sh6p featuring the colony’s badge in a diamond surrounded by four armorial emblems [Figure 7]. A small quantity was printed in 1898 on blue-tinged



Figure 6. The 1-cent carmine rose of 1892, Scott 72.



Figure 3. De La Rue took over printing duties in 1875. The colors of the 6p and 1sh denominations were changed to yellow and purple, respectively, in 1876, Scott 55 and 56.



Figure 4. A delay in the arrival of 1p stamps from London in 1878, was alleviated with provisional surcharges formed by bisecting the larger 5sh denomination and surcharging “1D” sideways on each stamp, Scott 57.



Figure 7. Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee in 1897 was marked by nine stamps featuring the colony’s badge in a diamond surrounded by four armorial emblems, Scott 88.

paper. Jubilee stamps were also issued by the Crown colonies of Leeward Islands, British Guiana and Mauritius.

Lord Nelson's death centenary was honored belatedly in 1906, with seven stamps from ¼p to 1sh featuring the statue erected in what was then named Trafalgar Square in Bridgetown [Figure 8]. The inscription, "First Monument



**Figure 8.** Lord Nelson's death centenary was honored belatedly, in 1906, with seven stamps from ¼p to 1sh featuring the statue erected in what was then named Trafalgar Square in Bridgetown, Scott 105.

Erected to Nelson's Memory, 1813," is inaccurate because there were larger monuments in Glasgow and Montreal in 1806 and 1808, respectively. The Barbados edifice was, however, built 27 years before London's famous Nelson's Column. In 1907, ¼p, 2p, and 2½p denominations were printed with the multiple watermark changed from crown CC to CA. All denominations were printed on easily recognizable thick or thinner paper.

Later in 1906, a striking 1p stamp commemorated 300 years since the arrival of *Olive Blossom* with the first British settlers [Figure 9]. The correct date of landing is now believed to have been 1625, or perhaps 1624.

On January 25, 1907, just 11 days after a devastating



**Figure 9.** In 1906, Barbados issued a striking 1p stamp commemorating the 300th anniversary of the arrival of the *Olive Blossom* with the first British settlers. Image of cover courtesy of Noel Davenhill.

earthquake in Jamaica, a quantity of 1p definitives was overprinted "Kingston Relief Fund 1d." The stamps were sold for 2p, with 1p donated to Jamaica. In the rush to produce the overprint the local printer inevitably created several typeface varieties, the most significant being one sheet with the overprint inverted. To avoid speculation, several more sheets of the error (Scott B1b) were printed and made available for postal sales and to the philatelic trade. The error can still be acquired at a similar price to the normal stamp.

In 1912, a medallion portrait of King George V appeared on 11 stamps from a ¼p to 3sh, which surprisingly continued to depict Queen Victoria driving the chariot [Figure 10]. The 1sh, 2sh, and 3sh denominations were in a larger format. The monarch's portrait was omitted from large size 1916 definitives, but the bearded image in the chariot is clearly recognizable. In 1918, 4p and 3sh stamps in changed colors were re-engraved with minor modifications.

"War Tax" overprints were applied to 1p



**Figure 10.** In 1912, a medallion portrait of King George V appeared on 11 stamps, including the 4p, which also shows Queen Victoria driving a chariot. The monarch's portrait was omitted from large size 1916 definitives, but now, a bearded persona is driving the chariot, Scott 122, 137.

stamps by De La Rue in 1917 and 1918.

To celebrate the end of World War I, images of "Winged Victory" figures from London's *Victoria Memorial* monument and the Louvre in Paris, featured on 11 stamps from ¼p to 3sh, issued in 1920 [Figure 11]. The 1p was reprinted in 1921 with the new multiple script CA



**Figure 11.** Famous Victorian statuary appears on the World War I Victory issue of 1920, Scott 147, 148.



watermark. Incidentally, the only other colonies to issue "Peace" or "Victory" stamps were Bahamas and British Honduras.

Reduced replicas of the previous definitives were placed on sale in 1921, most with the multiple script CA watermark; only 3p, 4p, and 1sh denominations retained the multiple crown CA. In 1924, the 1sh was printed with the script watermark.

The inscription "Postage & Revenue" was added to 1925 definitives, which again featured the colony's badge [Figure 12]. Following increased postal rates in 1931, the ½p stamp was withdrawn; a new 1½p also was required. A

public appeal launched to use up multiples of surplus farthing stamps was accompanied by a proposal to apply a 1½p surcharge; this was turned down by the Colonial Office. Urgently needed 1½p stamps along with a 2sh6p to replace redundant 2sh and 3sh stamps were added in 1932. Perforation changes were made for ½p, 1p, 1½p, 2½p, and 1sh stamps.

In 1927, portraits of King Charles I and King George V featured on a 2p stamp commemorating the Tercentenary of Settlement [Figure 13]. After being unrecognized for about 90 years, stamps perforated gauge 12 by 12½,

in addition to the normal perforation gauge 12, have recently been discovered. They are not scarce. Controversy continued as to the actual settlement date, which was initially raised over the *Olive Blossom* stamp of 1906.

Omnibus 1935 Silver Jubilee and 1937 Coronation stamps were followed in 1938 with King George VI definitives, which differed from the previous issue only with the omission of "Postage & Revenue" and a replacement image of the monarch [Figure 14]. The highest denomination remained at only 5 shillings, almost unprecedented for a period when 10sh and even £1 denominations were normal for most other

**Figure 12.** The inscription "Postage & Revenue" was added for the 1925–35 chariot stamps. The 3-shilling high denomination in dark violet, Scott 179.



**Figure 13.** Portraits of King Charles I and King George V appear on a 1927 stamp commemorating the Tercentenary of Settlement, Scott 180.

**Figure 14.** The 8p red violet of 1946, like other stamps in the set, sees a beardless monarch (King George VI) driving the chariot and the omission of the words "Postage & Revenue," Scott 199A.

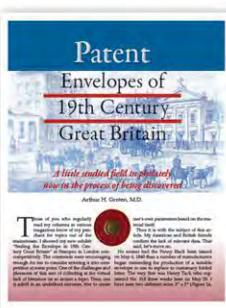


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**Figure 15.** Decimal currency was introduced in 1950 with pictorials incorporating a new informal portrait of the king on all but the high-denomination \$2.40 Great Seal stamp. Designs include the Nelson monument and a flying fish, Scott 216 to 227.

British colonies. Several perforation changes were due in part to enemy action in London.

New colors for ½p (1942), 1p (1943) and 3p (1946) were required to meet Universal Postal Union regulations, and an additional 8p stamp, was introduced in 1946. I am unsure whether the 2p rose lake (Scott 195A) was officially replaced in 1943 or the 2p bright rose red (Scott 195B) is simply a shade. Numerous intriguing plate flaws throughout this issue continue to attract the interest of specialist collectors.

Insets of King George VI and King Charles I were portrayed on five stamps from ½p to 3p marking the Tercentenary of the General Assembly (Barbados Parliament), which gathered for the first time in 1639.

Unanticipated demand, in 1947, for 1p stamps due mainly to an election campaign, was alleviated by a "One Penny" surcharge on 2p bright rose red denominations in both perforations (Scott 195B and 195Ba) applied by the Advocate Printing Co. Sheets were overprinted with a typeface susceptible to breaking up, resulting in some very collectable broken letter varieties.

Omnibus stamps were issued in 1946, 1948, and 1949 to mark Victory, the Royal Silver Wedding, and 75th Anniversary of Universal Postal Union.

Decimal currency was introduced in 1950 with pictorial stamps printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson incorporating a new informal portrait of the king [Figure 15].

Designs include the famous Nelson monument, and a map indicating only 10 of the 11 parishes, omitting the boundary separating St. Michael and St. George. The royal portrait was replaced by the GviR monogram and the colony's original Great Seal of 1663 on the striking gray-black \$2.40 stamp.

In 1951, Barbados participated in a two-stamp Caribbean issue for the inauguration of the West Indies University in Jamaica, followed in 1952 with four denominations marking the Centenary of the first 'Seated Britannia' stamps.

A 1-cent Queen Elizabeth II definitive was placed on sale in April 1953, two months before the coronation omnibus stamp. Others in the series with a few color changes were released piecemeal from 1954 to 1957.

A new 5-cent features Harbour Police dressed in the traditional uniform worn by British sailors in Nelson's time. The \$2.40 was the last to portray the seahorses and chariot Great Seal.

Block crown CA watermarks were introduced on eight stamps from 1 cent to \$2.40 from 1964 to 65. The 12-cent flying fish was never sold in post offices because there was no requirement for it.

Barbados joined neighboring territories with three stamps for the short-lived West Indies Federation, in 1958. Opening of the Deep Water Harbor was marked in 1961 with

Figure 16. A set of three commemorative stamps showing a map outline of the island with the Boy Scout symbol inset and Queen Elizabeth II's portrait nearby marks the 1962 Golden Jubilee of Barbados Boy Scouts.



three stamps, followed in 1962 with the Golden Jubilee of Barbados Boy Scouts [Figure 16].

For some unexplained reason, Barbados did not participate in the Crown Agents omnibus stamps for Freedom from Hunger, Red Cross, ICY and WHO. There were, however, issues for ITU Centenary, Churchill and UNESCO.

In 1965, Harrison printed 15 photogravure definitives from 1 cent to \$2.50 featuring fish and other marine life. When the full series was printed later with sideways multiple block CA watermarks from 1966 to 1968, the original inscription, "Hippocampus," was corrected to "Hippocampus" on the 3-cent seahorse design. A \$5 stamp depicting a dolphin was added in 1969.

Along with other relevant Caribbean territories, the Royal Visit to Barbados in 1966 was marked with two unimaginative so called mini-omnibus stamps.

Following Independence in 1966, an increasing number of short-term special issues reduced my interests to collecting only definitives up to 1980 [Figure 17].

In March 1970, a 4-cent surcharge on the 5-cent Staghorn coral definitive was required to address a temporary shortage. Numerous unintentional typeset varieties were produced by the local printer. Prior to surcharging, the top selvage was guillotined from each sheet of 100 images to enable 25 stamps to be printed in four

Figure 17. Stamps marking independence in 1966, Scott 290-293, feature the Arms of Barbados, the Hilton Hotel, cricketer Garfield Sobers, and Pine Hill Dairy.



separate production runs.

New definitives from 1 cents to \$5, printed by De La Rue, were issued in May 1970. Sixteen local landmarks included the large lion at Gun Hill, carved from limestone in 1868. Also particularly interesting is the monument at Holetown commemorating the *Olive Blossom's* arrival in 1605. As previously indicated, the date now known to be incorrect, led to a revised plaque at the foot of the monument. The 25-

cent stamp depicts George Washington House, home of the first United States president during his stay in 1751. Barbados was the only country outside America he visited.

In 1971, all denominations, except 6 cents, were printed on distinctive glazed paper. With the exclusion of 1- 2- and 3-cent stamps, they were placed on sale from 1972 to 1974 with multiple block CA watermarks changed from upright to sideways and vice-versa.

In 1974, another locally applied 4-cent-on-25-cent surcharge delivered a significant variety on row 4/1 with the "4 cents" omitted from several panes [Figure 18]. This was on the George Washington House stamp originally issued in 1970.

Later, in 1974, after just four years, these attractive stamps were replaced with Harrison's 1-cent to \$10 definitives featuring local orchids. An example of the 2-cent Fire Orchid stamp used on



Figure 18. A 1974 error block, Scott 391, of the 4-cent overprint on the 25-cent George Washington House stamp originally issued in 1970. The overprint "4c" is missing in the stamp at bottom left.

cover is shown [Figure 19]. Additional 20- and 45-cent denominations were added in 1977. To clearly understand the many complex watermark changes it is recommended to refer to Scott or Gibbons catalogs. It is not clear if a 1979 printing of the 50c stamp (Scott 407b) was sold in Barbados post offices, because its release was after the appearance of new bird definitives.

Two coil stamps featuring the new Coat of Arms were issued in 1975 for use in slot machines. The 5- and 25-cent denominations were printed in rolls of 1,000. In 1983, the 5-cent was reprinted with the diagonal crown CA watermark.

The 1979 definitives featuring local birds were fortunately without the many watermark variations plaguing previous issues. A 55-cent denomination added in 1981 was followed a year later with 15-on-28-cent, 40-on-45-cent, and 60-on-70-cent overprints, which were replaced in 1982 with identical 15-, 40- and 60-cent stamps.

Frequent definitives issued since

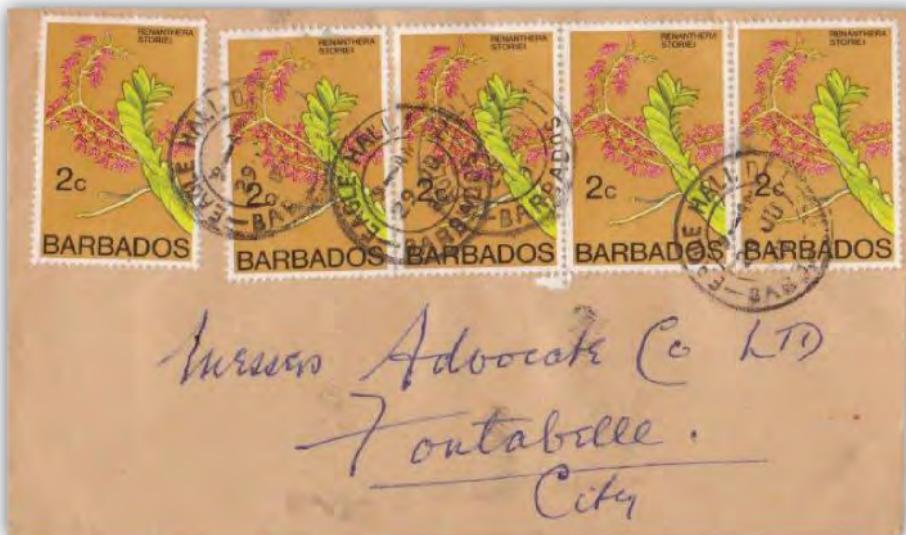


Figure 19. Five examples of the 2-cent Fire Orchid stamp, Scott 397, on a cover.

1979 are omitted from this review.

**Author's note:** My grateful thanks for the helpful advice from Edmund Bayley QC and Pat Capill.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Most of the images accompanying the British Empire collection are from the American Philatelic Society's reference collection, which can be seen in-person*

or free online at [stamps.org/Reference-Collection-Tour](http://stamps.org/Reference-Collection-Tour). Images of covers and the Washington House block of four were supplied by the author.

There are more than 75 United States and international reference collections available for viewing.

Readers may contact the author via e-mail at [chambon@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chambon@xtra.co.nz).

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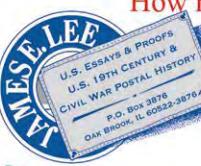


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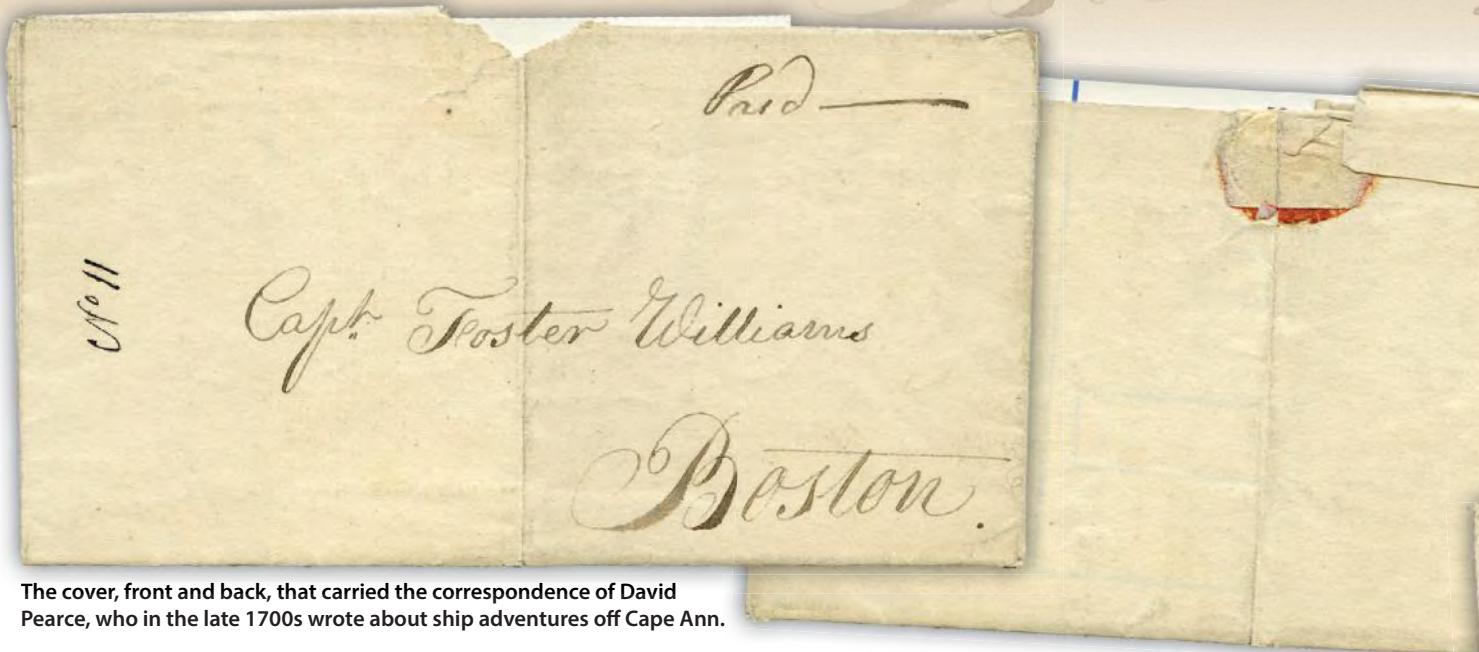
Capt. Foster Williams

# David Pearce Cover

A Correspondence of an Entrepreneur, Merchant, and Privateer

BY PAUL GOODWIN

Boston.



The cover, front and back, that carried the correspondence of David Pearce, who in the late 1700s wrote about ship adventures off Cape Ann.

The Continental Congress in 1775 urged the colonies, at their own expense, to identify vessels to protect their coasts against British depredations. Massachusetts was the first colony to comply and drew up an act that authorized arming ships to attack and seize vessels in the service of the enemy. The port of Gloucester, where I grew up and my grandfather worked as a fishing captain, was quick to respond and converted or built vessels to harass British shipping.

My personal background and interest in philately have merged enough that I have an exhibit called "Gloucester Massachusetts, a Maritime History from the Early Days of the Republic to ca. 1940," which has won a couple of gold medals at World Series of Philately shows. I bought the cover shown here on eBay a couple of years ago because it is a natural fit for my interests, not only for privateering but also for its connections to Surinam and the West Indies trade from Gloucester.

The correspondence was sent from David Pearce, of Gloucester, Massachusetts to Captain John Foster Williams in Boston.

A handwritten "Paid" appears at the cover's top right, but no rate is shown. The rate from Gloucester to Boston (not more than 40 miles) was 8 cents per the Act of March 2, 1799,

according to the *American Stampless Cover Catalog*. The "No 11" at left is a bit of a mystery, but it could be a reference number applied by the recipient, who was compiling material for an intended book on privateering. Perhaps he made the notation as a way to keep track of incoming correspondence.

Privateering — in which privately owned armed vessels would act on behalf of a government — was a dangerous enterprise with high risk, but also the possibility of high reward. The capture of British merchant ships loaded with valuable cargo provided Americans with badly needed goods. On the other hand, many privateers were themselves taken by British warships patrolling the coast. While not decisive in the war effort they did provide a certain amount of glamour in difficult times.

In 1813, Williams — a noted privateer during the American Revolution, advisor to Secretary of War Henry Knox, and master of the *Massachusetts*, one of the Coast Guard's first revenue cutters (1791) — was asked by Thomas Clark to provide information on privateers for a book on the naval history of the United States.

Williams in turn contacted Pearce, who had a storied life and sent along the letter shown, which relates three events: a privateering episode, the taking by the British of his own ship from Gloucester harbor and its recovery, and a bit on

the attempt to rescue survivors from the wreck of a Dutch vessel. Pearce (ca. 1736–1818) in the 1750s owned two boats engaged in the Labrador fisheries. He gradually branched out, unsuccessfully, into trade and had been reduced to near poverty by the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. With the onset of hostilities he involved himself in privateering and made a fortune. By 1795, he was one of Gloucester's most prosperous merchants and was worth between \$200,000 and \$300,000, an enormous sum for the times and as much as \$5.5 million in current dollars.

Pearce owned merchant ships, Gloucester's only whaler, an oil works for refining whale and fish oil, and a distillery where he converted Surinam molasses into rum. It was Pearce who in 1790 initiated Gloucester's trade with the

Dutch colony of Surinam. Dried fish and beef, flour, and other commodities for Surinam's slave population was exchanged for molasses, sugar, cocoa, and coffee.

Unfortunately, Pearce's extraordinary success ended with the United States' undeclared naval war with France in 1798–1799. He lost one ship and its cargo (Gloucester lost 17 vessels worth \$175,000) to the French. This was quickly followed by a series of mis-

haps, including the loss of another uninsured ship in the Indian Ocean. By 1809, he was bankrupt. In 1813, he wrote to President James Madison, noted his contributions during the Revolutionary War, his current penury and petitioned for a position. Pearce died in poverty in 1818.

John Foster Williams (1743–1814), an officer in the Massachusetts State Navy, knew Pearce, for in 1778 he had been master of one of his privateers, the brigantine *Wilkes*. Pearce had built or outfitted at least 20 vessels of varying sizes during the Revolution and was now asked by Williams to provide more specific information on his actions. Pearce obliged and sent the following letter to Williams, who apparently often eschewed his first name in favor of "Foster." Here is the transcript:

Gloucester, 29th June 1813

Capt. Foster Williams

Sir,

I have complied with your request, in arranging and stating to you, some of my proceedings, in the last war, which are as follows. I, David Pearce, in the month of May, 1780, at the time of the dark day [he refers to smoke from wild fires raging in Canada], I fitted out the ship *General Stark*, James Pearson master. On her cruise she met with 3 large ships, from London, bound to Quebec, which she captured. Their value amounted to nearly one hundred thousand pounds, of which I held a large share, and the United States had a very large supply from it. The length of the cruise was 3 weeks.

David Pearce

Pearce also took the occasion to detail an incident which revealed not only his role in privateering but also his business as a trader. In 1782 the British brig *Canceaux* sent men into Gloucester harbor and cut out one of Pearce's ships, the *Harriot*, on occasion a privateer but at this time fully loaded with goods for a cruise to Curaçao. Continuing the letter transcript:

I, David Pearce,

On the 1st day of April, 1782, in Gloucester, when I arose between 5 & 6 in the morning, I saw my ship *Harriot* carried away

The letter is addressed to Capt. (John) Foster Williams, of the Massachusetts State Navy.

by a small sail Boat, which had cut her out of our harbour. I immediately applied to the Sexton to ring the bell as for five, on hearing of, which the people assembled. I informed them of the cause, and that I wished to get Volunteers to retake her and found them ready. I requested the Captain of another ship of mine [the *Betsy*, another privateer], of 20 guns, to take the command of her: he replied that it would not be possible to get her ready, she being unrigged all to her lower masts; he at length agreed, and we completed the said ship, with ballast, and all necessary stores, for a cruise, in 8 hours, on the 9th [hour] was out of the harbour, with 96 men. I went with them. On the next day, at 12 o'clock, fell in with, and retook said ship *Harriot*, and the next day at 12, arrived in Gloucester. Capt. John Beach master of the *Harriot*, Capt Joseph Foster of the *Betsy*, the said 20 gun ship. James Pearson first Lieutenant, Joseph Foster the second lieutenant, William Pearce Sailing Master.

N.B. The said ship *Betsy* had only one side graved [cleaned and coated with pitch or tar], and was hauled to the wharf for the purpose of graving the other, had a swept hole [hole in the side to carry away water that came over the deck], no guns on board, no top mast and she was dry a hundred yards, guns and stores were put on board after she floated, which was in 6 hours, from the time we began.

[signed] John Beach

Joseph Foster

James Pearson

The reverse of the letter signed by multiple individuals.

her ready, she being unrigged all to, best strength. Agreed, and we to ships, with ballast, and all nec- cruise, in 8 hours, on the 9th was, with 96 men. Went with them & 12 o'clock, fell in with, and re- ssiob, and the next day at 12, ester. Capt John Beach master & Joseph, Foster of the *Betsy*, the James Pearson, first Lieutenant, second Lieutenant. William Pearce had only one side the wharf, for the, had a swept, top mast and, yards, guns and, so after she hours, from the John Beach  
Joseph Foster  
James Pearson  
Joseph Foster jun  
William Pearce  
David Pearce  
Isaac Elwell  
The Dutch sent a 74 with their pl- United States commanding by  
vins leaky, she endeavoured to

Joseph Foster Junr

William Pearce

David Pearce

Isaac Elwell

All of the men who signed the letter were privateers. Captain Foster, a well-known Gloucester merchant, and several others commissioned the Bay Colony's fourth privateer, the *General Ward*. Captain Elwell, in 1809, was appointed as Gloucester's second postmaster; the town's post office was established in 1792.

A third part of the correspondence related the rescue of people from a Dutch 74-gun (some accounts say 54 guns) warship that had been dismasted and foundered off Cape Ann in October 1783. The vessel, the *Den Erfprins*, commanded by Captain Aberson, had about 400 souls on board, including Pieter Johan Berckel the first Dutch minister plenipotentiary to the United States. Approximately 300 people did not survive the wreck. The Dutch minister was saved. In Pearce's account:

Just after the peace, the Dutch sent a 74 with their plenipotentiary, to the United States, commanded by Capt. Abberson; proving leaky, she endeavoured to put into the nearest port, but unable to reach any, a passenger was sent to get a vessel, if possible, [to] relieve them. This person called on me and told me with tears, that she would soon sink, and observed that there were 4 hundred souls to perish. I told him that in 6 hours, I would send 2 vessels to their relief, they were then dry at the wharf, he said it was impossible. I procured him a passage for Boston, and fitted a Sloop and a Brig, with stores for the crew, in 3 hours — waited 3 hours for the tide, immediately on her floating, she went out. The Brig did not float until the next morning, she then sailed, and spoke the Sloop returning with 43 of the men belonging to the 74, whom she had taken from boats, in which they had saved themselves from a watery tomb.

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Thomas Clark, *The Naval History of the United States, From the Commencement of the Revolutionary War to the Present Time*, 2 vols. (Philadelphia: 1814). Clark, in his preface, thanked both Williams and Pearce. Indeed, Pearce's letter to Williams was reproduced almost verbatim.  
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#### The Author

Paul Goodwin is a retired emeritus professor of history at the University of Connecticut, an accredited philatelic judge, and volunteers one day a week at the Mystic Seaport Museum conducting research and writing short articles for its website. He grew up in Gloucester, Massachusetts, where his grandfather was a fishing captain.

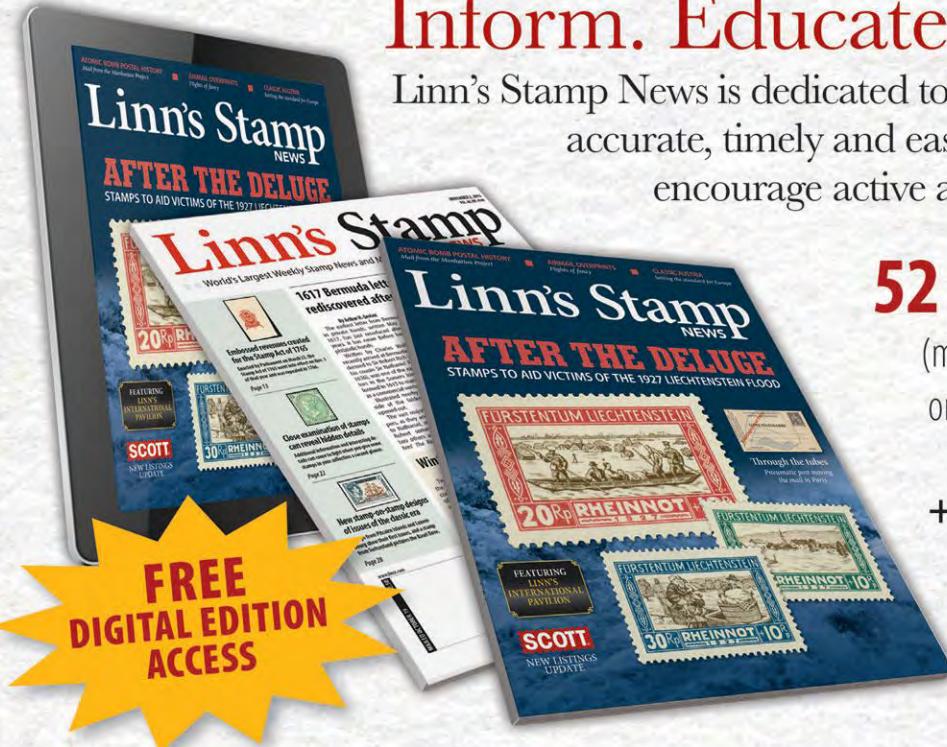
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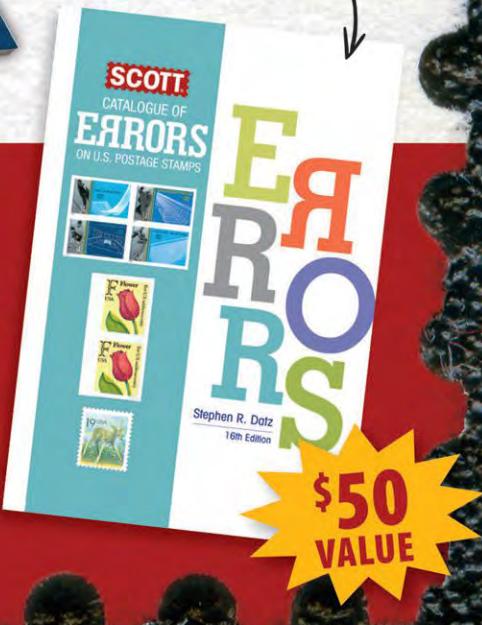


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# The Prussian Blue

## Use of Wrong Ink Caused Variety of 1935 British Stamp

**T**housands of people walk past the London eatery every day. It might be 4 Street Fried Chicken Express or the Mexican and Cuban Cocktail Bar depending on which Google map you connect to. No matter which image you see today online, the address of 134 Fore St. in the suburb of North Edmonton, London has some interesting philatelic history linked to a rarity.

The building at 134 Fore St. (or perhaps the brick two-story structure behind the eatery is the original building) was once the location of a tiny substation of the British post office. In June 1935, this venue received several panes of the 2½-pence King George V Silver Jubilee Prussian blue error stamp (Scott 229a; Gibbons 456a), escaped waste that then made its way into public hands and thus became a sought-after collectible.

### A Summary

King George V celebrated 25 years on the British throne in 1935, and on May 7, the British post office issued a set of four commemorative stamps to honor the event.

During January, proofs in ultra-



The 2½-pence King George V Silver Jubilee stamp issued in 1935. The top example is the common stamp printed in ultramarine ink (Scott 229, Gibbons 456). The bottom stamp is the error version printed using Prussian blue ink (Scott 229a, Gibbons 456a).

marine and Prussian blue (turquoise) shades were submitted to the king for approval (he chose the former shade).

In March, the stamps were printed and during that time panes in Prussian blue were printed and perforated. On June 24, several of these panes were distributed to the Fore Street substation and placed on sale on June 26.

Collector A.J. Stavridi had a staff

member purchase some stamps on July 2. He noticed the difference in color, and contacted Stanley Gibbons, the British philatelic company. Two days later, Stavridi purchased 319 stamps (41 had already been sold to other patrons).

### How Did the Color Error Occur?

Up until the 1960s, it was believed that these panes were actually perforated color proofs, but further studies found that the size of the proofs was different by a quarter of a millimeter each way from the issued stamps. Later, internal post office correspondence was unearthed and confirmed that Prussian blue ink was placed in the ink trough by mistake sometime in March and later in June. Most of the mis-inked sheets were destroyed before being distributed.

Another post office that received one pane of the error was probably the Westmead Corner, Carshalton in Surrey (20 of the known 44 used examples were canceled there).

Our example of the rare 2½p Prussian blue error is part of the APS Reference Collection and was obtained via a recent donation by Donald DeWees, to whom we are grateful.

The Prussian blue error has been ex-

## Forged or Genuine?

By Bill Dixon

Haiti, Scott 69

*One of these stamps is genuine, the other is fake.*

*Can you tell the difference?*

**Hints:** The genuine overprints of this type have numerous constant features: right leg of "M" is directly over the "P," the downstroke of "R" directly below "I" of "MAI," lines under "re" and "t" are level, the tail of "G" is over the downstroke of "1," "1" has no serif, "0" is smaller than "9," the crossbar of "A" is above middle, and the bottom of the "2" is not level, being higher at the left end.



"B" is genuine and "A" is forged.

[stamps.org/forged-or-genuine](http://stamps.org/forged-or-genuine)

tensively researched and sources for additional information are listed here.

The current value in the Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue is \$11,000 for either an unused, unhinged example or a postally used example.

Using just the 319 stamps Stavridi bought in July 4, those stamps are currently valued at \$3,509,000. That buys a lot of fried chicken and mojitos.

#### Resources

Stanley Gibbons Great Britain King George V Specialized Catalogue, 2015.  
Western Philatelic Gossip, September 21, 1957 issue.  
Gibbons Stamp Monthly, July 2004 issue.  
The Great Britain Journal, January 1968 and January/February 2005 issues.

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# New Year Brings Changes

## Web-Based MyCircuits Individualizes Accounts

There have been a lot of changes for our sales departments over the past few months. The internet StampStore and Circuit Sales have joined together, but remain a formidable sales division that continues to help our members buy and sell material via our two distinct programs. All material for sale is accepted only from members. Anyone can purchase items from StampStore and APS members received a discount. Only APS members can purchase via Circuit Sales.

### Sales Program Changes

In September, we launched the new web-based Circuit Sales program and we thank everyone for their patience as we continue to fine-tune the program. Our goal with this change is to streamline processes and have all services working within our web system rather than the individualized programs that previously existed. This allows for a member account area, where all payment processing and orders are handled together. For example, sellers will now receive only one check each month that will include proceeds from both Stampstore and Circuit Sales.

Circuit Sales users can now view

their buying and selling details online. To view details about your circuit mail sales, purchases, or active circuit mailings, log in at stamps.org, go to the "MyAPS" area then use the blue tabs across the top of the screen for either "MyCircuits" or "MyCircuits Books."

The MyCircuits area allows buyers to view circuits currently in circulation to them, purchase details, and view or sign up for additional categories to receive circuits. "My Circuit Books" is where sellers can view a summary of books they have submitted, including the original value, current value, and purchases to date. A drop down search function allows checking on any particular book, books by circuit category, or date of submissions. This function provides sellers a better idea of forthcoming payment and insights as to how their material is selling.

### Buyer's Fee Remains, Waivers Made for Large Purchases

We continue to receive questions about the 5 percent buyer's fee, which was approved in 2010 to reduce our costs of providing circuit sales.

The fee, which applies to both individual and club circuits, helps offset our mailing, handling, and credit card

### StampStore Sellers Reports Available

Overall monthly sales reports are posted each month online at stamps.org/stampstore-sales-report. You can view total sales and see what is hot for the month. Be sure to log into your "MyStamps" area often to view your personal sales. From this area you can also reduce prices on items that are soon to expire for its sales period.

This booklet pane of Washington stamps (Scott 462a) was the top selling U.S. item on StampStore in November 2016.



fees. It is not optional. However, we are pleased to offer a waiver on the buyer's fee for purchases of more than \$200 from a single circuit.

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Retired/Pending Return:	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Retired/Returned:	6929	\$2,781,616.41	\$1,926,831.55	\$854,704.86
Rejected:	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	---
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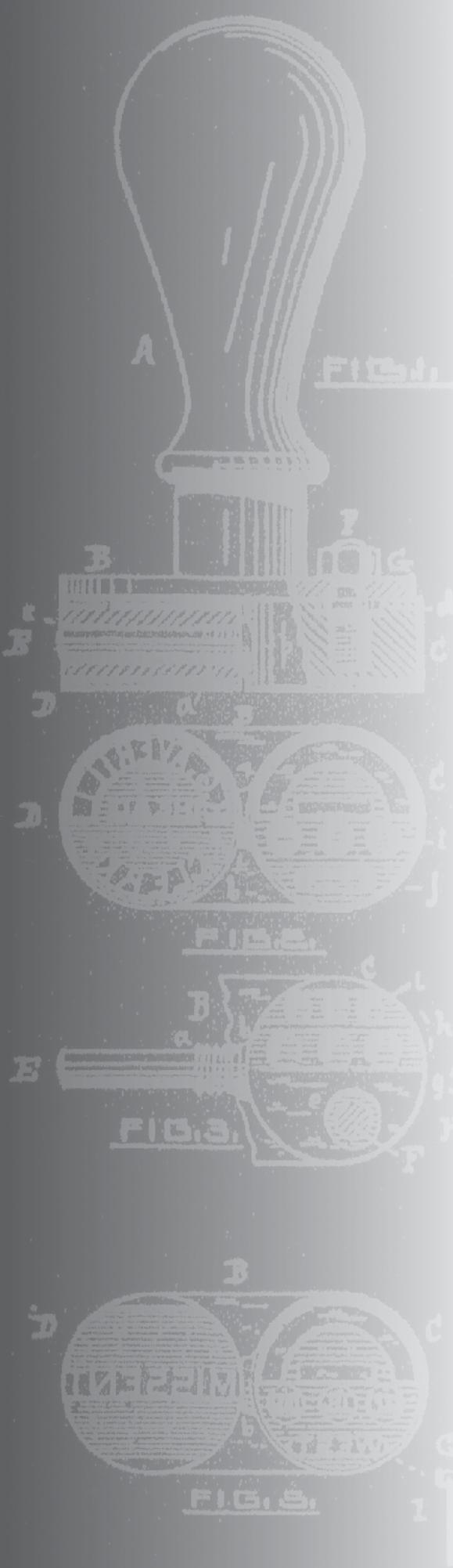
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# THE BOSTON NEGATIVE CANCELS

Devices Left Letters and Numbers Where Obliterating Ink Wasn't Applied

BY BOB GROSCH

The Boston Negative Cancels, especially those used from 1878 to 1883, are among the most avidly collected fancy cancels among collectors of U.S. postal history. There are 129 known varieties of these cancels; most of them are not rare and many of them can be purchased on cover for less than \$10.

As a negative cancel is applied, the symbol, letter, or number is unprinted against an inked background [Figure 1].

The story of these cancels begins with the U.S. Post Office Department ordering postal clerks to stop using circular datestamps to cancel stamps since this device did not apply enough ink to effectively hinder those unscrupulous folks who were cleaning the ink off of canceled stamps in order to reuse them.

After this order of July 23, 1860, postmasters developed many creative devices to cancel their mail; often these were simple stamps made of cork or wood bearing simple geometric designs in their impressions. Targets, quartered corks, initials of the postmaster or town of origin and bull's-eye designs were all popular. There also was some limited experimentation with professionally manufactured killers. Boston's response to the need for more effective killers eventually resulted in the introduction of the small Boston negatives in 1875.

The Boston negatives were not just effective killers, they were also a means to identify the specific postal clerk who handled the mail. At first,



Figure 1. Illustrations of different styles of negative cancels (left to right): solid square, solid circle, square with negative lines, and circle with negative circle.

Boston clerks used crude, handmade killers for its small negatives created out of cork or wood, and utilizing the letters A through H. These initial killers were smaller than their larger cousins and measure approximately 13 millimeters through 19 millimeters ( $\frac{33}{64}$  of an inch to three-quarters of an inch). They were used from 1875 to 1878 when the larger negatives were introduced. Although these smaller killers only used the eight letters from A to H, all letters had many varieties in their hand-cut form. The letter C, for instance, is found in at least 31 different versions.

They were eventually introduced with four different backgrounds, each utilizing different numbers and letters (eight different types). Since each type utilized several numbers or letters, these combinations produced 129 varieties.

Regular use of the small negatives ended on Saturday, May 4, 1878 [Figure 2] although a singular rare use of a small negative cancel has been found as late as September 1878.

The first recorded use of a large negative is Tuesday, May 7, 1878. The large negatives measure about 26 millimeters ( $1\frac{1}{32}$  of an inch) wide. The large negatives were first introduced in both a solid square and a solid circle format. Each format bears both numbers (1 through 13, except 9) and letters (A



Figure 3. The first known use of any of the 133 known large Boston negatives is Tuesday, May 7, 1878, with this cancel showing a number "4."

through O, except G and I) [Figure 3].

In the large format, the number 9 was not issued probably to avoid confusion with the number 6 when the killer became inverted. Similarly, the letters G and I were not used to avoid confusion with the letter C and the number 1. Covers exist with what appears to be a number 9, but census analysis of the frequency of appearance of these so-called 9s indicate that their rarity most likely resulted from covers canceled with an inverted 6.

The letters and numbers represented by these cancels were intended to provide some means of quality control for Boston's postal clerks. Each morning, clerks would sign out their killer and a record was kept of which clerk was using which cancellation device. It is not known if the quality control was to measure the accuracy of the sorting process, the volume of each worker's mail, or how effectively each clerk canceled the stamps and thereby safeguarded the post office's revenue.

Unfortunately, none of the original handstamps with their killers is extant as far as I know. However, research into the development of the canceling devices during this period provides hints as to what the canceling devices must have looked like.

Walter D. Wesson held several patents for cancellation devices between 1877 and 1883, and it is likely that these or similar devices were used for the Boston negatives. The



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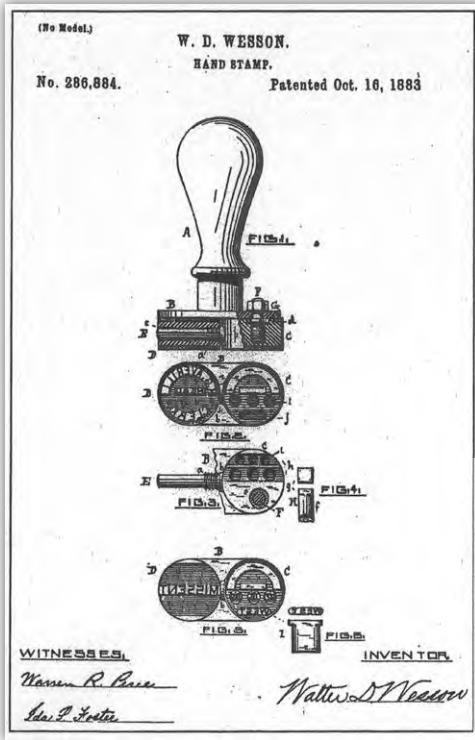


Figure 4. A patent sketch for a Wesson duplex canceling device.



Figure 5. The negative cancels on these covers include a circular dot most likely caused by the bottom of a small screw within the obliterating device.

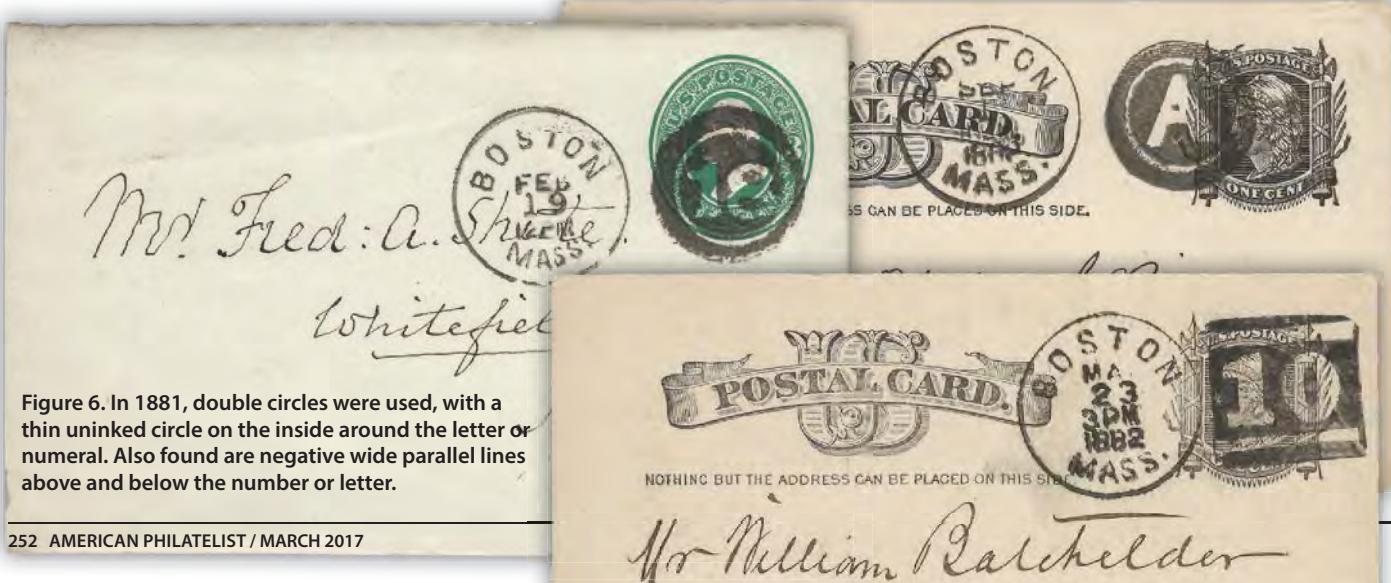


Figure 6. In 1881, double circles were used, with a thin unlinked circle on the inside around the letter or numeral. Also found are negative wide parallel lines above and below the number or letter.

diagram nearby [Figure 4] shows a Wesson device patented in 1883 that utilized a screw to hold the killer in place. It appears that on many later designs this screw caused a high spot to be formed on the business side of the killer resulting in a consistent dot on the cancel.

It is highly likely that at least some of the killers produced after 1881 were made of rubber or a very thin metal plate capable of being bent by this holding screw [Figure 5].

Beginning in 1881, a new series of varieties of the Boston negatives was introduced that included letters and numbers in both a double-circle background and in a square with negative lines at top and bottom [Figure 6].

The square with negative lines included letters A to Z (except I, P, Q, R, U, and Y). The double-circle type included numbers 1 to 14 (except 9) and 17 to

22. In addition, numbers 20 to 22 are found with only a partial double circle, leaving a blank crescent moon within the cancel [Figure 7]. Perhaps this was caused by a manufacturing defect in the production of the double-circle variety.

Finally, many unique varieties are to be found whenever postal clerks customized one of the manufactured killers, perhaps to avoid duplication of killers when duplicate letters or numbers were available. Many examples of hand-cut horizontal and vertical lines exist, as do killers with small wedges or corners removed, or even killers where elaborate alterations took place [Figure 8].

There does not seem to be any clear evidence that the customized killers served any purpose other than to identify the clerk cancelling the mail. However, there also seems to be an unusually large amount of use of the letter H in a solid circle to cancel both circular and registered mail. One



Figure 7. Was the negative crescent moon near the top of this cancel created on purpose or was it the result of a manufacturing or use defect?

of the smaller examples of H in a solid circle has even been found to be used as late as 1881, well past the standard use of the small negatives.

Besides being used to cancel mail in the Boston post of-



Figure 8. Altered negatives evolved into an increasingly complex design during the years of their use. The evolution may have inspired the later squares and circles within borders that first appeared in 1881.

fices, apparently identical devices were used in Boston's substations, such as Chelsea Station and Somerville Station [Figure 9].

A small number of large negatives have also been found from Portland, Maine; Andover, Massachusetts; Hartford, Vermont; Pittsfield, Massachusetts; Waterbury, Connecticut; and Washington, D.C. These other cities' large negative killers, while seeing limited use, appear to be made by the same unknown manufacturer as the killers from Boston.

Railroad post office's use of the large

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The U.S. Cancellation Club (APS #AF0075) is devoted to the study and publication of information about cancellations found on U.S. stamps, particularly those of the 19th century. The club offers a member directory, handbooks, exhibition awards and a quarterly journal, the *U.S. Cancellation Club News*. Contact: Joe Crosby, Treasurer, 5009 Barnsteeple Court, Oklahoma City, OK 73142; e-mail: [joeccsby@cox.net](mailto:joeccsby@cox.net).

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Figure 9. Some Boston substations also utilized negative cancels.



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negatives on trains originating in Boston became prevalent during this period as well, utilizing the letters N, S, E and W to indicate the direction of travel. Although Boston's use of the large negatives was apparently discontinued in 1883, the railroads continued to use their killers as late as 1892.

These Boston Negative Cancels have thrilled collectors for many generations.

The U.S. Cancellations Club has been making a concerted study of these cancels since 1999.

During that time, collectors have discovered at least four previously unknown varieties, first discovered more than 100 years after these cancels were discontinued. Research still continues, and a careful and watchful eye may yet discover something new in this field of study.

#### Resources

"Time on Bottom — Pursuit of a Subtle Pleasure," *The American Philatelist*, October 2011, pp. 914–917.

*Boston Postmarks to 1890* (1974, reprint of 1949 edition), by Maurice C. Blake and Davis, Wilbur W. Davis, published by Quarterman Publications, Lawrence, Massachusetts.

"Brief Notes on the Boston Negatives," *The Massachusetts Spy*, Vol. 12, No. 128, Summer 2011.

*U.S. Cancellation Club News*, May 2002, August 2006, May 2009, August 2009, May 2010, August 2011, November 2012, February 2014, August 2014.

*U.S. Cancellation Club Quarterly*, Vol. 1, No. 7, October 1952.

*U.S. Cancellation Club, Phase 2 Progress Report*, August 2004.

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#### The Author

Bob Grosch of Palo Cedro, California has been collecting stamps for more than 60 years. Bob's philatelic interests include the Boston Negative Cancels, U.S. plate varieties, and Germany's Third Reich. Bob is a retired Lutheran minister and family therapist, a member of the Redding Stamp Club, and a philatelic judge for the Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies.



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BY JEFF STAGE editorial associate  
jstage@stamps.org

### **The One-Cent Magenta: Inside the Quest to Own the Most Valuable Stamp in the World**, by James Barron

If you enjoy a story filled with intriguing characters — from the schoolboy to the reclusive immigrant textile maker, the aristocratic heir to the cigar-smoking industrialist; the Gatsby-wannabe to the notorious — read this book.

If you want to read about the inside history, drama, scientific, and business deliberations connected to a prized and iconic artifact, read this book.

If you enjoy a tale well spun, read this book.

If you're a philatelist, you MUST read this book.

*The One-Cent Magenta* explores the intersection of obsessive pursuits and great affluence, and asks why we covet that which is singular and unobtainable, according to the book's publicity agent. This is quite an exploration.

We all know the story: Schoolboy discovers rare stamp, in this case the only existing 1856 British Guiana 1-Cent Magenta with oddly clipped corners. The kid gets a poor deal when he sells it. The stamp, described (with little argument) as "terribly homely" by the widow of one owner, passes slowly over the decades from collector to collector, gaining in both popular interest and value.

The stamp has had nine owners; that is, mind you, a more exclusive club than those who have walked on the moon (a dozen). Some are well-knowns, such as Philipp von Ferrary, three APS members — Arthur Hind, Irwin Weinberg, and John E. duPont — and its current owner, women's shoe designer Stuart Weitzman, who purchased it for \$9.48 million in 2014. (Weitzman, we also learn, collects other unique items, such as the only pair of shoes that are autographed by 27 members of the 1941 New York Yankees, including Joe DiMaggio, Lefty Gomez, and Phil Rizzuto.)

You know the story of this stamp, but you have never read about this rarity in an intriguing report as this one, created by James Barron, a longtime staff writer for the New York Times. A 2006 book from Barron is titled *Piano: The Making of a Steinway Concert Grand*.

Here, Barron, who learned about the stamp being between owners at a New York City cocktail party, takes us into a realm that not many ever experience. The author traces the stamp from its discovery by Louis Vernon Vaughan in 1873, 17 years after it was printed, through all of its owners. It's a smart organizational device that allows the author plenty of space to check out these personalities.

"Not only did Ferrary [1850–1917] have some ambivalence about this wealth and titles, he did not look the part of an aristocratic Parisian. The stamp writer Fred J. Melville noted that Ferrary was "anything but spick and span, rather dowdy, in

fact, apparently careless of his attire, except for the yachting cap he always affected." The cap was emblazoned with three stars [arranged like those on the label of bottles of Martell's cognac] ... and in stamp shops across Europe, the clerks snapped to attention when they saw it."

Aside from the professional reporting and easy-to-digest writing, what gives the book a special cachet is that the author was on the spot as this rarity transferred from owner No. 8 — convicted murderer duPont, who died in prison — to owner No. 9, Weitzman, who has generously loaned the stamp to a couple of public venues so it can be seen by all,

not just a select few. Debating between loaning it stateside or to Britain, its land of origin, the stamp currently is on loan to the National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. "I'm American," simply explains Weitzman.

You are with the stamp as it flies with its auctioneer and a security guard from the U.S. overseas to be examined by the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society London. You're with the stamp before it sells in 2014 when British experts spar with David Redden of Sotheby's as to whether the stamp should be dipped in benzene and concerns about a previous examination that found "surface rubbing."

*"The Expert Committee's command post is down a narrow corridor with old floorboards that creak beneath blue carpeting. Behind an unmarked door is a long, L-shaped room dominated by a conference table that is useful for spreading out pages from stamp albums. Leather-bound volumes fill the shelves against the walls. ..."*

No worries. Between eye-on examinations and high-tech equipment, the stamp is found to be genuine.

You also travel with Redden and the stamp to St. James's Palace to meet with Michael Sefi, the keeper of the queen's collection, which was started by her grandfather, King George V. (The elusive One-Cent Magenta is the only stamp missing from the British Empire collection.) You're with the stamp when it comes back to the United States and goes under the Sotheby's auction hammer.

*"This is like a horse race — it will be over in four minutes, just like the Belmont," Redden had told me earlier, but actually it was over in two ... The audience at Sotheby's ended up squeezing into chairs with shiny metal frames and hard-plastic seats that had been jammed as close together as possible."*

The author goes on to describe potential bidders holding paddles, auction assistants at a long table paying keen attention to computer screens and phones, and skyboxes in the back screened with cream-colored curtains, some pulled wide open, others left pulled, but from which the occasional



face peeks. I won't spoil it and tell you how the Magenta's current owner conducted his bidding, though the high-style designer who knows colors confirms: It's magenta! But even if I had, it would be only the tiniest of fascinating details revealed and explored here about the world's most valuable stamp.

*Published March 7, 2017 by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Hardcover, 5 inches by 7 inches, 276 pages. \$23.95.*

## James Barron participated in the following Q and A about the book:

**Reporters and writers come across potential stories and books all the time but cannot act on all those instincts. What clicked early on that made you decide this was a story worth pursuing?**

From the very beginning, the One-Cent Magenta had more going for it than some stories — a lot more. It had any number of backstories, not just one or two.

There was mystery, present and past. The present: Who bought it, because Sotheby's didn't announce the new owner's name at the auction? The past: What happened to it during those first 13 years, from when it was postmarked in 1856 to when little Louis Vaughan found it in his uncle's house?

And, did Arthur Hind really buy an identical stamp in the 1920s and burn it as he smoked a cigar, just so he could declare that there was only one One-Cent Magenta? Maybe that story was apocryphal, but I have to agree with David Redden, the auctioneer who sold the stamp in 2014. The image of the plutocrat and the cigar is unforgettable.

**Before this book, had you dealt with investigating any kinds of collectors or hoarders? If so, what were the similarities or differences between them and stamp collectors?**

Over the years, I've written about people who collect Erector sets, people who collect slide rules, people who collect cereal boxes, people who collect jukeboxes, people who collect decoy birds, people who collect quilts, people who hoarded "old" Coke when Coca-Cola changed the formula and brought out "new" Coke, and college students who made off with Nutella from the dining halls and hoarded it in their dorms. (The administration used the word "stole," not "made off with.") They all had their passions, just as stamp collectors have theirs.

But stamp collectors have more of a sense of history with a capital H. They have an idea of why the things they collect matter — stamps tied the country together, and also the world. The cereal-box people can't claim that.

### What surprised you most about this story?

Well, first, it's so unlikely. Only one stamp survived from a run of probably several hundred? What are the odds of that?

Also, when E.L. Pemberton talked, philatelists listened, and E.L. Pemberton practically shouted about the One-Cent Magenta. How did the post office employees not say something? Surely someone in British Guiana remembered back to 1856. I have to

assume that there was a lag between when Pemberton put the exclamation points in his letter to Edward Denny Bacon — a lag in the time it took for his verdict to reach British Guiana, and when it did, the reaction was languorous: "Oh, yeah, didn't they print some of those?"

Also, the stamp itself is a chameleon. It looked almost like red clay in the morning light at the postal museum in Washington. In the wings at Sotheby's just before the auction, it was a different shade of red, and when it was brought out into the light, I thought it was another color entirely.

That's why I was surprised when Stuart Weitzman told me he had expected to see magenta, and he saw magenta. He knows color.

And, not to anthropomorphize or anything, but I wondered if the stamp had a personality that could change that much, or that quickly.

### Were any parts of the research particularly difficult? Why?

This was great because it was a chance to play scholar, something I enjoyed immensely, and it was a chance to immerse myself in your world, which I also enjoyed. The broad outlines of this stamp's story were well known, and even though the stamp itself has its mysteries, there was no mystery about where to go to read up on it. I was fortunate to live and work only a few blocks from two great storehouses of philatelic knowledge, the Collectors Club and the New York Public Library, and a plane ride from the Royal Philatelic Society London and the British Library.

The British Library! It was a thrill just to look at the famous stamp collection that's on display a few steps beyond the room where they keep one of four surviving copies of Magna Carta.

I remember going from that room to the stamp boards and looking for the place in the sequence where they'd put the One-Cent Magenta — if there were four of them and the library had one.

I also remember thinking, if there were four one-cent magentas, would I be there to work on a book?

**Considering the travels that you relate, you have spent more time close to the Magenta than most philatelists. At that time, were you aware of how special that was? Did you feel any kind of emotional bond with the stamp?**

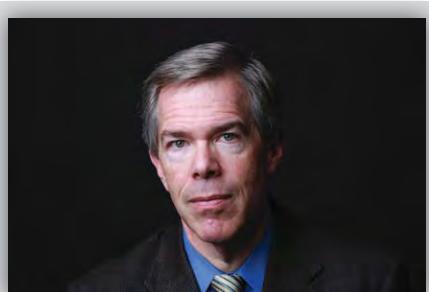
I remember leaning in for a closer look when David Redden took the stamp to the National Postal Museum in Washington a couple of months before the auction — and thinking, I'm *breathing* on the world's most valuable stamp. So, yes, I understood how special that moment was.

But I didn't feel an emotional bond right then. That came later. The One-Cent Magenta is hard to love at first glance. It is what it was, a provisional stamp that wasn't designed for looks. It was designed to do a duty, keep the mail going in the absence of "real" stamps from London. And its corners have been cut off.

And maybe because, once I was back home, I couldn't look at the stamp itself, only at images of it, the emotional pull had to do with the stories about it and the notion of the places it had gone and the people who had seen it. Or handled it.

**Of the Magenta's nine owners, who did you find the most fascinating and why?**

Hard question, because each was interesting in his own right



## Bonus Content

For more questions and answers with author James Barron about his book, visit [stamps.org/ap-bonus-content](http://stamps.org/ap-bonus-content).

— and each was different. I think I'll go with Arthur Hind, who was self-made, especially when it came to philately. There's nothing I found to indicate that he grew up collecting stamps, and he did things his way. He bought his way into stamp collecting. That's why he was called the Ferrary of America. But Hind taped stamps in place, or used gum directly on the stamps. That's not the way serious stamp people did things, even then. But, as *The London Philatelist* put it, "We do not think Mr. Hind ever claimed to be a deep student of philately."

### **Any chance you have become a collector after all of this? Why or why not?**

There's a chance, yes. But unfortunately I find that the demands of daily journalism somehow seem to expand to fill time that I could spend doing something like collecting.

### **(I am assuming that previous answer is "no.") Imagine you ARE going to become a stamp collector ... what stamps or areas would you pursue and why?**

If I became a stamp collector at this stage in life, I'd love to acquire the most interesting stamps available. If only I had Hind or duPont's kind of money . . .

### ***The Post Office in Ireland: An Illustrated History*, by Stephen Ferguson.**

A handful of insightful books over the past year or so have nicely told the history and development of the United States post office and postal service. So now comes this hefty work offering what the publisher says "is the first complete history of the Irish Postal Service, which has been central to the daily lives of Irish people for over 300 years, and remains Ireland's largest employer." The modern postal service in Ireland is called An Post.

The well-researched book (the bibliography lists more than 200 references) tells the growth and development of the island nation's postal service from the early days of packet ships and mail coaches to modern times.

As throughout the British Isles (and later the world), the introduction of the affordable postage stamp (Penny Post) in 1840 led to a revolution society — the distribution of information was no longer restricted to the wealthy; from this point onward, the Irish Post Office would shape the daily lives of every Irish citizen and play an increasingly vital role in Irish history, the publisher says. At the heart of the book are the men and women whose fascinating stories and sympathetic characters have molded the institution. Meticulous, bright, and beautifully illustrated in black-and-white and color, *The Irish Post Office: An Illustrated History* tells the tradition of public service that has been central to the development of Ireland.

Chapters of particular interest include "Letters, Franks and Stamps," "Creating a Post Office," "Postboys and Mail Coaches," "Post Barque and Packet Ship," and "Integration with Britain."

The tone is scholarly and formal throughout, and shouldn't in any way be considered light reading. Here's a sample from

the chapter on "Railways and the Post Office:"

"For approximately half a century, from Queen Victoria's jubilee in 1887 to the Second World War, the railways were the indispensable arteries of the postal service. The integration of train schedules with local mail-car services operated from head post offices meant that, except for a few exceptionally remote areas, it was possible to post a letter for a day mail dispatch in any part of Ireland for delivery anywhere else the next morning. The operation of TPOs [mail cars] on the trains was an essential component of this remarkable achievement . . ."

The book is filled with photos, maps, charts, drawings, and images of official documents.

Since the work is devoted to the entire Irish post office, chapters philatelists may be lesser concerned with include those devoted to the telegraph, telephone, and labor.

Ferguson also has written *The GPO: Two Hundred Years of History*, the GPO meaning Ireland's General Post Office, a building that has long served a role much more vital and important than the usual standard post office.

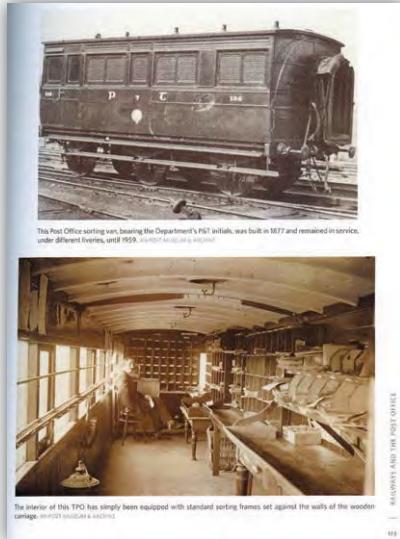
*Published in 2016 by Irish Academic Press, Newbridge, County Kildare, Ireland. Hardcover, 7½ inches by 10 inches; €23.99 (approx. \$26), plus shipping from the publisher; prices range on Amazon with used copies available.*

### ***Philatelic Genealogy*, by James R. Miller.**

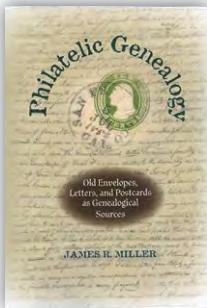
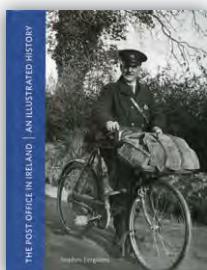
This is where the extremely fine details of two passions — philately, particularly postal history, and genealogy — meet. It's clear that the author has a keen interest in both, and here shares every painstaking detail that it takes to dissect and trace a cover and its contents through the eyes of a genealogist.

One hundred envelopes and postcards in 10 categories, from the stampless era of 1831 mostly to the end of World War I, are examined. The covers, and sometimes the letters, are shown in black and white, though the downloadable version has color versions, the author says. In some cases, the letter contents are transcribed. Most, if not all, the covers carry U.S. addresses. One chapter, "Immigrants," is devoted to 10 pieces of mail from foreign countries, including Bulgaria, Italy, and Germany.

An introductory chapter offers a very easy-to-follow primer on how to interpret a cover and what to look for, from



**An inside page from *The Post Office in Ireland: An Illustrated History*.**



addresses to postmarks, along with the basics about challenges such as name misspellings, initials, post office locations, and more. Each succeeding chapter covers time periods or types of correspondence. For example, we have "Folded Letters" (1831–1854); "Westward Expansion" (1844–1860); and "Travel and Vacation" (1899 Egypt to 1920 France).

The writing and explanations are straightforward, factual, and filled with footnotes. Example: A subchapter examining an 1868 cover with the colorful title of "Cousin Helen Thornsbury run off and got married" is three pages long, The cover image covers one-third of a page and footnotes make up 1½ pages. But it's the devilish details in these footnotes that present a wealth of information about Census, government, and other genealogical sources that could guide postal historians to information sought in their own research.

The depth of details about the individuals noted in the correspondence is impressive and shows great depth of re-

search, though I am not sure it really helps the reader to know that:

*"Jacob C. Hawley was born 22 December 1820 in Freightsburg, Quebec, just north of the Quebec-Vermont boundary, the son of Andrew and Mary (Cook) Hawley who married 19 October 1816 in Freightsburg, Jacob married Laura L. Harrington 16 November 1845. ..."*

A different type font (sans serif is used), size, and leading would have been more accommodating to the eye.

A closing chapter describes the creation of the author's online philatelic genealogy database, Philgen.org.

*Published in 2016 by Philatelic Genealogy, Inc. Softcover, 5¾ inches by 8¾ inches, 363 pages. Available for \$37 to Philatelic Genealogy, Inc., 112 Irving Pond Road, Caroga Lake, NY 12032; or as a downloadable PDF for \$3.95 from the homepage of Philgen.org (in the "News" section at top of page.)*

## Catalogs

### *Stanley Gibbons*

Stanley Gibbons Publications of the United Kingdom has released its 2017 six-volume *Stamps of the World Simplified Catalogue*. Stanley Gibbons, which also sells stamps and philatelic supplies, is the leading

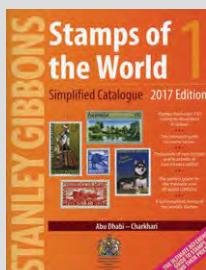
English-language producer of specialized catalogs in Europe.

It is probably not fair to compare this set to the similar-looking six-volume Standard catalog

from United States based Scott Publishing, but it's inevitable. Every catalog has its pros and cons and the Stanley Gibbons set with about 6,100 total pages is no different.

For those familiar with Scott catalogs, there are similarities and differences between the two. Both companies use their own copyrighted catalog numbers; also, color descriptions may vary. Both offer full-color illustrations, listings for major issues of postage stamps. Airmail and semi-postal stamps are part of the regular listings in the British publication, as opposed to back-of-the-book in the Scott system.

Here's what the publisher offers



as main selling points of the fully color-illustrated volumes: A full listing of stamps of the world, including definitives, commemoratives, miniature sheets, postage dues, official stamps, and other special purpose postage stamps. Items such as fiscal revenues, perfins, locals, bogus stamps, labels, telegraph stamps, and stationery cut-outs are not included, though, "where appropriate," Stanley Gibbons includes things like postage dues, newspaper and journal stamps, military post, and bulk mail. These are found at the back of the U.S. listings, for example.

Thousands of stamps throughout the 2017 *Stamps of the World* have been re-priced both mint and used. All new issues for all countries received since the previous edition are listed and priced. There are about 2,500 new stamps and 825 images added. The straightforward easy-to-use listings are ideal for collectors who do not require more specialist information, such as watermark, perforation, or shade changes.

The layout is nice and attractive in a four-column-per-page style; stamp images being centered and directly above the appropriate text. Not all face-different stamps are shown for every set. So, for the United States a listing for a 50-states pane will likely show one stamp; the more than two

dozen face-different stamps in the 1954 Liberty series are represented by three stamps. Missing are official first-day-of-issue dates.

Stamp illustrations are smaller in this catalog than in the Scott catalog. A U.S. 1950s horizontal commemorative, for example, is 7/8 of an inch by ½ inch with no border in Stanley Gibbons; 1 1/6 of an inch by ¾ of an inch (with a black border) in the Scott catalog.

Among the countries that underwent extensive re-pricing since the previous edition are Great Britain, all Commonwealth and British Empire countries for the period 1840–1970, Canada, Australia, Poland, several French colonies, and People's Republic of China.

You likely are mostly interested in British or British Empire stamps if you're using this catalog and those sections certainly are solid, though, as the title states, "simplified," as opposed to several specialized Stanley Gibbons British-themed catalogs that offer many more details. Included here are sizes and prices for mini-sheets, which carry their own separate catalog number.

*Published in late 2016. Softcover, six volumes, 6,100 pages total, total weight 33 pounds. Price £275 pounds (approximately \$338), plus shipping from stanleygibbons.com.*

# PHILATELIC HAPPENINGS



BY KEN MARTIN chief operating officer  
 kpmartin@stamps.org • Share your photos of your stamp show, club, or affiliate activities with us via e-mail at [aparticle@stamps.org](mailto:aparticle@stamps.org) for possible use online and in print.

The Venice (Florida) Stamp Club reports that enrollments are going well for Stamp Collecting 101, a special class for adults interested in learning about the hobby, and for those returning to the hobby. The club's flyer says that "In addition to a fast-paced day with many interesting activities, enrollees receive lunch and a binder of useful information. We will also have some supplies, such as tongs and perforation gauges, as long as supplies last. This is a great way to introduce someone to our wonderful hobby, or to increase your own knowledge of such topics."

The course topics will include tools of the hobby, stamp identification, sources of stamps, using a stamp catalog, stamp collecting resources, organizations for stamp collectors, and stamp browsing. For a cost of \$15 participants receive a binder of materials, lunch, free stamp collecting supplies and stamps!

## Good Wishes to Many

Congratulations to **Bill Schultz**, who reports "I have just printed my two-volume set titled *Chester County PA Post Offices*. This project has been ongoing since 1976 and is now "completed." It is 520 pages with hundreds of color scans of

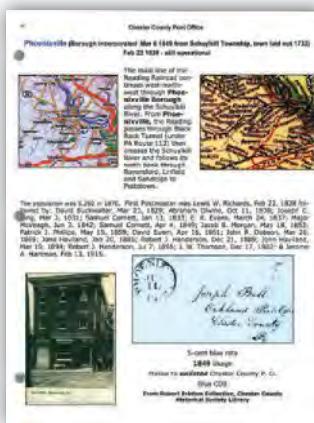
**Chester County Pennsylvania Post Offices**

Edited/Written by William R. Schultz, West Chester, PA

Volume #1 of 2 "A" to "L"

Postal History

1st Edition - January 2017



Cover and inside page from *Chester County PA Post Offices*.

covers and a history concerning each of the 260 post offices that have operated in historic Chester County.

Hard copies have been donated to the Chester County Historical Society Library and the American Philatelic Research Library as well as flash drives for their files for future postal historians.

Congratulations also to **Don Chenevert**, who was presented his Carter National Volunteer Award by APS President

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**Mick Zais** at the Southeastern Stamp Expo in Atlanta. Don is past advisory committee chair for the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship, Don has taught our beginning online course, and assisted our education department in other ways.

Member **Terry Hines** called to share some happy news. At the 2011 Postal History Symposium in Bellefonte, Terry met **Sarah Johnson**. They hit it off, started dating, and attended the APRL's grand opening together in October. Terry proposed to Sarah at the APC that day, and they plan to marry this summer!

## Out and About

Winter weather cut down on the number of out-of-town visitors in January to the American Philatelic Center, but we were pleased for a visit from **Tom Bowman**, of the Wyoming Valley (Pennsylvania) Stamp Club. Tom is one of our first "ambassadors," folks who have agreed to serve as a liaison between their club and the APS and to promote the APS to their club members. Following his visit, Tom wrote,

"Meeting all of you

was enjoyable. Thank you for taking the time to help me learn what is available to our club members and for helping meet our goals. Knowing all of this information also helps me get started on the education of all new members that this program brings to our great Hobby."

Prior to the Southeastern Stamp Expo in Atlanta, APS Shows Manager **Megan Orient** had the pleasure of attending a Birmingham (Alabama) Philatelic Society meeting. The meeting was dedicated to APS sales circuit books, so Megan had an opportunity to shop.

Megan collects "mills," and in the last circuit book she opened she found a lovely commercial cover from a windmill manufacturing company in Toledo, Ohio! Enclosed inside the cover was a personal letter written on matching



Don Chenvert (left) receives an award during a show in January from APS President Mick Zais.



Sarah Johnson (left) and Terry Hines (right) with Trish Kaufmann during the APRL grand opening event last October.



Tom Bowman (left) visits with Tom Horn during a visit to the American Philatelic Center in January.



Members of the Birmingham (Alabama) Philatelic Society.

letterhead that appears to be from a traveling salesman writing to his wife. As one member pointed out, it is funny that Megan had to go all the way to Birmingham to find a cover from a circuit book that originated from our office in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

## Southeastern Stamp Expo in Atlanta

Congratulations to the award-winning exhibitors at the Southeastern Stamp Expo held January 27 to 29 in Norcross (Atlanta, Georgia) and those at Sandical, January 27 to January 29 in San Diego.

At the Southeastern Stamp Expo, the Grand Award went to **Yamil Kouri** for "The First Postal Issues of Spanish Antilles, 1855–1865." The David L. Hill Reserve Grand Award went to **Robert Benninghoff**, for "Irish Definitive Coil Stamps, 1922–1940."

The Athens Philatelic Society Memorial One-Frame



Yamil Kouri (left) receiving the multi-frame Grand Award for his exhibit "The First Postal Issues of Spanish Antilles, 1855–1865" and Charles J. O'Brien III (right) receiving the single-frame Grand Award at Southeastern Stamp Expo. The awards were presented by Steve Schumann, who is at right in each photo. Photos by Ed Jackson.



Megan Orient showing off an acquisition for her collection during a meeting in Birmingham, Alabama.



The Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections (ESPER) held a meeting at Southeastern Stamp Expo in Atlanta. Warachal Faison (right) gave a presentation about Dorothy I. Height who is featured on the latest Black Heritage stamp issued in February. Photos by Tony Thaxton Jr.



Prior to Southeastern Stamp Expo, Gary Loew presented an On-the-Road Course titled "Mastering Postal History" that had 21 registrants.



Grand Award went to **Charles J. O'Brien III**, for "The Lexington-Concord Issue of 1925."

The day before the Southeastern show, APS member **Gary Loew** presented an On-the-Road Course from our Education Department. The course, "Mastering Postal History: How to Read and Interpret a Cover," had 21 registrants.

Also, **Tony Thaxton Jr.** reports that the **Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections**, known as **ESPER**, attended the Southeastern Stamp Expo. The group held a national meeting on January 28 with members from Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, New Jersey, Tennessee, and Alabama. The highlight of the meeting was a presentation

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from **Warachal Faison**, which answered the question, "Who is Dorothy Height?" Dorothy I. Height, the 10th national president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is this year's subject of the 40th stamp in the U.S. Postal Service's Black Heritage stamp series.

Members of ESPER also staffed a society table during the three-day event, with **Beatrice A. Cox** and **Don Neal** providing philatelic and baseball collectibles to match the show theme of "A Celebration of Baseball."

## Sandical Awards

Congratulations to the award-winning exhibitors at Sandical, another World Series of Philately national show, in San Diego. **Egil Trondsen** received the Grand Award for “Norway Registered Mail, 1800–1950,” and **Fran Adams** received the One-Frame Grand Award for “Atlantic Meeting: Roosevelt and Churchill in Newfoundland–1941.” The Reserve Grand went to **Art Bunce**, for “AQ Lettersheets of the Republic of Venice and their Watermarks, 1608–1797.”

## Sad Losses

Several prominent collectors passed away in January. One of the lesser known was **Karl Gruber** from Ohio, who joined the APS in 1980 and regularly attended our annual summer seminar. Karl was always very upbeat about the hobby. His cousin informed us of his passing and mentioned that his stamps would be sold and all proceeds would be donated to the APS Tiffany Fund.

Another loss in January was **David Bizé**, of Arizona, who had been a member since 1968. David served in the Army for two years during World



David Bizé

A third loss was **John Hufnagel**, an APS member since 1972. Gordon Miller, president of the White Rose Philatelic Society writes, "I believe that John was the only treasurer the White Rose Philatelic Society had ever known. He may also have been treasurer of the now defunct Keystone Federation of Stamp Clubs and the several Federation Stamp Shows. I know he

was instrumental in the formation of the Keystone Federation of Stamp Clubs.

"John was general chairman of our York County Stamp Shows for as long as I have been involved. He also was exhibit chairman when we still had competitive exhibits at our show. He was publicity chairman and really handled everything other than bourse chairman. We are just learning all the "unseen" jobs that John just took care of for the club and the stamp show.

He was well known for his award winning exhibits of "Kansas and Nebraska Overprints" and "Private Vending Coils," which he readily shared at York County Stamp Show (formerly Yorkopex) and several other regional shows.

However, the best known APS member who passed away in January was **Rob Haeseler**, the former *Linn's Stamp News* senior editor and APS director of administration. APS Executive Director **Scott English** writes about Rob in this month's "Our Story" column. We are also thankful to Rob's daughters who have already delivered 44 boxes of philatelic literature owned by Rob for our library.



**Rob Haeseler.**

Thanks to all who provide ideas and information for this column.

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## EDUCATION

BY GARY W. LOEW guest columnist

# When Student Becomes Teacher

## Philatelic Knowledge Grew Greatly Over a Decade of Summer Seminars

I returned to stamp collecting in 2007 and joined the American Philatelic Society. Revisiting my stamps and covers for the first time in decades only made me aware of how little I knew about philately.

So, in 2008 I signed up for my first Summer Seminar on Philately and took Wayne Youngblood's perennial course, "Stamp Technology." I learned so much from Wayne that summer. And the electives brought into focus things I'd never considered, like philatelic estate planning and philatelic insurance. I also took Chuck Drouillard's elective, "So You Want to be a Stamp Dealer," where I learned why I shouldn't be one. The philatelic camaraderie among the students, the faculty, and the APS staff was just amazing and I made many new friends. It was an incredible week. I also came to recognize how much more there was to learn. I have returned each year since then. There has never been a summer where more than one course didn't compete for my attention.

The next summer I studied "The Philatelic Marketplace" with Irv Miller and Clark Frazier. The course gave me a totally different awareness of how to build my collections wisely and frugally. In 2010, I signed up for "Social Perspectives of the Postal Service," which turned out to be the first of three summers I spent studying with Diane DeBlois and Robert Dalton Harris. Never had I contemplated just how central our hobby is to understanding history, economics, and society at large. That summer totally changed my perspective on much of my life and I remain in their debt.

I do not have the space here to describe my nine summers in Bellefonte. But I would like to mention one other experience. At the end of the 2011 session we were asked to suggest courses we'd like to see in the future. I requested a course on understanding postal history.

The next summer I was overjoyed to take the course, "How to Read and Evaluate a Cover," taught by the late David



Photo from Summer Seminar 2012 where David Straight taught a course titled "How to Read and Evaluate a Cover." Gary W. Loew was one of the students in the class.

L. Straight. What a powerful and insightful introduction to postal history. I was absolutely hooked and have been a dedicated postal historian ever since. David was kind enough to gift me with a copy of all his research and presentation materials for the course. I have been told subsequently that there is a continuing interest to see that course offered again.

I still have so much more to learn. I recognize that the best way to learn something is to teach it. So, to honor the memory of my late mentor, David Straight, I am excited that for my 10th year at Summer Seminar, I will be teaching the course "Mastering Postal History: How to Read and Interpret a Cover" at this year's seminar, June 25 to 30 at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. I hope to see you there.

For additional details on this year's courses, visit the APS website at [stamps.org/summer-seminar](http://stamps.org/summer-seminar). You can also register via that site.

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# HOW I BECAME A STAMP COLLECTOR

BY DON MORRIS

I am sure that my parents plotted against me one day. They had to come up with a plan to keep little Donny busy, and out of trouble. My dad, a Methodist minister, had a couple of missionary friends who were serving in Brazil and China. It was the mid- to late 1940s. You may remember those days because the U.S. mail was the major source of cheap communication.

My father did several things very well. He was a great preacher, a prolific writer, and a tremendous prayer. Every day we heard the names of the missionaries mentioned in family prayer, and almost every week, we received letters from two (and sometimes more) foreign countries. My mother would cut the stamps off their envelopes with a little precur-sory comment like, "Donny, you should save all these stamps because they'll be worth something someday!" That was the beginning.

Then in third grade, I had a friend, Jimmy, who had an Aunt Mary, who had a stamp collection. This led to the purchase of a stamp book. My fifth-grade teacher collected stamps. Jimmy and I did a lot of stamp trading during those years. He liked triangles, and I liked the huge oversized ones. I ended up with Ecuador, while Jimmy owned every triangle in the world, so it seemed. Jimmy taught me a thing or two about bartering.

During the sixth grade, my mother was chosen to attend a special convention at the United Nations as a representative of our church. Upon her return home, she brought me several mint United Nations stamps from the first two years. Of course, I quickly hinged them into my album. Mistake!

Meanwhile, a construction company came along and began digging up our Saginaw baseball field. They even took down the large sign that was a fly ball automatic double. Many of our neighborhood kids bemoaned the fact that a brand new savings and loan bank was erected right in the middle of our diamond.

However, a year later, a small basement room that was located over second base became the meeting facility for a new stamp club. Jimmy and I would have preferred playing baseball, but we went with our second choice by attending



Early United Nations stamps, Scott 1-4.

the stamp club meeting, which consisted mostly of old men.

Then, like many others that I have read about, I stored my stamps away for a few years. In my 20s, a friend asked me if I would like his "extras." He put them in a sealed box about 3 feet high, and 8 inches by 2½ feet on top. That crammed box of duplicates traveled with my wife and me to 12 houses. Unknown to me, those 30,000 stamps had compacted into a small wad of usable, but wrinkled stamps that I finally unpacked in 1989. I had been away from the hobby for 36 years!

I joined the now defunct Sarnia (Canada)-Port Huron (Michigan) Stamp Club. Every month, some dedicated Canadians would cross the bridge to kibitz with their American friends about stamps. About the same time, I joined the American Philatelic Society. I attended a summer seminar at State College one summer.

I began traveling to stamp auctions in Detroit where I bought many boxes of stamps in many forms. Then, one year we took a trip to Boys Town and donated about 40,000 stamps. They weren't worth much, but the trip alone and talking stamps to the dedicated volunteers that work there was worth the train ride.

I now spend my spare time sorting, collecting, and cataloging. I look at my hobby as a hobby. I do not have to read every stamp history or reference book in the library. I pick up interesting tidbits as I go. I just enjoy doing my thing with stamps.

When I run out of other things to do, I have a choice: either bother my wife or go to my stamps. I prefer the latter because it is the safer choice!

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# Don't Miss Out on Your Spot

## Deadlines Loom for This Summer's APS StampShow

**A**s many of you receive this issue of *The American Philatelist*, our two-person department and one-third of the APS staff will be in Reno, Nevada March 3 to 5 hosting AmeriStamp Expo.

While some believe that the travel of a convention and show planner is a glamorous lifestyle, it can be misleading. Certainly, site visits to venues around the country offer a chance for a "windshield tour" and taste of the local host city (sometimes in two hours or less!). But during the show, the view from inside a convention center for seven days, which include prep and post-show work, is far from glamorous. As most of our fellow planners can attest, hosting a show means long hours for the planning team, often 12-to-18 hour days: from making sure the breakfast rooms are ready before guests arrive to security of auctions that run as late as midnight. But beyond the hard work, the excitement of being an event planner never wanes! Every show presents a unique set of challenges and offerings.

Partnerships are in the works with our strongest ally — the United States Postal Service, as well as the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, the



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

The listings are free to World Series of Philately and other shows that are sponsored by an APS chapter or affiliate. Other shows/bourses may purchase listings for the month of the show/bourse and the month prior **only**. The listing fee is \$25 per show per issue. Shows designated **\*B\*** are bourse only.

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

### Nevada

**March 2**

EFOs and You: How Your Collection, Knowledge Base, and Exhibit can All Benefit From Postal Blunders; On the Road Course, Prior to the AmeriStamp Expo- Reno Sparks Convention Center, Reno. **\*APS\*** Contact: Janet Houser; [education@stamps.org](mailto:education@stamps.org); [www.stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses](http://www.stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses)

### Nevada

**March 3-5**

APS AmeriStamp Expo 2017; American Philatelic Society, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 4590

Confederate Stamp Alliance, and the Cuban Philatelic Society of America. We also hope to have a special emphasis on Canada's 150th anniversary at the show.

Harmer-Schau will once again hold auctions on-site, and we welcome a new StampShow auction partner, H.R. Harmer Inc.

Though I am writing this column several weeks ahead of printing, I can assure you that participant slots for this summer's StampShow in Richmond are already filling fast, and will likely prove to be our largest show in the last three years. Centrally located in the mid-Atlantic Region, the Greater

Richmond Convention Center is well-positioned for this grand event August 3 to 6.

The APS Shows Department is accepting dealer, society, seminar, and philatelic and literature exhibit applications. Please send reservation forms by March 31 to confirm your participation and

maximize promotion. General registration will open in mid-March, and will close in mid-July. Reserve rooms early to secure space in the headquarters hotel: Marriott Richmond (500 East Broad Street; \$129 per night).

### Michigan

**March 4-5**

Michipex 2017; Michigan Stamp Club, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 West Warren, Dearborn Heights. **\*B\*** Contact: John Bendzick, 313-277-2298

### New York

**March 4-5**

BUFPEX 2017; The Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga. Contact: George Gates, 716-633-8358; [gghg53@aol.com](mailto:gghg53@aol.com)

### Ohio

**March 4-5**

McKinley Stamp Club Show; McKinley Stamp Club, St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW, North Canton. Contact: David Pool, 330-832-5992; [lincolnway@ssnet.com](mailto:lincolnway@ssnet.com); <http://mksc.webs.com>

### Tennessee

**March 4-5**

Knoxpex 2017 -Honoring Pat Summitt; Knoxville Philatelic Society, Holiday Inn Knoxville-West, 9134 Executive Park Dr., Knoxville. Contact: Tom Broadhead, 865-696-4803; [twbroadhead@utk.edu](mailto:twbroadhead@utk.edu); [www.sefsc.org/knoxpex.html](http://sefsc.org/knoxpex.html)

### Wisconsin

**March 4-5**

STAMPFEST 2017; Milwaukee Philatelic Society, St. Aloysius- Gonzaga Hall, 1435 S 92nd St, West Allis. **\*B\*** Contact: Michael Mules, 414-234-9867; [foxriverstamps@gmail.com](mailto:foxriverstamps@gmail.com); [www.milwaukeephilatelic.org](http://www.milwaukeephilatelic.org)

**Connecticut** **March 11**  
NORPEX 2017; Norwalk Stamp Club, Norwalk Senior Center, 11 Allen Road, Norwalk. Contact: John Leskovsky, 203-846-2490; johnleskovsky@sbcglobal.net; www.thenorwalkstampclubinc.org

**California** **March 11-12**  
Frespx 2017; Fresno Philatelic Society, Veterans Memorial Building, 435 Hughes Ave., Clovis. \*B\* Contact: Dick Richardson, 559-431-5013; starstamps@thegrid.net

**Illinois** **March 11-12**  
Rockford Stamp and Cover Show 2017; Rockford Stamp Club, Forest Hills Lodge, 1601 West Lane Rd. (Hwy 173), Loves Park. Contact: Tim Wait, 815-670-5869; t.wait@comcast.net; www.rockfordstampclub.org

**Indiana** **March 11-12**  
Spring Stamp Fair; Indiana Stamp Club, Lawrence Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin, Lawrence. \*B\* Contact: Rick Nelson, 317-595-0304; janelsonncp@comcast.net; www.indianastampclub.org

**New Mexico** **March 11-12**  
Mesilla Valley Stamp Show; Mesilla Valley Stamp Club, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 East University Ave., Las Cruces. Contact: Richard Hiss, 575-202-1937; RHiss@comcast.net; www.meetinlascruses.com

**Massachusetts** **March 12**  
SOPEX 2017; Samuel Osgood Stamp Club, Elks Hall, 652 Andover Street, Lawrence. \*B\* Contact: Robert A. Dominque, 978-470-0583; radpm67@gmail.com;

**Ohio** **March 12**  
Spring 'Filatelic' Fair; Central Ohio Stamp & Postcard Dealers, Holiday Inn Columbus/Worthington, 7007 N. High St., Worthington. \*B\* Contact: John Hickel; johnhickel@aol.com

**Ohio** **March 12-13**  
Finpex 2017; Fort Findlay Stamp and Post Card Club, Arcadia Lions Community Center, 301 W Brown Rd, Arcadia. Contact: Scott Little, 419-296-5565; moeberg2@roadrunner.com

**Indiana** **March 17-18**  
Centerville Stamp Show; James Wadman, Friends Fellowship Community, 2030 Chester Boulevard, Richmond. \*B\* Contact: James Wadman, 937-456-2188; jamesgwadman@gmail.com

**Illinois** **March 17-19**  
ASDA Stamp Show; American Stamp Dealers Association, Linder Conference Center, 610 East Butterfield Rd., Lombard. \*B\* Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207; dana@americanstampdealer.com; www.americanstampdealer.com

**Wisconsin** **March 18**  
BAYPEX '17; Green Bay Philatelic Society, St. Matthew's Church Multi-Purpose Room, 2575 South Webster Ave., Green Bay. \*B\* Contact: Ray D. Perry, 920-469-8925; fiveperrys@athenet.net.

**Florida** **March 18-19**  
BAYPEX Stamp & Coin Show; Clearwater Stamp Club, Honeywell Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Avenue North, Largo. Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897; h.rogg@verizon.net; www.floridastampshows.com / www.floridastampdealers.org

**Tennessee** **March 18-19**  
Nashville Stamp and Postcard Show 2017; Nashville Philatelic Society, Fifty Forward

Senior Center, 301 Madison Street, Madison. Contact: Tom Tribke, 615-833-5161; show@nashvillephilatelic.org; www.nashvillephilatelic.org

**Texas** **March 18-19**  
Rio Grande Valley Stamp and Coin Show; McAllen Stamp Club, Harlingen Cultural Events Center, 576 76 Drive, Harlingen. \*B\* Contact: Steven Kirpes, 956-380-2930; skirpes@hiline.net; http://stamps.org/McAllen-Stamp-Club-Calendar

**Virginia** **March 18-19**  
SPRINGPEX 2017; Springfield Stamp Club, Robert E. Lee High School (Cafeteria), 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield. Contact: Gerry Frazier; frazierg@cox.net; www.springfieldstampclub.org

**Ohio** **March 23-25**  
Garfield-Perry March Party; Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, La Villa Conference and Banquet Center, 115000 Brookpark Road, Cleveland. \*WSP\* Contact: Roger Rhoads; rrrhoads@aol.com; www.garfieldperry.org

**Alberta** **March 25-26**  
Edmonton Stamp Club Spring National Stamp Show; Edmonton Stamp Club, Edmonton Central Lions Centre, 111 Ave & 113 Street, Edmonton. \*WSP\* Contact: David Piercy, 780-437-2771; dpiercy@telus.net; www.edmontonstampclub.com

**Ontario** **March 25-26**  
National Postage Stamp and Coin Show; Canadian Stamp News, Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale, 6750 Mississauga Road, Mississauga. Contact: Michale Walsh, 800-408-0352 Ext 228; mwalsh@trajan.ca; www.stampandcoinshow.com

**Washington** **March 25-26**  
Apple Blossom; Inland Empire Philatelic Society, Hilton Garden Inn, 9015 West Highway 2, Spokane. \*WSP\* Contact: J. Wilson Palmer, 509-443-8147; ickyburg@comcast.net; www.ieps-stamps.com

**Illinois** **March 31-April 1**  
Metro East Postcard Show; VFW Hall, 1234 Vandalia Ave (IL Hwy 159), Collinsville. \*B\* Contact: Tom Snyder, 618-531-4189; the.snyders@charter.net

**Missouri** **March 31-April 2**  
St. Louis Stamp Expo; Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. \*WSP\* Contact: David Kols, 800-782-0066; expo@regencystamps.com; www.stlstampexpo.org

**Vermont** **April 1**  
Crossroads Stamp & Postcard Show; Upper Valley Stamp Club, Mid-Vermont Christian School Gym, 399 W. Gilson Avenue, Quechee. \*B\* Contact: John Lutz, 802-728-6212; jalutz@gmail.com

**Florida** **April 1-2**  
TALPEX 2017; Tallahassee Stamp and Cover Club, Tallahassee Seniors Center, 1400 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee. \*B\* Contact: Gerard York, 850-284-4712; gerard\_york@msn.com; www.tsandcc.info

**Illinois** **April 8-9**  
MSDA Spring Show North; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Country Inn and Suites, 600 N. Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Hgts.. \*B\* Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676; jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com

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<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>April 9</b>	James Parish Hall, 9640 Kennedy Ave., Highland. Contact: Jerry Emerson, 219-662-1296; <a href="http://calumetstampclub.org">http://calumetstampclub.org</a>	<b>Colorado</b>	<b>May 26-28</b>
DANEPEX '17; Badger Stamp Club, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave., Madison. Contact: Bob Voss, 608-838-1033; <a href="http://lestamps@charter.net">lestamps@charter.net</a> ; <a href="http://www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger">www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger</a>			Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (ROMPEX); Rocky Mountain Phil. Exhibition, Inc., Crown Plaza Denver International Airport Convention Center, John Q. Hammonds Trade Center, Chambers Rd & I-70, Denver. *B* Contact: Steve McGill, 720-529-5942; <a href="mailto:steve.mcgill@comcast.net">steve.mcgill@comcast.net</a> ; <a href="http://www.rockymountainstampshow.com">www.rockymountainstampshow.com</a>	
<b>New York</b>	<b>April 13-15</b>	Philatelic Show; Northeastern Fed. Of Stamp Clubs, Boxborough Regency Hotel, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough. *B* Contact: Jeff Shapiro; <a href="mailto:coverlover@gmail.com">coverlover@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.nefed.org">www.nefed.org</a>	<b>Massachusetts</b>	<b>May 5-7</b>
ASDA Stamp Show; American Stamp Dealers Association, The Hilton, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York. *B* Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207; <a href="mailto:dana@americanstampdealer.com">dana@americanstampdealer.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.americanstampdealer.com">www.americanstampdealer.com</a>		Trumpex 2017; The Warren Area Stamp Club, St Demetrios Community Center, 3223 Atlantic St., NE, Warren, Trumbull County. *B* Contact: Howard Lutz, 330-282-2860; <a href="mailto:howrex2@aol.com">howrex2@aol.com</a>	<b>Ohio</b>	<b>May 6</b>
<b>Delaware</b>	<b>April 22</b>	WISCOPEX 2017; Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn Convention Center, 1001 Amber Avenue, Stevens Point. Contact: JD Manville, 715-341-6767; <a href="mailto:jadeco@charter.net">jadeco@charter.net</a> ; <a href="http://www.wfscstamps.org">www.wfscstamps.org</a>	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>May 6-7</b>
DELPEX 2017; Brandywine Valley Stamp Club, Nur Shrine CenterTemple, 198 S. Du Pont Hwy (US Routes 13 & 40), New Castle. Contact: Bill Clark, 302-322-2719; <a href="mailto:kmc4076@aol.com">kmc4076@aol.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com">www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com</a>		WISCOPEX 2017; Butler County Philatelic Society, Tanglewood Senior Center, 10 Austin Ave., Lyndora. Contact: Tom Sivak, 724-287-1931; <a href="mailto:tomsstamps@zoominternet.net">tomsstamps@zoominternet.net</a> ; <a href="http://www.butlercountyphilatelicsociety.com">www.butlercountyphilatelicsociety.com</a>	<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>May 12-13</b>
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>April 22</b>	PIPEX; Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach, 909 N. Hayden Island Drive, Portland. *B* Contact: Tony Wawrukiewicz, 503-244-8223; <a href="mailto:tonywaw@spiritrite.com">tonywaw@spiritrite.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.pipexstampshow.org">www.pipexstampshow.org</a>	<b>Oregon</b>	<b>May 12-14</b>
TUSCOPEX 17; Tuscora Stamp Club, Tuscora Park Pavilion, 161 Tuscora Avenue, NW, New Philadelphia. *WSP* Contact: Jim Shamel, 740-922-4610; <a href="mailto:jimhelenshamel@hotmail.com">jimhelenshamel@hotmail.com</a>		ROPEX; Rochester Phil. Assoc., The Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 North Bloomfield Rd, Canandaigua. *WSP* Contact: Tom Fortunato, 585-752-6178; <a href="mailto:stampmtf@frontiernet.net">stampmtf@frontiernet.net</a> ; <a href="http://www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html">www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html</a>	<b>New York</b>	<b>May 19-20</b>
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>April 22-23</b>	Utah Spring Stamp Show; Utah Philatelic Society, Sons of Utah Pioneer Bldg., 3301 E. Louise Ave., Salt Lake City. *B* Contact: Dave Blackhurst, 801-580-9534; <a href="mailto:dblackhu@gmail.com">dblackhu@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.utahphilatelic.org">www.utahphilatelic.org</a>	<b>Utah</b>	<b>May 19-20</b>
2017 GULFPEX Exhibition and Bourse; Gulf Coast Stamp Club, St. Martin Community Center, 15004 LeMoyne Blvd., Biloxi. Contact: John Barrett, Ph.D., 214-240-5256; <a href="mailto:jstrubelboy@aol.com">jstrubelboy@aol.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.gulfcoaststampclub.org">www.gulfcoaststampclub.org</a>		Hudson Stamp Bourse; Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway, Hudson. *B* Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992; <a href="mailto:lincolnway@ssnnet.com">lincolnway@ssnnet.com</a>	<b>Ohio</b>	<b>May 21</b>
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>April 22-23</b>	Tampere, Finland FINLANDIA 2017; FEPA (European Federation) exhibition with the USA invited to participate, Tampere. Contact: Stephen D. Schumann, 510-785-4794. Contact address: 2417 Cabrillo Drive, Hayward, CA 94545, United States; <a href="mailto:sdsch@earthlink.net">sdsch@earthlink.net</a>	<b>Tampere, Finland</b>	<b>May 24-28</b>
WILKPEX 2017; Wilkinsburg Stamp Club, Gateway Firehall, 4370 Northern Pike, Monroeville. Contact: Tom Donohue, 412-373-8697; <a href="mailto:wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com">wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com">www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com</a>		FINLANDIA 2017; FEPA (European Federation) exhibition with the USA invited to participate, Tampere. Contact: Stephen D. Schumann, 510-785-4794. Contact address: 2417 Cabrillo Drive, Hayward, CA 94545, United States; <a href="mailto:sdsch@earthlink.net">sdsch@earthlink.net</a>	<b>Michigan</b>	<b>April 28-30</b>
<b>California</b>	<b>April 26-27</b>	CalUPEX 2017; Calumet Stamp Club, Saint	<b>Michigan</b>	<b>April 29-30</b>
Western Expansion: As Illustrated Through Postal History; On the Road Course, Prior to WESTPEX Show- San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel, Burlingame. *APS* Contact: Janet Houser; <a href="mailto:education@stamps.org">education@stamps.org</a> ; <a href="http://www.stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses">www.stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses</a>		Plymouth Show; West Suburban Stamp Club, Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland. *WSP* Contact: Tim Strzalkowski, 313-533-7737; <a href="mailto:mywssc@msn.com">mywssc@msn.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.plymouthshow.com">www.plymouthshow.com</a>	<b>Indiana</b>	<b>May 5-6</b>
WESTPEX; WESTPEX, Inc., San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame. *WSP* Contact: Edward Jarvis, 415-387-1016; <a href="mailto:ejarvis@westpex.com">ejarvis@westpex.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.westpex.com">www.westpex.com</a>		CALUPEX 2017; Calumet Stamp Club, Saint	<b>Michigan</b>	<b>April 29-30</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>May 5-6</b>		<b>Indiana</b>	<b>May 5-6</b>

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### Pennsylvania

**June 24-25**

SCOPEX 2017; Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society, American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. Contact: Don Heller, 814-861-5720; dheller5720@yahoo.com

### Pennsylvania

**June 25-30**

APS Summer Seminar on Philately. Offers instruction in specific areas through a combination of lectures and hands-on workshops. American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. **\*APS\*** Contact: Cathy Brachbill; cbrachbill@stamps.org; stamps.org/Summer-Seminar

### Nevada

**June 26-29**

PMCC Convention; Post Mark Collectors Club, Best Western Airport Plaza Hotel, 1981 Terminal Way, Reno. Contact: Mike DelGrosso; diandme2@yahoo.com; www.postmarks.org

### Illinois

**July 8-9**

MSDA Summer Show North; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Country Inn and Suites, 600 N. Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Hgts. **\*B\*** Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676; jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com

### Indiana

**July 15-16**

MSDA Indianapolis Stamp Show; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Lawrence Park and Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin Rd., Lawrence. **\*B\*** Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676; jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com

### Pennsylvania

**July 17-21**

Volunteer Work Week; American Philatelic Center,

100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. **\*APS\*** Contact: Cathy Brachbill, 814-933-3803 ext. 239; cbrachbill@stamps.org; stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week

### Minnesota

**July 21-23**

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

### Ohio

**July 23**

Hudson Stamp Bourse; Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway, Hudson. **\*B\*** Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992; lincolnway@sssnet.com

### North Carolina

**July 29-30**

CHARPEX 2017; Charlotte Philatelic Society, Worrell Bldg. Central Piedmont Community College, 1228 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte. Contact: Gene Zhiss, 704-553-8110; signup@charpex.info; www.charpex.info/

### Virginia

**August 3-6**

APS STAMPSHOW; American Philatelic Society, Greater Richmond Convention Center, 403 North 3rd St., Richmond. **\*WSP\*** Contact: Kathleen Edwards, 814-933-3803 ext 217; stampshow@stamps.org; stamps.org/STAMPSHOW-SS

### Bandung, Indonesia

**August 3-7**

BANDUNG 2017; Specialized World Philatelic Exhibition, Bandung. Contact: US Commissioner: Jack Harwood

Contact address: 4641 Windsor Park, Sarasota, FL 34235; jharwood222@verizon.net

### Ohio

**August 5-6**

CINPEX 2017; Greater Cincinnati Philatelic Society, Greenhills American Legion Post, 11100 Winton Rd, Cincinnati. **\*B\*** Contact: Jill R. Ambrose, 513-231-4208; jillambrose@zoomtown.com; www.gcps.webs.com

### Ohio

**August 11-13**

AMERICOVER; American First Day Cover Society, Embassy Suites Hotels, 5800 Rockside Woods Blvd., Independence. **\*WSP\*** Contact: Chris Lazaroff; showinfo@afdcos.org; www.afdcos.org/show

### Pennsylvania

**August 26**

Erie Stamp Show; Erie Stamp Club, Erepa Grotto, 3828 Washington Ave, Erie. **\*B\*** Contact: Gary Diley, 814-734-1650; hingerrem@gmail.com

### Ohio

**August 27**

Hudson Stamp Bourse; Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway, Hudson. **\*B\*** Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992; lincolnway@sssnet.com

### Maryland

**September 1-3**

BALPEX; Baltimore Phil. Soc., Baltimore Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., I-83 Exit 20 E., Hunt Valley. **\*WSP\*** Contact: Michael Carski, 410-465-5712; vgnr@hotmail.com; www.balpex.org

### New Jersey

**September 8-10**

NOJEX; North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, Inc., Best Western Robert Treat Hotel, 50 Park Place, Newark. **\*WSP\*** Contact: Robert G. Rose, 908-305-9022; robertrose25@comcast.net; www.

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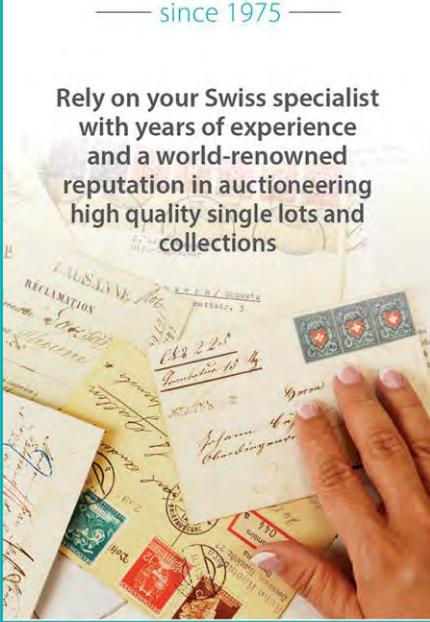


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357a	C50M 200
716-31	S57 500
782	S61M 1,000
798a	C106M 1,000
967-80	W6 1,500
996a	W10 2,000 unfolded
1211-14	N17 200
1383a	J25m 250
1399	T28m 350
1433	T29m 150
1452	T31M 180
1483A	T38M 80
1492	J41M 380
1518	T41M 900
1540	T37M 110
1586	T46 1,200
1607a	SB1 300
1647a	SB3 110
1761	T68M 100



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**Washington** **September 8-10**  
 SEAPEX; Seattle Philatelic Exhibition, Tukwila Convention Center, 12424 42nd Ave., S., Tukwila.  
 \*WSP\* Contact: Jack Congrove; seapex@comcast.net; http://seapexshow.org

**Illinois** **September 9-10**  
 MSDA Summer Show West; Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Lindner Conference Center, 610 E. Butterfield Rd., Lombard. \*B\* Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676; jfb7437@aol.com; www.msdastamp.com

**Nebraska** **September 9-10**  
 Omaha Stamp Show; Omaha Philatelic Society, Metro Community College-South Campus, 2909 Babe Gomez Ave., Omaha. \*B\* Contact:

Herb Eveland, 402-397-9937; tuvaenterprises@hotmail.com; www.omahaphilatelicociety.org

**Wisconsin** **September 15-17**  
 MILCOPEX; Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Inc., Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 South 13th St., Milwaukee. \*WSP\* Contact: Mary Ann Bowman/ Dona Fagan, 262-251-0617; maryann15b@mac.com; www.milwaukeephilatelic.org

**Ohio** **September 17**  
 Hudson Stamp Bourse; Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway, Hudson. \*B\* Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992; lincolnway@sssnet.com

**New York** **October 5-8**  
 ASDA Fall Postage Stamp Show 2017; American

Stamp Dealers Association, The Hilton Midtown, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York.

\*WSP\* Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207; dana@americanstampdealer.com; www.americanstampdealer.com

**Utah** **October 6-7**  
 Utah Fall Stamp Show; Utah Philatelic Society, Sons of Utah Pioneer Bldg., 3301 E. Louise Ave., Salt Lake City. \*B\* Contact: Dave Blackhurst, 801-580-9534; dblackhu@gmail.com; www.utahphilatelic.org

**Indiana** **October 6-8**  
 INDYPLEX; Indiana Stamp Club, Hamilton County Fairgrounds and Exhibition Center, 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville. \*WSP\* Contact: Bob Zeigler, 317-844-5200; rzeigler@zcklaw.com

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#### Illinois

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# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

No. 1, January 31, 2017

## NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during January 2017. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to March 31, 2017 these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the April 2017 issue.

Aljorf, Fadi (227173) **Fort Worth, TX** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY- CANADA-BRITISH EMPIRE-EUROPE-ASIA; 42

Alvarez, Gustavo (227160) **Forest Hills, NY** US, 19TH CENTURY; 56

Athon, Kenneth (227213) **Fort Wayne, IN**

Barewald, David (227121) **Anaheim, CA** US AIRMAILS, 19TH CENTURY-SHIPS/BOATS-AVIATION-ZEPPELIN COVERS/ STAMPS-FOREIGN AIRMAILS; 52

Beemster, Gerard (227211) **Burien, WA** US COMMEMORATIVES-ISLE OF MAN-VATICAN CITY-IRELAND; 60

Blanyer, Ronald (227122) **Littleton, CO** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY; 69; Retired

Bradford, Edward D. (227123) **McDonough, GA** US; Retired

Brooks, Steve D. (227196) **Easley, SC** US, BACK OF THE BOOK; 40; Reliability Technician

Brown, Jonathan L. (227136) **Howell, MI** STAMP DESIGN ERRORS-US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, ERRORS/FREAKS/ ODDITIES

Bunch, Charles (227172) **Birmingham, AL**

Burkey, Steven J. (227152)

**Springfield, MO** US 19TH CENTURY-ZEPPELIN COVERS/ STAMPS-GREAT BRITAIN- CONCORDE COVERS; 68; Retired

Burks, Joseph E. (227190) **Victoria, TX** EARLY US; 71; Retired

Bush, Gary R. (227183) **North Brookfield, MA** FRANCE- GERMANY-ITALY-RUSSIA/USSR/ INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS; 65;

Retail

Caraway, Robert F. (12718-227140)

**Chesapeake, VA** US, FDC; 69; Retired

Carlton, Larry F. (227214) **Flat Rock, AL** WORLDWIDE; 51

Chambers, Ace (227181) **Kansas City, MO** US-ISRAEL-CZECHOSLOVAKIA-POLAND-WORLDWIDE-TRIANGLES/ODD SHAPES; 55; Child Care

Clover, David (227132) **Oakland, CA** FRANCE-GERMANY-BRITISH AMERICA; 74

Collachia, Heather (227179) **Plainfield, IL** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, DUCK/ HUNTING/FISHING-UN; 46

Coody, Patricia B. (227204) **Orange City, FL**; 51; USPS

Cwikla, Paul (227137) **Portsmouth, OH** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY; 60

Daniel, Rolf (227119) **Akron, IN** US CLASSICS-CANADA- GERMANY-FOREIGN CLASSICS; 63; Professor

## NEW MEMBERS

Applications 226901 through 226966, 226968, 226970 through 226983, and 226985 through 226987 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

## SUMMARY

Total Membership, December 31, 2016 .. 30,688

New Members 84

Reinstated 41 ..... 125

Deceased 53

Resignations 19 ..... 72

Total Membership,

January 31, 2017.... 30,741

(Total Membership, January 31, 2016 was 31,271 a difference of -530)

Davis, Johnny (227205) **Baytown, TX** US DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY,

- COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS; 76
- Davis, MaryAnn (S-227215) **East Liverpool, OH** SCOUTS-CATS-LOVE; 70; Retired
- Deal, Michael E. (227141) **Salisbury, PA** US MINT, USED, FDC; 53; Retired
- Dean, David (227142) **Pittsburgh, PA** US AIRMAILS-WWII-RUSSIA; 52; Real Estate Broker/Investor
- Demartini, Clifton C. (227143) **Campbell, CA** US-NAVAL COVERS
- Desagun, Dante C. (227139) **Colorado Springs, CO** PHILIPPINES-US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, CONFEDERATE STATES, AIRMAILS-TRAINS; 44; Military
- Dittenhofer, Raymond (227153) **San Diego, CA** USED WORLDWIDE-GERMAN STATES-BRITISH COLONIES-ITALIAN COLONIES; 61
- Dixon, Robert M. (227109) **Fredericksburg, VA** MILITARY-HISTORICAL EVENTS; 48
- Du, Mark (227159) **Houston, TX** CHINA-US 20TH CENTURY-CANADA-AUSTRALIA-TAIWAN-NEW ZEALAND
- Durtka, Sharon (227144) **Cudahy, WI** ALASKA SLED MAIL; 80; Retired
- Eckert, Robert E. (227191) **Levittown, PA** US-ISRAEL; 63; Stamp and Coin Dealer
- Eisenberg, Syvia G. (227192) **Scranton, PA** ISRAEL-US; 99; Housewife/Homemaker
- Elder, Lloyd (227197) **Oklahoma City, OK**; 63; Trucker
- Elliott, Jim (227171) **Ellicott City, MD**
- Elser, Jeanette (227110) **Glendora, CA** US-UN; 72; Retired
- Epps, David W. (227193) **Union City, CA** US-CHRISTMAS ISLAND-DENMARK-SPACE; 62; Educator
- Fenske, William (227180) **Tonawanda, NY** US, FDC, PLATE BLOCKS-USED WORLDWIDE; 58; Retired
- Fink, Ernest (227184) **Jenkintown, PA** DINOSAURS-ANIMALS-GERMANY; 56
- Fitzpatrick, Kevin (227202) **Secaucus, NJ** US BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, FDC
- Friedman, Ted (227194) **Bondville, VT** US; 88
- Fuentes Pesquera, Angel R. (227200) **New Brunswick, NJ** US-PUERTO RICO-NATURE-HISTORY; 41; Teacher
- Fury, Roger (227124) **Brigantine, NJ**; 62; Retired
- Glassman, Jacqueline (227130) **Monsey, NY** US 20TH CENTURY-BELGIAN CONGO-CANADA-USED WORLDWIDE; 54
- Gorda, Robert (227168) **Munhall, PA** US, NAVAL COVERS-WILD ANIMALS-BIRDS-FISH; Retired
- Goslee, Carroll (227198) **Louisville, KY** PRE-1900 US; 71; Investments
- Grimes, Summer (227115) **Brookline, MA** SPACE-ASTRONOMY-ANIMALS-US PRESIDENTS-AMERICAN INDIANS-SCIENCE/SCIENTISTS; 36
- Grube, Kim (227157) **Philadelphia, PA** TOPICAL-BUTTERFLIES/INSECTS-ASTRONOMY
- Guidry, Howard A. (227186) **Littleton, NC** US COMMEMORATIVES, FDC; Pastor
- Gulden, Bob (227126) **Salem, VA** US-GERMANY-RYUKYUS; 68; Retired
- Hannam, Ben (227134) **Chapel Hill, NC** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, REVENUES/TAX PAIDS (FEDERAL/STATE/LOCAL), WASHINGTON; 43; Professor
- Harris, Lenore (227188) **Brecksville, OH**; 85
- Hensley, Don I. (227135) **Fountain Inn, SC** US FDC, SPACE COVERS, PLATE BLOCKS, COILS-PICTURE POSTCARDS-WORLD FAIRS/EXPOSITIONS; 64; Retired
- Hesselson, Jeff (227174) **Battleford, SK** BIRDS-SOUTH AFRICA/ENCLAVES-PHILATELIC LITERATURE-FOREIGN AIRMAILS, FLIGHT COVERS; 64; Physician
- Hidalgo, Eduardo (227163) **Palm Beach Gardens, FL** USED WORLDWIDE-US AIRMAILS, CLASSICS-NO. 1S OF THE WORLD-ECUADOR-BUTTERFLIES/INSECTS; 50
- Iossi, Tia (227175) **Omaha, NE** US, POSTAL HISTORY-USED WORLDWIDE, USED-PHILATELIC LITERATURE; 29
- Johnson, David (227208) **Placitas, NM** US-BRITISH AFRICA-CANADA
- Johnson, Robert K. (227164) **Harwich, MA** WORLDWIDE; 70; Retired
- Jonason, Bessie (227201) **Sun City, AZ**; 81; Retired
- Jones, Edward P. (227195) **Washington, DC** US; Writer/Professor
- Kalinich, Donald (227127) **Albuquerque, NM** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, PLATE NUMBER COILS, BUREAU & CITY PRECANCELS-SAUDI ARABIA-WORLDWIDE USED 19TH & 20TH CENTURY
- La Plante, Stephen (227165) **San Francisco, CA** US-UN-IRELAND-JFK; 68; University Instructor
- Leibinger, Jacqueline A. (227145) **Pittsfield, MA** LADY DIANA-BRITISH ROYALTY-ENTERTAINERS-ARTS-FAMOUS PERSONS; 56; Sales Associate
- Lema, Pete (227118) **Miami, FL** US IMPERFORATES, CHRISTMAS SEALS; 50
- Leyhe, Brad S. (227182) **Arlington, MA** AUSTRIA-ICELAND-FRENCH POLYNESIA; 67; Banker
- Lilley, Jim P. (227146) **Chapel Hill, NC** US; 70; Real Estate
- Malick, David G. (227185) **Saginaw, MI** US PLATE BLOCKS, SHEETS/SMALL PANES-IRAN-EGYPT-ISRAEL-GREECE; 58; Retired
- Marcia, Pete (227178) **Roanoke, VA** WORLDWIDE; 70; Retired
- McDonagh, Paul C. (227166) **Lewes, DE** IRELAND-FRANCE-PRE-1953 BRITISH COMMONWEALTH; 65; Retired
- Melzer, Ron C. (227158) **Tucson, AZ** US 20TH CENTURY, CLASSICS; 59; Retired
- Mitchell, Colm B. (227162) **Elmwood Park, IL** US CONFEDERATE STATES, CIVIL WAR COVERS-IRELAND; 27; Student
- Moore, Diane (227154) **Livermore, CA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, ADVERTISING COVERS, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, BOOKLETS/PANES, MINT
- Morse, Annette E. (227148) **Blairstown, NJ**; Retired
- Moser, Jeffery R. (227147) **Aurora, CO** US; 56; Scholar
- Mukundan, Anand (227203) **Lancaster, NY**
- Muui, Geoffrey (227155) **Jacksonville, FL** US COVERS, OFFICIAL POST OFFICE SEALS, CANCELS, COMMEMORATIVE PANELS, CHRISTMAS SEALS, CIVIL WAR COVERS; 57; Therapist
- Neill, Burnham S. (227209) **Miami, FL** US FL POSTAL HISTORY, FLAG CANCELS, CANCELS, FANCY CANCELS, MACHINE CANCELS, ARMY APO'S; 78; Retired
- Nelson, Donald (227167) **Oxford, OH** US-HISTORIC AIRCRAFT; 82; Retired
- Newman, Roger (227149) **Shelton, WA** WORLDWIDE; 72; Retired
- Pate, Michael R. (227128) **Auburn, WA** US 19TH CENTURY, WASHINGTON FRANKLINS, USED WORLDWIDE; Electrician
- Podell, Albert (227150) **New York, NY** PRE-1966 DEAD COUNTRIES-FORMER COLONIES & DEPENDENCIES; 79; Author
- Regenthal, Bruce (227129) **Centennial, CO** US, FDC, USED, COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES COMMEMORATIVE PANELS; 70
- Reilly, Lawrence J. (227111) **Buffalo, NY** US-CANADA; 67; Retired
- Reimer, Tom (227112) **Petaluma, CA** 1847-2010 US; 63; Utility Manager
- Rio Rancho Stamp Club (1601-227170) **Rio Rancho, NM**
- Rose, Charles (227125) **Dunwoody, GA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES, COIL LINE PAIRS, COMMEMORATIVE PANELS, AIRMAILS; 59
- Rudin, Julian (227131) **Pleasantville, NY** MAPS-19TH CENTURY-FLAGS/NATIONAL EMBLEMS-GEOGRAPHY-COATS OF ARMS-HISTORY; 42; Attorney
- Salsburg, Joyce (227156) **Chicago, IL**
- Schlicht, Kathy (227161) **Salem, VA** PENGUINS-US, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, AIRMAILS, BOOKLETS/PANES, COMMEMORATIVES-STAMPS ON STAMPS; 69; Retired
- Schlieper, Larry W. (227199) **Kamiah, ID** VINTAGE POSTCARDS; 78; Retired
- Schons, John E. (227217) **Clifton, CO** US 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, COMMEMORATIVES, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, PLATE BLOCKS, SOUVENIR SHEETS; 60; Software
- Schultz, Stephen R. (227133) **Reno, NV** GERMANY-GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC-JAPAN; 58; Escrow Officer
- Schuman, Mark (227169) **Doylestown, PA** PLATE NUMBERS-FIRST BUREAU ONWARD; 61; Engineer
- Scalamo, Anthony (227138) **Ontario, NY** US, USED, FDC-WORLDWIDE USED; 59
- Shawah, David S. (227187) **Monroe, CT** THAILAND-KING BHUMIBOL RAMA IX
- Skelton, Daniel W. (227177) **Metairie, LA** US, PLATE BLOCKS, SHEETS/SMALL PANES-WESTERN EUROPE-CANADA; 58; Computer Programmer
- Smith, Charles L. (227189) **Arlee, MT** CANADA-US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, POSSESSIONS, REVENUES/TAX PAIDS (FEDERAL); 70
- Sommers, Michael (227206) **Clinton, NJ** US USED-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH; 63
- Stebbins, Richard (227210) **Sacramento, CA** US CANCELS, COVERS, COMMEMORATIVE/PANELS, AIRMAILS, ADVERTISING COVERS, REVENUES; 57
- Svensson, John H. (227151) **Glen Rock, PA** PRE-1910 EUROPEAN CLASSIC-PRE-1970 US; 57; Dept. of Defense Contracting
- Taphorn, Dennis (227116) **Henderson, NV** US CLASSICS, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES; 71; Retired
- Van Scyoc, Joyce (227113) **Hayward, CA** WORLDWIDE-MINT; 77; Retired
- Vanek, Mike (227216) **Chesterland, OH** US SINGLES, PLATE BLOCKS; 66; Sales

Welch, Eric (227114) **Freeport**,  
IL EUROPE-SWITZERLAND-US  
20TH CENTURY-SHIPS/BOATS-  
TRAINSAFRICA; 69; Retired

West, Matthew (227207)  
**Birmingham, AL**; 28

Williams, Michael J. (227176)  
**Chowchilla, CA** US, PLATE  
BLOCKS, FDC, USED-GERMANY;  
72; Retired

Wise, David (227120) **Perrysburg**,  
OH USED WORLDWIDE-BRITISH  
COLONIES-FRENCH COLONIES-  
CANADA-US 19TH CENTURY; 74;  
Attorney

Xie, Chao (227117) **Newcastle**,  
WA CHINA, PEOPLES REPUBLIC,  
CHINESE TREATY PORTS-US  
19TH & 20TH CENTURY-STAMP  
DESIGN ERRORS

Zallen, Margot (227212) **Golden**,  
CO; 80

## CHANGE IN NAME

Ledfors, Debbie (226780), New  
Philadelphia, OH has changed  
her name to Deborah Ann  
Sobolik of New Philadelphia,  
OH.

## DECEASED

Aarup, Robert W. (223289), Quincy,  
IL

Anderl, Marvin T. (210287),  
Richmond, VA

Argibay, Luis O. (3263-110594),  
Miami Beach, FL

Bacon, H. Wood (190017), Hanover,  
NH

Batchelder, Charles F., III (092975),  
Rome, NY

Bize, David N., Jr. (6107-054031),  
Glendale, AZ

Blanding, Forrest H. (2613-029288),  
Henderson, NV

Cooper, H. David (7965-055627),  
Pollock Pines, CA

Di Benedetto, Philip J. (8899-  
062424), Ashland, OH

Dietz, Dennis E. (105371), Stone  
Mountain, GA

Doyle, William H. (112202), Spring,  
TX

DuBose, Susan N. (214262),  
Chester, VA

Gaitanis, Louis A. (170675), St.  
Augustine, FL

Fisher, Peter T. (5200-056794),  
Manalapan, NJ

Garcia-Moral, Carlos A. (194244),  
Buckeye, AZ

Gruber, Karl E. (113819), Walton  
Hills, OH

Haeseler, Rob (123066), Bellefonte,  
PA

Hoisington, Nan M. (224944),  
Battle Creek, MI

Hook, Robert D. (7637-092676),  
Moscow, ID

Houge, Marvel N. (190684),  
Estherville, IA

Hufnagel, John C. (067079), Glen  
Rock, PA

Husak, Jerome D. (0898-022441),  
Sun City West, AZ

Jezierski, John V. (220419),  
Portland, OR

Johnson, James M. (9026-052872),  
Wakefield, RI

Johnson, Richard R. (098777),  
Thousand Oaks, CA

Kalchuk, Frank F. (6014-044022),  
Fredericksburg, VA

Klein, Johan L. (3799-015480),  
Wassenaar, Netherlands

McGowan, Clarence J. (104136),  
Ithaca, MI

Mizak, Thomas L. (101229),  
Gulfport, MS

Morse, William J. (120068),  
Blairstown, NJ

Motto, Jerome A. (7440-052555),  
San Mateo, CA

Murphy, Ronald P. (192717),  
Portland, OR

Ohlmann, Walter (084216), Dayton,  
OH

Murphy, Ronald P. (192717),  
Portland, OR

Ponder, Thomas C., Jr. (11892-  
045693), Itasca, IL

Proctor, William H. (8650-060653),  
Parkman, OH

Qiao, Jie (8542-190986), Arlington,  
VA

Santamaria, Robert P. (106816),  
Dorchester, MA

Saults, Charles J. (8025-055969),  
Phoenix, AZ

Scherzer, Burton (8654-060979),  
Brooklyn, NY

Selles, Robert H. (8089-157255),  
Tempe, AZ

Srail, Raymond C. (096925), Parma,  
OH

Stitt, Blair M. (067888), Lehigh  
Acres, FL

Swope, Leslie J. (044604), Portland,  
OR

Szczepanek, Matthew J. (159729),  
Placerville, CA

Thein, James L. (208109),  
Georgetown, TX

Thorne, Robert F. (8742-059414),  
Pomona, CA

Uridil, Dennis G. (180067),  
Littleton, CO

Wagenknecht, Burdette L. (7389-  
051431), Liberty, MO

Weeks, John F. (2365-075369),  
Sandusky, OH

Weitzel, Carl W. (110102),  
Albuquerque, NM

Yonos, John G. (208962), Riverside,  
CA

Zallen, Richard D. (156673),  
Golden, CO

## CORRECTIONS

Incorrectly listed as deceased:

Harding, Barbara E. (226760), New  
Philadelphia, OH

Srail, Kenneth B. (145891), North  
Olmsted, OH

## DEALER LISTING

The following have been approved  
for classification as a full-time  
(D) or part-time (P) stamp dealer  
according to qualifications  
established by the Board of Vice  
Presidents.

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Renostamps.com, (Beekun,  
Nadiah, 225909-D), 28 W. 2nd  
St., Reno, NV 89501 and 151 N.  
Sierra St., Reno, NV 89501, (775)  
762-4905

Edward C. Anderson, (Anderson,  
Edward C., 111623-P), P.O. Box  
1022, Woodinville, WA 98072-  
1022, (509) 993-5316

Fairbanks Stamps, (Fairbanks,  
Kemp C., 069813-P), P.O. Box  
50519, Sparks, NV 89435,  
(775) 622-0537

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Letters to the Editor continued from page 205.*

removable, acid-free adhesive. Any self-adhesive stamps are backed with a single ply of facial tissue before they go into the mounts.

I guess I am still mostly a stamp collector. I believe that one distinction between a philatelist and a stamp collector is that the collector cares more for the stamp than for the stamp on the cover. The cover of the January AP has a cover. Three of the articles are about covers. I do have to admit that my next exhibition for my local stamp club, ironically the Nashville Philatelic Society, will have two covers. But I did write that I am a borderline philatelist.

A feature that I regularly read did not appear in January's issue. That is Tom Horn's column on circuit sales. I am pleased that he has been promoted, but I will miss his col-

umns and the contacts I've had with him on the phone and by e-mail about circuits. I hope that someone in the sales division will do something to fill the gap. I know that circuit sales and online sales are now combined. Surely, someone there has something to say about stamps.

There are two reasons why I remain a member of APS. These are the circuits and the online sales. Both give me the opportunity to collect stamps and to sell duplicates. The appeal of online sales diminished when sales were opened to non-members with a surcharge. I think that so long as circuits continue I will continue my membership.

I do look at the membership report in each issue. Sorry to see the continuing drop in membership.

**Larry Paci**

*Hermitage, Tennessee*

**Editor's note:** The editorial staff of *The American Philatelist* endeavors to balance several areas of the hobby within

each issue, including stories about stamps and covers. Sometimes, due to various circumstances, the content might be slightly off balance for one particular issue.

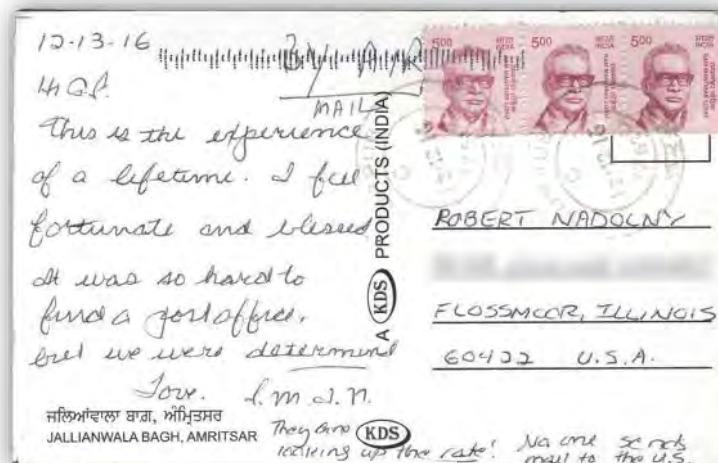
Tom Horn's sales column was discontinued with his change of duties, but a new column about our sales divisions, "Buy and Sell," written by sales director Wendy Masorti, continues on and appears in this month's issue.

### India's Postal Clerks Helpful With Mail Request

My daughter, Susan, recently toured Northern India and had an interesting experience mailing me a postcard. She was in Nurpur, which is a city and municipal council in the state of Himachal Pradesh.

She and her husband, Raj, found a post office after a diligent search, and knowing my desire for a clean, readable postmark, requested the same of the postal clerk. The clerk spent five minutes energetically scrubbing a hand canceler with a wire brush before affixing it twice to the stamps.

The postmark is a double circle showing "Nurpur 13-12-16 176202." I received the card on January 23. If the card



APS member Robert A. Nadolny's daughter at a post office in Nurpur, India. She mailed the above postcard and it took 40 days for it to arrive in the United States.

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could only talk on where it was for 40 days.

An interesting dialog had occurred among the postal clerks on the charge for mail to the United States as they never had any before. They finally settled on 15 rupees, about 22 cents. The postal employees were helpful and pleasant to work with.

**Robert A. Nadolny**

Flossmoor, Illinois

### Browsing at Antiques Show Yields Philatelic Find

At the end of November, I was wandering the lanes of the antiques show at the Ohio State Fairgrounds. I came upon a framed, signed numbered print (313/1500) of the Wildlife Conservation Issue of 1956; the *Wild Turkey*. Included in the presentation was an artist signed plate block; 25395. The artist is Robert (Bob) W. Hines.

I did some research on this artist. Bob Hines was born in February 1912 in Columbus, Ohio. He died in 1994. Hines was self taught, and was a renowned wildlife artist who helped develop the Federal Duck Stamp program.

He had a long career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He drew the illustrations for Rachel Carson's *Under the Sea Wind*. Among other works, he illustrated are *Fifty Birds of Town and City* and *Ducks at a Distance*, a Fish and Wildlife Service guide.

In 2014, the Roger Tory Peterson Institute presented what they called one of the most important exhibitions of nature and conservation art ever assembled, *Bob Hines: National Wildlife Artist*.

All this supports a lucky find for an old stamp collector like me.

**Jack Isaacson**  
Worthington, Ohio

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## 2017 NEW STAMPS

BY JEFF STAGE

# Rooster, Love, Landmarks, and More

## Recap of Some United States Stamps and Stationery Issued in January

**A**n international symbol of the new year, a national monument, a flag, and a sign of love are among the design subjects that kicked off the 2017 United States Postal Service's postage stamp program.

The nine face different stamps issued were, in order: Lunar New Year — Rooster (January 5; forever stamp); Love: Skywriting (January 7; forever stamp); Lili'uokalani Gardens (January 22; Priority Mail stamp and envelope); Gateway Arch (January 22; Priority Mail Express); U.S. Flag (January 27; forever stamp); and Seashells (January 28, four stamps; postcard rate stamps).

Some of the stamps accommodate postage rate changes, which occurred January 22. The rate for 1 ounce of first-class mail rose from 47 cents to 49 cents. (Forever stamps are always equal in value to the current first-class mail 1-ounce rate.) The Priority Mail flat-rate envelope rate rose to \$6.65 from \$6.45. The rate for Priority Mail Express rose to \$23.75 from \$22.95. The postcard rate stayed the same.

For additional details about the 2017 U.S. Stamp Program, updated when new information is made available, visit online at [stamps.org/us-new-issues](http://stamps.org/us-new-issues).

### Year of the Rooster

The Year of the Rooster commemorative stamp was formally issued January 5 during a first-day ceremony at the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience in Seattle, Washington.

Considered the most important holiday of the year for many Asian communities around the world, the Lunar New Year is celebrated primarily by people of Chinese, Korean,



The Year of the Rooster forever stamp issued January 5 in Seattle, Washington.

Vietnamese, Tibetan, and Mongolian heritage.

In the United States and elsewhere, the occasion is marked in various ways, including parades featuring enormous and vibrantly painted papier-mâché dragons, parties, and other special events. Vendors at outdoor markets sell flowers, toys, food and other items. Musicians play drums to celebrate a time

of renewed hope for the future. Many families present red envelopes (*hongbao*), like the one depicted in the stamp art, containing money to children and loved ones.

Those dedicating the stamp included Greg Graves, vice president, Western Area Operations for the Postal Service. Graves was joined at the stamp dedication by Yibo Lu, director of Chinese Radio, Seattle's CRS Office; Beth Takekawa, executive director, of the Wing Luke Museum; Ron Chew, chief executive officer, Chew Communications; and Assunta Ng, founder and publisher of *Seattle Chinese Post* and *Northwest Asian Weekly*.

This is the 10th in the current series of Lunar New Year stamps, which started in 2008 (Year of the Rat) as created by art director Ethel Kessler. Kessler is using original artwork from Kam Mak, a Hong Kong-born artist who grew up in New York City's Chinatown and now lives in Brooklyn.

Most of the stamps in the series have presented important aspects of Chinese culture other than the animal as the centerpiece of the stamp. For example, in 2010 (the year of the rabbit), kumquats served as the centerpiece; in 2014 (the year of the horse), drums were the primary image. The one other stamp in the current series that featured the animal sign as the main artwork was in 2012, the Year of the Dragon. That

### YEAR OF THE ROOSTER FOREVER STAMP

**USPS Item Number:** 552004

**Format:** Pane of 12, 144 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** January 5, 2017, Seattle, Washington

**Series:** Lunar New Year

**Designer, Art Director, and**

**Typographer:** Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, Maryland

**Artist:** Kam Mak, Brooklyn, New York

**Modeler:** Michelle Finn/Sandra Lane

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Banknote Corporation of America, Browns Summit, North Carolina

**Press Type:** Alprinta 74

**Print Quantity:** 15 million stamps

**Paper Type:** Phosphor tagged paper, block tagging

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Cyan, magenta, yellow, black,

Pantone Matching System gold 872

**Stamp Sizes:** 1.42 inches by 0.84 inches, 36.07 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 1.56 inches by 0.98 inches, 39.62mm by 24.89mm (overall); 7.24 inches by 5.92 inches, 183.90mm by 150.37mm (pane)

**Plate Numbers:** None

**Marginal Markings:** "©2016 USPS," USPS logo, bar code, promotional text

stamp features a colorful and intricate dragon-head puppet atop a long pole, the type used in traditional Chinese New Year parades.

Mak's illustration — originally created using oil paints on panel — depicts a colorful rooster emblazoned on a red envelope. Red symbolizes luck in Chinese culture, while rooster imagery is often used to ward off evil spirits. Kessler's

stamp design also incorporates two elements from the previous series of Lunar New Year stamps: Clarence Lee's intricate cut-paper design of a rooster and the Chinese character for "rooster," drawn in grass-style calligraphy by Lau Bun.

The previous Lunar New Year commemorative series started in December 1992 with Lee's Year of the Rooster stamp (Scott 2720).



## Kam Mak artist

**The money envelope is tipped sidewise, thus allowing a horizontal orientation, the same as the previous stamps in the series. Was there any thought to making this a vertical-oriented stamp?**

No, I follow the format decided by the designer Ethel Kessler and USPS, so I designed the painting composition based on the horizontal format.

**Can you interpret the calligraphy that appears at the top of the money envelope?**

The calligraphy depicted on the red envelope is the most common Chinese way of greeting someone during the Lunar New Year, *Gong Xi Fa Cai* (Mandarin) and *Gong Hey Fat Choy* (Cantonese). Even though the pronunciations are a little different, both are written the same way. The exact translation means "congratulations and be prosper-

between Ethel Kessler and myself. We wanted to tell a much more enriching story about the Lunar New Year holiday beyond the zodiac animals.

The zodiac animal and the calligraphy of the animal still play an integral part in the design. All of the Lunar New Year elements come from personal experiences growing up around the most festive celebration of the year.

**Is there any significance that the money envelope is depicted on the Year of the Rooster stamp or could it have been linked to any of the other months?**

The red envelope design is very ornate and traditionally some of the designs depict the zodiac animal on the cover. So, this was a wonderful opportunity for me to incorporate the rooster on the red envelope of my design.

I guess I could have used the red envelope on other years but I think it works very well with the Year of the Rooster.

**In the series, this is only the second time (the Year of the Dragon being the first) that the prime vignette features the animal linked to that month. Was that done on purpose? Could, for example, the Year of the Rat have included the envelope and the lantern on the rat stamp have been shown on the rooster stamp?**

Because our concept is to tell an enriching story about the Lunar New Year and highlight the beautiful traditions and customs that link to this celebration. The Year of the Dragon gave me the great opportunity to incorporate one of our most

beautiful and magnificent traditions of the Dragon Dance. So this was a no brainer for me.

We could have used the red envelope in other years and it could work, but again, I think the rooster works very well on the cover of the red envelope.

**Any other details about this stamp project you'd like to share with our readers?**

Yes, I would like to share with your readers my own story of the Year of the Rooster stamp.

Following the concept of using the Lunar New Year elements, the Year of the Rooster stamp is adorned with a still-life painting of the Chinese red envelope decorated with the majestic rooster on the cover. They are called *hongbao* in Mandarin and *lai see* in Cantonese. People born in the Year of the Rooster are hardworking, courageous, outspoken, honest and talented individuals.

The Chinese red envelope painting was inspired by my fond memory as a kid receiving *lai see* from my parents and relatives. This is the single most exciting custom that put a big smile and joy in my face during the Lunar New Year.

I still can recall the thrill of taking a peek inside the red envelope to see how much money was inside and dreaming how I would spend the *lai see* money at the end of the Lunar New Year.

Now that I am married, I continue the wonderful tradition and it is my turn to give red envelopes, *lai see*, to my children and to all my nieces and nephews during the Lunar New Year.



Kam Mak speaking at first-day ceremony. Screen capture from U.S. Postal Service video.

ous." This calligraphy is used often on the red envelope.

**Where did the suggestion of the specific images shown originate for the series?**

The suggestion of the Lunar New Year elements, such as the Chinese drums, the kumquats, red envelope, etc. was a collaboration

## Love: Skywriting

The Postal Service took to the skies using the romantic and complex art of skywriting to present its latest Love stamp, which is meant to add a sweet, romantic touch to cards and letters.

The forever stamp, which shows the word "love" as if it had been written across the sky, was released January 7, during a ceremony on Living History Flying Day at the Planes of Fame Air-port Museum in Chino, California.

The stamp, which is not a photograph, depicts the word "Love" written in white cursive script against a pale blue sky studded with wispy clouds. Underlining the word is a decorative swirl of smoke. A small, stylized plane, dwarfed by the giant letters, completes the end of the swirl, with smoke trailing from its tail.

Worldwide stamp collectors might think they have seen a similar stamp. They are correct. In 2002, 2005, and 2010, Great Britain issued Greetings stamps with the word "Hello" in sky-writing against a blue sky.

The U.S. stamp, created in panes of 20, is a continuation of the Postal Service's tradition of love stamps that started in 1973, which used as the basis for its design Robert Indiana's pop art LOVE sculpture. Since then, there have been at least 60 different designs.

Louise Fili designed the stamp, which was illustrated by Jessica Hische, a lettering artist and type designer. Derry Noyes was the art director.

The first-day ceremony included U.S. Postal Service Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President

David Williams; *Operation Gratitude* Vice President and Chief Development Officer Chris Clark; Skytypers President Stephen Stinis; and Planes of Fame Air Museum aviation historian and Air Museum moderator

Kevin Thompson. *Operation Gratitude* is a nonprofit that sends care packages to U.S. service people, first-responders, and veterans.

Greg Stinis, Stephen Stinis' father, flew a skywriting demonstration, which was to have taken place during the first-day ceremony, but was held January 6, a day earlier, due to the forecast of inclement weather. Greg Stinis is CEO of Skytypers, of Las Vegas, Nevada.

Greg Stinis created a close replica to the word "Love" as depicted on the stamp. Stinis, one of only a handful of pilots in the world who could have attempted the effect, has direct links to the history of airmail, according to a U.S. Postal Service news release.

"My dad (Andy Stinis) was friends with Charles Lindbergh and helped him push the *Spirit of St. Louis* onto the runway for his historic 1927 New York to Paris solo flight," Greg Stinis said. "Similar to Lindbergh, dad also flew mail for 20 years in his amphibious Mallard aircraft to Walker's Cay in the Bahamas."

Skywriting had its heyday as an advertising medium from the 1920s to the 1950s. A message is created by a small airplane that emits vaporized fluid from its exhaust system to form letters in the



Love: Skywriting special forever stamp issued January 7.

air. Still used occasionally for advertising slogans, skywriting today commonly broadcasts romantic — and very public — declarations of love.

"I think it's safe to say more people have walked on the moon

than are professional skywriters today," said Greg Stinis, who began skywriting more than 50 years ago while working for this father, Andy Stinis, who started the company in 1932, and whose plane hangs in the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.

Greg Stinis said the Love: Skywriting stamp creation was one of the most challenging in his 50 years of flying.

To replicate the stamp image the "L" in Love was 6,000 feet long — more than four times the height of the Empire State Building. The remaining letters were each 2,000 feet long.

"I've created more than 2,000 skywritings in 50 years, and this one will be one of the most challenging because the letter L is three times the size of the others and in script," Stinis said before the stunt. "I usually create block letters, so the timing and visual cues and maneuvers are new."

Stinis re-created the stamp's image three times, according to a story by Lisset Márquez published January 6 in the *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin* of Rancho Cucamonga, California, reporting on the skywriting stunt. Here are a few details from the newspaper story:

The pilot's son, Stephen, was on the ground offering radio guidance for the

### LOVE: SKYWRITING SPECIAL FOREVER STAMP

**USPS Item Number:** 561604

**Format:** Pane of 20, 320 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** January 7, 2017, Chino, California

**Series:** Love

**Designer and Typographer:** Louise Fili, New York, New York

**Illustrator:** Jessica Hische, San Francisco, California

**Art Director:** Derry Noyes, Washington, D.C.

**Modeler:** Michelle Finn/Sandra Lane

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Banknote Corporation of America, Browns Summit, North Carolina

**Press Type:** Alprinta 74

**Print Quantity:** 250 million stamps

**Paper Type:** Phosphor tagged paper, overall

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Spot blue

**Stamp Sizes:** 1.05 inches by 0.77 inches,

26.67 millimeters by 19.56mm (image);

1.19 inches by 0.91 inches, 30.23mm by 23.11mm (overall); 5.635 inches by 5.425 inches, 143.13mm by 137.80mm (pane)

**Plate Numbers:** "B" followed by a single digit

**Marginal Markings:** Plate numbers (front); "©2016 USPS," USPS logo, plate position diagram, bar code, promotional text

stunt while the pilot carried a notecard-sized version of the stamp written backwards.

"This is really difficult because I can't see what I'm doing," Greg Stinis said.

"I have to kind of feel for it. A few times I got a little lost because I couldn't find my smoke."

For the "L," Greg Stinis had to make a 270-degree turn just to make it cursive.

"It is pretty methodical, and it takes a lot of your concentration," Stephen Stinis said. "We have a drumbeat system in our head, kind of like a count." A 20 count is about 12 seconds, which helps keep the proportions the same in the letters.

The whole newspaper story and a photo of the sky-

writing can be seen at this web link, [dailybulletin.com/business/20170106/why-it-said-love-in-the-sky-over-chino](http://dailybulletin.com/business/20170106/why-it-said-love-in-the-sky-over-chino).



Skywriting creation over the skies of Chino that was inspired by the new love stamp. Screen capture from U.S. Postal Service video.

## Lili'uokalani Gardens

The Lili'uokalani Gardens, a Japanese-style iconic public garden named in honor of Hawaii's last monarch, appears on the new \$6.65 Priority Mail stamp and stamped envelope issued nationally January 22, a Sunday. The stamp's official first-day city was Kansas City, Missouri.

The stamp is part of the American Landmarks series, which started in 2008 and also includes the \$19.99 USS Arizona stamp of 2014.

The new stamp coincides with the 100th anniversary of the Lili'uokalani Gardens, which are built on land donated by Queen Lili'uokalani (1838–1917). The gardens are Japanese in style with influences of Hawaiian remains of lava flows, plantings of tropical trees and flowers, and a view of the Mauna Kea volcano — Hawaii's highest point.

The stamp art features one of the gardens' most iconic structures, the red wooden shelter on a stone bridge spanning a portion of the pond. The bridge is surrounded by three stone lanterns and lush tropical plants.

Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp with original art by



The \$6.65 Lili'uokalani Gardens stamp (left) and envelope imprint (right).



Dan Cosgrove. A story in the *Hawaii Tribune-Herald* of January 23 said that the stamp is based on a 2012 photograph by professional photographer Bill Eger, of Hawaii.

"We were just thrilled (to be chosen)," said K.T. Cannon-Eger, a leader in the Friends of Liliuokalani Gardens, in the newspaper story. "Thrilled for Hilo and thrilled for the gardens. We were just so happy."

"Cannon-Eger said Liliuokalani is also the first Hilo locale to be featured [on a U.S.] stamp and the first Japanese garden to ever be depicted," the newspaper story said.

A special dedication ceremony for the Priority Mail stamp was held Janu-

ary 23 at the Shoroan Tea House at Lili'uokalani Gardens.

Located on Hilo's Banyan Drive, the 30-acre Japanese garden was dedicated as a tribute to Hawaii's first Japanese immigrants who worked in the Hawaii Island sugar cane fields.

In addition to what can be seen on the stamp, the landscaped park features arching red bridges over fishponds, rock gardens, and pagodas. Views of Hilo Bay and Moku Ola (Coconut Island) enhance this peaceful setting.

The stamp is being sold in panes of four. Collectors can also purchase single stamps from the pane. The design was also used for a stamped envelope that can only be purchased in a pack of five.



## Dan Cosgrove artist

**When did you start working on this stamp?**

I started working on this stamp in August 2015.

**How did you decide to make the red pagoda bridge (I do not know if it has a formal name) the main focal point for the stamp? Did you consider any of the park's other structures?**

I worked with Art Director Greg Breeding and that's what they wanted to feature for the stamp. We did three concept pencil designs and this view was the one chosen.

**This park is directly oceanside, though that is not shown on the stamp. Did you consider creating**

## a stamp with an ocean view? Or what prompted you to not include the ocean view on the stamp?

I looked at a lot of different ways of showing the pagoda, but I really thought it was more interesting to feature the angle with the trees and plants and rocks. The green foliage makes a great background to pop the red pagoda. I also thought this angle gives it a more exotic Hawaiian setting with the tropical plants, than some of the angles that show the ocean or the park.

## The birds on the stamp are kind of a white silhouette. Did you consider including them in their natural colors?

The birds are white terns. I thought they made nice ac-

cents and added some movement on the dark background.

The pagoda reflects off the water in a very realistic rippled effect, as opposed to a still-water effect. Did you try a design with a more mirrored effect? What prompted you to go with the rippling?

I just thought the rippled effect was more interesting and also is a quicker read at stamp size.

## Is there anything else interesting about the design or process you'd like to add?

I thought it was a fun image to do. It was a challenge pulling off the lighting and contrast so everything would read at stamp size.

## \$6.65 LILI'UOKALANI GARDENS PRIORITY MAIL STAMP

**USPS Item Number:** 119904

**Format:** Pane of four, 20 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** January 22, 2017, Kansas City, Missouri

**Series:** American Landmarks

**Designer and Art Director:** Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

**Artist and Typographer:** Dan Cosgrove, Chicago, Illinois

**Modeler:** Joseph Sheeran

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with

microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Ashton Potter, Williamsville, New York

**Press Type:** Stevens, Vari-Size Security Press

**Print Quantity:** 12 million stamps

**Paper Type:** Nonphosphored Type III, block tagging

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Black, cyan, magenta, yellow

**Stamp Sizes:** 1.42 inches by 1.085 inches, 36.07 millimeters by 27.56mm (image);

1.56 inches by 1.225 inches, 39.62mm by 31.12mm (overall); 4.12 inches by 3.45 inches, 104.65mm by 87.63mm (pane)

**Plate Numbers:** "P" followed by four single digits

**Marginal Markings:** Plate numbers (front), "©2016 USPS," USPS logo, plate position diagram, four bar codes, promotional text

## \$6.65 LILI'UOKALANI GARDENS PRIORITY MAIL STAMPED ENVELOPE

**Item Number:** 232705 (pack of five envelopes)

**Type of Issue:** Stamped Envelope

**Format:** Pack of five envelopes (1 design)

**Issue Date and City:** January 22, 2017, Kansas City, Missouri

**Designer and Art Director:** Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

**Artist and Typographer:** Dan Cosgrove,

Chicago, Illinois

**Manufacturing Process:** Flexography

**Printer and Processor:** Bell, Inc., Sioux Falls, SD

**Press Type:** Stevens

**Print Quantity:** 648,000 envelopes (first run)

**Paper Type:** 12-point, clay-coated newsback

**Ink Colors:** Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black, Pantone Matching System 294 Blue, PMS 485 Red, Varnish

**Sizes:** 1.594 inches by 1.25 inches, 40.48mm by 31.75mm (image); 9.5 inches by 12.5 inches, 241.30mm by 317.5mm (envelope)

## Gateway Arch

The U.S. Postal Service celebrated the iconic Gateway Arch, in St. Louis, Missouri, on a \$23.75 Priority Mail Express stamp for flat-rate envelopes. The stamp was formally released on Sunday, January 22, in Kansas City, Missouri, in conjunction with the Lili'uokalani Gardens Priority Mail stamp. No first-day ceremony was held and as of early February, no dedication ceremony or unveiling took place in St. Louis.

With the addition of these two high-denomination stamps, there are now 18 stamps in the American Landmarks series, which began in 2008 with the \$4.80 Mount Rushmore stamp.

Dan Cosgrove has been the artist



The \$23.75 Gateway Arch Priority Mail Express stamp issued January 22.

for all of the stamps in the series.

A sleek and towering structure, the 51-year-old Gateway Arch was built as a memorial to President Thomas Jefferson and the 19th-century traders and pioneers for whom St. Louis was the

gateway to the West.

The stamp art depicts the majestic stainless-steel arch, at sunset, in its setting on the banks of the Mississippi River. Towering above the city's skyline, the Gateway Arch is reflected in the rippling water below, where a barge passes by.

Finnish-born architect Eero Saarinen designed the stainless-steel inverted catenary curve arch as a tribute to both the history of the Midwest and the modern age.

The Gateway Arch stands 630 feet tall, with a 630-foot span between the outer edges of its triangular legs at ground level. It is designed to withstand wind speeds of more than 150 miles per hour and can sway up to 18 inches. The

last piece of the arch was put into place on October 28, 1965, at which point it became the tallest memorial in the United States.

The stamp is being sold in a pane of four, as it was produced, or as singles.

Designed by art director Greg Breeding, the stamp features a digital illustration created by Cosgrove.

**Q&A**

## Dan Cosgrove artist

**When did you start working on this stamp?**

I started working on the Gateway Stamp in June 2014.

**What is the significance of the lighting being at sunset as opposed to another time of day?**

The arch itself doesn't have a lot of color and so much of the stamp background is the sky. By doing the sunset I was able to add color to the piece and make the sky and clouds more interesting.

It also enabled me to light the bottom of the arch so it separated from the buildings, but gradually darken the arch towards the top so it would separate from the sky.

**A barge is prominent on the water. Why a barge? Were other watercraft considered either as a substitute to the barge or in addition to?**

I really liked the idea of the barge, and since the arch sits on the banks of the Mississippi River, a major shipping channel, it seems appropriate.

It also holds up at stamp size where smaller watercraft might not.

**The view appears to be a direct westward view from the east side of the Mississippi River. What did you use as a model for the artwork? Your own photos and experience? Anything specific?**

The view is looking west across the river. I did three different concept sketches and designs with Art



The pane of four format for the \$23.75 Gateway Arch Priority Mail Express stamp, a total face value of \$95. This is a new pane layout for stamps in the American Landmark series. Previously the stamps were issued in a pane of 10 format. Early stamps in the series were issued in panes of 20, which made collecting full panes very expensive.

Director Greg Breeding.

I think this view was chosen since it is the most direct and iconic. I was provided with a number of reference shots to work from to create the art.

Some undated photos I saw on the Web imply that the foliage on each side of the stamp may be thicker now than what is shown on the stamp. Is that right? Did you do some pruning, or perhaps I am looking at older images and trees have been cut away.

The shoreline was already being modified when we started the project, so I tried to make it as accurate as I could at the time.

Were there any particular challenges with this stamp? If so, how did you overcome them.

I think the trickiest part about this stamp is that the arch is relatively tall and thin but we were working with a horizontal format.

## \$23.75 GATEWAY ARCH PRIORITY MAIL EXPRESS STAMP

**USPS Item Number:** 111304

**Format:** Pane of four, 20 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** January 22, 2017, Kansas City, Missouri

**Series:** American Landmarks

**Designer and Art Director:** Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

**Artist and Typographer:** Dan Cosgrove, Chicago, Illinois

**Modeler:** Joseph Sheean

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with

microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Ashton Potter, Williamsville, New York

**Press Type:** Stevens, Vari-Size Security Press

**Print Quantity:** 3 million stamps

**Paper Type:** Nonphosphored Type III, block tagging

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Black, cyan, magenta, yellow

**Stamp Sizes:** 1.42 inches by 1.085 inches, 36.07 millimeters by 27.56mm (image);

1.56 inches by 1.225 inches, 39.62mm by 31.12mm (overall); 4.12 inches by 3.45 inches, 104.65mm by 87.63mm (pane)

**Plate Numbers:** "P" followed by four single digits

**Marginal Markings:** Plate numbers (front); "©2016 USPS," USPS logo, plate position diagram, four bar codes, promotional text

## U.S. Flag

A new U.S. Flag forever stamp was formally issued January 27 during the Southeastern Stamp Expo show at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast in Norcross, Georgia.

With this new U.S. Flag stamp, the Postal Service continues its tradition of celebrating patriotism with one of the most recognizable symbols of the United States. The flag, in various forms has been pictured on U.S. stamps going as far back as the 30-cents 1869 Pictorial stamp. In the modern era, the U.S. Postal Service makes sure that a Flag stamp is always available to mailers.

This stamp features a detail from a photograph of a waving flag taken by Tom Grill, of New York City. Grill, according to his website, has been a photographer since the 1960s. Much of his early career was working for fashion clients, such as Revlon and L'oreal. In the 1970s, though, he started his own stock photography company and that is what he has shot ever since.

American Philatelic Society President Mitchell "Mick" Zais, Brigadier General, U.S. Army (ret.), was a featured speaker at the first-day ceremony. He was joined in the celebration by U.S. Postal Service Director of Stamp Services Mary-Anne Penner and USPS Chief Human Resources Officer and Executive Vice President Jeff Williamson.

The stamp was designed by Greg Breeding. Terrence W. McCaffrey, the former manager of USPS Stamp Development, is credited as the stamp's art director.

McCaffrey retired from the Postal Service in December 2010, but was also named as the art director for the Flag for-



The two U.S. Flag pane of 20 stamps: Ashton Potter (left) and Banknote (center). The pane of 10 stamp is at right.



The two U.S. Flag coil stamps: Ashton Potter (left) and Banknote (right).

ever definitive stamp issued in 2016.

The self-adhesive stamp comes in a pane of 10 and a double-sided pane of 20 format (convertible booklets), an ATM pane of 18, and coils of 100. Only the Banknote Corporation of America produced the pane of 10 version, and only Ashton Potter produced the ATM pane. The panes of 20 and coils of 100 were manufactured by both printers.

Stamps from the pane of 10 and pane of 20 by Banknote are largely indistinguishable. The ATM pane stamp has microprinting in a different place than the pane of 20 stamp printed by Ashton Potter (the "USPS" is located at upper right on the pane of 20 and near the blue part of the flag on the ATM stamp).

The two coils have different die cut types that are noticeably different.

As a result, there are likely five collectible varieties of the flag stamp. Scott catalog editors have not assigned numbers to the stamps in this issue as of press time.

Collectors looking to purchase the separate varieties of booklet and coil stamps should reference the specific USPS item numbers provided in each of the technical detail boxes here. Phone 1-800-STAMP-24 (800-782-6724), which is the USPS Stamp Fulfillment Service center, and provide the item numbers to the order taker.



The U.S. Flag ATM pane stamp. The microprinting on this stamp is closer to the blue part of the flag at the top of the stamp.

### U.S. FLAG DEFINITIVE FOREVER STAMP, ASHTON POTTER VERSIONS

**USPS Item Number:** 672004 (double-sided pane of 20), 749804 (coil of 100); 564404 (ATM pane of 18)

**Format:** Double-sided pane of 20 (convertible booklet), 1,040 stamps per revolution; coil of 100, 744 stamps per revolution; ATM pane of 18, 720 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** January 27, 2017, Norcross, Georgia

**Art Director:** Terrence W. McCaffrey, New Braunfels, Texas

**Designer and Typographer:** Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

**Existing Photograph:** Tom Grill

**Modeler:** Joseph Sheeran

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Ashton Potter, Williamsville, New York

**Press Type:** Mueller A76

**Print Quantity:** 1.75 billion stamps (pane of 20), 2 billion stamps (coil of 100); 109,080,000 stamps (ATM pane of 18)

**Paper Type:** Nonphosphored Type III, block

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Pane Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall); 5.52

inches by 1.96 inches, 140.21mm by 49.78mm (pane of 20); 2.61 inches by 6.125 inches, 66.29mm by 155.58mm (pane of 18)

**Coil of 100 Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall)

**Plate Numbers:** "P" followed by four single digits, plate number every 31st stamp on coil

**Marginal Markings:** Header "U.S. Flag," "©2016 USPS," USPS logo, bar code, promotional text (panes)

## U.S. FLAG DEFINITIVE FOREVER STAMP, BANKNOTE VERSIONS

**USPS Item Number:** 674704 (pane of 10),  
672002 (pane of 20), 749802 (coil of  
100)

**Format:** Pane of 10 (convertible booklet),  
560 stamps per revolution; double-sided  
pane of 20 (convertible booklet), 960  
stamps per revolution; coil of 100, 744  
stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** January 27, 2017,  
Norcross, Georgia

**Modeler:** Michelle Finn/Sandra Lane

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with  
microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Banknote  
Corporation of America, Browns

Summit, North Carolina

**Press Type:** Alprinta 74

**Print Quantity:** 100 million stamps (pane  
of 10), 1.75 billion stamps (pane of 20),  
2 billion stamps (coil of 100)

**Paper Type:** Phosphor tagged paper, block  
(pane stamps) and overall (coil)

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Pane of 10 Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches  
by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by  
21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98  
inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall);  
5.316 inches by 1.74 inches, 135.03mm  
by 44.20mm (pane)

**Pane of 20 Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches

by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by  
21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98  
inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall);  
5.52 inches by 1.96 inches, 140.21mm  
by 49.78mm (pane)

**Coil of 100 Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches

by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by  
21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98  
inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall)

**Plate Numbers:** "B" followed by five single  
digits, plate number every 31st stamp  
on coil

**Marginal Markings:** "©2016 USPS," USPS  
logo, bar code, promotional text (panes)

### Seashells

Four new postcard stamps celebrate the wonder of seashells. Each stamp depicts an iconic shell found in North American waters: the alphabet cone, the Pacific calico scallop, the zebra nerite, and the Queen conch, commonly known as the pink conch.

The stamps were released nationwide January 28, and "officially" issued at the Sandical stamp show in San Diego. The first-day-of-issue postmark is San Diego.

A scan of the ceremony program, produced locally by the U.S. Postal Service, is shown nearby.

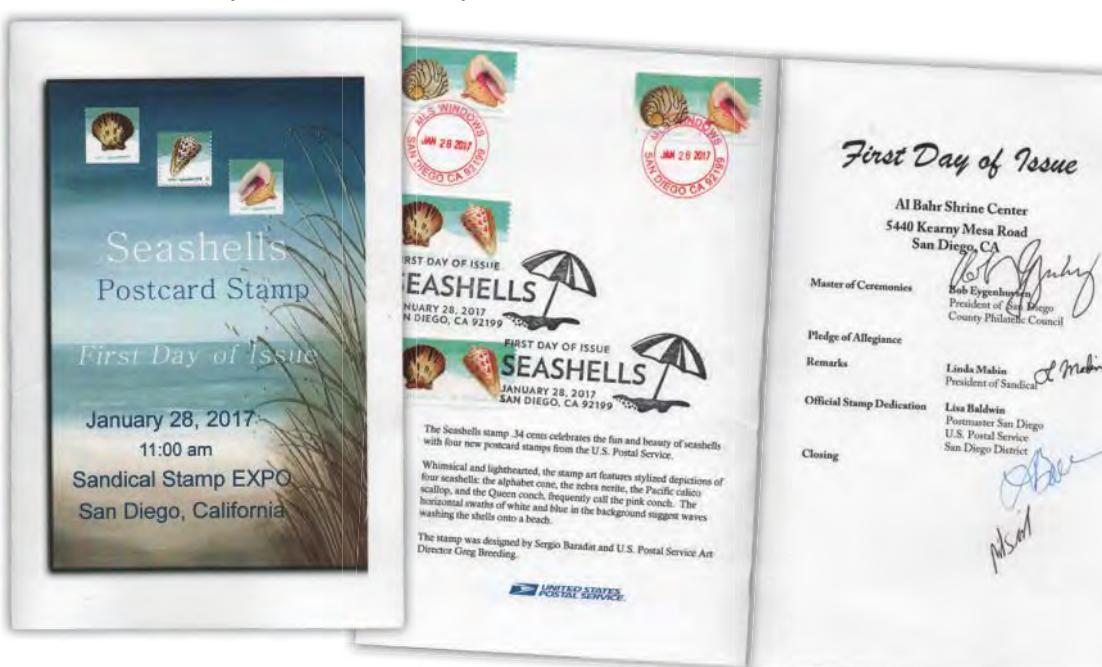
The highly stylized stamp art expresses a light-hearted artistic view of shells. Horizontal swaths of white and blue in the background suggest waves washing the shells onto a beach.

The nondenominated stamps will forever be good for the postcard rate, which currently is 34 cents. The postcard rate did not change in January, unlike many other postage rates. The stamps are being sold in pane of 20 and coil of 100 formats.

The last exclusive seashells stamps from the U.S. Postal Service was a set of five (Scott 2117–2121) issued in 1985



The four United States Seashells postcard rate stamps issued January 28. The pane stamps are shown at the top with the bottom stamps from the coil format.

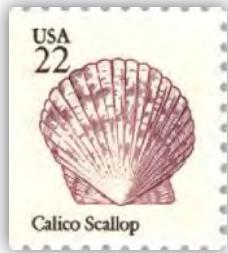


The Seashells stamps ceremony program that was handed out at the event at the Sandical stamp show. Courtesy of Michael Litvak.

in booklets of 20. The shells featured in that se-tenant strip are frilled dogwinkle, reticulated helmet, New England Neptune, calico scallop, and lightning welk.

Aside from those stamps, seashells are spied on a few other U.S. stamps, including a conch shell on a 1995 joint issue with Palau (Scott 2999), a 1999

Aquarium Life stamp in which a hermit crab is wearing a shell (Scott 3320), and a shell is seen on the 2004 Pacific Coral souvenir sheet (Scott 3831) that



One of five United States 22-cent Seashells stamps issued in 1985 as a booklet of 20.

was part of the Nature of America series.

Art director Greg Breeding designed the new Seashells stamps. Sergio Baradat created the stamp art.

Baradat, who collected stamps as a child, has been art director for the United Nations Postal Administration since 2012. Aside from U.N. stamps, he has created other U.S. stamps, notably the Tropical Fruit definitive stamps of 2008 and the Let's Dance Mambo commemorative of 2005. Bara-

dat is a graduate of the Parsons School of Design and has artwork in several permanent collections, including the Cooper Hewitt Museum of Design, the Smithsonian, and the Cuban Heritage Collection in Miami, Florida.

"I'd like to think of my work as a marriage of neoclassic sensibility with a contemporary point of view," he states on his website.

"Blending the functions of anthropologist, futurist, strategist, and designer, I strive to create sensory layered work. As with all of my art, I am attempting to make the viewer look at the familiar through a new lens."

**Q&A**

## Sergio Baradat artist

**When did you start working on this stamp?**

2013.

**Please explain, how was this artwork created? Are these paintings ... or did you use actual images of shells and enhance those? Or some other process entirely?**

The art for the stamps all started with pencil and paper. I looked at various photos of the shells and used an amalgam of imagery to create each.

**Please tell us about these shell colorations. Are the colors lifelike representations of the shells in their natural state? Do you know if some of them vary in their natural state?**

I did my best to follow the ac-

tual coloration of each shell based on my research. Yes, some of them do vary color wise in their natural state.

**What kind of models did you use? Real shells? Images from a specific source?**

I used photographs.

**The continuation of the wave-like background is very nice. It seems more greenish than bluish to me (is that right?). What is that color and what was the thought process on that coloring?**

I had originally had a darker background; Greg came up with this wonderful solution.

**Are these four shells representative of any specific bodies of water or locations?**

No, not specifically, they represent shells that are found in U.S. bodies of water.

**Were these four shells chosen specifically or was the process more organic? Were there shells that were considered but dropped? If so, can you tell us which ones?**

These shells were chosen because of their beauty; I had originally sketched a bunch more but in the end, decided that these worked the best together.

**Anything else you'd like to share with our readers?**

Creating postage stamps is one of the many joys I have experienced in my career. Each time feels new and it's always something I look forward to working on.

## SEASHELLS DEFINITIVE POSTCARD STAMPS

**USPS Item Number:** 119604 (pane of 20), 749904 (coil of 100)

**Format:** Pane of 20, 400 stamps per revolution; coil of 100, 768 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** January 28, 2017, San Diego, California

**Art Director, Designer, and**

**Typographer:** Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

**Artist:** Sergio Baradat, New York, New York

**Modeler:** Joseph Sheeran

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Ashton Potter, Williamsville, New York

**Press Type:** Mueller A76

**Print Quantity:** 150 million stamps (pane of 20), 500 million stamps (coil of 100)

**Paper Type:** Nonphosphored Type III, block

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, Pantone Matching System 7471C turquoise, PMS 5C cool gray

**Pane of 20 Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98

inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall); 5.35 inches by 4.93 inches, 135.89mm by 125.22mm (pane)

**Coil of 100 Stamp Sizes:** 0.7037 inches by 0.84 inches, 17.87 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.8437 inches by 0.98 inches, 21.43mm by 24.89mm (overall)

**Plate Numbers:** "P" followed by six single digits, plate number every 32nd stamp on coil

**Marginal Markings:** "©2016 USPS," USPS logo, bar code, promotional text (panes)



## CANADA UNESCO SITES

Canada Post, on January 16, debuted five new UNESCO Heritage Sites definitive stamps. Depicted are three sites from Newfoundland: plus Dinosaur Provincial Park, Alberta; and Historic District of Old Québec (Quebec).



## ANDORRA LEGENDS CONTINUE

On January 14, Andorra continued its "legends" series with an image from the cave of Arans that tells how two young girls encountered a "woman in white" who helped them. The woman was enchanted and the girls never saw her again.



## GREAT BRITAIN ANCIENT BRITAIN

On January 17, Great Britain issued a set of eight stamps depicting how people lived in prehistoric times. The stamps, using Rebecca Strickson's design, depict times from the Stone Age (11,000 years ago) to about 300 B.C.



## NETHERLANDS WINTER BIRDS

Birds are depicted on a 10-stamp sheet that kicks off a new series that will continue through the seasons of 2017. The wings and feathers of some of the birds extend into the selvage. Designer Frank Janse chose close-up photos in various poses.



## TAIWAN LIONS CLUB

On January 20, Taiwan issued two stamps with the theme "We Serve" celebrating the 100th anniversary of Lions Clubs International, which was founded in 1917 by Melvin Jones in Illinois. Lions Club has clubs in more than 200 nations and regions.

# NEW WORLDWIDE STAMPS

A quick peek at stamps issued in January from 10 different countries around the world.



## MONACO CIRCUS

On January 3, Monaco issued a stamp for the 41st Monte-Carlo International Circus Festival, which took place from January 19 to 29. The circus annually presents high-quality artistic programming, both classical and contemporary.



## FINLAND NATIONAL FLAG

To celebrate the nation's centennial, Finland, on January 20, issued a new flag stamp. The stamp, showing a detail of a fluttering blue-cross-on-field-of-white design, is removed from a selvage that contains the outer portions of the flag.



## DENMARK SHELLFISH

On January 2, Denmark issued five stamps depicting five of the most common shellfish caught in the area seas and the process that takes the shellfish from sea to diners' plates. Included are the brown crab, the Norway lobster, and three others.



## CZECH REPUBLIC CLASSIC AIRCRAFT

On January 20, the Czech Republic issued a stamp featuring a vintage airplane, the Aero A-14 ČSA, viewed from the left wing. The Aero A-14 was a 1920s Czechoslovak single-engine training, reconnaissance, and transport biplane.



## SWEDEN RETRO DESIGNS

On January 12, Sweden issued six Retro design stamps: five stamps displaying designs of clothes, furniture, lighting, cups and saucers, and teapots along with a single, showing the 1950 String Bookshelf, created from a 1949 design competition.



# WORLDWIDE IN A NUTSHELL

BY BOB LAMB

## Nagorno-Karabakh

**Status:** Self-Proclaimed Republic in Southern Caucasus

**Area:** 2,700 sq. miles (estimate)

**Population:** 137,737 (2005 census)

**Currency:** Armenian Dram (474 Drams = US\$1)



**N**agorno-Karabakh is a mountainous enclave about the size of Delaware in the southern Caucasus. For about 600 years the area was a part of Armenia. Since 387 AD it was at least nominally under Persian rule until 1813 when Czar Alexander I conquered it for the expanding Russian Empire. Its location in the rugged Lesser Caucasus Mountains has allowed its people to preserve considerable autonomy throughout its history.



The Stepanakert Post Office in Nagorno-Karabakh sells stamps and handles local mail.



The Karabakh horse,  
Michel 39.



Columnist Bob Lamb during his visit to the Nagorno-Karabakh post office.

After the October Revolution, Russian troops withdrew from Transcaucasia and in 1918 three former Russian states declared their independence. This brief interlude was marred by fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan over control of territory including Nagorno-Karabakh. The Red Army ended this armed struggle when it crossed over the Caucasus and the three Transcaucasian states became Soviet Republics. In 1923, despite Armenian objections, Moscow made Nagorno-Karabakh an autonomous oblast within Azerbaijan.

In 1988, as the Soviet Union weakened, the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute again surfaced. Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh began to agitate for union with Yerevan, the capital of Armenia. Russian efforts to restore control were fruitless. On September 2, 1991, Nagorno-Karabakh declared its independence and full-scale warfare ensued with Azerbaijan. Armenians held Nagorno-Karabakh and doubled the territory it controlled. A cease-fire was signed on February 18, 1994. Although nominally independent, Nagorno-Karabakh has a very close political relationship with Armenia. The international community does not recognize the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh

and de jure, it is considered a part of Azerbaijan.

Nagorno-Karabakh issued its first postage stamps on June 11, 1993. It has a functioning postal system and its stamps are used by the public. Its foreign mail enters the international mail stream through Armenia. The Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue does not list these stamps, though they are listed in major European catalogs, including Michel and Stanley Gibbons.



A 2010 issue shows a Christian church building.



A commemorative celebrating independence, Michel 3.



A 2013 Europa issue features a mail truck.



A postcard sent to the United States with a 2016 Wildlife Conservation stamp featuring a long-eared hedgehog.



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DATE

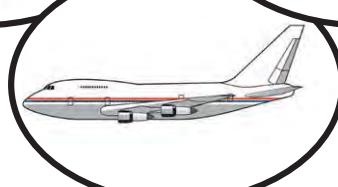
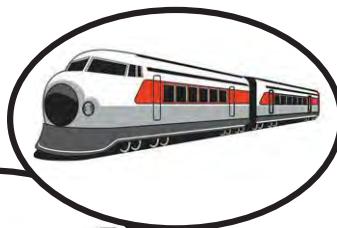
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We Want  
To Buy!!

We Want  
To Visit!!

# HAVE TONGS, WILL TRAVEL!!

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

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

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

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

#### IF YOU LIVE IN:

Ohio, Michigan,  
Kentucky, Indiana,  
Tennessee, West Virginia,  
Pennsylvania, New Jersey,  
New York, or Ontario

#### WRITE OR CALL:

Randy Scholl Stamp Co.  
7460 Jager Court  
Cincinnati, OH 45230  
Phone: 513-624-6800  
randyscholl@fuse.net  
[randyschollstampcompany.com](http://randyschollstampcompany.com)

Wisconsin,  
Northern Florida,  
Southern Florida,  
or Texas:  
[www.drbobstamps.com](http://www.drbobstamps.com)  
Dr. Robert Friedman & Sons

Phone: 800-588-8100  
Fax: 630-985-1588  
[drbobstamps@comcast.net](mailto:drbobstamps@comcast.net)  
Coins also wanted.

California, Nevada,  
Arizona, Oregon,  
or Washington:  
Phone: 800-722-1022 (Dave)  
[newportharborstamps@gmail.com](mailto:newportharborstamps@gmail.com)

#### IF YOU LIVE IN:

North Carolina,  
South Carolina,  
Georgia, or Virginia:

#### WRITE OR CALL:

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

Illinois, Iowa,  
Minnesota, Kansas,  
Nebraska, South/  
North Dakota,  
Missouri, New Mexico,  
Arkansas, or Colorado:

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

