

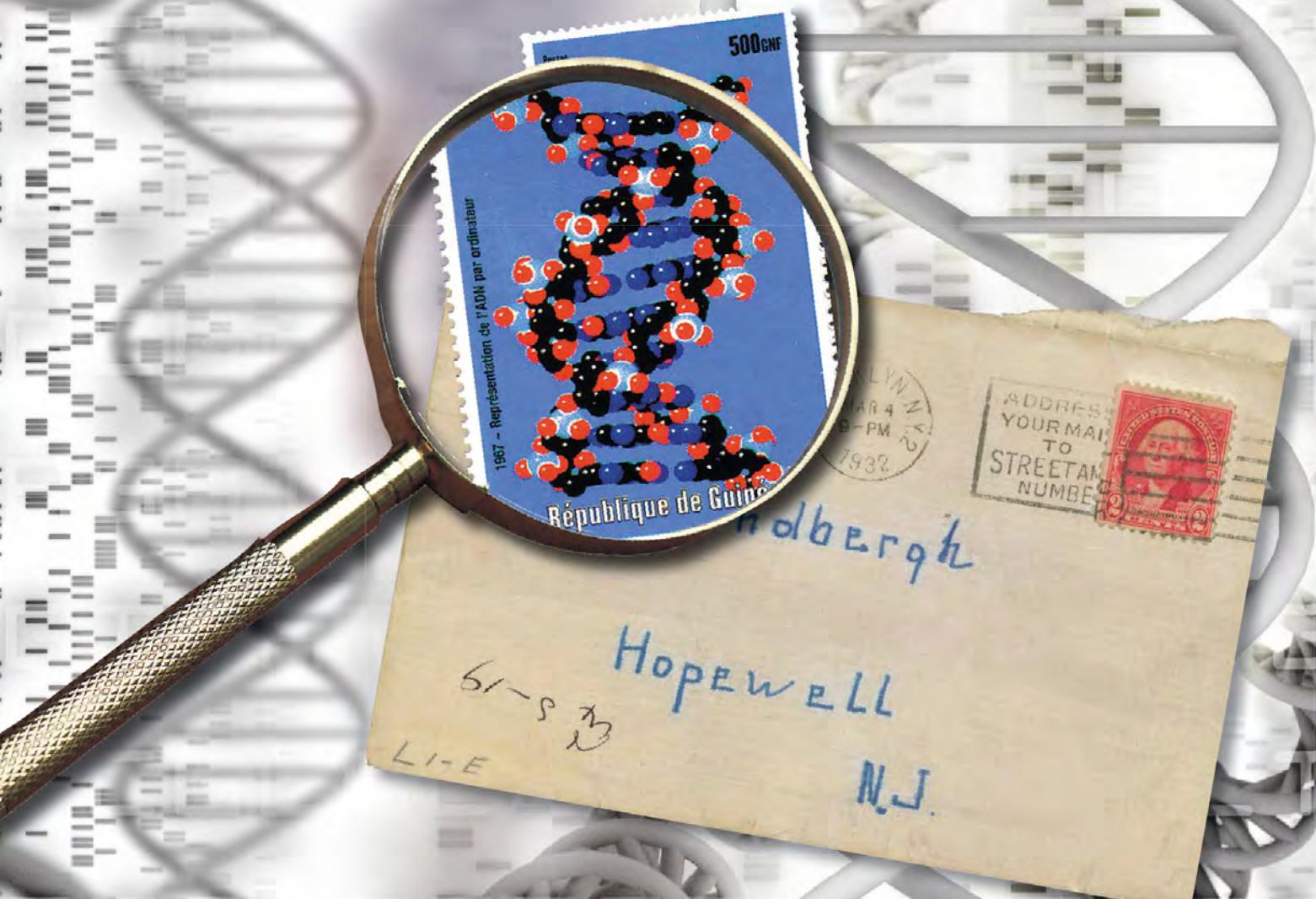
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March 2012

Journal of the American Philatelic Society

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USA #132
1875 Re-issue of 1869
Issue 90¢ Carmine



USA #263
1894 Marshall \$5
Graded 85/90 Jumbo



USA #296a
1901 Pan-American
Center Inverted Specimen



USA #359
1909 Washington 3¢
Bluish Paper



Lombardy-Venetia #13
1861 Franz Josef
5s Red



Australia #15
1913 Kangaroo £2
Deep Rose & Black

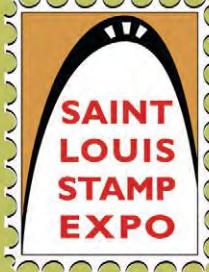


Australia #102
1930 Kangaroo £2
Dull Red & Black



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236 Philately & DNA

by Robert M. Bell and Robert S. Blackett —

Modern analysis of traces of DNA on stamps and covers can reveal long hidden information.

244 Reflections of the NRA

by Charles A. Fricke —

Postal cards were used to promote the National Recovery Administration, established in 1933.

Featured Columns

224 Collecting Coast to Coast — Wayne L. Youngblood *Stamps & Postal History*

When the stamp's story is the compelling element of postal history.

228 Visiting the British Empire — Noel Davenhill

St. Helena & Ascension Islands Two tiny islands in the South Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Angola, and first claimed by Portugal, became part of the British Empire in the early 1800s.

288 Worldwide in a Nutshell — Bob Lamb

India The second most populous country in the world had to deal with dozens of separate postal systems operated by the independent princely states before it became a republic in 1950.

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BARBARA BOAL • Editor

baboal@stamps.org

lettertotheeditor@stamps.org

aparticle@stamps.org

BONNY FARMER • Associate Editor

bfarmer@stamps.org

DORIS WILSON

Associate Graphics Designer

doris@stamps.org

HELEN BRUNO • Advertising Manager

hlbruno@stamps.org

adsales@stamps.org

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APS News

Advertisers Online	262
Book Reviews	286
Classifieds	274
Index of Advertisers	266
Letters to the Editor	204
Membership Report	271
President's Column	196
The Pulse	247
Sales Talk	252
Show Time	258
U.S. New Issues	278
YPLF	256

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tmurray@stamps.org

**Manager of Membership
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judy@stamps.org

Address Changes:

requests@stamps.org

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jehouser@stamps.org

Director of Expertizing

Mercer Bristow, ext. 205
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The American Philatelist

Barbara Boal, ext. 221
baboal@stamps.org

Bonny Farmer, ext. 222
bfarmer@stamps.org

Articles

aparticle@stamps.org

Letters to the Editor

lettertotheeditor@stamps.org

Advertising Information:

Helen Bruno, ext. 224

adsales@stamps.org

Editorial Production Manager,

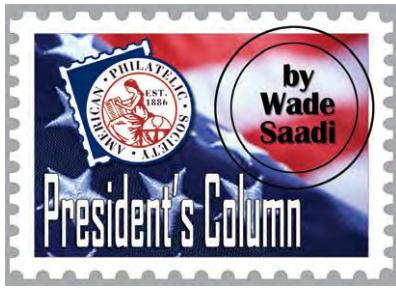
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The Membership Promotion & Recruiting Committee



The APS Membership Committee works to enhance the Society's new member recruitment successes, and concerns itself with all matters affecting the long term retention of the Society's dues paying members.

I would like to introduce you to one of our working board committees, as a follow-up to my February column, where I discussed some perspectives on APS membership.

It is true that the APS depends on its Board of Directors for setting the direction and vision of our Society, but the Board could not function successfully without the support of a strong network of working Committees. One such robust committee is Membership Promotion & Recruiting.

The mission statement of the APS Membership Committee states: "The APS Membership Committee works to enhance the Society's new member recruitment successes, and concerns itself with all matters affecting the long term retention of the Society's dues paying members." When I asked Membership Committee chair Steven Rod how the Committee arrived at this statement, he said "We worked long and hard before we agreed upon it. We held meetings every two or three weeks, and after a while, we asked ourselves to describe our work." Their statement reflects membership recruitment and membership retention as involving everything that deals with how our members feel about their membership. It's an awesome challenge.

Steve told me that when I asked him to serve as chair the Committee, he reviewed the last ten years of efforts to recruit members, noting that the APS had tried "big campaigns," splashy offers, with premiums of some sort. He agreed to accept the appointment with the understanding that "less is more"; that the success of the Committee's efforts would be based on hard work on smaller efforts and activities.

Steve told me that the committee's achievements are due entirely to seven APS members who are willing to meet for several hours every month (by teleconference) and then to work off-line between the meetings. They are very fortunate to have the great national team of Don Chenevert (IL), Diane Clark (GA), Diane DeBlois (NY), Terry Dempsey (GA), Edgar Hicks (NE), Matt Liebson (OH), and James Weigant (OK). All of them deserve a huge "thank you" for their amazing commitment to our Society. Steve added that without the strong leadership of APS Membership Manager Judy Johnson and Executive Director Ken Martin, the Committee would not have a working agenda. Steve's report to me mentioned:

The committee members have all agreed to make personal phone calls to new members in their 5th or 6th month of membership. The idea was that in this way we could personalize the membership in a large national society, and also obtain feedback on how we were perceived by our members.

At the committee's January 3 meeting, Diane DeBlois summed up our nine month experience to date with these phone calls. "Many of our members have no other philatelic contact. Membership in the nations Stamp Club [APS] is their philatelic contact. They so appreciate our reach-out calls!"

I asked committee members to give me an example of one of "their favorite calls" to share with AP readers:

Matt Liebson spoke with a recent retiree in Florida, who had joined the APS "just for the magazine" after starting to spend more time with his stamps. "He couldn't be happier with the APS and its services,"



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Secretary

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kenneth.grant@uwc.edu

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Edgar@LiberiaStamp.org

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kristin_email@yahoo.com

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Matt reported. "He is hoping for the opportunity to visit the APRL as soon as possible."

Edgar Hicks spoke with a new member in Wyoming who had no dealer in his area and joined APS as a result of a mailing he received. He is retired military and is reconnecting with his childhood hobby. When Edgar called him to say hello, he had not yet learned about the Sales Division and Edgar was able to share the delights of the circuit books being delivered to your home.

James Weigant called a new member in Philadelphia who started collecting stamps late in life, fell in love with the hobby and has now thrown himself headlong into it. He is a member of his local club, planning to go on the next Stamp Cruise, and loves his membership with the APS. "He wished he had started collecting earlier and he stated that he will be a member of the APS for a long time," James told me.

I wish I had room to share more of these stories with you. We seem to enjoy an almost 100% satisfaction rate among all of our new members. This correlates with our very high retention rate — we retain 90% of all of our new members each year, a remarkable statistic in the Association business. That still means we lose more than 3,000 members annually, many due to the effects of aging. Replacing them with new recruits is a task we ask every member to help us achieve.

Committee Member Terry Dempsey reported that he had discovered several hundred websites of our Chapters and Affiliates that make no mention of the APS on their home page. Terry brought this to the Committee and thanks to Terry's initiative, we will be working throughout 2012 to reach a goal of 100% visibility for the Society on all of these websites.

I want to thank these Committee Members for their devotion to the growth and sustenance of the APS. We welcome comments from you regarding any ideas you have to further improve our wonderful relations we enjoy with our more than 35,000 members.

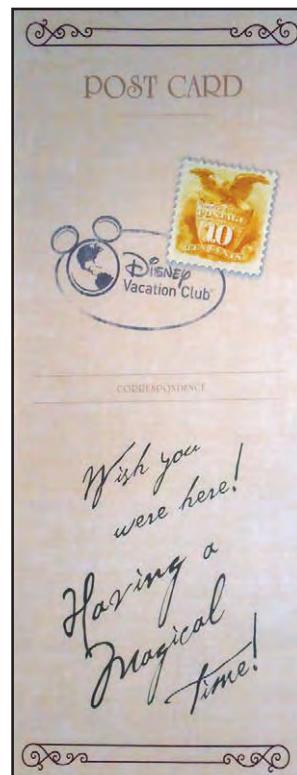
Disney World Surprise

Recently at Disney World, I was at the Grand Floridian Hotel. In the hotel lobby was a three-foot wide by eight-foot high reproduction of a postcard with the written message, "Wish you were here! Having a magical time!" In the address portion of the postcard was a 10-cent 1869 Eagle & Shield stamp in its beautiful yellow shade. I would have expected to find a faux postage stamp of sorts on such an advertisement, but was delighted to see the image of a real stamp. It would have made Michael Laurence smile proudly! Since there is no address on the card, it is difficult to see if it paid a proper rate. It doesn't really matter, however; after all we were right near the Magic Kingdom's Fantasyland!

Volunteer Profile

Fred Baumann

Born in Chicago, Fred Baumann moved to Canada as a child and grew up and was educated in Toronto and in Windsor, Ontario, where he worked at a radio station as a copywriter and a talk-show host. A childhood stamp collector who returned to the hobby as an adult in the late 1970s, his passion for philately



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landed him a job as a stamp auction describer in Michigan in 1985, followed by ten years as an editor and senior editor at *Linn's Stamp News*, six more as a senior editor at *Stamp Collector* and a three-year stint as Public Relations Director with the American Philatelic Society. He wrote a bimonthly column for *Scott Stamp Monthly*, and in 2010 taught a four-day APS Summer Seminar on the "World of German Philately." Fred has a third-generation collection of Germany, smaller collections of Danzig, Bohemia & Moravia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and an exhibit on the postal history of the ancient German city of Leipzig. He also collects bridges, the Statue of Liberty, and tanks on stamps.



Fred is currently recording scripts that accompany audiovisual programs that the APS makes available to chapters. "Twenty-five years after I worked in radio, I find it delightful that I can lend my dubious vocal talents to philately." Fred lives in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania with his wife Liz.

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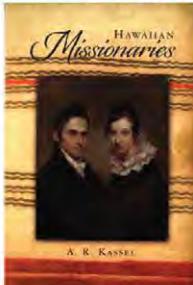




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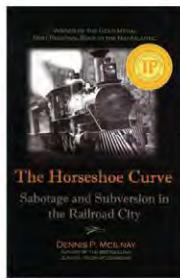


Hawaiian Missionaries is a collection of stories that are the Gems of Hawaiian History. The book focuses on the American Missionaries in Hawaii, and contains some intriguing stories on the rare Hawaiian Missionary postage stamps. If you are a Hawaiian History buff, a stamp collector or are just curious you will find this book to be a very enjoyable read.

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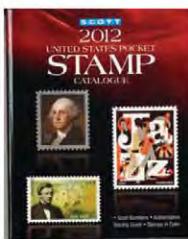


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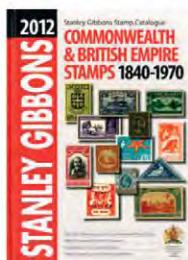


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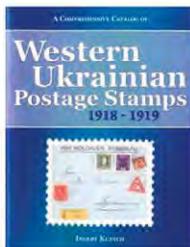
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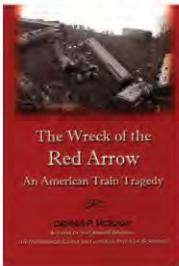
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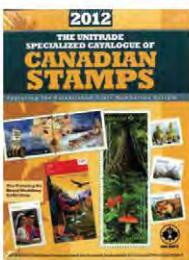


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



New Adult Collectors Need Help

I have been collecting stamps since I was 10 years old. I still remember the day it all began — it was raining and I was bored. My mother asked me if I thought I might like collecting stamps. I shrugged my shoulders and said I might. She brought out from an old chest, my grandfather's collection. A small but wondrous collection of stamps from places I had never even heard of. I was hooked.

My collection has grown throughout the years and I enjoy my quiet time when I can just sit for hours and peruse my gems. Although that is not too often, it is still a most enjoyable and rewarding time.

I enjoy reading your magazine and was very excited to become a member of APS. I know your magazine and articles encourage "beginners" (as I still think of myself) to get involved; however, it is a scary place. As an adult who has been collecting in my own special way for

many years, it is very disheartening to talk to a know-it-all collector who has names and titles associated with "my type." For example, in one encounter I was asked "What do you collect?" Since I am still not sure, I answered appropriately. The collector just shook his head and told me I had to pick an area and stick with it. That I couldn't collect everything and definitely shouldn't be trying to. He promptly called me a hoarder.

As much as I wanted to, I have never been to a stamp show, because after that encounter, I got cold feet about going to a major stamp show. I figured if all collectors felt that way about those of us who are undecided in our collecting, then I didn't want to put myself through being embarrassed in a public setting.

There is so much I have taught myself and so much I still don't know. I thought about taking a beginners class but this same "collector" told me I should be well past that and only kids would be in a beginners' class. I also thought about a

local stamp club, again, I was told that I "would have to know what I was talking about" as the clubs don't have time for "my type."

So, instead of discouraging us beginners from getting involved, maybe some of the "old timers" should embrace adult beginners and not stop us in our tracks because we are not at their level.

When I ask a question, I truly don't know the answer, and having someone roll their eyes at me is condescending. I would hope that not all collectors feel the same way as this one did, but at this point I'm not sure I want to find out.

Lisa A. Pando
Melbourne, Florida

Letter Delay

In response to the Editor's appeal in the January AP for reasons as to why Jim Havlena's mail took five months to be processed ("Vote Gone Astray," page 20), perhaps I can shed some light. I lived in the West Indies from 1978 to 1991, sailing on ships from the Bahamas to Trinidad for five years, then land bound on the island of St. Barts (Barths), FWI.

It must be understood that the majority of the islands in the West Indies have no direct regular mail service to the United States. Only the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico do have service (and maybe the Bahamas these days). Because all of these islands were at one time colonies of European countries, the trade and communication routes were established to and from these parent countries, and not the new American colonies. By the end of the twentieth



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

century, all but France found it financially untenable to continue to support the colonies, and they were given their independence. This, however, did not change the established trade routes. The new island governments did not (and still don't) have the funds to establish international mail routing facilities.

Since St. Lucia had been a British Colony, the mail continues to go to England for distribution. Even though there may be direct passenger air flights from the United States to the islands and back, the mail does not go this way. Even mail going between adjacent islands can take weeks to be delivered because of this system. Sorry, no overnight or 3-day delivery here!

An additional problem can be the fact that the same zip codes can exist in multiple locations in the world. I know my zip code in Gustavia, St. Barts (Barths), F.W.I. is the same for some part of Athens, Greece; and for Great Falls, Oregon. Both incoming and outgoing mail could take six to eight weeks to complete its "travels" (and a few just disappeared forever). I eventually turned to asking visitors returning to the United States to carry my mail back and post it there. I had no control over incoming mail. This certainly did not help the mail order love affair I was attempting at the time!

So even though one might think it an exotic or novel idea to mail an item from a foreign country to back home, it has a very good chance of arriving weeks after you have returned home.

Lorin Bennett

North Fort Myers, Florida

Flag Puzzle in Stamps

I was pleased to see the article with its illustration of the American Flag in the October 2011 ("The Amazing Stamp Collages of Rachel Markwick," page 938) issue of the *AP*. For my 80th birthday my family gave me a picture puzzle of the American flag, 550 pieces, 24x18 inch size. (They also gave me a picture puzzle of the *New York Times* front page on the day I was born, July 30, 1931.)

The flag shows the field of stars on a field of primarily blue stamps. The red and white stripes are composed of pri-

marily red or white stamps, respectively. It is not the same as Ms. Markwick's collage in that the stripes are composed of regular size stamps three rows high (some vertical commemorative types take up two rows).

The maker is CEACO, 70 Bridge St., Newton, MA 02458, and the bottom of the box mentions three different flag designs they offer (and they are made in the USA!). Perhaps some other members might enjoy these stamp puzzles and would like to know of them.

Robert W. Seiche
Milan, Ohio

Military Insignia I

Regarding the letter entitled "Private First Class" in the January *AP* (page 21), I beg to disagree with the information put forth by Dave Lane.

To correct the issue, the addition of a rocker to the single stripe for a PFC and the single stripe for a Private E-2 is a more modern change. At the time of Pearl Harbor (and when I was in the Army in the 1950s) a PFC rank insignia was a single stripe (an inverted V).

A Private E-1 was the rank in Basic Training. At the completion of Basic, E-2 was attained (neither had a stripe). When a Soldier attained the rank of Private First Class the rank was designated by a single stripe.

I'm not sure when the change occurred, but it is part of the Modern Army.

Chris Curran
Chester, Vermont

Military Insignia II

On page 21 of your January issue, a well-meaning reader offered an erroneous correction to an article. He stated that a single stripe on an Army uniform indicates a Private (E-2), not a Private First Class (E-3). This is correct today, but it was not the case in 1941, the date of the photo in the article. The article's author correctly wrote that a single stripe indicated a Private First Class in 1941. Here is the story: In 1958, all branches of the U.S. armed forces created two new non-commissioned ranks, E-8 and E-9. At that time, the Army changed its insignia for PFC from a single stripe to a



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stripe with a "rocker" below, and simultaneously elevated it from E-2 to E-3. This is obviously what led the reader to offer his correction.

Paul Combs

CW3, Military Intelligence (Ret.)
Woodland Park, Colorado

Military Insignia III

Just received my January 2012 issue of the AP and noted an error that should be corrected. The writer, Dave Lane, is in error in stating that author Steve Henderson erred in writing, "he is wearing the single stripe of private first class."

In the "Private First Class" Letter to the Editor, Mr. Lane states that this is incorrect and that "the single stripe on the uniform indicates that he is a Private E2 or private of the second rank." Mr. Lane is correct if he were describing today's military insignia, but he is incorrect for the year 1941 when a Private First Class was designated by the use of a single chevron (stripe). The current use of the rocker under the single stripe to design-

nate a Private First Class is a fairly recent change to Army enlisted insignia.

For a history of Army military ranks and insignia, The Institute of Heraldry, U.S. Army is a great source that not only describes ranks and insignia but also provides an excellent review of the changes to Army enlisted insignias. One can access the Institute of Heraldry on the Internet at www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/.

I personally know that a single chevron was used to indicate a Private First Class since I wore this rank in 1960 following my promotion from Private E2.

William C. Alexander Jr.

Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)
Crystal River, Florida

Military Insignia IV

The Letter to the Editor by Mr. Dave Hill (AP Jan 2012) criticizing the meaning of the insignia shown on Virgil Henderson's U.S. Army uniform (AP Dec 2011, page 1116) is incorrect and misleading. The insignia is correctly identi-

fied in the article as that of a soldier of the rank of Private First Class.

While it is true that Mr. Henderson's rank corresponded to pay grade E2, that was not referred to as a private of "the second rank." There were only two levels of private. The lowest level was simply "Private," informally known as "Buck Private." There was no associated insignia.

When advanced, the individual became a Private First Class (pay level sixth grade) and was authorized to wear the single inverted chevron (stripe) shown in the photograph. There was no such a thing as a "third level private" in the U.S. Army or Marine Corps.

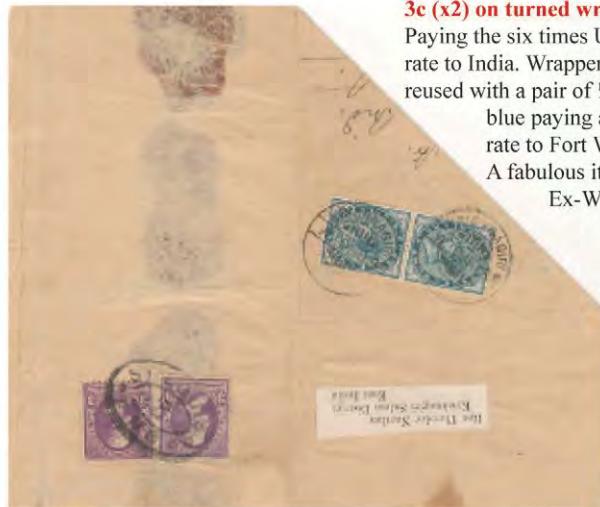
If a Private's insignia was worn with a rocker beneath the stripe, it was a departure from official insignia. It did not represent a requisite intermediate rank towards promotion. In the Army of the 1940s, promotion from sixth grade (Private First Class) to fifth grade (Corporal) resulted in the addition of a second

Two lovely postal history gems.



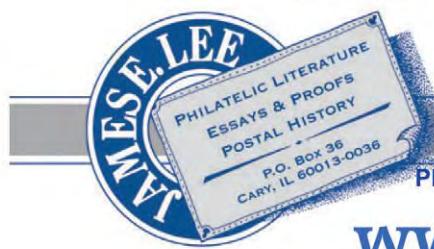
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PS4	VF/NH-LH block of 4.....	\$22.50
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PS12	F-VF/LH pl # single.....	\$3.00
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PS12	Fine/NH PB LR #22717.....	\$12.00
PS12	F-VF/LH PB #148247.....	\$9.00
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S6	XF/NH PB.....	\$10.00
S6	VF/NH PB.....	\$8.00
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WS7	F-VF/NH PB.....	\$3.00
WS7b	VF/NH EE type II bkl pane of 10.....	\$50.00
WS8	VF/NH.....	\$.70
WS8	VF/NH LL PB #149589.....	\$6.00
WS8	VF/NH UR PB #149588.....	\$6.00
WS8	VF/NH PB.....	\$5.00
WS8	VF/LH PB #150321.....	\$4.00
WS8	F-VF/LH PB #149590.....	\$3.50
WS8	25 c 3 x affixed on VF \$18.75 Def. Stamp Album.....	\$10.00
WS8b	LH EE type I bkl pane of 10 miscut.....	\$50.00
WS8b	F-VF/NH EE type II bkl pane of 10.....	\$40.00
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WS9	F-VF/NH PB, gum bend UL #149592.....	\$11.00
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WS10	VF/NH.....	\$12.50
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stripe. No rocker was involved.

Further promotion would raise the soldier's rank to fourth grade, "Sergeant" (three stripes), and next to third grade "Staff Sergeant." The Staff Sergeant was the lowest rank to include a rocker beneath the basic three Sergeant stripes.

Mr. Hill may have formed his opinion by studying the insignia that is used by the U.S. Army of the present day. The PFC insignia of an E3 does now, indeed, include a rocker. That did not exist in 1941. Times change.

The caption on the photograph is correct as published. I am confident that mail addressed to Mr. Henderson would have been addressed to "Private First Class Henderson."

An excellent contemporary (World War II) reference to U.S. military rank and insignia is June 1943 issue of *National Geographic* magazine.

C. Roger Wallin

Commander, U.S. Navy Reserve (ret.)

Portsmouth, Rhode Island

Military Insignia V

I did not want the letter by Dave Lane in the January AP criticizing Steve Henderson's fine and moving article "December 7, 1941: A Time to Reminisce" for mistaking his father's rank to remain unchallenged.

At Pearl Harbor, and also much later such as 1953–55 when I was in the Army, one solitary stripe stood for Private First Class (PFC), in the 82nd Airborne Division, the rest of the U.S. Army and the Marine Corps. It took me fourteen months to get that stripe and a pay raise from \$75 to \$99 a month! Some of us felt so flush that we paid the post tailor shop a dime per garment to sew the stripe on for us; others sat in the barracks and sewed on their own and saved their money for an extra couple of beers (at 15 cents a can). That rocker Mr. Lane refers to was added many years later and may be the proper insignia today but certainly was not in 1941 when Virgil Henderson served at Pearl Harbor. Inci-

dently, back in 1954 at Fort Bragg we could still buy World War II-era 6-cent envelopes at the post office and one of my friends regularly received booklets of 2-cent 1922 Washington stamps from his mother to use on his mail.

Frank Correl

Chevy Chase, Maryland

Military Insignia VI

Re: Dave Lane's Letter to the Editor in the January 2012 AP:

Nothing is static in the Army, and that includes the stripes worn by Enlisted Men. In my enlisted time, 1960–1965, Privates, pay grades E-1 and E-2, were "slick sleeves." A PFC, pay grade E-3, had one stripe. Pay grade E-4 during this time was usually a Specialist 4. I rarely saw a "two stripe" Corporal in this period, and those who were, were usually "three stripe" Sergeants, pay grade E-5, who had been reduced in rank.

There were no stripes with rockers during those years.

Manfred Groth

San Antonio, Texas

Military Insignia VII

The January issue of the AP contains a comment by Dave Lane concerning Steve Henderson's caption on page 1116 of the previous issue. However, Mr. Lane's correction is in fact incorrect. He states: "The single strip on the uniform indicates that he is a Private E2...."

Prior to 1967, approximately, the ranks of Private E1 and E2 were without any stripe of rank. I was meritoriously promoted from Private E1 to Private E2 upon graduation from Basic Training in May 1966. There was no stripe authorized at that time for the rank of Private E2. I received my first stripe and the rank of PFC E3 in late summer 1966.

The chevron and rocker to which Mr. Lane makes reference came into being, if memory serves, in 1967. Persons wearing that rank were also called Private First Class (PFC) and had the pay grade of E3.

Michael D. Roberts

Los Angeles, California

Modern Postal History I

I read Mr. Youngblood's column in the January AP ("The Universe of Mod-

Covers and Postal History



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ern Postal History," page 24) with much interest, as I have collected hundreds of covers from the office where I work. They are either personal correspondence or business mail, but each cover has a story to tell. There is either a commemorative not usually seen on cover, or a combination of definitives also not usually seen. Most of the mail that comes to my house does not have stamps on it, so my office has become my source for collecting modern postal history. It is always a red letter day when the office mail is opened and an unusual usage comes my way. Mr. Youngblood is right — postal history can be recent and fun.

Paul R. Davis
Camillus, New York

Modern Postal History II

The column by Wayne Youngblood in the January AP was quite interesting, particularly regarding his comments about Scott 2720, Chinese New Year rooster.

While his explanation of the produc-

tion sequence for the three known varieties sounds plausible, especially when it is expressed by American Bank Note officials, I think physical evidence indicates otherwise. I have only four plate blocks of this stamp but these examples seem to tell a different story.

I have plate blocks for plates A1-1111, A4-4444, and A5-7333 where the engraved red color is UNDER the block tagging (Scott 2720a) and plate A2-2222 where the engraved red is OVER the block tagging (Scott 2720). I have a note, that I don't know the source of, that also lists plate A2-6622 as the Scott 2720 variety. A recent auction listed an example of plate A5-7333, Scott 2720b (block tagging omitted).

My conclusions are:

1. Scott 2720b is an error, since plate A5-7333 also exists as Scott 2720a.
2. Both of the common production varieties (those with the engraved red over or under the block tagging) seem to have occurred throughout the production

of the stamp (since plate A5-7333 would have been part of the initial printings if Mr. Youngblood's logic were correct).

It would be interesting to compile member reports of other plate block numbers.

Stan Anderson
Kingsburg, California

Welles & Fields

Now that I am retired, I have found the time to catch up on my unread stack of APs. I read an interesting letter in the August 2011 issue ("Laughed Out Loud," page 708) and thought I would respond to it. The letter by Dave Savadge gave me great delight. I didn't think there was anyone left in the world who knew of the alias "Mahatma Kane Jeeves" used by W.C. Fields. Savadge's explanation of its origin was fascinating; however, I heard a different explanation given by none other than the great actor and director Orson Welles.

Welles claimed that the Fields' alias

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was actually a tip of the hat by Fields to him. Here's his explanation: Welles, as a young man, was a great friend and an always welcomed guest by Fields. An accomplished illusionist, Welles used to amuse Fields by doing little "magic tricks" for him. Because of this, Fields dubbed him "The Great Mahatma." Also, although I don't think it is well known, Fields was an avid reader. One of his favorite authors was the incomparable P.G. Wodehouse, creator of the character Jeeves, the butler. Welles said that he introduced Fields to the works of Wodehouse, for which the older man was eternally grateful. And so the alias: Mahatma Kane (Welles' greatest role) Jeeves (the Wodehouse character).

I must admit that the explanation by Mr. Savadge seems more credible, but since both Welles and Fields are now entertaining on "that great stage in the sky," and cannot verify either explanation, I guess we'll never know.

Frank V. Priore
College Point, New York

Pat Paragraphs I

The January 2012 AP Letter to the Editor titled "Ohio's Assassinated Presidents" by L. Robert Smith (page 20) incorrectly ascribes "Pat's Paragraphs [sic]" to Herman ("Pat") Herst Jr. Indeed, these articles were titled "Pat Paragraphs" and written by Elliott Perry as correctly stated in Kenneth M. Davis's November AP article, "Ohio's Assassinated Presidents." Pat Herst's writings in his well-known house organ were titled "Herst's Outbursts" (with no mention of "Pat" in the "Herst's Outbursts" logo or byline). Mr. Smith is correct in that Mr. Herst went by his nickname "Pat," which was given to him because he was born on St. Patrick's Day and evidently stuck with him throughout his lifetime. Perry's *Pat Paragraphs* originally were a series of 58 card-covered booklets issued from 1931 to 1958 containing much data on classic U.S. stamps and especially the locals and carriers. These booklets were considered sufficiently valuable to stamp collectors

that they were subsequently arranged by topic by George Townsend Turner and Thomas E. Stanton, and published in 1981 in book form as *Pat Paragraphs*, by Elliott Perry. The book *Pat Paragraphs* is available from Leonard H. Hartmann (Philatelic Bibliopole) and probably other philatelic literature dealers in the United States.

Roger S. Cichorz
Boulder, Colorado

Pat Paragraphs II

In the January 2012 *American Philatelist* Letters to the Editor, L. Robert Smith suggested that Mr. Davis in his November 2011 AP article "Ohio's Assassinated Presidents" made a mistake in attributing "Pat's Paragraphs" to Elliott Perry. Mr. Smith claims these were written by Herman Herst, Jr. Not true. Elliott Perry did indeed author PAT PARAGRAPHS. Originally called ELIOT PERRY-GRAPHS, it was changed at some point and for some reason I do not know to PAT PARAGRAPHS. These

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articles were published as Perry's house organ from June 1931 until February 1958. I have several of the original issues from the 1940s and 1950s.

Tim Smith

Bethesda, Maryland

Pat Paragraphs III

Many members of the Westfield Stamp Club have commented to me with alarm that an urban myth concerning our patron saint, Elliot Perry, has once again resurfaced. Just as our club has finished its 50th anniversary celebration year, we see a Letter to the Editor in the January 2012 issue of *The American Philatelist* perpetuating the myth that *Pat Paragraphs* was written by Herman Herst Jr. and not by Elliot Perry, one of the founders of our club. While Herman "Pat" Herst Jr. was certainly a prolific writer and has been credited with having written everything from the *Declaration of Independence* to *Catcher in the Rye*, he did not write *Pat Paragraphs*.

For those who would like to read a

series of bite-size articles on U.S. philately, may we suggest you go to the United States Stamp Society website, www.us-stamps.org, where you can buy a copy of *Pat Paragraphs* for only \$55. Better yet, join the USSS and save \$15 on your book purchase.

Happy New Year from 80 philatelists in New Jersey who hope to see you at our 50th anniversary stamp show on March 3, 2012 in Westfield, New Jersey.

Nicholas Lombardi

President, Westfield Stamp Club
Mountainside, New Jersey

Editor's note: Letters correcting this error also were received from Roger Brody, Gary Dunauer, and Steve Spoerl.

Old German-American Postcard

A nondescript postcard in an accumulation recently caught my eye. A picture of Plauen, Germany was on one side, and it was dated "Plauen, Oct, 9, 1924" with the word "Zeppelin" in the German message. It had dual German



and U.S. franking, tied only by a faint Lakehurst, New Jersey, October 20, 1924 cancel.

The message is not entirely legible but says "My dear Hans, You will get this card with the Zeppelin mail. On the day when it flew over Plauen, we were all on the tower of the town hall watching, and it flew directly overhead. Tomorrow it will fly to America for ever...because(?) it is built for America. Many greetings, Your parents." The phrase on the side starts with "Berlin must be your...???"

The card is addressed to a Hans Petschow in Illinois. Robert Petschow was a noted German zeppelin photogra-

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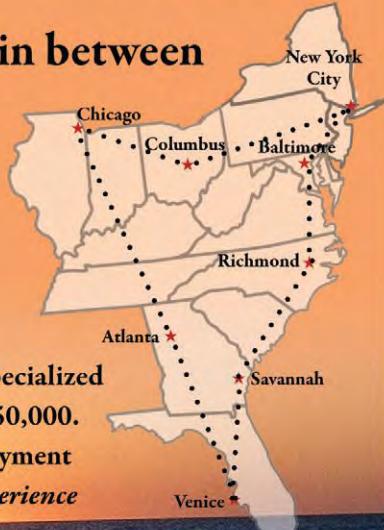


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pher of the period and unofficially flew on zeppelin flights and was familiar with many officers and crew.

Lakehurst was a U.S. Navy zeppelin airfield. On October 12, 1924, under the command of Dr. Hugo Eckener, zeppelin LZ-126 left Friedrichshafen, Germany for delivery to the United States Navy as a reparation for World War I, soon to be renamed the USS *Los Angeles* with American Naval designation ZR-3 (see www.airships.net/us-navy-rigid-airships/uss-los-angeles).

It landed at Lakehurst, New Jersey on the morning of October 15, 1924. The crew were given a parade up Broadway in New York City, and officers visited President Calvin Coolidge. This postcard may well have been carried by one of them or somehow otherwise escaped the German zeppelin postal markings, necessitating on landing before franking with U.S. postage to get to Illinois.

Robert W Steiner MD
La Jolla, California



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Handwriting?

Regarding the "Vote Gone Astray" Letter to the Editor in the January AP (page 20), I also have an experience to share and a possible explanation. Early last November, I sent a correctly addressed postcard to a cousin in Wales. It was returned to me in Florida after Christmas, with two yellow stickers indicating that the address was not recognized. I put the card into an envelope and reposted it using the exactly same address. I received a phone call a few days later thanking me for the card! I would hazard that the "snag," for want of a better description, is that sometimes computers misinterpret handwriting?

Peter H Palmer
Largo, Florida

Re-engaging Adults

The January President's Column (page 4) presented a solid plan for re-engaging adults who were collectors during their youth or for attracting new

adult collectors. While I agree that targeting specific groups is a viable strategy, there was one rather large and possibly rewarding group that was absent: residents of senior living and retirement facilities.

Many of these facilities have daily or frequent programs for their residents. Program directors are regularly seeking speakers on a wide variety of topics. These facilities could well represent an ideal forum for local stamp clubs or individuals interested in creating a local stamp club. These facilities often attract individuals with the intellectual interest and financial resources to engage in serious collecting.

One final point. Some amusement parks have focused their advertising to this demographic group by encouraging them to take their grandchildren to the park. Perhaps this same group, once they have (re)discovered stamp collecting, will also inspire their grandchildren to become stamp collectors.

Mark A. Sipper
Gibsonia, Pennsylvania

What Year Was That?

Congratulations on your (our) anniversary and for showing us on page 3 of the January issue what the first issue of *The American Philatelist* looked like. It's a shame that this very first issue was blemished with such a glaring error right in its masthead. Thanks to your caption underneath the date of Volume 1, No. 1 is corrected to "January 10, 1987." Somehow, I thought your fine publication has been around for much longer.

Bill Godfrey
Sycamore, Illinois

Editor's reply: Oops. No wonder the past 125 years seem to have flown by!

Collage Postcards

I enjoyed David Norris's article on Chinese collage postcards in the January AP ("Vintage Stamp Collage Postcards," page 56). In addition to the Chinese life scenes he showed, one can find other thematically interesting cards. Although I can't show it in my tennis exhibit, I am glad to have found the card shown. A tennis player in high heels with a lobster claw hand and wearing a tiara is about to



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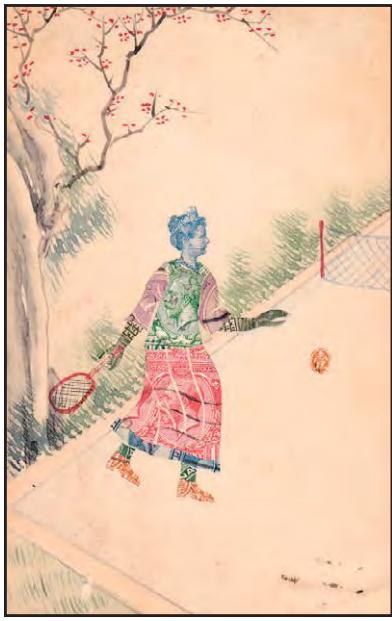
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(Editor's note: Webster's new World College Dictionary lists "flack" as an acceptable alternative spelling of "flak.")

On the matter of hinges: In the same issue, reader Mr. Sorenson laments that moisture on the hinge affects the gum on the stamp to be mounted and causes it to be glued down to the page ("About Hinges (Again)," page 12). My father taught me 65 years ago that mint stamps ought not to be hinged at all as the gum must remain pristine (and CTO stamps should of course have had their gum removed). Therefore, the so-called "gum craze," as some will call it, is not of recent vintage.

Moreover Mr. Sorenson is looking forward to research to improve stamp mounting by the APS and committees. Partly agreeing, I find that if the APS is expected to do research in this matter, why not simply approach the industry with its formidable number of members behind it, and request that really peelable hinges be re-introduced to the marketplace? I can hardly believe that mankind has really lost the recipe for peelable hinges forever.

A few of those (Dennison) held over from prior times are sometimes offered by auction houses and fetch prices akin to 100-year-old wine.

Wulf Graunitz
Palgrave, Ontario

Feedback on Auction Houses

In one of your recent Letters to the Editor from Robbin Dick ("Auction House Returns," December 2011 AP, page 1088), the issue of incorrectly described items in auctions and return rates was raised. The author requested feedback from other collectors on this matter, which I am happy to provide.

I am a very serious collector specializing in Germany from States to Modern. Since I have been at it for many years, most of my material is now obtained through auctions, not only in Germany, but also Austria, Switzerland, and the United States. I send most of my winning bids out for expertization certificates. In my experience, about 25–30% come back with bad certificates, usually with the stamp being misidentified or with flaws not mentioned in the auction catalogue. In these cases, I return the stamps to the auction house and have had no problem receiving a refund or credit, along with not being charged for the cost of the certificate, with two notable exceptions. I have never been asked not to bid in future auctions because of my return rate.

Both of the two exceptions were German auction houses, although not top tier. In the first instance, the auction house begrudgingly took back an incorrectly identified stamp, sent me a refund, and informed me they were doing so only as a favor to me. I have not bid in their auctions since.

In the second instance, I sent a few winning bids to the APS for certificates, some of which came back bad. I returned the stamps for credit, along with the certificates. In the next auction, I saw the same stamps offered with the same description. When I queried the auction house about the ethics of this, the response was that "nobody in Germany takes findings from the APS expertization service seriously." Really?!? Smacks a bit of European or Teutonic arrogance.

Overall, I totally agree with Mr. Dick's statement regarding the high ethics (although I can't comment on their high morals, as the author does!) of stamp collectors, dealers, and auction houses. I am constantly surprisingly amazed at the dollar value of material I am sent by auction houses, essentially on faith regarding payment. Frankly, I find it pretty uplifting that such trust still exists in business relationships. I hope the author's one bad experience with auction houses will not put him off from dealing with them in the future. My experience with top tier and reputable auction

hit a forehand into a court with no fence. You could get a lot of exercise chasing stray tennis balls in that situation. Or perhaps the royal head suggests that she would wait for a ballboy to do the retrieving. What other unusual examples have readers discovered?

Norman F. Jacobs Jr.
Decatur, Georgia

Responding to Letters

I found it quite ironic that member Mr. Paul Wickberg who provides interesting details about military hardware in his Letter to the Editor in the January AP titled "Pearl Harbor & More" (page 18) should stumble on a term that originated with military hardware; or was it perhaps only the typesetter who misspelled the word "flack"?

Most World War II aviators will remember that they have been subjected to "flak," an acronym of the German Flugzeugabwehrkanone (anti aircraft canon), or literally "aircraft repel cannon," thus Flak, there is no "c" in this word.

Correction

An inadvertent phrasing error crept into the boxed sidebar ("Translating Catalogue Value into Cash") on page 159 of the article "Philatelic Estate Disposition for the Novice," which appeared in the February AP. To clarify, the average collection that is put up for sale can expect to see a cash return equal to perhaps 20% of the *condition-adjusted catalogue value* of the collection.

houses has been uniformly excellent and satisfying.

Bruce R. Wright
San Jose, California

Getting Reenergized

I have been a stamp saver/collector/specialist/expert/writer etc., for over 65 years. However, there have been significant periods during which I was inactive.

Something usually occurred to get me reenergized — purchase of a perfins collection, joining a local stamp club, etc. Recently, after a period of inactivity, I needed a push.

My dear wife told me to reduce my piles of "stuff." Part of the stuff was back issues of *AP*. Naturally, there is no way I could toss them without going through them and saving the good pieces, although I am not sure I can convince her that the substantial pile of "good pieces" has to be saved either.

The result was that I was reenergized. There were so many pieces that generated my interest. I even found a few pieces

that I had written. So I will now get back into my specialties (Maine perfins, Korea Scott # 225 varieties, and Korea #C3 used and on cover) with renewed interest.

Vince McDermott
Brunswick, Maine

Great Issue

I thoroughly enjoyed the December 2011 issue of the *AP* devoted to the 70th anniversary of Pearl Harbor and the days that followed. The postal history described in the numerous articles was remarkable, and how fortunate it is that so many of these covers have survived and made it into the hands of collectors to share with those still interested in history. I shudder to think about how many others are lost forever, but I remain optimistic that many are still boxed up in attics waiting to be freed.

The onset of the war was bleak when looking at it on paper. United States and other Allied territory was lost and overrun with the enemy. Many ships and

planes in the Pacific were gone, and our standing army was small and ill-prepared for a two-front war. Industry had yet to gear up and transition to a war footing. Things could only go uphill from those dark days, and uphill they went, though that is another story.

Most poignant is the story of these covers that lies beyond the interesting postal history with returns, censors, and roundabout routes. So many family letters in December 1941 never made it to the service members on Wake Island and the Philippines. Even worse, most of these personnel (including some civilians) did not survive. Those who surrendered on Wake Island were all executed, while those in the Philippines were marched to their death. So much for the Geneva Convention.

I am grateful to these collectors and authors who have devoted years of collecting to compile these December 7th items. We tend to think of the war in terms of numbers lost here and there. While the numbers are true and tragic,

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1894 definitive 5 dollars John Marshall Sold on Delcampe!

MARCH 2012 / AMERICAN PHILATELIST 221

what is more compelling than to view a cover from a parent to a son in the Pacific, an item that is sent back with a handstamp stating Return-Deceased or -missing? This takes the war from just numbers to real families and the prices they all paid to secure our freedom.

Again, kudos to you, the editorial staff, and the writers for the vision to help us remember. We were not ready in late 1941. I have to wonder, are we ready now?

Paul Petersen
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Stamps & the APS

It may be troubling to some, but utilizing cost-effective means for large mailings is "smart" business, particularly for a non-profit activity like the APS. Assuming the APS was still using postage stamps, there would undoubtedly be complaints about the stamps used, denomination, centering, cancellation, etc. The APS, in many respects, must be run like a business and all members need to understand that, for the APS to help control the cost of membership, member services, etc., going forward, they must take advantage of employable, success-proven methods that are designed to save money; in this instance, using mailing houses for large mailings. (Even our country's postage stamp seller, the USPS, doesn't put U.S. postage stamps on mailings, and all of the Stamp Fulfillment Services orders are sent by Priority Mail via a bar-coded mailing label.) For most well-run organizations, large mailings are done in a way that will improve efficiency, manage costs, and generate savings — and the APS should be no exception.

Clearly, the value of the APS is in the content and variety of everything they offer — from *The American Philatelist* to the StampStore to Expertizing — and *not* how mailed information gets into APS members' hands.

I applaud the APS for doing the excellent job they are doing to contain expenses in an environment where member growth is flat and the number of those collecting stamps in the general population is not growing. As a member of the American Philatelic Society for nearly 40 years I have seen improvements made to increase APS operational efficiency

and, frankly, it's difficult not to support them because the world is quickly changing. Simply stated, it is critical that every company, corporation, association, etc., and yes, even governmental organization, constantly review how it does business or it will be out of business.

Mark D. Hood

Daytona Beach Shores, Florida

Destination Woes

In the February *AP* Art Schmitz wrote about his experience at the post office trying to mail a card to England ("Post Office Smarts," page 108). I had an even better experience than his.

I was mailing a package to Switzerland and the clerk was trying to send it to Swaziland. When I told him that Swaziland was the incorrect destination, he told me that was the abbreviation for Switzerland. He got very indignant when I told him he was mistaken.

Ludwig Berndt
Clovis, California

Who To Honor

The following are two suggestions I sent to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee regarding the policy change to allow stamps to honor living persons.

I disagree with the new policy to allow stamps to honor living persons because they may still do something not honorable, thus disgracing themselves. Nevertheless, since the new policy will not be changed, I have two suggestions based on my belief that you should start bestowing honors at the top of American society.

1. I suggest that you issue a set of four stamps honoring the four former U.S. presidents: Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush. There is a symmetry in this group. There are two Democrats and two Republicans as well as two one-term presidents and two two-term presidents.

Although the stamp issuance program is already set for 2012, I suggest that this set be released in late 2012 or early 2013. As a result of the election in November 2012, the list of former presidents may increase by one, in which case a set of five will be needed and the symmetry mentioned above will no longer apply.

2. I suggest that you issue a set of

four stamps honoring the U.S. President, the First Lady, the Vice President, and the Second Lady. I suggest that this set be released on Inauguration Day, January 20, 2012.

Joseph Scafetta Jr.
Falls Church, Virginia

Proposed Speakers Program

Our shared hobby of philately has (in my *not so humble opinion*) an enormous advantage and position among other hobbies — it intersects them all and can give other hobbyists a new facet on their passionate interests. Whether your interest is auto racing, Egyptology, rare gems, or mountain climbing, you can own stamps that reflect those interests — even if you are a poor driver, don't want to be caught smuggling artifacts, can't afford expensive gems, or are afraid of heights. Moreover, it intersects the professional world and workplace by recognizing the progression of human effort. And, it chronicles the history of humankind, particularly in the last two centuries.

Wade Saadi's column in the January *AP* (page 4) launched the proposed APS speakers program, which will develop a series of presentations on topics intended to spark the interests of professionals to hobbyists and share with them the excitement that we experience with stamps and postal history. The committee's great goal moving forward is to engage the minds of former and prospective collectors, shepherd them into our clubs and stamp shows, and create a new wave of collecting interest. I am excited and humbled to have been asked by Wade and Janet Klug to chair this effort.

To do so will require imaginative programs proposed by APS members, and the creation by APS members of presentations that will bring those proposals to life. There will be wish lists of important philatelic items needed to tell the stories of these programs. APS members, Mercer Bristow and the APS expertizing office, the archives of the National Postal Museum, and many other individuals and organizations will be called upon to contribute images of both

the rare and the common from their collections.

Then, APS members across the country will have the great opportunity to present these programs to the public in museums and libraries, at hobbyist conventions, at fraternal and community organizations, and at schools. At each presentation, the potential exists for the "Ah ha!" moment when a viewer latches on to the concept of the presentation and the fact that the personal "Ah ha!" factor can be pursued further. Each fall, I teach a 1-credit seminar to freshman Honors students at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Last fall, I posted on my Facebook page an image of Hungary Scott 774, the 500,000,000,000,000-pengo high-value stamp of the hyperinflation series. A former student posted a response that her grandfather had traded Bibles and hymnals that he had printed for food during that terrible time. It was a moving "Ah ha!" moment for her and for me that sparked further interest in the documentation of hyperinflated economies by postage stamps.

Here is my list of possible topics for the new APS Speakers Program, and more will be needed. Some may challenge the mind ("Can that be presented in 30–40 minutes?"):

U.S. themes:

History of the U.S. posts — colonial times to present

On-the-Road Course Correction

Understanding and Identifying U.S. Grills, and APS "On-the-Road" Course taught by Rich Drews, will be held April 25–26, 2012 prior to WESTPEX. The course is \$195 for APS members and \$295 for nonmembers. A \$150 course discount, courtesy of WESTPEX is being provided for the first twenty-five registrants. The course and WESTPEX will be held at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel. Rooms are available for \$119 if you register online and use the group code "wpswpsa" or by calling (800) 228-9290 and mentioning WESTPEX.

Gretchen Moody
APS Director of Education

American Civil War — the Union side
American Civil War — the Confederate side

Wartime funding — Civil, Spanish American

U.S. air mail

World War II

Westward Ho! — the expansion of the U.S.

International themes:

The Great Sphinx and pyramids

Russia-USSR

China

World War II — Germany

World War II — Japan

India

South Africa

Dissolution of Empires:

Austrian

Ottoman

African colonial empires

General and thematic:

Hyperinflation

Dolls

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Space Exploration

Well, that's 21 examples — one more than Wade's goal of 20 for this year. But, I will tell you that I find every aspect of this to be exciting, and my selfish interest in it will mean that I'll learn a lot more about many areas of philately with which I now have only a passing familiarity.

The starting gun has sounded. Let's all engage our minds and creative instincts in high gear. For now, let me know your thoughts on program topics and your willingness to create presentations. Contact me by e-mail at twbroadhead@utk.edu.

Tom Broadhead
Knoxville, Tennessee



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Stamps & Postal History

Our reaction to this month's column headline may be something to the effect of, "Duh, that's kind of self evident," or, "Thank you, Mr. Obvious, I wouldn't have known otherwise." However, you should always keep in mind that stamps don't make postal history alone; they are only a *component* — and not always an important one. A \$2.60 Zeppelin stamp, for example, is both scarce and expensive, but its mere presence on a cover doesn't constitute postal history. A Clipper crash cover with stamp soaked off by seawater and an appropriate auxiliary marking can be far more compelling and interesting. There must be a story — something more to a cover than simply a scarce stamp.

That having been said, there are instances when the stamp itself can be the major or primary component of a significant postal history piece. That's what we'll examine this month.

Take a look at the cover shown below, which, although non-striking in appearance, represents one of the best postal history stories of the late twentieth century, due primarily to the sequence of events leading to the stamp's production

and distribution. The cover itself, postmarked May 4, 1994, bears an example of the perf 11.2 by 11.5 Hank Williams stamp, Scott 2723A, which was released June 9, 1993. There are two types of the single-design sheet stamp; this one is scarce. I'll go out on a limb and actually call any contemporaneous cover bearing this stamp rare, but it's not just because the stamp is scarce.

For the record, there are four easily distinguished types of the 29-cent Hank Williams stamp. Both perforation types of the single-design sheet version are illustrated. Although the printing on these is identical (indeed, they were all printed at the same time) it is easy to see the size difference between perforations. The scarce type is on the right.

The remaining two types of Hank Williams stamps were released months later (September 25, 1993) and are very visibly different: the se-tenant sheet type (Scott 2771) and the se-tenant booklet type (Scott 2775). All four types are common on or off cover, except for the variety we're discussing.

During May 1994, almost a year after the Williams stamp was released, I

You should always keep in mind that stamps don't make postal history alone; they are only a *component* — and not always an important one.

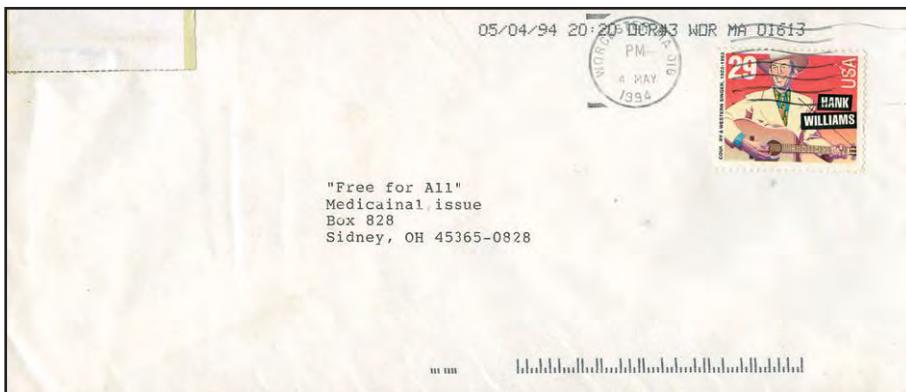
received a call from a collector traveling abroad who found an example of the stamp with a different perforation measurement than the standard perf 10 type. This call was the first anyone knew of a potentially new variety of that issue.

For the next few weeks I scoured hundreds of covers and thousands of stamps to locate an example to report. I even ordered several pounds of commemorative mixtures in an effort to locate an example.

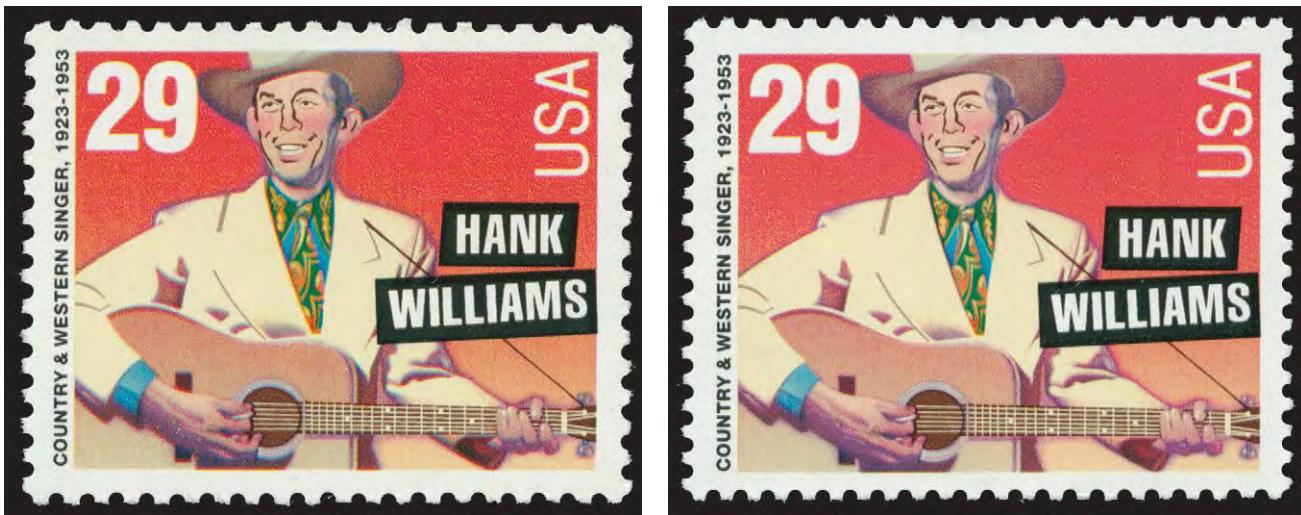
To make a long story not quite as long, on June 6 I located my first cover with the new variety (which I already owned and didn't know). Several additional examples turned up in a mixture a few days later and, indeed, all were perf 11.2 by 11.5, rather than 10. Otherwise there were no discernible differences between stamps.

Armed with actual examples, I immediately called Richard Sennett, principal of Sennett Enterprises and what was then Stamp Venturers. Keep in mind that this was still a time when the United States Postal Service allowed philatelic journalists to communicate directly with stamp printers so that accurate information was disseminated to collectors and not just regurgitated press releases or garbled translations of questions passed through unknowledgeable postal personnel.

Sennett was responsive, but curious, and had no idea the company had unwit-



This May 4, 1994, cover is currently the earliest-reported non-first-day use of the perf 11.2 by 11.5 Hank Williams stamp, despite the fact its use is almost a year after the stamp was released. It is one of only a few covers known with this stamp.



The two perforation types of the Williams stamp are easily distinguished visibly. The scarcer type is at right.

tingly created a new major variety.

After some checking, Sennett was able to fill in some of the holes, if you'll pardon the pun. It seems that not long before production of the Williams stamp, Stamp Venturers had purchased a new type of "perforator" from Sweden to replace its aging Bickel sheet-fed stroke perforator. The new equipment is the APS web-fed grinder, which is still in use. Rather than perforating, a plastic die pushes stamps into blades that literally grind out the holes. It also processes a continuous roll, rather than individual sheets, making it far more effective.

Most of the information we have regarding the scarce Williams stamp comes from a couple of telephone conversations with Richard Sennett. According to a subsequent letter from him, the first stamp processed on the new grinder was the 29-cent Oklahoma stamp and a compressed production schedule set the stage for unwittingly creating the Williams variety. I'll let Sennett's letter of June 21, 1994, explain:

We received a delivery order, dated March 12, 1993 to produce the commemorative Rock & Roll / Rhythm & Blues issue. In order to meet desired delivery, 1st sale date 6/16/93, we modified the tool used for the Oklahoma stamp for use in perforating the Rock & Roll / Rhythm & Blues issue. We also began manufacture of a new tool to perforate standard 40 stamp panes such as the Oklahoma issue.

We received an order dated April 6, 1993 for the 40 stamp pane Hank Williams issue, 1st day of sale 6/9/93. With such a compressed schedule for production we immediately started to manufacture a tool for the stroke perforators in case we had a problem with the new perforator.

Before either perforating tool was ready for production we were requested to furnish a number of stamps to be used in conjunction with ceremonies being held May 21

in Nashville. In order to meet the delivery we used an available tool used on the Sport Horse issue.

The tool used for the Sport Horse issue was manufactured to the standard we used for intaglio and combination intaglio/offset production. This tool was manufactured prior to adoption of our current standard for rotary perforations. The new rotary tool was completed within a week of delivering the initial 2 million stamps [previously mentioned] and all



The se-tenant block, released along with the booklet September 25, 1993, shows a very different Williams stamp. This type, also produced by Stamp Venturers, is common.



The booklet version, produced by American Bank Note Co., is visibly different from any of the sheet versions of the Williams stamp. It, too, is common.

remaining production [of the Williams stamp] was completed on the rotary system. Thus we created the variety you identified.

We also confirm the information given you in our phone conversation; that is slightly over 2 million stamps were perforated using the stroke perforator having 19 perforations in the short dimension and 23 perforations in the long dimension. The total number of stamps shipped to the Postal Service was 152 million. Rotary [perforation] work has 17 perforations in the short dimension and 21 perforations in the long dimension.

We hope you find this information interesting and helpful to the collector.

At any rate, during the spring of 1993, the Williams stamp, printed on a high-speed web-fed rotary press, was slated to be among the first processed on the new APS Grinder. The entire press run of 150-plus million had been printed and warehoused, awaiting processing. But then the unexpected happened, according to what Sennett told me by phone: The USPS changed the release date of the Williams stamp, moving it up to June 9, 1993, from a later date, and wanted to have a quantity of finished stamps on hand for the first-day ceremony. This unexpected compression of schedules placed a strain on a limited amount of fully operational equipment at Sennett.

To accomplish this, Stamp Venturers processed the first printed roll (web) of Williams stamps into press sheets so they could be perforated on the old Bickel. This yielded a total of 12,946 sheets of 160 stamps, or 51,784 post office panes of 40. Doing the math, this means that no more than 2,071,360 perf 11.2 by 11.5 Williams stamps could ever have existed to begin with. When you factor in processing spoilage, the number likely shrinks by somewhere

between 9–17%.

A total of 200,000 of the Bickel-perforated stamps was hand carried by a Sennett employee to Memphis for the June 9 first-day ceremony. Ironically, there was no first-day ceremony program created for the Williams stamp and the ceremony itself was closed to the public. Thus, there is no supply to be found on ceremony programs and few collectors were able to buy them there. The remainder was simply distributed to post offices, along with those perforated later (including some to the Philatelic Sales Division in Kansas City). Since the variety was not yet known to either Sennett or the USPS, there was no so-called "postery stock" set aside.

As a result, the vast majority of what was already a scarce stamp was sold, used and destroyed, long before collectors even knew of the existence of this variety, which, ironically, was the first type created.

Why did it take so long (almost a year) to discover the variety? It's simple. Most specialists watch definitive stamps that are printed multiple times for varieties of printing or processing. With rare exceptions, major varieties just shouldn't exist on single-print-run commemorative issues. Because this was a single press run, there is no visible difference in the printing, just the perforations.

On-cover examples are even scarcer, as there was no reason for collectors to know to save covers bearing the scarce type no one knew existed yet. Certainly, some exist on first-day covers (particularly those created in Memphis on the first day), but commercial covers are almost non-existent.

In fact, other than those known on first-day covers, the earliest reported date of use still stands at May 4, 1994, the first cover illustrated here. Can you find an earlier example?



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St. Helena & Ascension Islands

Background

Saint Helena is located in the South Atlantic Ocean approximately 1,200 miles west of Angola, its nearest mainland neighbor. It was uninhabited when it was discovered by Admiral João da Nova and claimed for Portugal in 1502. Subsequently, the island was claimed by the English in 1588 and by the Dutch in 1633. Possession of St. Helena went back and forth between the Dutch and the British until 1673, when the East India Company, which had settled the island in 1659 and was using it as a regular port of call for its merchant ships, was granted proprietary possession of the island. It was lent to the British government between 1815 and 1821 to serve as a prison for Napoleon Bonaparte during his second exile. Ultimately, in 1834, St. Helena was ceded to the British Crown.

The regular passenger, mail and freight service provided by the Union-

Castle ships between Southampton and Cape Town came to an end in 1977 leaving the island very isolated, except for an occasional cargo boat and monthly visits by RMS *St. Helena* from Cape Town. At present this is the only way St. Helenians ("Saints") who are inveterate travelers can get to and from the island. St. Helena's first airport, however, is scheduled to be opened in 2015. This will provide a valuable link to the twice-weekly UK-Ascension-Falkland Islands service.

St. Helenians living overseas considerably exceeds the 4,000 people remaining on the island — most live in Britain, but about 600 are contracted to work in Ascension with another 500 now living in the Falkland Islands!

Ascension, a small volcanic island 700 miles to the northwest of St. Helena, had been discovered and claimed for Portugal by Admiral João da Nova a year earlier, in 1501. He named it Conception Island (*Ilha de Nossa Senhora de Conceição*). In 1503 the island was "re-discovered" by Alphonse d'Albuquerque, who named it Ascension. Annexed by Great Britain in 1815, it was made a dependency of St. Helena in 1922. During World War II the United States received permission to build an airfield on Ascension to facilitate transatlantic military flights. The island remains a critical refueling stop for British planes traveling to the South Atlantic.

A United States Air Force base (Wideawake Airfield) was constructed as a staging post for military use by the Americans in 1942. It was closed in 1947, but re-opened ten years later in 1957. Following the Falklands War the runway was extended. Today, twice-weekly Roy-



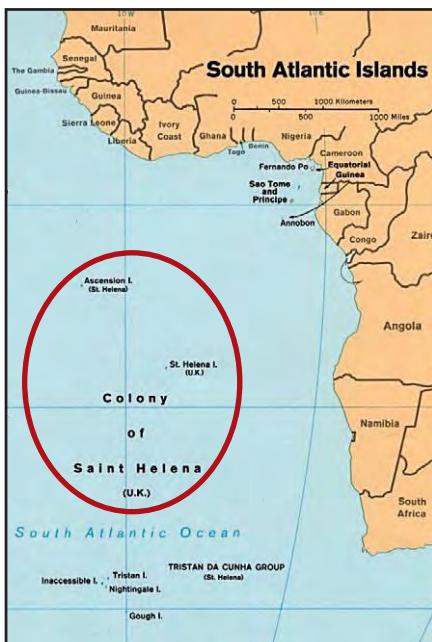
Overprinted
4-pence value on
6-pence stamp
(Scott 10, 1863).

al Air Force flights between Brize Norton in Britain and the Falkland Islands stop for re-fueling at Ascension, and of course for the conveyance of mail and personnel between the two destinations. It is also there for support should further hostilities occur in the South Atlantic.

During the 1940s and 50s the island's population was around 200 to 300. Today, it is close to 1,000. There is no indigenous settlement, most of the population being contract workers from St. Helena.



The first Ascension stamps were overprinted St. Helena issues (Scott 1, 1922).



Map of St. Helena and Ascension.

Both islands are now part of a British Overseas Territory consisting of Saint Helena and Ascension Islands and the island group of Tristan da Cunha.

St. Helena Postal History

The first post office on the island was established in 1815. St. Helena's first postage stamp, an imperf blue 6-pence Queen Victoria (Scott 1) was printed by Perkins, Bacon and issued in January 1856. De La Rue took over the printing in 1863 and, due to revised postal rates, used the 6-pence plates to produce overprinted 1-penny and 4-pence surcharges with an underline that ran through the old value (Scott 8–10). The 6-pence blue stamp itself continued to be issued in various shades and with different perforations until 1889 (Scott 2–7). From 1864 to 1880 perforated 6-pence stamps were printed in various other colors — red, green, yellow, purple and brown — and surcharged with new values from $\frac{1}{2}$ pence to 5 shillings, again using an underline below the printed value (Scott 11–39). These were replaced in 1890 by Victorian key types from $\frac{1}{2}$ -pence to 10-pence (Scott 40–46). However, a new $2\frac{1}{2}$ -pence denomination was surcharged in figures on the 6-pence blue and issued in 1893 (Scott 47).

In 1902 similar Edwardian $\frac{1}{2}$ -pence and 1-pence stamps were issued (Scott 48–49). These were succeeded one year later with six bicolored, almost square pictorials in values from $\frac{1}{2}$ pence to 2 shillings and featuring, respectively, Government House and The Wharf (Scott 50–55). After King Edward's death, and before stamps for the new monarch were ready, replacements supplies of some current pictorials were ordered from London. De La Rue misinterpreted the instructions and printed the 1-penny red-and-black stamp entirely in red. When the new stamps arrived it was found that sufficient stocks of the old stamps remained at the post office so all copies of the new red stamps were destroyed except for a few SPECIMEN overprints. Prior to this debacle, in 1908 four King Edward VII $2\frac{1}{2}$ -pence, 4-pence, 6-pence and 10-shillings key type stamps had been issued (Scott 56–60).

From 1912 to 1913 ten King George V pictorials from $\frac{1}{2}$ -pence to 3-shillings, and based on the previous designs, were introduced (Scott 61–70) along with additional 4- and 6-pence "key type" denominations (Scott 71–72). These two values were re-issued one year later with inscriptions altered from POSTAGE:REVENUE to POSTAGE:POSTAGE (Scott 73–74).

In 1916 one-penny pictorials featuring "The Wharf" design were overprinted "WAR TAX ONE PENNY" in two lines (Scott MR1). A different surcharge was issued in 1919, also on the one-penny pictorial. The new overprint read "WAR TAX 1d" (Scott MR2).

New single color printings of the $\frac{1}{2}$ -penny, $1\frac{1}{2}$ -pence and 3-pence stamps were issued in 1922 (Scott 75–77).

Between 1922 and 1927 eighteen similar almost square pictorial definitives featuring the Colony's seal (a three-masted vessel with furled sails laying offshore near high rocks) and with values from $\frac{1}{2}$ penny to £1 were issued (Scott 79–99) — these stamps continue to provide collectors with numerous fascinating plate varieties. Five values were printed on Multiple Crown CA paper, the remainder were on Multiple Script CA. The 1s6d, 2s6d and 5s values were printed with both watermarks. All values are known with forged "Dec 18 1927" date stamps. Some denominations from $\frac{1}{2}$ penny to 1 shilling were overprinted by De La Rue in 1922 to provide the first stamps for Ascension.

In 1934 St. Helena marked the Centenary of British Settlement with a magnificent set of eleven beautifully-engraved designs featuring views of the island (Scott 101–110). Particularly interesting was the inclusion of small medallion portraits of Queen Victoria and Kings William IV, Edward VII, and George V on the 1, 2, 6-pence and 10 shilling stamps. Like many similar commemoratives from other colonies, this issue included excessively high values for the period — clearly aimed at collectors. Beware of forged date stamps showing May 12, 1934.

King George VI pictorials featuring the colony's seal and first released in 1938 were very attractive, but to conform to new UPU regulations, color changes were required to reflect new postal rates. Thus, in 1940 the 1-penny green was changed to yellow (Scott 119A), and the 3-pence blue became grey (Scott 122A). The original 3-pence is the scarcest mint stamp in the set. New 4-pence (Scott 122B) and 8-pence (Scott 123A) denominations also were issued. For no apparent reason, the 1-penny, $1\frac{1}{2}$ -pence and 2-pence values were reissued in 1949 as bi-



Queen Victoria 6-pence blue continued to be printed (Scott 4 ultramarine, 1874).



New 2½-pence denomination was surcharged in figures on the 6-pence blue (Scott 47, 1893).



In 1908 four King Edward VII key type stamps were issued (Scott 57).



Between 1922 and 1927 eighteen pictorial definitives featured the Colony's seal (Scott 85, 1922).



The 1-penny, 1½-pence and 2-pence pictorials were reissued in 1949 as bicolored stamps (Scott 136).

colored stamps (Scott 136–138).

In 1952 the full set was overprinted for use in the newly-established post office on Tristan da Cunha, a dependency of St. Helena (Tristan da Cunha Scott 1–12).

In addition to the common design Coronation issue (Scott 139), in 1953 St. Helena issued thirteen Elizabeth II definitives from a halfpenny to 10 shillings (Scott 140–152). Growing New Zealand flax (*Phormium tenax*) was then a major island industry, reflected by four of these stamps which feature stages of its production: growing (1-pence), cutting (2s6d), drying (2½-pence), and donkeys carrying the bundled flax (6-pence). Until the early 1960s St. Helena exported large quantities of flax for rope-making, but in 1965 the industry collapsed due to the increased use of synthetic fibers.

St. Helena's national bird, the indigenous Wirebird (*Charadrius sanctae helenae*), is shown on the 3-pence stamp (Scott 145). The small plover (named for its wire-thin legs) is the only surviving endemic bird on St. Helena. The 10-shilling stamp (Scott 152) depicts Longwood House, occupied by Napoleon Bonaparte during his exile from 1815 until his death in 1821. Other stamps showed the Colony's seal, scenic views of the island, lace-making, and important buildings.

New pictorials were issued in 1961. This photogravure series of fourteen denominations (Scott 159–172) included the largest stamp to be issued by a British colony — a £1 featuring a Cecil Beaton photograph of the Queen with baby Prince Andrew (Scott 172). The remaining stamps, all with a subtle background of the lace for which St. Helena's women

are famous, depict local flowers, birds, and marine life. The 3-pence stamp, which showed only the Queen's portrait (Scott 162), was acclaimed as the best designed Commonwealth stamp of 1961. It is interesting that there was no half-penny value, although the set included 1½-pence and 4½-pence denominations! In 1965 the 1, 3, 6-pence and £1 stamps were issued on chalk-surfaced paper.

Following the 1963 return of Tristan da Cunha's evacuated population after the devastating 1961 volcanic eruption, a special printing of these stamps (surprisingly reverting to the obsolete Script CA watermarked paper) were issued as an interim measure for use on Tristan da Cunha with the overprint: "TRISTAN DA CUNHA RESETTLEMENT 1963" (Tristan da Cunha Scott 55–67) The £1 denomination was not included.

In 1965 the 1-penny, 3-pence, 6-pence and 1sh6p stamps were overprinted "FIRST LOCAL POST/4TH JANUARY 1965" to mark the establishment of the first internal postal service on the island (Scott 176–179).

The four low-value definitives that were overprinted in 1965 to mark St. Helena's first local postal service (see above) marked the opening of several sub-post offices from which mail was collected and delivered. A resident at



The largest stamp to be issued by a British colony featured a Cecil Beaton photograph of the Queen with baby Prince Andrew (Scott 172, 1961).

the time reported that locally-posted letters seldom exceeded ten to twelve a day, making the project very uneconomical. At that time datestamps from the sub-offices were: Longwood, Level Ground, Sandy Bay, Blue Head, New Ground, and Half Tree Hollow. The sub-post offices of Church Ground Point and Red Hill used datestamps inscribed St. Pauls 1 and St. Pauls 2, respectively. Needless to say, stamps with these postal cancellations, and even better, non-philatelic covers are well worth looking out for! I understand most of these post offices are still scattered throughout the island, but it is a long time since mail was collected and delivered from them.

A halfpenny denomination was reintroduced with the innovative 1968 Development series, which offered splendid drawings in pastel colors (Scott 209–223). Various local scenes and activities were featured, such as a dentist at work and a forester spraying weeds. Each design was accompanied by a representation of a native plant. There was a general dislike of the stamps locally, however, because it was thought they did little to promote St. Helena.

Decimal currency was introduced in 1971. As in Great Britain, the Pound was now valued at just 100 instead of 240 pence. Most philatelists were pleased



The 3-pence showing the Queen's portrait, was acclaimed as the best designed Commonwealth stamp of 1961 (Scott 162).

St. Helena Sampler



Victorian key type stamps first appeared in 1890 (Scott 46, 1896).



Edwardian ½-pence and 1-pence stamps were issued in 1902 (Scott 48).



Bicolored, almost square pictorials issued in 1903 featured two prominent sights: (left) Government House (Scott 50); (right) The Wharf (Scott 51).



The 1912 4- and 6-pence "key type" denominations were reissued in 1913 with altered inscriptions: (left) Postage: Revenue (Scott 72, 1912) and (right) Postage: Postage (Scott 74, 1913).



War Tax stamps were issued in 1916 and 1919: (left) "WAR TAX ONE PENNY" (Scott MR1, 1916), (right) "WAR TAX 1d" (Scott MR2, 1919).



In 1934 St. Helena marked the Centenary of British Settlement with a set of eleven beautifully-engraved views of the island: (left) Plantation (Scott 102); (right) Quay at Jamestown.



In 1940 new UPU regulations required a change in color for the 1- and 3-pence values of the 1938 King George VI pictorials: (From left) 1-penny deep green (Scott 119, 1938); 1-penny orange yellow (Scott 119A, 1940); 3-pence ultramarine (Scott 122, 1938); 3-pence gray (Scott 122A, 1940).

Expanded stamp sampler pages for this article can be found at www.stamps.org/AP-Album



The first Queen Elizabeth II commemoratives marked the centenary of St Helena's first stamps (Scott 154).

to see that the Development series designs, despite public opposition, were retained rather than adopting the more usual practice of issuing short-term surcharges (Scott 244–256). Although there was no need to change the £1 denomination featuring the "John Dutton" lifeboat, this stamp was reissued with minor color changes.

The 1976 pictorials also were quite innovative. Aquatints and lithographs of old paintings were adapted to produce an unusual set of stamp designs (Scott 298–310). Despite the lack of any air mail service, a £2 stamp was included in the issue, because there was much parcel traffic between St. Helena and the United Kingdom, and the cost for posting even the lightest parcel was £2! Because of the perceived high cost to philatelists, the issue date for the less frequently used 6-, 9-, 15-pence and £2 stamps was deferred for two months.

There were no special stamps issued during the George VI era other than the various colonial omnibus sets. The first Queen Elizabeth II commemoratives marked the centenary of the first St. Helena's stamp, 1856–1956 (Scott 153–155). Three interesting stamps celebrating the landing of Capt. John Dutton on St. Helena and the Tercentenary of Settlement

were issued in 1959 (Scott 156–158).

Four stamps, which most of us will never own, were issued in 1961. Following the forced evacuation of Tristan da Cunha's population following a major volcanic eruption, the Governor of St. Helena ordered four Tristan da Cunha stamps (Tristan da Cunha Scott 46, 49–51) surcharged and overprinted "ST. HELENA/Tristan Relief." (Tristan stamps have always been stocked by the St. Helena Post Office). However, the surcharging was not authorized by the Commonwealth Office and sales were suspended after one week (October 12 to October 19). Scott lists them as St. Helena B1–B4. Only 434 sets were sold, of which some were on first day covers. Until news of these stamps reached London, philatelists and dealers were unaware of the issue. It is not known how many were actually overprinted but obviously all would have been in complete sheets. There are stories of land and houses being bought from the sale of these stamps, and of parents being able to visit their offspring in Britain.

There were five British Colonial omnibus sets released before two stamps were issued to mark St. Helena's New Constitution in 1967 (Scott 195–196). These were followed by attractively engraved stamps marking the 300th Anniversary of the Arrival of Settlers after the Great Fire of London in 1666 (Scott 197–200).

Although in no way comparable to the output from many of the agency-controlled territories such as Grenada, Gambia, Antigua, etc., the number of Crown Agents commemorative and special issues from St. Helena from the late 1970s on prompted me to close my collection.



The omnibus Silver Jubilee stamps were issued in 1935 (Scott 35).



Two stamps with same design were issued to mark the New Constitution in 1967 (Scott 195–196).

Ascension Postal History

The first stamps, issued in 1922, were "ASCENSION" overprinted on the contemporary St. Helena stamps featuring Government House and The Wharf (Scott 1–9). Several of the stamps were special printings never used for the basic St. Helena issue. These provisionals were replaced in 1924 by eleven stamps from halfpenny to 5 shillings, using identical designs to those of St. Helena, even to depicting the island's seal (Scott 10–21). A 5-pence denomination was added in 1927, to replace redundant 4-pence and 6-pence values. As with the St. Helena printings, there are numerous interesting plate flaws throughout this issue.

Attractive new two-color pictorials from ½-penny to 5 shillings were issued in 1934 (Scott 23–32); five were vertical stamps showing a map of the island with a turtle superimposed and a portrait of George V. The remaining six stamps included views of Georgetown, the Georgetown pier, Long Beach, the Three Sisters, Green Mountain, and a Sooty Tern breeding colony known as "Wideawake Fair." These were followed in 1935 by the omnibus Silver Jubilee stamps (Scott 33–36).

Some of the 1934 pictorials were adapted in 1938 with George VI portraits, and a new 10-shilling denomination with the Three Sisters design was included (Scott 40–49). Surprisingly two of the best 1934 designs — the Map and

Ascension Island Sampler



A 5-pence denomination was added in 1927 (Scott 16).



The 1934 Pictorial issue included numerous views of Ascension: (left) The Pier (Scott 25); (right) Sooty Tern and "Wideawake Fair" (Scott 30).



A vertical stamp in the 1934 Pictorial issue showed a map of the island with a turtle and a portrait of George V (Scott 24).



The colors of the 1938 1-penny and 3-pence stamps were changed to comply with UPU regulations — Top row: 1-penny green (Scott 41, 1938; 1-penny orange yellow (Scott 41A, 1942). Bottom row: 3-penny ultramarine blue (Scott 44, ultramarine blue); 3-penny black (Scott 44A, 1942).



The 1963 pictorials were based on photographs taken by the British Ornithological Union's Centenary expedition in 1957: (from left) Fairy Tern (Scott 77); Red-footed Booby (Scott 88).



The 1976 pictorial issue again featured birds: (left) Madeira Storm Petrels (Scott 202); (right) Common Mynah (Scott 201).



New Ascension stamps featuring Queen Elizabeth II and images of St. Helena were issued in 1956: Georgetown (Scott 64); Ascension and St. Helena (Scott 65); Mountain road (Scott 66); Young turtles (Scott 70).

Turtle on the 1-, 2-, 8-pence and 2s6d stamps and the Sooty Tern on the 1-shilling stamp were discarded.

As with St. Helena stamps, the colors of 1-penny and 3-pence stamps were changed in 1940 to comply with UPU regulations and a new 4-pence was issued. The original 3-pence ultramarine and black stamp is now quite costly and missing from many collections.

In 1949 there were color changes for the 1½-pence and 2-pence stamps, and a design change for the 1-penny value. These reflected similar modifications in St. Helena stamps, the reason for which has never been explained.

Among some interesting plate varieties, the "davit flaw" on the 1½-pence and 2s6d stamps is the most prominent.¹ Due in part to bomb damage to De La Rue's printing works during World War II, many perforation changes occurred throughout the eighteen years the stamps were in use.

It wasn't until November 1956, three and a half years after the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, that new Ascension stamps were issued. The thirteen designs include a map of the island, young turtles, a land crab, view of Georgetown, and mountain scenery, among other



A large £2 denomination shows the Boatswain Bird Island sanctuary (Scott 211)

views (Scott 62–74). The 2-pence stamp clearly locates Ascension and St. Helena within the Atlantic Ocean.

A variety of sea and island birds was the theme of the 1963 pictorials, which included for the first time a £1 denomination (Scott 75–88). The fourteen designs were from photographs taken during the British Ornithological Union's Centenary expedition in 1957.

The Decimal Currency issue of 1971 (Scott 138–151) is omitted from my collection because I have always had a personal dislike for the designs. The space exploration motive was clearly selected because of the NASA Tracking Station on Ascension, but in no other way do these stamps reflect island life.

The last set in my Ascension collection is the more acceptable 1976 pictorial issue, which again featured birds (Scott 196–210). A large £2 denomination shows the tiny offshore Boatswain Bird Island sanctuary and a montage of birds. There was no air mail service at the time so this high value may have been somewhat unnecessary.

Ascension's first commemoratives other than the general colonial omnibus sets, were four stamps in 1966 marking the establishment of an Apollo satellite tracking station (Scott 104–107), fol-



The Decimal Currency issue of 1971 was issued in response to the NASA Tracking Station on Ascension, but in no other way do these stamps reflect island life (Scott 146, Jodrell Bank Observatory, Manchester, England).

lowed a year later by an issue marking the 1966 opening of a BBC relay station (Scott 111–114). These two installations brought new prosperity to the island. There have since been several other special and definitive stamps, somewhat excessive for the needs of the very low population.

Ascension stamps have always been available from the St. Helena Post Office.

Readers may contact me with comments or questions at chambon@xtra.co.nz.

Endnote

The davit flaw (named after a small shipboard crane) is a major flaw listed and illustrated by Gibbons and Murray Payne catalogues. It occurs on Row 5/1 on all printings of KGVI 1½d and 2s6d Stamps. There is a small davit-like object at the top left of the pier. See www.murraypayne.com/vPages.asp?vpageid=Art-%20Ascension for more details.



Ascension's first commemoratives were four stamps in 1966 marking the establishment of an Apollo satellite tracking station (Scott 105, Apollo Communications Satellite Earth Station Opens –1968).

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Philately & DNA

by Robert M. Bell and Robert S. Blackett

It's an interesting marriage: Philately & DNA. Philately, on the one hand, is more than 150 years old. One thinks of collections held for decades and the tedious philatelic research of yesteryear aided primarily by a magnifying glass and a pair of tweezers, plus the difficult access to libraries — research that only recently has become a little easier with the advent of the Internet and improved global communications. DNA analysis, on the other hand, is not only new it is very high tech. One thinks of white lab coats and fancy robots resulting in near-magical discoveries. This article will explore the relationship between philately and DNA.

The philatelist co-author (RMB) had his interest stimulated by an Internet comment about the amount of DNA that must be present in a basin of water when soaking off stamps, and by a recent news story about Pearl Harbor World War II remains being identified and sent home for burial. The key was matching bone DNA to the sailor's old mail and subsequently to a living relative. RMB had also wondered whether a genetic mutation in the DNA of a famous person could be discovered from a licked envelope or stamp — which that individual had mailed — thereby explaining illness during life, or even the cause of death.

The crime laboratory DNA co-author (RSB) has on two occasions typed stamps for DNA traces. The first was to obtain his long-dead father's DNA profile for genealogical reasons, using World War II-era love letters sent to his mother.

The other instance was a case of criminal sabotage of a gas pipeline. DNA typing was requested on a threatening letter sent to the company. The stamp was self-stick, but there was still enough DNA, likely from skin cells when the stamp was touched or peeled off the backing, to give a partial profile. This was later matched to a suspect and led to a search warrant, which uncovered other evidence, which in turn eventually led to a guilty plea.



World War II cover from western France from Fred Blackett to Norma Blackett, dated December 13, 1944 showing 6-cent air mail stamp (Scott C25) used in the genealogy typing in 2000. One corner was cut when undertaking the typing analysis

DNA Development

Most readers will be familiar with the double helix discovery by Watson and Crick in 1953.¹ In 1985 DNA was found by Dr. Alec Jeffreys to give individual-specific "fingerprints."² A brief general introduction to genetics and DNA can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Introduction_to_genetics. The genetic typing techniques originally used involved what was called restriction fragment length polymorphism, or RFLP analyses.³ However, this took months of processing time and a great deal of DNA. About fifteen years ago crime laboratories switched to Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) based techniques, where tiny traces of DNA are used as the template to produce up to a million times as much material.⁴ Typing today can be done in less than twenty-four hours — in rare instances, almost as fast as on TV!

These Nobel/Lasker-DeBakey Prize winning discoveries of Watson/Crick and Jeffreys, together with others, have made it possible not only to identify/type DNA in body fluids, including saliva found on stamps and envelopes, but also on surfaces that we all touch.

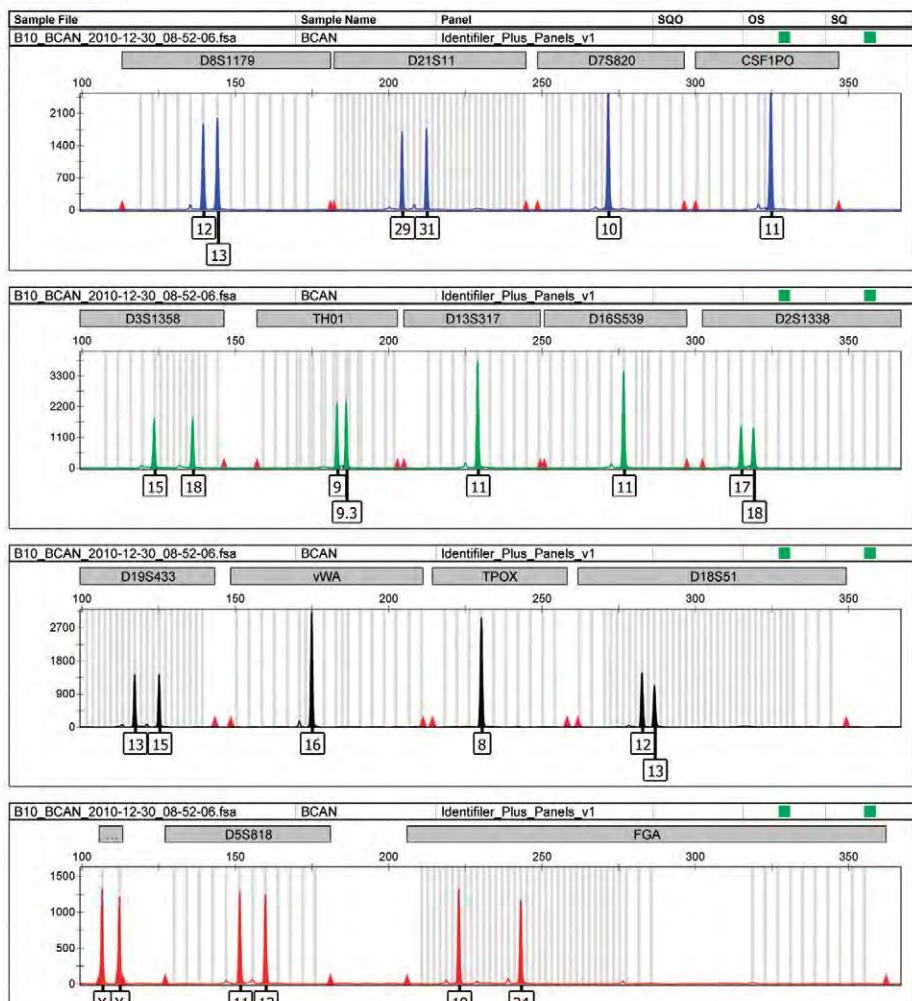
DNA was typed initially on body fluids such as blood and semen. PCR techniques later enabled typing of saliva



on drinking containers, half-eaten food, and cigarette butts, as well as licked stamps and envelope flaps. The current common typing method is known as Short Tandem Repeat (STR). To illustrate how this works, one author's (RSB) STR DNA profile is shown on page 238. Results are shown at fifteen STR DNA loci and at the sex indicator Amelogenin, on the X and Y chromosomes.

Touch DNA typing is now increasingly performed — typing the DNA from left-behind skin cells. This works best with repeatedly touched things like weapons, dirty clothes, steering wheels, etc. Brief touching rarely leaves enough skin cells to analyze. Swabs of touched areas also often give mixtures of multiple people's DNA.

Standard (autosomal) STR DNA typing most recently has been supplemented by Y-chromosome typing and by mitochondrial DNA typing.⁵ The Y-chromosome is paternally inherited in males, while the mitochondrial DNA (in both males and females) is always inherited from the mother. That leaves them "unmixed" from generation to generation,



STR DNA profile of RSB. Fifteen autosomal STR loci. Results can be homozygous (single peak, inherited from both parents) or heterozygous (two peaks, one from each parent). Amelogenin (4th row "XY" shows "male") indicates sex.

and both Y-DNA and mitochondrial DNA are thus widely used for genealogy reasons.

Other DNA systems called Single Nucleotide Probes (SNPs) are being developed.⁶ DNA sequencing can be done to identify mutations and genetic disease. At present, faster automated typing systems are being developed in this very rapidly developing field.⁷

All DNA types show racial/regional variability, and many population studies have been done. Given a DNA profile, a race or region and, most recently, even the general physical appearance of an otherwise unknown individual can be suggested.⁸

Philatelic Considerations

Rowland Hill's famous 1837 proposal recommended that postage stamps be coated with adhesive gum and licked to affix the stamp to the envelope/cover.⁹ This took place

in 1840, and since that time most stamps have had gum applied. A stamp that is licked should have significant amounts of DNA.

With the advent of the postage stamp there was a corresponding need for large numbers of envelopes, and these were slowly introduced. By 1867 Karl Marx had noted in *Das Kapital* the expansion of the envelope industry. And, by the end of the twentieth century, 2 billion envelopes were being manufactured in the United States each year, with the majority requiring moisture (and often licking) to seal.¹⁰

Envelopes, stamps, and hinges have now been licked for many years, leaving much DNA to be found and analyzed. However, this is one of those "good new/bad news" scenarios. If the envelopes and stamps have been stored well over the years, the DNA does not degrade to any extent and should produce good results. Unfortunately, if the envelopes and stamps have been handled repeatedly over a long period of time, the touch DNA from multiple people may contaminate and complicate attempts to type the original saliva. The possibility exists of co-mingled DNA not only from the original stamp licker/handler, but also from

the basin of water that soaked off the stamp, and from various collectors handling the stamp or attaching it to a stamp album with a licked hinge. Nevertheless, DNA testing has the potential to confirm, if reference samples are available, that a particular person used/handled a stamp, envelope, or hinge.

As far as can be ascertained, there are no formal DNA study groups in thematic philately (if there are, the authors would be pleased to learn about them), although there does seem to be an interest in genetics as a collecting theme. On the Internet are several references to DNA and Stamps, and one site is devoted to stamps and genetics.¹¹

David Herendeen and colleagues have recently established the Institute for Analytical Philately, devoted to solving philately's puzzles through science.¹² It would seem that DNA analysis of letters and stamps could well be a topic for further research.

Laboratory Handling

There are some general considerations for laboratory handling of philatelic materials:

1. Care of forensic evidence must maintain the chain of custody. Transferred evidence must be signed for and/or sent by registered or certified mail.
2. Where the stamp or envelope flap can be sacrificed, a portion is cut out, placed in a tube, and the DNA extracted, usually by soaking overnight. The DNA is then concentrated, quantified, PCR amplified, and analyzed. It is less destructive to swab the licked/touched surface and extract the swab. Swabbing also can be used to concentrate larger weaker areas. Self-stick stamps would be treated in the same way, although there shouldn't be saliva. The gum backing should not interfere with extraction. One also could remove the back flap from a cover, do the analysis of the gum, removing some or all of it. Then the back flap could be re-attached.
3. As mentioned, the age of the sample is not necessarily important, so long as it was properly stored. Moisture, high heat, and sunlight can degrade DNA.
4. Crime laboratories are limited to "forensic" samples from crimes, and they are overwhelmed with work. Fortunately, there are a number of private DNA typing laboratories. The fee for an analysis in 2011 was typically about \$1,000 per sample. This price is a bit prohibitive for most non-police uses. No doubt there are other technologies and efficiencies being developed that will lower this price in the future. In addition, if it is desired not to damage the stamp or envelope in any way in order to maintain its value, then special handling may be necessary that would increase the cost still further.

Possible Philatelic Applications

1. DNA is typed from philatelic materials for forensic reasons, to try to solve crimes. Unknown profiles from the evidence would be compared to standards, usually buccal swabs from a person's mouth. If the person is deceased, exhumation could provide bones or teeth for typing. Standards from close living relatives could also be used, particularly for Y-chromosome or mitochondrial DNA. Court orders might be needed to obtain standards.

For no-suspect crimes, DNA profiles could be compared to CODIS, the national U.S. DNA database (about 9 million profiles), or UK-NDNAD, the national United Kingdom DNA database (about 6 million profiles), or to other foreign databases through Interpol. All these databases are very closely regulated to try to avoid inclusion of innocent people. Most recently "familial" DNA comparison to databases is being done to try to identify parents, siblings, children.¹³ Again, it is very closely regulated.

Additionally, DNA typing might have application in

Envelopes, stamps, and hinges have now been licked for many years, leaving much DNA to be found and analyzed. However, this is one of those "good new/bad news" scenarios. If the envelopes and stamps have been stored well over the years, the DNA does not degrade to any extent and should produce good results. Unfortunately, if the envelopes and stamps have been handled repeatedly over a long period of time, the touch DNA from multiple people may contaminate and complicate attempts to type the original saliva.

.....

cases of philatelic fakes or forgeries, to try to identify a particular person in order to show authenticity or a forger. Once again, the less handled, the better.

2. DNA is typed to try to identify famous people and show they used the philatelic material. This is another instance where buccal standards from living relatives might be needed. Personal privacy concerns would enter in.

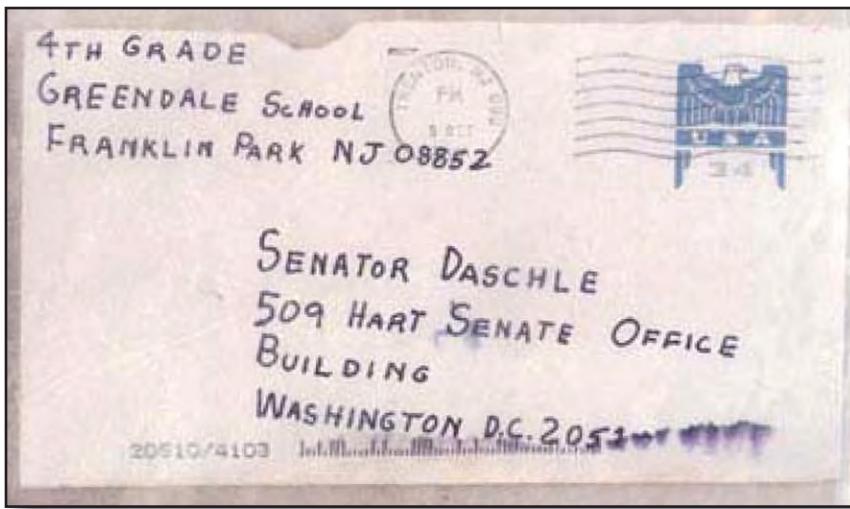
Potential problems with personal identification include low levels of DNA and complicated mixtures of DNA. The letter/stamp might have been written/licked by a secretary/assistant to the sender. Wartime censors might have handled the item. If hairs happened to be present in a letter or envelope, they could be used to corroborate the DNA findings.

3. DNA is typed for genealogical reasons, to try to identify relatives and even the part of the world an individual's ancestors came from.

4. DNA sequencing is done to identify mutations and genetic disease. This could tie the DNA to a specific person; e.g., Abraham Lincoln, thought to have Marfan syndrome or another genetic disease called MEN 2B.

5. *Other Research Possibilities:* There are probably many more research projects that will come to mind that are not directly related to DNA analysis. Our reviewers have suggested Public Health disease research with analysis of bacteria and viruses transmitted in letters, perhaps even airborne pollution or trace chemicals from a person's saliva, all of which potentially may have been captured in the gum.

In the United Kingdom, The Human Tissue Act 2004 makes it an offense to store or analyze human tissue samples for any purpose other than that for which consent has been granted. There are some exceptions, including the pursuit of



One of the four letters sent in the Anthrax saga. The image is poor quality, most likely due to being photographed inside an evidence bag.

crime, the work of Coroners, hair and nail cuttings, and tissues more than 100 years old.

One also can expect laws and regulations around the world regarding DNA to become more restrictive as the years pass.

Famous Crimes

The Bournemouth, U.K. Bomber: This was a blackmail plot in 2000–2001 during which several bombs were mailed to customers of the chain store Tesco.¹⁴ On most of the bombs the stamps were wetted with a cloth; however, on one the suspect (Robert Dyer) licked the postage stamp. This was used with other information to tie him to the crime. At his trial Dyer pleaded guilty to nine counts of blackmail with menaces and one of assault. He received a prison sentence of sixteen years, which was reduced to twelve years on appeal.

The Anthrax Letters: In 2001 an estimated four letters containing anthrax were mailed to media and to politicians in the United States.¹⁵ Twenty-three people, mostly postal and media workers contracted the disease — five died from it. Handwriting and ink analysis of the envelopes linked all four. Extensive circumstantial evidence, including the potent strain of anthrax and the particular print run of the pre-stamped “Federal Eagle” envelopes, implicated one Bruce Ivins, an army biodefense researcher. Dr. Ivins committed suicide in 2008 before he could be arrested. The DNA connection is the excitement that resulted when a minute quantity of human DNA was found on one of the letters — only to be matched to the lab technician doing the analysis. [Authors’ note: No stones thrown here; the sensitivity of DNA analysis means that most analysts, despite their best efforts, have experienced such contamination.]

The Lindbergh Baby Kidnapping: The infant son of the famous flyer Charles A. Lindbergh was kidnapped from his home in 1932.¹⁶ Multiple requests for ransom were subse-

quently sent. The \$50,000 ransom was paid, after recording the serial numbers of the bills. Sadly, the badly decomposed child’s body was found about two months afterwards. According to the FBI files, he probably had been dead since the night of the kidnapping.

After a massive investigation, Bruno Richard Hauptmann was found with much of the money in 1934. He was arrested and charged; tried and convicted in 1935; and executed in 1936. Extensive evidence linked him to the crime, although he never admitted to it, and conspiracy theorists have doubted his guilt or suggested accomplices.

It has been recently suggested that the ransom envelope flaps could be DNA tested and compared to Hauptmann’s living descendants; however, requests to analyze them have been denied.

Conclusions

Stamps, hinges, and envelope flaps have been licked for more than 150 years, with saliva DNA being transferred to the philatelic item. DNA typing has been possible for about twenty years, but has rapidly developed to an immensely powerful technique for personal identification.

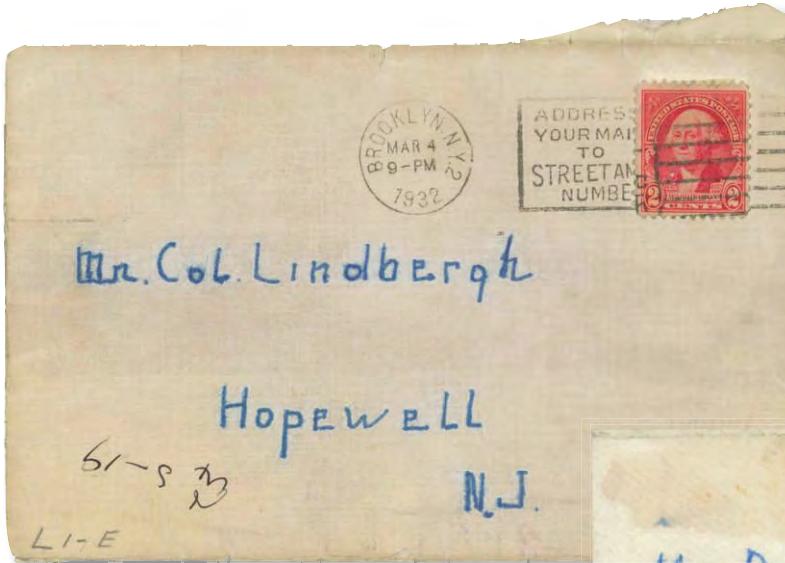
There are numerous applications to philately, including crime solving, genealogy, and genetic disease identification. Many opportunities for further research exist.

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank Tony Fox, John Hardies, Michael Furfie, Reuben Ramkissoon, Nora Rankin, and Neal Weiner for their valuable comments and suggestions. We also thank Mark Falxzini (Archivist) of the New Jersey State Police Museum for providing the image for Lindberg ransom cover.

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Two of the Lindbergh ransom covers.

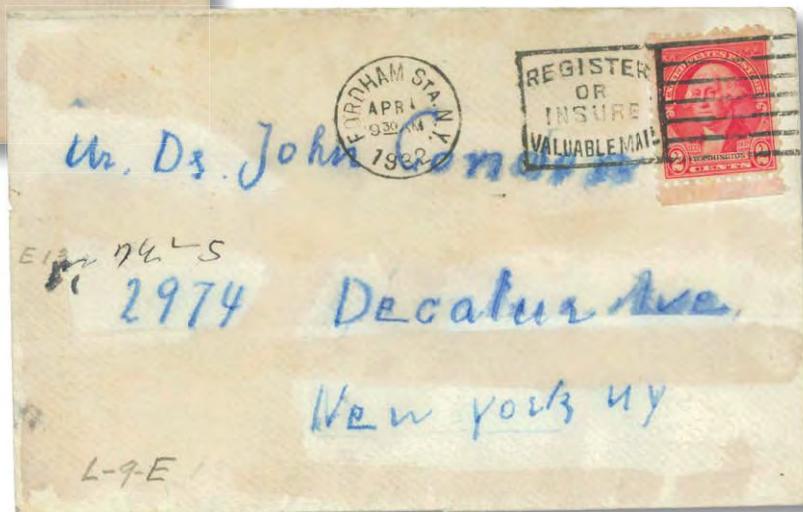
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The Authors

T Robert M. Bell trained as a Pharmacist at Portsmouth College/University in the U.K. and then as a physician at the Godfrey Huggins School of Medicine in Salisbury, Rhodesia, graduating with a Birmingham University, U.K. degree. He was in academe for three years in pharmacology at the Godfrey Huggins School of Medicine where he was involved in clinical research projects. He came to the United States in 1972 and worked in the pharmaceutical industry (clinical research and medical communications). He was in private practice (family medicine) in Charlotte, North Carolina for six years. He retired from the Searle (Monsanto Corpora-

tion) in 1998 and moved to Arizona in 2000. His philatelic interests have been in the area of Rhodesian, Romanian, and U.K. postal history. He recently published a book on *Folded Typewriter Postcards*¹⁷ and has been interested in changes to encourage more philatelists to exhibit their collections. He can be contacted by e-mail at rmsbell200@yahoo.com

Robert S. Blackett was the Tucson Police Department's DNA Supervisor. He has undergraduate degrees in chemistry and biology from Colorado, and a master's degree in forensic sciences from George Washington University. He has more than thirty-one years experience in forensics (twenty-four of them with the Arizona Department of Public Safety), and more than twenty years experience typing DNA. He recently retired (for the second time!). He hasn't collected stamps since he was a Boy Scout in the 1960s, but is reconsidering.



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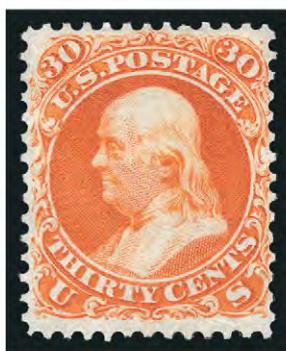
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Reflections of the NRA



by Charles A. Fricke

Nowadays, the Great Depression of the 1930s is merely a dark blot on the pages of history, but one of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal efforts to relieve the country from its economic woes can be revisited through the perusal of several 1-cent postal cards.

During the special session of Congress held March 5–June 16, 1933, there were a significant number of laws passed to combat the Depression. One of these was the National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA), which empowered the president to set up codes of fair competition and practices for businesses and industries; ultimately, some 500 codes were enacted. One of the agencies organized under the NIRA was the National Recovery Administration (NRA), directed by Gen. Hugh S. Johnson. Johnson himself designed the eagle with outstretched wings, a cogwheel clutched in one set of talons, and three radio waves in the other that became the symbol of the NRA, usually printed in blue and known as the "Blue Eagle." The text within the boxed frame read:

NRA MEMBER
U.S.
WE DO OUR PART

One of the advantages of being a member and conforming to the NRA codes was that a company could then use the NRA symbol in conjunction with its business operations, in

particular on its advertising and business mail. An example of this postal connection may be found on a 1-cent postal card (Scott UX27) with the NRA eagle — although in this instance the symbol is printed in black, not blue, and lacks the standard border. Perhaps the printer was unaware of just how to use the emblem. The card is postmarked August 17, 1933, only a short time after the enactment of the law creating the NRA and its parent agency. Coincidentally, the card is postmarked only two days after the National Recovery Act stamp (Scott 732) was issued.

The advertisement on the back of the card warns of a planned increase in prices and recommends that the reader "Buy Today at Deflation Levels!" Special mention is made at the bottom about the "Tax on Cotton, Bandages, Gauze Adhesives, etc., effective Sept. 1st."

A similar 1-cent postal card, mailed November 29, 1933, uses the NRA symbol stamped in magenta. Its use emphasizes the impact the NRA had on businesses anxious to advertise their products with the symbol, showing that they were in compliance with the NRA codes.

In this instance the advertisement is from National Songland and offers would-be songwriters the opportunity to have their "song poem" set to music by Luther A. Clark who "made the piano arrangement of 'When It's Springtime in the Rockies.'" For an initial fee of three dollars the company would "revise it and send melody on approval." For seven dollars the songwriter could then purchase the piano accompaniment and for an additional eight dollars "16 small orchestra parts to [the] piano part." The National Songland company mailed the advertising cards with guaranteed return postage, presumably to help keep its address list up-to-date.

The only question remaining is how the harmony and composition of a piano melody to a personal poem would prove to be relative to the attempt by the administration to prop up the national economy!

Another copy of the 1-cent postal card, this one postmarked January 19, 1934, uses the NRA symbol in its more usual blue boxed form. The message side of this particular example is just an acknowledgment of receipt for a customer order and so makes no reference to compliance with NRA codes.

Address side of a 1-cent postal card postmarked August 17, 1933, with the NRA symbol in black and without its usual boxed border.

Message side with details about an increase in prices and the new tax.





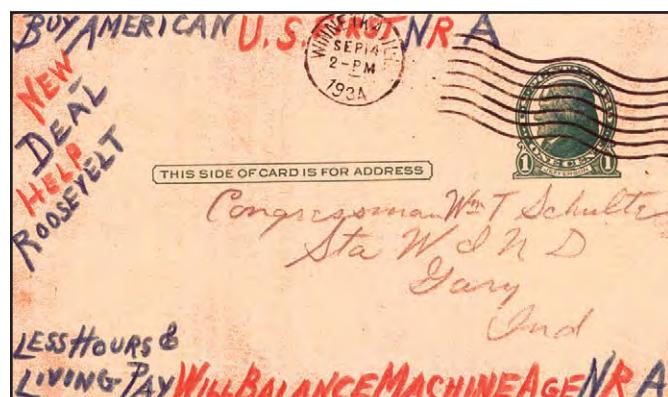
The NRA stamp was remembered in the 1998 Celebrate the Century pane commemorating the 1930s (Scott3185e)

An outstanding example of self-expression relating to the New Deal and the NRA is the colorful 1-cent postal card shown. It is postmarked "WINNETKA, ILL/SEP 14/2-PM/1934," and is addressed to "Congressman Wm T Schulte, Sta W I N D, Gary, Ind." On the front of the card are a variety of sentiments, written in red and blue pencil:

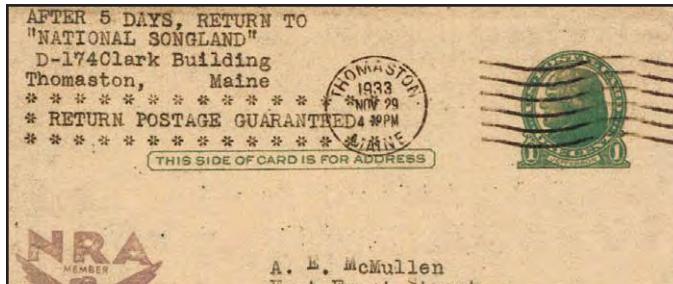
Top: "BUY AMERICAN/U.S. FIRST/NRA"
Middle: "NEW DEAL/HELP ROOSEVELT"
Bottom: "LESS HOURS & LIVING PAY WILL
BALANCE MACHINE AGE/NRA"

On the message side of the postal card, the sender included more commentary (again written in alternating red and blue pencil) inside a large stylized version of the blue NRA eagle. It reads:

1776/1933
PAY ALL RELIEF WORKS/OLD AGE/DROUGHTS/
WIDOWS/BLIND/SICK/PENSIONS/&ECT [sic]
WITH DATED STAMP DOLLARS/ALL ON SELF
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DEBTS./GREAT BALANCE WHEEL FOR ALL
FUTURE NEEDS/BEST INSURANCE/SEN.
BANKHEAD'S RECOVERY DATED STAMP SCRIPT



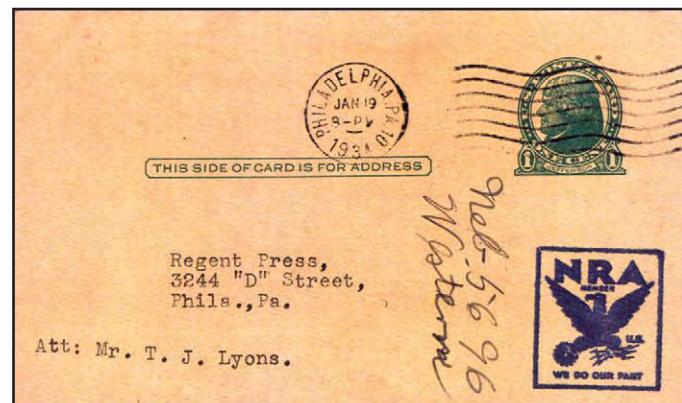
Address side of a 1-cent postal card with an inscribed message in alternating red and blue pencil on three sides of the card and postmarked September 14, 1934.



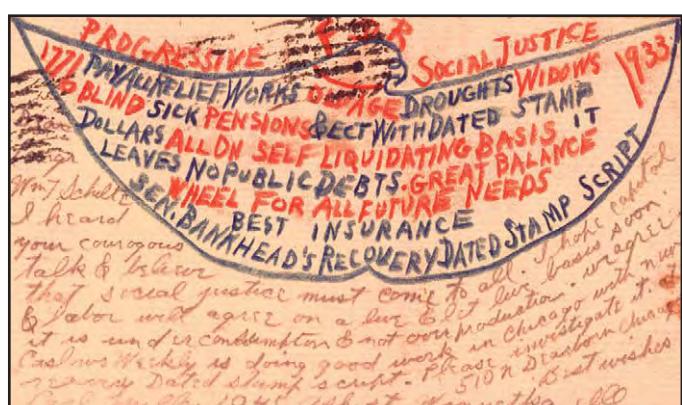
A. E. McMullen
East Front Street

OUR GREAT OFFER READ THIS AGAIN
Dear Song Writer:
Send your song poem and \$3.00. We will revise it and send melody on approval. If satisfactory, piano part \$7.00, guaranteed correct in melody, harmony and construction or \$7.00 refunded. We will send you a publishing offer when the piano part is completed.
Our composer, Luther A. Clark, made the piano arrangement of "WHEN IT'S SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES." Let him make your piano part and you will have something of which to be proud. (16 small orchestra parts to piano part \$8.00.) 3 poems examined FREE.
Yours truly,
LAC:LH NATIONAL SONGLAND *PLEASE ANSWER *
FC-1 Luther A. Clark, Mgr. *****

Address side of a 1-cent postal card postmarked November 29, 1933, with a magenta handstamp of the NRA symbol. Message side with an advertisement offering would-be songwriters a chance to have their poems set to music for a fee.



Address side of a 1-cent postal card postmarked January 19, 1934, with the NRA symbol in blue with a border as originally designed.



Message side of the card with a detailed commentary on the New Deal and public welfare, also written in alternating red and blue pencil. Personal message written in regular pencil

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Across the top of the eagle's wings are the words "PROGRESSIVE / FDR / SOCIAL JUSTICE."

In the remaining space, the sender has written, in ordinary lead pencil:

Dear Congr Wm T Schulte

I heard your courageous talk & believe that social justice must come to all. I hope capital & labor will agree on a live & let live basis soon. It is under consumption & not over production. We agree Caslows Weekly is doing good work in Chicago with new recovery Dated stamp script. Please investigate it at 510 N. Dearborn, Chicago.

Best wishes

Carl Miller

1045 Ash St. Winnetka, Ill.

One element of his message remains unclear, Miller's mention of the new recovery dated stamp script in use in Chicago. A friend of mine, who lived through the Depression in Chicago, said she recalls using some type of dated stamp script but I have no information as to how the program was implemented.

Given today's pervasive electronic communications, it's probably hard for the younger generation to realize that the basic means of communication during the Depression was the postal service and the telephone operator. The special effort made with this card shows a writer who passionately believed in what he had to say.

While the use of the postal cards to promote the NRA does not offer anything special, philatelically-speaking, their use as a propaganda vehicle does serve to underscore the relationship between the American business community and the NRA at that time. In May 1935 the U.S. Supreme Court declared the National Industrial Recovery Act to be unconstitutional and both the NIRA and its offspring, the NRA, quietly ceased to exist.

The Author

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

For more than half a century...

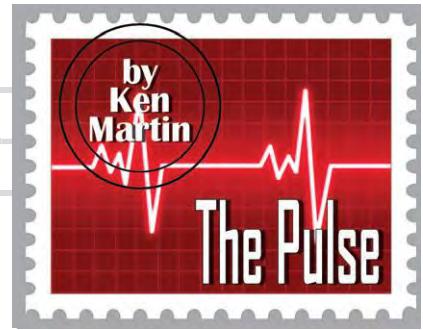
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Philatelic Growth Not Hindered by Winter



I am writing this column in the depths of winter, but by the time you read it spring should be arriving for many of you. Spring means new growth, and this month I am happy to report on a number of actions that I hope will fertilize the hobby.

Stamp Collecting Month in Denver generated 150 stamp designs by youngsters submitted through three local post offices. The grand award winner, selected by a panel of three Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library members, was 11-year old Elliott Park. In recognition of this outstanding design, the RMPL and the Cherrelyn Stamp Club presented awards to Elliott for artistic talent in conveying the dynamic vitality of the U.S. Post Office in delivering the mail. RMPL president Sergio Lugo reports that Elliott's design was so good that they decided to share the drawing with the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee.

Remaining in Denver, the latest issue of *Scribblings*, publication of the RMPL, announces "History of the World through Stamps," a new class sponsored by Denver University's Adult Lifelong Learning Program. The eight-week class follows a similar one that began in January. Not surprisingly, the same issue of *Scribblings* reports that the RMPL has thirteen candidates running for ten positions on their board. I bet they find jobs for all the unsuccessful candidates! A recent issue of *The Perryscope*, newsletter of the Garfield Perry Club, also indicates they have ten candidates for their seven Trustee positions.

It's great to see this kind of interest in serving the hobby.

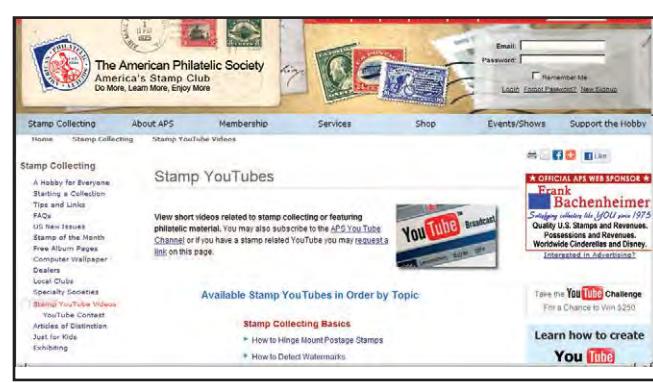
Speaking of trustees, American Philatelic Research Library Trustee Larry Nix has an article about bibliophilately in the Winter issue of the magazine *Fine Books & Collections*. An excellent way to share our hobby!

Another individual with a wonderful record of promoting the hobby is Cheryl Edgcomb, the "retired" founder of Stamp Camp USA, where she spent years promoting the hobby to youth. One of her many projects was getting into the *Guinness Book of World Records*. It took more than two years but she is now recognized as holding the world record for most philatelic items related to rainbows.

Cheryl is also one of the generous donors underwriting prizes for the third **YouTube Stamp Challenge**. The contest is designed to encourage stamp collectors to share their collections with people all over the world through digital means. Enter by May 31 and you could win one of five cash prizes ranging from \$50 to \$250. Instructions for creating a YouTube video, as well as links to the previous contest winners, are on the APS website. All entries will be posted on the APS YouTube



www.youtube.com/AmericasStampClub



www.stamps.org/Stamp-YouTube-Videos

The screenshot shows the homepage of the American Philatelic Society's Free Album Pages. It features a sidebar with links like 'Stamp Collecting', 'Free Album Pages', 'How Fun with Albums!', 'Newest Releases', and 'All Albums in order by Topic'. The main content area displays a thumbnail of a stamp album page for the year 2009, a CD cover for 'APS Albums on CD', and a list of albums categorized by country: Swiss Sampler (July 2009), United States 2009 Issues (Feb. 2009), United States 2010 Issues (Jan. 2010), United States 2011 Issues (January 2011), and United States 2011 Issues (January 2012).

www.stamps.org/Free-Album-Pages

channel, www.youtube.com/AmericasStampClub, along with the videos from the first two contests, which have been viewed as many as 60,000 times. To see a list of all available stamp videos organized by topic, visit www.stamps.org/Stamp-YouTube-Videos.

Our free downloadable album pages are another way we share the hobby. Last July the Postal History Foundation asked permission to use text from the APS *Arizona* album pages and in September I was told that portions of the album were used for an exhibit at the capitol in Phoenix. Lisa Hodgkins from the Postal History Foundation passed our contact information to Mike Conway of the Arizona

Geological Survey (AZGS). At the request of Arizona Governor Jan Brewer's Centennial Commission, AZGS is building a virtual Arizona Experience website, and Mike has asked permission to use our Arizona album pages for that project, as well.

Also, in December I was contacted by P.D. Sterling of the Lakeland Stamp Club, an APS chapter. He wanted to know how to get a first day ceremony. I told him it was a long shot but gave him the contact information for USPS Stamp Services Executive Director Steve Kearney. Was I ever surprised when he e-mailed me back to tell me that they were offered the Purple Martin stamped envelope.

In his capacity as a member of the Friends of Mulberry Library, Mr. Sterling planned an exhibit of books on ornithology and philately, and as a member of the Lakeland Stamp Club, he prepared another exhibit and offered free starter stamp collections. Great work!

A recent e-mail invited me to attend the **First International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately**, which will be held November 12–14 at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum. The Symposium will allow for about ten technical papers. Each paper must

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 #250
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 **\$169.95**.

SPECIAL #251
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 \$179.95. List price is **\$360.00**.

SPECIAL #252
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 **\$169.95**.

SPECIAL #253
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 **\$69.95**.

Special #250

Special #251

Special #252

Special #253

Special #253

Special #253

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address the manner in which forensic analysis has been applied to solving a philatelic problem. Both studies of stamp characteristics (color, ink chemistry, paper, gum, etc.) and postal history items are welcome.

In addition to two days of technical presentations, there will be a half-day workshop, including hands-on experience with the NPM forensic equipment, which includes a Foster & Freeman VSC 6000, a Bruker Tracer III-SD X-ray Fluorescence spectrometer, and a Bruker FT-IR (Fourier Transform Infrared) spectrometer. For more information, visit the Institute for Analytical Philately website at www.AnalyticalPhilately.org.

The International Symposium takes place about a week after the Classics 2012 show and the Seventh Annual Postal History Symposium focusing on **Blue and Grey: Mail and the Civil War**, which will be held in Bellefonte at the American Philatelic Center from November 2–4.

It seems like a growing number of philatelic events are being held back-to-back, hoping to build on each other's attendance. In the West, World Series of Philately shows ARIPEX and SANDICAL are often held on consecutive weekends. In the South, the SOUTHEASTERN STAMP SHOW and the SARASOTA NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION are now being held on consecutive weekends. And AMERICOVER, the annual show of the American First Day Cover Society, recently announced that it will continue to be held in the same vicinity of the country as APS STAMPSHOW, either the preceding or following weekend. This year AMERICOVER will be held in Irvine (Southern California) the week before our Sacramento show. In 2013 APS STAMPSHOW in Milwaukee will be followed by AMERICOVER in the Cleveland, Ohio area. And in 2014 AMERICOVER in Somerset, New Jersey will be followed by APS STAMPSHOW in Hartford, Connecticut.

Other events don't even allow a few days in between but are consecutive or simultaneous. That's the case for the latest WOMEN EXHIBITORS FESTIVAL and PIPEX, which will be held in Portland, Oregon this May 10–13. As part of the event APRL Librarian Tara Murray will give a presentation on "How To Research." Her talk, which is open to the public, will help those new to philatelic research get started and introduce more experienced researchers to resources available at the APRL and beyond, including digital publications available online. Attendees will learn how to search the Philatelic Union Catalog effectively and find out about the complete library resources beyond the usual books and journals; these include indexes, maps, archival collections, and more.

APS "On-the-Road" Educational courses also try to piggyback onto major events. We're pleased to have twelve offerings over the next eight months:

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- *Collecting the British Machins* with David Alderfer prior to the ST. LOUIS STAMP EXPO, March 14–15.
- *Financing the Civil War* with Ron Lesser prior to the GARFIELD PERRY SHOW (Cleveland), March 21–22.
- *Understanding and Identifying U.S. Grills* with Rich Drews prior to WESTPEX (San Francisco), April 25–26.
- *U.S. Great American Series* with Jay Stotts prior to NAPEX (Washington, DC), May 30–31.
- *Collecting Union and Confederate Civil War Covers* with Jim Kloetzel and Ken Lawrence prior to SCOPEX and the APS SUMMER SEMINAR in Bellefonte, June 14–15. The Summer Seminar is followed by the NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW in nearby Lancaster, Pennsylvania.
- *CSI Philately: Uncovering the Less than Obvious* with Mercer Bristow, also in Bellefonte, June 14–15.
- *Inverts & Misperfs* with Wayne Youngblood prior to the MINNESOTA STAMP EXPO (Minneapolis), July 18–19.
- *Exhibiting for the Prize* with Rich Drews prior to APS STAMPSHOW (Sacramento), August 14–15.
- *100 Ways To Collect Germany* with Fred Baumann prior to MILCOPEX (Milwaukee), September 19–20.
- *CSI Philately: Uncovering the Less than Obvious* with Mercer Bristow prior to SESCAL (Los Angeles), October 3–4.
- *Philatelic Marketplace* with Clark Frazier prior to SEAPEX (Seattle), October 24–25.

- *Understanding and Identifying U.S. Grills* with Rich Drews prior to CHICAGOPEX, November 14–15.

For more information on courses offered by the APS, visit www.stamps.org/Seminars-and-Courses.

Let me close by jumping the gun on next month's annual donor recognition issue. We recently received word from APS member **Tony Mason** that he executed a new will and included a provision directing that an unrestricted bequest of \$20,000 be made to the APS upon his death.

Also, thanks to the son and daughter of **Benjamin and Naomi Wishnietsky** who made a generous gift to have the Champion of Champions award named in their parents' honor. A retired chemist Benjamin has been an APS member for sixty years. He has written and edited several philatelic works, as well as more than 100 philatelic articles, was a Champion of Champion competitor himself, is a judge emeritus and one of the founders of the Hollywood Stamp Club. More details on his accomplishments are provided on the APS website.

Thank you all, those I have mentioned and the many more I have not, for all you do for our hobby.

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

Managing Director Andrew McGavin of Universal Philatelic Auctions explains:

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Universal Unique Reducing Estimate lot system was born

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

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

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

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

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

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

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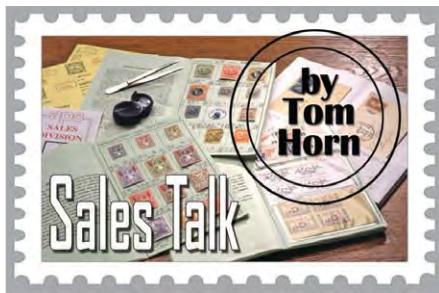
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My Take on the Hobby

This month, I am taking a breather from the history of the Sales Division to comment on the future, which might not be much of a breather. With the U.S. Postal Service making cuts in post offices, employees, services, etc., collectors are concerned about the future of the hobby, particularly if there are fewer new issues and fewer first-class mail pieces to fuel the hobby and bring in new collectors.

Not too long ago, collectors were concerned that the USPS was issuing too many new stamps. And, it was not only the U.S. stamp-issuing policy that brought criticism, but also that of other countries. Where is the balance between too many issues and too few? The newest controversy concerns who can be depicted on U.S. stamps. A person had to be dead for ten years to be consid-

ered at one point. Now, anyone living or dead will be eligible. This new policy is one effort by the USPS to increase interest in collecting. An increase in the use of stamps to mail more first-class letters may also have been a consideration. Another innovation, the "Forever" stamps, was introduced and was well received by most people as a logical way to deal with the annual postage increases.

If the USPS ever decides that printed stamps are obsolete (and I seriously doubt that will happen), the hobby does not need to worry. Think about this: countries that are no longer in existence and, therefore, no longer issue stamps still have collectors interested in their stamps. Danzig, Saar, Eritrea, Roman States, German States, and many others are of interest to many collectors. Their stamps are studied, traded, sold, and displayed regularly. Other collectors have limited their collections to certain periods of a country's history, such as the nineteenth century, between the wars, pre-present day rulers, era-specific postal history, etc. In my case, I stopped collecting new issues of West Germany in 1976 when Willy Brandt was voted out of the Chancellor's office in West Germany. (Don't ask for an elaboration on this.)

Collectors of topical material are prime examples of how interests outside of philately can affect stamp collecting and how philately can affect outside interests.

The emphasis on history, culture, education, details, and the thrill of the search is what draws most collectors together in this hobby.

This hobby has so many avenues to follow when settling on a collection direction and there are so many stamps, covers, and related items and ephemera out on the market that there is always something for anyone who wants to dabble in it. The emphasis on history, culture, education, details, and the thrill of the search is what draws most collectors together in this hobby. The present-day developments in the USPS may affect the hobby in terms of visibility of the hobby to potentially new collectors. But there is so much to collect, to present or display, to use for educational advancement, to use for relaxation activities, and many other reasons, that resources and accessibility will not disappear.

In comparison with other collecting interests, stamps do not take a back seat to any, between the variety of material to be found in the marketplace and

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Stamps, covers, books, writings, and ephemera become part of a larger collection. The crossovers between many collecting interests and philately are endless.

the published information about stamps that is available. The American Philatelic Research Library has three linear miles of publications dedicated to some form of philately. And that is just in the APS Library! Add the material in the other libraries around the United States and the world, and you have the resources that make the hobby easier to enjoy.

Collectors of topical material are prime examples of how interests outside of philately can affect stamp collecting and how philately can affect outside interests. My brother has an interest in historical items from America's earlier wars. He now has stamps and covers from the Civil War and World War II arranged and framed on his wall at home. He does not collect stamps or covers, but these items are additions to other items from those wars that he has acquired. I have a collection of nineteenth-century covers from my home county in Pennsylvania. To this collection, I have added items that are not philatelic, but are related to the county's history and are in support of information contained in and on these covers. Stamps, covers, books, writings, and ephemera become part of a larger collection. The crossovers between many collecting interests and philately are endless. The collecting of coins and stamps is probably one of the most prominent examples of that crossover. Collectors of sports memorabilia usually include sports on stamps in their collections.

Also, think about the cost of collecting. You do not have to spend a lot of money to participate in this hobby. Recently, a member called to say that he had sold his collection of 140 albums a few years ago. He now has the collecting

Visit the APS Sales Division & StampStore Online!

www.stamps.org/Buy-and-Sell-by-Mail

www.stampstore.org



itch once more and has signed on for our circuits. He called to add more categories to his want list, saying that he was excited about collecting again. He noted that he was having just as much fun looking for and buying the inexpensive items as he did when he had previously collected the more expensive stamps. And the inexpensive stamps can be very elusive, as well.

We tell new collectors to collect what and how they want to collect. It doesn't help the hobby to try to force a

specific collecting interest on a new collector. However, offering advice on the basics *does* help, whether it is showing someone how to use stamp accessories or where to find items and information related to the chosen interest area. An organization can encourage people to collect, but I find that a one-on-one approach is one of the best ways to get and retain new collectors.

From my perspective, this hobby is healthy and not in danger of dropping out of sight.

If you are requesting approvals for the first time, enter no more than **Six Categories** in the box below and send to: APS Sales Division, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823

Name _____ APS # _____

*Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Daytime Phone Number _____

Date _____ E-mail Address _____

Categories:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____

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

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please Note: If you want a category for which we do not have a specific listing, you will be placed on the best appropriate circuit.

Circuit Requests

This month's column includes a form that may be used for requesting our approvals. You may visit our website and complete the form online as well at: <http://stamps.org/Circuit-Request>. And don't forget the Clearance Circuits. For more information on these, visit <http://stamps.org/Sales-Talk-Column> and click on the April 2011 Sales Talk column.

'Buy and Sell' Snippets

1. "What do I do if I want to buy one of the books I received on a circuit?" This question has been posed frequently as members have found that they would like to purchase all of the items that remain in a particular sales book. If this is the case, the member should remove all the stamps and return the *empty book* to the Sales Division with their report sheet. If there are other members on the list yet to see the circuit, note on the pink routing sheet that the book number was sold out and will not be

included with the circuit. We need to have the empty book as a paper trail for retiring it to its owner. Also, if someone is having a stamp experient, we need to have the book, in case the item is returned for a refund.

2. The "5 for 10" coupon that sellers receive as a result of their submissions of qualifying sales books has been changed. The reward of blank sales books for the appropriate number of coupon points remains, but the points may not be redeemed for Stampmounts. If you have coupon points that show the redemption amounts for mounts, we will honor them until June 30, 2012, but coupons that do not have the Stampmounts listed may not be added to obtain the mounts.

"5 for 10" Categories (Needs)

You can earn coupons for free blank books for every ten completed books (Clearance books do not qualify) containing material from a set list of cate-

ries. (Each group of ten or more qualifying books must be received at the same time and contain at least \$50 worth of material per book. The coupons are issued when the qualifying books are reviewed soon after they arrive.) Each book must be designed to fit one of the categories, exclusively. Details are sent with blank sales book orders. You also may also visit www.stamps.org and click Sales Division and How to Sell. [NOTE: Single-country books usually have better sales.] Below are categories that are in very short supply at this time.

U.S. 19th Century

U.S. General (coupon credit for pre-1940 only)

U.S. Possessions

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British Channel Islands

British Middle East

Ships

Space

Spanish Colonies

Stamps on Stamps

Vatican City

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1975 (46v + 1)	37.50	14.00
1976 (35v + 2)	30.00	14.00
1977 (39v + 2)	40.00	18.00
1978 (39v + 2)	42.00	19.50
1979 (33v)	35.00	18.00
1980 (35v)	30.00	14.00
1981 (36v)	32.00	14.00
1982 (39v + 1)	60.00	19.50
1983 (35v)	45.00	14.00
1984 (34v + 1)	45.00	19.50
1985 (34v)	42.00	19.50
1986 (35v + 1)	42.00	17.00
1987 (41v)	45.00	19.50
1988 (50v)	52.00	22.00
1989 (47v)	68.00	30.00
1990 (43v + 2)	68.00	39.50

Year	Mint NH	Used
1983 (74v + 7)	29.00	28.00
1984 (62v + 5)	27.00	23.00
1985 (62v + 4)	24.00	30.00
1986 (59v + 5)	24.00	28.00
1987 (67v + 4)	22.00	28.00
1988 (66v + 8)	24.00	28.00
1989 (66v + 5)	24.00	35.00
1990 (70v + 1)	32.00	45.00

WEST BERLIN SPECIAL OFFER

Years	Mint NH	Used
1960 - 1969	\$ 50.00	80.00
1970 - 1979	155.00	145.00
1980 - 1989	240.00	350.00

EAST GERMANY SPECIAL OFFER

Year	Mint NH	Used
1960 - 1969	390.00	480.00
1970 - 1979	190.00	240.00
1980 - 1989	220.00	240.00

WEST GERMANY SPECIAL OFFER

Year	Mint NH	Used
1960 - 1969	95.00	85.00
1970 - 1979	280.00	140.00
1980 - 1989	390.00	160.00
1990 - 1999	650.00	420.00

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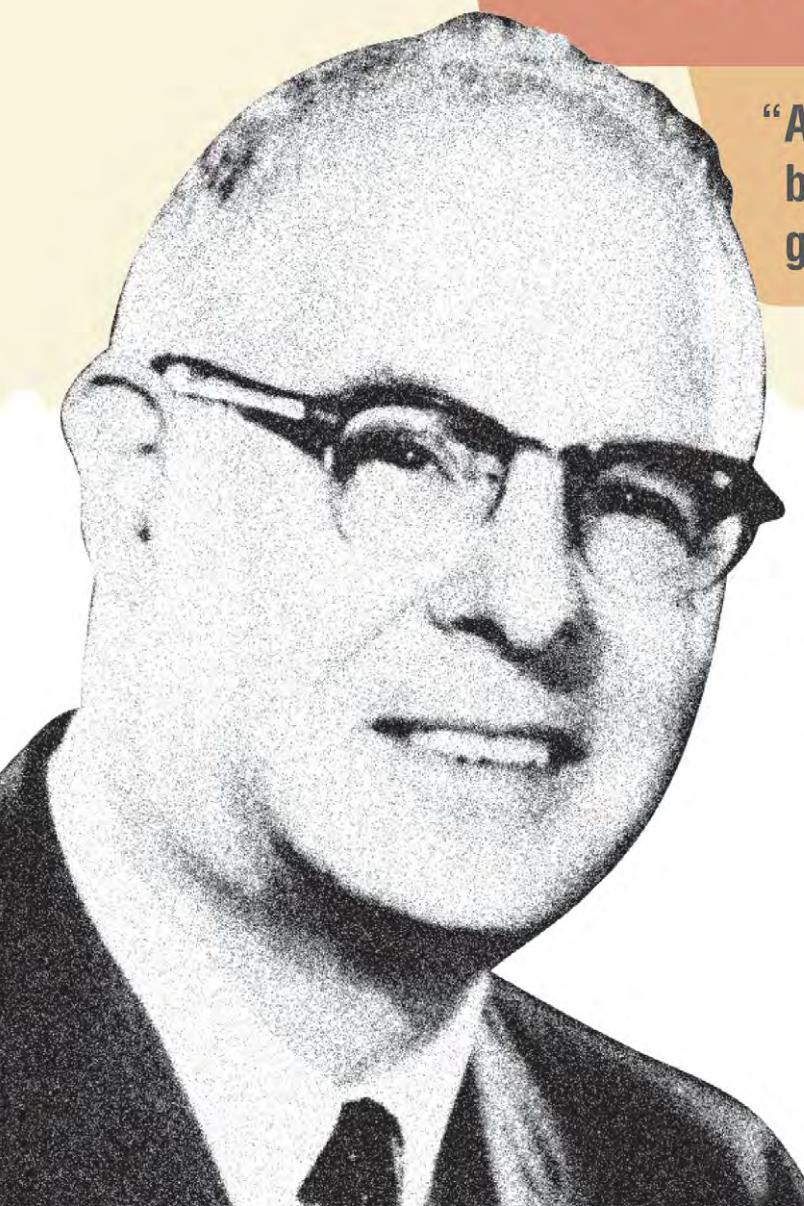
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Our Hobby Has a Bright Future

by Alex Haimann

This past year saw the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship (YPLF) take on an expanded class of five Fellows, up from three Fellows the previous two years. The members of this third YPLF class are halfway through their year with a tremendous flurry of activities since their initiation at APS STAMPSHOW 2011.

Senior Tim Hodge, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Fellow (Exhibitor Track), has moved his exhibiting efforts into the Adult Class at recent shows and continues work on updating and adding new material to his primary exhibit, "Birds of Prey."

Senior David McKinney, Shreve Fellow (Author Track), has written an article for the Young Stamp Collectors of America (YSCA) newsletter and is in the middle of his next writing project. David also has written a post for the Smithsonian National Postal Museum's blog.

Junior Daniel Pfaff, Central Atlantic Stamp Dealers Association Fellow (Dealer Track), has been developing his skills with the help of APS Dealer Brian Engler at local shows near his home in Pennsylvania. Daniel successfully operated a full dealer booth at the recent APS winter show.

The screenshot shows the YPLF website with a navigation bar at the top: Stamp Collecting, About APS, Membership, Services, Shop, Events/Shows, Support the Hobby. Below the navigation are sections for Services (including American Philatelist, Buy and Sell Online, Buy and Sell by Mail, Education, Learning Opportunities, Mentor Service, About Stamps, Seminars and Courses, Teachers and Club Leaders, Slide Programs, Young Philatelic Leaders, Fellow Details, Support YPLF, Fellowships, Estate Advice, Insurance, Library, Reference Collection, Stamp Authentication, Stamp Identification, Training, Young Philatelist, Stamp Theta, Book Publishing), Young Philatelic Leaders (with a sub-section "Only Together Can Our Hobby Grow"), Young Stamp Collectors -- Ages 13-25 (with a sub-section "As a YPLF Fellow, you will have fun with other youth stamp collectors and experience the world of stamp collecting from the inside, stick around to learn what you want to see, produce articles and presentations based on your interests and research; and gain experiences to make you a better student and leader — not to mention you will get lots of great stamps and philatelic material! See Full Program Details"), and Philatelists - How You Can Support the Program (with a sub-section "The purpose of the program is to engage enthusiastic young stamp collectors in the activities of the broader organized philatelic world. Though in order to recruit fellows, provide programming for"). On the right side, there is a sidebar with "Register Now" button, "YPLF Program Links" (Program Details, Time Line, Learning Tracks), "Support YPLF" (Donations, Become a Mentor, Sponsor a Fellow, eBay Giving Works, Buy eBay Items), and a photo of Alex Haimann sharing his views with a speech bubble.

For more information on the YPLF visit www.stampfellowship.org or e-mail Gretchen Moody at gretchen@stamps.org.

Senior Dzintars Grinfelds, Dempsey

Fellow (Author Track), has completed his first article for publication in the *American Stamp Dealer & Collector Magazine* and is in the middle of his second article.

Junior Alex Gill, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society Fellow (Author Track), has completed his first article, published last month in the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society's journal *The Chronicle*. He is in the preparation stages of his next article.

The first week of March will see the YPLF Fellows visiting the Smithsonian National Postal Museum. Following an intense day of one-on-one interaction with staff across numerous departments, the Fellows will jump on the road to the American Philatelic Society Headquarters in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania for a similarly packed day.

Thank you to those who generously have sponsored the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship!

- Jim & Sue Dempsey • Charles Shreve • American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors • Central Atlantic Stamp Dealers Association
- U.S. Philatelic Classics Society • United States Stamp Society

This month's experiences for the YPLF Fellows follow a year-long program that connects young stamp collectors with philatelic mentors to help them achieve their goals and also provides them with opportunities to attend the events and visit the places that make philately exciting. Over the past three years, I have accompanied every YPLF class to each philatelic event and visit. Without a doubt, the time spent with their mentors and their experiences with the philatelic community have a profound impact on the connection the YPLF Fellows feel to the broader hobby. More importantly, I have seen the essential glue forming that has the best chance of keeping any stamp collector (especially young ones) active in the hobby: connections and friendships with other collectors.

Potentially the most critical element of the program that will develop many of our great hobby's future leaders is the opportunity each Fellow has to experience the year-long program with other collectors in their own age group. The power of a peer group connection cannot be understated. As many of our current Fellows and graduates of the YPLF have testified to me, involvement in the YPLF provides them with the most substantial and sustained interaction with collectors their own age. I predict that, just as the social elements of philately from the local shows and clubs to national specialty societies keep thousands of adults intimately connected to the hobby, the YPLF will play an effective role in keeping many of its graduates connected and active in our hobby for many decades to come.

Only Together Can Our Hobby Grow

Ensuring a prosperous future for American philately requires a team effort. One way to do your part is to recommend an enthusiastic young stamp collector between the ages of 13–25 for the **Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship** (YPLF) class of 2012–2013.

The YPLF is a program to engage young stamp collectors in some of the most exciting elements of the philatelic world. Along with the opportunity to receive one-on-one mentoring from seasoned collectors, dealers, exhibitors, and authors with varied philatelic interests, Fellows are given the opportunity to travel and to develop a year-long project in one of several philatelic areas: writer, exhibitor, dealer.

Do You Know a Deserving Young Collector?

APS members have played a critical role in the formation and growth of the YPLF program. Please help to continue this tradition by reaching out to your philatelic network to help us find the members of the next class of YPLF Fellows.

If you have any questions about the program or, even better, a passionate young stamp collector to recommend to the YPLF, please contact Alex Haimann, YPLF Founder, at haimanna@si.edu.

Application forms and more information are available at www.stampfellowship.org or from Gretchen Moody, APS Director of Education, at gretchen@stamps.org. *May 31 is the deadline to submit applications.*

www.stampfellowship.org



Photos from top: a fellow learns about the APS Sales Division from Tom Horn, fellows gather for a meet and greet during STAMPSHOW in Columbus, and a fellow uses the computer in the American Philatelic Research Library.

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Pennsylvania **March 11**
Spring 2012 CAPEX Capital City Philatelic Society, Linglestown American Legion, 505 N. Mountain Road I-81 Exit 72, Harrisburg. ***B***
Contact: Linn Kinney, 717-732-7813

West Indies & The Southern Caribbean **March 12-23**
StampCruise Join the APS for a special 11-day cruise.
Contact: CruiseWorks, Inc., 1-800-876-6664
E-mail: cruiseworks@aol.com

Missouri **March 14-15**
Collecting the British Machins On-the-Road Course, Renaissance Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/
On-the-Road-Courses

Indiana **March 16-17**
CALUPEX 2012 Calumet Stamp Club, Saint James Parish Hall, 9640 Kennedy Ave., Highland.
Contact: Jerry Emerson, 219-662-1296
Website: <http://calumetstampclub.org>

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

Contact: Penny Kols, 314-361-5699
E-mail: pkols@regencysuperior.com
Website: www.stlstampexpo.org

Michigan **March 17**
Kent Philatelic Society Spring Show Kent Philatelic Society, American Legion Post 179, 2327 Wilson S.W., Walker. ***B***
Contact: Ron Mrozinski, 616-891-9878
E-mail: oldkentstamps@gmail.com
Website: www.oldkentstamps.com

Florida **March 17-18**
NAPLEX Collier County Stamp Club, Cypress Masonic Lodge No. 295 F. & A.M., 5850 Tamiami Trail North (Rte 41), Naples.
Contact: Robert Hausin, 239-732-8000
E-mail: newengstmp@aol.com

Pennsylvania **March 17-18**
Spring Stamp Show Buxmont Stamp Club, Benjamin H. Wilson Senior Citizen Center, 580 Belmont Avenue, Warminster. ***B***
Contact: Marlene & Cy Cook, 215-355-3903
E-mail: elliottschwartz22@comcast.net

Michigan **March 18**
Spring Stamp Show Pontiac Stamp Club, Waterford Recreation Gym, 2303 Crescent Lake Rd. (1 mile N. of M-59), Waterford. ***B***
Contact: Mike Miley, 248-623-2178
E-mail: mileystamps@hotmail.com

Ohio **March 21-22**
Financing the Civil War On-the-Road Course, Playhouse Square Wyndham, 1260 Euclid

Ave., Cleveland. ***APS***
Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/
On-the-Road-Courses

Ohio **March 23-25**
Garfield-Perry March Party Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Masonic Auditorium, 36th & Euclid Ave., Cleveland. ***WSP***
Contact: Roger Rhoads
E-mail: rrohoads@aol.com
Website: www.garfieldperry.org

Virginia **March 24**
ROAPEX Big Lick Stamp Club, Unitarian Church, 2015 Grandin Road, SW, Roanoke. ***B***
Contact: Ali Nazemi, 540-815-2980
E-mail: nazemi@roanoke.edu
Website: <http://Biglickstampclub.home.att.net>

Wisconsin **March 24**
BAYPEX '12 Green Bay Philatelic Society, St. Matthew's Church Multi-Purpose Room, 2575 South Webster Ave., Green Bay. ***B***
Contact: Ray D. Perry, 920-469-8925
E-mail: fiveperrys@athenet.net

California **March 24-25**
FRESPEX 2012 Fresno Philatelic Society, Veterans Memorial Building, 435 Hughes Ave., Clovis.
Contact: Dick Richardson, 559-431-5013
E-mail: starstamps@thegrid.net

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www.westpex.org

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rka@rkacovers.com 765-543-8274
P.O. Box 6508, Lafayette, IN 47903

Florida **March 24-25**
TALPEX 12 Tallahassee Stamp and Cover Club, Tallahassee Seniors Center, 1400 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee. *B*
Contact: Dr. Mike Francis, 850-385-1060
E-mail: drmikef@comcast.net
Website: www.maf1.com/tsc/stampshow.htm

Michigan **March 24-25**
KAZOOPEX Kalamazoo Stamp Club, Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds and Expo Center, 2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo.
Contact: Dave Matyas, 269-657-2271
E-mail: davelu72@frontier.com

Washington **March 24-25**
2012 Apple Blossom Inland Empire Philatelic Society, Hilton Garden Inn, 9015 West Highway 2, Spokane. *B*
Contact: J. Wilson Palmer, 509-443-8147
E-mail: ickyburg@comcast.net
Website: www.spokanestampcollectors.org

Pennsylvania **March 30 to April 1**
Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks. *WSP*
Contact: Steve Washburne, 215-843-2106
E-mail: info@pnse.org
Website: www.pnse.org

Illinois **March 31**
PARFOREX 52 Park Forest Stamp Club, St. Irenaeus Church Gymnasium, Indianwood Blvd. And Orchard Drive, Park Forest.
Contact: Ed Waterous, 219-613-6561
E-mail: ewwaterous@hotmail.com

New Hampshire **April 1**
QPEX Manchester Stamp Club, American Legion Hall, 5 Riverside Rd., Hooksett.
Contact: Robert Dion, 603-860-5082
E-mail: ihadzip@yahoo.com

Alabama **April 14**
Stamp and Coin Show Montgomery Area

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E-mail: stamper98@mindspring.com

Delaware

April 14

DELPEX Brandywine Valley Stamp Club, Nur Shrine CenterTemple, 198 S. Du Pont Hwy (US Routes 13 & 40), New Castle.

Contact: Bill Clark, 302-322-2719

E-mail: kmc4076@aol.com

Website: www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com

Pennsylvania

April 14

CVPS Spring Expo Cumberland Valley

Philatelic Society, Eugene C. Clark, Jr.

Community Center, 235 S. Third Street,
Chambersburg. *B*

Contact: Quinn Witherspoon, 717-264-1252

E-mail: rsran@pa.net

Indiana

April 14-15

Spring Stamp Fair Indiana Stamp Club,
Sterrrett Senior Center, 8950 Otis Ave,
Lawrence.

Contact: Tom Chastang

E-mail: tchas5@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.indianastampclub.org/fair.html

Oregon

April 14-15

SOPEX 2012 Southern Oregon Philatelic
Society, Padgham Pavilion, Jackson County

Fairgrounds/Expo, 1 Peninger Road, Central
Point.

Contact: Gerald Shean, 541-245-3136

E-mail: geralshean@yahoo.com

Website: www.norcalstamps.org/sopex.htm

Pennsylvania

April 14-15

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

Contact: Tom Donohue, 412-373-8697

E-mail: wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com

Wisconsin

April 15

WISCOPEX Badger Stamp Club, Crowne Plaza
Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave., Madison.

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E-mail: lestamps@charter.net
Website: www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger.shtml

New York **April 19-22**
ASDA Spring Postage Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Assn., APS & USPS, New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave., New York. ***B***
Contact: Joseph Savarese, 718-224-2500
E-mail: jsavarese@asdaonline.com
Website: www.asdaonline.com

Georgia **April 21**
GASC Spring Bourse Greater Augusta Stamp Club, America's Best Value Inn, 3023

Washington Road, Augusta. ***B***
Contact: Gloria Loungeway, 706-860-8898
E-mail: gloungeway@yahoo.com

Florida **April 21-22**
Tampa Stamp & Coin Expo Tampa Collectors Club, Holiday Inn Express, 4750 North Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa. ***B***
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
E-mail: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.floridastampdealers.com

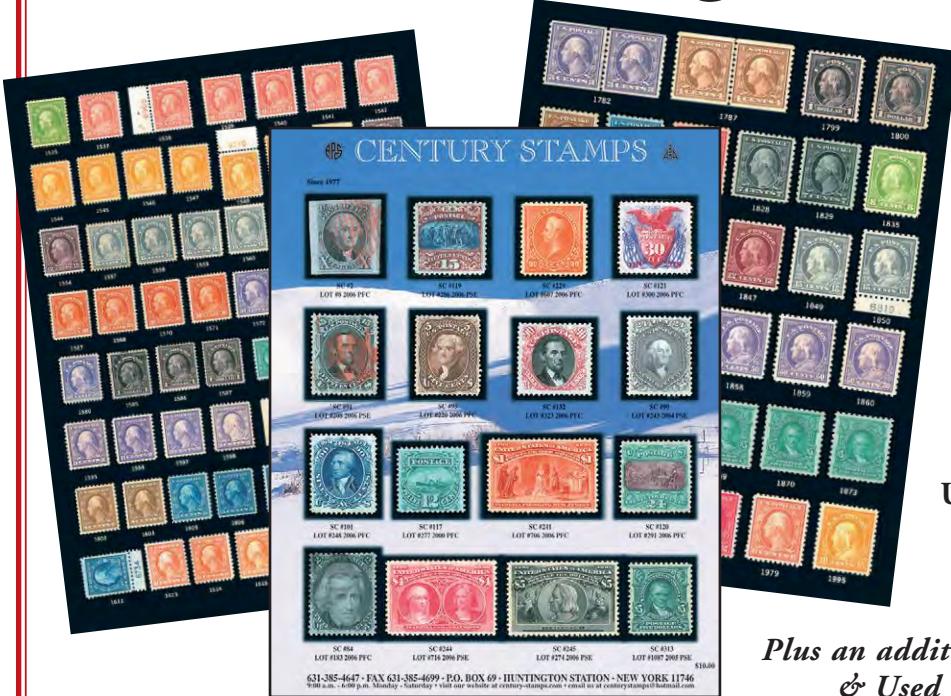
Ohio **April 21**
TUSCOPEX Tuscora Stamp Club, Tuscora Park Pavilion, 161 Tuscora Avenue, NW, New Philadelphia. ***B***

Contact: Jim Shamel, 740-922-4610
E-mail: jimhelenshamel@hotmail.com

Iowa **April 22**
CERAPEX Cedar Rapids Stamp Club, Machinist Union Hall, 222 Prospect Place, SW, Cedar Rapids. ***B***
Contact: Dennis Lynch, 319-365-5857
E-mail: lynch.dennis@imonmail.com

California **April 25-26**
Understanding and Identifying U.S. Grills On-the-Road Course, San Francisco Airport Marriott, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame. ***APS***
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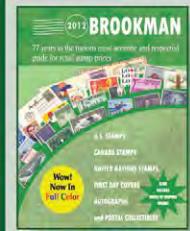
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Contact: Edward Jarvis, 415-387-1016

E-mail: ejarvis@westpex.com

Website: www.westpex.com

Michigan

April 28-29

Plymouth Show West Suburban Stamp Club, Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland. *WSP*

Contact: Tim Strzalkowski, 313-533-7737

E-mail: mywssc@msn.com

Website: www.plymouthshow.com

New Jersey

April 28-29

Clifton 2012 Spring Stamp, Coin, Cover, and Postcard Show Clifton Stamp Society, Inc., Community Recreation Center, 1232 Main Avenue @ Washington Ave., Clifton. *B*

Contact: Thomas Stidl, 973-471-7872

E-mail: stidl@verizon.net

Website: www.cliftonnj.org/stamp

Massachusetts

May 4-6

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

Contact: Jeff Shapiro, 508-460-0078

E-mail: coverlover@gmail.com

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

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

Indiana**May 6**

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

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

Ontario**May 6**

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

Contact: Robert Pinet, 613-745-2788
E-mail: pinet.robert@gmail.com

Pennsylvania**May 11-12**

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

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

Oregon**May 11-13**

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

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

Oregon**May 11-13**

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

Contact: Michael Dixon, 503-257-4110
E-mail: mdd10@att.net
Website: www.pipexshow.org

Ohio**May 12**

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

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

Colorado**May 18-20**

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show

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

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New York

May 18-20

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

New Jersey

May 25-27

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

DC

May 30-31

U.S. Great Americans Series On-the-Road Course, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.E., Washington. *APS*
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E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/ On-the-Road-Courses

Alberta

June 1-3

Royal 2012 Royale Edmonton Stamp Club, West Edmonton Mall Convention Centre, 170 Street and 90 Ave., 3rd Floor Conference Centre above Europa Boulevard, Edmonton. *WSP*

Contact: David Piercy

E-mail: dpiercy@telus.net

Website: www.royal2012royale.com

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June 1-3

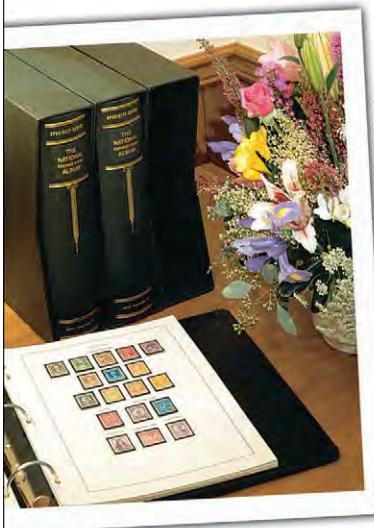
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Index of Advertisers

Academy Stamp and Autograph	270	Davidson's Stamp Service	270	John Sheffield Philatelist, Ltd.	270	Richard Pyznar	221
American First Day Cover Society/AFDSC	260	Delcampe International	221	Kay & Company	264	Rising Sun Stamps	268
Antonio M. Torres	268	Denali Stamp Co.	265	Kelleher Auctions	219	'Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries	242-243
APS Credit Card/U.S. Bank	269	Downeast Stamps	268	Kristal Kare, Inc.	246	RUBBER STAMPS	270
APS Education: Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship/YPLF Highlights	257	Dr. Robert Friedman Stamp Company	202-203	Lawrence J Mozian	285	Rupp Brothers	199
APS Education--On The Road Courses Registrations:		Earl P.L. Apfelbaum, Inc.	255	Linn's Stamp News, Amos Hobby Publishing, Scott Publishing	267	Sandafayre (Holdings) Ltd.	249
U.S. Great Americans Series	C@	Edward D. Younger Co.	206-207, 208-209	Michael Eastick & Associates Pty. Ltd.	270	Saskatoon Stamp Centre	266
APS In-Kind Donations	285	Eric Jackson	268	Mountainside Stamps, Coins and Currency	241	Scott A. Shaulis	270
APS Insurance Plan	C5	E.S.J. van Dam Ltd.	270	Mowbray Collectables Ltd.	270	Sismondo Stamps/The Classic Collector	285
APS Internet Sales	C8	F & J Collectibles	270	Muscott's	200	Space Cover Store	270
APS StampShow 2012 Info	C7	FLOREX 2012	270	Mystic Stamp Company	C4, 261	stampsinc.	270
Argyll Etkin Limited	264	Frank Bachenheimer	270	New England Stamp	270	Stephen T. Taylor	252
Bellmore Philatelics	227	Frank Coppola	285	Palo Albums Inc.	250	Steve Cripe	270
Bermuda Coin & Stamp Co.	270	Gary J. Lyon (Philatelist) Ltd.	248	Paradise Valley Stamp Company, Inc.	270	Suburban Stamp Inc.	254
Bernie Hopp	265	Gregg Nelson Stamps	270	Postage Stamp Paintings	252	Subway Stamp Shop, Inc.	201
BidStart	214	Have Tongs Will Travel	C6	Postiljonen AB	217	The Stamp Center Dutch Country Auctions	259
Brian & Maria Green, Inc.	264	HB Philatelics	258	Penny Black Stamp Company	264	The Washington Press	246
Brookman Barrett & Worthen	264	H.J.W. Daugherty	270	Philasearch	205	Tropical Stamps Inc.	264
Century Stamps	263	Henry Gitner Philatelists, Inc.	211	Philatlon	270	Universal Philatelic Auctions	251
Collins	264	H.R. Harmer, Inc.	197	Postage Stamp Paintings	252	Vance Auctions, Ltd.	212
Colonial Stamp Company	264	Hungaria Stamp Exchange	258	Postiljonen AB	217	Varisell	265
Columbian Stamp Co. Inc.	270	Ideal Stamp Company	200	Post Road Company	265	WESTPEX	260
Confederate Stamp Alliance/CSA	268	interasia auctions	215	Quality Stamps	216	Westminster Stamp Gallery, Ltd.	264
Cover Collector Store	270	Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., Inc.	218	Rasdale Stamp Company	213	WIP Inc. International	235
		James E. Lee	210	Regency-Superior Auctions	193		
		James T. McCusker, Inc.	270	Richard Friedberg Stamps	266		

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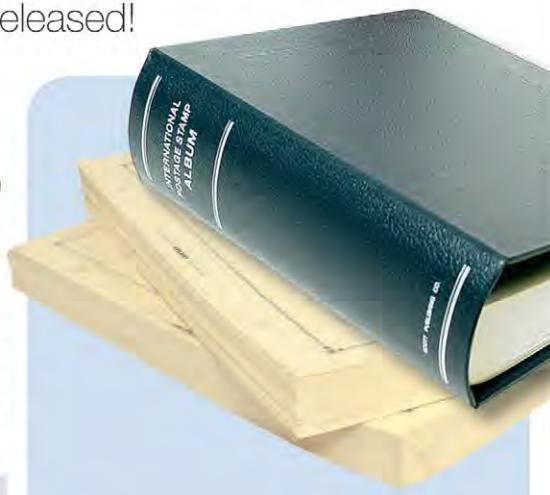
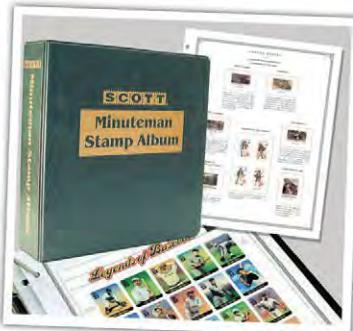
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Alabama

June 2-3

HUNTSPEX 2012 Huntsville Philatelic Club, Beville Center, University of Alabama in Huntsville, 301 Sparkman Drive, Huntsville.

Contact: Henrich Hahn, 356-536-7785

E-mail: hhahn256@comcast.net

Website: www.stampshows.com/huntsville_hpc.html

Florida

June 2-3

Clearwater/Largo Stamp & Coin Expo Tampa Collectors Club, Honeywell Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Ave., N., Largo. *B*

Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897

E-mail: h.rogg@verizon.net

Website: www.floridastampdealers.org

Ohio

June 8-10

COLOPEX Columbus Philatelic Club, DiSalle Center at the Ohio Expo Center, 717 East 17th Ave., Columbus. *WSP*

Contact: Chuck Wooster, 614-560-3689

E-mail: cwooster@aol.com

Website: www.colopex.com

New Hampshire

June 9

Great Bay Stamp, Coin, Postcard and Ephemera Show Great Bay Stamp Club, K of C Hall, 40 Columbus Ave., Rochester.

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

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#113-114	\$1,400

Office in China

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#1-14	\$1,100
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June 14-15

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Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/

Pennsylvania

June 14-15

CSI Philately 2011 — Uncovering the Less Than Obvious On-the-Road Course,

American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. *APS*

Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/

Pennsylvania

June 17-22

Summer Seminar Annual week-long seminar, hosted at the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. *APS*

Contact: Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803
E-mail: gretchen@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/Summer-Seminar

Jakarta, Indonesia

June 18-24

INDONESIA 12 World Stamp Championship and Exhibition, Jakarta.

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

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No. 1, January 31, 2012

Membership Report

NEW APPLICANTS

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

Aastrup, Alfred (219842) **Alfred, ME**; 83; Retired
Adams, Duane (219811) **Albuquerque, NM** US; Retired
Alvarez, Orlando (219898) **Rydal, PA** US COMMEM-GERMAN, COLONIES-CUBA-VATICAN CITY-GREAT BRITAIN-CHINA-SPAIN
Amos, John (219833) **Irmo, SC** US COMMEM, PLATE SINGLES, 20TH C; 64; Retired
Barber, Bobby (219907) **Williston, FL** US, PLATE BLKS, COMMEM PANELS-DISNEY
Barras, Jonathan (219925) **Cushing, OK** 20TH C US, AIR MAIL, COMMEM, CLASSICS-VATICAN CITY; 48
Bastedo, Stephen W. (219893) **Roswell, GA** WORLDWIDE; 64; Retired
Baugh, Doris Elaine (219867) **Apple Valley, CA**; 61
Bays, Gary W. (219877) **South Charleston, WV** TONGA-FRENCH POLYNESIA-FAROE-ALAND-GREENLAND-ISLAND NATIONS; 62; Substitute Teacher
Benedict, William S. (219868) **Maryland, NY** US, COMMEM, SHEETS, PLATE BLOCKS, COLLECTIONS; 75; Professor
Bielstein, Van R. (219912) **Oklahoma City, OK** US-CRAFTS RELATED-TRAINS; 60; Circulation Clerk
Bonesteel, Dean (219865) **Hayden, ID** US-WORLDWIDE; 70; Retired
Bortell, Donald (219874) **Altamonte Springs, FL** US AIR MAIL, DEFINITIVES, COMMEM; 68; Superintendent
Breckenridge, Robert (219826) **Fairfield, CA** FRENCH COLONIAL AFRICA
Brown, John (219843) **Middletown, OH** UK, FDC; 66; Retired
Burrington, John (219829) **Phoenix, AZ** US COMMEM PANELS, 20TH C-HUNGARY-POSTAL HISTORY
Butkovich, Richard (219896) **Corning, IA** US AIR MAIL, CHRISTMAS SEALS, FANCY CANCELS, CANCELS, FDC, COMMEM

Cabral, Ria (219869) **Minot AFB, ND** AGRICULTURE/FARMING-ANATOMY-ANIMALS-ARCHITECTURE-CONSTRUCTION-ART-LITERATURE-FLOWERS-FOOD; 28; Student/Photographer/Author

Cadwell, Frank (219804) **La Crescent, MN** 19TH & 20TH C US-CLASSICS; 62; Retired

Castellano, Victor (219913) **Vidalia, GA** US; 53; Retired

Chan, Francis (219803) **Singapore, Singapore** BIRDS-DISNEY-BOOKLETS-SINGAPORE-BRIT COMMONWEALTH

Chase, Judith H. (219864) **Inman, SC** PERFINS-US, 19TH C, BLOCKS/GUIDELINES BLOCKS, POSTAL CARDS-MUSIC; 73; Retired

Christensen, Bruce (219841) **Bozeman, MT** 19TH & 20TH C US, AIR MAIL

Claes, Dale A. (219914) **Marion, OH** US-SCOUTS; 59; Physical Therapist

Clements, Danny (219835) **Warba, MN**

Cole, David B. (219823) **Portland, OR** RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-TANNA TUVA-MANCHUKUO-BALTIC STATES-BULGARIA-UKRAINE; 64; Greek Orthodox Clergy

Colenbrander, Hans (219924) **Monroeville, PA** POST 1945 NETHERLANDS & GERMANY; 74; Retired

Congrove, Jack R. (219859) **Fort Lewis, WA** BUTTERFLIES/INSECTS-US PLATE SINGLES-GB

Connelly, Marcus G. (219915) **Fresno, CA** US-IRISH Physician

Covatta, Nicholas J. (219838) **Accomac, VA** 19TH & 20TH C US, CLASSICS; 65; Nurseryman

Darrah, Elizabeth S. (219844) **Richardson, TX** US-GB-COVERS-PRE WWII; 87; Retired

Darrow, Stephen T. (219903) **Hapeville, GA** US, 20TH C, COILS, COMMEM, PLATE SINGLES, AIR MAIL

De La Pena, Leticia (219837) **Monterrey, Mexico** US-GERMAN THIRD REICH/OCCUPATIONS-MEXICO; 50

Deale, Bob (219923) **Smyrna, GA** 19TH & 20TH C US, AIR MAIL, FLIGHT COVERS, PLATE BLKS; Retired

Dettmer, Robert K. (219821) **Detroit, MI** WORLDWIDE-US; 58

Didio, Ronald (219834) **Compton, CA** 19TH C US, CLASSICS, AIR MAIL-WASHINGTON

Djoecwell-Nored, Bonita (219807) **Bronx, NY** 20TH C US, PLATE BLKS, BOOKLETS/PANES, FIRST DAY PROGRAMS-FORMER/DEAD COUNTRIES-EUROPE; 60; Retired

Ducharme, Jean M. (219812) **Lawrenceville, GA** US SINGLES; 69; Retired

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 219595 through 219693 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Please be advised that Ralph S. Poore of Arlington, TX, is not deceased as previously published. His name was erroneously listed in the February 2012 *American Philatelist* Membership Report due to a clerical error.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, Dec. 31, 2011	34,850
New Members	99
Reinstated	33
	132
	34,982
Deceased	33
Resignations	36
Total Membership, Jan. 31, 2012	34,913

Edwards, Andrew (219876) **Idaho Falls, ID** GB-SINGAPORE

Etzel, Richard (219845) **West Palm Beach, FL**; 64

Fimowicz, Bruce E. (219921) **Baltimore, MD** WORLDWIDE; 55; Clerk

Fleming, Jennifer (219808) **Winchester, MA** US, 19TH C, COILS, CANCELS, AIR MAIL, BUREAU ISSUES, ESSAYS & PROOFS

Friedman, Martin L. (219916) **Oceanside, NY** ISRAEL TABS-VATICAN CITY-RYUKYU IS-UN; 60; Veterinarian

Friesen, Barry (219909) **Grass Valley, CA** US COMMEM, COIL LINE PAIRS, AIR MAILED

Galindo, Louise M. (219810) **San Francisco, CA** 20TH C US-MEXICO-GERMANY-OPERA-ICELAND-BALLET; Technical Editor

Gangi, Bob (219889) **Plainview, NY**; 52; Auctioneer

Gordon, David (219846) **Boca Raton, FL** US; 82; Retired

Gray, Billye A. (219884) **Weatherford, OK**; 88; Retired

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Grealy, Mary Ellen (219917) **Chestnut Hill, MA**
Griswold, Alan (219883) **Knoxville, TN** 19TH &
20TH C US, AIR MAIL-BRIT COMMONWEALTH;
64; Retired
Haering, David (219895) **Farmington, MI** 19TH C
US, POSTAGE DUE-OLYMPICS-BUTTERFLIES/
INSECTS-CANADA-GERMANY
Hall, Terry (219905) **Panorama City, CA** 19TH &
20TH C US-FAKES & FORGERIES-POSTAGE DUE;
54; Banker
Hamman, Dawn R. (S-219918) **Venice, FL** TOPICAL;
63; Retired
Hamman, John M. (219919) **Venice, FL** US; 64;
Retired
Hay, William (219911) **Carson City, NV** US-FIJI-
HISTORY; 64; Retired
Heenan, Sheila (219828) **Havertown, PA** 19TH C
US, CIVIL WAR COVERS-FRANCE, COLONIES-
HAWAII-CANAL ZONE; 65
Hibbetts, James (219830) **Dallas, TX** US AIR MAIL,
COMMEN
Honnell, Kevin G. (219920) **Los Alamos, NM** US; 51;
Scientist
Howard, Gregg W. (219847) **Massapequa, NY** US;
51; Insurance Consultant
Howard, John L. (219825) **Woodland Park, NJ** US,
COMMEMS, CLASSICS, CONFEDERATE STATES;
61; Biologist
Hudler, Tony (219813) **Fresno, TX** US-WORLDWIDE;
72; Retired
Hussain, Yunus S. (219890) **Seremban, Malaysia**
MALAYA/MALAYSIA-US CIVIL WAR COVERS,
19TH C US, FDC-AVIATION-APES; 53; Quality
Manager

Jones, David R. (219894) **Vinton, VA** US, VA POSTAL
HISTORY, SPACE COVERS-AMATEUR/HAM
RADIO-ZEPPELIN
Jones, Michael (219857) **Wonder Lake, IL** US, BLKS,
CLASSICS, COVERS, FDC, PLATE BLKS, COMMEN;
55
Kalohn, August E. (219831) **Milford, MI** 20TH C US,
ADVERTISING COVERS, AIR MAIL, COVERS, FDC-
ZEPPELIN-AC ROESSLER COVERS; 60; Sales
Kehoe, Mary K. (219848) **San Antonio, TX**; 71
Kellermann, Meagan R. (219870) **Westmont, IL**
TOPICAL; 25; Administration
Kessinger, Michael (219814) **Edinburg, VA** DUCK-
COMMUNIST COUNTRIES-WORLDWIDE; 61
King, James (219908) **Etowah, NC** 19TH C US, AIR
MAIL, CLASSICS, COMMEN-ARCTIC/ANTARCTIC;
55; EHS Manager
Knecht, William L. (219815) **Pine Knoll Shore, NC**
US & UN FDC; 66; Retired
Krier, John (219871) **Marlton, NJ**; 52; Elevator
Constructor
Kuehn, Neil R. (219849) **Des Moines, IA**; 80
Lacher, R. Steven (219922) **Minneapolis, MN** MINT
SINGAPORE-US-RUSSIA; 60; Retired
Latt, Kurt (219858) **Redmond, WA** 20TH C US, AIR
MAIL, PLATE BLKS-GERMANY, STATES-ESTONIA
Loan, Mary (219805) **Winnemucca, NV** US, FDC,
POSTAL STATIONERY, SOUVENIR SHEETS; 40
Malloy, Dennis (219886) **Barstow, CA** US PLATE
BLKS, COMMEN PANELS, SHEETS/SMALL PANES
Marotta, Ron (219850) **York, ME** US PLATE BLKS;
69; Retired
Marsh, Leonard (219901) **Laurens, NY** US, DUCK/
HUNTING/FISHING; 66; Executive

McMillan, Mark (219860) **Peterborough, AB** WAR
COVERS-MILITARY MAIL-GERMANY-CANADIAN
POSTAL HISTORY-FORMER/DEAD COUNTRIES-
WORLDWIDE POSTAL HISTORY; 27

Mengel, Ronald (219820) **Mountain Top, PA** 20TH C
US, COMMEM, FDC, POSTAL HISTORY-VATICAN
CITY-PHILATELIC LITERATURE

Miller, Samuel J. (J-219816) **Horse Cave, KY** US-
OLDER WORLDWIDE; 18; Carpenter

Moore, George L. (219872) **Naples, FL**; 86; Retired

Morris, John R. (219832) **Alexandria, KY** US
COMMEMS-GERMANY, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC,
THIRD REICH/OCCUPATIONS, FEDERAL
REPUBLIC-LINCOLN; 68; Retired

Murphy, Larry (219888) **Hamilton, ON** US SHEETS/
SMALL PANES-NEWFOUNDLAND-NO 1s OF THE
WORLD; 71; Retired

Mykietyn, Len V. (219851) **Jupiter, FL** US-
WORLDWIDE; 67; Art Instructor

Nash, Tom (219817) **Madison, WI** WORLDWIDE-
EUROPE; 66; Professor

Navar, Tracy E. (219885) **El Paso, TX**; 51; Artist

Nevalainen, Dale (219926) **Hibbing, MN** US; 65

Ough, Cornelius S. (219852) **Auburn, CA** US; 86;
Retired

Owen, Joseph L. (219836) **Blanco, TX** US COMMEM,
FDC-CANADA-GUERNSEY/ALDERNEY-GB-
JERSEY-OLYMPICS-FLORA/FAUNA-ART; 47;
National Park Service Ranger

Patel, Zeus (J-219822) **Dubai, United Arab
Emirates** 19TH C US-INDIA-GB-BRIT EMPIRE-
BRIT COMMONWEALTH; 17

Paul, Richard (219899) **Franklin, NC**

Pech, Stan (219906) **Greer, SC** FRENCH COLONIES

Pence, Bill D. (219878) **Santo Domingo, Costa Rica**
1939/45-COLONIAL-LATIN AM-GERMAN STATES;
79; Retired

Phillips, Gary (219879) **Crawfordsville, IN** US
SINGLES

Phillips, John (219861) **Pasco, WA** 19TH & 20TH C
US, COMMEM, FD PROGRAMS, CONFEDERATE
STATES; 60; Retired

Ramos, Hugo A. (219892) **Statesville, NC** US, 19TH
& 20TH C, AIR MAIL, PARCEL POST; 40

Reddig, Robert L. (219818) **Sylmar, CA**; 86; Retired

Reddy, Sanjay (219887) **Dublin, CA** US COMMEM/
PANELS

Rice, Robert L. (219880) **North Potomac, MD**
US, COMMEM, DEFINITIVES, AIR MAIL,
POSTAGE DUE, SPECIAL DELIVERY; 60; Federal
Government

Roach, Martin J. (219910) **Northbridge, MA** US
COMMEM

Ryan, Michael P. (219853) **St. Paul, MN**; 68; Retired

Saccoman, Ed (219854) **Reno, NV** MINT US; 72;
Retired

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Santelices, Jose (219866) **Washington, DC** US 19TH C, FDC-WORLDWIDE

Schnurer, Eric (219819) **West Chester, PA** US; 53; Consultant

Schoonover, Marjorie D. (219891) **Valatie, NY** WORLD FAIRS/EXPOSITIONS-RUSSIA/USSR/ INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-GIBRALTAR-TONGA/TIN CAN MAIL-US EFO-WWI; Nurse

Self, Gale E. (219855) **Concord, CA** GB, PENNY BLACK, PENNY REDS; 71; Retired

Sigman, William (219881) **Fishers, IN** US SINGLES

Singh, Yuvraj (219809) **Mississauga, ON** CANADA-BHUTAN-GREECE-INDIA, STATES-19TH C US-PRE 1960 SCAND & BALTI COUNTRIES

Skiffington, John (219862) **Ventura, CA** US SHEETS/ SMALL PANES, COMMEM

Smith, Yvonne B. (219856) **Gresham, OR** US; 81; Retired

Spurlock, Cyndie (219873) **Weatherford, TX** WORLD PETROLEUM-AUTOMOBILES; 64; Retired

Steffan, Laurence H. (219900) **Novato, CA** US, SOUVENIR SHEETS, COMMEM, AIR MAIL, DEFINITIVES, PLATE NUMBER COILS, SHEETS/ SMALL PANES; 68; Attorney

Sweilem, Shadi M. (219824) **Amman, Jordan** JORDAN-MIDDLE EAST-AIR MAIL-STAMP DESIGN/DESIGNERS/ERRORS-SOUVENIR SHEETS; 35; Computer Programmer

Taylor, Jimmy (219839) **Brooklyn, NY** WORLDWIDE

Teerman, Michael (219902) **Allendale, MI** US-AUSTRIA-FRANCE-GERMANY-POLAND-RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS

Thompson, Donald (219827) **Raleigh, NC** US COVERS, PLATE BLKS, NC POSTAL HISTORY-MILITARY

Torge, Mark (219904) **Mount Carmel, TN** 19TH & 20TH C US, AIR MAIL, COMMEM, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING-COILS

Wallen, David D. (219882) **Petersburg, AK** 19TH & 20TH C US, PRIVATE PERFS, COILS-CANADA-MEXICO; 68; Retired

Ward, Terry (219863) **Cleveland, OH** GHANA-CHINA-BLACK AMERICANS-ETHIOPIA-EGYPT-MEDICINE/DRUGS/HEALTH

Weis, Ron (219840) **New York, NY** ICONIC IMAGERY; 64; Artist

Williams, Clarence E. (219806) **Madison Heights, VA** 19TH & 20TH C US; 67; Retired

Wing, Leslie (219897) **Belfair, WA** CANADA-19TH & 20TH C US, COIL LINE PAIRS; 71; Retired

Wood, Peter L. (219875) **Toronto, ON** CANADA-US-GB; 69; Retired

CHANGE IN NAME

Amrein, Patricia (214837), Burkesville, KY has changed her name to Patricia Brendel.

DECEASED

Arms, George W. (196505), Cheshire, CT
 Bevirt, Wayne H. (218243), Milwaukee, WI
 Bird, James C. (9998-069032), Long Medford, England
 Brewer, Ralph S. (158696), Chesterville, ME
 Fimowicz, Sophie S. (158476), Baltimore, MD
 Forbes, Mary Jean (6008-043356), Bayside, CA
 Gold, Jerry W. (154732), Odessa, TX
 Gray, Thomas M. (126612), Weatherford, OK
 Grealy, Michael J. (213962), Newton, MA
 Griesel, Donald C. (8461-039269), State College, PA
 Halsted, Shirley A. (219547), Oxford, NJ
 Helfrich, Diana H. (4941-037986), Estero, FL
 Howton, David R. (9976-066803), Pearl City, Oahu, HI
 Jones, David L. (143118), Wellsville, NY
 Kuba, Stanley C. (218239), Tucson, AZ

Langlois, John G. (128217), APO AE
 Langone, Kenneth V. (130874), Las Vegas, NV
 Law, Steven A. (219253), Rochester, MN
 Lobos, Raymond J. (167125), Lewisburg, PA
 Mayer, Walter (093636), Heidelberg, PA
 Nelson, Thomas C. (095567), McKenna, WA
 Ordway, John A. (132823), Old Orchard Beach, ME
 Perel, David (4629-036160), Whiting, NJ
 Plaster, Hollie, Jr. (6642-042736), Huntsville, AL
 Poore, Elwood S. (1929-030357), Gainesville, TX
 Printz, Frederic A. (6187-018029), Allegany, NY
 Robertson, William O. (7869-053682), Seattle, WA
 Tant, Robert L., Sr. (174079), Columbus, GA
 Tsai, Konrad D. (3307-112511), Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
 Wages, Edward J. (215988), Myrtle Beach, SC
 Weinger, Milton (175203), Delray Beach, FL
 Weiss, W. Miller (158332), Roswell, GA
 Williams, Gordon C. (123306), Ventura, CA

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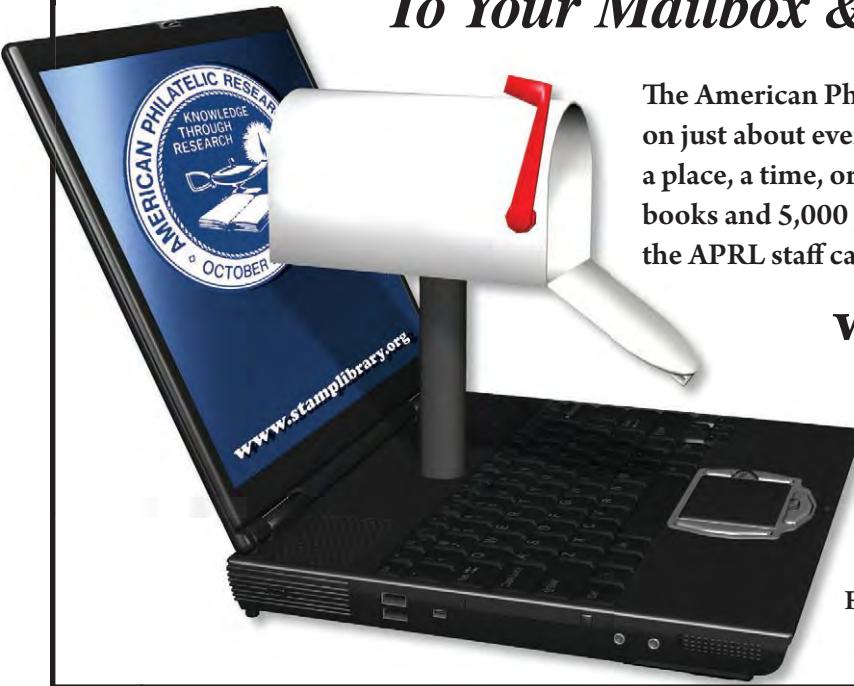
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Celebrating Danny Thomas

On February 16, in Memphis, Tennessee, the U.S. Postal Service issued a Danny Thomas commemorative stamp (Forever® priced at 45 cents), in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps.

This stamp honors entertainer and humanitarian Danny Thomas (1912–1991), star of radio, film, and television. From 1953 through 1964, Thomas received five Emmy nominations for his starring role in *Make Room for Daddy*, winning in 1953 for Best Actor Starring in a Regular Series. In 1962 Thomas, a generous philanthropist, founded St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The stamp, was designed by Greg Breeding under the direction of art director William J. Gicker, features a new portrait of Thomas by artist Tim O'Brien and depicting the hospital he founded in the background.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Forever Commemorative

Format: Pane of 20 (one design)

Designer/Typographygrapher: Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, VA

Art Director: William J. Gicker, USPS

Artist: Tim O'Brien, Brooklyn, NY

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset/Microprint "USPS"

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

Press Type: Man Roland, 300

Paper Type: Phosphor Tagged, Overall

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black, Blue

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Sizes (w x h): 35.56 x 27.15 mm (*image*),

39.62 x 27.15 mm (*overall*), 183.37 x

179.16 mm (*pane*)

Plate Numbers: "S" followed by 5 single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate block numbers in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2012 USPS; USPS logo; Plate position diagram; Barcode 468600 in lower



left and upper right corners of pane;
Promotional text; Proprietary notice;
Verso text on back of each pane.

Love Ribbons

On February 14, in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the U.S. Postal Service issued a Love Ribbons special stamp (Forever® priced at 45 cents), in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps.

The Love Ribbons stamp features



a graphic design of pink-tinged, satin ribbons that spell out the word "Love" in a graceful, cursive script on a bright red background. Pieces of ribbon that appear to extend beyond the borders of the stamp broaden the reach of the design and its sentiment. This issuance is a continuation of the popular Love series introduced by the Postal Service in 1973. Illustrator Louise Fili designed the stamp under the direction of Derry Noyes.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Forever Special

Format: Pane of 20 (one design)

Series: Love

Art Director: Derry Noyes, Washington, DC

Designer/Typographygrapher/Artist: Louise Fili, New York, NY

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset/Microprint "USPS"

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



Press Type: Alprinta, 74

Paper Type: Phosphor Tagged, Overall

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Sizes Area (w x h): 26.16 x 19.05 mm
(image), 30.23 x 23.11 mm (overall),
146.30 x 140.97 mm (booklet)

Colors: Red

Plate Numbers: "S" followed by
2 single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers
in four corners. *Back:* ©2011 USPS;
Barcode 577200 in upper right and
lower left hand corners; USPS logo;
Plate position diagram; Promotional
information.

Arizona Statehood

On February 14, in Phoenix, Arizona, the U.S. Postal Service issued an Arizona Statehood commemorative stamp (Forever® priced at 45 cents), in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of twenty stamps.

One of America's last frontiers, Arizona joined the Union on February 14, 1912, becoming our 48th state. To commemorate the 100th anniversary of statehood, Arizona artist Ed Mell painted Cathedral Rock, one of the colorful sandstone rock formations of Sedona, Arizona. The design celebrates the stunning natural beauty of "the Grand Canyon State" and its abundant natural resources. Richard Sheaff was the art director.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Forever
Commemorative

Format: Pane of 20 (one design)

Designer/Art Director/Typographyher:
Richard Sheaff, Scottsdale, AZ

Artist: Ed Mell, Tucson, AZ

Engraver: Trident

Modeler: Avery Dennison, Designed and
Engineered Solutions

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR),
Clinton, SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type II

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive
Colors: Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black, Blue
Stamp Orientation: Horizontal
Sizes (w x h): 36.07 x 21.34 mm (image),
39.62 x 25.15 mm (overall), 184.15 x
148.59 mm (pane)

Plate Numbers: "V" followed by
5 single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers
in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2011
USPS; USPS logo; Plate position
diagram; Barcode 468400 in upper
right and lower left corners of pane;
Promotional text.

Heart Health

On February 9, Washington, DC, the U.S. Postal Service issued a Heart Health commemorative stamp (Forever® priced at 45 cents), in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of twenty stamps.

With the issuance of this stamp, the USPS hopes to raise awareness about the importance of maintaining a healthy heart. The stamp art, which features a bright yellow sun disc, a leafy green trees icon, and a blue swirl of a sky, evokes the feelings of wellness and vitality that come from physical exercise — a key element in controlling and preventing coronary heart disease, or CHD, the leading cause of death among women and men in the United States each year. The striding figure at the center of the stamp has a full red heart. At the figure's feet, a large red apple represents a well-balanced diet. Art director Derry Noyes worked



with the artist Nicholas Wilton to create this fresh and positive approach to a difficult subject.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Rate
Forever

Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)

Designer/Art Director/Typographyher:
Derry Noyes, Washington, DC

Artist: Nicholas Wilton, San Geronimo, CA

Engraver: Trident

Modeler: Avery Dennison, Designed and
Engineered Solutions

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR), Clinton,
SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type II

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black,
Green, Red

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

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

Plate Numbers: "V" followed by 6 single
digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers
in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2011
USPS; USPS logo; Plate position
diagram; Barcode 468700 in upper
right and lower left corners of pane;
Promotional text; Verso text on back of
each pane.

John H. Johnson

On January 31, in Chicago, Illinois, the U.S. Postal Service issued a John H. Johnson commemorative stamp (For-



ever® priced at 45 cents) in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps.

The USPS honors John H. Johnson, the trailblazing publisher of *Ebony*, *Jet*, and other magazines, as part of the Black Heritage series; the stamp is the 35th stamp in the series. Johnson overcame poverty and racism to build a business empire embracing magazines, radio stations, cosmetics, and more. The stamp art, designed by art director Howard E. Paine, features a photograph of Johnson taken by David McCann.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Forever

Format: Pane of 20 (one design)

Series: Black Heritage

Designer/Art Director/Typographygrapher:

Howard E. Paine, Delaplane, VA

Photographer: David McCann

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset/
Microprint "USPS"

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

Press Type: Mueller, A76

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 21.34 x 36.07 mm (*image*),
24.89 x 39.62 mm (*overall*), 151.13 x
183.90 mm (*pane*)

Colors: Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Tan

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by five (5)
single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Header:
"BLACK HERITAGE 35TH IN A
SERIES; Plate numbers in four corners
of pane. *Back:* ©2011 USPS; Plate
position diagram USPS logo; Barcode
468300 in lower left and upper right
corners of pane; Verso text on back of
each pane; Promotional text at bottom
of pane.

Lunar New Year: Year of the Dragon

On January 23, in San Francisco, California, the U.S. Postal Service issued a Lunar New Year: Year of the Dragon stamp (Forever® priced at 45 cents) in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 12 stamps.

The Year of the Dragon stamp is the fifth of twelve stamps in the Celebrating Lunar New Year Series. The Year of the Dragon begins on January 23, 2012, and ends on February 9, 2013. The stamp art



depicts part of a colorful dragon figure of the sort manipulated by dancers welcoming the New Year. Artist Kam Mak created the eye-popping illustration. Art Director Ethel Kessler incorporated elements from the previous series of Lunar New Year stamps to create continuity between the series.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Forever

Format: Souvenir Sheet of 12 (one design)

Series: Celebrating Lunar New Year

Designer/Art Director/Typographygrapher:

Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, MD

Artist: Kam Mak, Brooklyn, NY



Engraver: Trident

Modeler: Avery Dennison, Designed and
Engineered Solutions

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR),
Clinton, SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Paper Type: Non-phosphored, Type III,
Block

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black,
Brown, Blue, Gold

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Sizes (w x h): 36.07 x 21.59 mm (*image*);
39.62 x 24.89 mm (*overall*); 184.15 x
148.59 mm (*pane*)

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Header:

"CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR."

Back: ©2011 USPS; USPS logo; Header:

"CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR";

Paragraph: "Millions of people ... for Dragon"; Barcode 576900 at bottom;
Promotional text.

Purple Martin Stamped Envelope

On January 23, in Mulberry, Florida, the U.S. Postal Service issued a Purple Martin stamped envelope (Forever® priced at 45 cents), celebrating the largest swallow in North America. The highly realistic stamp art includes a large illustration of a purple martin perching and a smaller illustration showing the bird in flight. Art director William J. Gicker designed the stamps, using illustrations by artist Matthew Frey.

The water-activated gum Purple Martin (Forever) stamped envelopes will be available in the following formats only through Stamp Fulfillment Services: #10 regular envelope, #10 window envelope, #9 regular envelope, #9 window envelope; #6½ regular envelope, and #6½ window envelope.

The pressure-sensitive adhesive Purple Martin (Forever) stamped envelopes will be available in the following formats in the field and through Stamp Fulfillment Services: #10 regular envelope, #10 window envelope, #9 regular envelope, #9 window envelope, #6½ regular envelope, and #6½ window envelope.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Stamped
Envelope Forever

(a) Format: #10 Regular Envelope

Art Director/Designer: William J. Gicker,
USPS

Typographer: Greg Breeding,
Charlottesville, VA

Artist: Matthew Frey, Annapolis, MD

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset/
Microprint "FOREVER"

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

Press Type: Mueller, A76

Folding Machine: W&D #527

Paper Type: 61# Postal Envelope, Block,
Type III

(a) Adhesive Type: Water-activated
Colors: Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow,
Green

Envelope Orientation: Horizontal

Sizes (w x h): 50.11 x 35.03 mm (*image*);
241.30 x 104.76 mm (*envelope*)

Marginal Markings: ©USPS 2011;
Sustainable Forestry Initiative logo;



"THIS ENVELOPE IS RECYCLABLE AND MADE WITH 30% POST-CONSUMER CONTENT"; Recycling logo; Cradle-to-Cradle logo

(b) Format: #10 Window Envelope

(c) Format: #9 Regular Envelope

Sizes (w x h): 50.11 x 35.03 mm (*image*);
225.43 x 98.43 mm (*envelope*)

(d) Format: #9 Window Envelope

(e) Format: #6½ Regular Envelope

Press Type: Halm Jet EM4000

Sizes (w x h): 48.36 x 32.51 mm (*image*);
165.10 x 92.08 mm (*envelope*)

(f) Format: #6½ Window Envelope

(b) Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Bonsai

On January 23, in Sacramento, California, the U.S. Postal Service issued a Bonsai stamp (Forever® priced at 45 cents) in five designs in a pressure-sensitive adhesive double-sided booklet of 20.

With these five stamps, the USPS celebrates the beauty of bonsai, a horti-

cultural art form that has become quite popular in the United States. The word "bonsai" is Japanese for "plant in a pot." It also refers to the practice of cultivating plants — usually trees — in trays, pots, or other small containers. One of the common styles of bonsai is depicted on each stamp: (1) a Sierra Juniper in semi-cascade style, (2) a Trident Maple in informal upright style, (3) a Black Pine in formal upright style, (4) an Azalea plant in multiple-trunk style; and (5) a Banyan in cascade style. John Dawson painted the stamp art. Ethel Kessler was the art director.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Forever

Format: Booklet of 20 (5 designs)

Designer/Art Director/Typography:

Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, MD

Artist: John D. Dawson, Hilo, HI

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset/
Microprint "USPS"

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

Press Type: Mueller Martini, A76

Paper Type: Prephosphored Type I

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Sizes (w x h): 26.67 x 19.56 mm (*image*);
30.23 x 23.11 mm (*overall*); 60.45 x
146.30 mm (*booklet*)

Colors: Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Cool
Gray

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by 5 single

digits

Marginal Markings: Front Cover: Header:
BONSAI Twenty First-Class Forever
Stamps Barcode; ©2011 USPS in peel
strip area; Plate numbers in peel strip
area.

Weather Vanes

On January 20, in Shelburne, Vermont, the U.S. Postal Service issued a 45-cent Weather Vanes First-Class Mail stamp in five designs in a pressure-sensitive adhesive coil of 3,000 and a PSA coil of 10,000.

Each of the five designs features a photograph of a different eye-catching weather vane: a cow, an eagle, two roosters, and a centaur. All five weather vanes were made in the United States during the nineteenth century and now belong to the collection of the Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, Vermont. Sally Anderson-Bruce photographed the weather





vanes for the U.S. Postal Service; Derry Noyes was the art director.

Denomination: First-Class Mail Rate

(a) Format: Coil of 3,000 (5 designs)

Designer/Art Director/Typographygrapher:

Derry Noyes, Washington, DC

Photographer: Sally Anderson-Bruce, New Milford, CT

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset/
Microprint "USPS"

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

Press Type: Alprinta, 74

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type II

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 19.81 x 21.59 mm (*image*);
22.09 x 24.89 mm (*overall*)

Colors: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black, Light
Brown, Cool Gray

Plate Numbers: "S" followed by 7 single
digits

Marginal Markings: ©2010; Plate block
numbers every 25th stamp

(b) Format: Coil of 10,000 (5 designs)

Sailboat Stamped Card

On January 20, in Oyster Bay, New York, the U.S. Postal Service issued a Sailboat stamped card (Forever® priced at 32 cents) in one design.

The USPS highlights America's scenic beauty with a sailboat stamped card. The impressionistic scene was painted in oil. The sailboat, a one-masted sloop, rests with its sails furled while a single

sailor stands on deck. Burton Silverman was the stamp artist.

The Sailboat stamped card will be available in the following formats: Single-cut cards, Double-reply cards, and a Sheet of 40 cards.

Denomination: 35-cent Stamped Card
Forever

(a) Format: Single-Cut Cards

Designer/Art Director/Typographygrapher:
Derry Noyes, Washington, DC

Artist: Burt Silverman, New York NY

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset

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

Press Type: Stevens, Vari-size Security
Press

Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III,
Block

Colors: Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow

Image Orientation: Horizontal

Card Size (w x h): 139.70 x
88.90 mm

Marginal Markings: ©2011 USPS;
Recycling logo; Cradle-to-Cradle logo

(b) Format: Double-Reply Cards

Press Type: Mueller Martini, A76

Card Size (w x h): 139.70 x
177.80 mm

(c) Format: Sheet of 40 Cards

Printer: Sterling Sommer, Tonawanda, NY

Press Type: Heidelberg, Speedmaster

Card Size (w x h): 139.70 x 88.90 mm

Birds of Prey

On January 20, in Washington, DC, the U.S. Postal Service issued an 85-cent definitive Birds of Prey stamp in five designs in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps.

The USPS salutes five kings of the sky with the Birds of Prey issuance. Each stamp features one of five raptors: the northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), and the northern

harrier (*Circus cyaneus*). Illustrator Robert Giusti painted the portraits, based on photographs. Art director Howard E. Paine designed the stamps.

Denomination: 85-cent Definitive

Format: Pane of 20 (5 designs)

Designer/Art Director/Typographygrapher:

Howard E. Paine, Delaplane, VA

Artist: Robert Giusti, Bridgewater, CT

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran

Manufacturing Process: Offset/
Microprint "USPS"

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

Press Type: Stevens, Vari-size Security

Paper Type: Prephosphored,
Type I

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 18.54 x 21.34 mm (*image*);
22.10 x 24.89 mm (*overall*); 135.89 x
125.22 mm (*pane*)

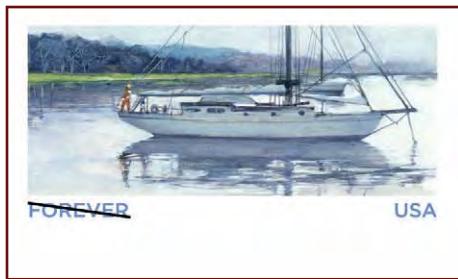
Colors: Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow

Plate Numbers: "P" followed by
4 single digits

Marginal Markings: Front: Plate numbers
in four corners of pane. Back: ©2011
USPS Plate position diagram; USPS
logo; Barcode 115200 in upper right and
lower left corners of pane; Promotional
text.

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

On January 20, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the U.S. Postal Service issued a \$1.05 definitive Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, stamp, in one design in a



pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps.

This international rate stamp in the Scenic American Landscape series features a photograph of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The image captures the beauty of the rural landscape as an Amish buggy travels along a country road, passing one of the county's iconic farms. The stamp was designed by Ethel Kessler and features a photograph by James Amos.

Denomination: \$1.05 Definitive

Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)

Series: Scenic American Landscapes

Designer/Art Director/Typographyher:

Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, MD

Photographer: James Amos

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset/
Microprint "USPS"

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

Press Type: Man Roland, 300

Paper Type: Phosphor Tagged, Overall

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black, Silver

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Sizes (w x h): 35.56 x 22.01 mm (*image*);
39.62 x 24.89 mm (*overall*); 183.37 x
149.34 mm (*pane*)

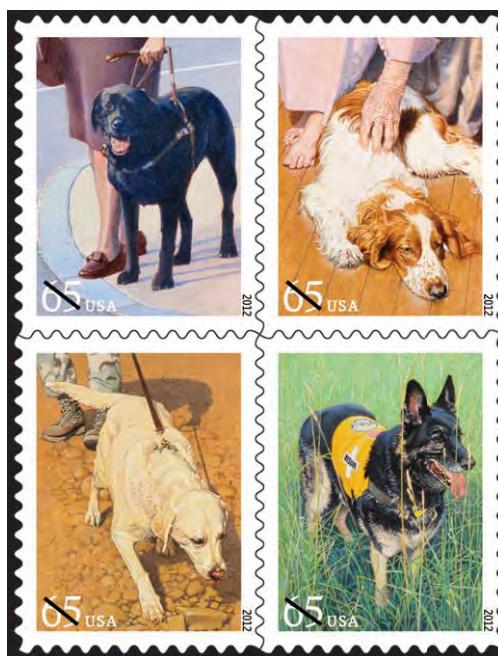
Plate Numbers: "S" followed by 5 single
digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate block
numbers in four corners of pane. *Back:*
©2011 USPS; USPS logo; Plate position
diagram; Barcode 575500 in lower left
and upper right corners of pane; Pony
Express logo; Promotional text.

Dogs at Work

On January 20, in Merrifield, Virginia, the U.S. Postal Service issued a 65-cent definitive Dogs at Work stamp in four designs in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps.

The USPS celebrates the enduring partnership between dogs and people with this set of four different stamps depicting dogs at work: a guide dog assisting a blind woman; a military dog scouting and tracking; a therapy dog visiting an elderly woman in her home; and a search and rescue dog in a field, ready to tackle the next assignment. Artist John M. Thompson created original paintings for the stamps, which were designed by art director Howard E. Paine.



Denomination: 65-cent Definitive

Format: Pane of 20 (4 designs)

Designer/Art Director/Typographyher:

Howard E. Paine, Delaplane, VA

Artist: John M. Thompson, Syracuse, NY

Engraver: Trident

Modeler: Avery Dennison, Designed and
Engineered Solutions

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR),
Clinton, SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type I

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 19.56 x 26.67 mm (*image*);
23.11 x 30.23 mm (*overall*); 139.70 x
146.05 mm (*pane*)

Plate Numbers: "V" followed by
4 single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers
in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2011
USPS; USPS logo; Plate position
diagram; Barcode 115300 in upper
right and lower left corners of pane;
Promotional text.



Baltimore Checkerspot (Butterfly)

On January 20, Baltimore, Maryland, the U.S. Postal Service issued a 65-cent definitive Baltimore Checkerspot (Butterfly) stamp in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps.

The USPS celebrates the Baltimore Checkerspot — the second butterfly featured on stamps for large greeting card envelopes that require additional postage. This colorful butterfly is named after George Calvert, Lord Baltimore, who helped found the colony of Maryland. Since 1973, the Baltimore Checkerspot has been the official insect of the state. The stamp art, created by Tom Engeman, is a stylized depiction of the butterfly. Derry Noyes was the art director.

Denomination: 65-cent Definitive

Format: Pane of 20 (one design)

Designer/Art Director/Typographyher:

Derry Noyes, Washington, DC

Artist: Tom Engeman, Bethany Beach, DE

Engraver: Trident

Modeler: Avery Dennison, Designed and
Engineered Solutions

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR),
Clinton, SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type I

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Orange, Gray, Black

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 27.56 x 28.48 mm (*image*);
31.12 x 31.12 mm (*overall*); 146.05 x
180.98.68 mm (*pane*)

Plate Numbers: "V" followed by 4
single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Header:
"Baltimore Checkerspot"; FIRST-CLASS
SURCHARGE RATE at bottom of pane;
Plate numbers in four corners of pane.
Back: ©2011 USPS; USPS logo; Plate
position diagram; Barcode 114800 in
upper right and lower left corners of
pane; Promotional text lower left hand
corner.

Wedding Cake

On January 20, in Alexandria, Virginia, the U.S. Postal Service issued a 65-cent definitive Wedding Cake stamp in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of twenty stamps.

The Wedding Cake issuance, first in-



Warm Gray
Plate Numbers: "S" followed by six (6) single digits
Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2008 USPS; USPS logo; Plate position diagram; Barcode 577500 in upper right and lower left hand corners of pane; Promotional text.

Glacier National Park, Montana

On January 19, in Kalispell, Montana, the U.S. Postal Service issued an 85-cent definitive Glacier National Park, Montana stamp in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps.

This stamp in the Scenic American Landscapes series features a photograph of Glacier National Park in northwestern Montana. The photograph was taken at Logan Pass, with peaks of the Northern Rocky Mountains shown in the background. In the foreground, melting snowbanks reveal a lush meadow dusted with wildflowers. Ethel Kessler art directed production of this stamp using a photograph by Michael Melford.

Denomination: 85-cent Definitive
Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)
Series: Weddings
Art Director/Designer/Typographyher:

Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, MD

Photographer: Renee Comet,
Washington, DC

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset/
Microprint "USPS"

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

Press Type: Alprinta, 74

Paper Type: Phosphor Tagged, Overall

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 19.18 x 22.01 mm (*image*);
23.11 x 30.22 mm (*overall*); 140.53 x
145.63 mm (*booklet*)

Colors: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black,



Plate Numbers: "P" followed by 5 single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2011 USPS; Plate position diagram; USPS logo; Barcode 575300 in upper right and lower left corners of pane; Promotional text.

Aloha Shirts

On January 19, in Honolulu, Hawaii, the U.S. Postal Service issued a 32-cent definitive Aloha Shirts stamp in five designs in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps and a PSA coil of 100.

The USPS celebrates the spirit of "Aloha" with five stamps, each depicting a different Hawaiian shirt. These colorful garments are called "Aloha" shirts, using the Hawaiian word spoken as a blessing or greeting. Two of the five classic shirts depicted in the stamp art showcase surfers and their boards; one shows fossil fish, shells, and sea stars; another shows a tropical flower known as the bird of paradise; and one shows Kilauea, a volcano on the southeastern edge of the Big Island of Hawaii. Art director Carl T. Herrman designed these stamps using photographs by Ric Noyle.

Denomination: 32-cent Definitive

(a) Format: Pane of 20 (5 designs)

Designer/Art Director/Typographyher:

Carl T. Herrman, North Las Vegas, NV

Existing Photos: Ric Noyle



Engraver: Trident
Modeler: Avery Dennison, Designed and Engineered Solutions

Manufacturing Process: Gravure
Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR), Clinton, SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type I

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black, Red, Brown, Orange

Stamp Orientation: Vertical

Sizes (w x h): 18.54 x 21.34 mm

(image); 22.10 x 24.89 mm (overall); 133.35 x 122.68 mm (pane)

Plate Numbers: "V" followed by 5 single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2011 USPS; USPS logo; Plate position diagram; Barcode 115100 in upper right and lower left corner of pane; Promotional text lower left hand corner.

(b) Format: Coil of 100 (5 designs)

Engraver: N/A

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset/
Microprint "USPS"

Printer: Banknote Corporation of America, Inc./SSP, Browns Summit, N.C.

Press Type: Alprinta, 74

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type II

Sizes (w x h): 18.29 x 21.34 mm (image); 22.35x 24.38 mm (overall)

Colors: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black,



Brown, Orange, Beige

Plate Numbers: "S" followed by 7 single digits

Marginal Markings: Plate block numbers every 25th stamp

New Mexico Statehood

On January 6, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, the U.S. Postal Service issued a New Mexico Statehood commemorative stamp (Forever® value priced at current First-Class Mail rate), in one design in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps.

With the issuance of this stamp, the USPS commemorates the 100th anniversary of New Mexico statehood. The "Land of Enchantment" became the 47th state to join the Union in 1912. Art director Richard Sheaff designed the stamp using an

existing oil painting by New Mexico artist Doug West. The painting, titled *Sanctuary II*, shows a landscape in northwestern New Mexico located in the Rio Puerco drainage between Ca-bezone Peak and Mount Taylor.

Denomination: First-Class Forever Commemorative

Format: Pane of 20 (one design)

Designer/Art Director/

Typographer: Richard Sheaff, Scottsdale, AZ

Artist: Doug West, Arroyo Seco, NM

Engraver: Trident

Modeler: Avery Dennison, SPD

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Avery Dennison (AVR), Clinton, SC

Press Type: Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

Paper Type: Prephosphored, Type I

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

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

Plate Numbers: "V" followed by 4 single digits

Marginal Markings: *Front:* Plate numbers in four corners of pane. *Back:* ©2011 USPS; USPS Logo; Plate position diagram; Barcode 468100 in upper right and lower left corners of pane; Promotional text.

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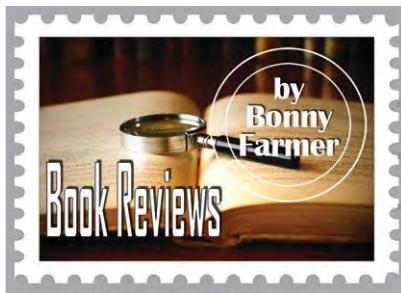
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Charles Darwin; His Life Through Commemorative Stamps, by Barry Floyd. Foreword by John Hayward, President, British Thematic Association. Published 2011 by D S Media Resources, Selangor, Malaysia. Soft-cover, ix + 94 pp., color & b/w illus., ISBN978-967-10223-0-6. Available for £15 + £2 p&h (U.K., £5 overseas) from Traveller's Tree Thematic Services, 30 Watch Bell Street, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7HB, England; pay to the order of B.N. Floyd.

Charles Robert Darwin (1809–1882) — the bicentennial of his birth, which coincided with the 150th anniversary of *The Origin of Species*, led to the issuance of numerous stamps worldwide, but the author wisely begins with an exceptionally well-written short biography of the great scientist that puts a human face on the reason for the printed stamps. Darwin set sail on the HMS *Beagle* following graduation from Cambridge in 1831, joining at his own expense an expedition to survey the coast of South America and the proceed around the world, a voyage that would last almost five years. Fortunately for Darwin, who was miserably seasick in rough seas, he managed to spend three of those years ashore exploring a new world. In an early letter to his old professor John Henslow, Darwin wrote that “the delight of sitting on a decaying trunk amidst the quiet gloom of the rainforest is unspeakable and never to be forgotten....”

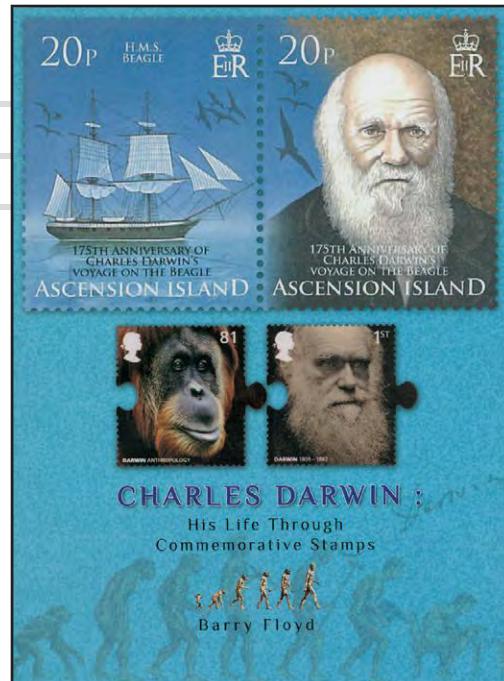
A prolific letter writer throughout his life, he wrote home at every possible opportunity. This was not as difficult as it sounds. As the author points out: “Since England was a thriving colonial power at the time, with a network of ships that literally spanned the globe, Darwin could send and receive letters (‘Sail Mail’) from almost anywhere in the world.” Once

he returned to England Darwin continued to expand his correspondence, writing to a wide variety of people around the world as he pursued his research. In 1851, for example, he spent £20 on stamps, stationery & newspapers (the equivalent of £1,000 today), and by 1877 his postage and stationery expenses had risen in excess £53 (£2,650). Despite his dependence on the postal system, alas, he was not a stamp collector, viewing it as a hobby for children

His first book was a record of the five-year voyage. *Journal of Researches (The Voyage of the Beagle)* was published in 1839, after which he continued to spend years writing up his notes and pondering their significance. Numerous scientific papers and lectures culminated in his masterpiece of scientific inquiry, *On the Origin of Species by means of natural selection, or the preservation of favoured races in the struggle for life* (1859).

Pages 39–82 examine the 170+ commemorative stamps and first day covers issued over the years marking various Darwinian anniversaries. Most have been issued by the countries visited on his epic sea voyage, but a variety of other offerings are briefly discussed as well. This is followed by a substantial appendix with suggested reading. The expanded captions and aptly chosen quotations the author provides both continue and amplify the story, making this book a great example of what makes thematic collecting so exciting for so many people.

Fiji's Times Express Stamps; The Three Issued Paper Types and Other FTE Topics, by David E. Gillis. Published 2011 by the Pacific Island Study Circle. Two-ring plastic binder, vii + 159 pp., mostly b/w with some color illus., ISBN 978-1-899833-19-



1. Available for £14 + postage (members, £28 non-members) from the Pacific Island Study circle (a deluxe heavy-weight 4-ring binder is available at extra cost); website www.pisc.org.uk/fijis-times-express-stamps.html, e-mail booksales@pisc.org.uk.

The author notes in his introduction: “It is the purpose of this book to correct the century long errors in the catalog descriptions and identifications of these stamps and to provide a more comprehensive discussion of these various aspects than has previously been offered to philatelists.” Some of the issues addressed in the chapters:

- How many paper types? (The author’s research indicates that there are actually three.)
- Should they be considered regular or local issues?
- Is your stamp an original issue or an early reproduction?
- Forgeries (fortunately not numerous) and faked cancellations.
- A detailed look at plating.

The Fiji Times Express (FTE) was established in 1870 by the *Fiji Times* newspaper to deliver newspapers and, secondly, to provide postal service to their widespread customers that was not available from the newly created (1869) consular postal service. The service was

profitable but short lived, lasting only until 1872 when the Fiji government's central new post office (established 1871) began to take control of the archipelago's mail transport. Requests for stamps by collectors, however, continued to arrive and, in 1876, the *Times* prepared a "reprint" of the issue; when this supply was exhausted a second was prepared. Although the stamps prepared by the FTE were intended for domestic use only, some are known to have made it into the foreign mail stream.

There is a lot of good, detailed information to be found here, but this is definitely a publication for the experienced collector of FTE, which is too bad; the topic is certainly interesting. Even as a research paper, however, this volume could have used a serious editor, especially as regards the general progression of information. In addition, the text often falls victim to awkward phrasing and a variety of small errors that could (and should) have been avoided. Regrettably, the images are unsatisfactory as well, particularly the black-and-white photocopies. It is a classic example of the poor results that can be expected when web images (typically 72–90 dpi) are reproduced in print (which requires a minimum of 300 dpi for clean reproduction). Still, this is a volume that the FTE collector will want to have in his library.

Catalogues Received and Noted

Stanley Gibbons Collect British Stamps (63rd edition). Published 2012 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, xlvi + 218 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-822-X. Available for £12.95 from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, England; website stanleygibbons.com; e-mail orders@stanleygibbons.com.

With more than 100 new images and hundreds of price changes since the 2011 edition, the 63rd *Collect British Stamps* is the perfect self-contained reference guide for the collector. There is also an

extensive introduction with advice on how to build a collection, choose an album and mount stamps, as well as a survey of philatelic accessories and guides to stamp pricing and the Stanley Gibbons numbering system. Major price changes can be seen, most noticeably in the Queen Victoria section, where the price for a Penny Black is up by £2,000 unused and £50 used and an 1867 5s red (SG126) is up from £8,250/£600 (mint/used) to £11,000/£750. Visible plate numbers on the Victorian issues also are listed, and graphite lined and phosphor issues and watermark and perforation differences are included.

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue: Ireland (5th edition).

Published 2011 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, xxviii + 94 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-831-3. Available for £15.95 from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, England; website stanleygibbons.com; e-mail orders@stanleygibbons.com.

Last published in May 2008, the 5th edition of *Stanley Gibbons Ireland* provides a comprehensive listing of the stamps of Ireland from the 1922 Provisional Government overprints on the stamps of Great Britain right up to the latest issues. Watermark varieties, shades, plate flaws, major errors, postage due stamps, and booklets are all listed and priced, and on cover "Multipliers" are provided for all stamps to 1945, to allow calculation of prices for stamps on cover. New varieties added since the previous edition include new shades in the overprints on Great Britain, overprint errors, and watermark varieties.

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue: Canada and Provinces (4th edition).

Published 2011 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, xxxi + 167 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-828-3. Available for £19.95 from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, England; website stanleygibbons.com; e-mail

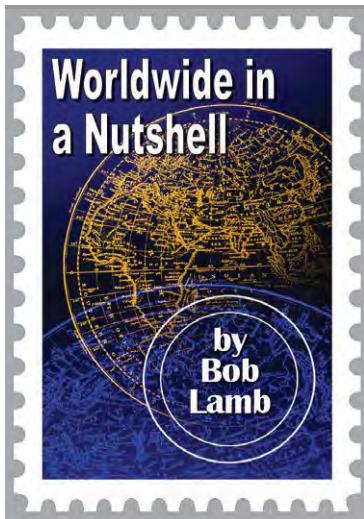
orders@stanleygibbons.com.

Offered in a new handy size and illustrated in color throughout, the *Stanley Gibbons Canada and Provinces* catalogue provides a comprehensive listing of Canadian stamps, beginning with the early colonial stamps: Colony of Canada (1851–64), British Columbia & Vancouver Island (1860), New Brunswick (1851–63), Newfoundland (1857–1949), Nova Scotia (1851–63), and Prince Edward Island (1861–70), followed by the issues of the Dominion of Canada, (1868 to date). Among the new varieties listed for the first time are the "Cockeyed King" on the 1930–31 2-cent coil stamp of Canada and the "Weeping Princess" and "Shilling" on the 1935 Silver Jubilee set. In Newfoundland, the varieties on the 1910 1-cent King James Stamp are illustrated and the different types of the 1929–31 "Publicity" stamp are shown in color.

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Catalogue: Cyprus, Gibraltar and Malta (3rd edition).

Published 2011 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, xxxi + 164 pp., color illus., ISBN 978-0-85259-811-4. Available for £18.95 from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, England; website stanleygibbons.com; e-mail orders@stanleygibbons.com.

Last published in 2008, this new handy size catalogue provides a comprehensive priced listing of stamps issued by Cyprus (1880–2011), Turkish Cypriot Posts (1974–2011), Gibraltar (1866–2011) and Malta (1860–2011), as well as the former British colonies in Europe of Heligoland (1867–90) and the Ionian Islands (1859). The catalogue also includes Great Britain stamps used in Cyprus, Gibraltar, and Malta before their stamps became available, and stamps issued by the British Post Office in Crete (1898–99). Prices have been extensively revised throughout the catalogue with some very significant increases for watermark varieties including the Cyprus 1912 ½ pi watermark inverted, up from £1,400 to £2,000 used.



India

Status: Parliamentary democracy in South Asia

Population: 1,189,172, 906 (2011 est.)

Area: 1,269,219 square miles

Currency: 100 paisa = 1 Rupee (1R = US\$0.02)



The Republic of India — the second most populous country in the world and the seventh largest in size — is the dominant political and economic power in South Asia. Its culture is among the oldest in the world, flourishing in the Indus Valley six millennia ago. Vasco da Gama's voyages, beginning in 1498, opened India to European trading settlements, first the Portuguese, then the Dutch, the Danes, the British and, later, the French. The French defeat in the Seven Years War assured British colonial supremacy in the subcontinent. The British entrusted the administration of India, including its mail services, to the East India Company until 1858, when India became a crown colony. In 1877 Queen Victoria became the Empress of India.

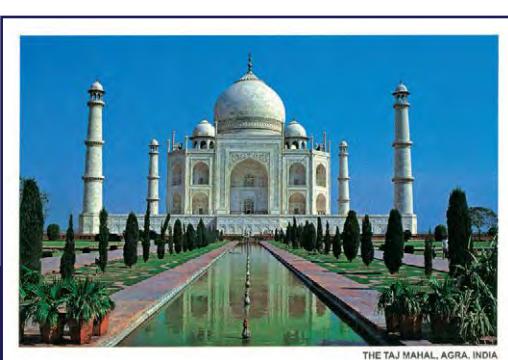
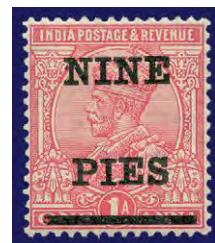
The first Indian stamps were created for use in the Sind District by Sir Bartle Frere, the commissioner. These embossed stamps were used locally from July 1, 1852 until October 1, 1854, when the East India Company released stamps for use throughout British India.

The British Raj was a complex political brew. In addition to the areas under direct British administration, Imperial India included 652 princely states that had treaty relationships with the British. About three dozen of these feudatory states issued postage stamps that were valid only within the issuing state. Letters sent outside the state required additional British India postage.

The existence of these separate postal systems was an annoyance to British postal officials, who considered them inefficient and duplicative. In 1877, when Patiala was considering issuing stamps, Imperial postal officials persuaded the ruler to accept a convention stipulating standardized procedures. The British would overprint Imperial stamps and stationery with the state name. Thus, in 1884, Patiala became the first of six so-called convention states. The stamps of these states could be used throughout British India and vice versa.

Anti-Colonialism grew during the early years of the twentieth century as did the nationalist awareness in the Muslim and Hindu communities. The Indian Independence Act of 1947 recognized the partition of the country into two Dominions: the Hindu Union of India and Muslim Pakistan. The partition was bloody with millions of refugees uprooted. The national boundaries remain contested even today. Independent India absorbed the princely states, and by 1950 their stamp issuing authorities were terminated. India became a Republic that same year. India today has a extensive postal net-

work with more than 155,000 post offices. It is a prolific producer of new issues. India Post's website is www.Indiapost.gov.in.



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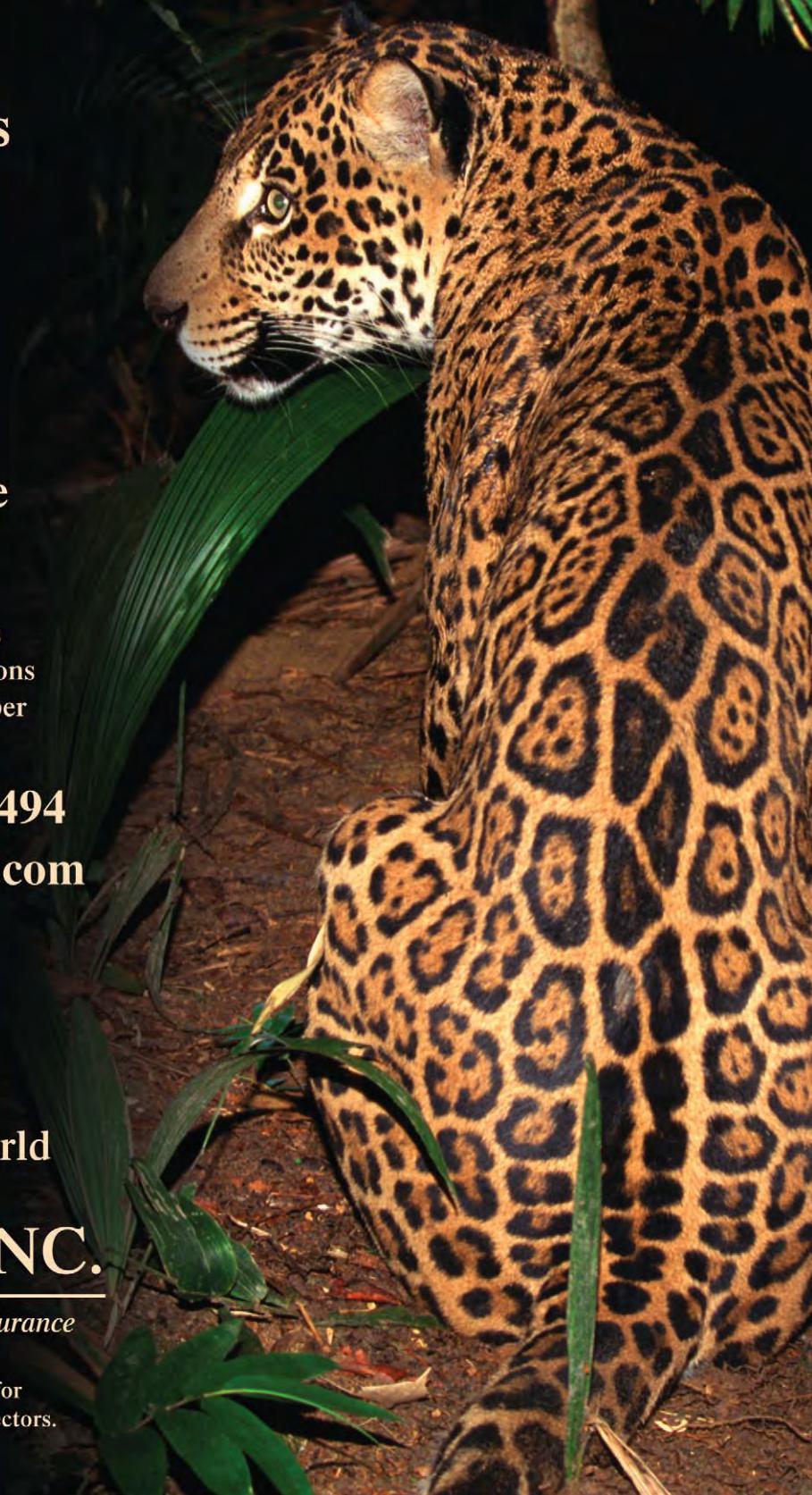
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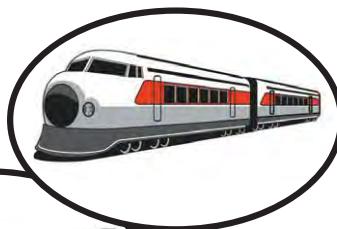
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