

APRIL 2016 \$4.95

# THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY



## Kansas-Nebraska Overprint Stamps

Why, Where, and When They Were Initially Sold

PLUS

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What Happens When  
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Letters From Soldier:  
World War II POW Story

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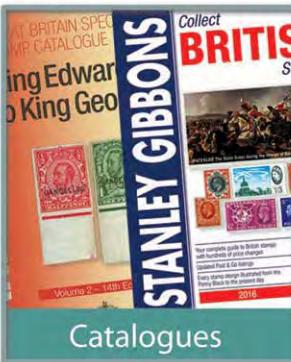


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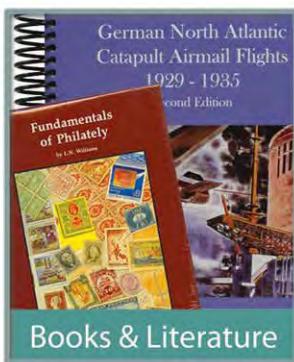
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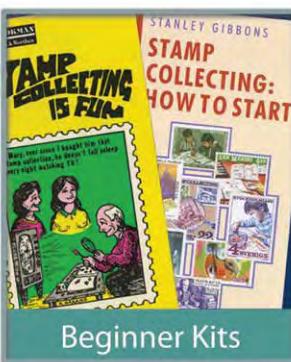
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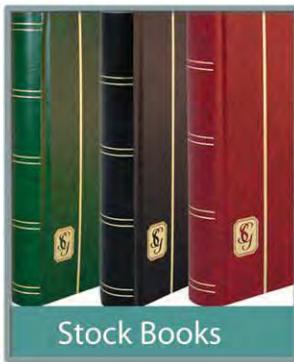
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# APRIL 2016

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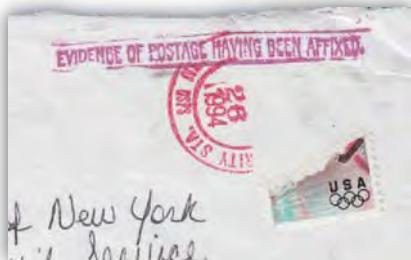
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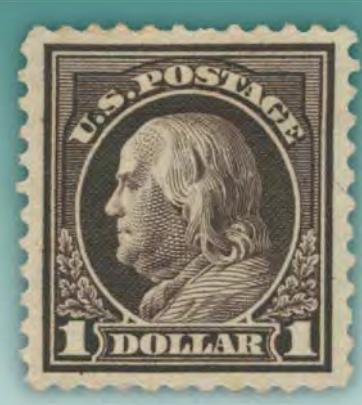
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BY STEPHEN REINHARD president  
sreinhard1@optonline.net

# Hoping to Grow Mission Worldwide

## Seat on Board Would Provide Platform for Change

**M**any of you have heard that I intend to run for a position on the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (FIP) Board of Directors in October at its Congress in Taiwan. It would be the board seat that represents all of the FIP members in the Americas and is currently held by our past president, Peter McCann. Peter is unable to run for re-election due to the term limit rules.

The FIP Board is composed of seven members from seven countries. Terms are for four years, with the possibility of running for an additional four years in that position. There are three vice presidents, three directors and the president. The current president is Tay Peng Hain, from Singapore. Each of the vice presidents must come from a different Continental Federation. There are three such federations, representing Europe, Asia, and the Americas. A candidate for a vice president's position representing one of the federations must be nominated by a member country within that federation's area. The same process is in effect for the three director positions.

The American Philatelic Society's board, at its meeting on January 28, unanimously approved my nomination for the director position from the Americas.

It is important to note that while my nomination came from a member country within the Americas, because it had to, the election will be held at the FIP Congress, where each member country from around the world will have one vote. So, while, if elected, I will represent the Americas on one hand, I will also represent all of the member countries who elected me. This is an awesome task.

The published aims of FIP are: to promote stamp collecting and philately, to maintain friendly relations and friendship among all peoples, to establish and maintain close relations with the philatelic trade and postal administrations, and to promote philatelic exhibitions by granting patronage

and auspices.

In reality, in recent years the last of these has been the most visible to most collectors who are aware of FIP. And while the promotion of philatelic exhibitions is critical to our wonderful hobby, it seems that the focus of FIP has been mainly on this last-named aim at the expense of the other three. Now, since I am not currently an FIP board member (not so long ago I served for eight years as chairman of the Aerophilately Commission) I can only react to what I read in *Flash*, the periodical of FIP, and other sources.

I see very little that doesn't relate to exhibiting. Understand that I'm not trying to be critical here, but just want to suggest that as a board member I will try to get the board to focus more on the other three "aims" and work with the national federations (such as APS) to promote philately at all levels, not just exhibiting.

Perhaps 1,000 of the 31,000 APS members have any interest in exhibiting. I intend to represent all of our members, and those of all of the National Federations in the Americas and the World, and see to it that FIP plays an increasing role in a world where for many of our member National Federations, philately is an endangered species.

We in the APS need to develop a world-view where helping others enjoy our hobby in the end will come back to help us. The first step is to strengthen our relationships with our friends and neighbors in the Americas and then parlay that into working together worldwide in supporting all efforts to increase the enjoyment of our hobby. Working together we grow philately worldwide.



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# Major Purple Heart Variety

## Definitives Remain Mainstay of a Collection

**H**istory and philately go hand in hand. Some of the nuances of collecting definitive stamps have intrigued collectors for decades. Collectors like order and when something comes up that's slightly out of the norm it can really get our attention.

While working on the Kansas-Nebraska overprints stamp story that appears in this issue, there was reference to an article in a June 1929 publication on the new

“State Surcharges” stamps with the author left wondering what would happen if the experiment were expanded to other states. How would stamp catalogs treat the stamps? He even asked what collectors would do if “the higher-ups at Washington” decided to change the perforations, resulting in yet another variety. For the full story, check out Henry Scheuer’s article featured in this issue.



United States  
Abraham Lincoln  
stamp with a “Kans.”  
overprint.

predecessor (new version has the same year date) is the microprinting “USPS” that appears at left of the ribbon. The new variety was printed using a different process and printer. There are many other earlier versions of the Purple Heart stamp that have been issued since 2003.

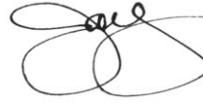
Prior to October 2015, varieties like this would receive a first-day-of-issue date, an announcement in the *Postal Bulletin*, and a separate item number so collectors could purchase the stamp at face value.

In late November, I inquired if there would be any USPS venue that would share news of new printings or varieties of definitive stamps, if a separate item number would be assigned, or if collectors are left to hunt for the stamp on their own. “We understand the concerns collectors may have and we are in the process of addressing this issue internally,” was the reply received at the time from USPS spokesman Mark Saunders. We followed up again in February and had not received an update as of our press deadline for this issue. We did receive the Quarter 1 2016 USA *Philatelic* catalog, and there is no mention of the new variety in it.

Why the big deal about the new Purple Heart stamp? It received a major Scott catalog number, 5035, and as such, collectors will see spaces for it in stamp albums. You might find it at your local post office, but they also might have the 2014 version.

I also want to urge collectors to watch for other varieties that might sneak out in the future. Pay special attention of course to the definitives. Just like in the 1920s, today we’re left wondering what might be next for the higher-ups in Washington.

Editor,  
*The American Philatelist*



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Purple Heart stamp,  
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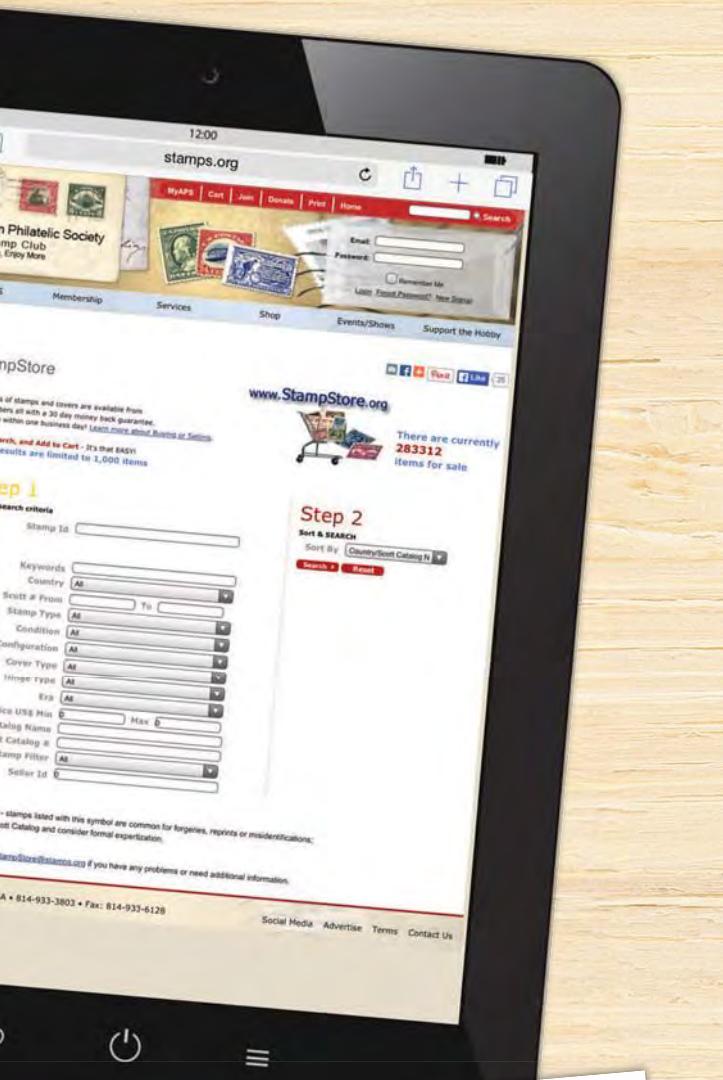
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  After 1940

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Airlift Stamp Wasn't Seen During Time on College Campus

I am writing in reference to the article, "The 1968 \$1 Airlift Stamp and Elusive Uses," by Wayne L. Youngblood, on page 150 of the February edition of *The American Philatelist*.

The story is excellent. The author presents plenty of documents and instructions issued by the post office for use of these stamps. Of course, it had different uses [aside from its intention of traveling] from and to Vietnam. Many stamps were destroyed by "military orders" (which is a justification); plenty were lost for other reasons. I think all of this happened because of too many instructions on how to use this stamp.

I was in the University of Notre Dame from 1974 to 1977, and I saw no example of such stamp although there were plenty of soldiers on the university campus. I saw examples of the \$1 Airlift stamp in some advertisements.

**George Arghir**

Cluj Napoca, Romania

### Used Airlift Stamp Shows a Nice Cancel

Attached is a photo from my iPhone of a stamp with a

1968 partial cancel that shows the entire Army Post Office ID.

Maybe you can pass this along to Wayne Youngblood, whose article on this stamp — the U.S. 1968 Airlift stamp (Scott 1341) — appears

in the February issue of *The American Philatelist*. I bought the stamp on eBay some time ago, perhaps for \$2 to \$3.

**Gary Morris**

Scottsdale, Arizona

**Editor's Note:** We shared the letter with Wayne and he commented that the APO ZIP code of 09742 indicates it was in Berlin, Germany, likely explaining the stamp's survival.

### A True Oddity Among Leap Year Cancels

I commend both *The AP* and author Alex Haimann for the fine article on leap-year covers.

This is indeed what postal history collecting is all about:



Used 1968 U.S. Airlift stamp.

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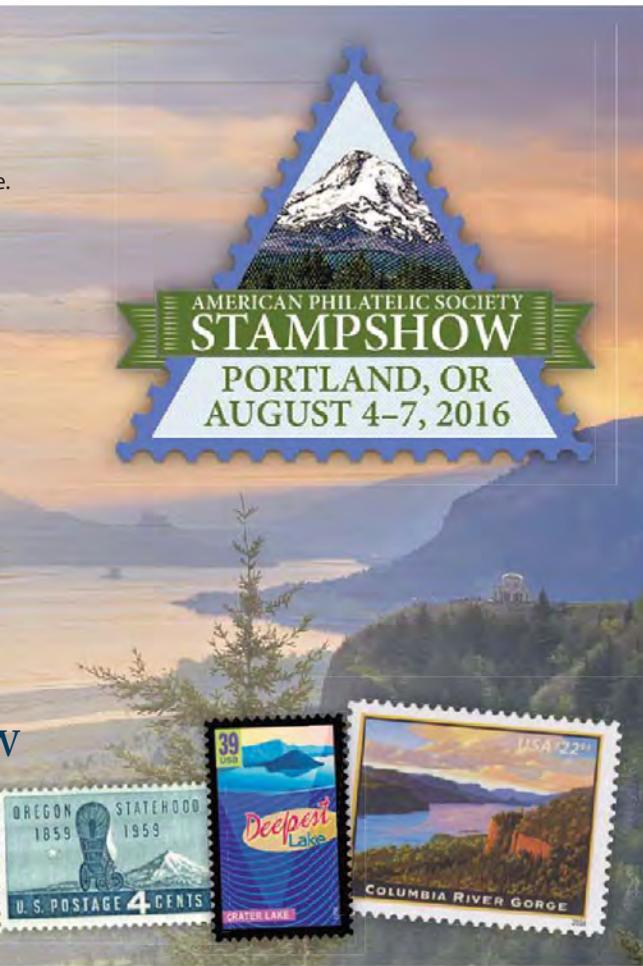
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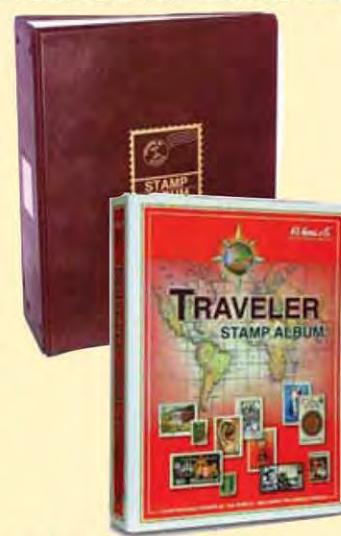
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Cropped from a cover, a postmark of February 29 in a year that wasn't a leap year, likely a clerk using the wrong date.

every cover tells a story, sometimes many stories. Shown is my addition to the leap year story, a cover canceled February 29, but not on a leap year (1919). This cover is part of my World War I collection.

Again kudos to all, and keep up the fine work.

Bob Swanson

Box Elder, South Dakota

## Devoured Leap Year Article One Day at a Time

I thoroughly enjoyed Alex Haimann's article, "Postmarked February 29" in the February issue of *The American Philatelist*.

Well, I guess I would. As Alex happened upon my collecting joy of joys: U.S. postal history. Now, that may seem a touch strange for an Englishman. But there you are.

Sometimes, and this is probably one of them, another country and another time just captures the imagination. And before you know it, there you are carried away on the high winds of discovery. I enjoyed this article so much that I deliberately rationed myself to one page at a time. One day at a time. When I finally reached the inevitable end, I read it all over again.

The India and Algerian articles struck a nostalgic chord, too.

I did at one time collect these two countries, about 40 years ago when I had friends in both countries who kept me supplied with many philatelic bargains sourced from the usual places. Unfortunately, both of my

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friends are now long gone. However, some of their bargains and miscellaneous finds still live on in a couple of well-filled albums somewhere in my attic.

**Ray J. Howes**  
Dorset, England

## Notes and Clarifications About Puerto Rico

The article, Puerto Rico Philately and Postmasters in the January 2016 issue of *The American Philatelist* presents very interesting and refreshing information, but needs some clarifications.

He mentions that, "Some towns lost contact with the central government in San Juan, and their post office stock of Puerto Rican stamps were depleted." Some post offices were depleted of stamps during the U.S. Navy's blockade of Puerto Rico in 1898.

At least three types of overprints were produced, one which reads "Habilitados para 1898 y 99," a particularly rare one that reads "Provisional 1898," and another, "Impuesto de Guerra," used for a special tax to assist in paying for the cost of the war.

The author states that "By the end of 1898, seven towns had military post offices." At least 15 towns had their own military post offices, according to Hill's History of the American Postal Service in Porto Rico, Puripex 1977, pp. 141–154.

The author also states that "H.M. Robinson, then assistant superintendent of the Railway Mail Service, was detailed

to Puerto Rico on November 15, 1898, to take charge of the postal system."

Robinson actually arrived in Ponce on August 1, 1898 and established the first military postal station of the U.S. in Puerto Rico on August 3, 1898 (Perez-Rivera — The Ponce Provisional — unanswered questions and some commentaries. Puripex 2008. pp. 36–49).

On September 1, 1898, he wrote a letter to the mayor of Coamo allowing the establishment of a provisional mail service. Thus, he was already in charge of the U.S. Postal Service in Puerto Rico, before November 15, 1898.

**Raúl A. Pérez-Rivera**  
Humacao, Puerto Rico  
**Victor Manuel Rivera**  
Winter Park, Florida

## Contact *The American Philatelist*

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

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# APS Election



As of March 3, 2016, 19 nominees are seeking election to the APS Board of Directors for the 2016–2019 term. Two American Philatelic Research Library board positions are to be filled by the vote of APS members for the 2016–2022 term. One APRL board position is to be filled by a vote of the founders, patrons, fellows, and Vooys Fellows for the 2016–2022 term.

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

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

An asterisk has been placed before the names of those candidates who have secured the seconding nominations required to be placed on the ballot. Ten seconds are required for the APS Board positions and one second is required for candidates for the APRL Board of Trustees position. Nominees for the founder, patron, fellows, and Vooys Fellows position must be made by a Committee appointed by the APRL President or five (5) founders, patrons, fellows, or Vooys Fellows within 60 days prior to any election.

Rules and other election information are available from the APS website at stamps.org/elections or by contacting the society at 814-933-3803.

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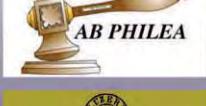
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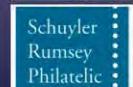
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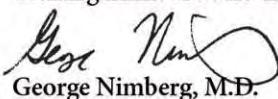
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BY KEN MARTIN chief operating officer

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**T**alking about encouraging youth to discover stamp collecting is relatively easy, but for 10 years, Andrew Oleksiuk, of Chicago, has been performing. He started working on his Stamps for Kids program 10 years ago. He started with annual participation at Taste of Chicago in Grant Park on Chicago's lakefront, a festival that has attracted 1 million people in a single weekend. Stamps for Kids was a booth in the Family Fun area where children could look at bins full of stamps (all donated) and take as many as they could stuff into a small bag.

In its heyday, about 1,000 children would pass through the booth during a weekend. There was little educational possibility; it was just about attracting youth to stamps and getting them started by providing an unexpected fun collecting activity. It was true outreach, with simplicity: handing out free stamps to children.

When the Chicago festival system changed, efforts shifted to the Chicago Gospel Music Festival instead. However, this was not enough for Andrew, and in January, he partnered with the

Chicago Philatelic Society as a sponsor to find 10 new venues in the Chicago area to promote stamp collecting. Five of the venues could be the traditional "just give the stamps away" events. The five remaining venues would be working with established youth groups or organizations such as libraries, churches, schools, and after-school services, doing workshops of some type in an indoor setting.

By February, Andrew had held an event at one Chicago public school and had begun working with Sky Art Center



Stamps for Kids packets (left) and area at the Chicagopex show this past fall.



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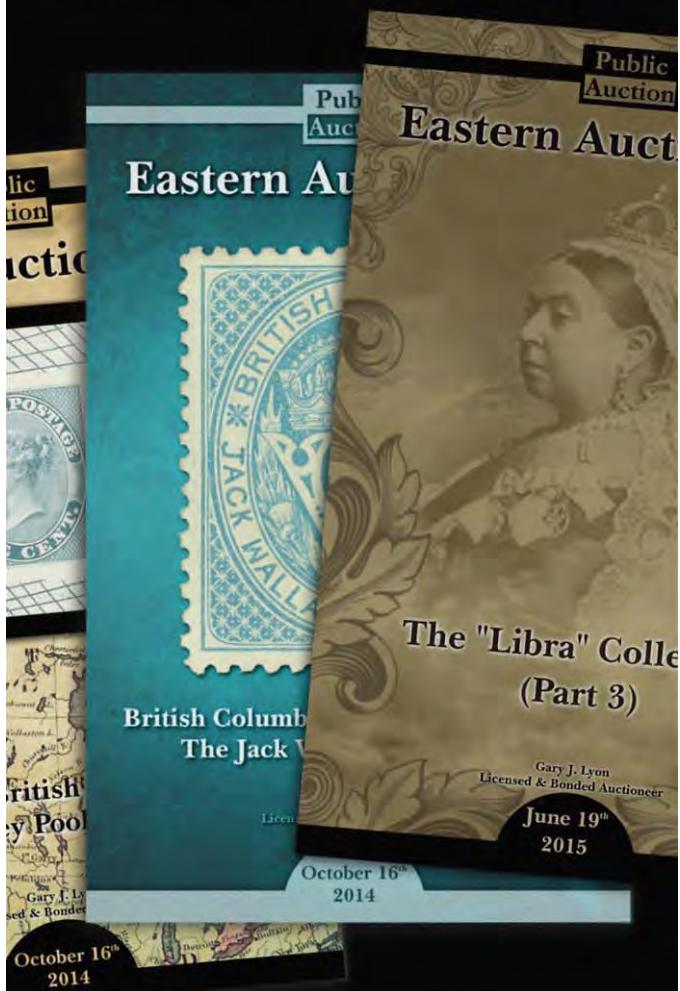
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to develop and implement a curriculum at an after-school arts education drop-in center. The curriculum is organized around the available material from APS Stamps Teach and the Chicago Guide for Teaching and Learning in the Arts, which draws from the Illinois and Common Core objectives.

Two additional venues, another nearby elementary school and a Chicago Public Library branch, have already expressed interest. Andrew notes that working with children isn't easy from a bureaucratic perspective. You can't just walk into a school or youth center and approach youth directly. There are professional and trust relationships to be made with the gatekeepers, background checks, and even fingerprinting. The case has to be made that stamp collecting is educational and fun. But with the right approach, Andrew is proving that it can be done.

For more information on the efforts of Andrew and the Chicago Philatelic Society visit <https://sites.google.com/site/sensenetmedia/stamps-for-kids>.

## Top Exhibits at World Series Shows

Three World Series of Philately shows were held throughout the month in February.

The Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition hosted the American Revenue Association, the State Revenue Society, and the United States Possessions Philatelic Society. The multiframe grand award went to Robert Hisey for "The Fall and Rise of French Africa Air Routes of World War II." Mark

## Wholesale

To dealers, would-be-dealers and accumulators:

I have many country groups of complete, mint sets — mostly topical — of:

- ex-British colonies
- French
- Belgian
- Portuguese colonies
- as well as independent countries

None costing over 20% of the Scott catalog value.

I have no U.S. or classical stamps.

Please ask for my lists.

Also I send out wholesale approvals of mixed countries, per 10, all topical and fairly recently issued, none over 20% of catalog value.

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Schwartz won the multiframe reserve grand for "The Postal History of Salem, Massachusetts" and David Zemer won the Single Frame Grand for "World War I Censorship of Mail in the Canal Zone."

Aripex, which ran February 19–21, worked to broaden their audience by featuring philately's common interests with genealogy. Presentations included "Philately in Genealogy" by Phil Kumler and "Hometown Postal History & Genealogy" by Michael Zolno. Aripex also offered free Stamps in Your Attic collection evaluations. Congratulations to James Allen, who won the Aripex multiframe grand for "The First United States 12-cent Stamp Series of 1851–1861."

The theme of the February 26–28 Texpex was A Salute to the 150th Anniversary of Texas' Western Cattle Trails. "Carrying Mail from Victoria" by John Barwis won the multiframe grand. "Danish West Indies Foreign Mail 1748 — UPU" by Matthew Kewriga won the multiframe reserve grand and "Denmark's 1902 Design Contest" by Donald B. Brent won the single frame grand.

### Visiting and Meeting Visitors

Stamp shows are a great way to catch up with friends. Springpex in Northern Virginia is not a world series show but provided a great opportunity for Gretchen Moody, our former director of education, to catch up with a number of philatelic friends. This included past APS employee and volunteer extraordinaire Dennis Gilson, who regularly attends this show,



Dennis Gilson, Gretchen Moody, and Jimmy Tian, at the Springpex show.

and previous Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship fellow, Jimmy Tian, from 2009–2010.

APS member Ken Lytle says that he is used to driving long distances. I was still amazed when he arrived at the American

Philatelic Center less than 48 hours after he left Leggett, California. The center in central Pennsylvania was his first significant stop on his drive from California to New York. Even though he arrived right around closing time we happily gave him a tour before he drove the last four hours to New York City.

Two other members also did not allow obstacles to get in their way of visiting. Bill Schultz and Mark Schwartz from the Philadelphia area came and spent Friday afternoon and Saturday morning working in our library to prepare for future judging assignments.

Unfortunately, they chose the weekend of the Penn State Dance Marathon, often billed as the largest student-run philanthropy in the United States. Because of the event, hotel rooms, which would normally be available at \$72, would

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have been \$200 a night. Bill and Mark ultimately stayed in a hotel nearly an hour away to get more reasonable rates.

## Out and About

Another Penn State event that impacts the local area is the student designated "State Day of Service" to funnel student talents in a productive way, Penn State encourages students to provide volunteer service to local nonprofits, and our library was pleased for free labor from four students on a recent Saturday.

On April 14 at 7:30 p.m., Michael Sefi, the Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection is coming to the St. Louis, Missouri area to give a special presentation on the highlights of Queen Elizabeth II's philatelic collection and the history of its development. The presentation is free and open to the public and will take place at the First Congregational Church, 10 West Lockwood, Webster Groves, Missouri.

For the third year in a row, the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History in Weston, Massachusetts, will sponsor a



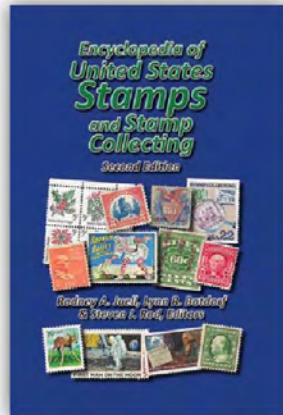
Four Penn State students volunteering in early March with the American Philatelic Research Library.

Postal History Symposium, on May 5. The symposium's theme is "Surface Transportation of the Mail in the United States during the 20th Century," and will include an outstanding group of speakers. There is no charge but the group asks those planning to attend to register at spellmannmuseum.org.

Later in May, World Stamp Show-NY 2016 will opens its doors to collectors from around the world on May 28. The APS looks forward to meeting many of you at the eight-day event. The show is still looking for volunteers. Complete information on volunteering can be found on the show website, ny2016.org.

Among the many activities at the show will be the issuance of several books. The United States Stamps Society will release the second edition of its best selling *Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting*. If you are not able to attend the show, the book will be available from the APS website following the show.

Another book release at the show is *Stamped for Deliverance* by Luff Award winner and Stamp Camp founder Cheryl Edgcomb. This autobiography by the youth philately advo-



Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting to be released in May.



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Andrew with Alan on the ITV Alan Titchmarsh Show Promoting Philately

I bumped into an astute collector at Swinpepx this year. Unlike other companies I never take any stamps to sell – so all you'll see is an empty table and me with time to spare talking with collectors like you ... (fortunately a few of you recognise me by now!)

"I'm enjoying watching the fight you're taking against the Buyer's Premium" he said, "and in particular the reaction from other auctions" ... and that was it – he didn't need to say any more, and he didn't

Pernicious Buyer's Premiums at other auctions can cost you up to 25% more than the cost of the stamps, in one case inclusive of VAT we paid 27% extra to take delivery of our stamps – yet if you have a valuable collection and 'talk nicely' to most of the big players they'll cut you a deal so thin on their seller's commission that you'll wonder why they have to take all their costs in charging you, the buyer for what you win ...

### I've never met a collector yet that doesn't object to 'buyer's premiums'

Personally I can't understand why things have to be done this way and it seems that other auctions are starting to feel the same. Some major philatelic auctions offer No Buyer's Premium – not just my company U P A, and others make attempts to hold their buyers'



premiums down. But fortunately there's a solution, I urge you to seek stamp auctions defying pernicious buyer's premiums and deploy your secret weapon – your 'custom' with them

Therefore, if you are new to U P A I'd like to invite you to test my next 26,510 lot U.S. \$2,500,000 (GBP £1,796,000) auction closing on the 12th April and in return I'll give you your 1st U.S. \$77 (GBP £55) auction winnings absolutely FREE ... so that you can see why 2,128 different collectors and some dealers bid in our last auction, 90% successful with absolutely NO BUYER'S PREMIUM

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Photos of the new American Philatelic Research Library space in early March.

cate describes her family and stamp adventures, including the founding and activities of Stamp Camp USA.

By the time you read this, the new space for the American Philatelic Research Library should be complete with the exception of the elevator. Compact shelving should be installed in April and we expect to be moving books and materials in late April and early May. While donor plaques and other finishing touches may not yet be in place, summer seminar and volunteer work week participants should have the opportunity to see and use the new space.

Everyone is welcome to join us for the official grand opening on Saturday, October 29.

## Randy Savedow

Too often I end with a sad note, but once again I need to share the passing of a valuable APS member. Browse House owner and stamp dealer Randy Savedow died February 12. Randy entered the stamp business with his father Barry more than 41 years ago. He served as a board member of the Florida Stamp Dealers Association and was well known on the show circuit.



Randy Savedow.

Always in good humor, he will be missed by many.

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# HOW I BECAME A STAMP COLLECTOR

BY DANIEL BEYER

My grandfather was a stamp collector and dealer. My father was a stamp collector, too, until his mid-teens when he decided to swap his collection for camera equipment.

My grandfather was aloof and not interested in his grandchildren sharing his interest so he really wasn't part of the picture. I remember him showing me panes of the 10-cent Famous Americans stamps. But it was just showing, no telling. But my father understood the hobby, and it was probably inevitable that at around age 10 that I would receive a bag of mixed stamps from all around the world and a Statesman Deluxe Album (which I still have). In those early years I learned how people from other countries spelled their own country's name.

As I got older, I became interested in history (mostly American history), politics, and military leaders, and those interests dovetailed nicely into my focus on a U.S. stamp collection. The older issues were too expensive, of course, but I would take pride and satisfaction in adding specimens or completing sets and filling the pages. I tried to keep up with all the new issues, and that was not as great a challenge in the late 1960s and up to the mid-1970s as it is today.

By the late 1970s I had completed law school and had embarked on a career that is nearing the end. As is typical



United States 30-cent American Bison stamp.

with many, my collecting days came to a screeching halt around the time that career, marriage, and parenthood took priority over the hobby. My wife urged me to sell the collection as it was just "sitting around." I told her that selling it would not affect our lifestyle and once it was gone, it was gone forever. She agreed.

When the interest or the urge would strike me, I would try to keep up with newer issues, and occasionally pluck a nice specimen to add to the mostly moribund collection. So I never really lost interest.

A couple of decades passed. My daughters, who did not have interest in stamps grew up, went to college and started their adult lives. Then one day my wife asked me if there were "stamp shows." Sure, I said. I had not been to one in a long time, but we went.

I had to check my inventory and remember the "good ones" I didn't have. The Fourth Bureau series of 1922–1925 had always been one of my favorite issues, nice colors, simple uniform de-

sign, and a good mix of persons, places and architecture. I didn't have the "hard ones" to find including the 30-cent American Bison that my wife spotted in a dealer's page and remarked that she "really liked" the one with the buffalo. "Why don't you get that one?" she prompted.

That buffalo got us rolling as spousal collectors. She developed an interest in first-day covers. I learned for the first time what franking meant. She became extremely fussy about condition. She haggled with a local dealer about getting issues from the aforementioned Fourth Bureau series in the rotary perforated 10 set. One Christmas as she gave them to me I remarked that we were likely the only couple in our community who would know that set came in several different perforation varieties, or that she was the only spouse who would know what I meant by "perf 10s?" as I opened the gift.

We enjoy considering what we add to our collection and enjoy the hunt. It's something we can share.

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# WORLD STAMP SHOW-NY 2016

BY JEFF STAGE the american philatelist editorial associate

## New Issues at WSS-NY 2016

### Some Stamps Announced for the Show

**W**orld Stamp Show-NY 2016 is expected to have first-day-of-issue ceremonies for stamps or stationery every day of its run, from May 28 to June 4 at the Javits Center in Manhattan. The United States Postal Service has committed to a first-day ceremony at 11 a.m. for almost every day, although some specific issuances and details had not been released at press time for this edition of *The American Philatelist*. The United Nations Postal Administration has scheduled two releases. Other postal administrations could add ceremonies as we march closer to the show.

Here is a summary of planned USPS stamps: **The Repeal of the Stamp Act, 1766.** The forever stamp commemorates the 250th anniversary of the repeal of the Stamp Act, British legislation that galvanized and united the American colonies and set them on a path toward revolution. The stamp art depicts a crowd gathered around a “liberty tree” to celebrate the colonists’ resistance to the Stamp Act. The selvage area displays a proof print of a one-penny revenue stamp and includes a famous slogan from the era: “Taxation without representation is tyranny.”

**Views of Our Planets.** Our Solar System’s eight planets appear in forever stamps on a pane of 16. Some show the planets’ “true color,” what we might see if traveling through space. Others use colors to represent and visualize certain features of a planet based on imaging data. Still others use the near-infrared spectrum to show things that cannot be seen by the human eye in visible light.

**Pluto Explored.** Four stamps appear on this souvenir sheet of four, two depicting the former planet Pluto and the others showing the New Horizons spacecraft. This is the sequel to a 29-cent 1991 Pluto: Not Yet Explored stamp. In 2006, NASA placed one of the 1991 stamps on the spacecraft as it set out on its history-setting mission to Pluto and beyond.

The new issue honors the spacecraft and distant Pluto, once considered our solar system’s far-out ninth planet and studied in 2015 by New Horizons.

**World Stamp Show-NY 2016.** These sheets, each with 12 forever stamps, feature intaglio printed stamps in two color configurations, blue and red, and will be sold only as a set. The design is based on two stamps issued at APS StampShow 2015.

### United Nations

The U.N. Postal Administration has listed two releases during the international show: the International Day of U.N. Peacekeepers on May 28 with separate panes of 20 stamps; and on May 31, a personalized pane of 10 (denomination of \$1.20) noting the 65th anniversary of the UNPA’s New York office.



U.S. Repeal of the Stamp Act, 1766 stamp.



Eight United States Views of Our Planets stamps and two Pluto Explored stamps to be issued in a pane of 16 format and souvenir sheet of four, respectively.



Two engraved United States World Stamp Show-NY 2016 stamps.

World Stamp Show



May 28–June 4, 2016  
New York City  
[www.ny2016.org](http://www.ny2016.org)

Show opens in  
**2**  
months

### WSS-NY 2016 Social Media

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832b VF/LH – Dist. OG, APS Cert .....	\$75.00
832b Fine+/NH UR Corner block & rare position piece, Nat. gum bend on 2 stamps.....	\$650.00
832b VF/NH block of 4 – Weiss cert .....	\$600.00
832b VF/NH bottom block of 4 – signed Fox in margin nat. gum bend on 2 stamps.....	\$550.00
832b F-VF/NH Scarce Block of 30 (cv \$6000.00).....	\$4,250.00
832b F-VF/NH block of 4, nat. gum bends/skips, 1 short perf LR.....	\$395.00
832b F-VF/NH Centerline Block USIR PSE Cert, Extremely Rare. (cv \$1,700.00).....	\$1,500.00



832b F-VF/NH Scarce Block of 30 (cv \$6000.00)  
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# Stamps Sometimes Fall Off

## Handling of Covers With Various Postal Drama

Last month's column focused on a special 1990 test packet of experimental adhesives on dummy stamps designed to help postage stamps stay on the envelopes a bit more tenaciously. In that column I quoted Third Assistant Postmaster General Gordon M. Morison, who explained at that time the research was necessary because of the stress put on stamps and envelopes while traveling through the mail stream. Rapid stops in sorting and canceling machines were thought to unseat stamps from covers. Morison likened this type of stress to a high-speed automobile hitting a brick wall. "What we are doing," he said, "is developing an adhesive that will serve as a seatbelt for a stamp." Morison stated that the U.S. Postal Service had heard from customers who complained their mail had been returned or destroyed due to missing stamps.

My own feeling is that this was never as big of a problem as it was presented to be. But covers do go through a lot of stress and sometimes stamps fall off, and many need much more than a seat belt to keep them on envelopes. This month we'll take a look at a few examples of modern stampless covers that didn't start out that way. In some cases this is because of mail handling, in others it is because of improper moistening of gum or "acts of God."

A direct mailpiece from 1988 [Figure 1] shows a good example of what Morison referred to as the problem. The stamp, folded over and barely hanging on, is a 1981 20-cent Fire Pumper coil stamp of the Transportation coil series, used later to mail a bulk-rate item. As such, it was both moistened and affixed by machine, and inadequately so at that. Mail handling nearly tore the stamp off the cover. The stamp also was

not canceled. Similarly, another cover [Figure 2] likely had a loose edge exposed to the canceling machine, which was caught, nearly skinning the stamp entirely from the envelope.



Figure 1. The machine-moistened and affixed 20-cent Fire Pumper stamp on this cover was almost removed during mail handling. Note it is folded over and just hanging on.

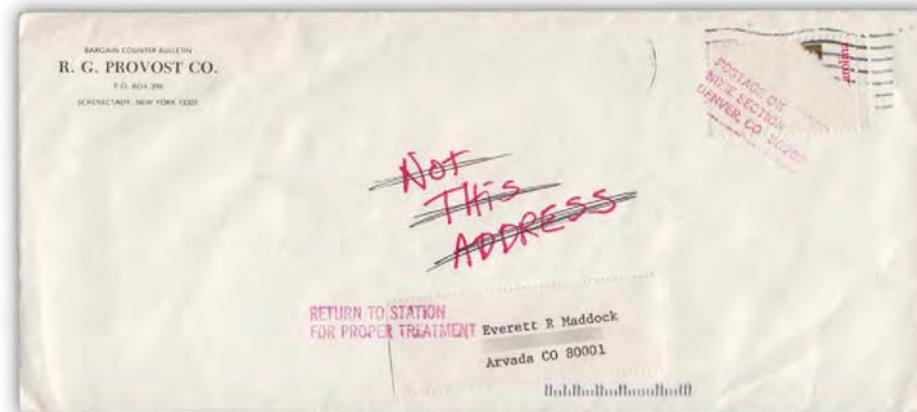


Figure 2. Machine handling of this cover nearly skinned the stamp completely off.

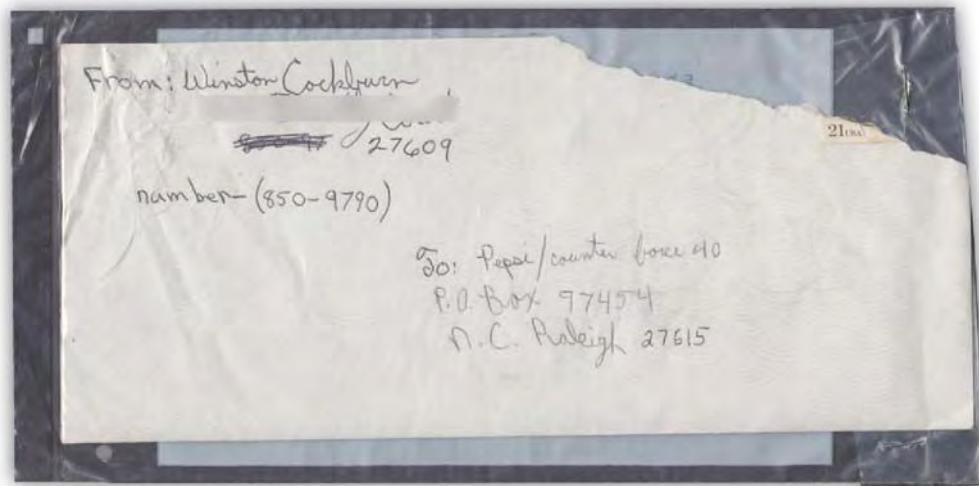


Figure 3. A contest entry sent by a prison inmate using illegal postage had the offending stamp removed inadvertently, when machinery ripped a piece from the envelope.

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lope. This was noted in Denver, Colorado, where the marking "Postage OK Nixie Section Denver, CO 80202" was applied. Interestingly, the cover also was not deliverable, so was marked "Return to Station for Proper Treatment," a marking usually reserved for undeliverable bulk mail to be destroyed. This one was simply returned to the sender.

A cover from an inmate entering a sweepstakes [Figure 3] shows a slightly different aspect of cover stress. In this case, the uncanceled illegal postage (a reused 21-cent 1988 Railroad Mail Car stamp) was ripped off the cover by postal equipment — as was a chunk of the cover itself. To add to the cover's indignity, there is a light tennis shoe print on the right side of the envelope, applied before the envelope was enclosed in a U.S. Postal Service apology "body bag" for delivery.

Similarly, the stamp on the imprinted postal card shown [Figure 4] didn't fall off, it was ripped nearly in half by postal equipment. It is interesting to note that in addition to the explanatory "Damaged in Handling ..." auxiliary marking, the



Figure 6. The stamp on this charred cover from 1955 obviously fell off when it was doused with water to kill the flames. It was recovered from a jet crash that took place in Florida.



Figure 4. This "Postage Verified" handstamped postal card was the victim of an over-active cancellation machine.



Figure 5. Corners of three modern stampless covers, each of which show very visible evidence of having been immersed in something.

card also bears a "Postage Verified" handstamp — as if there was any doubt the stamp had been present.

But it isn't just machine stress that removes stamps from covers. The corners of a group of covers shown [Figure 5] all feature highly visual evidence of having been immersed in water (or something), floating the stamps free before delivery. Although we do not know the specifics of any of the mishaps involved, all three bear some form of "postage verified" marking from Nixie clerks as explanation, so that delivery clerks do not attempt to collect postage due on the receiving end.

The charred cover from 1955 [Figure 6] bears no specific marking denoting its fate, but it's clear the stamp came off when it was doused with water to put the fire out. It was postmarked December 19, 1955, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and addressed to St. Petersburg, Florida. The plane carrying the mail crashed en route, near Jacksonville. Fortunately, this cover comes with an explanation. It is part of a highly popular and collectible category of covers known as crash mail (or as "interrupted mail," if you wish to use the kinder,

### What is a Nixie Clerk?

Covers that are undeliverable as presented — for any number of reasons — are often sent to "Nixie" clerks. A very high percentage of these postal employees have their own auxiliary markings, which are applied to the troublesome mail pieces known as "Nixies."

True to many commonly used terms, the origin of "Nixie" is lost to most. It is an anglicized slang version of the German term "nichts" (nothing). Nixie clerks traditionally were attached to dead letter offices, where they attempted to determine where pieces of mail can either be delivered or returned.

Modern yellow labels found on returned, undeliverable mail are part of the modern USPS "Nixie Code."

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gentler term). This particular item is listed in the *American Air Mail Catalog* as AAMC entry No. 551221, which follows:

December 21 — Jacksonville, Florida — 3:30 A.M. — Eastern Airlines — AM-5. Miami to New York, Trip 642. Capt. Tom McBrien and the rest of the crew and passengers lost their lives. The plane crashed on approach to Jacksonville's Imeson Airport. 24,011 lbs. of mail was recovered, of which 300 lbs. was in damaged condition. Mail was forwarded from Jacksonville after application of a cachet in red or was enclosed in penalty envelopes, accompanied by a mimeo of explanation. Most of the mail aboard was ordi-

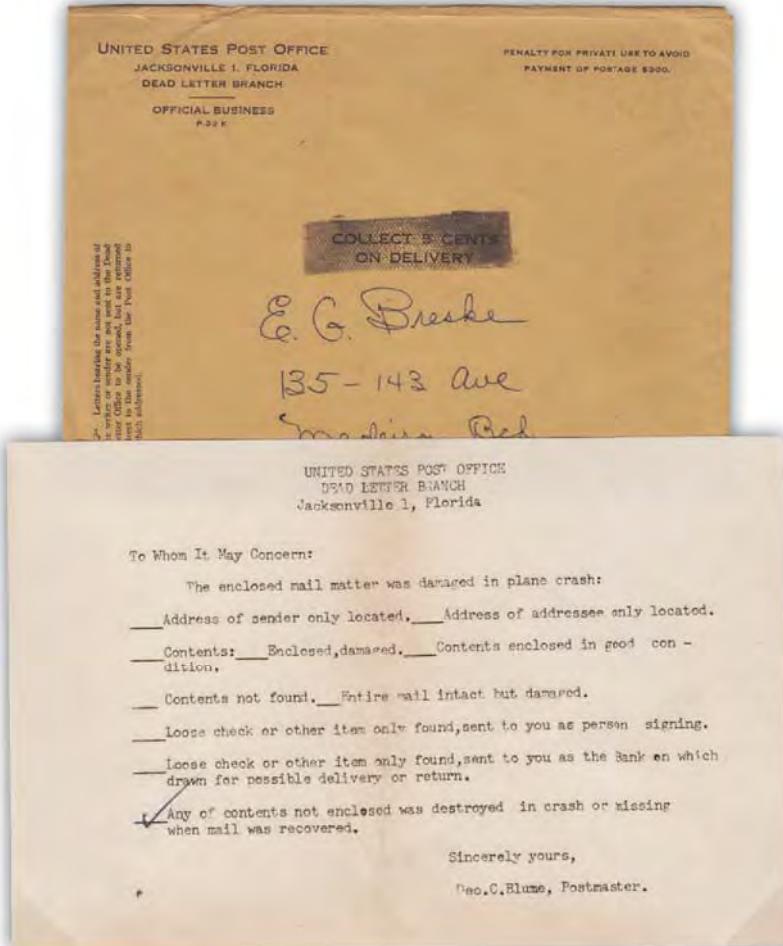
nary Christmas mail."

Indeed, the cover contains a Christmas card and came in a dead letter office penalty envelope (with postage due endorsement marked out) with a letter of explanation [Figure 7]. The AAMC number (551221), by the way, reflects the date of the crash (December 21, 1955), and the aircraft involved was a Constellation jet, the first pressurized jet in general use. Despite the fact the contents of much of the recovered mail was "ordinary Christmas mail," the level of respect shown for damaged pieces was extraordinary.

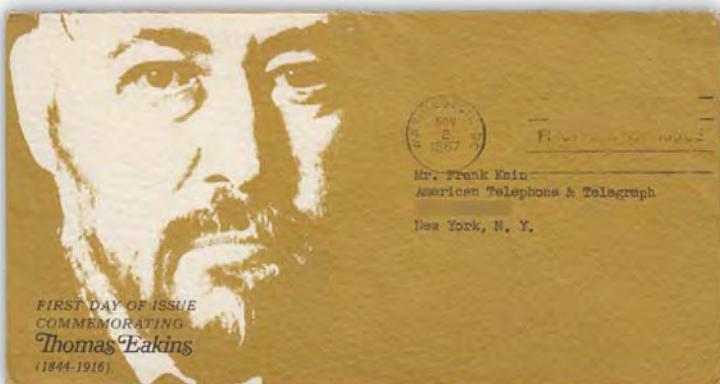
But not all mail with lost stamps is as dramatic.

Sometimes, stamps just fall off. The promotional first-day cover shown from *Sports Illustrated* magazine [Figure 8] was produced on a textured paper. The stamp simply fell off, after the cancellation was applied, but before delivery. There was no attempt to collect postage due. This is much friendlier and kinder than the approach used for another cover [Figure 9], a locally mailed cover in St. Louis, Missouri. A close look at the postage area reveals — clearly — that a stamp had been affixed, but that it came loose sometime before cancellation on July 23, 1958. Rather than letting it pass, a postal clerk assessed double the first-class rate (then 4 cents) as a penalty for an unpaid letter, and the receiving family paid 8 cents ransom for the item.

The markings shown [Figure 10] illustrate a very small variety of dozens of different "Postage Verified" markings, used when newly stampless covers are encountered by postal clerks with evidence that postage was present at some point. In this case, one marking mentions being verified by a Nixie clerk, one referring specifically to rain damage and one that was returned for postage and later verified and delivered without postage due. Others, such as those markings shown [Figure 11], vary from the handsome pictorial "Postage OK at Tacoma, Wash." marking, to more informal verification auxiliaries, such as 'OK Shed Stamp' or



**Figure 7.** A letter of explanation was included in a penalty carrier envelope for the Figure 6 cover that was involved in an airplane crash.



**Figure 8.** This promotional 1967 first-day cover utilized textured paper, causing the stamp to fall off after being canceled, but before delivery. It was delivered without problem.



**Figure 9.** Despite obvious evidence of postage having been present before cancellation (note the outline of a stamp), this 1958 local-delivery cover in St. Louis was assessed the double rate due, standard for unpaid mail.

"Postage Assumed Paid."

Finally, let's take a look at a couple of first-day covers [Figure 12] where stamps were never affixed to begin with but were delivered nonetheless. Although this happens with normal mail, too, it's a little more amusing when collectors



Figure 10. These three auxiliary markings, cropped from larger envelopes, show slightly different handling of stampless mail.



Figure 12. Two first-day covers, which never had their intended stamps affixed, ended up with stamps on them, courtesy of collectors wishing to fill the void.

attempt to make up for the absence. The top example, postmarked January 3, 1950, was supposed to have the 3-cent American Bankers Association stamp, but was processed and delivered without a stamp. Instead, someone at a much later date applied an East German canceled-to-order train stamp, as well as an unrelated 1962 Russian stamp as a cachet. Similarly, the bottom cover was processed and delivered without the intended 6-cent Stone Mountain commemorative, but someone added a plate number single at a later date.

I guess it is true that nature abhors a vacuum — or at least in philately.

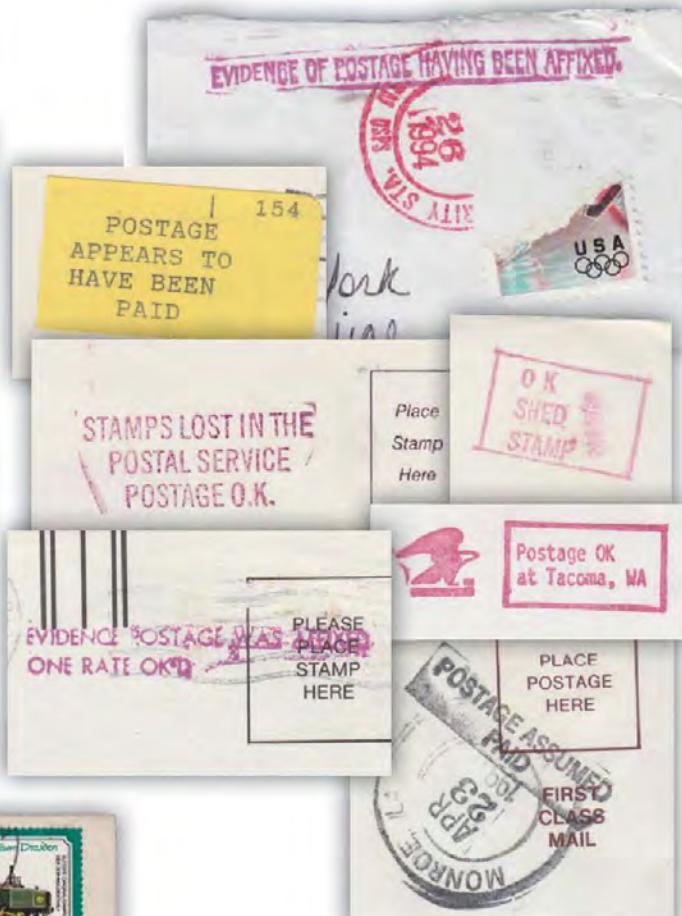


Figure 11. These markings illustrate some of the variety of "Postage Verified" auxiliary markings found on mail from which stamps have become detached.



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# Kansas-Nebraska Overprint Stamps

Why, Where, and When They Were Initially Sold

BY HENRY B. SCHEUER

**O**n the afternoon of April 15, 1929, a Monday, Howard Starr Dickey meandered over to the Newton, Kansas post office to mail a special delivery letter. Dickey didn't know it when he walked a quarter block to mail his letter in the sleepy Great Plains town, but he was about to play a key role in an unusual chapter of American philately in the kind of out-of-way place that has become so regularly linked to interesting philately.

The city on America's Great Plains 25 miles north of Wichita had been founded just 58 years earlier during post-Civil War expansion when it became an important railway stop. In fact, trains ran down the middle of the main street and city councilors passed a law prohibiting the running at large of buffalo or other wild animals.

As important as the railway was to the local economy, though, it was something much more dramatic and deadly — a fight that started at the Red Front Saloon — that got everyone's attention. After August 20, 1871, Newton was known as "bloody and lawless — the wickedest city in the West," thanks to the Hyde Park Gunfight, which left eight men dead in the streets. Newton was a true Wild West town.

By the spring of 1929, Newton had grown to 11,000 citizens and was now a pretty sleepy and respectable county seat. But it was about to become the focal point of some of the United States' more unusual postal covers of its era. When Dickey asked for a stamp, the clerk told him that he just received a package of new stamps. Dickey was a stamp collector and dealer who owned the music store that he advertised as "Next Door to Post Office" [Figure 1]. He realized that he was just presented with the opportunity to commemorate the first day of issuance by affixing some of these new stamps on envelopes and arranging to have them postmarked that day.

Joseph Foltz, the postmaster, had just received a package of new Kansas overprint stamps. Only three of the 11 possible denominations were enclosed: 1-, 6- and 8-cent stamps [Figure 2].

Existing covers are all postmarked later than 4 p.m. Several Newton, Kansas stamp collectors also prepared April 15 covers. Such addressees include John Heffelfinger, Dr. Harry P. Knowles, and Dr. E.P. Cressler, among others.

The next day, Tuesday, April 16, in the western Kansas town of Colby, 263 miles northwest of Newton, there was a



Figure 1. Howard Dickey's store was next to the Newton, Kansas post office. A cover from Newton is shown at left and the reverse side of a picture postcard of the Newton, Kansas post office with H.S. Dickey's Piano Store is at right.

line to purchase the new stamps. Colby, then with a population of 2,100, is in the northwest corner of the state on the High Plains. Miss Janette Ferguson, a local stamp collector, was first in line. Unfortunately, not much is known about her. It was never determined if she saved the new stamps in mint, unused condition, or prepared envelopes, postmarked on the initial day of sale, April 16. No covers have ever been reported addressed to her.

The local newspaper reported that the Colby post office was probably the first in the nation to sell all 11 stamp denominations, each with the name of the state overprinted on them. A \$1,910 shipment of these overprinted stamps was received on April 16. V.M. Harris, the postmaster in Colby, received a request to purchase some of the stamps from an unnamed Kansas City stamp collector, quite likely Ebenezer S.

Thresher. Eleven envelopes, each with a different denomination, from 1 cent to 10 cents, plus 1½ cents, were postmarked



Figure 2. Three Kansas overprint denominations were initially available for sale on April 15, 1929 in Newton, Kansas, and were used on this special delivery cover.



Figure 3. All 11 denominations of the Kansas overprints made their initial appearance on April 16, 1929 in Colby, Kansas. These two covers were likely among a group mailed by request to E.F. Thresher, of Kansas City, Missouri.

on April 16, 1929 and addressed to Thresher in Kansas City [Figure 3].

Who thought up this experiment and pushed for these stamps to be issued? Why did the idea fail? Who initially used the stamps in their first couple weeks of use and who were the enterprising collectors who recognized an opportunity?

### Description of the New Stamps

By the late 1920s, the U.S. Post Office Department was routinely printing stamps on a rotary intaglio press. This new technology was the same that was used to apply city and state names on precanceled stamps.

Precanceled stamps have a city and state name "surcharged" or printed on the stamp itself. Most precanceled

stamps have black horizontal lines across the stamps, effectively "postmarking" the stamp. They were distributed directly to and used by large commercial businesses to mail sales brochures and catalogs as well as first-class mail. Once the precanceled stamps were affixed to the item, the accumulated mail was placed in bags, and entered the mailstream, bypassing the local post office. This resulted in significant cost savings, with reduced handling as there was no need to apply a postmark. When precanceled stamps were stolen, they were more difficult to sell or fence because the originating city and state were imprinted on each stamp, enabling authorities to more easily track down and apprehend the thieves. Precanceled stamps are easily traceable, whereas their non-precanceled counterparts are not as easily traceable and may be used as cash equivalents. As a result, corporate mailroom "inside jobs" were greatly reduced.

The Kansas-Nebraska stamps are known in the Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue as 658 through 679. Essentially, they are the rotary press version of the stamps, also known as the Fourth Bureau Issue, originally issued by flat plate printing (Scott 551-573) that have been overprinted. In 1928, the 2-cent Washington of the issue had been overprinted "Molly Pitcher" and "Hawaii." The 5-cent Roosevelt also was overprinted "Hawaii."

Most of the stamp collectors who sought these new Kansas-Nebraska overprints were, perhaps not coincidentally, also precancel stamp collectors. More on these collectors later.

A registered cover with all 22 denominations of the Kansas-Nebraska overprinted stamps was mailed May 1, 1929 from the Philatelic Sales Agency in Washington, D.C. [Figure 4], the set's first day of sale in the nation's capital. The envelope



Figure 4. All 22 Kansas-Nebraska overprints postmarked on May 1, 1929, the first day of sale at the Philatelic Agency, Washington, D.C.

lope is sent by registered mail, and according to postal regulations, is postmarked on the face with mute, undated postmarks, and on the reverse with the May 1, 1929 date. Only two or three such covers, with all denominations postmarked on May 1, 1929, are known.

The 22 stamps of the Kansas-Nebraska overprints were neither definitive nor commemoratives, but “experimental stamps.” The Post Office Department did not publicize the initial sale details, but directed collectors to The Philatelic Sales Agency, where they could secure May 1, 1929 postmarks. Meanwhile the Post Office Department began to distribute the stamps to various Kansas and Nebraska towns in a careful, deliberate manner.

## Collecting U.S. First-Day Covers During the 1920s

Stamp collectors are an unusual bunch, choosing to collect not only mint and used examples of stamps, but also entire sheets of stamps, postally used stamps on envelopes (called covers), as well as postally used single stamps, soaked off envelopes. One very popular stamp collecting specialty is the collecting of first-day covers — stamps postmarked on the initial date of a stamp’s issuance. First-day-cover collecting began in earnest in 1922 when the Post Office Department began to formally announce specific, initial dates of sale and first days of issue. One year earlier, the Post Office Department formed The Philatelic Sales Agency in Washington, D.C., for selling newly issued mint stamps to collectors.

By the mid-1920s, the Post Office Department was issuing several postage stamps per year, with collectors preparing souvenir envelopes, with each stamp postmarked on its designated first day of issue. The Post Office Department was careful to provide ample publicity, well in advance of the first day of each stamp’s sale.

First-day covers are easily identified nowadays because a special first-day-of-issue postmark is applied to a commemorative envelope. This practice began in 1937. Prior to that time, postmarks did not include this special wording. Collectors either had to have very good memories in order to remember these dates, or had to consult specialty catalogs in order to identify stamps postmarked on or before their initial day of release.

Several definitions help us to better understand the interrelationship between the Post Office Department’s initial sale directives and covers dated on and after these dates:

**Designated First Day:** The date specifically established and announced by the post office on which a new postal issue first is authorized for sale to the public.

**First Day of Sale:** The earliest date on which a postal issue was sold to the public. This term applies only to issues for which there was no designated first day. The Kansas-Nebraska overprints all have First Day of Sale dates.

**Earliest Documented Use:** The date of the earliest known postmark for a particular postal issue. This is applicable only when the postal issue has a designated first day. Documentation refers to contemporary confirmation of the cover’s existence and authenticity, usually determined by one of the several organizations that express opinions on such matters (The American Philatelic Society’s Expertizing Committee and The Philatelic Foundation, for example). The search for earliest documented uses endeavors to “push back” this date as far as possible.

**Official First-Day City:** The city determined by the Post Office Department where the stamps are initially placed on sale. Usually the city has some relationship to the subject depicted on the postage stamp. The Kansas-Nebraska overprints do not have an official first-day city.

**First Day of Sale at the Philatelic Sales Agency:** The date that the stamps are initially available for sale at the Philatelic Sales Agency. From 1922 to 1929, the first day of sale was usually the same day as the designated first day. But by early 1929, the Post Office Department began to make the new stamps available at the Philatelic Agency a day or two after the first day of sale.

**Pre-Date:** Stamps that are postmarked prior to the designated first-day date, contrary to Post Office Department regulations. Pre-dates can only exist if a stamp has a designated first day date. The April 1929 uses of the Kansas-Nebraska overprints are not pre-dates. No designated first-day date exists for any of the 22 stamps.

This table nearby illustrates this change, during the 1928–

## 1928–1930 STAMP ISSUES AND FIRST DAYS

Description	Designated First Day	First Day of Sale at the Philatelic Sales Agency
2-cent Valley Forge	May 26, 1928	May 26, 1928
2-cent Molly Pitcher	October 20, 1928	October 20, 1928
2-cent Hawaii	August 13, 1928	August 13, 1928
5-cent Hawaii	August 13, 1928	August 13, 1928
2-cent Aeronautics	December 12, 1928	December 12, 1928
2-cent George Rogers Clark	February 25, 1929	February 26, 1929
22 Kansas-Nebraska overprints	No designated first day, first day of sale mid-April 1929	May 1, 1929
2-cent Electric Light	June 5, 1929	June 6, 1929
2-cent Sullivan Expedition	June 17, 1929	June 18, 1929
2-cent Fallen Timbers	September 14, 1929	September 16, 1929
2-cent Ohio River	October 19, 1929	October 21, 1929
2-cent Massachusetts Bay	April 8, 1930	April 11, 1930
2-cent Carolina	April 10, 1930	April 11, 1930
4-cent Taft sheet	June 4, 1930	June 5, 1930
2-cent Braddock’s Field	July 9, 1930	July 10, 1930
2-cent Von Steuben	September 17, 1930	September 18, 1930
4-cent Taft coil	September 18, 1930	September 18, 1930
1½-cent Harding	December 1, 1930	December 2, 1930

1930 period, including the stamps issued just prior to and just after the Kansas-Nebraska overprints.

Most collectors are happy to collect May 1, 1929 postmarked envelopes. They are more readily available than April-dated covers and far more affordable. Covers dated before May 1, 1929 with Kansas-Nebraska overprints are valued in the hundreds of dollars each. Of course, infrequently encountered items are worth significantly more. In short, envelopes postmarked May 1, 1929 from the Philatelic Sales Agency in Washington were merely "for the benefit of stamp collectors," according to Max G. Johl, a student of early 20th-century stamps.

Many of these envelopes were collected by Joe Seacrest, of Omaha, Nebraska, and Jack Harvey, of Alexandria, Virginia. As these collections were dispersed, collectors that included Edward J. Siskin, of New Jersey, and Dr. Alfred Martin, of Pennsylvania, acquired these significant holdings. Many of these covers are in the collections of Mick and Vicky Hadley, of Nebraska, and myself, Henry B. Scheuer, of New York.

### Stamps Were Issued as a Cost-Savings Experiment

By 1928, the Post Office Department was about to experiment with a potential cost-savings measure. In September of

that year, Fred W. Reuter, inspector in charge of the St. Louis division — which included Arkansas, Iowa, and Missouri, except Kansas City — wrote a letter to the Chief Inspector Grant B. Miller in Washington, D.C. with a suggestion to reduce post office burglary losses. Reuter noted that a second theft at the Federal Building at Lagrange, Georgia, and a "theft of a large amount of postage stamps" had occurred.

Reuter wrote: "When at Washington recently I suggested to you that these losses could be substantially reduced and almost eliminated by supplying all second class and the smaller first class offices with stamps from the central accounting office." The inspector concluded his letter: "Personally I can conceive of no good reason why this should not be done."

Post offices were categorized into four classes, based on gross annual post office receipts. The Post Office Department's 1924 *Postal Laws and Regulations* (there were no updates between 1925 and 1931) provided specifics: First Class with annual revenue in excess of \$40,000; Second Class with annual revenue between \$8,000 and \$40,000; Third Class with annual revenue between \$1,500 and \$8,000; and Fourth Class with annual revenue less than \$1,500. The chart below includes a manual count of the number of class one and class

### CLASS 1 AND 2 POST OFFICES IN KANSAS AND NEBRASKA

Kansas	Galesburg	Manhattan	Sterling	Cozad	North Platte
Abilene	Garden City	Mankato	Stockton	Crawford	Oakland
Anthony	Gardner	Marion	Towanda	Creighton	Ogallala
Arkansas City	Garnett	Marysville	Valley Center	Crete	O'Neill
Atchison	Geuda Springs	Meade	Wakeeney	David City	Ord
Augusta	Girard	Medicine Lodge	Wamego	Diller	Orleans
Baldwin City	Goessel	Milford	Washington	Elk Horn	Osceola
Baxter Springs	Goodland	Minneapolis	Wellington	Exeter	Pawnee City
Belleville	Great Bend	Neodesha	Winfield	Fairbury	Pender
Beloit	Greensburg	Ness City	Yates Center	Falls City	Pierce
Bonner Springs	Halstead	Newton		Franklin	Plainview
Burlington	Harper	Norton		Fremont	Plattsmouth
Caldwell	Hays	Oakley	Ainsworth	Friend	Randolph
Caney	Herington	Oberlin	Albion	Fullerton	Ravenna
Chanute	Hiawatha	Olathe	Alliance	Geneva	Red Cloud
Cherryvale	Hillsboro	Osage City	Alma	Gering	Rushville
Clay Center	Hoisington	Osawatomie	Ashland	Gordon	Saint Columbans
Coffeyville	Holton	Osborne	Atkinson	Gothenburg	Saint Paul
Colby	Horton	Oswego	Auburn	Grand Island	Schuylerville
Cold Water	Howard	Ottawa	Aurora	Hartington	Scottsbluff
Columbus	Humboldt	Oxford	Bayard	Hastings	Seward
Concordia	Hutchinson	Paola	Beatrice	Havelock	Sidney
Council Grove	Independence	Parsons	Beaver City	Hebron	Stanton
Dodge City	Iola	Peabody	Benkelman	Holdrege	Superior
Downs	Junction City	Phillipsburg	Bladen	Humboldt	Sutton
El Dorado	Kansas City	Pittsburg	Blair	Kearney	Tecumseh
Elkhart	Kingman	Pleasanton	Bloomfield	Kimball	Tekamah
Ellinwood	Kinsley	Pratt	Blue Springs	Lexington	Valentine
Ellis	Kiowa	Russell	Bridgeport	Liberty	Valley
Ellsworth	Lakin	Sabetha	Broken Bow	Lincoln	Wahoo
Emporia	Larned	Saint Francis	Burchard	Loup City	Waterloo
Erie	Lawrence	Saint John	Cambridge	McCook	Wayne
Eureka	Leavenworth	Saint Marys	Cedar Bluffs	Madison	Westpoint
Florence	Liberal	Salina	Central City	Minden	Wilber
Fort Leavenworth	Lincoln	Scott City	Chadron	Mitchell	Wisner
Fort Scott	Lindsborg	Sedan	Chappel	Nebraska City	Wymore
Frankfort	Lyons	Seneca	Clay Center	Neligh	York
Fredonia	McPherson	Smith Center	College View	Newman Grove	
Galena	Madison	Stafford	Columbus	Norfolk	

two offices that was made: 118 Kansas post offices and 93 Nebraska post offices.

The Post Office Inspection Service was under the direction of Grant B. Miller with 525 inspectors reporting to 15 inspectors in charge of divisions. The inspectors were "charged with the responsibility for actions in connection with mail losses, depredations (stealing, damaging or plundering postal assets), and other criminal offenses arising under the postal laws." The character of the crimes committed for the year ended June 30, 1929 is reflected by a summary of charges (not overall incidents) in the chart nearby.

One of the 15 inspectors in charge instrumental in the ad-

#### CRIMES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1929

Character of Crime	Arrests	Indictments	Convictions
Fraudulent Use of the Mails	918	950	628
Theft of Mail	904	722	695
Holdup and Robbery	64	35	45
Burglary of Post Office	482	424	327
Mailing of Obscene Matter	211	188	153
Embezzlement of Official Funds	254	237	208
Money-Order Forgeries	172	161	122
Miscellaneous	961	597	714
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,906</b>	<b>3,314</b>	<b>2,892</b>

vocacy of the Kansas-Nebraska stamp overprint experiment was Larry A. Johnson, of Kansas City, Missouri.

Johnson [Figure 5] began to work for the post office in 1897 as a railway mail clerk. After 10 years he was promoted to post office inspector on the West Coast. Johnson was reassigned to a task of installing the postal savings system and was responsible for establishing instruction methods for postmasters on its use. Inspector-in-charge assignments followed as he moved to western New York, Atlanta, and by 1929, Kansas City.

On November 21, 1928, Johnson; his boss, Clarence L. Williams, assistant superintendent of the office of the chief inspector; and Michael L. Eidsness, the superintendent of the Division of Stamps, visited the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. They met with bureau officials and wanted to study the method by which rotary stamps were precanceled. They believed that this process could be used to apply the name (or abbreviation) on each stamp at a relatively low cost.

In a March 9, 1929 letter to the Honorable Grant B. Miller, chief post office inspector in Washington, Johnson succinctly

stated the reason these stamps were proposed. The second paragraph of his letter reads:

In view of the fact that Mr. M.L. Eidsness, Superintendent Division of Stamps, advocated the placing of a full year's supply of surcharged stamps in stock at central accounting offices and, also, in the direct accounting offices, the spreading of the requisitions in this manner will show an important saving.

A series of experimental stamps could be issued to reduce administrative costs by supplying a one-year supply, rather than a three-month supply, of stamps to local post offices. The annual *Report of the Postmaster General* for 1929 described the stamps' purpose as: "a measure to prevent the disposition and use on mailings of stamps stolen in post-office burglaries."

E.A. Farnsworth summarized this same reason for the Kansas-Nebraska stamp overprint experiment in the philatelic press (*Weekly Philatelic Gossip*, Volume XIII, Number 50, pages 1557 and 1559): "If this plan is generally adopted, no doubt it will help in a great measure to prevent the disposal of stolen stamps in distant states."

Hugh M. Southgate described the initial order for the stamps as: "This order was for experimental purposes in connection with identifying postage through surcharge." Three additional observations are in order:

1. Overprint the current stock stamps with the abbreviation of the state in which the stamps were sold, initially in Nebraska and Kansas, with the "Nebr." and "Kans." abbreviations. With a one-year supply of stamps on hand, rather than a three-month supply, post offices could be viewed as a greater target for thieves.

In order to assure postmasters that their greater stock of stamps would not be at greater risk of theft, the stamps had to be made less desirable as a fenceable commodity. It was thought that "Kans." or "Nebr." overprints would help alleviate this dilemma.

2. Limit the distribution of the stamps to larger towns, where post offices presumably had greater security measures such as larger, more secure physical facilities.

Although Southgate's notes indicate that Hiawatha, Kansas, was included in the cities that received the initial shipment of the overprinted stamps, the city's postmaster was denied a one-year supply, instead receiving only a three-month supply. The third assistant postmaster general justified his actions in an April 24 letter that read, in part, "... it would be difficult for you to store and protect the stamps."

The postmaster in Ellis, Kansas, wrote to the third assistant postmaster general on April 26, requesting overprinted stamps in the amount of \$4,685. His request was denied because "the quantities may be somewhat in excess of the available storage space."

The letter continued, "If desired, the amounts may be reduced to conform more nearly to a three to six months' supply, in accordance with storage facilities." No evidence of any stamps reaching Ellis prior to April 30 exists, nor are stamps



Figure 5. Postal Inspector L. (Larry) A. Johnson, early advocate and defender of the Kansas-Nebraska overprint experiment.

known postmarked prior to May 1, 1929.

3. Provide a “cover story” that the stamps were being created as a means to reduce post office robberies, a carryover of one of the reasons for the issuance of precanceled stamps. The Post Office Department could hardly explain to the public that the overprints were being added to stamps because larger quantities were being shipped, transported and stored at smaller post offices. That would only invite robbers and thieves to target the larger stamp inventories. A “come and get it” temptation had to be avoided.

### Stamp Requisitions by Local Postmasters

Procedures for ordering supplies of stamps from the Post Office Department headquarters were clearly spelled out. The July, 1929 *United States Official Postal Guide* provided specific procedures.

Paragraph 47, titled “Amount of Requisitions,” clearly explains procedures in effect when ordering stamps during this period. Let’s remember that the Kansas-Nebraska overprint experiment was to provide a one-year supply of stamps in lieu of a three-month supply. The language in the *Postal Bulletin* applies to other stamp issues and does not apply to the Kansas-Nebraska experiment.

Amount of requisitions: On account of the frequency of post-office burglaries, postmasters should draw requisition about one month in advance of their needs for not exceeding a three month’s supply of postage stamps at a time if they cannot protect a larger quantity. Requisitions for larger stocks of postage stamps can be protected, requisitions equal to a six months’ supply may be drawn. Requisitions for a 6 to 12 months’ supply of postal cards, plain stamped envelopes, and office-request envelopes may be submitted if storage space is available.

The time required to fill requisitions from post offices is outlined beginning in paragraph 62:

The time usually required for shipments of stamps, stamp books, and international reply coupons after the postmaster’s requisition is received at the Department is

four to six business days....

### The First Shipment of Stamps to Post Offices

Southgate (1871–1940) was a great supporter of organized philately and became the leading light and guiding spirit of the Philatelic Plate Number Association, founded in 1926. This organization widened its scope to include all philatelic printing activities of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and changed its name to The Bureau Issues Association. Southgate became its first president.

He was a meticulous chronicler of stamp production details, including initial distribution dates of newly issued stamps. His notes included initial printing and distribution details about the Kansas-Nebraska overprints.

Southgate’s notes were retained by his successor as president of the Bureau Issues Association, George Brett of Spirit Lake, Iowa. Upon Brett’s death in 2005, the notes were bequeathed to the Smithsonian’s National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C., and are preserved as “The Hugh M. Southgate Papers in the George W. Brett Papers and Documents Collection.”

Southgate was a resident of Chevy Chase, Maryland, and the general manager of the Washington office of Westinghouse Corporation. His offices were a few blocks from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and because of his interest in the technical production of dies, plates, engravings, and other orienting processes, he developed a number of friendships with those involved with such activities at the bureau. From 1926 to 1928, he made many visits to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and learned many stamp production and distribution details of newly issued postage stamps.

Southgate was quite active with the current new issues during this period. Many first-day covers addressed to him survive [Figure 6], including an example of a first-day cover addressed to him for a stamp placed on sale in 1929.

Philip Ward, an avid stamp dealer and philatelic columnist, reported in *Ward’s Philatelic News*, that:

The first day covers are indeed rare, shipped from

Washington on April 12 or 13, 1929, to thirty-three Kansas and twenty-six Nebraska towns in all postal denominations then issued, printed by the rotary press. The stamps reached their destinations in the smaller cities and towns on April 15 or April 16. But two Kansas [towns]



Figure 6. Hugh McClellan Southgate was a great supporter of organized philately and helped form the Philatelic Plate Number Association. Here is a first-day cover addressed to him franked with the 2-cent Edison stamp.

**SOUTHGATE LIST OF CITIES THAT RECEIVED THE  
INITIAL SHIPMENT OF KANSAS AND NEBRASKA OVERPRINT STAMPS**

Kansas	El Dorado	Kiowa	Sedan	Exeter	Scotts Bluff
Abilene	Elkhart	Liberal		Gothenburg	Seaward
Baldwin City	Elsworth	Lincoln	Nebraska	Grand Island	Superior
Caldwell	Emporia	Lyons	Ainsworth	Hartington	Sutton
Chanute	Eureka	Newton	Auburn	Humboldt	Tecumseh
Cherry Vale	Fredonia	Oswatatomie	Beatrice	Neligh	Wahoo
Clay Center	Goodland	Oxford	Bladen	North Platte	Wayne
Colby	Greensburg	Paola	Broken Bow	O'Neill	
Columbus	Halstead	Pittsburg	Cambridge	Pawnee City	
Dodge City	Hays	Russell	Clay Center	Pender	
Downs	Hiawatha	St. Marys	Crawford	Ravenna	

and one Nebraska town received all denominations, the shipments being to fill orders in hand at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the average being perhaps only three or four denominations. The earliest reported covers bear the date of April 15, 1929, with 1-, 6- and 8-cent Kansas denominations and the 1-, 2-, 3-, 4- and 5-cent Nebraska stamps. All other Kansas denominations are dated April 16; Nebraska 6, 7, 8 and 9 cents dated April 17; the 10-cent [cover] dated April 18; and 1½ cent dated April 19. Doubtless some of these late Nebraska overprints will ultimately show up with the April 16 date, as they were undoubtedly available. The shipments, while expected, were unheralded; hence the lack of early dated covers. All denominations of both issues were placed on sale at the Philatelic Agency in Washington, May 1, 1929."

Southgate noted contemporaneously, that the initial shipment of stamps "left the Bureau of Engraving and Printing on April 13, 1929." Additional early shipments of stamps were sent to these cities.

The table above lists all cities that actually received the initial shipment of Kansas and Nebraska overprint stamps according to Hugh M. Southgate's notes.

The total number of stamps overprinted from February 8 through October 12, when the experiment ended, varied by denomination. A chart of those quantities is nearby.

The surcharged Kansas stamps were initially ordered on January 24, 1929 and the first printing began on February 8.

The text of Southgate's handwritten notes summarize the earliest dates noted, based on a letter he wrote to 33 Kansas and 26 Nebraska towns. The text of this letter:

Dear Mr. Postmaster,

Please frank the enclosure with one of your nicest new type (theft prevention?) 1½ ct. State Surcharged stamps (KANS.) which doubtless you have just received from

Washington. I am anxious to get first day use of this type of stamps for my collection).

I shall appreciate your courtesy and trust that the cover bears a nice clear impression of your cancelling stamps showing town name and date.

Thanking you in advance, I am ..."

Presumably, Southgate mailed a slightly different letter to Nebraska postmasters. It is not clear if and why he requested only the 1½-cent denomination.

Southgate concluded, from his detailed sometimes cryptic notes, that the earliest dates sold for each of the stamps were as listed in the chart nearby.

Sadly, to date, no Southgate addressed covers are known to survive. As a result, the high-denominations covers of the Nebraska overprints are not known to exist today. The whereabouts of these covers is a mystery.

N.R. Hoover, editor of the *United States Precanceled Stamps*, made some interesting comments about collectors' attempts to secure examples of the experimental stamp, postmarked from various cities, on various days, in his March 23, 1929 column in the *Weekly Philatelic Gossip*.

Hoover wrote:

First day covers from small, out-of-the-way post offices of each state, on the first day of the state imprinted stamps go into use, will drive the first day cover enthusiasts into insane asylums if they try to take care of every point possible. There is practically no limit as to what can be done on this point.

Dr. Henry J. Vogel, of Stowe Vermont, reported (*First*

**OVERPRINTS  
BY DENOMINATION**

Denomination	Quantity
1 cent	13,390,000
1½ cents	8,240,000
2 cents	87,410,000
3 cents	2,540,000
4 cents	2,290,000
5 cents	2,700,000
6 cents	1,450,000
7 cents	1,900,000
8 cents	1,530,000
9 cents	1,130,000
10 cents	2,860,000

**SOUTHGATE NOTES ON EARLIEST DATES SOLD FOR  
KANSAS AND NEBRASKA OVERPRINT STAMPS**

**KANSAS**

**April 15**

Newton: 1, 6, and 8 cents

**April 16**

Colby: 1½, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7,  
9, and 10 cents

**NEBRASKA**

**April 15**

Beatrice: 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 cents

**April 17**

Cambridge: 1 and 9 cents  
Superior: 1½ cents

Exeter: 2 cents

Auburn: 3 and 7 cents

Ravenna: 3 cents

Wahoo: 4 and 6 cents

Crawford: 4 cents

Humboldt: 7 cents

Pawnee: 8 cents

North Platte: 10 cents

**April 18**

Tecumseh: 10 cents

**April 19**

Neligh: 1½ cents

Beatrice: 5 cents

*Days*, Volume 19, Number 5, pages 19–20) that through the Bureau Issues Association, he became friends with William W. Wylie, the editor of *Scott's Monthly Journal* and furthered his association with its first president, Hugh M. Southgate. Southgate was responsible for preparing many early first-day covers for many different stamps during this period. He was well aware of many stamp-related printing activities in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, including the names of the Kansas and Nebraska post offices receiving the initial shipment of these stamps.

When Southgate became aware of the Colby, Kansas shipments, he probably passed along the information to Thresher, who prepared 11 covers, each to be franked with a different Kansas overprint value, and to be postmarked on April 16, 1929. Thresher was probably referenced in the April 16, 1929 *Colby* newspaper article, which stated, in part:

The Colby post office was probably the first in the nation to sell the stamps with the name of the state overprinted on them. Shipment of \$1,910 worth of these overprinted stamps was received Tuesday morning, and in the same mail came a request to buy a quantity of them for a Kansas City stamp collector.

Wylie is reported to have very clearly remembered one particular telegram received by Thresher from Southgate to the effect that the Colby post office was receiving all denominations of the Kansas overprints.

The Post Office Department release titled "Special Issue of State Overprinted Stamps," dated April 8, 1929, provides details about where overprinted stamps were authorized for sale: "The overprinting experiment is being tried out. If it is successful, overprints with all 48 state abbreviations will follow."

On April 20, 1929, the third assistant postmaster general made his initial announcement about the overprinted stamps:

Postmasters and employees of the Postal Service are notified that arrangements have been completed to begin the issuance of special overprinted stamps in sheet form in denominations of 1 to 10 cents, inclusive, to post offices in Kansas and Nebraska, for placing on sale to the public. So far as practicable, all requisitions for these denominations now on hand in the department from direct-accounting postmasters will be filled with the overprinted stamps. The surcharge, representing the respective State abbreviations, will appear in black ink across the lower half of the stamps.

The ½-cent Nathan Hale rotary press definitive (Scott 653) was initially placed on sale on May 25, 1929, a few weeks after the initial sale of the overprints. The rotary press version of the higher values of this definitive stamp series (11 cents through 50 cents) made their initial appearance as early as July 1931. The \$1, \$2 and \$5 dollar denominations were never printed on the rotary press.

Used and unused examples of the Kansas-Nebraska stamps, soaked off cover, are quite often faked — the overprinted "Kans." or "Nebr." added. Not so with overprint stamps remaining on cover. Although these April-dated cov-

ers are worth hundreds of dollars each, numerous difficulties would discourage even the most enterprising mischief maker. Locating an April 1929-dated envelope from a "correct" town with the "correct" stamp is difficult enough, but applying a convincing fraudulent overprint to the stamp while it's affixed to the envelope is extraordinarily difficult.

To the author's knowledge, no fake covers have yet to be reported.

The quantity of stamps shipped to each post office was supposed to be sufficient for one year's requirements, not just three month's inventory, according to a *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, dated May 13, 1929. The "Chronicle of New Issues and Varieties" article was edited by Philip H. Ward, noted collector, dealer, and philatelic writer.

Until otherwise directed the following general rules will govern the sale and use of the state surcharged stamps, according to the article:

1. The stamps will be placed on sale at post offices within the respective states, but they will be valid for postage purposes at all post offices now using ordinary United States stamps.

2. The supplies of ordinary unsurcharged stamps remaining on hand in post offices in the above-named states will continue to be used until exhausted. No official first day of sale will be designated for any post office supplied with the surcharged stamps.

3. Postmasters at offices supplied with special surcharged stamps will not accept mail orders for such stamps from outside the state except as may be specifically authorized by the department when needed for use on advertising matter that is to be sent to post offices in Kansas and Nebraska for mailing.

4. For the benefit of stamp collectors, the state surcharged stamps will be placed on sale in the philatelic agency on May 1, 1929. Owing to the large number of denominations of surcharged stamps, the agency will be unable to accept first day covers from collectors for stamping and mailing on May 1.

5. The filling of orders will be greatly facilitated if collectors will eliminate other varieties of stamps from their first orders for state surcharged stamps. All orders will be filled in regular turn of receipt.

While every reasonable effort will be made in the agency to fill orders with well centered stock, the limited quantities of the State surcharged stamps printed will prevent as close selection being made as is possible with ordinary stamps.

Additionally, initial shipment information is displayed, according to Hugh Southgate, and covers that are known from various cities are noted.

## Documenting Pre-May 1, 1929 Postal Uses

Nearly all the surviving pre-May 1, 1929 covers are known to have been prepared by, or retrieved from incoming mail, by stamp collectors. The table on the next page shows that most surviving covers are from towns in the eastern parts of each state, with very few known from towns in the western part of Kansas or Nebraska. Interstate 35 that runs north/

## PRE-MAY 1, 1929 POSTAL USES FOR KANSAS AND NEBRASKA OVERPRINT STAMPS

Kansas	Lyons	Diller
Abilene	Newton	Elk Horn
Arkansas City	Olathe	Fairbury
Augusta	Osawatomie	Fremont
Bonner Springs	Ottawa	Grand Island
Colby	Paola	Hartington
Dodge City	Russell	Hastings
El Dorado	Sabetha	Humboldt
Emporia	Towanda	Kearney
Garden City	Valley Center	Liberty
Gardner	Wellington	Lincoln
Geuda Springs	Winfield	Nebraska City
Goessel		North Platte
Humboldt		Sutton
Independence	Nebraska	Valley
Kansas City	Auburn	Wahoo
Kingman	Beatrice	Waterloo
Lakin	Blue Springs	
Lawrence	Bridgeport	
Liberal	Burchard	
	Cedar Bluffs	Wymore

south in Kansas was chosen as the divider between east and west in Kansas and U.S. Route 281 was chosen as the divider between east and west in Nebraska. Whenever cities are located on the dividing line highway (e.g. Belleville, Concordia, and Newton in Kansas, and Atkinson, Grand Island, Hastings, Red Cloud and Saint Paul in Nebraska) they were considered to be in the eastern half of their respective states.

Virtually all surviving examples of these early dated covers are stamp-collector inspired, meaning that either the sender or receiver was a known collector. Most of the surviving covers are franked with a 2-cent stamp that paid the current first-class postage rate. Quite frequently, the 2-cent rate was made up, using a pair of 1-cent stamps. All reported 3-cent through the 10-cent stamps are used on envelopes, that overpay the first-class rate, and no covers are reported on registered or special delivery mail.

A number of the 2-cent stamps, mostly postmarked in Liberal, Kansas, were addressed to the Newton Building and Loan Association, in Newton. These were plucked from commercial, business, incoming mail, by Claude O. Conkey, assistant secretary at that company and a stamp collector.

A literature search of 1930s-era philatelic publications revealed the reporting of many overprint uses from before May 1. Unfortunately, the whereabouts of most of these covers remains a mystery.

Philip H. Ward, the famous stamp dealer and author, reported the existence of a non-philatelic cover in his *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* column of May 6, 1929:

Mr. P. R. Crooker sends for inspection the first cover that has been noted, namely — a 2-cent overprinted "Nebr." and used from North Platte, Nebraska, April 18, 1929 at 10 a.m. This was on a business communication received by Mr. Crooker's firm, and was used in the course of everyday commerce.

Although the ecological disaster of the 1920s called the Dust Bowl was not apparently directly related to the initial

issuance of these stamps, the Dust Bowl, coupled with the economic misery of the Great Depression, help explain why so few covers survive with the coveted postmarks during April 1929. Millions of people fled the Great Plains during the 1930s, many in great haste, and as a result, undoubtedly many commercially used envelopes did not survive and were discarded.

During the early 1920s, farmers were eager to increase profits as a response to the difficult economic times caused by a post-World War I recession. Millions of previously unplowed acres were plowed and planted with wheat. An oversupply of wheat resulted in depressed prices. The Great Plains were covered with these wheat fields in place of the natural drought-resistant grasses. Coincidentally and quite unfortunately, the economic effects of the Great Depression resulted in an inability to absorb the large wheat crop, resulting in falling prices. In the early 1930s, a drought began and strong winds blew away much of the fertile topsoil. Major dust storms, known as black blizzards, caused great physical destruction and resulted in a significant population-out migration.

### The Who's Who of the Kansas Overprints

Here is a look at some of the individuals responsible for creating early-use Kansas overprint covers.

Colby and Dodge City, Kansas appear to have been the only towns in Kansas receiving all denominations of the state stamps by April 16, according to brief mention in the *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* on April 27, 1929. No evidence exists that April 16 covers with any denominations with the Dodge City postmark survive.

Several collectors from Newton, Kansas were active in securing and preserving these postally used envelopes. Howard Starr Dickey, Claude O. Conkey, and John Heffelfinger, were instrumental in preparing covers of the Kansas overprint stamps between April 15 and April 30, 1929. They knew each other, collaborated in the preparation of their early-date cover uses, and even joined the preeminent national stamp collecting society, the American Philatelic Society.

Dickey proposed both Conkey and Heffelfinger for membership in the APS, with applications dated just two days apart in 1930. Dickey's philatelic interests were longer standing, having joined the APS in 1905, when he was 21.

By 1929, when these stamps made their initial appearance, Heffelfinger was 47, Dickey 45, and Conkey 37. First, though a look at another key player in Kansas philately.

**Ebenezer Sanders Thresher**, known as "Uncle Eb" to some, was born August 15, 1895 [Figure 7]. He was a lifelong resident of Kansas City, Missouri, where he was an



Figure 7. Ebenezer S. Thresher.

active hobbyist and collector, focusing his activities on U.S. plate numbers, Bureau precancels, and stamps from the Portuguese colonies.

Thresher was a founding member of the Bureau Issues Association, now renamed the United States Stamp Society, the preeminent organization devoted to the study of U.S. stamps, where he became acquainted with **Hugh M. Southgate**, that group's first president. Southgate was a careful and meticulous contemporary chronicler of stamp printing details and initial distribution specifics of new stamps, printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, D.C. from the mid-1920s to the early 1940s.

Southgate was well aware of the names of the various post offices to which these newly issued stamps were being shipped. When he learned of the Colby shipments, Southgate contacted his friend, Eb Thresher.

According to William W. Wylie, at that time a reporter for a Kansas City newspaper, Southgate sent a number of letters and telegrams to Thresher regarding the Kansas overprints. Thresher mailed self-addressed envelopes to the postmaster in Colby and secured the prized April 16, 1929 postmarks.

For many years the whereabouts of these Colby, Kansas covers were unknown. There was quite a bit of speculation that they had not survived. The late Jack Harvey, former expertizing chairman of the American First Day Cover Society and Kansas-Nebraska overprint stamp expert, speculated that they were inadvertently lost or destroyed.

Their whereabouts can be traced back to January 1953, when a South Bristol, Maine stamp dealer, Lewis T. Kelsey, sold them to Joseph A. Zishka, of Indianapolis, Indiana, a collector who owned them for the next 25 years. After passing through several hands, the entire set of 10 covers was sold for \$8,625 in the Dr. Alfred S. Martin Collection Sale, held in March 2005 by Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

Thresher authored "Random Philatelic Observations from the Mediterranean Theater of Operations" in the 1946 Philatelic Congress Book. When he wrote his biography, with accompanying portrait, he described himself as "Free, single, and happy, in other words, not married."

Thresher was a frequent contributor to *The Precancel Bee*, an Omaha-based newspaper focused on this philatelic specialty. He was a frequent contributor to that publication, and was a columnist, and once began one of his columns: "Mr. H.M. Southgate of Washington tells me that..." Thresher's new issue collecting interests required close ties with someone like Southgate who could provide information about events as they occurred at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. In 1929, when he was president of the Midwest Philatelic Society, he attended the seventh annual convention of the Precancel Stamp Society September 5 to 7 in Kansas City, Missouri, his hometown. (Howard Dickey also is photographed in the group picture of convention attendees.)

Thresher joined the Bureau Issues Association in March of 1930 as member No. 148. In 1929, Thresher was a salesman with a grain brokerage firm in Kansas City. He died from

heart disease on April 25, 1958 in Kansas City, Missouri. The death certificate mentioned that he was in the armed forces during World War I. He is buried in Kansas City at Forest Hill Cemetery.

**Howard Starr Dickey**, the dean of the "Newton boys," was born May 25, 1884 and died February 5, 1957, at the age of 72 [Figure 8]. Dickey began to collect stamps as a child and continued his grandfather's collection. As a teen, he began to collect precanceled stamps and later began to buy and sell these stamps, continually building his collection. In 1910, he sold this collection but continued his activities by becoming an active buyer and seller of precancels. He became a stamp dealer.

After finishing school, he went to work in the family business, Dickey Drug and Jewelry store. Dickey left

Newton and homesteaded in Meade County, Kansas, but returned to Newton and became the owner of a music store, H.S. Dickey Piano store, at 717 Main Street, next to the Newton Post Office. Dickey advertised his business as "Next Door to Post Office."

Dickey became very active in stamp clubs in Newton and throughout Kansas and even in Oklahoma. He assisted in the organization of the Oklahoma Philatelic Society, was an organizing member of the Precancel Club of America, and helped foster the philatelic publication known as *The Philatelic Gossip*.

Dickey's APS membership lasted for 29 years, when he let his membership lapse, presumably for failing to pay dues in 1934. He was an active member in several other philatelic organizations, including, the National Society of Philatelists, and the Precancel Club of America. In 1952, The Precancel Stamp Society honored him at its annual convention in Dallas.

Like Thresher, Dickey attended the seventh annual convention of the Precancel Stamp Society in Kansas City. The group photograph of the convention attendees shows him in the same photograph as E.S. Thresher.

When the postmaster in Newton, Kansas noticed that the new 1-cent, 6-cent, and 8-cent Kansas overprints arrived on April 15, he called Dickey, who identified them as the new Kansas overprints. Dickey and another collector had only 15 minutes before the post office closed to send out some first-day covers. These were the only first-day covers mailed of these particular overprints. By working quickly, they sent out 47 covers, including three with blocks. Dickey was not sure whether he sent out one or two sets of blocks, but in either case, they are quite rare.

Dickey also was a composer and poet. He wrote 27 songs and had them published through his own Dickey Music Company. His poems were self-published, in a single volume.



Figure 8. Howard Starr Dickey.

**John B. Heffelfinger** was responsible for the only known examples of stamp usage for several Kansas cities.

As the oldest of the “Newton Boys,” he was born July 25, 1882 in Newburgh, Pennsylvania and died in March 1960 in Newton, Kansas.

Heffelfinger applied for membership the American Philatelic Society on November 8, 1930 and was dropped in 1933.

He graduated from Baker University in 1907 and earned his master's degree in 1924 from the University of Wisconsin. Heffelfinger taught public school before becoming a principal and superintendent of schools at Eldorado (1909 to 1915), and Arkansas City (1915 until 1918). In 1923, he became superintendent of schools in Newton, Kansas where he stayed until his retirement in 1951. He authored three books and appeared on state and national programs for the American Library Association and the National Education Association.

Heffelfinger was credited with being the “father” of the KABIE [Kansas Agriculture, Business, Industrial and Education] tours for teachers. He also collaborated on a state-adopted text about Kansas geography.

**Claude O. Conkey** also prepared pre-May 1, 1929 Kansas overprint stamps on covers [Figure 9]. He is most remembered here for his retrieval of pre-May 1 uses of envelopes that were received by his employer, the Railroad Building, Loan and Savings Association, in Newton during the course of everyday business activities. Several different April-dated envelopes survive, all from the same business in Liberal, Kansas.

Conkey was born March 24, 1892 in Pleasanton, Kansas. After he graduated from the University of Kansas Law

School, he moved to Newton. He was the assistant attorney and second vice president at the loan and savings association, an organization that financed home construction by originating first mortgages. He retired in 1957 and died December 28, 1958. Active in the community, he was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the Newton Masonic Lodge, and a veteran of World War I. He was a state senator from 1932 until 1936.

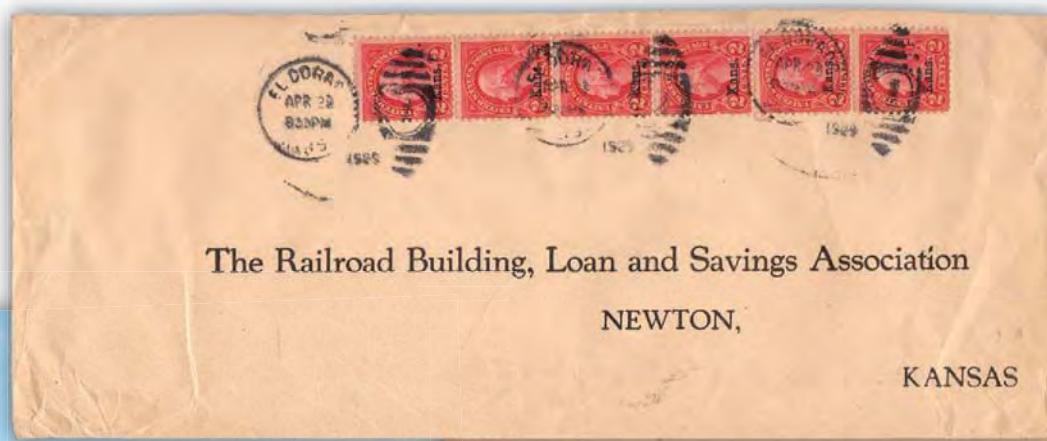
Conkey was a member of stamp clubs in Wichita and Newton. He applied to the American Philatelic Society for membership on February 1, 1931 as member 11179 and was dropped in 1932.

Conkey was an active collector when he informed the *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* about the new issues. In an April 27, 1929 edition, the columnist wrote, “Just got the first day (April 15) from C.O. Conkey of Newton, Kansas with a pair of the one-centers. He states that their post office received the ones, sixes and eights that afternoon.”

No discussion of Kansas postal activities during this period should fail to mention **Robert Williamson Baughman** (1907–1970). Baughman loved organized philately and his involvement in leadership roles is exemplified with his founding of the Kansas Precancel Club, his sponsorship of four regional stamp shows during a 15-year period and a period when he was president of the now defunct Society of Philatelic Americans. In addition to his philatelic interests, he was a collector or “almost anything Kansas related.”

His business card carried a slogan: “If It's From or About Kansas Let Me Know.” Baughman became a major collector of Kansas-related maps, tens of thousands of them. He had

a gentlemen's agreement with the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka, that he was giving the use of the items to the society and that he reserved the right to recall these items, which today have stayed at



The Railroad Building, Loan and Savings Association

NEWTON,

KANSAS



The Railroad Building, Loan and Savings Association

NEWTON,

KANSAS

Figure 9. An example of incoming mail rescued from the trash by Claude O. Conkey to the Railroad Building, Loan and Savings Association in Newton, Kansas, where he worked. The same building in Newton survives today and is pictured at left.

Lamb Bridgeport Nebraska  
Gen. Delivery



Figure 10. "The Bridgeport Love Letters" include two non-philatelic, early use 2-cent Nebraska overprints used in April, 1929. Each were mailed from Bridgeport, Nebraska, from a man smitten with a student at business school.

the society. He also collected Kansas-related postal history.

Baughman prepared a wonderful envelope, showing the usage of each Kansas overprint stamp from Liberal, Kansas on April 24, 1929. This is the only known envelope showing April 1929 uses of these stamps. He was a student at the University of Kansas at the time.

Baughman was honored in 1964 by the Society of Philatelic Americans, when he was awarded the society's research award in recognition of his extensive work, especially highlighted by his book, *Kansas Post Offices*. The book contained information on the 4,281 post offices which existed at one time or another in that state. By 1964, only 700 were in operation.

Baughman's book, *Kansas in Maps*, was published in 1961 by the Kansas Historical Society. Much of the information in the book was distilled from Baughman's collection of nearly 75,000 maps, each with some sort of relationship to Kansas.

Bob and his wife, Helen, were lifelong residents of Liberal, in southwest Kansas. The Baughman family fortune came from his grandfather's and father's banking activities and farmland investments. The family land holdings, included more than 300,000 acres in Kansas, Colorado, and Oklahoma. Many thousands of acres in Baughman Farms were situated in the Hugoton natural gas field, one of the largest gas reserves in the United States. When the older Baughman died in 1954, the estate was appraised at \$6.81 million.

In 1970, Baughman Farms was sold to Philip Anschutz, a Kansas land investor billionaire, for \$10 million.

Other less active and prominent Newton collectors include: Dr. Edward Payson Cressler, a well known dentist in Newton, Dr. H. P. Knowles, L.H. Marsh, and Wilfred Suderman. Their names appear as addressees on pre-May 1, 1929 uses of these overprinted stamps.

Two of the very few surviving envelopes that were neither

prepared nor received from a stamp collector are known as "The Bridgeport Love Letters," so named because each cover includes a three-page pencil-written love letter.

The first envelope is postmarked April 26, 1929 and is addressed to Miss Dena Gronewald, Grand Island Business College in Grand Island, Nebraska. It is forwarded to Gothenburg, Nebraska. The letter is written by a male admirer, **Leeland Lamb** [Figure 10].

The second envelope, also from Lamb, is postmarked on April 28, 1929 and also is addressed to "Miss Dena Gronewald; Gothenburg, Nebraska."

Following are some excerpts from the letters. First, in a letter dated April 24-29, 1929 when he was spending a week in Bridgeport, Nebraska, Leeland writes, in part:

Dearest Dena:

Thinking of you, yes, and why. Well dear every time I get lonesome which is pretty often, well, I don't know, there is just the nicest and warmest feeling right down next to my heart, that is caused from something — Dena can you guess?

To nite I set back at a table in the Palace Café here and was eating supper. Just nicely started when the waitress started to play "Sweethearts on Parade". The song is Ended "Back in Your Own Back Yard" and "Tin Pan Parade" on the Victrola, say honey, I sure lived several of our evenings over again in those few minutes.

I have not been able to get any sauerkraut & weenies since I left you kids. Guess I'll have to come back. What say!

Say honey we have just had one regular blizzard here snow—sleet—rain, boy boy. I was up in by Morrill about 60 miles above here and I heard there was a storm acoming so I started out about 6:00 P.M. and it took me 6½ hours and 7 gal gas to make the 60 miles and best of all I arrived here

just in time to get the benefit of it all. Not so bad. Just my luck. Thought I was leaving it behind and drove right in to the face of it.

Good nite Dena !!!!!!!  
Leeland!!!!x x x x x x x x

Here are parts of a letter dated April 27, 1929 from Leeland to Dena:

After receiving a letter from Chester today, it has set me to thinking. He said, "it is sure to [sic] bad bout Dena isn't it." Now that's the first word I've had since you wrote and told me that you were sick.

Dena it surely can't be that you have been sick all this time and have not let me know some way or other. What seems to be the trouble Dena? Write and tell me as I think a awfully lot of you even tho [sic] I am or just was just a college friend.

I have written several letters and a card to you at G.I. [Grand Island], maybe you have not received them yet, at least kiddo I am going to give you the benefit of the doubt. Am I right?

I have been worrying all day about you and will until I hear from you so if it should not able to write, you ask that sweet Mother of yours to please drop me a line even if just a card.

I'm going to wait here until I hear from you Dena.

A friend

Good night girlie,  
Leeland

Grand Island Business College was founded in 1885 and taught young women a business course, a normal course and a shorthand course. Gronewald graduated and became a stenographer in Northern Kansas and Southern Nebraska. She married another man, not Leeland, and eventually settled in Denver. But Leeland must have meant something to her. Years later, after her passing, the letter found its way to an antiques mall dealer, who sold it on the Internet. The seller of the cover, in Denver, is located about 200 miles southwest of Bridgeport.



Figure 11. Henry G. Lang (left) receives a presentation folder for the Homestead Act commemorative stamp in 1962 from the postmaster general (right) at that stamp's first-day event.



Figure 13. Two of Henry Lang's covers, postmarked on April 24, 1929.

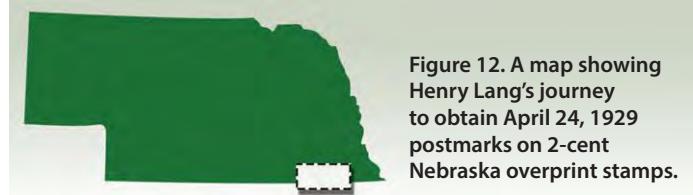


Figure 12. A map showing Henry Lang's journey to obtain April 24, 1929 postmarks on 2-cent Nebraska overprint stamps.



Henry G. Lang [Figure 11] was perhaps the most active and enterprising collector involved with the Nebraska overprints. He is responsible for the existence of stamps postmarked from six Nebraska cities. Additionally, on April 24, he embarked on an automobile voyage that took him to several tiny Nebraska towns and arranged to have self-addressed envelopes postmarked at each post office. Lang's envelopes are the sole extant examples from many of these cities. Shown are his itinerary [Figure 12] and two of the 2-cent Kansas overprints postmarked from several stops along Lang's automobile journey [Figure 13].

Lang was born in 1883 and was the son of Emil Lang,



Mr. Henry G. Lang  
Beatrice  
Neb.



Mr. Henry G. Lang  
Beatrice  
Neb.



Figure 14. Emil Lang's grocery store in Beatrice, Nebraska.

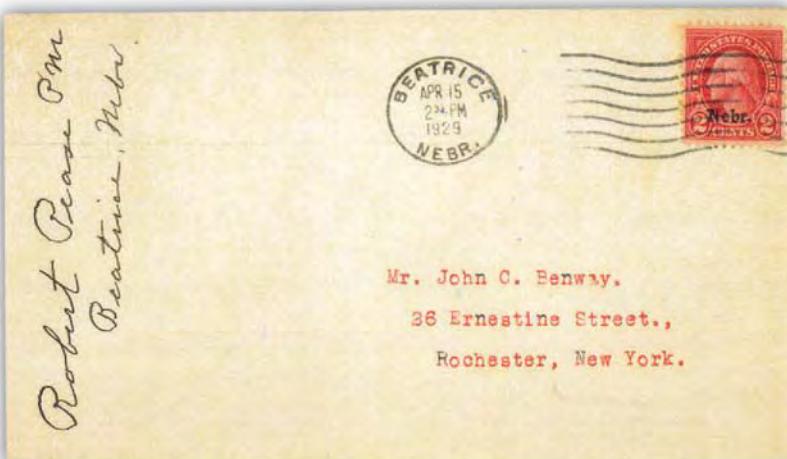


Figure 15. A 2-cent Nebraska overprint stamp postmarked on April 15, 1929, the earliest known use of the stamp. This Beatrice, Nebraska cover was prepared by Robert Pease and sent to Rochester, New York.



Figure 16. Covers from Elkhorn and Fremont, two of nine Nebraska cities serviced by A.H. Westphal and W.A. Tweedy on April 24, 1929. The other cities are: Cedar Bluffs, Grand Island, Kearney, Lincoln, Omaha-Burlington Station, Valley, and Waterloo.

an Austro-Hungarian and Czech immigrant. The elder Lang opened a grocery and dry goods store in 1873 at Second and Court streets in Beatrice [Figure 14]. The partnership with Jake Klein and Charley Moschell opened as J. Klein and Company. By 1884, the store moved to a building on Fifth and Ella, where the partnership divided. The elder Lang, along with Moschell, handled the groceries. The partnership broke up and Emil Lang moved the business to Sixth and Ella streets. Emil died in 1906, leaving his sons, Henry and Joe, in charge. Joe died in 1949 and left Henry in sole control, until Henry retired and closed the store in 1964. He died in 1973 and is buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Beatrice.

The Lang name was quite prominent in Beatrice and Henry became a well-known and respected member of the community. The Lang family grew their gourmet grocery and brought exotic delicacies such as chocolate covered ants, fried grasshoppers, and pickled rattlesnake to Beatrice, Nebraska. The family expanded their Beatrice-based business activities to include a canning company.

The prominent, central downtown location of the Lang grocery made this prominent local citizen very accessible. Philatelically, there are local stories about Lang having various fellow citizens bring him used stamps and envelopes bearing stamps to add to his collection.

Hugh Southgate knew of Lang's involvement in the preparation of covers dated in April 1929. According to Southgate, Lang knew the local postmaster and Southgate's notes make reference to the 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-cent values postmarked in Beatrice on April 15, and autographed by the local postmaster. In fact, a brief comment appeared in the *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* newspaper: "The earliest first day from Nebraska appears to be that from Beatrice on April 15, 10 a.m."

All five denominations prepared by Henry Lang survive as does the one shown from a different sender [Figure 15].

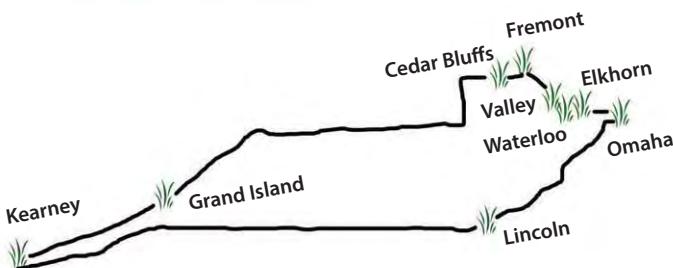
In Fremont, Nebraska, W.A. Tweedy had a sister who worked for the Post Office Department and told her brother that the Nebraska overprints were available for sale.

Tweedy and A.H. (Arthur Henry) Westphal were best friends and collected precancelled stamps. Both collectors collaborated in the creation of many April 24, 1929 covers, bearing the 2- and 4-cent denominations from several cities that would otherwise be unreported [Figure 16]. The duo traveled along a railroad line that ran near the North Platte River [Figure 17].

Westphal was born December 13, 1883 in Milwaukee, moved to Fremont at the age of 2, eventually worked for the Oregon Short Line



Figure 17. A map showing Westphal and Tweedy's journey to obtain April 24, 1929 postmarks on 2-cent Nebraska overprint stamps.



Railroad in Salt Lake City, and later for Burlington Railroad in Lincoln. He finally settled as a grocery clerk for Sterner Grocery and Hanlon's Grocery, both in Fremont. He died in October 1862. Westphal's stepfather was a man of means and enabled his stepson to live comfortably and pursue many of his collecting leisure activities [Figure 18]. A.H. Westphal was not only a collector of stamps, but of campaign buttons

dating back to the Civil War.

Not much is known about Tweedy, other than his philatelic friendship with Westphal and his sister's connection with the post office in Fremont.

**Dr. Charles N. Olsen**'s name is surprisingly often seen on covers featuring



Figure 18. Arthur Westphal (right) with his stepfather, "a man of means."

the 1½-cent and 2-cent Nebraska overprint stamps, postmarked in Hartington April 15, 1929 [Figure 19]. Although not much is known about Olsen, his name ought to be included when considering the important collectors who prepared these early-use covers.

One of the few references that has surfaced appeared in a 1938 "To whom it may concern" letter dated July 12, 1938. That was typed on letterhead of Midwest Agricultural Service, Farm Sales, Management, Rentals, Hartington, Nebraska. It reads:

To Whom It May Concern:

I served as Postmaster at Hartington Nebr from Dec 1922 to Aug 1936.

On April 15 1929, the Office received a shipment of Postage Stamps, overprinted with the word Nebr.

Sr. Chas N. Olsen, purchased a quantity of the stamps, on the date of their receipt, and affixed them to letters prepared, and placed them in the mail.

I have no knowledge of any others being mailed at the Hartington Nebr Post office on the above mentioned date."

The letter is signed by Louis R Eby.

### Other Individuals Who Prepared April-Dated Kansas-Nebraska Overprint Covers

A review of the philatelic literature in 1929 and into the early 1930s, includes reports by two collectors who were particularly prolific in their activities.

**George M. Knox** was from Hood River, Oregon. In the *Bureau Specialist* (September, 1961, pages 214 and 215), George Brett recounted Knox's efforts to secure April-dated examples of both Kansas and Nebraska overprinted stamps on cover. Knox mailed a single cover to 15 offices in each state in a gamble to see what he would get. The covers were mailed on an eastbound train at Hood River, Oregon on April 12.

He simply enclosed an ordinary 2-cent stamp and asked the postmaster at each post office to exchange it for one of the overprinted stamps to be used on an enclosed return envelope. About two-thirds of the covers were returned as requested, and many of them with postmarks after May 1, the



Figure 20. One and one-half and 2-cent Nebraska overprint stamps, postmarked on April 15, 1929 in Hartington, Nebraska, prepared by Dr. Olsen.

first day of issue at The Philatelic Agency in Washington D.C. Here's a listing of pre-May 1 returns:

— Kansas: Dodge City (April 16), Eldorado (April 22), Leavenworth (April 22), Emporia (April 25), and Independence (April 27).

— Nebraska: Beatrice (April 19), Hastings (April 22), Alliance (April 23), Fremont (April 24), and Kearney (April 27).

The "Last Minute News" column in the Holton, Kansas publication *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* reported "that Colby and Dodge City appear to have been the only towns in Kansas receiving all values of the state stamps by April 16."

**Milton E. Snow** reported in *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* the existence of Kansas overprinted stamps (no denominations mentioned) used in April 1929, from the following cities and dates:

— Kansas: Liberal (April 23), Liberal (April 25), Liberal (April 27), Lyons (April 27), and Ellsworth (April 27).

— Nebraska: Hartington (April 16), Hartington (April 19), Hartington (April 27), and Superior (April 27).

All surviving covers were prepared by collectors and probably survive because of their care. Commercially, incidental uses likely did not survive because of the Great Depression and Dust Bowl, both of which profoundly affected both states. As a result, few new discoveries surface. Readers are encouraged to contact the author with any discoveries and as well as with your comments.

## Why the Experiment Failed

Beach Conger Jr. wrote an article in June 1929 in *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* titled "Some Illuminating Facts on the State Surcharges." Conger examines the possibilities of extending the surcharge of stamps to other states, and shudders to think what position collectors would find themselves if "the higher-ups at Washington will decide to change the perforations, and where are we?" He felt that stamp collectors, who are known to collect perforation varieties and strive for "completion," would be "forced" to acquire each stamp, particularly when they are accorded separate stamp catalog numbers. The author concluded that the overprints should be classified as precancels, since they were purely for local benefit. Of course, the state overprints program never was expanded to additional states, and the stamps were each assigned a separate number by stamp catalogers. The stamps were never considered as "precancels."

The experiment failed within a few months. The general public, as well as large commercial mail order businesses, found it difficult to understand how the overprints might be used. Complaints were received in Washington that the black overprint on the 7-cent stamps [Figure 20], printed in black, could not be read. Large commercial mailers were unhappy receiving these overprints in

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Those interested in first days might be interested in joining the American First Day Cover Society (APS No. UN0033).

The society supports local chapters, study groups, auctions, slide/video programs, handbooks, exhibition awards and special awards. Contact: Ralph Nafziger, Box 1476, Albany, OR 97321; e-mail: [afdcso@afdcso.org](mailto:afdcso@afdcso.org); website: [www.afdcso.org](http://www.afdcso.org).

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payment for merchandise. Postal patrons were asking post office staff if the stamps could be used when traveling out of state (they could). Confusion regarding various aspects of how these overprints were to be used ultimately resulted in the end of the state overprint experiment.

As early as May 25, 1929, letters were mailed to the Post Office Department in Washington with questions about how these stamps were to be used. Can these stamps be used out of state? Can these stamps be precanceled?

Potentially, 480 different collectible overprint varieties (48 states, multiplied by 10 stamp denominations) would have resulted, if this experiment was a success. No doubt, collectors must have been very happy that this never came to pass.

The three largest commercial mail-order concerns at the time (Montgomery Ward and Company, Sears Roebuck and Company, and National Bellas Hess Company) began to receive "a great many postage stamps of all denominations from our customers in remittance for merchandise orders." Usually, when stamps were received in payment for merchandise, the mail-order firm arranged the individual stamps in reconstructed sheets of 100 and called a representative of the Post Office Department to supervise the precancellation of these mint stamps. *Postal Bulletin* Number 14981 was a directive stating that the Kansas-Nebraska overprints should not be overprinted again. Because the mail-order firm would be discouraged from obtaining precancels, they were forced to "use up" these stamps on first-class mail, rather than using an indicia printing machine and resulting in additional handling expenses for both the mailers and the Post Office Department. The mail-order firms pointed out, quite correctly, that mail with uncanceled Kansas-Nebraska stamps would have to pass through the local post office for additional handling and postmarking.

Postal Inspector L.A. Johnson of Kansas City wrote to Grant B. Miller, chief post office inspector, Washington, D.C., in July 1929. He pointed out that beginning on January 1, 1913, the postal service created a special parcel system for commercial mailers. As a result of the parcel post system, Johnson continued, the mail-order concerns "spectacular growth through the advantages" of the Post Office Department's help.

Johnson quantified Montgomery Ward's six-month revenue for the period ending June 30, 1929 at \$122.8 million and used it as justification for chiding the mail-order firms not to object to the overprint experiment. After all, he pointed out that an average of \$75 per day in surcharged stamps from



Figure 20. A 7-cent Kansas overprint. The overprint text is difficult to see against the black stamp.

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the states of Kansas and Nebraska were received at the local Montgomery Ward Kansas City plant, inferring that this was a minor sum.

Johnson continued by pointing out that accepting payment for merchandise "has not been in harmony with the policy of the Department." He was raising the point that on one hand the Post Office Department was paying postmasters based on the number of stamps they sold (revenue generated) and then the Post Office Department was exchanging approximately \$500,000 of mint stamps annually. Johnson felt that "enough is enough." Johnson objected to the Post Office Department's involvement and additional costs incurred in the exchange.

So, this curious Post Office Department experiment of overprinting regular issues with the abbreviations of two states died of complexity a few months after it started.

#### Acknowledgements

Thanks are given to Mick Hadley, of Nebraska; James O'Donnell, museum specialist, the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum; Michael C. Presnell, of Missouri; Gerald L. Ratigan, of Nebraska; and Dr. David Zubatsky, of Pennsylvania.

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## STAMP LIBRARY RESOURCES

The following are available from the American Philatelic Research Library:

An exhibit, "The Kansas-Nebraska Overprints." By John C. Hufnagel, [Glen Rock? Pennsylvania] 1 volume, illustrated. Location: APRL G3701 .096 H889k EXHIBIT.

A book, *How are Your Kansas-Nebraskas?* By Oliver Huntington. Published 1948 by Western Stamp Collector, Albany, Oregon. 13 pages, 1 illustration. APRL Location: APRL G3701 .096 H952h 1948 VERT FILE.

[HTTP://CATALOG.STAMPLIBRARY.ORG](http://catalog.stamplibrary.org)

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"Hyde Park Gunfight" at [www.legendsofamerica.com](http://www.legendsofamerica.com).

## The Author

Henry B. Scheuer started collecting United States first-day covers in 1959 and began acquiring older material in 1965. Over the last 40 years, he has written many articles, addressed numerous philatelic groups, and has been involved in various aspects of creating and collecting covers. Henry is a 25-year member of the American Philatelic Society, currently serves on the board of governors of the Collectors Club of New York, is a committee chair for the organizing committee of World Stamp Show-NY 2016, and has been a member of the United States Stamp Society and the American First Day Cover Society for many years.

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Help the American Philatelic Research Library find the two missing Jenny stamps.  
Perhaps another look at the stamps is in order...we are still looking for the two stamps on the right side of the famed McCoy block of four 1918 24-cent airmail stamps that were stolen.



We are Still Hunting for Our  
Two Inverted Jenny Stamps

Joe McDonald  
Section 9  
BARRACK No. 4

Shanghai War-prisoner's Camp.

上海俘虜收容所

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# Dear Folks ... Letters From a Son ‘Killed in Action’

World War II Civilian Worker Keeps Writing Home While Being Held Prisoner in Asia

BY JOSEPH F. MCDONALD III

**H**aving just reached the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, I am reminded of a series of letters and other papers that were kept by my grandfather during that period, a particularly difficult time for my family. In all, there are almost 1,000 pages of correspondence, cables, telegrams, magazine articles, and newspaper clippings.

My grandfather’s collection of letters and other ephemera stem from the fact that his son — Joseph F. McDonald Jr., my father — was reported killed during the war. Later, and to the joy of his family, he was found to be alive in a Japanese prisoner of war camp in Shanghai, China.

Initially, almost 100 letters and telegrams were exchanged between my grandparents and various government officials seeking information on his death and the possibility that he was alive. Later, countless attempts were made to have my dad — a civilian, not a soldier — released from prison camp. In addition to the original letters, cards, telegrams and other types of correspondence that my family retained, more original correspondence exists in the archives of the University of Nevada in Reno.<sup>1</sup>

Of the two letters most telling of the entire experience, one was written in June 1941 prior to the United States’ entry into the war, and the other posted in September 1945 after the war was over. In between, many letters describe the life of a young civilian defense worker onboard ship to Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii; on the small Pacific atoll of Wake Island; a description of the December 1941 attack on the island by the Japanese; and correspondence to and from my father in various prisoner of war camps. At the end of the war my father writes a haunting letter about the mental difficulties of post-war repatriation.

I have divided the philatelic and other related items into three groups: the first group begins in June 1941 and goes through December 29, 1941, a full 22 days after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

The second group is made up of approximately 50 letters, covers, and other philatelic items. A number of these letters are from my grandparents trying to ascertain if my dad was dead or alive. These are addressed to U.S. government officials working on the release or repatriation of prisoners. There also are many letters to my dad once they located him and discovered that he was alive in a prisoner of war camp in Shanghai, China. The letters cover the time period from April 1942 to August 1945.

The third group is a mix of letters, POW postal cards from my dad, telegrams and official Japanese, Red Cross and U.S. government correspondence. These letters begin prior to June 1942 and continue through September 1945 after he



Figure 1. The passenger ship SS *Matsonia* sailed from San Francisco June 6, 1941. The postage on this letter from Honolulu to the states via an eastbound Pan Am Clipper is only 20 cents.

was liberated and on his way back to the United States after the war.

### Group One

My dad begins this incredible journey in his life with a letter written to his folks on June 6, 1941 aboard the SS *Matsonia* sailing from San Francisco to Honolulu [Figure 1]. The letter describes life on board the passenger ship for the defense workers. He describes his shipmates as “the rabble” of the ship, consigned to cabins in “the black hole.”<sup>2</sup> Nonetheless, he and his new friends played bridge, bingo, and other games, including parimutuel horse race betting. On the night before docking in Honolulu my dad writes that the full moon is rising over the ship “like a picture.”

The cover, stamp and postmark show one 20-cent airmail stamp (Scott C9) with a simple circular postmark: Honolulu, Hawaii on June 11, 1941 at 6 p.m. The black-boxed cancel slogan says “Buy US Savings Bonds – Ask Your Postmaster.” The letter was transported to the United States from Hawaii “Via Clipper.”

The next letter, also written at sea is posted aboard the USS *Regulus*, one of the many naval transport ships workers took from Honolulu to Wake Island [Figure 2]. This letter is written on a Pan American onionskin “ClipperGram From Hawaii.” The workers were no longer enjoying life on a passenger cruise ship. My father, known to the family as “Young Joe,” writes that the civilian defense workers were eating beans and were put to work peeling potatoes in the mess of the transport ship.<sup>3</sup>



Figure 2. Sailing east from Hawaii this letter is postmarked from the USS *Regulus*. It was mailed from Midway and carries the 30-cent transpacific postage rate.

This cover has one 20-cent airmail (Scott C9) plus two 5-cent stamps (Scott 802). The circular postmark is “USS Regulus – June 22, 1941 AM,” and has a three-bar cancel. The envelope also denotes “Via Clipper” and from this point forward the postage from Wake Island, via Clipper, is 35 cents.

Each week my dad would attempt to send a letter to his folks in Reno, Nevada, via the Pan American Clipper that had a base at Wake Island with weekly east-west transpacific Clipper stops.<sup>4</sup> His first letter from the island on July 1, 1941 ends with the phrase, “Mail closes in about 5 minutes and I have to end this so it will catch the Clipper.” This would become the familiar way my father ended just about all of his letters home. My dad was an avid stamp collector and so, very often, the stamps from the next 21 letters were cut off and removed by his parents.

A letter written in July 1941 [Figure 3] from Wake Island describes life as a civilian defense worker being very routine:



Figure 3. Written from Wake Island on July 26, 1941 (July 25 Reno time) this letter arrived in Nevada (with backstamp) on July 29, 1941, taking only five to six days to reach its destination. The nine stamps equal the required 35-cent rate.

reading books, "shooting the breeze," waiting for fresh food, eating fish, and bird eggs. It also emphasizes the gratitude the men have for the generator that keeps the freezer going and "full of ice cream." My dad ends the letter: "Well I'll knock it off ... they crossed us up and the Clipper from Guam is arriving on time so I'm really in a hurry."

The cover carries the requisite 35 cents postage. It has nine stamps and six postmarks. There are five 5-cent James Monroe stamps (Scott 802) from the Presidential set, a 5-cent Daniel Chester French from the 1940 Famous Americans series, a 3-cent Vermont Statehood 150th Anniversary commemorative (Scott 903), and two 1-cent National Defense (Scott 899) stamps. The cover includes a circular backstamp marked "Rec'd. Reno, Nev. – July 29, 1941 7:30 PM." Because Wake Island is on the other side of the International Dateline and 20 hours ahead of San Francisco, this July 26 letter (written July 25 Honolulu time) indicates that it took only four to five days to travel more than 4,500 miles via Clipper to Honolulu and San Francisco.

All six postmarks on the front of the cover are from Honolulu, Hawaii. One is a small circular "Honolulu, Hawaii; July 27, 1941 7 PM" and five are large circular postmarks stamped "Honolulu, Hawaii — July 27, 1941; 7:30 PM" with an elliptical barrel and killer shoepoint to the right marked Oahu. There also is a red "Via Clipper" mark and a hand-stamped red/blue "Fee Claimed by Office of First Address." By this point, the letters and covers become fairly routine: sent on a Clipper and canceled in Honolulu with the large circle and elliptical barrel with a killer shoepoint marked "Oahu."

The content of these letters clearly show the island was urgently building up for the war.

However, my dad and others seem almost innocent and unsuspecting that the United States might eventually enter the war in the Pacific. In a letter from September 1941 my dad writes, "They called for volunteers from the contractors' men to man the guns the Marines set up and I think I will volunteer. ... It will be a lot of fun to learn how one of them works anyway."<sup>5</sup>

In October he writes, "Today ten big army flying fortresses came in... every two weeks a flight of three patrol bombers drop in to refuel."<sup>6</sup>

In November, he writes again: "... there were some boats laying offshore waiting to unload and couldn't because of the high wind and waves. ... Before the boats could unload this place looked like Pearl Harbor. There were 10 boats and six barges all together. Three tugs, a freighter, an aircraft tender, two destroyers, two submarines and a light cruiser."<sup>7</sup> He continues, "Nothing seems to happen at all except that we go to work every day."

The back of the envelope makes a simple request: "Keep sending the weekly football scores — complete ones."



**Figure 4. As the possibility of entering war seemed closer each day, mail was often routed through Pearl Harbor instead of Honolulu.**

On letters written in late November and early December the postmarks change from Honolulu circular postmarks to a circular "Pearl Harbor, Hawaii" postmark with a wavy line cancel [Figure 4]. A December 2, 1941 letter indicates that war is looming. My father writes, "This island is sure getting overrun with people. There are a whole flock of Sailors and Marines stationed here now. I guess in case Japan wants to play a little rough." This was the last letter my grandparents would receive from Wake Island.<sup>8</sup>

After the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, three attempts were made by my grandparents, to contact my dad on Wake Island. A letter written on December 7, 1941 is franked with six 6-cent airmail stamps. There are five postmarks: a small simple circular with wavy line cancel (Reno, Nevada; December 7, 1941), and four other large circular postmarks with killer shoepoints. There is a red Pointing Finger, "Return to Writer" with no "reason checked." In this letter, they acknowledge the receipt of a November 20, 1941 letter written by my dad describing Thanksgiving Dinner on the island.<sup>9</sup>

The next letter written by my grandparents on December 15, 1941 says, "This letter is being written in the vain hope that it will reach you somehow although we have no information that the clipper ships will try to reach Wake." This cover is franked with five 3-cent stamps and is canceled in Reno with three large circular postmarks and killer ovals marked with a "1" inside. It again has a red Pointing Finger, "Return to Writer," again with no "reason checked." The postal rates had not changed and so I am not sure why my grandfather put only 15 cents on this very important letter. The back of the envelope is sealed with a 1941 Christmas seal.

The third and final attempt to reach my father at Wake was mailed December 22, 1941 from Reno. The cover, franked with two airmail stamps, one for 20 cents, the other 15, came back with a red Pointing Finger. This one is different and says, "Return to Sender from Honolulu, Hawaii UNCLAIMED." All three of these letters were returned to Reno at the same time. Each is backstamped with a return postmark date — April 22, 1942, Honolulu, Hawaii.

On December 24, 1941 a registered airmail letter arrived



Figure 5. In a desperate attempt to find his son, Joseph McDonald Sr. (the author's grandfather) writes the top commander who was on Wake Island. Note that Prisoner of War mail is postage free.

in Reno addressed to my grandmother, Mrs. McDonald, advising her of her son's death. "It is with sincere regret that it falls to my sad duty to inform you of the death of your son, Mr. Joseph McDonald, as a result of enemy action at Wake Island." It is signed "B. Morrell, Rear Admiral, (CEC) USN."

But by February 1942 there were rumors that my father was alive and a prisoner of the Japanese. It wasn't until mid-April 1942 that unconfirmed reports were received that Joe had been seen alive at a prisoner of war camp in Shanghai.

## Group Two

Most of the items in this second group are from April 1942 through January 1945. They consist of letters and postcards written by family and friends to Joe and addressed to various POW camps. Somehow, these letters were saved by my dad for the entire war and they travelled with him from POW camps in Shanghai, to Fengtai (near Peking), through Manchuria and Korea, on to Osaka and Zentsugi in Japan and ending up in Niigata, Japan, where my dad remained until the official end of the war in September of 1945.<sup>10</sup>

A very important letter and cover from this group was written to Commander Winfield Scott Cunningham, the for-

mer senior commander of Wake Island [Figure 5]. My grandfather wrote to try and secure information about his son, particularly if he was indeed alive. The envelope was mailed from Reno with a circular postmark and wavy-line cancel. There is no stamp and the envelope is marked "Prisoner of War Mail; Postage Free."

The address is heavily redacted. Cunningham was known to have been a prisoner aboard the POW "hell ship" *Nitta Maru*, which transported the military and civilian prisoners of war from Wake Island to Yokohama, Japan. At Yokohama, several prisoners were removed from the ship before sailing on to Shanghai, China.<sup>11</sup>

The Cunningham envelope has two purple Red Cross cancels from Genève (Geneva, Switzerland), a Japanese censor mark and camp identification mark with the name of the censor.<sup>12</sup>

Handwritten in pencil on the envelope is the request to forward the letter to my father at a prisoner of war camp in Woosung, near Shanghai. The envelope was examined by a US censor (No. 6088). It is not known when or where the letter was received by Cunningham or when it was forwarded and received by my dad at Woosung.

On June 15, 1942, a War Department letter from the Office of the Provost Marshall General written to Senator Patrick McCarran of Nevada, officially confirmed that Joe McDonald is interned by Japan at Shanghai. The following instructions from the Pacific Island Employees Foundation, Inc. indicate how to address POW mail. These were sent to the McDonald family on July 14, 1942.<sup>13</sup> It states:

## STAMP LIBRARY RESOURCES

**Postal History of American POWs : World War II, Korea, Vietnam / Gruenzner, Norman. State College, PA: American Philatelic Society, c1979. v. 138 p. : ill., charts, maps ; 27 cm. (Book). Location: APRL G3701 .P959 G886p**

[HTTP://CATALOG.STAMPLIBRARY.ORG](http://catalog.stamplibrary.org)

Here are the instructions for directing the envelope:

A) Write in the upper left-hand corner of the envelope: "Civilian Internee — Postage Free."

B) Write the full name of the internee.

C) State the internee was "Formerly at Wake Island."

D) State that the internee was "Held by Japan in Shanghai, China."

E) Letters to be sent "Care International Red Cross, Geneva, Switzerland"

F) Sender's name and address should be written on back of envelope.

G) Packages cannot be sent at this time.

At last, knowing for sure that my dad was alive, my grandparents and others began to write to him for the first time since December 1941.

An envelope from my grandfather shows the letter addressed as instructed [Figure 6]. It was examined by American censors (Censor No. 126) and has a purple Red Cross mark and a Japanese censor mark with a camp identification mark.<sup>14</sup>

On July 8, 1942 a man named Dick Taylor writes my dad on a U.S. postal card (Scott UX27)<sup>15</sup> [Figure 7]. Dick and my dad played varsity football in 1939 at the University of Nevada-Reno. The card tells of a long journey as it eventually reached my dad in Shanghai. In addition to the address and sender information there appear to be five marks on the front of the postcard: the "Bremerton, Wash. Navy



EXAMINED BY

Figure 6. In the first letter to her son after believing he was dead for almost six months, McDonald's mother writes, "it seems like life is starting over again, now that we can actually write to you." The letter inside is stamped with a Japanese censor and camp identification mark.

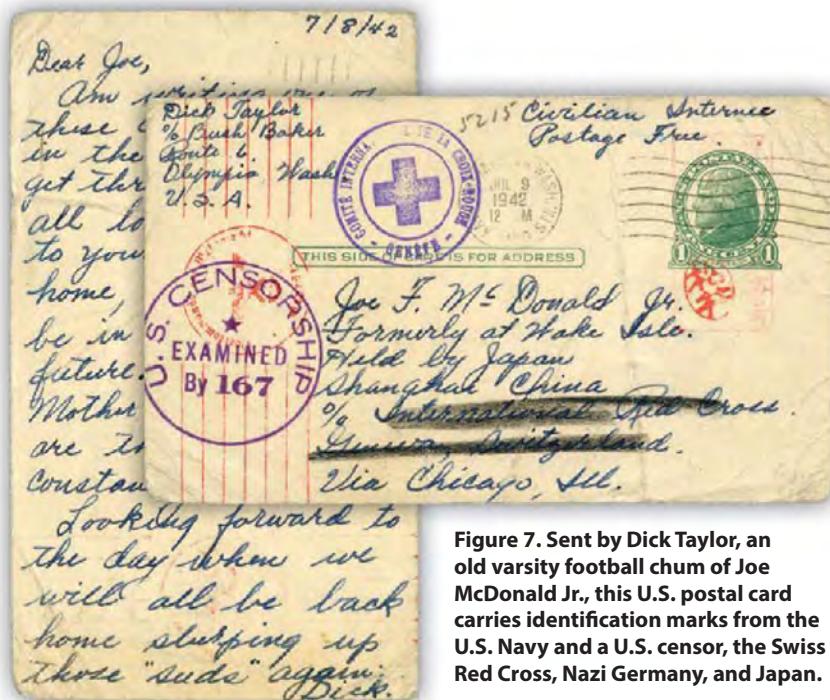


Figure 7. Sent by Dick Taylor, an old varsity football chum of Joe McDonald Jr., this U.S. postal card carries identification marks from the U.S. Navy and a U.S. censor, the Swiss Red Cross, Nazi Germany, and Japan.



Joseph McDonald Jr. in his 1941 fraternity photo.

## Joseph F. McDonald Jr.

By Joseph F. McDonald III

Joseph F. McDonald Jr., also known in this article as "young Joe," was born in 1916 in Reno, Nevada.

He attended local Reno schools until he left for the San Diego Army and Navy Academy in Carlsbad, California. Graduating from the Academy High School in 1933 he stayed on in junior college to do preparatory coursework for entrance into the Annapolis Naval Academy.

He then returned to Reno and graduated in 1934 from Reno High School.

In 1935, he received an appointment as midshipman fourth class to Annapolis Naval Academy, where he excelled as a member of the academy's football team.

His strong independent streak often came into conflict with the strict naval regimen and all it demanded. In 1936, he was dismissed for the first time for "scholastic deficiencies." Receiving a reprieve from the secretary of the

Yard Sta." postmark and wavy cancel, a purple Red Cross mark from Geneva, a round U.S. censorship mark, a 7-bar Oberkommando der Wehrmacht/Gepruft inspection mark, and a Japanese censor and camp identification mark with the name of the censor. The same Japanese censor mark is on the reverse.<sup>16</sup>

A September 1942 letter to my father shows that his address has changed and contains the additional information: "Japanese Field Post Office No. 106, Central China." It was sent c/o International Red Cross via New York, N.Y. via the S.S. *Gripsholm*, a repatriation ship.<sup>17</sup>

At some point in 1943, various restrictions were placed upon the length and frequency of letters sent by family and friends to Joe. Around this time letters going out from prisoners at the Shanghai camps were restricted and the prisoners had to use special POW postcards. My dad always called them "these 25-word word jobs."

On December 3, 1943, my father's address changes again. The POWs from Woo Sung had been transferred to a new camp near Shanghai called the Kiang Wan War Prisoners Camp. At this point, the writing privileges of each POW are further restricted to one post card each quarter.<sup>18</sup> In August 1944, my grandparents write that they have finally received a letter from Joe written in February 1944. My grandparents would receive four more POW postcards [Figure 8] and one

full page typed letter on Shanghai Prisoner of War stationary. The final POW postcard in our family collection was written by Joe from Shanghai and dated January 3, 1945.

According to the July 31, 1946 report, "Prisoner Of War Camps In Areas Other Than the Four Principal Islands of Japan,"<sup>19</sup> the Kiang Wan War Prisoners Camp was transferred on May 9, 1945 to a new POW camp called Fengtai (600 miles from Shanghai, about 8 miles southwest of Peking in Central China). Only local mail was received and no outgoing mail was allowed from this camp.<sup>20</sup>

On June 19, 1945 the prisoners in the Fengtai Camp were moved by train through Manchuria to Fusan, Korea and then put on a prisoner transport to Japan. Arthur Pringle of CBS News reported that the prisoners were moved to a "very small primitive village on the island of Shishoku"<sup>21</sup> to a camp at Zentsugi, a sub-camp of the Hiroshima 1-Branch Camp.

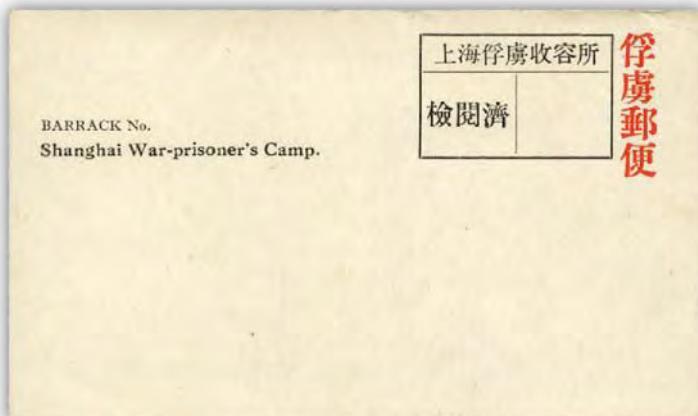
In July 1945, my dad is listed on the camp prisoner roster at the industrial slave labor camp, Niigata Camp 5-B.<sup>22</sup> This was known as Camp No. 5, a branch camp in the Tokyo industrial area. My dad never said a lot about his experiences but he once told us that this was some of the most difficult work he ever did as a POW, loading and unloading coal and rice on the docks at Niigata.

He would stay here until the liberation of the POW camps in early September 1945.

### Group Three

The third and final group of correspondence is made up of different cablegrams, POW postcard mail, and letters dealing with repatriation after my dad was liberated in September 1945. Some letters were published in the newspaper in Reno, Nevada allowing Joe's parents to inform his friends how he was doing and how they could write him in prison camp.

A young woman who sent several letters to my dad was very successful in getting mail to him. The woman, Marygene Christianson (Barclay), was divorced from her first husband and married my father after the war. Eventually, she became my mom. The first POW postcard from



**Figure 8. A typical POW postcard from Shanghai with the name of the camp and a notation that prisoner of war mail is postage free. The blank square is for the "chop" of an individual censor.**

Navy he was allowed to re-enroll but soon was dismissed *the second time* for "False-hood."

Finally, free at last from the military ambitions his parents desired for him, he returned to the University of Nevada where he continued to be a popular young man in football and fraternity life, enjoying young adulthood with his hometown friends. He graduated in 1940.

Ironically, in 1941, he was hired by the Contractors Pacific Naval Air Bases and sent to work with the Navy in the construction of naval air bases in the far-flung

Pacific. He was on Wake Island when the Japanese attacked in December 1941 and spent the rest of the war in a Japanese prison camp.

He eventually returned to Reno to practice law and start his own construction company. He married Marygene (sometimes Marigene) Christianson Barclay in 1946. Joseph's life-long love for stamp collecting encouraged his parents and friends to save many of the philatelic items used in this story.

He continued to collect stamps until his death in 1986.



**Marygene Christianson wrote to McDonald regularly when Joseph was a prisoner of war.**

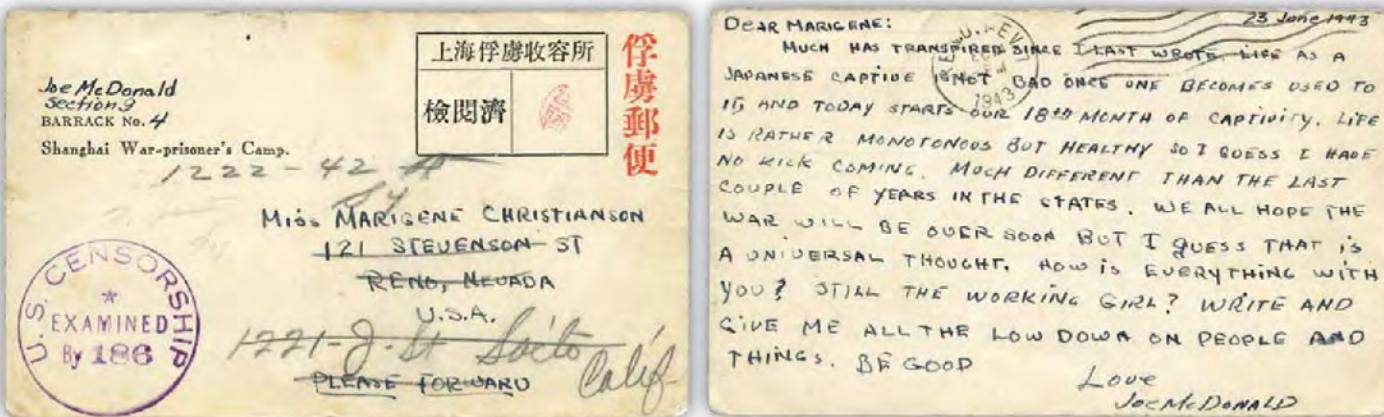


Figure 9. Cards from Joe to an old girlfriend turn out to be letters to the POW's future wife and the author's future mother.

my dad to this hometown girl was written from Shanghai on June 23, 1943 [Figure 9]. (Dad spelled my mother's name as "Marigene," a spelling she sometimes used, though I always knew her as "Marygene.")

It was forwarded from Reno, Nevada to Sacramento, California. On December 18, 1943, Marygene writes to him from Sacramento. The postmark is a simple round cancel. This letter is marked "Returned to Sender by Censor" [Figure 10]. A list inside, Form 1698, contains the handwritten censor number (11081) at the bottom left and in part

23 June 1943

DEAR MARIGENE:  
MUCH HAS TRANSPRIRED SINCE I LAST WROTE. LIFE AS A  
JAPANESE CAPTIVE IS NOT BAD ONCE ONE BECOMES USED TO  
IT AND TODAY STARTS OUR 18<sup>TH</sup> MONTH OF CAPTIVITY. LIFE  
IS RATHER MONOTONOUS BUT HEALTHY SO I GUESS I HAVE  
NO KICK COMING. MUCH DIFFERENT THAN THE LAST  
COUPLE OF YEARS IN THE STATES. WE ALL HOPE THE  
WAR WILL BE OVER SOON BUT I GUESS THAT IS  
A UNIVERSAL THOUGHT. HOW IS EVERYTHING WITH  
YOU? STIL THE WORKING GIRL? WRITE AND  
GIVE ME ALL THE LOW DOWN ON PEOPLE AND  
THINGS. BE GOOD  
LOVE  
JOE MCDONALD



says: "These conditions have been imposed by the Japanese Government and not by the US Government."

My dad wrote to my mom again in July 1944 and November 1944. He writes that he has received six letters from my mom between March 2, 1944 and May 24, 1944. He also writes, "Your letters mean a lot to me."

Meanwhile, the U.S. government continued with efforts to repatriate American prisoners of war. On August 1, 1945, Acting Secretary of State Joseph C. Grew wrote a confidential

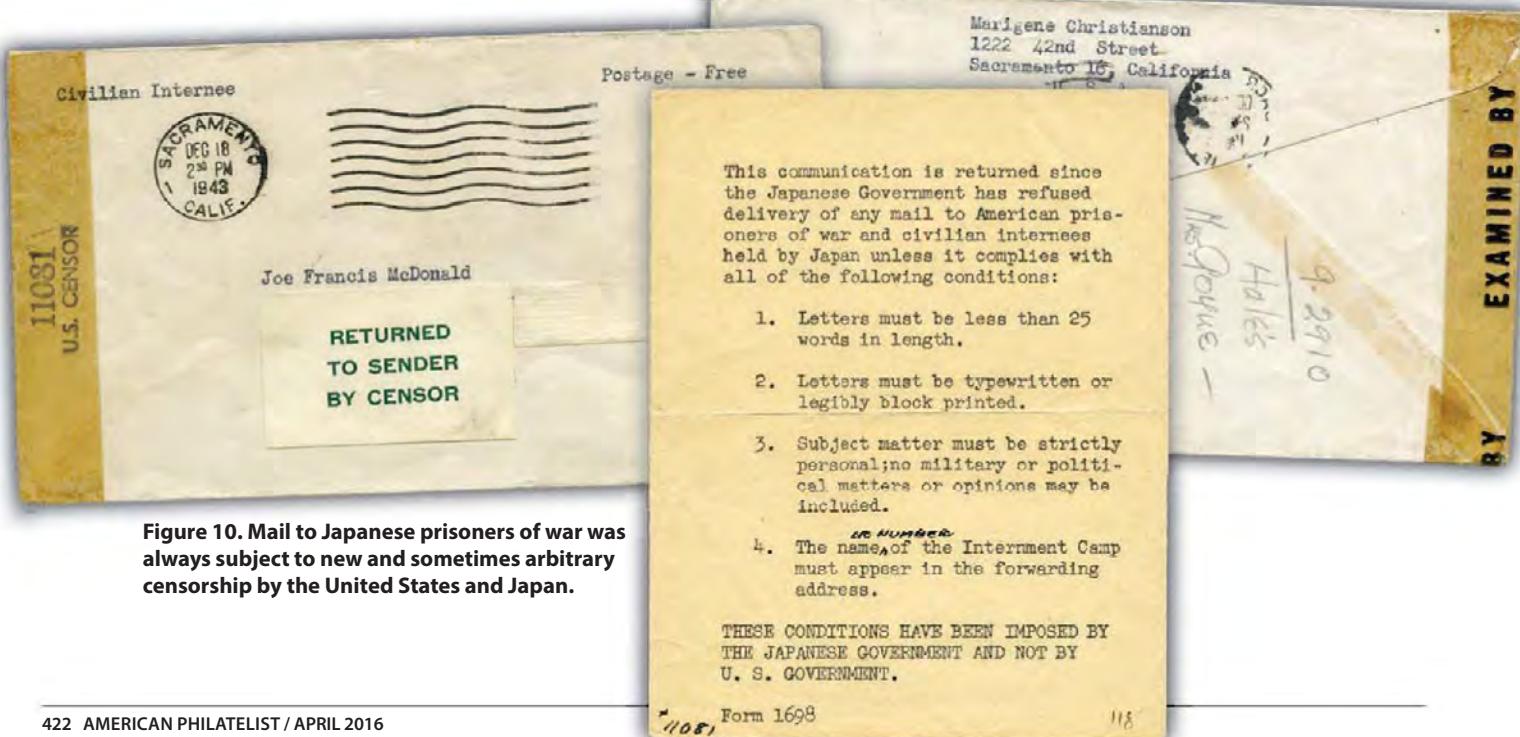
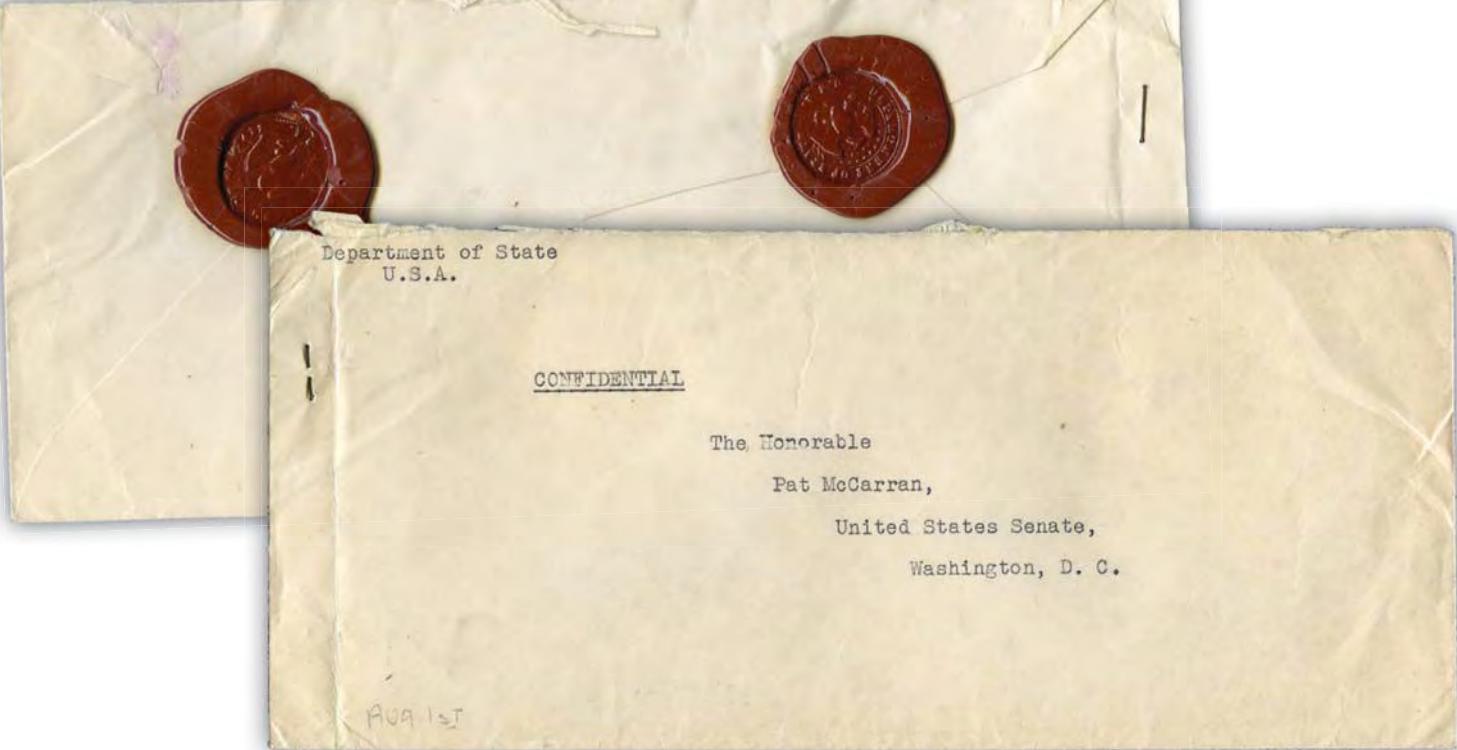


Figure 10. Mail to Japanese prisoners of war was always subject to new and sometimes arbitrary censorship by the United States and Japan.



**Figure 11.** A secret and confidential letter from the Department of State regarding the possible repatriation of prisoners even though the first atomic bomb would be dropped five days later.

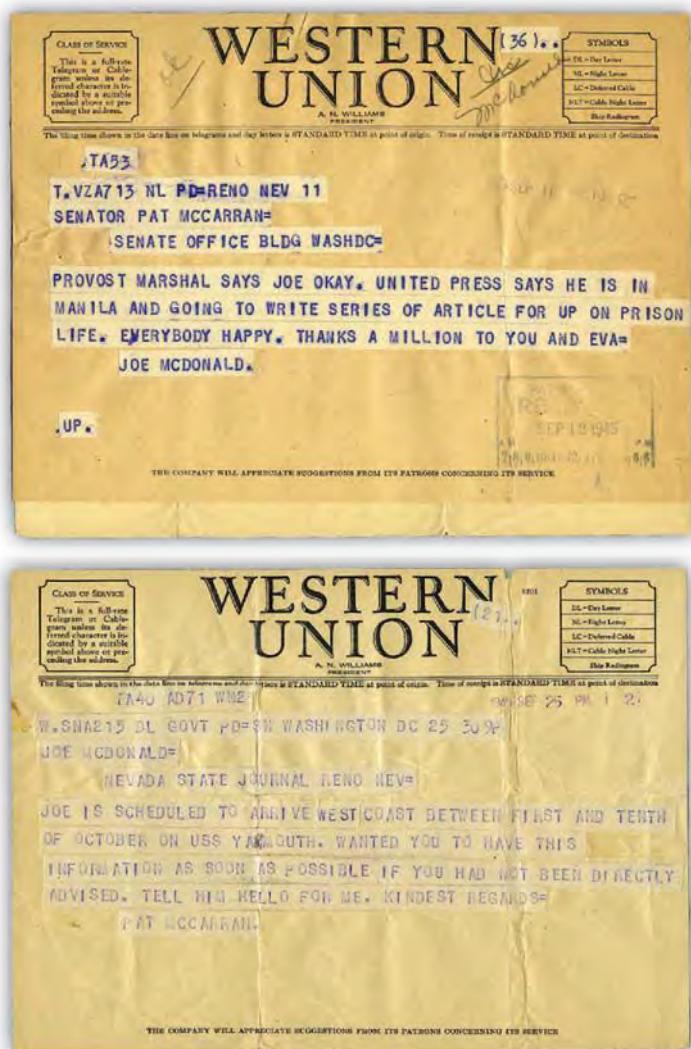
letter to Senator Pat McCarran detailing continuing plans for repatriation of American civilians [Figure 11]. It notes "Mr. McDonald" was on a list for an exchange in 1943 but was pulled off the list due to charges of espionage.

Secretary Grew writes: "Mr. McDonald was one of a group of fifteen Americans who were excluded [from repatriation] at the last moment by the Japanese on grounds of espionage and similar charges, from the last previous exchange in 1943."<sup>23</sup>

The cover, marked "CONFIDENTIAL" is very simple. It contains the address to the senator and the simple return address: "Department of State-U.S.A." The back of the envelope is stapled and sealed with two great wax seals from the Department of State. Four days after this letter was sent, the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. On August 9, 1945, another bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. On August 15, 1945, the war was over and the Japanese formally surrendered on September 2, 1945.

On September 5, 1945, the Niigata POW camp was liberated. The freed prisoners and their captors walked out of the camp together into town to find something to eat. In spite of being a prisoner for more than three years and nine months my father had great respect for most of his captors (except a few of the POW camp commandants). He once told me that everyone on both sides were all young, all hungry, and sad that they could not be friends. He said they were all trying to do whatever they could to survive.

A few days later, my dad and most of the others were given passage to Yokohama to catch a troop transport home to America. This completed the full circle for "Young Joe" [Figure 12] Leaving Yokohama and remembering that on January 12, 1942 he and more than a 1,000 other Wake Island military



**Figure 12.** Telegrams in September 1945 between Joe McDonald's parents and Sen. Pat McCarran confirmed their son had been released.

men and civilians had sailed on the Japanese “hell ship” *Nitta Maru* to Yokohama.

The final three letters that I would like to share in this story are from my father to his parents. After leaving Yokohama by plane for Okinawa and a flight to Manila, my dad writes on September 10, 1945 [Figure 13] that the final letter he received from his parents was written in November 1944. It was a folded and sealed POW postcard that had been sent to Joe at Shanghai prior to the camp moving to the Kiang Wan War Prisoners Camp. It contained a photo of his brother Bob, an Army Air Corps pilot, standing next to his new wife, Gloria, and holding their new son. This photo survived the war and is included in our family collection. The letter tells how he was moved from Shanghai, to North China, Manchuria, and Korea, before winding up in a camp at Niigata on Japan’s west coast. Part of the letter’s text follows:

Dear Folks,

This is the first chance I’ve had to write to you since our release.

It’s really a wonderful feeling to be out and back with civilized people.

You can’t imagine it, really, and I can’t describe it adequately.

The end (of the war) came as a complete surprise. We were all reconciled to sweat out another winter. I guess “sweat” is a little out of place as the snow gets about ten feet deep where we were.

I don’t know whether you have heard that Bill Manson died from beriberi early this year. I just found out a couple of days ago. It really shook one to find out about it.

Perhaps you could let his folks know if they don’t know already.

On September 12, my dad writes a second letter to his parents. The cover is franked with three 6-cent stamps and four 1-cent Four Freedoms stamps (Scott 908). It is postmarked and canceled with four U.S. Army Post Office circle-and-bar cancels. There is a backstamp indicating the letter took 10 days to arrive in Reno, Nevada. In this letter, Joe indicates that he wants to stay in Manila and write about his experiences as a POW for the United Press news service.

My dad did not want to venture home at this point and begs forgiveness of my grandparents for not being able to return home. In the letter he says he does not know when he plans to come home:

Now to explain my mental outlook: I still think I am very much the same as I was when I left, still somewhat a screwball, my feet still itch to travel. ... I have become a lot more cynical toward life in general and have learned a lot by seeing life in the raw in a prison camp where, white men turn into animals and its dog eat dog all the way. I guess I have lost lots of faith in what I thought was human nature



Figure 13. Joe McDonald sent this letter with a free frank on September 11, 1945, to his parents telling them he had been formally released. It on American Red Cross stationery and the letter sealed in a Red Cross envelope. Image courtesy of the archives of the University of Nevada: Collection of Joseph F. McDonald Sr.: Collection No. NC429; Box 2 and 3' Series 2 NC429/1/2. Personal and Family Files.

and have found out that everyman is fundamentally a heel until he proves himself different instead of the vice-versa proposition. ... If I came home now it wouldn’t be long until I would want to take off ...<sup>24</sup>

On September 20, my dad sends a telegram. Happily things have changed. It says “waiting available transportation. am okay. disregard typewritten letter. changed my mind. load the ice-box. Love Joe McDonald.”

The final letter of this story is written by my dad to his parents on September 27, 1945. His saga over and on the way home, he simply says: “According to the schedule, this boat, the U.S.A.T. *Yarmouth*, should arrive in San Francisco the 8th or 9th of October — that will be a great day, one I’ve dreamed about for a long time.”<sup>25</sup>

#### Endnotes

1. Collection of Joseph F. McDonald, Sr.; Collection No. NC429; Box 2 and 3; Series 2 NC429/1/2 Personal and Family Files. University of Nevada, Reno.
2. Joe McDonald to folks, June 10, 1941, Joseph F. McDonald Jr. Family correspondence (hereafter JMFC); Bonita Gilbert, *Building for War: The Epic Saga of the Civilian Contractor and Marines of Wake Island in World War II* (Philadelphia and Oxford: Casemate Publishers, 2012) 109.
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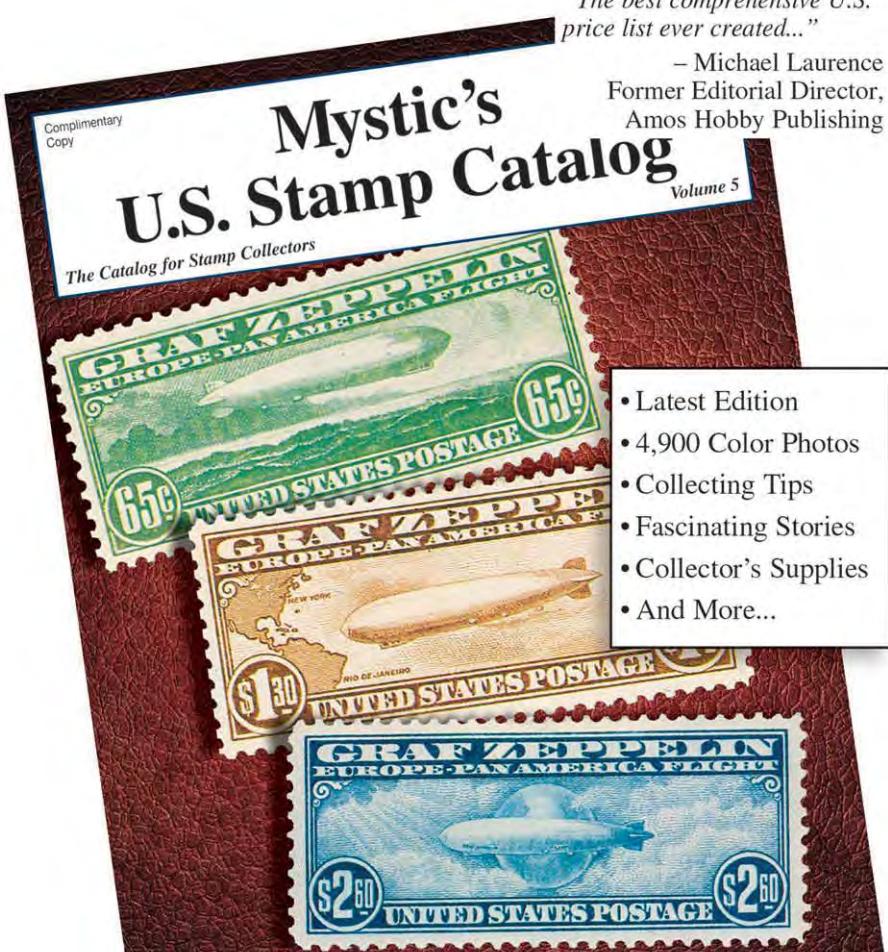
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### The Author

**T**he Rev. Joseph F. McDonald III is the son of Marygene McDonald and Joseph F. McDonald Jr. Called “Joey” by his family, he began collecting stamps when he was in the sixth grade. After a 25-year hiatus, he found all of the letters and stamps his father had collected over those many years. In 1986, about six months after his father passed away, the author opened an old black typewriter case above the garage rafters at his mother’s home. Inside, he found the World War II correspondence regarding his father that his grandfather had secured 40 years earlier. He wrote this story in gratitude for all those who have served their country in war and peace. He is currently a pastor for the Diocese of Boise in Idaho. He has been a member of the American Philatelic Society since 2000.

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# PHILATELY *AND* PHILANTHROPY



## APS/APRL ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT TO OUR VALUED MEMBERS

As the American Philatelic Society celebrates its 130th year, we remain a financially strong organization, serving our members' needs and promoting the growth and development of philately.

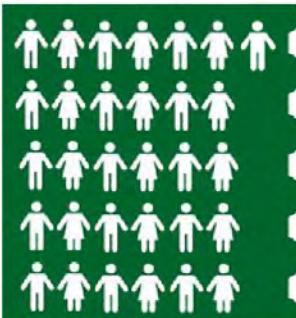
Over the years, countless members and supporters of the APS and APRL have accepted the challenge to help the society and library keep pace with an ever-changing hobby. This 2015 Roll of Honor publicly acknowledges our members and friends who made an investment in the future of philately through their contributions during the year. We deeply appreciate their support.



American Philatelic  
Research Library

### 2015 BY THE NUMBERS

**\$775,000**  
in cash gifts



Stamps Teach reaches  
**31,000**  
students

More than  
**\$2,100** through  
eBay sales



2,500 in-kind gifts

**46**  
volunteers  
at Volunteer Work  
Week in July



**\$71,396**

from sale of donated stamps

**20,000**

donated hours by volunteers at the APC



# MEMBERS VERY GENEROUS

The society and library received more than \$775,000 in cash donations during 2015. In total dollars received, this was our third best year on record. At 14.6 percent, the percentage of members making donations was the highest ever, exceeding our previous bests of 14.1 percent in 2012 and 13.8 percent in 2014.

Our largest three gifts were each in the amount of \$100,000. Two of these gifts came from the estates of James E. Noll and Theodor Kerzner. The Kerzner gift originated from Canada, so the conversion was closer to \$75,000 in U.S. dollars. The Noll gift was unrestricted and the Kerzner gift was designated for library acquisitions. The third \$100,000 gift was to the library from a member who has asked to remain anonymous, but for the second out of three years, this individual gave the maximum distribution from his IRA to the APRL. Those funds were used to offset additional costs to construction of the library.

We received four additional gifts ranging from \$10,000 to \$25,000. For the second time in three years the TurningPoint Foundation provided a matching gift of \$25,000 to support the StampsTeach program. For the 13th year, Hugh Wood made a personal gift of \$20,000. The remaining two gifts of over \$10,000 were payments on five-year pledges. Carol Giles-Straight made a second payment on her five year \$50,000 gift in memory of former APS board member and library trustee David Straight. In recognition of Carol's generosity the union catalogue of philatelic literature has been named in David's memory. Lamar Stout also made a payment on his five year commitment to name the new librarian's office and supplemented this payment with several additional gifts.

We received more than 80 gifts in memory of members who passed away, more than 30 gifts in honor of members, and nine gifts that were matched by employers. In addition, the society and library received more than 2,500 in-kind gifts that helped our library, improved our reference collection, and provided material to help promote the hobby to youth and adults. The Society saved more than \$20,000 by using donated mint U.S. stamps received from our members.

Although not treated as donations, two sponsors provided invaluable support in 2015. The United States Postal Service continued its assistance by supporting our August StampShow and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, which sponsored all the major awards for our winter show.

Gordon E. Eubanks Jr., Alan Parsons, and Mark S. Schwartz made \$5,000 gifts to become Vooys Fellows of the Library. Many donors made significant commitments to support a Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship. Thanks especially to the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, which has now given \$5,000 each of the last six years to support a fellow.

Approximately 25 donors have current multi-year pledges, which are accepted for as little as \$100. We also have more than 30 Future Builders who make regular monthly gifts to the APS/APRL, which are charged to their credit cards or deducted from their checking accounts.

Gifts of all size are important. For example, it just takes a few relatively small gifts to fund the APS Stamp Talk Internet radio show. Many members are incredibly faithful.

Roger S. Cichorz and Robert P. Odenweller have made cash gifts for 42 consecutive years, Ernest L. Bergman for 38 consecutive years, Drew A. Nicholson for 37 years, and Robert C. Merrill for 36 years.

We also should not forget the invaluable volunteer support provided by a few hundred APS members, at both the American Philatelic Center and from a distance. During 2015 more than 20,000 hours of volunteer support were provided at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte. This is the equivalent of 10 full-time employees.

The recognition pages chronicle the year 2015 gifts totaling \$25 or more and in-kind donations valued at \$100 or more. This includes nearly 1,500 members who support us as contributing or supporting members. We appreciate the confidence of the many members who provide unrestricted gifts that allow us maximum flexibility to put the money to the best use. At the same time we thank those members who chose to support specific activities such as our youth programs, the library, our expertizing service, and our endowment funds. These donor-directed contributions help us to achieve and maintain the quality programs and services members have come to expect from your APS and APRL.

A special thanks to the Campaign for Philately Committee, which provides assistance with the Society's fundraising. The committee, chaired by Alfredo Frohlich, includes Roger Brody, Gordon Eubanks, Alex Haimann, Steve Reinhard, Steve Rod, Wade Saadi, Mark Schwartz, and Mick Zais.

We welcome your suggestions and questions.

Please contact APS executive director Scott English, [scott@stamps.org](mailto:scott@stamps.org) or 814-933-3814, with your inquiries.

Thank you for your continued support.

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Typically, the APS and APRL receive gifts either through cash donations (through check, credit card or receiving monthly payments) or in-kind donations of philatelic material such as stamps, literature, and other supplies. There are, however, other ways members can support the APS and the APRL.

eBay offers two additional options. Members who sell through eBay can designate a portion of their sale proceeds (ranging from 10% to 100% with a minimum of \$1) to the APS or APRL. This is not restricted to the sale of philatelic material but for any item being sold. Additionally, APS and APRL supporters can donate as little as \$1 on every eBay purchase using "Give at Checkout."

Between August 2008 and December 2015 members have designated a percentage of sales on nearly 2,300 items sold on eBay. This initiative has generated about \$14,500 to support our Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship program.

Through donations at checkout, of nearly 1,700 eBay sales, members have generated almost \$1,600 for the APS. Supporters can also purchase some in-kind gifts through eBay (seller id: american\_philatelic\_society).

**Thanks to the following individuals who designated a percentage of sales of their items to the APS/APRL during 2015:**

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In 2015, we started construction of the new library at the American Philatelic Center. When it is completed, it will house the largest philatelic library in the world, thanks to the donations of our members. Donations range from a single book to a truckload, while other donations took no shelf space at all. For instance, exhibitors donate scans of their exhibits to our online collection ([stamps.org/Online-Exhibits](http://stamps.org/Online-Exhibits)). Monetary contributions to purchase new books, as well as gifts of catalogs, journals, and other publications from publishers, help keep the APRL collection current. Donations in honor or memory of someone are recognized with a bookplate.

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Dan W. Vooys was very instrumental in both the creation and ultimate success of the American Philatelic Research Library. He served on the Library's Board of Trustees from 1969 to the time of his death in 1978. Dan's personal library became a core part of the APRL's collection, measuring in at more than three tons of materials! Dan Vooys was also a generous benefactor for the Library, and his shadow still brings the APRL good things. Several bequests have come or are coming to us directly because of Dan's influence on other collectors' lives.

The APRL Board of Trustees established the donor level of Vooys Fellow in August 2007. Named to honor former APS President, and leading philatelic literature collector Daniel W. Vooys, funds generated by this level of giving will help endow General Operating Funds for the Library. Current fellows:

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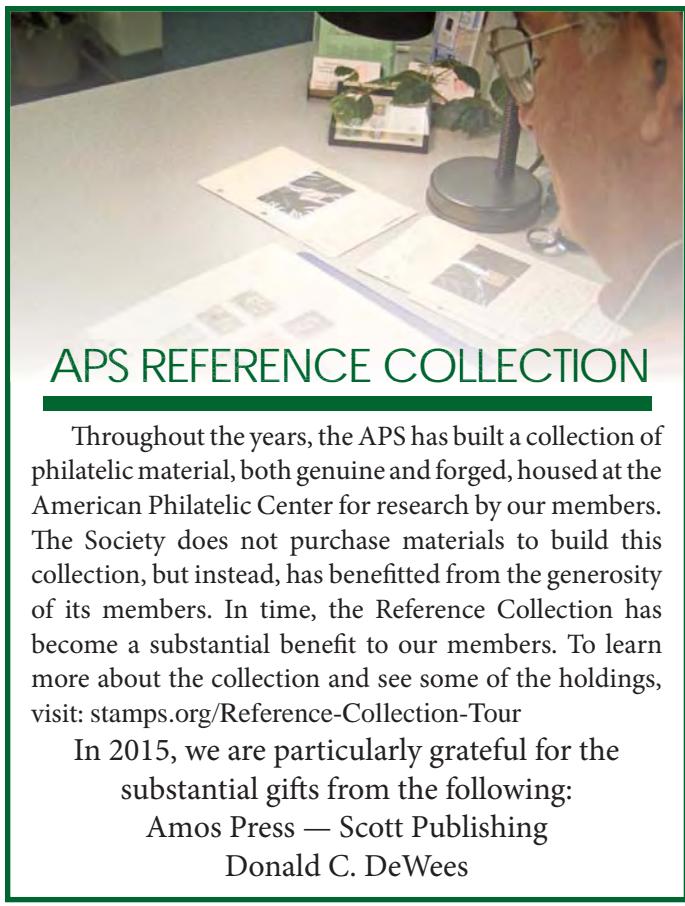
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Ann Dorris  
Mary F. Doughty  
Richard E. Drews  
Carol Dwyer  
Milton Elis  
Ronald Frank  
Jack Friedman  
Robert Gilsinan  
Raymond Godshall  
Roman Gudish  
Donald F. Hargy  
Doug Harris  
Almer R. Helgerson  
John J. Henry  
Myrtis E. Herndon  
Maria E. Higuera  
Tony Hill  
Terence M. Hines  
William J. Hitzhusen  
Gang Hu  
Betty Ann Hunter  
Richard Jannace  
Edward H. Jarvis  
Hans Keller  
Martin S. Lampner  
Wallace H. Lancaster  
Eileen Bell Landau  
Eliot A. Landau  
Estate of Robert L. Markovits  
Andrew A. Mazzara  
William McCloe  
Joseph Mersol  
Mick G. Mikuenski  
Ann Moore  
John H. Morrison  
Richard S. Nakles  
Gerald E. Noeske  
James K. Oliver  
Dorothy Packman  
Paul Petersen

Wendy Pickart	Stanley Garbasz	David Wormley	John B. Gonzales	Brendan Parker
Donald J. Reifer	William Garbasz	Dawn Yamada	Lindsey Goris	L. N. Peake
David A. Rosenbaum	Karl Gebert	Greg Young	David Gracey	Patricia Pemberton
Robert C. Rudine	John A. Gehrig	James B. Zink	Mary Alice Hall	E. Lynn Peruzovic
George C. Russell	Dennis R. Gilson	<b>\$100-\$249</b>	Lenice Hansen	Jason Pfeiffer
Linda Sattem	Daryl J. Gisch	Lori Aceves	Melody Hansen	Louise Pietrok
Robert C. Sawyer	James Graber	E. Decker Adams	Leonard H. Hartmann	James R. Pullin
Roger W. Schatel	Thomas A. Hale	George J. Adler	Theodore E. Harvey	Gail D. Rader
Jill Scheffkind	Anthony R. Hall	Ira Adler	Samuel Haupt	Gerald Radioli
Michael A. Schiff	Daniel B. Harding	Jane M. Alexander	Catherine Hawkins	Denise E. Ranish
David N. Schwartz	Don Hargy	Rebecca V. Alvarez	Gerald Heiser	Robert L. Re
Walter Scott	James T. Havlena	Michael Ambrozek	Don E. Heller	Fred Reed
David W. Snow	Steve C. Hess	Christopher Andrlé	Linda Hemmerling	James G. Reichman
Ann Soldega	Deborah Hicks	James E. Anspach	Norm Herning	Janie Reinhardt
Sylvia Spiegel	Nicholas Hinkel	Joseph D. Antosiewicz	Patrick P. Hervy	Edward Reyes
John Stanley	Elizabeth M. Hisey	Joseph W. Arnold	Sylvia B. Herzog	Juan L. Riera
Robert W. Stark	Warren Holthaus	Marvin C. Atkins	R. Hicks	Henry G. Rieser
Heidi Steiner	John B. Hulick	Victor B. Bailey	Doris K. Hickson	Richard Rizzo
Rex H. Stever	Peggy Johnston	Thomas F. Barton	Natasha Hildebrandt	William Rodrick
Brent Stewart	Diane Jokerst	John Beebe	Larry E. Hilgendorf	Karl C. Rove
Lucindo Suarez	Scott Jones	Harris Beecham	Michelle D. Holmes	Carol Ruster
Roxanne J. Suarez	Joseph Karpen	Stephen Behling	Lam Hood	Wade E. Saadi
Kip L. Thomas	Dan E. King	Charles E. Belair	Mike Hudson	Dennis Sadowski
Ronald W. Thurner	James E. Kloetzel	Robert M. Benninghoff	Mareen Hughes	Mark R. Schroeder
Carl Trueblood	Sandy Kowalski	David R. Bergman	Eric A. Jackson	Henry J. Schumacher
Almon G. Turner	Kathleen Krumm	John W. Bertrand	Beverly Jacobs	Eleanor Schwanebeck
Charlean Wakefield	Thomas S. Kurtz	Kent Bickell	Louis N. Jones	Hiram Scott
Norine M. Walker	Donald W. Lewis	Albert Black	Susan B. Jones	Joan Seaman
Donald W. Weaver	Alvin Low	Nancy Bledsoe	Michael P. Kabel	Larry R. Sell
Kent E. Weaver	Ronald M. Luke	David A. Bortree	Eliot Kagan	George B. Shaw
Xiang Yu	Frederick E. Lutt	Eugene N. Borza	Kristen J. Kanack	Steven L. Sherman
<b>\$250-\$499</b>	Charles MacFarland	Rachel Braun	Marjorie S. Kantor	Thomas Shick
James Adams	John Malack	Charles C. Briggs	David Kols	Rebecca Shortle
Connie L. Allen	Steve L. Mardock	Beverly Brinkop	Joseph J. Kopczak	Martin P. Skrocki
Mark Anderson	Bruce Martin	James R. Brown	Patricia Koval	Barbara E. Slater
Joseph Anselmo	John Martin	Mike Buckman	George J. Kramer	Jessie M. Smith
Eunice Askov	Michael Mattox	Eleanor Budd	A. B. Krause	Jim Smith
Arthur Balazs	Charles L. Mayfield	Michael S. Canavan	Daniel N. Kravitz	Rolando L. Sosa
Steve Baldwin	T. P. McDermott	Lorraine Cavalire	John W. Kuehn	Robert A. Spira
John Barwis	Sharon Mortrud	Dennis Chamot	Dara Lacey	Robert C. Stephens
Vernon Baum	Frank J. Muckenhaupt	Jerry Z. Chen	Terry Larkin	Lamar Stout
Mary Anne Bell	William Needham	Richard W. Coakley	David G. Larson	Steven G. Strawn
Greg Berman	James Nelson	David Coffey	Richard H. Lee	Keith S. Stupell
Joyce Berman	John A. Neporadny	James Conner	Yechiel M. Lehavy	Robert L. Sumpter
Tim Biebler	J. Regino Perez-Polo	John J. Costello	William L. Lehr	Marvin Talso
Lyle C. Boardman	Philatelic Zialo	Kenneth R. Coulson	Mark M. Leon	Thomas F. Teague
Gisela Boese	Donald L. Pizza	Daniel J. Cronin	Marlee Lindon	Michael Theobald
Francesca Bossey	Susan Reinhold	Allison W. Cusick	Billie Longwell	Dawn A. Thomas
Family of James F. Boyles	Steven Reno	Lawrence Cutler	Joseph Luce	Greg Thomson
Herbert Breuer	Richard L. Rhoads	Ronald A. Davis	David E. Lundy	Mary Lou Toth
Joseph Bright	Louis W. Ricker	Pierre De Boeck	Frank D. Matthews III	Bob & Carol Townsend
Steven Bright	Gerald L. Robbins	Tom & Jessica De Maagd	Harry Matustik	Alice Tucker
Roger S. Brody	Walter A. Roberts	Patty L. Delony	Florence Mautz	Wendy Valdez
Patricia Campbell	Clayton Rose	Mary S. Dettloff	Andi McCoy	Richard Van Duizend
Donald J. Chenevert Jr.	Robert G. Rose	Thomas L. DeVaughan	J. Harry McElroy	Joseph L. Vogl
Leslie F. Cleland	Alan A. Rosen	John E. Deysher	William Melver	Charles J. Vukotich Jr.
Vincent J. Cosenza	M. Foster Ross	Edward Dimmick	Geoffrey Meyer	Ronald G. Wayne
RoseMary Coyle	James F. Scholl	Pamela Donohue	George L. Michaels	Harmon Weisbart
Lunita Crosby	Thomas W. Schultz	Arlene Dunn	Giorgio Migliavacca	Stan Wernikowski
Will Csaplar	David L. Servies	Philip R. Edelstein	Kim Millar	Tom Williams
Kenneth J. Davis	Kevin Shear	Marietta Egervary	Foster E. Miller III	Celeste Wolverton
Charles Del Fava	Robert L. Shell Jr.	David Evans	Patricia D. Mitchell	Michael Wong
Stephen Deutsch	Dennis M. Slawson	Laurence F. Fish	William H. Morrison	Jane Works
Dennis E. Dietz	K. David Steidley	Cliff Foley	Roger Neff	Fran Zak
Arthur Dove	Gregory E. Stern	Debra Forsythe Goldstein	Kay Nelson	Arian Zarkower
Darrell R. Ertzberger	A. Lee Straayer	Suzanne Gagan	John L. Niehaus	Ira Zimmerman
John H. Fairfield	Douglas W. Strasburg	Margaret Gandara	Geoffrey N. Oakden	David S. Zubatsky
Ramona L. Finley	Gene Stutzenstein	Simson Garfinkel	Charles J. O'Brien III	
Jeff Fisher	Maggie H. Taylor	Karl C. Gebert	Patrick O'Keefe	
Nicholas T. Follansbee	Felipe Toro	Robert Ginsberg	Kent A. Ott	
Joanna L. Ford-Melka	Richard F. Tregidgo	Suzanne Gold	Theresa Paddock	
Wayne L. Fox	Edwin A. Upton			
Clark Frazier	Caitlin Van Dusen			
Miss Deborah I. Friedman	Frnestina Vila			
Michael Gallagher	David H. Wallace			
Thomas A. Galloway	R Scott Wallinger			
	Alan Warren			
	Don Watkins			
	Robert J. Wilcsek			
	James C. Wise			

*If you've never had the opportunity to visit APS headquarters in Bellefonte, you need to get there. This remarkable facility shows what our society has done to turn an abandoned brick and wooden-beam building into a thriving and energetic center for our hobby, for the USA, and the world. — Terry Dempsey*

# ESTATE ADVISORY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

Through its Estate Advisory Service, the APS offers suggestions for the disposal of the philatelic property of deceased members who neglected to provide instructions to the family. The committee is made up of volunteer advisors (both collector and dealer members) who can provide a cursory examination of the collection and suggest appropriate methods of sale. We currently have 187 advisors serving around the country and are listed here by state. The APS could not offer this service without their willingness to assist families.

## Alabama

Ian L. Robertson

## Alaska

Jeffrey M. Liddle

## Arkansas

James O. Wear

## Arizona

Michael E. Aldrich

John Birkinbine

Robert S. Freeman

Chris KulpinskI

Joseph S. Molnar

Frank L. Sente

## California

Charles A. Brand

Ralph C. Cline

David M. Cobb

H. David Cooper

Wallace A. Craig

James T. Dempsey

Marshall Goldberg

Robert J. Grosch

Roger J. Gutzman

Larry J. Haller

Robert G. Hansen

Stanley M. Piller

Muriel K. Rowan

Kurt H. Schau

Merle E. Spencer

William E. Stein

Clayton J. Wallace

Kirk S. Wolford

## Colorado

Kenneth E. Beiner

Charles G. Firby

Timothy D. Heins

## Connecticut

Irving R. Miller

## Delaware

Keith I. Marsh

## Florida

Michael Aronson

Lewis C. Berg

Allan Bush

## Maryland

Conrad L. Bush

Samuel A. Brachna

Tom Breay

David S. Broxterman

Peter L. Dearing

Brian Dias

Michael A. Francis

Arthur W. Frotten

Richard A. Golden

Philip S. Horowitz

Robert G. Lanphear

Archibald S. McKee

James McNaughton

Robert M. Sazama

Paul A. Trivelpiece

Steven A. Warkaske

C. Michael

Wiedemann

## Georgia

Vicke L. Dietz

Roy E. De Lafossee

Thomas R. Zgreggen

## Illinois

Leonard F. Farrell

Duane A. Larson

James E. Lee

Ralph R. Schneider

T.G. (Ron) Snider

John A. Steele

Larry S. Weiss

Robert M. Weisz

## Indiana

Edward L. Davidson

Dennis S. Peoples

## Kentucky

Leland G. Bell

Leonard H. Hartmann

Charles A. McFarlane

## Louisiana

Frank J. Monahan

## Maine

Thomas J. Cieslinski

Gilbert M. Roderick

Richard D. Warren

## Maryland

Carlton J. Fulmer

Herman D. Most

Glenn S. Nozick

Bruce H. Roush

Charles F. Sullivan

## Massachusetts

Stephen W. Banks

Paul J. Bento

John M. Blood

Hugh J.W. Daugherty

Marc G. Jasmin

Ronald L. Goodrich

Peter V. Pierce

Michael L. Rivet

Henry A. Tarr

Stephen J. Waxer

## Michigan

Robert W. Ankeny

Brad Gougeon

Robert L. Huskins

Daniel W. Pattison

Gary E. Thorpe

James D. Stearns

David Youngblade

## Missouri

David Kols

## Nebraska

Athol E. Meder

## Nevada

Paul D. Glass

Dick K. Klein

## New Hampshire

Edward J. August

Victor M. Collinino

Donald A. Tocher

## New Jersey

Alan Bernstein

George G. Birdsall

William C. Frekot

Daniel C. Herzog

Thomas M. Jacks

Robert G. Kane

Brian Kathenee

## New York

Alan P. Miller

Norman R. Schivener

James Walker

Ross E. Wiessmann

## South Carolina

John B. Amberman

Irvin J. Farber

George T. Fekete

Leon Finik

Allen Fink

Ronald Frank

Henry L. Gitner

Harry Hagendorf

John W. Kendall

Frank McAlonan

Kenneth C. Mica

Alan Parsons

Gary Posner

Larry R. Sell

Fred B. Widding

Laurence L. Winum

## North Carolina

James A. Estes

Frank P. Geiger

David F. Hull

James T.R. Johnson

Jay C. Smith

J. Douglas Mattox

Charles L. Wood

## Ohio

David A. Allego

Robert C. Baldridge

Steven Heaney

Allan Metzler

Richard A. Peterson

Randy Scholl

## Oregon

Robert A. Beall

Mark L. Hamburg

Lawrence M.

Weinstock

## Pennsylvania

Phil Bansner

Richard A. Colberg

Jon D. Edelman

## Richard A. Friedberg

Richard S. Gittis

Virginia Goldberg

Bruce M. Moyer

James J. Reeves

Joseph S. Volutza

## South Carolina

Stephen Radin

Calvin L. Ramsey

Graham C. Scott

## Tennessee

Randall M. Brooks-bank

Jerry S. Palazolo

James B. Pettway

Joel M. Rind

David C. Saks

## Texas

Melvin T. Edmonds

Wayne L. Fink

Michael J. Generali

Albert Little

Delmas G. Parker

Fred Schwartz

Byron J. Sandfield

Shyam H. Shah

Max Statman

## Vermont

Christopher F. Curran

## Virginia

N. F. Bretschneider

William Clair

Hartley M. Jones

Peter W.W. Powell

David B. Robinson

## Washington

Myron L. Haun

Michael D. Jaffe

Richard Keiser

## Wisconsin

David M. Carney

Thomas W. Mansfield

Robert W. Konrad

William B. Robinson

Many states are represented by only a few volunteers, and some states have no one at all. If you are interested in helping the families of APS members, contact Mercer Bristow ([mercier@stamps.org](mailto:mercier@stamps.org)) for information and guidelines.

# 2015 SPECIAL GIFTS

## Memorials

Sadly 387 members of the society passed away during 2015. Cash gifts were received in memory of a number of these members from family, friends and other APS members. A few chapters also remember their fellow members, regardless of whether they were APS members, by making gifts to the Society. In total, 81 memorial gifts totaling nearly \$7,000 were received in 2015 in memory of the following individuals, some of whom passed in previous years.

Dottie Algea	Paul Gault	Donald Nelson	Milton Schreiner
Alp Berker	Ralph Heller	Mary Ann	John H. Smith
Shari L. Bukowski	Hope Hollister	Aspinwall Owens	Bill Stavrides
Jay Carrigan	Francis Kiddle	Julian Pugh	Shirely Tashjian
William "Bill" Chisholm	Linford Kinney	Robert Rawlins	Bob Terry
Anthony D'Ascenzo	Jo Mynatt Large	Dan Reis	Nancy Trenchard
Bruce Detotto	Morton Levy	Jim Richmann	Scott Troutman
Chuck Drouillard	James Linker	Richard Sherman	Gordon Unglaub
Austin Dulin	Eric Lordahl	Norman Turk	Edward W. Weintraut
Aubrey Dunne	Thomas Lowe	Gordon Unglaub	Bill Weiss
Martin Feibusch	William Luckett	Rose Van Reken	Neil White
Phyllis Fettinger	Donald Lynch	Cason Schaeffer	Lester E. Winick
John B. "Jack" Flannery Jr.	Robert L. Markovits	John Scheulke	Kenneth A. Wood
Michel Forand	James Clive Murray	Keith Schlanger	

## Matching

The companies listed below matched recent gifts made to the APS/APRL by their current or retired employees. If you don't know if your employer has a matching gift program, please ask your personnel office.

More than 1,000 companies in the United States "match" charitable donations.

Eaton  
Fidelity Charitable Fund  
GE Foundation  
Janus Corporation  
Rhode Island Foundation  
Thrivent Financial  
Turning Point Foundation  
Your Cause

## In Honor

Each year a few gifts are received in honor of members. Such gifts have typically been made in to recognize extraordinary service or an event such as a birthday or anniversary.

Ernie Alexander	Ken Martin
Richard Barnes	Ken Nilsestuen
Jay Bigalke	Kristin Patterson
C. Ross Blackshaw	Milton Rosenstock
David D'Allesandris	Robert Rufe
Gordon Eubanks	Wade E. Saadi
Jean Firstenberg	Fred Schmitt
Alfredo Frohlich	Bill Schultz
Bruce Hazleton	Chuck Skittino
Harold Howell	Otto Walke
Janet Klug	Steve Zwillinger
Bruce Marsden	



For more information on planned giving opportunities, please contact Scott English — American Philatelic Society 100 Match Factory Place Bellefonte, PA 16823 Telephone 814-933-3814 E-mail scott@stamps.org

# BEQUESTS ARE IMPORTANT TO THE APS

A bequest is a gift made through a Will or Codicil that takes effect when an estate is settled. Although bequests provide no immediate income, their impact can be great. A bequest to the APS or APRL can be written into a Will or added to an existing Will by amending it through a Codicil.

Bequests remove assets from the taxable estate and may take several forms:

- A percentage bequest allocates a fixed percent of your estate:

*I give, devise, and bequeath to the American Philatelic Society, a non-profit organization located at 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my estate, both real and personal property of whatever kind and whatsoever situated.*

- A residual bequest grants the residue, or portion of

the residue, of your estate to the APS after explicit bequests have been made:

*I give, devise, and bequeath to the organization and address, all (or \_\_\_\_%) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal property of whatever kind and whatsoever situated.*

- A specific or explicit bequest for a stated dollar amount or securities:

*I give devise and bequeath to \_\_\_\_\_, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (or describe the specific property or security you intend to bequeath).*

- A contingent bequest in case one or more of your bequests cannot be fulfilled:

*If any of the above-named beneficiaries should predecease me, I hereby bequeath his/her share of my estate to \_\_\_\_\_.*

You may also wish to include our Federal I.D. number. For the APS it is 24-0772797 and for the APRL 25-1213435.

## THE LEGACY SOCIETY

Membership in the Legacy Society is provided to individuals who have included the American Philatelic Society or the American Philatelic Research Library in their wills or life insurance policies.

Please notify us if you should be included in this list.

Our thanks to the following individuals who have included the society or library in their will:

Ted E. Ashworth	David E. Gillis	R. S. McDowell	Marjory J. Sente
L. Stephen Brace	Alexander Hall	Ted Moxham	Frederick C. Skvara
Richard A. Colberg	Donald Kelley	Ralph H. Nafziger	Dennis E. Stark
C. David Eeles	John A. Krantz	Alan A. Nelson	Harlan F. Stone
Lois Evans de Violini	David C. Lingard	Robert P. Odenweller	Herbert A. Trenchard
Ingeburg Fisher	Kenneth P. Martin	Don David Price	W. Danforth Walker
Gerald J. Gallagher	Robert A. Mason	George S. Robinson Jr.	plus two members who prefer not to be listed
John J. Germann	Wilton E. Mason (Tony)	Frank L. Sente	

## FUTURE BUILDERS

Some members provide an ongoing income to the APS by making monthly gifts. The simple and convenient choice is to have the gift automatically charged to your credit card or deducted from your bank account. To join the great Future Builders listed, you can go to: [stamps.org/Recurring-Monthly-Gift](http://stamps.org/Recurring-Monthly-Gift)

Joan E. Anderson	Gary G. Hendren	Foster Miller
Keith W. Bantz	Thomas W. Horn	Gunther Monteadora
Alan R. Barasch	William R. Johnston	Louis W. Ricker
Richard W. Boosey Jr.	Edward J. Kroll	Wade E. Saadi
Peter Butler	Luca Lavignino	William R. Schultz
William H. Carson	Joann and Kurt Lenz	Bill Strauss
John M. Conklin	Kenneth P. Martin	Joseph K. Thoman
Jason A. Drake	Michael McCabe	Kenneth H. Trettin
Frank C. Gless	Dana A. Middleton	David Wessely
Robert Dalton Harris	Irving R. Miller	Ronald J. Yeager
Steven Heaney		



## THE CAMPAIGN FOR PHILATELY

The Campaign for Philately is the banner under which the APS and APRL jointly conduct fundraising activities. The purpose of our Campaign is to provide additional resources for the society and library to better serve the membership and to promote stamp collecting. Donors may direct gifts for specific purposes. Undesignated gifts are utilized consistent with the purpose of the campaign, including current programs and services.

Along with our priority to finish our permanent library space, other services and initiatives that will benefit from the campaign include: membership promotion; technology upgrades; youth and education programs; advertising and public relations promoting the hobby; and the creative use of emerging digital and Internet resources.

### 2015 FUNDRAISING SNAPSHOT

#### Cash Received

Estates (9)	\$204,404
Sale of Donated Stamps	71,396
Naming Gifts (10)	33,800
Use of Donated Postage	20,947
Pledge Payments (17)	24,510
Matching Gifts (9)	26,085
Sale of Donated Library Material	7,967
Memorial Gifts (81)	6,901
Honorary Gifts (35)	3,147
eBay Giving Works	2,068
eBay Give at Checkout	126
Other Cash	478,029
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$853,295</b>

#### 2015 Fund-Raising Costs

Personnel	\$86,344
Credit Card Costs	2,822
Postage	4,093
Other Office Expense	19,172
Campaign for Philately Receptions	6,549
AP Donor Recognition	8,936
Interoffice Services (Accounting, Mailroom, etc.)	12,540
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$140,456</b>

**% Cost of Fund Raising – 16.5%**  
(based only on cash received)

#### Cash by Designation (excludes non-cash gift proceeds)

APRL Acquisitions	\$74,320
APRL Construction	\$146,057
APRL Endowment	\$12,560
APRL General	\$59,941
APS Endowment	\$6,245
APS General	\$204,524
Building	\$3,770
Circuit Sales	\$158
David Straight Award	\$1,330
Debt Reduction	\$2,728
Education	\$3,356
Employee Appreciation	\$1,425
Expertizing	\$2,587
Mighty Buck	\$61,692
Show	\$7,059
Stamp Buddies	\$500
Stamps Teach	\$54,902
Technology/Website	\$125
Unrestricted	\$105,821
Young Friends of APS	\$2,388
Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship	\$22,068
Young Stamp Collectors of America	\$100
Youth	\$5,217

For more information on how you or your organization can support the Campaign for Philately  
please contact Scott English, scott@stamps.org, or 814-933-3814.

# VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE CRITICAL SUPPORT

**B**oth the society and library have always relied on volunteer support to maintain their high level of member services. Both of our boards and all our committee chairs and members are volunteers. In recent years additional volunteer support has become increasingly important to the APS and APRL, and we are delighted to report an increase in volunteer assistance in 2015 during which more than 20,000 hours were provided in person at the American Philatelic Center which does not include the many volunteer hours provided by individuals working from their homes nor the dedicated service of our 90 nationally accredited judges whose honorariums typically cover a small fraction of their out-of-pocket expenses. This is the equivalent of 10 full-time employees.

Our sixth Volunteer Work Week was held in 2015 with 46 volunteers spending at least part of the week at the APS at their own expense. We extend special thanks to those volunteers: Irving Adams; John Baillis; Charles and Paula Belair; Tom and Laurie Bieniosek; Jeff Bigalke; Ron Breznay; Steve Campbell; Brian Christian; Debbie Cleton; Peg Donor; Bill Donovan; Robin Gates-Elliott; Dennis Gilson; John and Peggy Gonzales; Reinhard Graetzer; Melissa Gummo; Don Heller; Rietta Henderson; Miquel, Jose and Pedro Ibanez; Richard Judge; Rodney Juell; Clark Lobenstine; Geoff Meyer; Marcelina Moreno; Richard Nakles; Don and Sarah Noble; Calvin Osman; Merle Peters; Gail Rader; Jo Roesner; John Seidl; Paul Shamel; Donna Shawley; Nancy Shawley; Rusty Smith; Ben and Janet Stauss; Joe Sullivan; Steve Walsh and Paul Wangness.

We look forward to the 7th annual Volunteer Work Week, July 18–22. Register now at [stamps.org/volunteer](http://stamps.org/volunteer).

Volunteers also allow the American Philatelic Research Library to accomplish many things we could not do otherwise. Peggy Gonzales, Susan Hinds, Jose, Marcelina, and Miguel Ibanez, Jim Marshall, John McDonald, Sierra Metcalf, Penn State students, and a few others together provided more than 2,000 hours of volunteer service to the Library.

Volunteers working from home help the library build the article index available through the David Straight Memorial Philatelic Union Catalog ([catalog.stamplibrary.org](http://catalog.stamplibrary.org)). Gene Fricks indexes many journals. Other journal indexers contributing to Frick's index include Alan Warren for *Posthorn*, David Crotty for the *Meter Stamp Society Quarterly Bulletin*, and Randy Woodward for *Philamath*.

Tony Croce is indexing current issues of *The American Philatelist*, *American Stamp Dealer and Collector*, and *Linn's Stamp News*; Richard Judge is indexing *BNA Topics*; Chris Steenerson is indexing older issues of *American Revenuer*; and Paul Bondor has volunteered to index *Geosix*.

We are dependent on volunteers for book reviews in *Philatelic Literature Review*. Thanks especially to Peter Martin, Giorgio Migliavacca, and Alan Warren.

John Baillis, Mary Ann Bell, Kay Boob, Debbie Cleton, Peg Donor, Bill Donovan, Jerry Gill, John and Peggy Gonzales, Sue Hinds, Ronnie Houser, Tom King, Jim Koncz, Ken Krivy, Joanne Roesner, Donna Shawley, Nancy Shawley, Rusty Smith, Judy Sullivan and others provided close to 9,000 volunteer hours for our education and youth efforts. Doug Drumheller helps us convert slide programs to DVDs.

Several volunteers work from their home soaking, trimming and stripping stamps from donated albums. They include Doug Mueller, Geoff Meyer, Joan Kulikowski, Dennis Lamm and Louis Zeelsdorf.

Richard Nakles put in more than 2,500 hours helping us to process in-kind donations and putting donated mint postage on envelopes. Richard is assisted by volunteers John Baillis, Rusty Smith, and Debbie Cleton. Their efforts resulted in about \$90,000 to help offset the costs of Education and Youth projects.

Circuit Sales benefits from the assistance of Brian Christian and Ben Stauss who organize material that was lost in the mail and recovered after the owner's have been paid. Dennis Gilson, Peg Donor, and Ben Stauss assist Internet Sales with scanning.

Our two annual stamp shows often use more than 100 volunteers who help staff the registration booth, Stamps by the Bucket, the youth area and help with mounting and dismounting of exhibits. Regular show volunteers include Parker and Hilda Bailey; Tom and Laura Bieniosek; Chris Calle; David Eeles; David Kent; Dottie Kugel; Harry and Dottie Winter; and Charlie Wood. These volunteers provide more than 200 hours of support at our winter show and about 600 hours of assistance at our summer show. Richard Nakles helps with badge and preregistration preparation.

Dennis Gilson was another APS member who volunteered on a weekly basis in 2015 helping with Expertizing, scanning Internet Sales orders, proofreading *The American Philatelist*, and nearly anything else we need.

Since January of 2010, members of our local community have provided regular assistance. The Retired and Senior Volunteers of Centre County, Pennsylvania have donated more than 3,000 hours during 2015 either at the American Philatelic Center or from home, preparing in-kind stamp donations to be used in programs with children and adult beginners. We also thank weekly community volunteers: Julie Coons, in her fourth year, Ron Houser, in his 15th year, Merle Peters, in his sixth year, and Jerry Gill, in his seventh year.

We understand that not every member is financially able to assist the society and library, but we will do our best to find a way that every member can help us! With an organization and membership as diverse as the APS/APRL, there is always a job to be done. Information on volunteering is available on our website at [stamps.org/volunteer](http://stamps.org/volunteer).

# 2015 APS RECRUITING HONOR ROLL

The complete list of 2015 recruiters and the number of applications sponsored (all one each unless otherwise noted) is as follows:

## TOP RECRUITERS



Donald J. Sundman	211
Michael Bloom	37
Alexander T. Haimann	25
Christopher Diaz	21
John R. Winkel	14
William P. Athens	9
Donald A. Lee	6
John W. Donnelly	5
Garry L. Camolli	4
Dale R. Davis	4
James T. Dempsey	4
Marios Theodossiou	4

Ahmad, Shakeel  
American Topical Association (2)  
Armstrong, John E.  
Ash, Thomas J.  
Athens, William P. (9)  
Austin Texas Stamp Club (2)  
Badger Stamp Club 2  
Balner, James E.  
Balner, Peter  
Barkdoll, John E.  
Barker, Dewey J.  
Bednarczyk, Stanley P.  
Bedrin, Marc S.  
Bell, Robert D.  
Bick, Melvin R.  
Bloom, Michael (37)  
Bock, Rosalie M.  
Brunelle, Martin E.  
Bryant, Geoffrey C.  
Buchsbayew, Paul  
Bullock, Roger J.  
Burchett, Lewis  
Bush, Alan (2)  
Camolli, Garry L. (4)  
Campbell, Robert M.  
Campman, Glen G.  
Capone, Stephen J.  
Capparelli, Alfred F.  
Caughey, Robert S.  
Ceo, Robert N.  
Chambers, Earl L.

Chelmsford Stamp Club  
Chisholm, Barbara R.  
Cipolla, Roland H.  
Clark, Nancy B.  
Coker, R. Neil (2)  
Collier County Stamp Club  
Collins, Shelby R.  
Columbia Philatelic Society  
Copp, Mark  
Coryell's Ferry Stamp Club  
Cropp, Lawrence E.  
Cuban Philatelic Society of America (2)  
Davidson, Edward L. (2)  
Davis, Dale R. (4)  
DeCarlo, Robert  
Dempsey, James T. (4)  
Dempsey, Susanbeth  
DeRudder, Louis  
Des Moines Philatelic Society  
Dew, Jonathan  
Diaz, Christopher (2)  
Donnelly, John W. (5)  
Drake, Jason A.  
Drought, Richard M.  
Dumaine, Robert F.  
Dunn, Arlene  
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Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections  
Edelman, Roger S.

Edgcomb, Cheryl B.  
Edmonton Stamp Club  
Edwards, Jonathan W.  
Elias, Peter C. (3)  
Erie Stamp Club  
Estrada, Douglas A.  
Ettinger, Leonard (2)  
Everett, Kevin J.  
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Faulkenbury, Donald R.  
Fettig, Phillip E.  
Finger Lakes Stamp Club  
Fracchia, Allen V.  
Frazier, Clark  
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Goldberg, Virginia  
Goldstein, Gary M. (2)  
Gordon, Bob  
Goss, Kenneth F.  
Gouda, Joseph Farag (2)  
Grady, William H.  
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Greater Eastside Stamp Society  
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Grigorian, Igor  
Hale, Charles D.  
Harding, Daniel B.  
Hasid, Ariel  
Havertown Stamp Club  
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Heckmann, Robert  
Herzig, William A. (2)  
Hickel, John R.  
Hinds, Richard E.  
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Hoover, David F. (3)  
Hotchner, John M.  
Houston Philatelic Society  
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Ibanez, Jose L.  
Janesville Stamp Club  
Jaynes, Glenn W.  
Jobe, Robert T.  
Johnston, Robert A.  
Joyce, Elizabeth A.  
Joye, Andrew P.  
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Kennel, Byron E.  
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Knapp, William A.  
Knoxville Philatelic Society  
Koppel, Walter B.  
Kumler, Philip A. (3)  
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Leavell, Jonathan  
Lebegern, Richard C.  
Lee, Donald A. (6)  
Leon, Mark M. (2)  
Lowental, David A.  
Lowery, James P.  
Lueck, Lyle F.  
Lukanuski, Edward J. (2)  
Luther, Arthur A. (2)  
Lyons, Larry  
MacLachlan, Robert B.  
Maiuri, Dennis G. (2)  
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Marek, James F.  
Mathuram, Moses  
McIntyre, Richard L.  
Mead, Michael E.  
Merchantville Stamp Club  
Meulenbroek, Betty J. (3)  
Midwest Philatelic Society  
Miller, Irving R. (2)  
Miller, Tim L.  
Milne, Charles P.  
Moeser, Patricia  
Monterey County Stamp Club  
Mosher, Geoff E.  
Mustacich, Robert V.  
Myers, Charles F.  
Myers, Jack L.  
Nakles, Richard S.  
Neil, Randy L.  
Orbach, Jeffrey M.  
Ott, James F.  
Palo Duro Philatelic Society (3)

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Pattillo, Stephen G.	Russo, Craig A.	Stamp Collectors Club	Weinhofer, Ludwig J.
Peninsular State Philatelic	Saddleback Stamp Club (2)	of Toledo (4)	Weiss, William R. (2)
Society, Michigan Postal	Sales, Michael	Steiner, Keith J.	Wessely, David C.
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Polonus Philatelic Society	Association	Strait Stamp Society	White, Michael A.
Prescott Stamp Club	Scandinavian Collectors	Strube, Larry R.	Whitmore, John S.
Puchon, Charles A.	Club, Chapter (4)	Sundman, Donald J. (211)	Williams, Harold V. (2)
Pugh, Jack M.	Sequoia Stamp Club (3)	Theodossiou, Marios (3)	Winkel, John R. (14)
Pyle, Robert N.	Shaw, Guy	Thomas, Kip L.	Wood, Ted L.
Quad City Stamp Club	Sheboygan Stamp Club	Thomson, Roy R. (2)	Yeager, Ronald J.
Quillin, Philip D.	Shoaf, Russell R. (2)	Tidewater Stamp Club	Yeaw, James R. D.
Ribler, Ronald I.	Simi Valley Stamp Club	Todd, Matt	Yerkes, Lester M. (2)
Richmond, Stanley J.	Smith, Gerald A.	Trimble, Ralph E.	Zec, Joseph (3)
Rochester Philatelic	Smith, Telah W.	Trutwin, David L.	Zupancic, John M.
Association (5)	Sno King Stamp Club	Utah Philatelic Society	APS Staff (756)
Roderick, Gilbert M. (2)	Southern Nevada	Van Dyke, Daniel L.	Total New Members 1,330
Rodgers, Rodney W.	Stamp Club	Virtual Stamp Club (4)	
Rogers, Michael	Springfield Stamp Club (2)	Von Hausen, Frank R.	
Roozen, Anthony C.	Springfield-Delco Stamp	Walker, James	

The 2015 Volunteer Work Week team.



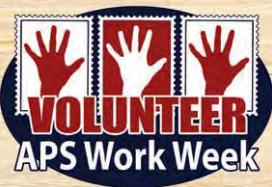
## VOLUNTEER WORK WEEK 2016

July 18–22, 2016

Volunteers make a difference in the world. Volunteer Work Week participants make a difference at the American Philatelic Society and for the American Philatelic Research Library.

Would you like to make a difference? If so, please join us July 18–22, for Volunteer Work Week at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. Put your knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm to work to benefit both the APS and APRL while making new friends and learning new things.

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### APS Education Department

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E-mail: [education@stamps.org](mailto:education@stamps.org)

# SECURITY THREADS, DATES AND PLUGS

The British Forgery Paranoia Extended to Postal Stationery

BY WAYNE MENUZ

When Great Britain was considering the introduction of postage stamps and postal stationery, the authorities were concerned with the danger of forgery. Actually, they were paranoid. Each of the 240 stamps on a sheet of the famous Penny Black has a unique combination of letters in the lower corners [Figure 1]. The purpose was to make it more difficult to counterfeit, as a forged sheet would have to have each stamp individually made. In addition, the paper was watermarked.

Each Mulready postal stationery envelope and lettersheet also had a unique number at the back [Figure 2]. In lieu of a watermark, Charles Pressly, the secretary of the Board of Stamps and Taxes, commented to Roland Hill regarding the threat of forgery:

It has occurred to me, however, that that [on the subject of forgery] might be prevented, if the Government manufactured a particular paper for such envelopes. There is a paper which has been produced to the Commissioners of Stamps for another purpose [the tax department's revenue stamped paper], and it is the best suggestion which occurs to me ... [that] the introduction of a silk thread into the paper, which is difficult to manufacture and very expensive, and, with the vigilance of the Excise, would be almost impossible to forge. The silk is wove in the pulp, and it is written on with the greatest facility; the manufacturer is a Mr. Dickinson, of the Old Bailey.

The proposal was adopted using red and blue silk threads. The colors today are often faded, especially the red. The il-



Figure 1. A Penny Black stamp from the 18th row, signified by "R" at lower left, and the third column, noted by the letter "C" at bottom right.



Figure 2. A Mulready 1-penny envelope imprinted with "A 161," one position number from the sheet of 16, and a Mulready 2-penny lettersheet with "a 105," one position number from a sheet of 12.

lustrations here [Figure 3] are computer enhanced. All was serene, until 1841.

The radical (for the times) Mulready design proved so unpopular that Rowland Hill, who shepherded the British postal reform of January 1840, wrote: "I fear we shall be obliged to substitute some other stamp for that designed by Mulready, which is abused and ridiculed on all sides."

Thus, a pink, embossed, oval design of Queen Victoria on an envelope was introduced in January 1841, followed shortly by a similar 2-penny in blue. The embossed stamp was considered a good safeguard against forgery, compared to the typographed Mulready, as it would be difficult to reproduce. But, the paper continued to employ the silk threads.

The largest of the three sizes of the 1-penny envelopes was initially made from remaining stock of Mulready envelope and lettersheet papers. Additionally, a new paper was



Figure 3. A Mulready envelope (left), with four red and two blue threads and a Mulready lettersheet (below), with three red and two blue threads.

introduced. Special Paper 1 used two red threads and one blue thread, and then a later type — Special Paper 2 — had 1 of each color [Figure 4].

There were three layouts of Special Paper 2, that varied the spacing of the pairs of silk threads on the large sheet, designed to be located at the top right of one of the three sizes of envelopes. Rowland Hill never did fully embrace the paper, writing in 1841 that the cost "is so much higher than the present cost," and contended with complaints that the silk threads tended to pull out. He favored using a watermark, which was never adopted. As an aside, the only other country to use Dickinson's silk thread paper for postal stationery, was Prussia, in 1851.

The scheme must have worked, because I have never found a reference to an attempted forgery. On the other hand, the 1- and 2-penny denominations were, surely, too small to entice fraud compared to attempting a full sheet of stamps. All was serene until 1855.

From the beginning in May 1840, when the Penny Black was introduced, commercial mailers insistently lobbied the British post office to provide a service that allowed privately supplied paper to be stamped. The post office 1- and 2-penny envelopes were made in only a few sizes that did not meet

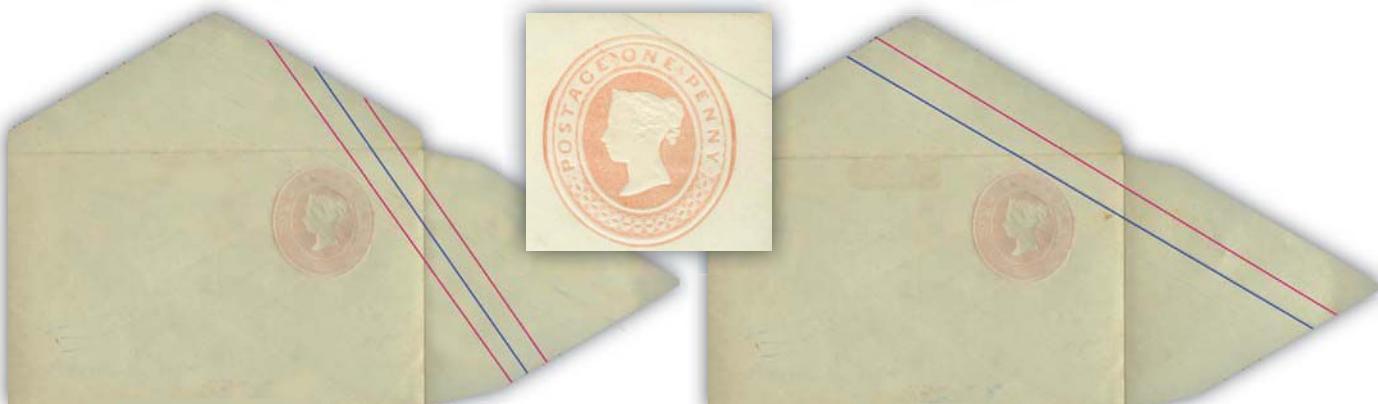


Figure 4. Examples of the special paper 1 and special paper 2 along with a close-up of the imprint area of paper type 2.

commercial needs. Before the invention of the postage meter, such a Stamped to Order service had many potential advantages:

- Any envelope, wrapper, letter sheet, or label could be made in any grade, thickness and color of paper.
- Any size of stationery could be made.
- The labor to affix large quantities of postage stamps would be eliminated for big commercial mailers.
- Pilferage of stamps by employees would be almost eliminated, especially if the stationery was subsequently printed with the company's name by private printers.

In developing the Stamped to Order service, however, it was realized that the security afforded to post office envelopes by the silk threads would not exist on stationery, as the paper was supplied by the user.

The solution was to have each embossed stamp show the date it was embossed, as it was thought a forger would only mass produce identical copies, and not likely produce them with different dates. Dating was achieved by having each working die drilled with three holes to accept numeral date plugs inserted into them [Figure 5]. Dating of embossed dies was already in use with embossed revenue stamps, and the post office concluded they needed to do the same with these Stamped to



Figure 5. A one-penny die with date plugs 26-5-65 (May 26, 1865) showing within three circles counterclockwise in the base of the frame. The base of the queen's neck contains the working die's number, "109 WW."

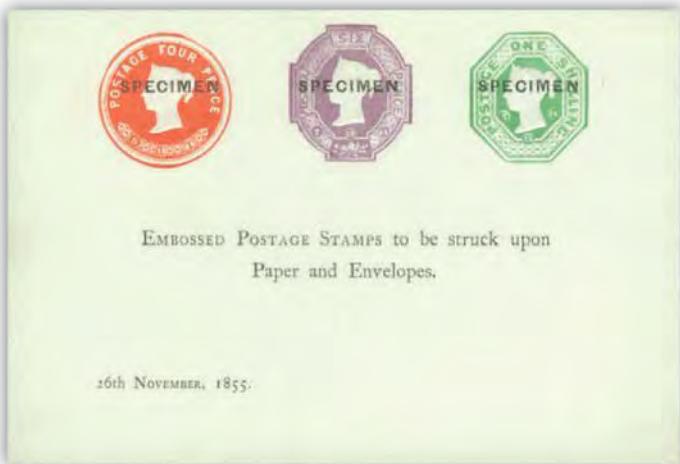


Figure 6. An announcement to postmasters of the new Stamped to Order service with "specimen" over the designs.

Order dies. Of course, revenue stamps could have denominations up to thousands of pounds, and dating for relatively low value postage dies was excessive, to say the least.

Stamped to Order service was introduced to "Postmasters Who Obliterate Postage Stamps" by a Postmaster General notice of October 1855 [Figure 6]:

Paper sent by the Public to the Inland Revenue Office will be impressed with Postage Stamps for denoting the several rates of Postage, and such Stamps will pass free of Postage.

The only difference between the stamps which will be impressed on Paper provided by the Public, and the stamps on the Threaded Paper issued by the Inland Revenue Office, will be, that the former will contain at the bottom of the Stamp, figures denoting the Day, Month, and Year on which they may be impressed.

When the Stamps are without those dates they will be on Threaded Paper.

— Rowland Hill, Secretary

The notice introduced three new indicia for postal stationery, added to the existing 1-penny pink and 2-penny blue denominations.

The silk thread post office envelopes prompted the Inland Revenue Department to write to Rowland Hill in July 1857:

In consequence of the complaints made of the quality of the threaded paper manufactured by Messrs Dickinson of which the Postage Envelopes issued by this Office are made, the Board have recently had occasion to consider the subject.

While this office was the sole source of supply of stamped envelopes, the Board were unwilling that the degree of security afforded by the threaded paper should be relinquished. Now, however, that the public are entitled to send in their own paper to be stamped, the safeguard afforded by the threaded paper is altogether at an end.

The Stamped to Order production (eventually encompassing 10 dies from a half penny to 1 shilling) was done at the government printing works in London. The contract manufacturer of envelopes for post office sale, Thomas De La Rue & Co., was told to replace the expensive silk thread paper with ordinary stock, and to drill its 1d and 2d working dies to accept date plugs, which they did commencing in 1857. All was serene until 1883.

Because of the excessive labor and trouble to change date plugs each day, De La Rue frequently requested that the practice be discontinued for their 1- and 2-penny envelopes, the only post office denominations they made. They noted the extreme low monetary risk, compared to dated, embossed revenue stamps that could reach very high denominations. Relief was finally granted in 1881 for all new working dies. But the expense of creating undrilled working dies just for that purpose, and abandoning otherwise good drilled working dies, was not sanctioned, so until those wore out, they continued to be used to produce dated indicia.

Because 1-penny envelopes were produced in very large quantities, the working dies wore out, and were replaced

# Mick Zais for APS President

Dear APS Members,

I am running for President of the American Philatelic Society in the coming 2016 election. I'm running because I believe the APS, while facing challenges, has significant opportunities to grow membership and expand member services. To this task, I'll bring 45 years of diverse leadership and financial management experience.

For the past four years, I served as South Carolina's State Superintendent of Education, overseeing policy for 1,250 schools, 51,000 teachers, and 720,000 students, while managing a budget of \$4.0 billion.

For ten years, I served as President of Newberry College in South Carolina, a liberal arts, residential, undergraduate institution founded in 1856, with an annual budget in excess of \$20 million. During my tenure the College almost doubled enrollment, constructed new facilities, and more than doubled its endowment. During the last three years of my tenure, the College was nationally recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of "America's Best Colleges."

For 31 years, I led organizations of increasing size and complexity in the U.S. Army, culminating in promotion to Brigadier General. My assignments included Commanding General of all U.S. and Allied Forces in Kuwait and as Commanding General of Operation Provide Refuge which brought 4,000 Kosovo refugees out of Macedonia for settlement in the U.S. I was also the Pentagon's Chief of War Plans.

My entire professional life has been dedicated to leadership through service to others.

Since the age of eight, I have collected stamps from around the world. Over the past 15 years, my focus has been on stamps and postal history related to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point as well as the U.S. Army stamps of 1936-37. Next year will mark forty years of continuous APS membership. In 2013, I was elected to the APS Board of Directors as a Vice President. Most recently, I served as Chairman of the search committee that found and hired the APS's new Executive Director.

As your President, I will be a force for change. This means I will work to reverse declining membership by building new outlets for growing our membership and reaching out to more diverse groups. I'll work to strengthen the partnership between the APS and the 30 World Series of Philately regional shows, our 195 specialty societies, and the hundreds of local chapters across the U.S. I'll also work to enhance relations with philatelic organizations in other countries and to grow the number of international members.

Most importantly, I'll work with our new Executive Director, the dedicated staff, the APS and APRL Boards, and the leaderships of many other philatelic organizations, large and small, to build a stronger hobby. Working together, I'm confident we can improve the business operations of the APS while enhancing services to our members: including our StampStore, sales circuits, expertizing, education programs and fundraising to complete the world's premiere philatelic library.

The success of the APS depends upon the health of our hobby; and the health of our hobby depends upon dealers who find and provide material to collectors. As President, I will dedicate myself to strengthening the partnership between the APS and the professional philatelic community.

In the months ahead, I look forward to meeting more of you, learning about your experiences, and hearing your ideas about how we can work together to build an APS that will last for generations. To this end, I would welcome your ideas for the future of the Society at the website below.

It would be an enormous honor for me to serve as your President. I respectfully ask for your vote.

Thank You,

Mick Zais

[mickzais.org](http://mickzais.org)

I Respectfully Ask For Your Vote  
APS Society Election - 2016

A Stamp Collector FOR PRESIDENT



THE STAMP OF APPROVAL

Mitchell M. Zais  
member  
American Philatelic Society



**Mick Zais, Ph.D**

*APS Member Since 1976*

1969–2000 — Officer, U.S.

Army — retiring as  
Brigadier General

2000–2010 — President,  
Newberry College in  
Newberry, SC

2011–2015 — State  
Superintendent of  
Education for South  
Carolina

2011–Present — Member,  
APS Campaign For  
Philately Committee

2013–Present — Vice  
President, APS Board of  
Directors

2014–2015 — Chairman,  
APS Search Committee  
for Executive Director



## APS SPECIALITY SOCIETIES

If you are interested in postal stationery, you might consider joining the United Postal Stationery Society (APS Affiliate AF0020). The society produces a bimonthly journal. Annual dues are \$28 (\$32 for Canada/Mexico; \$47 for elsewhere; \$18 for electronic). Contact: Stuart H. Leven, 1659 Branham Lane, Ste. F-307, San Jose, CA 95118; e-mail, poststat@gmail.com; website, www.upss.org.

## STAMPS.ORG/SPECIALTY-SOCIETIES

with new, undrilled ones (eventually, almost 300 of both types combined). Following suit, new working dies for stamped-to-order work were also not drilled for date plugs. All was serene until 1894.

Working dies of most denominations were already drilled. Rather than incur the expense of creating more working dies, these too continued to be used with date plugs since those higher denominations were less frequently used. But it was still onerous. In January 1894, J.A. Colls, the inspector of stamping at the government printers at Somerset House wrote:

The use of date plugs has been discontinued in the ½d, 1d and 10d Postage dies, but in regard to the other rates of duty it may be many years before an opportunity may arise by the renewal of the dies for extending the alteration.

In these circumstances it has occurred to me that in order to avoid the trouble of frequently changing the plugs as well as for economic and artistic purposes, that it would be an advantage to abolish the use of date plugs altogether and substitute for them "rosettes" similar to those now in use for Registration Envelopes.

Colls was correct in his assumption of "many years" before the other dies wore out, as they all remained in use until replaced by King Edward dies in 1902. They never did wear out.



Figure 7. Dies with date plug holes filled with plugs with rosettes. The 2-penny lake (May 1892 color change) die with nine dots, and 1-shilling green die with five dots.

His suggestion was approved, and beginning on February 7, 1894, each drilled working die had its three holes filled with plugs containing an ornamental rosette [Figure 7]. Two distinct sets of plug rosette patterns were made, one type containing 5 dots and the other 9 dots. There is no known case of an Stamped to Order working die containing a mixture of 9 and 5 dot rosettes.

All was again serene, until 1901 when Queen Victoria died, necessitating all new dies featuring King Edward VII.

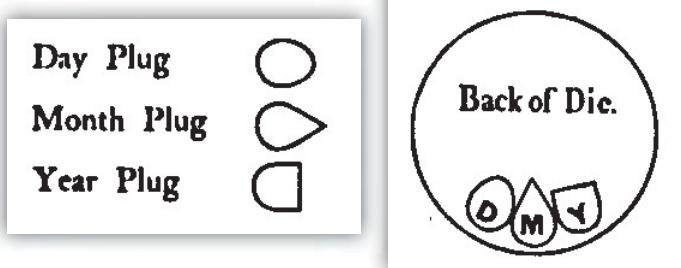
### The Date Plug Story

The dating process required each working die to be drilled to accept date plugs. Each metal working die (a cylinder) was drilled with three holes. Round metal plugs with numbers at one end for day-month-year were inserted into the holes each day prior to the die being used for embossing. The following is an excerpt of instructions to the workmen:

#### Directions For Converting Hubs Into Penny Postage Embossing Dies

Pierce them for the date plugs.

For the position of the plug holes refer to the impression of a stamp and the sketch of the back of the die below. From these it will be seen that the month plug is placed centrally under the neck upon the longer axis of the ellipse, and that when looking upon the face of the die the day plug is to be to the right and the year plug is to the left. In the stamp they of course appear reversed. The heads of the plug are shaped thus:



The above pattern plugs sent from Somerset House, with heads similarly shaped, are to be used as gauges for the size of the holes and for the depth of the shoulder recesses. The surface of these pattern plugs should be level with the face of the die when the plugs are pressed home to their shoulders.

14th December 1856

Ormond Hill

Because the heads were keyed, the round plugs could only be inserted in the correct, upright position. If inserted crooked, and/or if a month, day or year were interchanged, a plug would not seat, and embossing with the die would be impossible. However, two dies are known with inverted numbers. The 2d blue die exists with 81-10-81 for 18-10-81, where the day is inverted. The 2½d lake die exists dated 29-8-69, where the day 29 is inverted. On the next page are images of compound envelopes with the inverted dates [Figure 8 and 9]. No single indicium, or any mint example, of an inverted indicium is known.

If the dies and plugs were keyed, how is it possible an in-

# Ken Nilsestuen

## for APS President

# Vote for Experience Where It Counts.

**T**here has never been a more important moment in our Society's history than right now. It's the key reason why I am asking for your vote in the election coming next month.

Why vote for me? I've been active volunteering in our great hobby—not just over the past election cycle—but for nearly 40 years. I can't begin to tell you what I have learned, but it has been a lot. Just recently my friend Bruce Marsden and I created the "Finish the Job" campaign to help pay for our wonderful library. I am attending many local club meetings handing out APS membership applications. You've already seen me at many stamp shows this year, as a board member, judge, show committee person and/or campaigner. This is what I do for fun, and **I have been volunteering in various roles like this for nearly 40 of my 60 years as a stamp collector and philatelist.**

I hope you have read our ads talking about the proper role of our APS Board of Directors. We are here to govern, not manage. With input from you, our excellent staff and countless other stakeholders, the Board's job is to agree on strategic goals and communicate them to you and the staff. **Listening to you is incredibly important—you are not “just” members**, but faithful customers of the APS and the APRL. You vote not just once every three years, but *every time you choose* to renew your membership, shop at StampStore, attend Summer Seminar, go to StampShow or AmeriStamp Expo, or pick up your copy of *The American Philatelist*—or get out your checkbook to make a donation. I would be honored to have you place your trust in me to make sure our Society always lives up to its commitment to you.

When you have an idea or a complaint you bring it to us (the big “us”—the board, the staff or even your fellow members). Call, write, email, post on a forum, but somehow let us know what you are thinking about. **Good ideas come from everywhere.** Your leadership has an obligation to seek the feedback of all of our members. I promise to listen and respond to you by guiding our great organization to continually improve.

When it is time to vote next month, please remember my 40 years of business experience with some of the largest companies in America as clients and my 40 years of active involvement in our hobby's organizations. Integrity and independence are the hallmark of certified public accounting, my career choice.

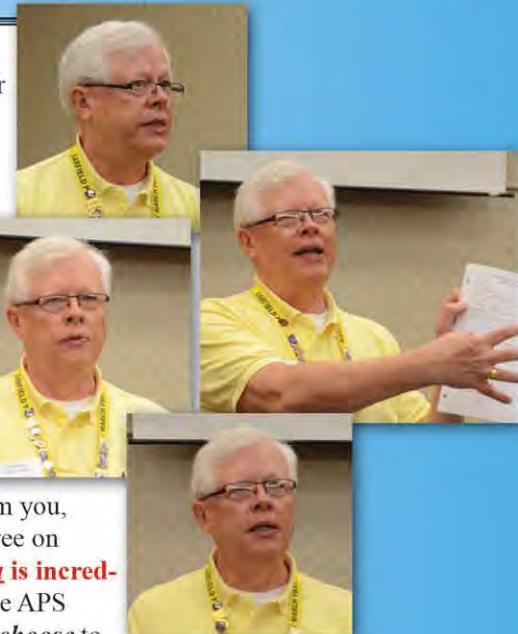
I respectfully ask you to entrust the leadership of the APS to me for the next three years. I promise to work tirelessly for you.

Respectfully,



Ken Nilsestuen

[nilsestuen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nilsestuen@sbcglobal.net)



*“I am deeply committed to assuring financial stability and growth for our Society, our great American Philatelic Research Library and our wonderful APS member services for the enduring enjoyment of stamp and postal history collecting.”*



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Figure 8. A 1-penny + 2½-penny compound envelope (H&B ESC27) with the day plug for August 28, 1889 inverted. The 1-penny indicium is undated, made from one of the new, undrilled working dies.

verted date exists? My theory is that the metal plug was manufactured incorrectly, with the day engraved upside-down in relation to the key, and not noticed until the faulty envelopes reported. As only this date is known, and only these two combinations (the ESC27 example may be unique), the error plug was likely quickly pulled from the die and discarded after this one stamping order. Of the millions of items produced each year, with daily date plug changes, one would expect more errors to have been made and escaped if this theory is incorrect. But, they do not.

#### References:

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*Specimen Stamps and Stationery of Great Britain*, By Marcus Samuel and Alan Huggins, Published 1980 by G. B. Philatelic Publications Ltd.  
*John Dickinson and his Silk-Thread Paper*, H Dagnall, 1975.

#### The Author

Wayne Menuz started collecting stamps when he was a child, and switched exclusively to worldwide postal stationery in 1959 during high school. He became an American Philatelic Society-accredited judge in 1977. He was a board member of Westpex for 24 years, and currently has the same function at Filatelic Fiesta. Currently, he is president of the United Postal Stationery Society, and has been the editor of its journal, *Postal Stationery*, since 2001. The journal won the APS literature competition Reserve Grand Award in 2015. Menuz's exhibit of compound Great Britain stationery won a Grand Award at StampShow in 2015.

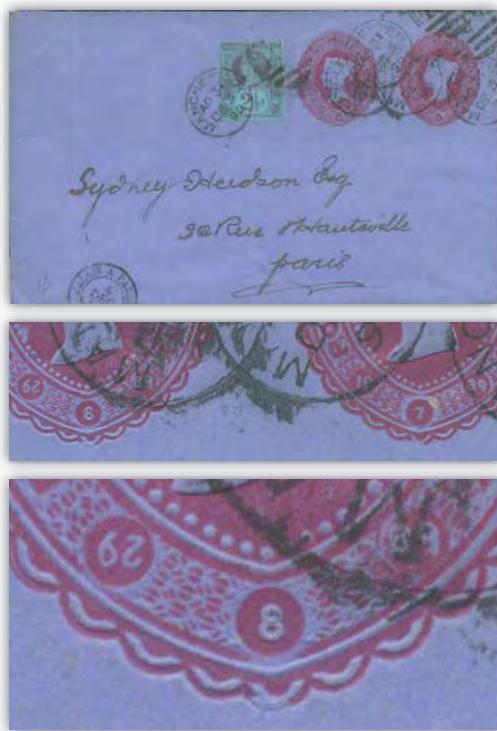


Figure 9. A 2½-penny + 2½-penny compound envelope (H&B ESC51) with the day plug for August 28, 1889 inverted. The second (left) indicium was stamped on the same day as that in Figure 8. The first 2½-penny indicium was stamped July 19, 1889, and was returned to the printer the next month for uprating to 5-penny.

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# Mark Schwartz for APS Director-at-Large

To make the APS better for all members

## What I believe

- The Board oversees the reputation and activities of the APS. It sets objectives and works with the Executive Director to develop strategies. It does not determine day-to-day operations or which programs are or are not implemented.
- The Board ensures that programs are developed based on feedback from current members, former members and potential members to guarantee we implement programs that they want.
- The Board makes certain that the effectiveness of major programs is measured objectively, so that funds are spent only on those that work.



## Some of My Supporters

- Cliff Alexander, *President, Carriers & Locals Society*
- Jim Allen, *Director, USPCS*
- John Barwis, *President USPCS*
- John Bowman, *1<sup>st</sup> VP, C&L Society*
- Roger Brody, *President APRL*
- Ron Cipolla, *Philatelist*
- Tony Dewey, *Philatelic Judge*
- Guy Dillaway, *Exhibit Chair, Philatelic Show (Boxboro)*
- Rich Drews, *Philatelic chief judge*
- Gordon Eubanks, *Director USPCS*
- Alfredo Frohlich, *Chairperson, APS Campaign for Philately*
- Fred Gregory, *Director, USPCS and PF*
- Kathy Johnson, *Former Treasurer, APS*
- Trish Kaufmann, *Former President, CSA*
- Paul Kelly, *Secretary, Springfield-Delco Stamp Club*
- Nick Kirke, *Philatelist*
- Nick Lombardi, *President USSS*
- Bruce Marsden, *Treasurer APRL*
- Vern Morris, *Philatelist*
- Ken Nilsestuen, *Treasurer APS*
- Steve Pacetti, *Director USPCS*
- Andrew Reid, *Philatelist*
- Robert Rufe, *President, Brandywine Valley Stamp Club*
- Wade Saadi, *Chairman NY2016*
- Dave Savadge, *Philatelist*
- Bill Schultz, *Philatelic chief judge*
- Steve Schumann, *Commissioner General, NY2016*
- Jeff Shapiro, *Former President, Philatelic Group of Boston*
- Don Sundman, *President, Mystic Stamp Co.*
- Dan Walker, *Director-at-large APS*
- Alan Warren, *Philatelic and literature chief judge*
- Robert Zeigler, *Philatelic chief judge*

I ask for your support as APS Director-at-Large for 2016-2019.

Mark.Schwartz1@verizon.net



# Grand Find Through Expertizing

## Jackson Stamp E-Grill Earliest Documented Use

The August 2015 APS StampShow in Grand Rapids, Michigan was a rousing success for APEX, the authentication department of the society. More than 170 items were dropped off at the booth therefore saving members the postage cost of mailing them in. Members also benefited from the \$5 discount for each item submitted.

Back at the American Philatelic Center, I sorted through the "patients," preparing them for Krystal Harter, our office coordinator, to log in, assign tracking numbers, and take scans for the final certificate. One item was this illustrated black 2-cent Jackson stamp with a grill, used on a folded legal warrant originating from Louisville, Kentucky, to an address in the same town. It was a bankruptcy notice dated February 28 with a docking year date on reverse of 1868. The owner identified the grill as an F-grill, U.S. Scott 93, a possible earliest known use.

In the majority of cases, it is no problem to correctly identify the grill type on covers or documents, but in this case, the expertizing committee had a problem. The impression of the grill was faint and they narrowed it down to one of two possibilities. There were at least 13 grill points visible across so it could not be an F-grill, which has only 9 points across. It was determined to be either a Scott 84 D-grill (15 points across) or a Scott 87 E-grill (14–15 points across). But as long as the stamp remained on the document, positive identification was not possible, even with side lighting produced by the CS-16 Crimescope. It was important to achieve a positive ID for two reasons. If it was a D-grill it would be a valuable philatelic find (Scott catalog value \$5,000 on cover). If it was an E-grill, it would constitute a new earliest documented use for



Cover with a United States 2-cent Jackson stamp (above) and a close-up photograph of the stamp's grill.

Scott 87 (currently listed as March 7, 1868).

In order to lift the stamp for grill identification, we contacted the owner for permission. A common and accepted process, "lifting" by use of a sweat box allows for the original gum to remain on both the document and the stamp. It is recommended that following the procedure and establishing the grill type that the stamp be hinged back on. If the stamp is replaced using the original gum, it will virtually be impossible to remove it again for future inspection without soaking the item and, in turn, removing the gum.

The committee successfully identified the grill as a Scott 87 E-grill and, much to the delight of the owner, a new earliest document use was discovered. The document will be presented to Scott Publishing for updating in its listing in the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of U.S. Stamps and Covers*.

### Forged or Genuine?

Austria, Scott 168, Franz Josef

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

**Hints:** In the genuine the central portrait of Franz Josef is engraved, the perf is 12½ by 12½, and the lettering below the 10s is clear. In the forgery the central portrait is lithograph and the stamp perf is 12 by 12. The lettering below the 10s isn't as clear with the "E" in "Moser" looking more like an "L".



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

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

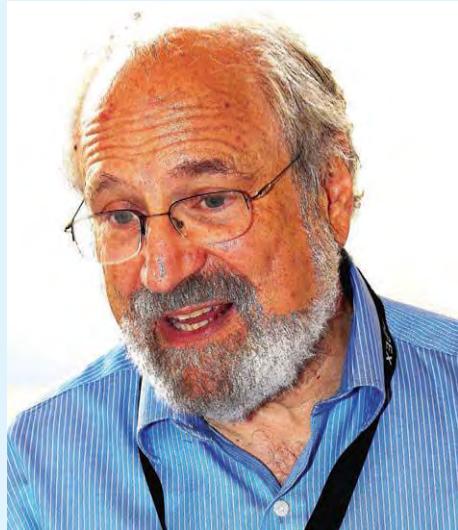
# Michael Bloom for APS Director At Large

Chairman, APS Collector and Student Education Committee  
Member, APS Membership Committee  
Chairman, NY2016 Entry Level and Youth Committee

Let's make the APS Board **collaborative** with increased **transparency** and **openness to member input**. If elected to the Board, my portfolio will include membership, education, and, of course, good governance. I will work to provide innovative education for all ages and collector levels and to grow APS membership. I support the new APS Strategic Plan for 2016-2020 and its focus on Sustainability, Education, Accessibility and Membership.

## — The Non-Philatelic Me —

- High energy. Action oriented. Respectful of tradition yet innovative.
- Founder and CEO of a 25 year old multinational manufacturing company
- Board chair of multiple non-profits
- Former educator/guidance counselor for 13 years
- Former technical journalist for the Hearst Corporation
- Electrical engineer and ham radio operator
- *Leaning forward into technology*



## — The Philatelic Me —

- Founder of APS StampBuddy Program
- Chairman of APS Collector and Student Education Committee
- Chairman of World Stamp Show NY2016 Entry Level and Youth Committee and creator of the "Welcome to Stamp Collecting Pavilion"
- Second Most Successful APS Membership Recruiter for 2014
- 27 year member in APS
- APS Life Member
- Member of APS Membership Committee
- Frequent philatelic seminar presenter



- Board Member PIPEX Show Committee
- Board Member Int'l Society of Guatemala Collectors and creator of the world's best computer generated Guatemala album

## — My Goals for APS —

- ✓ Let's make APS financially sustainable by retiring APS debt
- ✓ Let's finish all aspects of the American Philatelic Research Library
- ✓ Let's be the convener of collectors
- ✓ Let's provide a continuum of educational opportunities from entry level to advanced
- ✓ Let's use technology to advance our hobby
- ✓ Let's make APS *the* invaluable resource for all stamp collectors

You can share thoughts with me at [mbloom@oshore.com](mailto:mbloom@oshore.com).

**I APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE!**



# Maximum Value of Books Rise

## Sellers Will Be Able to Send \$600 Per Book; Insurance Rates Adjusted

The Circuit Sales Rules for Sellers will have changes printed in each type of sales book because they are scheduled for printing. You will now have the opportunity to mount more value in sales books, as the maximum value per book (Rules for Sellers No. 9) will increase from \$500 to \$600. The minimum will remain at \$30, with occasional exceptions for certain categories as noted in the January 2016 edition of this column.



A well-centered U.S. Andrew Jackson, known as the Black Jack, Scott 65, with a catalog and sales price of \$65.

You can still submit books that contain a single item with a certificate and priced from \$600.01 to \$1,000 and no other items can be mounted in the book. While we do not print this in the sales books, we have had a maximum value of \$4,000 per circuit for about 20 years. We are now filling circuits of certain categories with more than \$4,000 in value, dependent on the availability of higher-valued books. U.S. 19th

Century, Great Britain Victorian era, 19th-century France and others can regularly eclipse \$4,000. These higher maximums, per book and per circuit, will allow sellers the opportunity to submit better items and for buyers to peruse those items.

The fines charged by Sales Examiners will now apply to any items removed from sales books, including misidentifications and the other reasons



A French stamp, Scott 18a, with a value of \$20 and sales price of \$8.



The front of an 1855 Great Britain cover to France with four 2-Penny Blues. Catalog value \$470 and an asking price of \$125.

for removal noted in Rules for Sellers No. 14. In most cases, the time, effort and expertise required to determine an item's genuineness are the same for properly identifying a stamp. The fines will remain at \$1 for items priced \$10 and less and \$2 for items with net prices of \$10.01 or more. Counterfeits can be sold through Circuit Sales, but they must be noted and priced as such, and must be marked on the back of the stamp as such.

The last change involves the Insurance Fund Fee charged on sales books when they are retired. Until now, the remaining amount of the book at retirement time was charged 2 percent of that amount, as noted in Rules for Sellers No. 11. To properly cover the original book value as it arrives in the mail until it is retired, the Insurance Fund Fee will change to 1 percent of the original value of the book. All books will incur this charge. On average, a seller may be paying less on this charge. For example, the average per book sales at the time a book is retired is about 32 percent to 33 percent of the original value. A \$300 book that sells 33 percent will be retired with \$200 left in it. Until this change, the seller would be charged \$4 (\$200 times 2 percent) for the Insurance Fund Fee. With this change, the fee is \$3 (or \$300 times 1 percent).

The first two changes will go into effect on May 1, 2016. The Insurance Fund Fee for sales books will be effective as the Circuit Sales upgraded program is installed and operational. We will send our present sellers an update on this change and it will be retroactive on the books that are already in circulation.

### Circuit Requests from Outside the U.S.

We occasionally receive a completed circuit request form from members outside the United States. Canada provides us with the lion's share of these requests. Restrictions imposed by each country's customs laws and the value-added type taxes on incoming merchandise have shut down nearly all of our overseas approval shipments. Great Britain was the



A United States 3-cent Washington, Scott 85, with a catalog value of \$1,050 and an asking price of \$250.

# It's Black and White!

## Elect Bruce Marsden APS Treasurer

Dear Friends,

### Do you know you are a member of the American Philatelic Research Library?

All 31,000 APS members also make up the 31,000 members of the APRL. While there are two separate tax-exempt entities to protect significant financial savings, both the APS Board of Directors and the APRL Board of Trustees serve you, the same 31,000 members.

And yet sometimes over the years, board factions have insisted on "getting for giving." My pledge to you: I will strive to develop organization-wide consensus to focus on the complementary missions of both entities for the benefit of all of our members and the public. For the APS and APRL to succeed, both entities must be strong and cooperating.

Our hobby faces demographic and sociological challenges. Happily, the commercial tenants in the American Philatelic Center provide us with long-term financial sustainability despite these challenges. I seek **both** a robust array of member services that make the hobby more accessible and enjoyable for members as well as the preservation of our cultural legacy represented by the library. Let's build a strong three legged stool based on attractive membership services, our library's cultural legacy, and financial sustainability. With success in those areas, we can and will attract many new members!



The APS STAMPS TEACH program for kids in school. This highly successful program deserves our support!



My Westfield, N.J. Stamp Club contributes to the American Philatelic Center, home of the APS & APRL.

## It's Black and White?

**I**t may be troubling to you as it is to me, the high level of resources required of candidates for APS offices to compete for volunteer positions. But we live in a free country and today's reality is that AP advertising is an expected requirement for campaign success. I'd really prefer that our candidates' financial resources be put to use supporting the hobby instead of inflating the AP's page count. Of course I am sure that, like myself, each candidate believes that his or her own candidacy supports the hobby! For this advertisement, though, I am redirecting the \$300 (saved by running in black and white instead of color) towards donations to the APS' Stamps Teach Program and the APRL's Finish the Job fundraising campaign. Please join me in supporting these worthwhile priorities.

## Next Month: The Five Advantages

In my formal campaign statement next month, I will be presenting the five advantages to you, the membership, of electing me as your APS Treasurer. For a preview and more information about my friend Ken Nilsestuen's and my campaigns, please visit our website below.

With best wishes and thank you, Bruce Marsden, APS member 089148 • bmarsden@verizon.net

**www.aps-future.org**

Please visit our website to learn more about us!



first to levy the value added tax (VAT). This tax was based on a percentage of the value of the package contents. The circuit might contain stamps with a total price of \$1,500 on approval. The recipient might buy \$200, but the tax would be based on the book's original \$1,500 value. Applying for a refund of the difference became time consuming and frustrating for the member. In the late 1980s, Canada instituted the Goods and Services Tax (GST), mirroring the Great Britain VAT. A few of the 80 Canadian members receiving circuits at that time wanted to continue, but their dealings with applying for a refund became too frustrating for them to continue. The European Union adopted the VAT and our approvals to Germany, Austria, Spain, Italy, and Scandinavia waned. Other countries have followed with some type of VAT.

Any mailing to Australia has to be in an envelope and weigh less than one pound. International postage costs have added to the limitations.

Our advice to any overseas member wanting to buy stamps from the APS is to refer them to our online StampStore for good bargains. The purchased items are sent anywhere and if there is a VAT, it is levied on the actual value of the contents of the mailing.

### USPS Flat-Rate Packaging and Tracking Labels

Since the USPS introduction of the Priority flat-rate padded envelope, members have been contacting us about the lack of these items at local post offices. There have been many inquiries about this. If you cannot find the padded envelope, visit [usps.com](http://usps.com), click on Postal Store, Shipping Supplies in the drop-down box and Flat Rate on the left side of the page to order them. They are free and are delivered free in bundles of 10 or 15. The small Priority flat-rate boxes can be ordered there, as well.

Another comment we receive often is about the USPS Tracking labels that can be ordered online and used for forwarding circuits. Members have applied the label and retained the numbered strip for their mailing records only to have the postal clerk apply a barcode over it as the actual tracking number. We have not determined why the USPS is supplying packs of these labels through online ordering and postal clerks are ignoring them. Members should ask for an

## Circuit Sales Details

Questions? Contact us via e-mail at [circuits@stamps.org](mailto:circuits@stamps.org), by phone at 814-933-3803, ext. 227, or by mail at APS, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

official record of the tracking number that will be used in the system and attach it to your report sheet record in case we need to ask for proof of mailing. The number printed on a post office cash register receipt is acceptable for our records.

### Sales Book Donors

Since this issue of *The American Philatelist* recognizes cash and in-kind donations to APS, we want to highlight those sellers who have donated retired sales books to the society. E. Decker Adams, Edmund Alteri, Patricia Campbell, Gordon Collins, Joan Hanky, Don Hargy, Richard Law, Robert Lebow, Yechiel M. Lehavy, Walter Roberts, George Russell, Irving Schneider, Roger Schnell, Felipe Toro, and Carl Trueblood donated their unsold material in 2015. The remaining value of their books is \$47,577.24. The sale of the material from the books will benefit our youth initiatives, our education programs and add to our development efforts, all of which help the society provide services to our members that few societies can provide. Thank you!

### '5 For 10' Categories (Needs)

You can earn coupons for free blank books for every 10 completed books (Clearance books do not qualify) containing material from a set list of categories. Because you earn coupons for free blank books, the coupons can only be redeemed if accompanied by an order for sales books and/or mounts. Each month we list categories that are in particularly short supply. Single-country books usually have better sales.

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Tom Jacks, owner; member APS, ASDA



## OUR STORY



BY SCOTT ENGLISH executive director  
scott@stamps.org

# Thank You for All That You Do

## Generous Members Keep Society Healthy

In this issue of *The American Philatelist*, we recognize the generosity of our members who give of their money, philatelic material, books, and themselves to promote the APS, APRL, and the hobby at large. As a result of their kindness, we have put stamps in the hands of thousands of young people, offered educational courses to hundreds of collectors, began construction on a new library, and promoted philately around the world. We are well into 2016 and the opportunities to grow the hobby and help your fellow collectors continue to present themselves. With the World Stamp Show-NY 2016 kicking off next month, the APS will be there to show the world why we are the world's largest stamp collecting organization. You can help in many ways — volunteer to help the APS at the show, donate to help promote the APS and the hobby, and give material for our education programs. To join the many members we recognize in this issue, please go to stamps.org/donate to learn how you can help the APS.

### AmeriStamp/Southeastern Stamp Expo 2016

All the boxes are unpacked after a great winter show in Atlanta. Thanks to the Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs for welcoming the APS to Atlanta and volunteering to work tirelessly to make sure the event went off without a hitch. For those in attendance, there were a great number of exhibits to enjoy. Congratulations to all those who took home awards, including:

- Ron Brigham, who won the Single Frame Champion of Champions for his exhibit "Canada: The Twelve Pence of 1851: From Production to Forgery."

- Kathy Johnson, who won the Single Frame Grand and Gold for her exhibit "Evolving Bishop Marks in Scotland: Postal History."

- For the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Team Competition, first place went to the team "Good from Start to Finish" of Kathy Johnson, Seija-Riitta Laakso, Mike Ley, Dan Undersander, and Tim Wait.

- Finally, congratulations to Adam Mangold for winning the Vernon and Pam Morris Best Youth and Gold for his exhibit, "Building a Nation ... One State at a Time." A special thank you to Dr. Vernon and Mrs. Pam Morris for their 10-year



YPLF Howard Hotchner Fellow Austin Foo speaking the January 29 at the first-day ceremony for the Botanical Art stamps in Atlanta.

sponsorship of the Youth Award at our winter show. With their generosity, the winner of the Youth Award also took home a cash prize of \$300. Dr. and Mrs. Morris wanted to provide an extra incentive for young exhibitors to participate and given the competition this year, it certainly worked!

The exhibit palmares for AmeriStamp/Southeastern Stamp Expo 2016 can be found on our website at stamps.org/userfiles/file/wsp/ameristamp16.pdf.

Another notable event at AmeriStamp this year was the first-day-of-issue ceremony for the Botanical Art forever stamps. American Topical Association director Dawn Hamman did a great job as master of ceremony. The ATA is one of our most active affiliates and has been a fantastic supporter of the APS and our shows. The highlight of the event was Howard Hotchner Fellow Austin Foo, of our Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship program, who shared his passion for collecting with the audience. The YPLF program

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has given us several opportunities to bring young collectors to the hobby, and then to introduce young collectors to the public. If you know a young person who would be great for the program or you would like to serve as a mentor or supporter, please visit [stamps.org/Young-Philatelic-Leaders](http://stamps.org/Young-Philatelic-Leaders).

## Candidates Forum

Our members who attended AmeriStamp had a chance to hear from many of the candidates running for the APS and APRL boards. In Atlanta, we hosted a candidates forum and we are especially grateful to Cheryl Ganz for serving as the moderator. Cheryl was very kind to take on the task of managing the event and did a fantastic job! For our members who could not make the event, we recorded the session and have posted it online at [youtube.com/watch?v=dT7w8te6re0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dT7w8te6re0).

A reminder, ballots for the APS and APRL elections will arrive in the May issue of *The American Philatelist*. For members who do not receive a copy of the magazine each month, a copy of the ballot will be sent directly to you. It may sound cliché, but your vote counts. Please take a few moments to learn about the candidates running and cast your vote. More information is available at [stamps.org/elections](http://stamps.org/elections).

## Strategic Plan

One of the charges from the APS and APRL boards from the Grand Rapids StampShow was to develop a joint strategic plan for the next five years. Thanks to the work of a joint committee comprised of members from the APS and APRL boards, the staff at the APS, and the volunteers serving on our major committees, we have developed a strategic plan focused on four areas: Sustainability, Education, Accessibility, and Membership (SEAM). If you've been reading this column over the past five months, you've read about each of those topics individually.

At the APS Board of Directors meeting in Atlanta and at a subsequent APRL Board meeting in February, both boards reviewed and unanimously approved the five-year strategic plan. The plan includes specific activities and benchmarks and we will report back to the membership on progress of the plan. If we all embrace and support the staff and our volunteers working hard to make the plan a reality, I believe

it will help keep the APS and APRL on a positive course moving forward into the future. Thanks to all those who put in countless hours to get us this far. The work has just begun. To read the strategic plan, visit [stamps.org/userfiles/file/reports/Draft-StrategicPlan2016.pdf](http://stamps.org/userfiles/file/reports/Draft-StrategicPlan2016.pdf).

## There's Always a Stamp Club Meeting

One of the critical elements of our strategic plan is the idea of having a strong grassroots of clubs around the country. While the APS can use its leveraged membership to promote the hobby and serve the membership at large, stamp collecting grows at the local level, too.

By the time you read this column, I will have visited several stamp clubs around the country and spent time at a few shows. Specifically, I was able to visit the Springfield Stamp Club in Springfield, Virginia — a club that has donated countless boxes of material for education programs over the last 12 months; the Ayr Hill Stamp Club in Vienna, Virginia (where the club circulated the strategic plan in advance of my visit); the Worthington Stamp Club in Worthington, Ohio (pizza and social time follow the meetings); and the Metro Louisville Stamp Society in Louisville, Kentucky (a fantastic city with a very smart group of collectors). I also was able to promote the APS at Knoxpex, where the Knoxville Philatelic Society is doing a great job growing its membership and March Party, sponsored by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club in Cleveland.

Thanks to the kindness of clubs that have reached out to invite me to visit and hear what's happening on the ground. There is a great deal happening at your local stamp club from organizing shows to promoting stamps to serving the community and much more. I've managed to pick up a couple of tips about collecting, buy a few items, and strengthen the connections between Bellefonte and our collecting community. I will be visiting some more clubs throughout the year and look forward to meeting our members and hopefully adding a few more.

As always, thanks to the members who provided insight and support through phone calls, letters, and e-mails. It is my honor to be a part of such a great community. If there is ever anything we can do, please feel free to contact me at [scott@stamps.org](mailto:scott@stamps.org).

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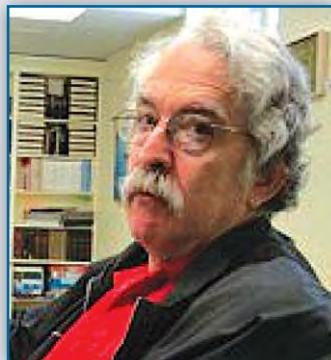


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# A Collective 122 Years of Active Membership in the APS and Serving the Philatelic Community



## Zeigler — Kaufmann — Shapiro

### Candidates for APS Board of Vice Presidents

Besides participating in general APS governance, the Board of Vice Presidents is tasked with the resolution of member complaints and violations of the Code of Ethics. The depth and diversity of our backgrounds and experience uniquely qualify us to handle such issues.

- **Bob Zeigler** is a trial attorney who has vast experience with evidence and due process. He is an APS philatelic judge—more than 90 WSP shows, many as Chief Judge. Bob is a former Director of the APS, has served on the APS Expert Committee for over 30 years (Swiss), the Youth Activities Committee and more. **APS member since 1973.**
- **Trish Kaufmann** is a full-time retail dealer and former auctioneer who brings that background and understanding to the table. She is an avid researcher, writer, editor, expertizer and retailer of Confederate States material. Trish served a 6-year term on the APRL board in the 1980s. **APS member since 1969.**
- **Jeff Shapiro** is recently retired from a 30-year career in non-profit management. Jeff strongly represents the collector viewpoint and is an APS accredited judge. He is known for his numerous exhibits, but more importantly for his strong pattern of leadership and volunteering within the philatelic community. **APS member since 1984.**

**ALL CANDIDATES** have served with distinction on the boards of many other philatelic organizations and won countless awards for service, writing, researching and exhibiting. For more in-depth details, see our individual biographies and platform on our campaign website.

We are all life-long philatelists who bring diverse business and collecting experience to the table, which would allow us to help our members and our great organization as well as to ensure the future of the hobby we all love. We offer both proficiency and enthusiasm to the job. If you agree that these are valuable qualities, **VOTE FOR US** using the ballot in next month's *American Philatelist*.

Please visit our website — **[www.apsvp.com](http://www.apsvp.com)** — to learn more about us!



# SHOW TIME

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

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

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

## Missouri April 1-3

**St. Louis Stamp Expo** Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. \*WSP\*  
**Contact:** David Kols, 800-782-0066  
**Email:** [expo@regencystamps.com](mailto:expo@regencystamps.com)  
**Website:** [www.stlstampexpo.org](http://www.stlstampexpo.org)

## Illinois April 2

**PARFOREX 2016** Park Forest Stamp Club, St. Irenaeus Parish Hall/Gymnasium, 78 Cherry St., Park Forest.  
**Contact:** Michael Durkin, 708-957-2242  
**Email:** [mjdvakin66@gmail.com](mailto:mjdvakin66@gmail.com)

## Ohio April 2

**TUSCOPEX 16** Tuscora Stamp Club, Tuscora Park Pavilion, 161 Tuscora Avenue, NW, New Philadelphia. \*B\*  
**Contact:** Jim Shamel, 740-922-4610  
**Email:** [jimhelenshamel@hotmail.com](mailto:jimhelenshamel@hotmail.com)

## Alberta April 2-3

**Edmonton Stamp Club Spring National Stamp Show** Edmonton Stamp Club, Edmonton Central Lions Centre, 111 Ave & 113 Street, Edmonton. \*WSP\*  
**Contact:** Ed Dykstra, 780-420-7243  
**Email:** [eddykstra@shaw.ca](mailto:eddykstra@shaw.ca)  
**Website:** [www.edmontonstampclub.com](http://www.edmontonstampclub.com)

## Florida April 2-3

**Tampa Stamp & Coin Expo** Tampa Collectors Club, Tampa Stadium Hotel (Formerly Holiday Inn Express), 4750 North Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa. \*B\*  
**Contact:** Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897  
**Email:** [h.rogg@verizon.net](mailto:h.rogg@verizon.net)

**Website:** [www.floridastampdealers.com/](http://www.floridastampdealers.com/)  
[www.floridastampdealers.org](http://www.floridastampdealers.org)

## Florida April 2-3

**TALPEX 2016** Tallahassee Stamp and Cover Club, Tallahassee Seniors Center, 1400 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee. \*B\*  
**Contact:** Gerard York, 850-284-4712  
**Email:** [gerard\\_york@msn.com](mailto:gerard_york@msn.com)  
**Website:** [www.tsandcc.info](http://www.tsandcc.info)

## Washington April 2-3

**2016 Apple Blossom** Inland Empire Philatelic Society, Hilton Garden Inn, 9015 West Highway 2, Spokane. \*B\*  
**Contact:** J. Wilson Palmer, 509-443-8147  
**Email:** [ickyburg@comcast.net](mailto:ickyburg@comcast.net)  
**Website:** [www.ieps-stamps.com](http://www.ieps-stamps.com)

## Alabama April 9

**Montgomery Area Stamp & Coin Show** Montgomery Area Stamp Club, Doster Center, 424 S. Northington St., Prattville. \*B\*  
**Contact:** Dwayne Selix, 334-365-2992  
**Email:** [stamper98@mindspring.com](mailto:stamper98@mindspring.com)

## Pennsylvania April 9

**Spring Stamp Expo** Cumberland Valley Philatelic Society, Eugene C. Clark, Jr.

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## VOTE Dr. Peter P. McCann, APS Director-at-Large

My prior service on the APS Board, my extensive contacts in the hobby, knowledge from my professional life in both business management and academia, and my knowledge of the recent history of the APS combine as a set of unique experiences that can help the APS to move in a positive direction into the future.

While it is unusual for a past president to return to a Board position, it is clear that APS is at a crossroads, and with new staff leadership, I believe it is poised for a new era of growth. I want to help to make that happen, and would appreciate your vote.

I began collecting stamps at the age of 11, and now focus on the philately of the small islands of the Caribbean and South Atlantic. The hobby has been a major part of my life, and I have been active in the APS for the last 20 years, including service as a vice president, and then president from 1999–2003.

My service on the APS Board was from 1995–2007. I was first elected in 1995 to the Board of Vice Presidents which is the judicial and disciplinary arm of the APS and in my second term became its Chairman. I also have been on the APS Committee on Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges since 1993 to the present, and was Chairman from 1997–1999 until I was elected APS President.

Also within the hobby, I have served in leadership positions in specialty societies, serve as a Board member of the International Federation of Philately (FIP), and am a long time exhibitor and philatelic judge at both the national and international levels. I was also a Co-Chairman of the Council of Philatelists of the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum.

Some other philatelic activities included President of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE), President of the American Philatelic Congress, President of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, and Trustee of the Philatelic Foundation.

Ppm103226706@aol.com



### Professional Background

- Currently Vice President of Govic Capital of New York-Palm Beach-Sarasota.
- President/CEO of biotech companies (1993–2003)
- British Biotech USA, Oncostasis Inc, and Mymetics Corporation.
- Research director and executive for world pharmaceutical company now Sanofi-Aventis (1979–1993)
- President of the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute (1998–1999)
- Professor of Cell Biology at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine (1984–2013).
- A.B. Degree from Columbia University, New York, and Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from Syracuse University.



Community Center, 235 S. Third Street,  
Chambersburg. \*B\*  
Contact: Quinn Witherspoon, 717-264-1252  
Email: rspran32@gmail.com

**Indiana April 9-10**

**Spring Stamp Fair** Indiana Stamp Club,  
Lawrence Community Center, 5301 N.  
Franklin, Lawrence. \*B\*  
Contact: Tom Chastang, 317-913-9319  
Email: tchast@sbcglobal.net  
Website: www.indianastampclub.org

**Oregon April 9-10**

**SOPEX 2016** Southern Oregon Philatelic  
Society, Jackson County Expo/Fairgrounds, 1  
Peninger Lane, Central Point.  
Contact: Jerry Shean, 541-772-5536  
Email: geraldsshean@yahoo.com

**Pennsylvania April 9-10**

**WILKPEX 2016** Wilkinsburg Stamp Club,  
Gateway Firehall, 4370 Northern Pike,  
Monroeville.  
Contact: Tom Donohue, 412-373-8697  
Email: wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com  
Website: www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com

**Virginia April 9-10**

**Fairfax StampFest** Elk's Club, 8421 Arlington  
Blvd., (Rte. 50), Fairfax. \*B\*  
Contact: Jack Ott, 1-888-297-3536  
Email: jackott@comcast.net

**Wisconsin April 10**

**DANEPEX'16** Badger Stamp Club, Crowne

Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave.,  
Madison.  
Contact: Bob Voss, 608-838-1933  
Email: lestamps@charter.net  
Website: www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger

**Maryland April 16**

**Tidewater Stamp Club Show** Tidewater Stamp  
Club, Easton Volunteer Fire Department Hall,  
Creamery Lane, Easton.  
Contact: Hope Messick, 410-822-6471

**Michigan April 16-17**

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

**Washington April 16-17**

**Evergreen Stamp Club Spring  
Exhibition** Evergreen Stamp Club, Kent  
Commons, 525 4th Ave., N., Kent.  
Contact: William Geijsbeek, 425-883-9390  
Email: billgphil@gmail.com  
Website: www.stamps.org/  
Evergreen-Stamp-Club

**Connecticut April 23**

**MANPEX 2016** Manchester Philatelic Society,  
East Catholic High School, 115 New State  
Road, Manchester.  
Contact: John Bereuter, 860-978-7856  
Email: jrbereuter@cox.net  
Website: http://manchesterphilatelic.webs.com/

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**Delaware**

**April 23**  
**DELPEX 2016** Brandywine Valley Stamp Club,  
 Nur Shrine CenterTemple, 198 S. Du Pont Hwy  
 (US Routes 13 & 40), New Castle.  
**Contact:** Bill Clark, 302-322-2719  
**Email:** kmc4076@aol.com  
**Website:** www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com

**Illinois**

**April 23-24**  
**MSDA Spring Show North** Midwest Stamp  
 Dealers Association, Country Inn and Suites,  
 600 N. Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Hgts. \*B\*  
**Contact:** Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676  
**Email:** jfb7437@aol.com  
**Website:** www.msdastamp.com

**Iowa**

**April 23-24**  
**CERAPEX 2016** Cedar Rapids Stamp Club,

**April 23**

Machinists Union Hall, 222 Prospect Place,  
 SW, Cedar Rapids.  
**Contact:** Christopher Dahle, 319-693-6020  
**Email:** chris-dahle@fastermac.net

**Michigan**

**April 23-24**  
**KAZOOPEX 2016** Kalamazoo Stamp Club,  
 Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds and  
 Convention Center, 2900 Lake Street,  
 Kalamazoo.  
**Contact:** Mike Dennany  
**Email:** irishdennany@yahoo.com

**Mississippi**

**April 23-24**  
**GULFPEX Stamp Exhibition 2016** Gulf Coast  
 Stamp Club, St. Martin Community Center,  
 15004 LeMoyne Blvd., Biloxi.  
**Contact:** John Barrett, Ph.D., 228-896-6784

**Email:** jstrubelboy@aol.com

**Website:** www.gulfcoaststampclub.org

**New Jersey**

**April 23-24**  
**Clifton 2016 Spring Stamp, Coin, Cover,  
 Currency and Postcard Show** Clifton Stamp  
 Society, Inc., Clifton Community Recreation  
 Center, 1232 Main Avenue @ Washington  
 Ave., Clifton. \*B\*  
**Contact:** Thomas Stidl, 973-471-7872  
**Email:** stidl@verizon.net  
**Website:** www.clifton-stamp-society.org

**Connecticut**

**April 24**  
**Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show** New Haven  
 Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward  
 Ave., New Haven. \*B\*  
**Contact:** Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874

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Website: www.NHPS1914.org/

**California** **April 29-May 1**  
**WESTPEX** WESTPEX, Inc., San Francisco Airport  
Marriott Waterfront Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame. **\*WSP\***  
Contact: Edward Jarvis, 415-387-1016  
Email: ejarvis@westpex.com  
Website: www.westpex.com

**Pennsylvania** **April 29-30**  
**Lancopex 2016** Lancaster County Philatelic Society, Farm & Home Center/Lancaster County, 1383 Arcadia Rd., Lancaster. **\*B\***  
Contact: Lou DiFelice, 717-572-3419  
Email: loudifelice@gmail.com  
Website: www.lcps-stamps.net/

**Delaware** **April 30**  
**The 2016 Sussex County Stamp Club Annual Stamp Show** Sussex County Stamp Club, Milton Fire Hall, 116 Front Street, Milton. **\*B\***  
Contact: Bruce McKinney, 302-684-1864  
Email: sussexcostampclub@inbox.com  
Website: www.sites.google.com/site/sussexcountystampclub

**ON** **April 30-May 1**  
**ORAPEX 2016** RA Stamp Club, RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa. **\*WSP\***  
Contact: Peter MacDonald  
Email: info@orapex.ca  
Website: www.orapex.ca

**Wisconsin** **April 30-May 1**  
**WISCOPEX'16** Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn, 625 Rolling Meadows Dr.,

Fond du Lac.  
**Contact:** Clarence Davis, 920-929-9194  
Email: davisclarence@gmail.com  
Website: www.wfscstamps.org

**Pennsylvania** **May 6-7**  
**BUTLERPEX** Butler County Philatelic Society, Tanglewood Senior Center, 10 Austin Ave., Lyndora.  
Contact: Tom Sivak, 724-287-1931  
Email: tomsstamps@zoominternet.net  
Website: www.butlercountyphilatelicsociety.com

**Massachusetts** **May 6-8**  
**Philatelic Show** Northeastern Fed. Of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn Boxborough Woods, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough. **\*WSP\***  
Contact: Jeff Shapiro  
Email: coverlover@gmail.com  
Website: www.nefed.org

**Louisiana** **May 7**  
**Baton Rouge Stamp Show** Baton Rouge Stamp Club, East Baton Rouge Council on Aging, 5790 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge. **\*B\***  
Contact: Zbigniew Cypel, 225-802-7919  
Email: mrbretired@aol.com

**Colorado** **May 13-15**  
**Rocky Mountain Stamp Show** (ROMPEX) Rocky Mountain Phil. Exhibition, Inc., Crown Plaza Denver International Airport Convention Center, John Q. Hammonds Trade Center, Chambers Rd & I-70, Denver. **\*WSP\***  
Contact: Steve McGill, 720-529-5942  
Email: steve.mcgill@comcast.net

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  3. Current Treasurer - American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors

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  1. Professor and Dean - University of Pennsylvania
  2. Director of Global Marketing - a Johnson & Johnson Company
  3. Global Director of Academic & Educational Programs - Project Management Institute

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  2. Current Board member POLONUS Philatelic Society
  3. Current Board Member - American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors
  4. Member - Collectors Club (NY), American Topical Association, American Revenue Association, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Military Postal History Society and the Germany Philatelic Society.
  5. Chief Philatelic Judge - Current member of CANEJ
  6. Lead Editor - Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting - new 7<sup>th</sup> edition



**Dr. Edwin J. Andrews**  
for APS Treasurer  
afacinc@yahoo.com  
www.andrewsconsultingenterprises.com

**Website:** www.rockymountainstampshow.com

**Maryland** **May 14**  
**Laurel StampFest** Doubletree Hotel, 15101 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel. **\*B\***  
Contact: Jack Ott, 1-888-297-3536  
Email: jackott@comcast.net

**Ohio** **May 14**  
**Trumpex 2016** The Warren Area Stamp Club, St Demetrios Community Center, 3223 Atlantic St., NE, Warren, Trumbull County. **\*B\***  
Contact: Howard Lutz, 330-282-2860  
Email: howrex2@aol.com

**Indiana** **May 14-15**  
**CALUPEX 2016** Calumet Stamp Club, Saint James Parish Hall, 9640 Kennedy Ave., Highland.  
Contact: Jerry Emerson, 219-662-1296  
Website: http://calumetstampclub.org

**Illinois** **May 20-22**  
**COMPEx '16** Germany Philatelic Society #5, Forest View Educational Center, 2121 S. Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights.  
Contact: Charles Berg, 773-775-2100  
Email: stampkingchicago@hotmail.com  
Website: www.complexstampshow.org

**New York** **May 20-22**  
**ROPEX** Rochester Philatelic Association, The Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 North Bloomfield Rd, Canandaigua.  
Contact: Tom Fortunato, 585-752-6178  
Email: stamptmf@frontiernet.net  
Website: www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html

**Connecticut** **May 22**  
**Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show** New Haven  
 Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. \*B\*

**Contact:** Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874  
**Email:** hukeda@comcast.net  
**Website:** www.NHPS1914.org/

**Ohio** **May 22**  
**Hudson Stamp Bourse** Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Memorial Parkway, Hudson. \*B\*  

**Contact:** David G. Pool, 330-832-5992  
**Email:** lincolnway@ssnnet.com

**New York** **May 28-June 4**  
**World Stamp Show - NY 2016 General World Philatelic Exhibition, Jacob Javits Convention Center, New York. Exhibit**  

**Contact:** EAST COMMISSIONER: Dr. Yamil Kouri 405 Waltham St, Suite 347 Lexington, MA 02421 yhkouri@massmed.org WEST COMMISSIONER: Mrs. Vesma Grinfelds

3800- 21st Street San Francisco, CA 94114  
 dzvesma@gmail.com,  
**Email:** info@ny2016.org  
**Website:** www.ny2016.org

**New York** **June 2**  
**Postal History Symposium** The Ninth Postal History Symposium will be held June 2, 2016 during the World Stamp Show-NY 2016 at the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City. Theme: How Postal Treaties Influenced Post Office Reforms, Hosted by the American Philatelic Research Library, the American Philatelic Society, and the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City, New York City. \*APS\*

**Contact:** Tara Murray, 814-933-3803 ext. 246  
**Email:** tmurray@stamps.org  
**Website:** www.stamps.org/  
 Postal-History-Symposium

**Alabama** **June 4-5**  
**HUNTSPEX 2016 Stamp and Postcard Show** Huntsville Philatelic Club, University of Alabama in Huntsville Conference Training Center, 1410 Ben Graves Drive, Huntsville.  

**Contact:** Michael O'Reilly, 256-527-4601  
**Email:** mcoreilly@yahoo.com  
**Website:** www.stampshows.com/  
 huntsville\_hpc.html

**Ohio** **June 10-11**  
**Colopex** Columbus Philatelic Club, Rhodes Center Ohio State Fairgrounds, 717 East 17th Avenue, Columbus. \*WSP\*  

**Contact:** Marie Gibbs, 614-260-0952  
**Email:** kevmar1821@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.colopex.com

**Kentucky** **June 17-18**  
**Louipex 2016** Metro Louisville Stamp Society, St. Leonard's Catholic Church (The Gym), 440 Zorn Avenue, Louisville. \*B\*



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**Website:** www.louisvillemetrostampsociety.org

**Oklahoma** **June 17-18**  
OKPEX Oklahoma City Stamp Club, Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Road, Midwest City. **\*WSP\***  
**Contact:** Joe Crosby, 405-749-0939  
**Email:** joecrosby@cox.net  
**Website:** www.okcsc.org

**Pennsylvania** **June 18-19**  
SCOPEX 2016 Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society, American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory

Place, Bellefonte.  
**Contact:** Don Heller, 814-861-5720  
**Email:** dheller5720@yahoo.com

**Pennsylvania** **June 19-24**  
APS Summer Seminar 2016 Annual APS Summer Seminar on Philately offers instruction in specific areas through a combination of lectures and hands-on workshops. American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. **\*APS\***  
**Contact:** Cathy Brachbill  
**Email:** cbrachbill@stamps.org  
**Website:** stamps.org/Summer-Seminar

**Wisconsin** **June 25-26**  
MSDA Summer Show - Milwaukee Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Crowne Plaza - Milwaukee Airport, 6401 S. 13th Street, Milwaukee. **\*B\***  
**Contact:** Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676  
**Email:** jfb7437@aol.com  
**Website:** www.msdastamp.com

**Connecticut** **June 26**  
Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. **\*B\***  
**Contact:** Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874  
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**Illinois**

**MSDA Summer Show North** Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Country Inn and Suites, 600 N. Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Hgts.. \*B\*  
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676  
Email: [jfb7437@aol.com](mailto:jfb7437@aol.com)  
Website: [www.msdastamp.com](http://www.msdastamp.com)

**Minnesota**

**July 15-17**  
**Minnesota Stamp Expo** Twin City Philatelic Society and Various Local Clubs, Crystal Community Ctr., 4800 Douglas Dr., N., Minneapolis. \*WSP\*  
Contact: Randy A. Smith, 952-431-3273  
Email: [rasmery4@frontiernet.net](mailto:rasmery4@frontiernet.net)  
Website: [www.stampsmnnesota.com](http://www.stampsmnnesota.com)

**Washington**

**July 16-17**  
**Evergreen Stamp Club Summer Exhibition** Evergreen Stamp Club, Kent Commons, 525 4th Ave., N., Kent.  
Contact: William Geisbeek, 425-883-9390  
Email: [billphil@gmail.com](mailto:billphil@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.stamps.org/](http://www.stamps.org/)  
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**Pennsylvania**

**July 18-22**  
**Volunteer Work Week** Hosted at the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. \*APS\*  
Contact: Cathy Brachbill, 814-933-3803 ext. 239  
Email: [cbrachbill@stamps.org](mailto:cbrachbill@stamps.org)  
Website: [stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week](http://stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week)

**Nevada**

**July 23-24**  
**Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show** Nevada Stamp Study Society, National Bowling Stadium Museum, 300 N. Center St., Reno.  
Contact: Harvey Edwards, 775-527-2362  
Email: [show@renostamp.org](mailto:show@renostamp.org)  
Website: [www.renostamp.org](http://www.renostamp.org)

**Connecticut**

**July 24**  
**Fourth Sunday Collectibles Show** New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. \*B\*  
Contact: Brian McGrath, 203-627-6874  
Email: [hukeda@comcast.net](mailto:hukeda@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.NHPS1914.org/](http://www.NHPS1914.org/)

**Indiana**

**July 30-31**  
**MSDA Indianapolis Summer Show** Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Lawrence Park and Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin Rd., Lawrence. \*B\*  
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676  
Email: [jfb7437@aol.com](mailto:jfb7437@aol.com)  
Website: [www.msdastamp.com](http://www.msdastamp.com)

**North Carolina**

**July 30-31**  
**CHARPEX 2016** Charlotte Philatelic Society, Worrell Bldg, Central Piedmont Community College, 1228 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte.  
Contact: Gene Zhiss, 704-553-8110  
Email: [signup@charpex.info](mailto:signup@charpex.info)  
Website: [www.charpex.info/](http://www.charpex.info/)

**Florida**

**August 1-4**  
**PMCC Convention** Post Mark Collectors Club, Hilton Garden Inn, 8270 North Tamiami Trail,

Sarasota.

**Contact:** Mark Gollnick

Email: [8675309jenny@verizon.net](mailto:8675309jenny@verizon.net)  
Website: [www.postmarks.org](http://www.postmarks.org)

**Oregon**

**August 4-7**  
**APS STAMP SHOW** Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther Jr. Blvd., Portland. \*WSP\*  
Contact: Barb Johnson, 814-933-3803 ext 217  
Email: [stampshow@stamps.org](mailto:stampshow@stamps.org)  
Website: [www.stamps.org/STAMP SHOW-SS](http://www.stamps.org/STAMP SHOW-SS)

**New Jersey**

**August 5-6**  
**MERPEX 2016** Merchantville Stamp Club, Marlton Elementary School, 190 Tomlinson Mill Road, Marlton.  
Contact: Macario A. Sarreal, 856-424-2389  
Email: [macsar530@aol.com](mailto:macsar530@aol.com)  
Website: [www.merchantvillestampclub.org/](http://www.merchantvillestampclub.org/)

**Ohio**

**August 6-7**  
**G.C.P.S. 100th Anniversary Show (Formerly Cinpex)** Greater Cincinnati Philatelic Society, Wyoming Civic Center, 1 Worthington Avenue, Wyoming (Northern Cincinnati Suburb). \*B\*  
Contact: Jill R. Ambrose, 513-231-4208  
Email: [jillambrose@zoomtown.com](mailto:jillambrose@zoomtown.com)  
Website: [www.gcps.webs.com](http://www.gcps.webs.com)

**Ontario**

**August 19-21**  
**88th Convention of Royal Philatelic Society of Canada** Kitchener Waterloo Philatelic Society, Waterloo Memorial Recreation Complex, 101 Father David Drive, Waterloo.  
Contact: Leigh Hogg, 519-746-4270  
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## Kouri - Barwis - Haimann

### *Candidates for APS Vice Presidents*



Dear APS Members,

We are running as candidates for the APS Board of Vice Presidents. Two of us, Alex Haimann and Yamil Kouri are running for re-election to that office. John Barwis is joining the slate for election to the 2016-2019 board term. As APS Vice Presidents, we will bring our diverse organizational leadership experiences in and outside of the hobby to advance and improve APS initiatives and membership services that support stamp clubs, local and regional shows, education, new collector outreach, and research through the American Philatelic Research Library.

Each of us developed our passion for stamp collecting in childhood. The thrill of adding a new item to our collection, learning about different areas of the hobby and meeting other collectors continues to drive our commitment to philately in all its forms. American philately is blessed to have the APS, an organization with a rich 129-year history representing the organizational backbone of our hobby. As three lifelong stamp collectors with over 85-years of cumulative APS membership between us, we would be honored to serve the society and its members as APS Vice Presidents.

We know that nothing in organized philately can be accomplished in a vacuum. Any significant effort worth undertaking requires input and work from many people and organizations. As the APS tackles current challenges and prepares for ones that lie ahead, we're excited to roll-up our sleeves and get to work. We are equally excited to work with fellow APS Board Members, Affiliate and Chapter leaders, and other dedicated APS members interested in pushing the boundaries of what is possible to make our Society and hobby better for us today and the generations that follow.

Thank You,

John Barwis, Alex Haimann & Yamil Kouri

#### **Yamil Kouri**

*APS Member Since 1988*

1985-Present — Physician in Hematology-Oncology field  
1992-2014 — Partner, Commonwealth Hematology-Oncology, PC  
2014-Present - Hematologist and Medical Oncologist with Dana Farber Community Cancer Care  
1998-2005 — President, Cuban Philatelic Society of America  
2008-Present — Board Director, Postal History Society – currently President-Elect  
2010-Present — Board Director, Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History  
2013-Present — Vice President, American Philatelic Society

#### **John Barwis**

*APS Member Since 1978*

1966-1970 — Staff, U.S. Naval Arctic Research Laboratory — finishing as Head of Logistics & Station Manager  
1972-1975 — Officer, U.S. Army Engineer Corps  
1979-2003 — Geologist, Royal/Dutch Shell, Retiring as Board Director of Shell U.K.  
2006-Present — Board Member, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society — President since 2012  
2007-Present — Member, APS Finance Committee  
2009-2010 — Member, Long Range Planning Committee

#### **Alex Haimann**

*APS Member Since 1996*

2005-2010 — Collections Specialist, Smithsonian National Postal Museum  
2008-2010 — Board Director, American Stamp Dealers Association  
2008-Present — Founder & Advisory Board Member, Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship  
2012-2014 — Associate Director, Center for Experiential Learning & Adjunct Professor of Management at the Olin Business School at Washington University in St. Louis  
2013-Present — Chair, Board of Vice Presidents, American Philatelic Society  
2014-Present — Head of Business Development, Less Annoying Software

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**[www.vote-aps-vp.org](http://www.vote-aps-vp.org)**



## John Barwis *Candidate for APS Vice President*

My APS Vice President running-mates, Yamil Kouri and Alex Haimann currently serve on the APS Board and are running for re-election. As I am the newcomer to their Vice President slate for election to the 2016-2019 Board term, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself more fully to you, my fellow APS members.

I am running for APS Vice President because the success and growth of the APS will drive the health of our entire hobby. I have spent my entire adult life working from the trenches to all the way up to the highest levels of leadership in organizations that faced constant and varied challenges. In each role, for every organization, I endeavored to make a difference and leave the area of my responsibility significantly better off than how I found it. I understand the importance from my real-world experience of engaging people at every level of our Society from the many diverse stakeholder groups, fellow APS/APRL Board Members and the Society's professional staff so together we can grow our Society and the hobby that has meant so much to me throughout my life. I would be honored to serve my fellow APS Members on the Board of Directors as a Vice President.

I have more than 40 years of leadership experience in academia, industry, the military, and philately. The primary role of a Director, whether in volunteer groups or in business, is to prolong and enhance the life of an organization by setting goals, influencing and supporting strategy, as well as advising and encouraging an operational function where appropriate.

- Founder, past President and Director of *Industry Technology Facilitator*, a British not-for-profit company formed to enhance the development of new technology in the U.K. petroleum industry. We raised £15 million in donations to assist startups with product development.
- Past member of the Board of Directors of Shell U.K., and Technical Director of Shell U.K. Exploration and Production. Had primary authority and accountability for a staff of 550 employees and 400 contractors, as well as an annual budget of £400 million.

I have been a stamp collector for more than 60 years, and an APS member for 37 years. It has been my privilege to have served on the APS Finance Committee since 2007. During that time, I initiated the movement of our Society's investments to a different management company because, quite frankly, our investments were being mismanaged. I had the honor of serving on the APS Long Range Planning Committee (2009-10) which set the course for the Society to recover from the 2008-09 U.S. economic downturn. I also served on the Executive Search Committee (2014-15), which found and recommended Scott English, our current Executive Director. Other roles and accomplishments in organized philately include –

- Co-founder and current President of the *Institute for Analytical philately*, which provides financial grants for travel, lodging and equipment expenses to philatelists who would like to perform technical research on stamps and covers. We have grown to more than 100 members, and have held two successful international research symposia.
- Current Director and President of the *U.S. Philatelic Classics Society*, a philatelic organization with a membership of approx. 1,100 members that is stable and growing. We are a charter financial supporter, at \$5,000/year, of the APS Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship.

It would be an honor to serve on your APS Board of Vice Presidents. Yamil, Alex and I would be grateful for your vote in the upcoming Society election.

John Barwis

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY TERRY DEMPSEY

# Our Many Intangible Benefits

## APS Promotes Culture of Ethics, Sharing, and Caretaking

Last month we listed many of our very specific tangible benefits of membership. Now it's time to explore some intangibles.

People who engage in a pursuit or activity — like the hobby of collecting stamps — do so for a wide and varied range of reasons. This typically starts with the age-old what's-in-it-for-me view of things. This is a perfectly valid and honest reason to do most things, including becoming involved in philately. We all like to see some type of return on our investments of time and money. And the same exact things pertain to a dues-paying membership in a professional society like our APS. You should receive some sort of direct payback for your investment of dues money.

But there are additional reasons that can also accompany your decision to join and remain a member of APS. This set of paybacks is almost impossible to put a price on but it is as real and relevant as the monetary return of investment.

Many stamp collectors have figured out that we don't re-

ally own our little pieces of paper; we are merely the current custodians and guardians of these impossibly intriguing little gems. We assume an obligation and responsibility to take proper care of our items so that when our time with them comes to an end, they can be passed along in good shape for the next generation to enjoy and learn from. APS gives us a range of tools to assist in these processes.

Membership by definition implies a gathering of a group of like-minded people. APS provides a forum and a gathering place — for ideas, for comradeship, for trade, for learning, and for preserving our hobby for the future.

Membership in APS requires that we abide by the APS Philatelic Code of Ethics. If you take the time to boil it all down, this is the difference between someone who chooses to be a society member and someone who hasn't yet joined us. The code is basically a combination of the golden rule and recognition that we should conduct ourselves in accordance with accepted standards of morality and courtesy in philatelic activities. Thus, you can feel confident in your dealings with a fellow member and vice versa. You have publicly stated that you stand for something a little bigger than yourself.

Many of our members get a sense of joy and fulfillment when they are able to share their passion for stamp collecting by teaching others either directly or through writing or exhibiting. This simply makes some people feel good.

Some APS members receive the recognition of accomplishment when their various efforts are rewarded or awarded. These can be for things they have produced or for just helping out and making things better.

But possibly the single most significant and long-lasting intangible benefit of your membership in APS is the fact that you are helping to preserve and protect this most enjoyable and fulfilling hobby for future generations. Our stamps are perishable by nature. What we do doesn't change the fate of nations, but it does offer a legitimate and rewarding human occupation and vehicle to engage our intellect and share with others. And this is a valuable and worthwhile thing in a person's life.

So, as you interact with other stamp collectors, please remember to share these intangibles as you invite someone to join the APS. Yes, there is plenty of "what's in it for me" in the APS portfolio, but we also have a whole lot of the intangible things that reach to something bigger and longer-lasting than ourselves. Invite someone to join this week!

*This series of articles was written by Michael Bloom, Don Chenevert, Terry Dempsey, Judy Johnson, Matt Liebson, Ken Martin, Gerry Robbins, and Michael Sales, all members of the APS Membership Activities, Recruitment, and Services Committee.*



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**NEW APPLICANTS**

The following applications were received during February 2016. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to April 30, 2016 these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the June 2016 issue.

Adams, Fred (225731) **Richmond, KY** US; 70  
 Atkins, Rebecca (225632) **Tucson, AZ**; 68  
 Allison, Stuart A. (225587) **Atlanta, GA** US, REVENUES; 64; University Professor  
 Ames, Marc L. (225743) **Peoria, AZ** US ESSAYS & PROOFS, 19TH CENTURY, POSTAL CARDS, STAMPLLESS COVERS, POSTAL HISTORY, CIVIL WAR COVERS; Retired  
 Anderson, Robert T. (225673) **Charlotte, NC** SWITZERLAND; 78; Retired  
 Andrews, Charles (225600) **Ada, MI** ZAMBIA-ZIMBABWE/ RHODESIA; Retired  
 Archer, Stanley (225699) **Morgantown, PA** US-EARLY WORLDWIDE; 53; Retired  
 Asato, Osamu (225606) **Alexandria, VA** FAR EAST-US-WORLDWIDE; 84; Retired  
 Aschman, Carl (225693) **Williamsburg, VA** US-GERMANY; 81; Retired  
 Aslakson, Charles (225645) **Green Bay, WI** JAPAN-FRANCE-ICELAND-LIECHTENSTEIN-US-GERMANY; 72; Financial Representative  
 Auerbach, Ray (225619) **Doylestown, PA**; 56  
 Avizonis, Petras V. (225756) **Park City, UT** US-SWITZERLAND-LITHUANIA; 80; Retired  
 Badenhausen, Bayard (225757) **South Windsor, CT** US PRESIDENTS, WIVES, AUTOMOBILES; 95; Psychologist  
 Baer, James (225608) **Frederick, MD** 1840-1980 WORLDWIDE; 70; Attorney/Adjunct Professor  
 Bambarger, Donald C. (225700) **Hoover, AL** US-UN; 72; CPA  
 Barnes, Claudia (225790) **San Luis Obispo, CA**  
 Barnes, Darryl L. (225701) **Tulsa, OK**; 68; Retired  
 Barton, John (225589) **Memphis, TN** US; 60; Estate Sales  
 Bates, Dan (225732) **College Station, TX** EARLY US, BULLSEYES CANCEL; 71; Retired  
 Beason, Donald (225717) **Peoria, IL** US; 75  
 Bell, Mary Anne (225607) **South Fork, PA** BELLS-LIGHTHOUSES-AUTHORS-LITERATURE; 68; Retired  
 Berrios, Edwin M. (225768) **Lehigh Acres, FL** SPACE-WORLDWIDE

Bickerton, Fred (225588) **McKeesport, PA** US-GERMANY; 67; Retired  
 Biede, Duane W. (225733) **Hastings, NE** US; 73; Insurance Agent  
 Blackwell, Robert (225646) **Pensacola, FL** US-UNITED KINGDOM; 78; Retired  
 Boone, Laurel (225769) **Canby, OR**  
 Brecke, Ronald F. (225745) **Pleasant Valley, MO** US 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, BUREAU ISSUES, COILS, DEFINITIVES, COMMEMORATIVES; 66  
 Bresser, Arnie J. (225609) **Scranton, PA** US-PRE-WWII WORLDWIDE; 72; Retired  
 Cairns, Robert F. (225779) **Wichita, KS** US-WESTERN EUROPE-PRE-1960 WORLDWIDE; 67; Retired  
 Cane, Fred (225734) **Cape Coral, FL**; 73; Retired  
 Capps, Michael D. (225569) **Nellysford, VA** GREECE-THAILAND-FRANCE-SCANDINAVIA; Retired  
 Carapella, Donald (225638) **Corning, NY** MILITARY MAIL-NY POSTAL HISTORY-WWI & WWII SOLDIER'S FREE MAIL; 54; Retail  
 Castor, Gerald (225636) **Deerfield Beach, FL**; Retired  
 Cattier, John (225647) **Indianapolis, IN**  
 Caverly, Todd B. (225758) **Union, ME** US; 42; Farmer  
 Chiappetta, Dennis (225753) **Manalapan, NJ** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES-GREAT BRITAIN; 50  
 Clendenin, Bruce E. (225567) **Leesburg, VA**  
 Cochran, Michael (225759) **Libertyville, IL** AIRMAILS; 63; Physician  
 Cockrell, Charles M. (225590) **Jacksonville, FL** US-CANADA-GREAT BRITAIN-EUROPA; 57; Engineering Technician  
 Conning, R. Stanley (225648) **Palatine, IL** US-GREAT BRITAIN; 80; Retired  
 Coolbaugh, James B. (225649) **Raleigh, NC** US-CANADA-GREAT BRITAIN-BOOKLETS-ICELAND-ALAND-AAT-VATICAN-MONACO-DISNEY; 73; Retired  
 Cooper, James V. (225735) **Glen, NH**; 68; Retired  
 Copeland, Terry (225760) **Bushnell, IL** US-BRITISH EMPIRE-GERMANY-FRANCE; 51; Farmer  
 Crane, Phyllis S. (225736) **Basking Ridge, NJ**; 96; Retired  
 Csiga, Frank (225568) **Carson City, NV** US-NETHERLANDS-HUNGARY-SWITZERLAND; 56  
 Cuscia, Stephen M. (225719) **Haverhill, MA** PLATE NUMBERS-BLOCKS-US; 63; Master Plumber

Davis, Woodward (225702) **Carlsbad, CA** OLYMPICS-CANADA-UN-ANIMALS-ENGLISH & ROYAL FAMILY; 82; Retired  
 Dee, Tony (225650) **Post Falls, ID** FDC-PLATE BLOCKS-AMERICAN PANELS; 65; Retired  
 Delaney, Jack R. (225737) **Minneapolis, MN** US & WORLDWIDE REVENUES-PRE-1900 WORLDWIDE; 76; Independent Finance Consultant  
 Dempsey, Corbin M. (J-225651) **Eagle, CO** WORLDWIDE;  
 Dietel, Bruce (225652) **Little Silver, NJ** US-GERMANY; 54; Sales Manager  
 DiMambro, Brian (225691) **Dover, NH** US PHILATELIC/NUMISMATIC COVERS, CLASSICS, POSTAL HISTORY-CINDERELLAS-PHILATELIC LITERATURE-LOTS & COLLECTIONS; 53; Rare Books & Maps Dealer  
 Dixon, John A. (225738) **Kailua, HI** PRE-1952 WORLDWIDE; 69; Retired  
 Dolan, John P. (225602) **Seattle, WA** US BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, FDC, CHRISTMAS SEALS, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES-CZECH REPUBLIC-IRELAND; 73; Business Consultant  
 Donohue, Thomas J. (225570) **Pittsburgh, PA**; 78; Retired  
 Droege, Charles (225689) **Hartland, WI** ORANGE RIVER COL./FREE STATE-SOUTH AFRICA/ENCLAVES-FRANCE-NATAL; 62  
 Drum, Timothy J. (225565) **Cutchogue, NY** US BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, FDC, PLATE BLOCKS; 48  
 Earhart, Robert L. (225718) **La Verne, CA** US 19TH CENTURY; 69  
 Eddy, David (225605) **Phoenix, AZ**; 65  
 Endres, Frederick M. (225627) **Oakdale, IL** US 19TH CENTURY; Retired  
 Erickson, Dwane E. (225770) **Hesperia, CA** US-WORLDWIDE; 68; Retired  
 Esely, James L. (225720) **Waxahachie, TX** MINT US, SINGLES, SHEETS, BLOCKS; 80; Psychotherapist  
 Eylward, Harold (225653) **Brooklyn, NY** US-WORLDWIDE; 71; Accounting/Investment Advice  
 Farrell, David (225654) **Colon, MI** US; 76; Retired  
 Fee, Barry (225780) **Woodstock, MD** US; 78; Retired  
 Feliz, Freddy (225639) **Fairfax, VA** DOMINICAN REPUBLIC-US CHRISTMAS SEALS, FDC, FLAG CANCELS, POSTAL CARDS; 36

**NEW MEMBERS**

Applications 225290, 225297 through 225343, 225345 through 225353, and 225355 through 225406 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

**SUMMARY**

Total Membership	
January 31, 2016.....	31,271
New Members .....	107
Reinstated .....	34
Deceased.....	31
Resignations.....	35
Dropped NPD.....	4
Chapter Disbanded... 1	71
Total Membership,	
February 29, 2016	31,341
(Total Membership, February 28, 2015 was 32,142 a difference of -801)	

Ferguson, John (225791) **Plano, TX**; 59; Electrical Engineer

Ferguson, Keith (225655) **Lansing, MI** US COILS, FLAGS-ROSES-LUNAR NEW YEAR; 80; Retired

Finch, Jim L. (225692) **Middleboro, MA** US FDC, USED-USED WORLDWIDE-EUROPE; 69; Realtor

Finley, James C. (225656) **Shaker Heights, OH** PRE-1940 MINT US; 62; Physician

Fisher, Paul (225657) **Waukesha, WI** BOY & GIRL SCOUTS-CAMP FIRE GIRLS-US; 65; Retired

Fislar, Jerry L. (225686) **Reelsville, IN**

Flanigan, John B. (225610) **Havelock, NC** US-JAPAN-PRC-TAIWAN-PHILIPPINES-INDONESIA-RYUKYU-CANADA-IRELAND-GERMANY-HAWAII; 78; Retired

Foster, John (225571) **North Myrtle Beach, SC** US-WORLDWIDE; 78; Retired

Fox, Jonathan (225591) **Westport, CT**

Fox, Ralph (225592) **Stuart, FL**; 70; Retired

Fox, Todd H. (225761) **Tinley Park, IL**; 51; Attorney

Fritton, Joe W. (225721) **Topeka, KS** US, REVENUES-VATICAN; 78; Retired

Gallant, Keith M. (225604) **Braintree, VT** US CLASSICS, COMMEMORATIVE PANELS; 47; Game Warden

Garst, Kenneth M. (225762) **Turlock, CA**; 76; Retired

Gedge, Charles (225674) **West Chester, PA** 1840-1960; 71; Retired

- George, William (225642) **Lakewood, CA** ISLE OF MAN-ANIMALS-CHRISTMAS-UN-OLYMPICS-SHIPS/BOATS; 70; Retired
- Getz, John (225601) **Atlanta, GA** US 19TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, CLASSICS, COMMEMORATIVES; 63
- Gile, Gregory H. (225593) **Lake Wales, FL** CLASSIC US-GREAT BRITAIN-SOUTHEAST ASIA; 73; Retired
- Gjevre, Mark T. (225675) **Wayzata, MN** PRE-1980 US, POSTAL HISTORY-SCANDINAVIA-SOUTH AFRICA; 53; Civil Engineer
- Gloddy, Vincent (225641) **Madbury, NH** US FDC; 66
- Gorman, John (225710) **Long Island City, NY** US FDC, PLATE BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVES-KENYA-UGANDA/TANZANIA-PERU-FOREIGN POSTAL HISTORY
- Granata, Ennis (225573) **Norwalk, CT** US-FDC-US POSTAL HISTORY; 55; Retired
- Grassnick, Tanya (225716) **Kansas City, MO** US & WORLDWIDE USED; 53; Retired
- Graver, Lee Ellen (S-225594) **Bakerstown, PA** US-WORLDWIDE; 76; Retired
- Grenko, Michael (225781) **Olympia, WA** US-CANADA-BELIZE-OLD WORLDWIDE; 73; Environmental Scientist
- Griesmer, Russell (225614) **Stow, OH** WORLDWIDE; 85; Retired
- Gross, Marshall (225572) **Orange Park, FL** US-GREAT BRITAIN-CHANNEL ISLANDS-UN; 79; Retired
- Guiler, Jeffery (225574) **Pittsburgh, PA** PRE-1960 WORLDWIDE; 67; University Professor
- Hager, William (225676) **Sun City West, AZ** US-CANADA-UN-ISLE OF MAN; 70; Retired
- Harrell, Harry (225677) **Santee, CA** US; 68; X-Ray Technician
- Harrington, Amy (225628) **Muskegon, MI** WORLDWIDE, 19TH CENTURY; 53
- Hawley, Charles E. (225771) **Springdale, WA** WORLDWIDE; Retired
- Hay, Michael E. (225792) **Pekin, IL** WORLDWIDE-IRELAND-NEW ZEALAND-AUSTRALIA; 69; Retired
- Heller, Craig (225678) **Lake in the Hills, IL** LIGHTHOUSES-TRAINS-BOATS-OLDER FULL SHEETS; 70; Retired
- Hoffmann, Guenther H. (225746) **Ludlow, MA** US-WORLDWIDE; 81; Retired
- Hoover, Herbert (225611) **Blairsville, GA** PRE-1940 US-GREAT BRITAIN-GERMANY-GREECE; 82; Retired
- Howard, Chuck (225703) **Arvada, CO** US-CANADA; 82; Retired
- Hrabrich, Vincent (225658) **Cleveland, WI** US-UK-RUSSIA-GERMANY-BRITISH-OLD COLONIES; Retired
- Hudik, Eileen M. (225713) **Berwyn, IL** US-CANADA-CZECHOSLOVAKIA-GERMANY
- Hutchinson, Craig (225635) **Tampa, FL**; 72
- Iams, R. (225763) **Seattle, WA**
- Irwin, Harold E. (225595) **Warminster, PA** MINT US; 96; Retired
- Iserson, Larry (225612) **Boynton Beach, FL** US, REVENUES; 78; Retired
- Johnson, James E. (225772) **East Troy, WI** NEW GUINEA-PAPUA-US-AUSTRALIA; 79; Retired
- Johnson, JB (225711) **Watford City, ND**; 74
- Jones, Henry L. (225659) **Sequim, WA** US; 72; Retired
- Katz, Stan (225739) **Highlands Ranch, CO** PRE-1960; Retired
- Kauffman, Forrest R. (225575) **Belleville, PA** US-CANADA; 74; Retired
- Kerby, Cynthia E. (225576) **Crest Hill, IL**; 50; Executive Assistant/Payroll
- Kern, Joe (225722) **Bentonville, AR** FDC-US-GREAT BRITAIN; 90; Retired
- Kimbell, Mark (225596) **Moreno Valley, CA** 1847-1930'S US, BACK OF THE BOOK; 57; Retired
- King, Ursula (225629) **Wilmington, NC** USED WORLDWIDE; 72; Retired
- Kline, William (225679) **Green Bay, WI**; 72; Pediatric Dentist
- Koepnick, Kurt (225622) **Wyoming, MI** US SINGLES, PLATE BLOCKS; 64; Physician
- Kopacek, Jerry F. (225680) **Dubuque, IA** CLASSIC BRITISH COMMONWEALTH-VATICAN CITY-US-TOPICALS; 60; Priest
- Krauszer, John M. (225712) **Medford, NJ** US, COMMEMORATIVES, 19TH CENTURY, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, DEFINITIVES, POSSESSIONS; 69
- Labunskiy, Dmitriy (225613) **Santa Rosa, CA** SCIENCE-MEDICINE; 57; Scientist
- Langley, Bradford (225660) **Battle Creek, MI** US-GREAT BRITAIN, MACHINS & OVERPRINTS-HONG KONG; 64; Retired
- Leber, David (225661) **Mechanicsburg, PA** BIRDS; 75; Retired
- Leistner, Robert T. (225704) **Springfield, IL** US-UN-WORLDWIDE; 78; Retired
- Lewis, Keith (225752) **Lake Arrowhead, CA**
- Lewis, Michael P. (225643) **West Yarmouth, MA** CLASSICS FOREIGN-FRANCE-GERMANY-ITALY-GREAT BRITAIN; 49; Automotive Parts Manager
- Lifrieri, Frank L. (225755) **Yonkers, NY** US, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES, AIRMAILS; 67; Retired
- Lima, John H. (225626) **Livermore, CA** US-AZORES/MADEIRA-PORTUGAL-CHRISTMAS-MADONNAS-ARCHEOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY-JESUS; 78; Retired
- Litman, Sid (225773) **Bremerton, WA** US; 71; Retired
- Loffredo, Christopher (225662) **Bowie, MD** AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND-BRITISH EMPIRE-BIRDS-GEMS/MINERALS; 54; Scientist
- Long, John (225740) **Fort Worth, TX** US-CANADA-GERMANY-GREAT BRITAIN-SPAIN-RUSSIA-FRANCE-CHANNEL ISLANDS; 80; Retired
- Lovely, Martin (225681) **Kalamazoo, MI** US
- Luce, Ed (225715) **Pleasanton, CA** US & WORLDWIDE SOUVENIR SHEETS-PALESTINE-EGYPT-HAWAII-BASEBALL-MINT MIDDLE EAST; 64; Finance
- Machol, Jacques A. (225723) **Denver, CO**; 87
- Mack, Stan (225748) **Saginaw, MI** US-ISRAEL-EASTERN EUROPE; Medical Equipment/Supplies Buyer
- MacKay, Andrew B. (225615) **Catonsville, MD** US-GERMANY COVERS; 64; Retired
- Mackey, James H. (225682) **Clearlake, CA** US-WORLDWIDE-FDC-COVERS; 88; Retired
- MacLauchlan, Donald E. (225705) **Davidsonville, MD** EARLY 20TH CENTURY DEFINITIVES; 76; Retired
- Maloney, Joseph (225793) **New City, NY**; 83; Retired
- Markley, Lee (225664) **Mentone, IN** WORLDWIDE-US; 75; Retired
- Marshall, John (225577) **Port Orange, FL** US; 72; Retired
- Martin, Britten L. (225630) **Oakland, MD**; 74
- Martore, Gracia (225787) **Arlington, VA** US CLASSICS, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY; 64
- Matthews, Christian W. (225665) **Grand Rapids, MI** US; 81; Retired
- McBride, John (225749) **Oak Park, CA** WORLDWIDE-IRELAND-GREAT BRITAIN-FRANCE-SWEDEN-SWITZERLAND; 60; Attorney
- McClinty, Amber (225621) **Bellefonte, PA** GERMANY-IRELAND-ANIMALS-FINLAND-AUTHORS/LITERATURE/LIBRARIES-REFUGEES/HUMAN RIGHTS-PARROTS; 26
- McManus, Gregg (225751) **Evansville, IN** MINT SHEETS-FDC-CHRISTMAS-POSTAL CARDS; 68; College Instructor
- Merginio, Larry (225724) **Chicago, IL** UN, OFFICES-WORLDWIDE-SPORTS-OLYMPICS-LUNAR-UNESCO; 87; Retired
- Merlino, Jean M. (225774) **Seattle, WA** US-SPORTS; 77; Property Management
- Meyers, Cara A. (225754) **Penrose, CO** 19TH CENTURY-EGYPT-GERMANY-LOTS & COLLECTIONS-USED WORLDWIDE-US FDC
- Miller, Glen (225663) **Itasca, IL** US-CANADA; 65; Retired
- Mislock, Raymond (225683) **Georgetown, TX** BRITISH NORTH AMERICA-US, POSTAL HISTORY-UN; 69; Retired
- Moderow, Richard C. (225666) **Ridgewood, NJ** US; 60; Retired
- Monday, Barbara (225767) **Elk Grove, CA** US, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, CANCELS, CHRISTMAS SEALS; 65
- Nichols, Arnold E. (225667) **Urbana, IL** SPECIAL DELIVERY-PARCEL POST-AIRMAIL; 72; Retired
- Nyberg, Elaine B. (S-225623) **Somersworth, NH** CANADA-NEWFOUNDLAND-NOVA SCOTIA; 57; Retired
- O'Connell, Tom G. (225690) **Chehalis, WA** US BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, AIRMAILS-GERMAN THIRD REICH/OCCUPATIONS, FEDERAL REPUBLIC-OLYMPICS; Bailiff
- Odgen, Donald (225624) **Grand Haven, MI**; 63; Retired
- Ogg, Horold C. (225620) **Winchester, VA** CANADA-US-GIBRALTAR-TRAINS-UN; 69; Retired
- Oh, Andrew H. (225597) **Roswell, GA**; 49; Retail
- Olson, Ron (225706) **Colfax, WA** US, BACK OF THE BOOK; 74; Retired
- Ondersma, Fulton (225707) **Jenison, MI** US-WORLDWIDE-UN; 64; Inside Sales
- Otremba, Gary (225684) **Bloomington, MN** US, REVENUES; 65; Retired

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- Pointon, David (225782) **Sparks, NV** PRE-1970 UNITED KINGDOM, COMMONWEALTH; 78; Retired
- Pond, Tony (225603) **Las Vegas, NV** US PLATE BLOCKS, COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES, SOUVENIR SHEETS, BOOKLETS/PANES, SHEETS/ SMALL PANES, BACK OF THE BOOK; 47
- Powell, Mike (225631) **Vanleer, TN** US COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES, POSTAL STATIONERY, AIRMAILS, CONFEDERATE STATES, CUT SQUARES; 61; Bank CFO
- Price, Ronald G. (225598) **Gloucester, VA** WORLDWIDE; 76
- Przedpelski, Z. (225668) **Clemson, SC** AIRCRAFT; 84; Retired
- Pulman, David (225726) **Chapel Hill, NC** BRITISH COMMONWEALTH-FRANCE-ITALY; 62; Retired
- Quinones, John N. (225616) **Barefoot Bay, FL** US, AIRMAILS, BACK OF THE BOOK, FDC, SILK CACHETS; 57
- Radecki, John (225764) **London, KY** US-FDC-LINCOLN-STATIONERY-POSTCARDS; 81; Retired
- Rafel, Vicki P. (225727) **Chevy Chase, MD** MIDDLE EAST-MEDITERRANEAN; Retired
- Ragon, Michael (225783) **Mineola, NY** US; 64; Retired
- Rampe, Herbert C. (225578) **Catawissa, PA** WORLDWIDE; 70; Retired
- Rawson, Arthur F. (225671) **Derwood, MD** US COILS, CUT SQUARES, PLATE BLOCKS-CANADIAN PROVINCES-COLOMBIA-GREECE-CYPRUS; 68; Accountant
- Reed, Oscar Hank (225784) **Lexington, KY** US-FDC; 68; Retired
- Renz, R. Leroy (225786) **Arkansas City, KS** GERMANY-BERLIN-US COMMEMORATIVES-GERMAN 3RD REICH/OCCUPATIONS-BUTTERFLIES/INSECTS; 73; Retired
- Riffel, Philip (225617) **Santa Clara, CA** BRITISH NORTH AMERICA; 70; Retired
- Rockenhaus, Eric (225775) **Hewitt, TX** DENMARK-BALTIC STATES; 66; Retired
- Roden, Peyton H. (225694) **Mechanicsville, VA** US-BRITISH EMPIRE; 82; Retired
- Romaine, Thomas (225696) **Lyons, CO** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY
- Rosner, Karl (225685) **West Bloomfield, MI** MEDICINE; 58; Physician
- Rowe, Bonnie McNeely (225579) **Milford, OH**; 85; Retired
- Ruller, Richard D. (225618) **Herkimer, NY** MINT US COMMEMORATIVES; 86; Retired
- Sarchek, James (225776) **Grosse Pointe, MI** US-BRITISH; 71; Dentist
- Savard, Robert J. (225670) **Chanhassen, MN** NETHERLANDS; 60; Retired
- Schindzielorz, Andrew (225580) **Raleigh, NC**
- Schmitt, Walter E. (225669) **Hertford, NC** US; 80; Retired
- Schneiderman, Marc (225581) **Moon Township, PA** AUTOGRAPHS; 61; Physician
- Schrock, Kim S. (225728) **North Lawrence, OH** US-SCANDINAVIAN COVERS-OHIO, POSTAL HISTORY-MUSIC-ZEPPELINS; 66; Retired
- Sibum, Herman M. (225582) **Stroudsburg, PA**; 56; President
- Siegel, Gerald (225777) **Scottsdale, AZ** BRITISH, COLONIES; 78; CEO
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- Singh, Sanjeev (225697) **Brampton, ON** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, CONFEDERATE STATES-AFRICA-FOREIGN 19TH CENTURY, COVERS; 47; Supply Chain
- Slover, Don (225695) **North Olmsted, OH** US FDC, OFFICIAL POST OFFICE SEALS; 75
- Snadowsky, Alvin (225640) **New York, NY** US; 73; Professor
- Snowhook, Donald W. (225583) **Omro, WI** US-DISNEY-PALAU-JAPAN; Retired
- Snyder, Patrick (225747) **Chippewa Falls, WI** US; 65; Retired
- Spencer, Kean W. (225584) **West Chester, PA** US 19TH CENTURY; 56; Retired
- Spillman, Robert G. (225765) **Fort Dodge, IA** US; Retired
- Steinert, Joel (225778) **Logan, UT** US; 49; Cream Cheese Maker
- Stent, Mark (225785) **Katy, TX** AIRMAILS-CSA-ERRORS-WORLDWIDE; 60; Mold Maker
- Sun, Hui (225586) **Hillsborough, NJ** PEOPLES REPUBLIC CHINA; 47
- Swanson, George (225687) **Keizer, OR** US-CANADA; 83; Retired
- Tatum, Paul (225741) **Knoxville, TN** PRE-1976 US & WORLDWIDE; 68; Retired
- Temple, Steve (225714) **Franklin, OH**; 75; Retired
- Thomsen, Kenneth (225729) **Waverly, IA**; 84; Retired
- Tils, Alan D. (225766) **Blue Springs, MO** WORLDWIDE-US, POSSESSIONS-CANAL ZONE-UN-FEDERAL DUCK-BACK OF BOOK; 62; Transportation
- Turrini, David (225708) **Lincoln, CA** US-CANADA
- Vaughan, Edward R. (225796) **Holt, MI** GREAT BRITAIN-BRITISH COMMONWEALTH-GEORGE VI-CANADA-FRANCE; 65; Retired
- von Mehren, Ann (225637) **Philadelphia, PA** NYASSA-PAKISTAN-BRITISH AFRICA, ASIA, EMPIRE-GUYANA/BRITISH GUIANA; 58
- Wallin, William R. (225750) **Wilmette, IL** CANADA-BOTSWANA-OLYMPICS; 73; Retired
- Walsh, James P. (225633) **Indianapolis, IN** USED WORLDWIDE-US-EUROPE-AUSTRALASIA-CANADA-JAPAN; 62; Physician
- Waltz, Gene (225634) **Tiffin, OH**
- Ward, A. J. (225566) **Bell, CA** PHILATELIC LITERATURE-WORLDWIDE POSTAL HISTORY; 65; Retired
- Ward, John (225644) **Richmond, VA** CHINA-BIRDS-LATIN AMERICA; 71
- Webber, Dean (225797) **Bluffton, SC** US; 79; Retired
- Weissenberger, Henry (225599) **Ellicott City, MD** USED GERMANY-BRITISH ANTARCTIC; 68; Retired
- Whitford-Stark, J. L. (225742) **Scarsdale, NY** VOLCANOES-LONDON POST OFFICES; 67; Retired
- Williams, Scott (225744) **Florissant, MO** US-GREAT BRITAIN-CANADA-BRITISH COLONIES-IRELAND-GERMANY
- Williams, Stephen J. (225625) **Murfreesboro, TN** WORLDWIDE; Teacher
- Wisztreich, George (225730) **Los Angeles, CA** MUSHROOMS; 80; Teacher
- Wolfli, Bryan R. (225789) **Elyria, OH** US; 57
- Wulff, Richard (225698) **Incline Village, NV**
- Zamastil, Donald E. (225709) **McHenry, IL** WESTERN EUROPE-US-NETHERLANDS-GREENLAND-ICELAND; 80; Retired
- Zenith, Robert J. (225688) **Green Valley, AZ** US; 63; Retired
- Zhou, Liming (225788) **Sherman Oaks, CA**

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## DECEASED

Applegate, John F. (103429), Bolivia, NC  
Balasundaram, Lalgundy J. (136268), Quincy, MA

Barnes, Louis E. (114024), San Luis Obispo, CA

Baty, Jackson N. (040616), Cedar Falls, IA

Brown, J. A. (1938-024900), Stuart, VA

Crane, Jr., Bayard T. (132490), Basking Ridge, NJ

Darling, David C. (114633), Napa, CA

Dobias, Otto C. (10297-064993), Lake Tapps, WA

Garges, Alan R. (6087-020089), Fort Myers, FL

Garman, Ray F. (8982-048407), Lexington, KY

Gillespie, Allen (219060), Lincoln, CA

Hancock, David L. (061315), Wintererville, GA

Highfield, William C. (126560), Hillsboro, OR

Jamieson, David W. (143117), Vancouver, WA

Kohl, John R. (155709), New Berlin, WI

Kundrath, Joseph S. (6458-046859), Avon, OH

Lowenberg, Homer (8985-060917), Rockville, MD

Marinoble, Nick J. (6414-049107), Bedford, VA

McGinty, James S. (111910), Scottsboro, AL

Mires, Maynard H. (192918), Morganton, NC

Perry III, Robert C. (125386), Cedar Hill, TX

Pesce, Sr., Vincenzo C. (125387), New Port Richey, FL

Plourde, Elmer E. (149454), Lee, NH

Rozanitis, Basilius P. (099451), Wethersfield, CT

Savedow, Randy (197102), Holly Hill, FL

Schueck, Larry (145497), Huntingdon, PA

Schoenberg, Irving G. (175466), Laguna Woods, CA

Steinman, Irvin D. (8210-056372), Silver Spring, MD

Viguers, Jr., Robert S. (212731), Harrisburg, PA

Wells, Richard (214215), Austin, TX

Zollman, Joseph (0824-025930), Altamonte Springs, FL

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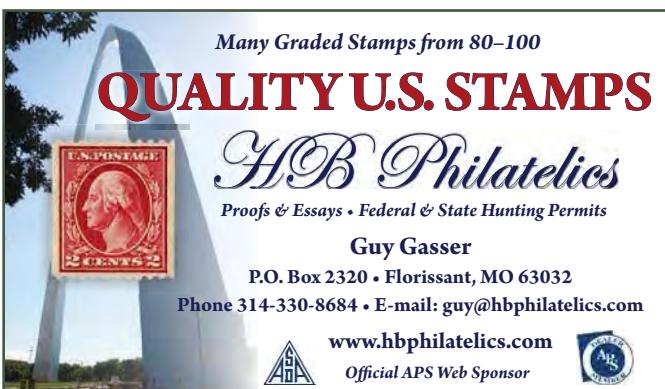
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2016 NEW STAMPS

BY JEFF STAGE

# Allen, Monkey, Grapes, and Moon

## Recap of the United States Stamps Issued in February

In February, the United States Postal Service issued two commemorative stamps and two definitives. Each issue is outlined in the following sections. Expanded versions for each stamp are available in *The American Philatelist* Bonus Content section at stamps.org/AP-Album. The Flag stamps, that were issued in January, are at the end of this column.

### Richard Allen

Richard Allen (1760–1831), founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and its first bishop 200 years ago, appears on the 39th stamp in the U.S. Postal Service's Black Heritage series. The stamp was issued February 2 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Born a slave, Allen has a legacy of black independence, spiritualism, and activism. Allen supported the concept of black-owned businesses, himself prospering as owner of blacksmithing, shoemaking and chimney-sweeping businesses, along with several income properties. In 1787, he was instrumental in founding the Free African Society, which helped newly freed blacks develop leadership skills.

Allen first founded the Bethel AME Church (1794) having several years earlier witnessed a racist incident at his regular church of worship. He helped convert his former master to Christianity and then gifted the Delaware man 18 bushels of salt.



The United States Richard Allen forever stamp. This is the 39th stamp in the Black Heritage series.

The AME church — which began in 1816 when Allen helped consolidate five predominantly African-American congregations that wanted to remain Methodist, but gain independence from the traditionally white-dominated Meth-



**Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church print with Richard Allen in the center of the large engraved artwork.**  
Image courtesy Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C.



### RICHARD ALLEN COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMP

**USPS Item Number:** 473504

**Format:** Pane of 20, 240 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** February 2, 2016, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Series:** Black Heritage

**Designer, Art Director, and**

**Typographer:** Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

**Modeler:** Joseph Sheeran

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Ashton Potter,

Williamsville, New York

**Press Type:** Mueller A76

**Print Quantity:** 30 million stamps

**Press Sheet Quantities:** 200 with die cuts, 250 without die cuts

**Paper Type:** Nonphosphored Type III, block tagging

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Pantone Matching System 556C green, cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Stamp Sizes:** 0.84 inches by 1.42 inches, 21.34 millimeters by 36.07mm (image); 0.98 inches by 1.56 inches, 24.89mm

by 39.62mm (overall); 6 inches by 8.5 inches, 152.40mm by 215.90mm (pane); 12 inches by 25.75 inches, 304.80mm by 654.05mm (press sheet)

**Plate Numbers:** "P" followed by five single digits

**Marginal Markings:** Header "Black Heritage, Celebrating Richard Allen," plate numbers (front); Header "Black Heritage, Celebrating Richard Allen," "39th in a Series," verso text, "©2015 USPS" USPS logo, plate position diagram, bar code, promotional text

odist church — became the first fully independent black denomination in the United States.

Today, the church has 7,000 congregations and 2.5 million members worldwide.

Allen was voted the first bishop of the AME Church, and remained active in his ministry for the rest of this life. The new stamp was formally issued in a ceremony at Allen's founding church site, the Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia. Allen and his wife, Sarah,

are both buried at the church.

The art for the stamp is a detail of Allen's portrait from an 1876 print, "Bishops of the A.M.E. Church," from the collection of the Library Company of Philadelphia.

Religion News Service ([religionnews.com/2016/02/01/ame-church-founder-honored-postage-stamp](http://religionnews.com/2016/02/01/ame-church-founder-honored-postage-stamp)) and Philly.com ([http://articles.philly.com/2016-01-25/news/70038661\\_1\\_mother-bethel-ame-church-slavery](http://articles.philly.com/2016-01-25/news/70038661_1_mother-bethel-ame-church-slavery)) both have profiles of Allen on their websites.



## Greg Breeding art director

### When did you start working on this project?

We began working on a Richard Allen stamp in the spring of 2015 for the approaching 200th anniversary of Allen's founding of the AME Church and his election and consecration as its first bishop. We found Allen's life as an activist, civic leader, and inspiring figure to be quite remarkable and deserving to be better known to 21st-century Americans. Allen's most recent biographer doesn't hesitate to call him a "black founding father."

### The stamp artwork is based on a detail from a larger piece. What kind of a print is it?

An engraving titled "Bishops of the A.M.E. Church."

**Is it one of a kind or are there copies?** Other copies of the print do exist, including one in the collection of the Library of Congress, but the Library Company of Philadelphia had a good, high-resolution photograph of theirs, and since Richard Allen's life and career centered around Philadelphia, it all felt very fortuitous.

**Is it known who created the print?** Small type at the bottom of the print attributes its copyright to John H.W. Burley, who was the national secretary of the AME Church at the time, and attributes the printing to J.H. Daniels, Boston.

### Was this the only image available of Mr. Allen?

There is a very limited selection of original images of Richard Allen, original meaning from that time period.

We did look at two or three portraits of Allen that were made during his lifetime, but we soon found that it would be difficult to reproduce those images clearly at stamp size. We found that we could make the best, clearest image from [the] posthumous portrait on [the] 1876 print.

### Is there anything else interesting about this stamp project that you'd like to share with our readers?

The public would probably be surprised by how much work is required to make such a sharp, clear, striking stamp from a relatively small detail of an old print. Millions of people have been able to celebrate Richard Allen in recent weeks because of the behind-the-scenes expertise by design professionals who understand digital files and state-of-the-art printing.

## Year of the Monkey

The February 5 stamp issue commemorates the Year of the Monkey. The stamp art, primarily created by Kam Mak, features two bright reddish-orange peonies against a purple background.

Peonies symbolize wealth and honor in Chinese culture and often decorate the sides of the traditional drums

played during the holiday festivities.

Art director and stamp designer Ethel Kessler incorporated elements from a previous series of Lunar New Year stamps. This includes Clarence Lee's intricate paper-cut design of a monkey and the Chinese character for "monkey," drawn in grass-style calligraphy by Lau Bun to create continuity between the series.

Lee, who died in 2015, created the prime artwork in the first series. The Monkey stamp is the ninth in the current series by Mak, who has already completed the artwork for the final three stamps.



Unveiling of the Year of the Monkey stamp at St. John's University. Image courtesy of the U.S. Postal Service.

Mak, who was born in Hong Kong and grew up in New York City's Chinatown, is a professor at the Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC.

A first-day-of-issue ceremony was held February 5 at the St. John's University's campus in Queens, New York. The first-day postmark read Jamaica, New York.



The Year of the Monkey commemorative forever stamp.

## YEAR OF THE MONKEY COMMEMORATIVE FOREVER STAMP

**USPS Item Number:** 586504

**Format:** Pane of 12, 144 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** February 5, 2016, Jamaica, New York

**Series:** Lunar New Year

**Designer, Art Director, and**

**Typographer:** Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, Maryland

**Artist:** Kam Mak, Brooklyn, New York

**Modeler:** Michelle Finn/Sandra Lane

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with

micropointing

**Printer and Processor:** Banknote

Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, North Carolina

**Press Type:** Alprinta 74

**Print Quantity:** 15 million stamps

**Press Sheet Quantities:** 500 with die cuts, 1,000 without die cuts

**Paper Type:** Phosphor tagged paper, block tagging

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, Pantone Matching System gold 872

**Stamp Sizes:** 1.42 inches by 0.84 inches, 36.07 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 1.56 inches by 0.98 inches, 39.62mm by 24.89mm (overall); 7.24 inches by 5.92 inches, 183.90mm by 150.37mm (pane); 21.97 inches by 11.97 inches, 558.04mm by 303.91mm (press sheet)

**Plate Numbers:** None

**Marginal Markings:** “©2015 USPS,” USPS logo, bar code, promotional text

### Grapes

The U.S. Postal Service issued the new 5-cent Grapes definitive February 19 in Washington, D.C. without advance notice or a first-day ceremony. The first word of an issue date appeared in the February 18 *Postal Bulletin*. The stamp design was unveiled in early January.

The Grapes stamp, created primarily for business mailers, is available in coils of 10,000 and in strips of 500 from Stamp Fulfillment Services.

The stamp features a stylized illustration of two clusters of pinot noir deep-purple grapes growing on the vine among several green leaves.

John Burgoyn of West Barnstable, Massachusetts, created the original art for the stamp using pen, ink, and watercolor. Derry Noyes of Washington, D.C., was art director. Burgoyn also designed the 10-cent Pears stamp issued in January and the 1-cent Apples, which is expected to be issued later this year.

The Postal Service offered the following background about the fruit:

Grapes have been cultivated for thousands of years. The fruits grow on woody, climbing vines; botanically, they are berries with a juicy, pulpy interior covered with an outer skin.

According to the Department of Agriculture, 7.8 million tons of grapes were grown commercially in the United States in 2014.

Viticulture — the cultivation of grapes — dates to the very beginning of civilization. Grape cultivation is mentioned in the Old Testament, when Noah, after the flood, planted a vineyard. Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs include references to wine production, and archaeologists have found caches of wine amphorae in Greek and Phoenician shipwrecks.

The deep purple-colored pinot noir grapes pictured on the stamp are aptly named. The word “nois” means “black,” in French. The grapes grow in tight clusters shaped like a pinecone; *pinot* is a variant of *pineau*, the diminutive of *pin*, which means “pine” in French.

The famous red-wine grape was once thought to grow well only in Burgundy, France, but it is now successfully grown in cooler climates around the world, including areas of the United States — northern California, New York and Oregon — among others.



The 5-cent Grapes definitive coil stamp issued February 19.

### 5-CENT GRAPES DEFINITIVE COIL STAMP

**USPS Item Number:** 781904

**Format:** Coil of 10,000, 594 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** February 19, 2016, Kansas City, Missouri

**Designer, Art Director, and**

**Typographer:** Derry Noyes, Washington, D.C.

**Existing Art:** John Burgoyn, West

Barnstable, Massachusetts

**Modeler:** Joseph Sheeran

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with micropointing

**Printer and Processor:** Ashton Potter, Williamsville, New York

**Press Type:** Mueller A76

**Print Quantity:** 150 million stamps

**Paper Type:** Nonphosphored Type III

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Black, cyan, magenta, yellow, Pantone Matching System 7667C

purple, PMS warm grey 4

**Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall)

**Plate Numbers:** “P” followed by six single digits, plate number every 27th stamp

### The Moon

The U.S. Postal Service took advantage of the calendar to issue its latest, round global forever stamp — this one featuring an image of the Earth’s moon.

The Moon stamp, which was issued at an \$1.20 face value and is printed in self-adhesive panes of 10, was released in

Washington, D.C. on February 22, the date of that month’s one full moon, which is known as the Snow Moon. There was no first-day ceremony.

The bright, golden-yellow image surrounded by a blue frame captures the brilliant surface of earth’s only natural satellite upon moon rise. A full moon occurs approximately



**The Moon global forever stamp issued February 22.**

every 29½ days when the moon is opposite the sun, with the Earth between the two. Since the rotation and orbit periods of the moon are the same, the same part of the moon is always seen from Earth.

The stamp can be used to mail a one-ounce letter to any country to which First-Class Mail International service is available. Greg Breeding designed the stamp under the art direction of William Gicker.

## Q&A

### William Gicker art director

**When did you start working on this project?**

In August of 2015.

**Where did this image come from?**

This image was found on a stock photo site.

**Do you know who created the image?**

Beth Swanson (of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida) is the photographer.

**What kind of equipment was used to create the original image?**

I am afraid we do not know.

**There are likely many moon images available. Why did you choose this one?**

There are quite a lot of images of the moon. We set certain parameters for ourselves. It had to be an image with a known photographer. We wanted an image of the moon over North America, preferably over the United States. We wanted an image of the Moon that looked as you might expect the moon to look during any full moon. Many of the images seemed to feature moon images with a very red or orange coloration.

### THE MOON GLOBAL FOREVER STAMP

**USPS Item Number:** 589204

**Format:** Pane of 10, 100 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** February 22, 2016, Washington, D.C.

**Designer:** Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

**Art Director:** William Gicker, Washington, D.C.

**Existing Photograph:** Beth Swanson

**Modeler:** Michelle Finn/Sandra Lane

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Banknote

Corporation of America, Browns Summit, North Carolina

**Press Type:** Alprinta 74

**Print Quantity:** 75 million stamps

**Press Sheet Quantities:** 1,000 with die cuts, none without die cuts

**Paper Type:** Phosphor tagged paper, block

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, Pantone Matching System midnight blue/blue, PMS 1225 gold

**Stamp Sizes:** 1.27 inches by 1.27 inches,

32.26 millimeters by 32.26mm (image); 1.41 inches by 1.41 inches, 35.81mm by 35.81mm (overall); 8.50 inches by 4.50 inches, 215.90mm by 114.30mm (pane); 17 inches by 23.50 inches, 431.80mm by 596.90mm (press sheet)

**Plate Numbers:** "B" followed by six single digits

**Marginal Markings:** Plate numbers (front); "©2015 USPS," USPS logo, plate position diagram, bar code, promotional text

### Flag

The latest U.S. Flag stamp was issued January 29 in Washington, D.C.

This forever stamp features a detail of Emmanuel Faure's vivid photograph of a flag billowing against the background of a blue sky and clouds. The stamp was designed by Greg Breeding under the art direction of Terrance McCaffrey.

Faure, a commercial photographer for more than three decades, came to New York City in 1983 via his native Spain and France. He has been a resident of Croton-on-Hudson in the NYC metropolitan area since 2001.

Faure's work — often with simple

elements featuring bold colors and textures — has been published in countless editorial, corporate and advertising campaigns, and he has taught at the Fashion Institute of Technology. Faure, who also creates artistic work, has said he considers himself a "storyteller."

The self-adhesive stamp comes in a pane of 10 and a double-sided pane of 20 format (convertible booklets), and coils of 100. Only Sennett produced the pane of 10 version. Stamps from the pane of 10 and pane of 20 by Sennett are largely indistinguishable. As a result, there are four collectible varieties of the flag stamp.



**The four major varieties of the Flag stamp issued January 29. Ashton Potter printed the two stamps above (pane and coil) and Sennett Security Products printed the stamps below.**

**When did you start work on the stamp project?**

I started work on this stamp in 2009.

**How did the USPS come upon the photo used for this stamp?**

Because there is a continual need for U.S. flag stamps, I concentrated my efforts, for a number of days during that year, on locating potential flag images. I researched numerous stock photo companies for images that could make an appealing stamp. During this search I located a small number of images from which I could begin design development.

**Was Mr. Faure hired or did someone “find” the photo?**

I located Mr. Faure's image in the stock photo image search.

**Has Mr. Faure's work appeared on other stamps, United States or otherwise?**

Not to my knowledge.

**U.S. stamps have carried so many different flag images. What prompted you to use this image?**

...since 1957 there have been numerous stamps depicting the U.S. flag, not to mention an assorted list of other commemorative subjects that have utilized the flag image as part of its design. It is a continuing challenge to develop new designs that somehow depict the flag in a different, and hopefully, fresh way.

I, as well as some of the other art directors, had previously designed these stamps showing the cropped portion of the flag. Mr. Faure's image offered us an opportunity to return to the straightforward full image that had been the mainstay of definitive U.S. Flag stamps for many years. I found his image to be very clean and crisp, with a very simple color palette.

Because this image was just one of a number I would be proposing to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee for review and approval, I wanted to give them a number of choices. This image was approved in 2009, but was placed in the Design Bank for future issuance.

### FLAG DEFINITIVE FOREVER STAMP, ASHTON POTTER VERSION

**USPS Item Number:** 680504 (double-sided pane of 20), 787304 (coil of 100)

**Format:** Double-sided pane of 20 (convertible booklet), 1,040 stamps per revolution; coil of 100, 744 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** January 29, 2016, Washington, D.C.

**Art Director:** Terrence W. McCaffrey, New Braunfels, Texas

**Designer and Typographer:** Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

**Existing Photograph:** Emmanuel Faure

**Modeler:** Joseph Sheeran

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Ashton Potter, Williamsville, New York

**Press Type:** Mueller A76

**Print Quantity:** 1.25 billion stamps (pane of 20), 1 billion stamps (coil of 100)

**Paper Type:** Nonphosphored Type III, block

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Black, cyan, magenta, yellow

**Pane of 20 Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall)

inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall); 5.52 inches by 1.96 inches, 140.21mm by 49.78mm (pane)

**Coil of 100 Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall)

**Plate Numbers:** “P” followed by four single digits, plate number every 31st stamp on coil

**Marginal Markings:** “©2015 USPS,” USPS logo, bar code, promotional text (panes)

### FLAG DEFINITIVE FOREVER STAMP, SENNETT VERSION

**USPS Item Number:** 679104 (pane of 10), 680502 (pane of 20), 787302 (coil of 100)

**Format:** Pane of 10 (convertible booklet), 560 stamps per revolution; double-sided pane of 20 (convertible booklet), 960 stamps per revolution; coil of 100, 744 stamps per revolution

**Issue Date and City:** January 29, 2016, Washington, D.C.

**Modeler:** Michelle Finn/Sandra Lane

**Manufacturing Process:** Offset with microprinting

**Printer and Processor:** Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett

Security Products, Browns Summit, North Carolina

**Press Type:** Alprinta 74

**Print Quantity:** 100 million stamps (pane of 10), 1.25 billion stamps (pane of 20), 1 billion stamps (coil of 100)

**Paper Type:** Phosphor tagged paper, overall

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive adhesive

**Ink Colors:** Cyan, magenta, yellow, black, Pantone Matching System blue gray 5405

**Pane of 10 Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall); 5.31 inches by 1.74 inches, 134.87mm

by 44.20mm (pane)

**Pane of 20 Stamp Sizes:** 0.71 inches by 0.82 inches, 18.03 millimeters by 20.83mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall); 5.52 inches by 1.96 inches, 140.21mm by 49.78mm (pane)

**Coil of 100 Stamp Sizes:** 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.10mm by 24.89mm (overall)

**Plate Numbers:** “S” followed by five single digits, plate number every 31st stamp on coil

**Marginal Markings:** “©2015 USPS,” USPS logo, bar code, promotional text (panes)



**GREAT BRITAIN**  
**ROYAL MAIL HERITAGE**  
Royal Mail celebrated its 500th anniversary in a big way on February 17 with a set of six special stamps, a four-stamp minisheet and a set of six transportation-themed (Post & Go) first-class postage labels (above), which are machine dispensed.



**CANADA**  
**BLACK BATTALION**  
On February 2, a new stamp from Canada honored the 100th anniversary of the formation of the army's No. 2 Construction Battalion, a predominantly African-Canadian army unit. The unit overcame prejudice while felling timber in France.



**SWITZERLAND**  
**RED CROSS**  
On February 25, a new Swiss stamp honored the 150th anniversary of the Swiss Red Cross. Rather than a historic image, the stamp uses a cartoon-like montage to honor its 500,000 members and 73,000 volunteers from all walks of life.



**HONG KONG**  
**CENTENARY OF GIRL GUIDES**  
On February 22, Hong Kong issued a souvenir sheet of four stamps marking the 100th anniversary of the Hong Kong Girl Guides. The stamps show girls in uniforms from four eras, from the 1920s to today.



**ALDERNEY**  
**NATURE STAMPS**  
The most northerly of the Channel Islands honors its Longis Nature Reserve with six stamps, issued February 17, in different denominations featuring flora and fauna, including the Glanville fritillary, a butterfly named for Lady Eleanor Glanville (1654–1709).

## NEW WORLDWIDE STAMPS

A quick peek at stamps issued in February from 10 different countries around the world.



**UNITED NATIONS**  
**LGBT FREE AND EQUAL**

On February 5, the UNPA issued a set of six stamps to promote the U.N. Free and Equal campaign for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality. This is the first time that the UNPA has issued stamps with an LGBT theme.



**NORWAY**  
**BIATHLON**

Norway, on February 19, issued two stamps for the Biathlon World Championship held in March at Holmenkollen in Oslo. Each stamp features a stylized silhouette of competitors, one in blue, the other red, competing in skiing and shooting.



**RUSSIA**  
**HOCKEY**

On February 20, Russia issued a stamp for the 28-team Kontinental Hockey League (KHL) and its Gagarin Trophy, named for astronaut Yuri Gagarin, and awarded to the league's playoff champion. The stamp shows the trophy, a skater, and goalie.



**ICELAND**  
**CONTEMPORARY DESIGN**

On February 18, Iceland issued its seventh set in the series of contemporary design stamps, this time offering ceramics. The four stamps in the new set include vessels, a dinner service, and a table and clay pot.



**URUGUAY**  
**CARNAVAL**

Uruguay issued a stamp February 11 for Uruguayan Carnaval, a popular festival that takes place annually from mid-January to late February, lasting sometimes as long as 40 days. The festival has a series of cultural events, such as dance parades and more.



# WORLDWIDE IN A NUTSHELL

BY BOB LAMB

## French Guiana

**Status:** French Colony

**Area:** 34,740 sq. miles

**Population:** 28,537 (1946)

**Currency:** French Currency; 100 Centimes = 1 Franc



French Guiana's  
first stamp  
issued in 1886,  
Scott 1.



A great anteater is  
on a set of 1905-  
28 definitives,  
Scott 52.



A 1942 air post  
semipostal issued  
by France's Vichy  
government and not  
sold in French Guiana  
to raise money for the  
Colonial Education  
Fund, Scott CB4.



A now outdated map of the northeastern tip of South America shows French Guiana, bordered to the southeast by Brazil and to the west by Dutch Guiana, the area now known as Surinam. Shown farther west is British Guiana (Guyana), now the independent nation of Guyana.



The high-  
denomination  
1-franc from the  
1892-1904 set,  
Scott 49.



An archer appears  
on nine stamps in a  
set of 43 produced  
from 1929 to 1940,  
Scott 114.



A World War II-  
era semipostal  
stamp from 1941  
of a colonial  
infantryman, Scott  
B10.

Commerce issue was issued with the inscription "Guyane." When the colony became a DOM, its stamps were replaced by those of Metropolitan France. The last French Guiana stamps were issued June 2, 1947.

Today, it is known simply as Guiana, but remains an overseas department of France and uses the euro as its currency. The population hovers around 250,000, about half of whom live in the capital of Cayenne. There is little manufacturing or agriculture and its main industries are gold mining, timber, and fishing. It also is home to the Guiana Space Centre, used often by the European Space Agency for launches.

## Gordon Eubanks Candidate for Director At Large

I am a life-long collector and have been exhibiting for ten years. My collecting interests range from classic United States to Prexies and World War II postal history.

I am running for office to improve transparency and services for all collectors. I serve as a board member of the U.S. Classics Society and a *Chronicle* section editor, a member of the Campaign for Philately, as well as over a dozen philatelic organizations.

My professional background includes serving as a submarine officer during the Cold War and as CEO of a public technology company for 18 years. I spend time now working with startups and serving on boards.



### Some individuals supporting my candidacy

Alfredo Frohlich, *Chairman Campaign for Philately*

Steve Zwillinger, *Author, philatelist*

Charles Shreves, *Founder Shreves Philatelic Galleries*

Leonard Hartmann, *Literature Dealer*  
Randy Neil, *Editor*

Kathy Johnson, *Philatelist*

Bruce Marsden, *Treasurer, APRL*

Trish Kaufmann, *Past President CSA*

Ken Nilsestuen, *Treasurer, APS*

Steve Walkse, *Philatelist*

Mark Schwartz, *Board member PF, and USPCS*

Stephen Taylor, *Postal History Dealer*

Jeff Shapiro, *Past President Philatelic Show Boxboro*

Richard Frajola, *Philatelist*

Pat Walker, *President, AAPE*

Andrew Reid, *Philatelist*

Ron Cipolla, *Philatelist*

Fred Gregory, *Philatelist*

Ken Lawrence, *Philatelist and Journalist*

Carol Bommarito, *former Governor of The Collectors Club*

Vernon Morris, *Philatelist*

Steve Schumann, *Commissioner General, NY2016*

Don Sundman, *CEO Mystic Stamp*

Roger Brody, *President APRL*

John Barwis, *President USPCS*

Rich Drews, *Philatelist*

Steve Pacetti, *Philatelist*

Cliff Alexander, *President, Carrier & Locals Society*

Wade Saadi, *Chairman NY2016*

Kimberlee Fuller, *Philatelist*

Greg Shoultz, *Philatelist*

Jim Allen, *Board member USPCS*

Nick Kirke, *Philatelist*

Robert Zeigler, *Philatelist*

Sonny Hagendorf, *Dealer*

Rob Lund, *Philatelist*

Ken Stach, *Philatelist*

Eric and Tami Jackson, *Dealers*

Ian Gibson-Smith, *Philatelist*

Dan Walker, *Philatelist*

Richard Malmgren, *Philatelist*

James Milgram, *Author*

Steve Zwillinger, *Director-at-Large APS*

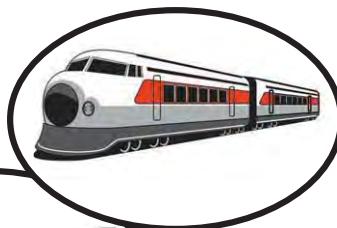
Fred Gregory, *Philatelist*

Vince King, *Philatelist*

I would appreciate your support for APS Director At Large 2016 - 2019. Please let me know what is important to you.

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