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THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Martin Luther

plus



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THE 1950s



LIGHTHOUSES

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THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

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A New Phase is Coming to the APS

Sound Financial Footing Paves the Path for Greater Things

During the last few years, the American Philatelic Society has succeeded in turning itself around from a financial standpoint. Under the guidance of Wade Saadi, Kathy Johnson, Ken Nilsestuen, Rick Banks and others, the APS has stopped what amounted to deficit spending and is living within its means. The society's considerable debt, primarily driven by the purchase and restoration of the Match Factory, has been attacked with vigor, and is now under four million dollars – a small fraction of what it was. Debt retirement remains a continuing and worthy goal, one that will continue until the APS is debt-free.

The American Philatelic Society is now entering an exciting new phase of its existence.

Sound finance will help us reorient our efforts to our main purpose: remaining relevant and growing the world of philately in an electronic age. This mission falls to all of us. Each of us knows someone who could benefit from organized philately. This country is full of unidentified collectors, people who have an abiding interest in history, and have dabbled in stamps.

If you have a friend or relative or acquaintance who is one of these closet collectors, suggest that he or she join the American Philatelic Society. Aside from doing your part to help grow our organization, you will be doing your friend or relative a great service. And who better than you to mentor them in the services, benefits and learning opportunities the APS has to offer?

Philately is often described as a solitary pursuit, but it need not be that way. In fact, both the amount of knowledge gained and the speed of its acquisition are sharply increased when one belongs to a philatelic organization. Joining a community of collectors, whether general or specialized, puts one in touch with others who have been in the field longer, often know more and are frequently delighted to help show a newcomer the way.

In philately, as in so many other areas, knowledge is power, and that knowledge accelerates with the interchange of ideas with others who share similar interests. A stamp or cover recognized by you as something rare or unusual can add something new to your collection, or even prove to be an entirely new discovery, and add in a modest but meaningful way to the knowledge of the whole collecting world.

It is true of course that the unrecognized gem you may discover may occasionally net you a monetary profit. But the real profit in collecting is not usually money, but a broader understanding of the history, geography and culture of the area or historical period you have chosen to collect.

Philately is simply too interesting to be enjoyed alone. Please share it, and the APS, with others.



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C.G.



BY MARTIN KENT MILLER editor
martin@stamps.org

Enjoy Stamp Collecting Month

October is a Month for Sharing our Hobby

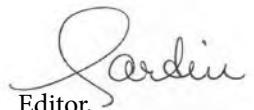
For experienced collectors, this could really be the subtitle of the journal. For those of us who take our collecting seriously, we try to make time every month (week, day?) to work on our collections. But for casual collectors and enthusiasts, carving out that time may not be so easy. We all know the story so often repeated in our "How I Became a Collector" columns (watch for future episodes on the APS Blog at aps.buzz/blog). Collecting interests often have to take a back seat to the demands of life and the needs of family or personal budgets. So we have October - National Stamp Collecting Month.

Observing a month to focus on the hobby is an opportunity for those of us with a sustained concentration on philately to reach out and encourage those for whom the hobby is casual. By giving others something to share about the hobby, we empower them to spread the message during a time when the hobby is getting a little bit of a spotlight. Hopefully, this month, we are giving you a place to start.

On page 960 you will find the first in a series of co-branded articles produced with Graham Beck of the YouTube channel *Exploring Stamps*. This first article takes Graham's video "USA Lighthouse Stamps" and converts the video into a story and an accompanying sidebar. The idea is to cross-pollinate the collecting world with content that fits in multiple channels—print and digital. The article you enjoy here in *The American Philatelist* is also available in a popular video format that appeals to younger audiences and collectors who are more causal in their approach to the hobby.



The challenge to you is this - share the details. I am making the Lighthouse article available as a standalone piece that you can easily download, print and share (go to aps.buzz/octobershare). As you think of ways to promote the hobby, start by sharing the article. If you use Facebook, share the link (aps.buzz/lighthouse) from your Facebook account. If you use any other social media, share it from there as well. At the very least, print a copy and give it to someone who might read it or watch the associated video. We all know the love we have for the hobby; National Stamp Collecting Month is a prime time to help encourage the passion in someone else.


Editor,
The American Philatelist



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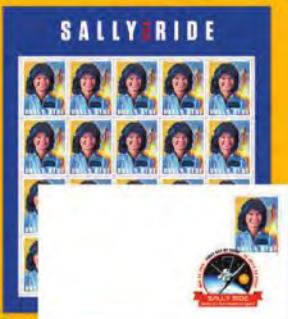


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Member Enjoys Secret Writing and Challenges the Staff

I really enjoyed the July 2018 "Wartime's Secret Philately" article. However, I was disappointed that none of the postal cards had any actual secret messages deciphered.

I'm a member of the American Cryptogram Association and one of the first hidden in plain sight messages is called the Null Cypher. These can be as simple as first letter of each word to taking the third letter after each vowel.

For my parting words remember that:

Super Eight Nightly Desserts
Make Orange Raspberry Eclairs
Melt All Into Lumps.

Alex Hamling, MD

Seattle, Washington

Editor's Note: In addition to the cypher in his letter, Dr. Hamling also sent along a barrel cipher that we have successfully decoded. I plan to feature this secret writing in a future article on the APS blog.



Eagles and Flags Don't Always Mix

In the August 2018 AP there is a letter from George Fulton about his experience with USPS Self-Service Kiosk (SSK) stamps in Pleasanton, California (page 728). The stamp is the preprinted U.S. Flag stamp, but it also has the machine-printed USPS Eagle overprint.

This overprint, of course, is very collectible, although it is not exactly rare. You can find these errors on eBay. The story behind this error overprint is this:

The SSK is filled with blank label stock. The postal clerk has a setting to make sure that the kiosk prints the default images and indicia and currently that default is the USPS Eagle. When the kiosk is filled with blank labels and the settings are correct, what the user gets are these USPS Eagle stamps.

When the SSK is loaded with preprinted labels such as



A Self-Service Kiosk Flag label with the kiosk printing omitted (top), a stamp with the correct label and printing (middle), and a stamp with the USPS Eagle logo and text inverted and overprinted on the Flag (bottom). These stamps from John Ryskamp's online exhibit of hundreds of SSK printing errors and varieties, "Multistamps from self-service kiosk," are on the "Postage Meter Stamp Image Gallery" at the Meter Stamp Society website.

those showing the Flag, the clerk must change the settings so that the kiosk knows preprinted stock is present. The most common preprinted stock is the U.S. Flag. That preprinted stamp label has been used for the last few years in between special event stamps, like the Christmas and the Spiderman issues.

If the clerk does not set up the kiosk correctly and the kiosk printer and the settings are such that the printer expects blank labels then it falls back to the default image and indicum. That default image — the USPS Eagle — gets printed over the top of the preprinted flag. That is exactly what happened for Mr. Fulton.

The Meter Stamp Society Quarterly Bulletin discusses these stamps and members of the Society follow the SSK Kiosk issues very closely. Please visit us at www.meterstamp-society.com.

David Crotty
Ludlow, Kentucky

More on a George Fulton's Question

Regarding the Letter to the Editor from George Fulton:

The item marked "THIS BLOCK IS NOT VALID POSTAGE" is called a "dummy" and has no value. (It is) used as a filler for a sheet of stamps. The self-service machine will allow the customer to purchase as many stamps as he wishes and print them on a fixed sheet (say a sheet of 10). Example, say the customer wants 7 stamps, he pays \$3.50 and out pops 7 stamps plus 3 dummies to fill the other three slots of the sheet.

More can be found in the Computer Vended Postage sec-

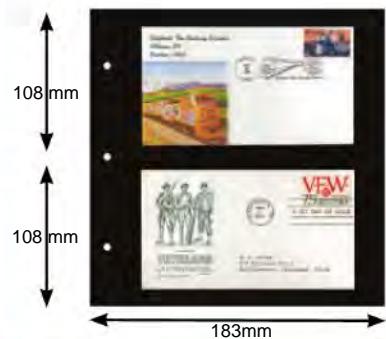


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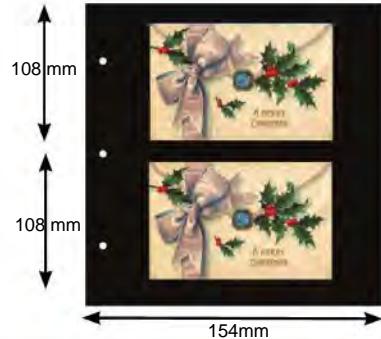
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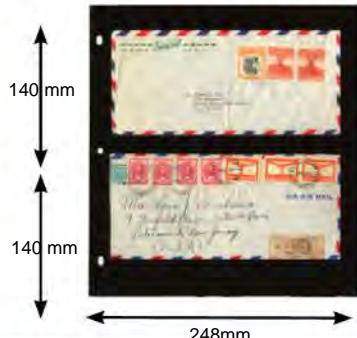
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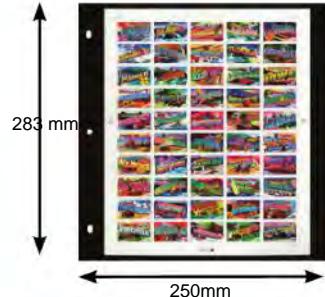
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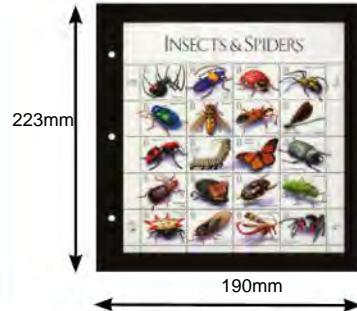
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Not Responsible For Typographical Errors

tion of the Scott *Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers*, though the section editors do not currently reference any dummies in the section.

Brief answer ... not an error, not a curiosity, it's normal.

Robert Pung

Santa Ana, California



'Happy Days' of legal 3.2 percent alcohol beer and wine returned in Syracuse, N.Y., on April 7, 1933, as this first-drink cover attests. But each state had to pass its own laws to set its own date on which the law changed for its citizens.

'Happy Days' Varied from State to State

Wayne's article in the August AP ("Temperance and Prohibition: Alcohol-Fueled Philately Provides a Fertile Topic for Collectors") refers to the Harrison-Cullen Act, signed March 22, 1933, which raised the legal alcohol content in beer and light wines from 0.5 percent to 3.2 percent and goes on to state it became legal to manufacture and sell beer and light wines on April 7, 1933, as evidenced by this celebratory cover.

That date may have been correct for the sale of such beverages in New York state. However, the sale of such beverages became legal in Pennsylvania on May 5, 1933, upon the passage of the Pennsylvania Beverage Tax Law. Thus, even though the sale of such beverages became legal in the United States after passing the Harrison-Cullen Act, each individual state had to pass a state law to make it legal to sell such beverages in their state, and Pennsylvania was the first to do so.

Additional information may be found in the article "The 1933 Pennsylvania Beer Provisionals in Lieu of Stamps" by Ron Lesher, in *State Revenue News*, 4th Quarter 2004. Anyone interested in state revenues should join the State Revenue Society, which has also published an excellent 1,733 page full-color catalog of state revenues.

E.J. Guerrant Jr.

Paris, Texas

Curiosity About APS-Sponsored Cruises

Thank you for your article in the August edition of *The American Philatelist* about traveling the world with stamps. Your sentence "This month, I hope to reignite that fire with an edition heavy on travel" reignited a puzzle I have had for some time, but felt that no one at APS would listen to my questions.

APS used to sponsor cruise tours, using a travel agent in California. I was able to attend one of these cruises. We even visited Post Offices in each Caribbean island where we

docked. I remember that I had signed up for another cruise when all of a sudden I got a message that the cruise had been cancelled, and that there wouldn't be any more. Even when I called the travel agent planning the cruise, I got only curt answers that seemed to me to be very deceptive about what the truth really was for this successful program to be so suddenly eliminated. I never saw an explanation in our magazine about why these cruises had been cancelled, and it seemed that any explanation was hushed up and not made available to members. It was all very mysterious to me. I remember the cruises always took out a full page advertisement in each issue, too.

So, since you have reignited my curiosity about APS sponsored cruises, do you think this program could be resurrected and offered again? It would really be great for collectors to be able to travel to various places and learn by traveling. And I'd really like to know who or what caused this program to be so quickly cancelled with no transparency for APS members.

Robert L. Anderson

York, Pennsylvania

Editor's Note: We have heard from a few participants who enjoyed the cruises and have encouraged the APS to plan another soon. A planned cruise for 2016 was cancelled at the request of the travel agent due to lack of response. Since then, we've gotten both positive comments and ways that we should improve any future cruises sponsored by the APS. Although we've been open to sponsoring another philatelic cruise, we are looking to travel agents willing to work with our members on a future tour. Although we have not found a suitable option yet, you can send suggestions to our Executive Director Scott English at scott@stamps.com.

Postage Due Still Remained

I loved Dwayne Littauer's article, "One Letter, Four Nations," in the August AP, detailing how Brazil and France assisted mail moving between the United States and Argentina. This is an aspect of our hobby that has always fascinated me — the arcane systems that used to govern international mail.

But one thing puzzles me: Why did all three of the letters being sent to Argentina wind up being assessed postage due for the Argentine segment of the trip? Was this just carelessness on the part of the sender, or was there no system for prepayment of that part of the journey? It just seems odd, after getting all the rest of it right, to botch that element.

Thanks for an excellent publication.

Bill Senkus

Concord, California

Editor's Note: As you correctly surmised, there was no system for prepayment of the postage due to Argentina for delivering the letter after it reached port in Buenos Aires.

Littauer painstakingly traces the prepayment of the letters using U.S. postage for the carriage of each letter from Boston to New York, from New York to Rio de Janeiro via the Brazil

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Line, and from Rio to the Argentine capital of Buenos Aires via the French Ligne K.

However, as he informed us, "The U.S. had no direct treaty at this time with Argentina that would allow a sender in the U.S. to prepay the entire postage to the final destination. Our arrangement with France allowed the sender to pay the postage to the port of arrival in Argentina. The recipient had to pay the Argentine domestic postage to the final destination."

Gallaudets Honored in Aviation as Well as Education



This 1987 6-rial People's Republic of Kampuchea sheetlet, issued with its Historical Designs for Aircraft stamps on August 7, 1987, depicts a "1897 Gallaudet" wing-warping Hydro kite biplane, currently in the collection of the Smithsonian.

In fact, it has been said that if the Wright Brothers had not succeeded in the development of their airplane, the Gallaudet biplane might well have been first.

An image of a 1987 Cambodia souvenir sheet showing the 1897 Gallaudet plane is attached for your reference.

Kenneth S. Rothschild
Burbank, California

Donkeys and Water Can Also Destroy the Mail

I received today *The American Philatelist*, September 2018. The philatelic magazine is a great magazine dealing with all aspects of stamp collecting. I learned a lot of things and still continue to learn. I admire the magazine and people running it.

In the September 2018 issue on pages 850 to 858 is an excellent article "What's Eating Our Mail?" by Dr. Steven J. Berlin. The article presents all possible aspects of eating / destroying our mail. It is well documented and plenty of illustrations presenting clear all situations. Well done article. Greetings.

On page 853 it is a passage "Larger animals like goats and cows can even be an issue, particularly when your balloon mail crashes in a farmer's field!" I grew up in some village and I saw goats and donkeys eating paper (newspapers), but not cows. Goats and donkeys may eat cellulose as rats do. They can digest cellulose. I am not surprised the author had no example of goat eating mail, when a goat or donkey starts eating

paper they finish this delicious food very fast.

Another factor destroying the mail is humidity - water. I collect United Nations stamps and had subscriptions for many of them. Back in 1988 I received by mail 15 sheetlets of Geneva's 'Survival of the Forests' (Scott 165 and 166). The envelope arrived into my hands with stacked sheetlets, some moisture got inside the envelope. They were staked on the edges only and some humidity diffused inside. After separating the dried sheetlets, the paper remained wavy, some ink from a stamp was transferred on the opposite stamp, the same happened with the glue.

George Arghir

Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Morris Canadian Color Guides Still Available

I noticed comments regarding the unavailability of the Morris Color Guides in the discussion "Publications Disagree Over Color Listing for U. S. Stamp". Some time ago, we took over publication of these Guides for the two volumes dealing with Canadian Stamps, from Richard Morris; one for The Large and Small Queens in a combined edition, and one for The Admirals. Just to avoid any confusion, both titles are still in production, and are available for immediate shipment. We have recently been running a small advertisement to this effect in the Classifieds section of *The American Philatelist*.

John A. Forbes - Collateral Philately
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada

Article Reminded Member of Personal Travels

I much enjoyed the article in the August 2018 AP, about various Falkland Islands waterfalls and mountains — especially the last paragraph.

In October 2013 I spent six days cruising the magnificent coast of South Georgia, one of the subjects of Mr. Davenhill's article. For the first few days the weather was suitably polar: windy, foggy, snowy and cold. However, the morning we were to enter the harbor holding King Edward Point (the tiny capital) and the abandoned whaling station of Grytviken, we were greeted with spectacularly clear views of the mountains of the island.

The article mentions Sugartop as being featured on a Falklands stamp. We could see that mountain, as well as many others in the Allerdyce Range, spread before us as we landed at Grytviken. A good map of the island shows Sugartop as being located about 5-6 miles southwest of Grytviken, and 2323 meters in elevation, making it one of the higher peaks of the island. There are many glaciers around it. Frankly, none of the mountains of South Georgia are easily ascended. That's due to the island's isolation, as well as the weather which can swiftly become miserable.

An unsuccessful attempt to climb it was made in the 1950s. I believe the first ascent was made on Jan. 4, 1965 by



members of the Combined Services Expedition to South Georgia led by Lt. Cdr. N.K. Burley. Interested philatelists can find souvenir covers signed by the leader to commemorate the venture.

Even better, South Georgia's stamps have a number of issues showing some of the many mountains to be found there. However, like the author I find myself no longer much wanting to make any attempts on those peaks. Just the memory of seeing them is pretty much enough (though if anyone would offer a free trip, you never know...)

Stephen Pendleton

Visalia, California

How Many are There?

I am a collector of high-quality American mint stamps, slowly moving backward in time as I fill my album. I started with stamps issued during World War II and have now nearly completed the Columbians. I wonder how far I will be able to penetrate into the 19th century.

Friends who view my collection occasionally ask how many examples of my older stamps – say the 1898 \$1 Trans-Mississippi, Scott 292 – are still in existence. In many cases, I can learn from the Internet how many were printed or sold. But I have no idea how many remain in collectors' and dealers' possession today. For example, are there any rough estimates of how many mint copies of Scott 292 remain?

George Skadron

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Editor's Note: The *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers* publishes "Quantities Issued of Commemorative Stamps" as 56,900 for both the \$1 and the \$2 Trans-Mississippi stamps, but notes in its introduction that this number may only represent the stamps initially dispatched to postmasters.

In his column on "Early Bureau Issues: The Trans-Mississippi Issue" in the May 13, 1939, issue of *Stamps*, J. Murray Bartels admitted that he had long been dubious of these totals as accurately reflecting the quantity held by collectors. He attributes most of a large difference in "redemption shipments" between 1900 and 1901 (showing only total values of obsolete stamps returned for credit and destruction) as reflecting substantial returns of Trans-Mississippi, presumably with many high-priced dollar values that served little true postal purpose.

Jon Rose voiced a different opinion in the May 7, 1988, *Stamp Collector* with his article, "Cattle Rustlers: The \$1 Trans-Mississippi is sought after as if it were rare — but it is not."

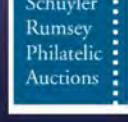
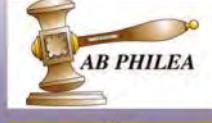
"About seven years ago I estimated that no more than 15,000 copies of the \$1... survived. One specialist, Paul J. Wolf, of Missoula, Mont., wrote me to say this estimate was 'much too low.' Said Wolf, 'Perhaps 20,000 to 25,000 have survived. It is not a rare stamp, merely popular.' Continuing, he said, 'The other interesting misconception is that a well-centered copy is worth a terrific premium. In contrast to the \$2... most of the \$1 are rather nicely centered.'

Of course, if you are seeking "high-quality American mint stamps," then it is the number that fit that description and come onto the marketplace that matters, not every survivor. Many aren't mint, and even of those, not all may be the high-quality stamps you desire.

The American Philatelic Expertizing Service and Philatelic Foundation both make available scans of the \$1 Trans-Mississippi and other early valuable U.S. stamps examined by experts over the years. What might concern you is another statistic Rose points out: "In 1981 the Philatelic Foundation... noted that 367 copies of the \$1 'cattle in the storm' stamp had been examined. Of these, no less [stet] than 122 copies had been reperforated or regummed or both." That's one-third of the submissions, another important number to consider.



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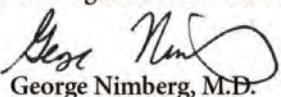
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Catching Up on a Great APS Summer

A Look Back Over the Busy Summer Months

Longtime APS members know we have a pretty busy schedule during the summer, both in Bellefonte and beyond. Although autumn has arrived, I wanted to catch you up on the news from the past season.



Ian Hunter (left) and Melanie Rogers (right) at work during the Washington-Franklin class at APS Summer Seminar.

Summer Seminar

This year, we welcomed 87 students to our annual Summer Seminar in Bellefonte, by far the largest group we've had in quite a few years. Again this year, we had a large number of first-time students, about a quarter of the attendees, and we welcomed our largest number of female collectors.

New this year, all of our 2018 class of the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship attended courses and participated in the social activities. We also welcomed back 2017 Central Atlantic Stamp Dealers Association Fellow Ian Hunter, who was



The U.S. Postal Service issued the attractive \$1, \$2 and \$5 Statue of Freedom stamps in a first day ceremony held at Summer Seminar.

this year's Gerhard S. Wolff Summer Seminar Youth Scholarship recipient.

Thanks to our great partners at the U.S. Postal Service, this year's Summer Seminar program included the first day of issue of the *Statue of Freedom* stamps issued in \$1, \$2 and \$5 denominations. Keynote speaker for the occasion was Scott Catalog Managing Editor Chad Snee. Author of the monthly "Dollar Sign Philately" column in *Linn's Stamp News*, Snee shared stories of his passion for dollar-value U.S. stamps with our packed house.

During the week, Seminar regulars said farewell to long-time Education Department stalwart Janet Houser, who retired just after the event to spend more time with her grandchildren and her garden. They were also able to meet Ross Jones, our new Education Coordinator who has settled in and is already working on the 2019 Summer Seminar.



Janet Houser (surrounded by APS Staff members) made her departing remarks during Summer Seminar as she retired from long-time service in the Education Department.

Thank you to all the instructors and students for making the trip to Bellefonte and making the 2018 Summer Seminar one to remember. It's never too early to think about joining us in 2019. Whether you are interested in attending as a student or an instructor, please contact the Education Department at education@stamps.org.

StampShow/National Topical Stamp Show

In August, we took our stamp collecting show on the road to Columbus, Ohio. The show was a great success for the dealers, the attendees and the societies. This year, we joined forces with the American Topical Association and the U.S. Postal Service for a more creative event than ever before.



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1849, 1fr DARK CARMINE WITH NEAT STAR CANCEL, #9b, large to oversized margins, extremely fine/superb, signed Scheller,

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1853, 1fr NAPOLEON III TÊTE-BÊCHE PAIR IN BLACK DIE PROOF ON SMOOTH PAPER FORGERY BY JEAN DE SPÉRATI, #21F, mounted on cardboard backing, couple of corner wrinkles at top, signed by the Master Forger, very fine and scarce
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1853, 1fr CARMINE ON YELLOWISH MINT, #21, ample to large margins, lightly hinged full o.g., fresh and very fine, signed A Brun and J-F Brun, with 2007 J-F Brun cert.,

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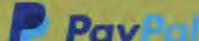
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Perf the Magic Dragon was one of the most in-demand dragons at this year's StampShow/National Topical Stamp Show event.

collecting. Members of each society were cordial and creative in introducing themselves and their services to the attendees, and many reported successful recruiting.

We congratulate Jim Allen for winning the Benjamin & Naomi Wishnietsky World Series Champion of Champions Award for his exhibit, *The First United States 12¢ Stamp Series of 1851-1861*. By strange coincidence, Jim had won a raffle earlier in the week to announce the winner on Saturday night in place of APS President Bob Zeigler, who was attending his son's wedding that weekend. You can only imagine his sur-



Wade Saadi presents the Benjamin & Naomi Wishnietsky World Series Champion of Champions Award to Jim Allen.

prise when he started reading the title of the winning exhibit!

For more than 75 years, the American Philatelic Society's highest recognition for living members has been the Luff Award. This year we welcomed Wayne Youngblood, Denise Stotts, and John Barwis into the distinguished Luff Circle for their lifetimes of commitment to the hobby. Ken

The USPS introduced their new Dragon stamps on the first day of the show, so we themed the show accordingly. We brought along our very own magical flying reptile — "Perf the Magic Dragon" — who was one of the stars of the show, visiting with members and posing for pictures.

Showgoers could get a passport to be stamped at different society booths, learning about the various areas of collecting.

Members of each society were cordial and creative in introducing themselves and their services to the attendees, and many reported successful recruiting.

Lawrence was recognized for his prolific body of philatelic writings with the Charles J. Peterson Philatelic Literature Life Achievement Award. Congratulations to Don Sundman for winning the Dealer of the Year Award. Each of these individual APS members has made tremendous contributions to the hobby we cherish.

Congratulations



LUFF Award Winners (from left) Wayne Youngblood, Denise Stotts and John Barwis



Ken Martin, CMO



Rick Banks, CAO

In August, the APS made organizational changes to better focus on some critical areas. Ken Martin was named Chief Membership Officer to lead our efforts to better connect with the grassroots of the hobby and increase recruitment overall. We named Rick Banks the Chief Administrative Officer to lead our operational efforts here in Bellefonte and to manage day-to-day operations. Finally, Martin Miller was named Chief Content Officer, charged with expanding the information and knowledge we deliver, not only in the monthly and quarterly journals, but across all our platforms.

As I noted in my September column, the APS Board is working on a new strategic plan to make the most of the opportunities we've created over the last three years. I will continue to update our members on the progress. I always welcome your thoughts at scott@stamps.org.



Martin Miller, CCO

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K&R's Major Wide Ranging Hong Kong Auction— October 25 & 26, 2018

October's Kelleher & Rogers' Hong Kong public auctions will be highlighted by the extraordinary collection formed by the late Mr. Lee Wong of Oregon. Mr. Wong's outstanding (being featured in a separate catalog) contains far-reaching coverage from the Large Dragon Issue on, including many multiples in the finest imaginable quality. Dowager and Red Revenue issues are extremely important as well. Additionally, Treaty Ports, Shanghai, Taiwan and the People's Republic of China are prominently featured. Postal history collectors will be delighted to find the many group lots by subject. Many collections are also in this sale.

Day Two will be the General Sale, which contains the second portion of "The Great Northern" collection--this section highlighting Imperial to early Republic postal history. Many rarities are present, with quantities of Dowager Issue covers, etc. Many of our firm's signature collection lots will be featured from the Large Dragon Issues forward.

Contact Laurence Gibson at our USA offices for further information.



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Wrapper-Happy Stamp Collectors

The Legacy of Captain Tim and the Ivory Stamp Club

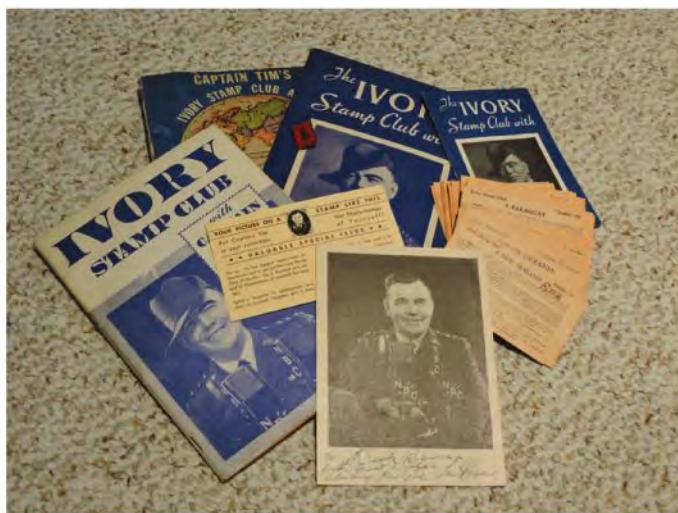


Figure 1. A group of Captain Tim-related items, including Ivory Stamp Club albums, a pin, packets and even an autographed photo.

I'm a sucker for stamp collecting promotions – always have been. That's why it was natural for me to become obsessed for years (as I still am) with one of the most successful of all 20th-century promotions, philatelic or otherwise: Captain Tim Healy and the Ivory Stamp Club of the Air. Fruits of that obsession are shown in Figure 1.

It's been a dozen years since I researched my fairly comprehensive piece on Captain Tim that appeared in *The American Philatelist* in June 2006, and I had collected related material for a number of years before that. Still, I continue to find other interesting (if not so successful) stamp collecting promotions that I consider a part of Captain Tim's legacy. There are dozens of them!

Many were spawned directly by the success of the Captain Tim promotion. Perhaps the most obvious of these, shown front and back in Figure 2, is a 1940 Famous Americans series album produced and promoted by a Captain Tim wannabe; "Postage Stamp Adventures," conducted by the "KVOO Stamp Man" from Tulsa, Oklahoma. The album was published by the Mills-Wolf Corp., a newspaper publisher located in Tulsa.

Oddly, the KVOO radio stamp program predicated Captain Tim, and lasted longer, too, from 1929 into the 1940s. But the show, hosted by an anonymous voice, was never as successful or dynamic as Captain Tim's. Still, the small album is a great period piece.

But there are many other promotions worth examining as well. Let's look at a few albums that are directly related to Captain Tim by virtue of their promotional style and the involvement of Henry Ellis Harris.

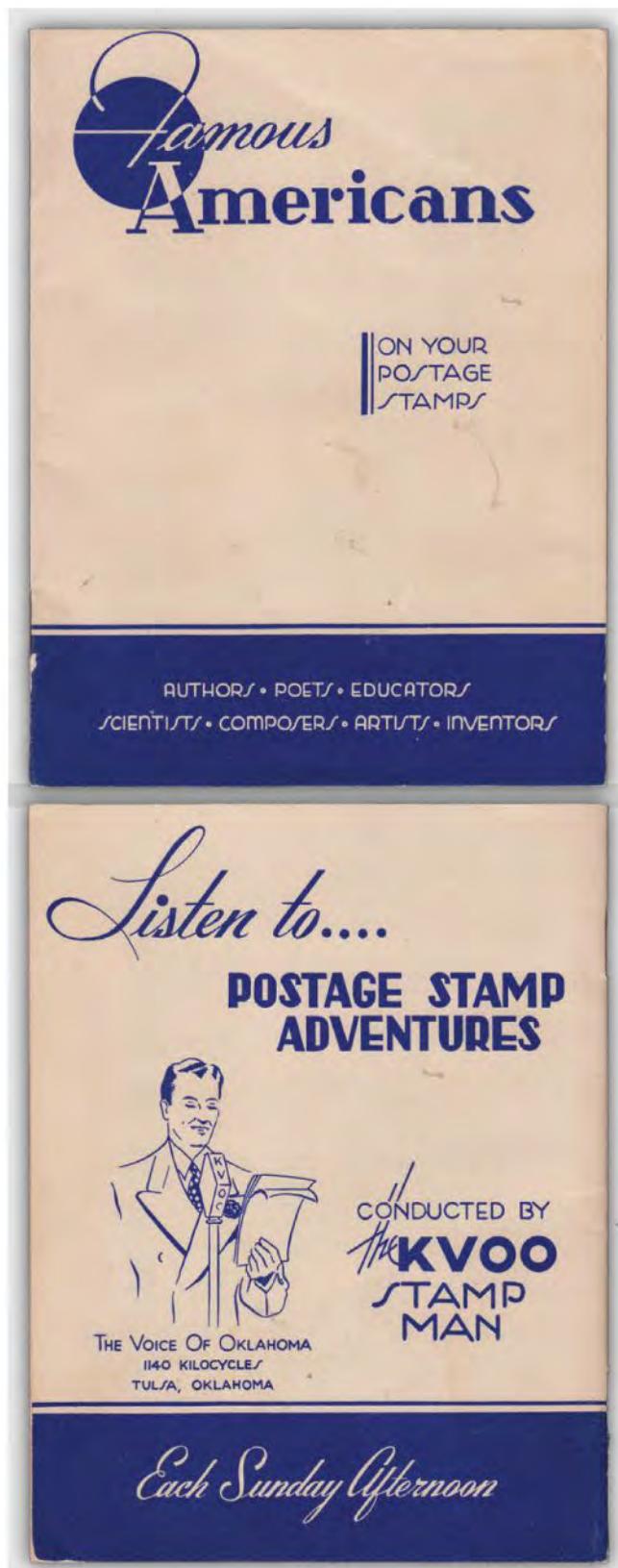


Figure 2. The front and back of the KVOO radio Famous Americans album.

Without jumping back too far into Captain Tim territory, a quick recap is in order. Proctor & Gamble, the promoter of Captain Tim, had no idea in late 1933 just how successful his efforts would be for P&G, H.E. Harris & Co. and the hobby of stamp collecting in general.

Just two years after the Ivory Stamp Club hit the airwaves, in 1934, as a project simply intended to use up extra funds in the Proctor & Gamble promotions budget, more than 850,000 stamp albums had been sent out to some 2.7 million Ivory Stamp Club members. The show received an average of 50,000 letters per week; at 1 ounce each, that's more than six tons of mail a month. But it's the stamps that count most, and some 400 million of those were sent to collectors during that two-year span. That's nearly 548,000 stamps per day.



Figure 3. Vintage Ivory soap wrappers and a couple of mint bars of soap. These were mailed, along with pennies, nickels and dimes, to obtain Ivory Stamp Club packets.

No small part of the success of the promotion was its requirement that kids paying for premiums accompany their orders with wrappers from bars of Ivory Soap, thus boosting soap sales. Figure 3 shows vintage Ivory Soap wrappers and mint bars of the original soap, the squeaky-clean way to build your collection.

The promoter of the scheme was Douglas Storer, a talent agent and writer who created and produced many successful radio programs from the 1930s to the 1960s. Storer referred to the wrapper-happy kids as the "greatest sales force ever assembled." In an interview years later, he recalled, "They [the kids] would go up and down the blocks in their neighborhoods asking all of the neighbor ladies to buy Ivory Soap and save the wrappers so they could expand their stamp collections."

"The Ivory Snowball", as Storer called it, grew and grew, even though the idea was against the thinking of all the experts in advertising and radio marketing at the time. Still, the results were incontrovertible. In the end, the Ivory Stamp Club collapsed under the weight of its own success. Supply just could not keep up with the demand.

The huge beneficiary of the success of Captain Tim, however, was H.E. Harris, whose business became a monster suc-

cess almost overnight. Harris created the Captain Tim stamp albums and supplied all the stamps for the promotion. His stamp company soon became the largest in the United States and even had contracts with assembly plants in China to produce the packets.

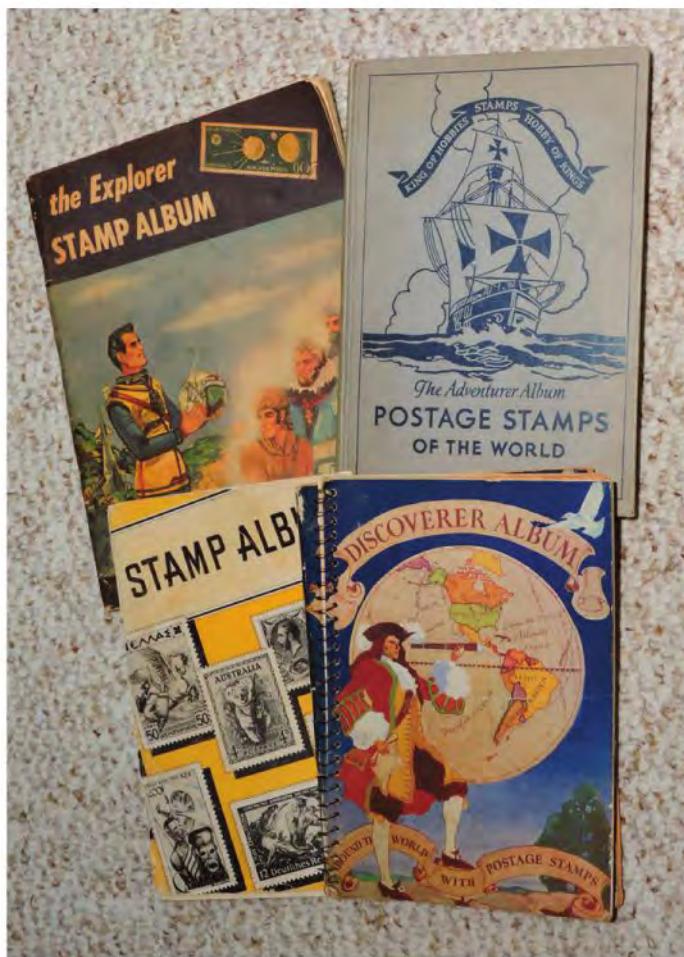


Figure 4. Examples of several different Harris albums published under the Honor-Bilt banner, including the Explorer, Adventurer and Discoverer.

Under his "Honor-Bilt" logo, Harris went on to supply stamps, albums and packets to many other companies over the following decades, in addition to his own products. Seen in Figure 4, Harris worldwide albums based on the Captain Tim template include (under his own name) *The Explorer*, *Discoverer*, *The Adventurer* and others. All he had to do was take his existing template, maybe add or remove a few stamps, slightly reformat and give it another name. This same practice held true for those other companies with which Harris contracted.

Captain Tim's early 130-page albums matched the blue-and-white color scheme of Ivory Soap wrappings. His album's original price was 10¢ and two Ivory Soap wrappers. For an additional 4¢ and two more labels, you could obtain a packet of 500 stamps and 500 hinges to help fill your album. For 6¢ and four wrappers you could get two packets (1,000 stamps); 8¢ and 6 wrappers would get you three packets (1,500 stamps).

and a dime and eight wrappers would get you 2,000 stamps and hinges.

There was no ceiling on the number of stamps one could obtain, although by 1936, the cash portion of the transaction went from 4¢ to 5¢. Text inside each album urged the kids to take their albums to school, show them to the other children and to their teachers. And so on.

Among those other companies that jumped on the Captain Tim (and H.E. Harris) bandwagon were the “Buckingham Theatre Stamp Club” (1934), Kellogg’s (of cereal fame, 1940s), Lipton Tea (1950s) and Nestle (of chocolate fame, 1950s).



Figure 5. Chicago's Buckingham Theatre, home of the Buckingham Theatre Stamp Club. [The musical double-bill advertised on the marquee — Reaching for the Moon and Fifty Million Frenchmen — pin the year of this snapshot as 1931.]

Chicago's Buckingham Theatre in Figure 5 opened June 6, 1914, and could originally seat 965 people. Although the façade remains, the theatre itself is long gone, having been replaced by condos and small storefronts. Like the theatre itself, virtually all remnants of the stamp club or its promotions seem to have disappeared; that is, except for the album shown in Figure 6.

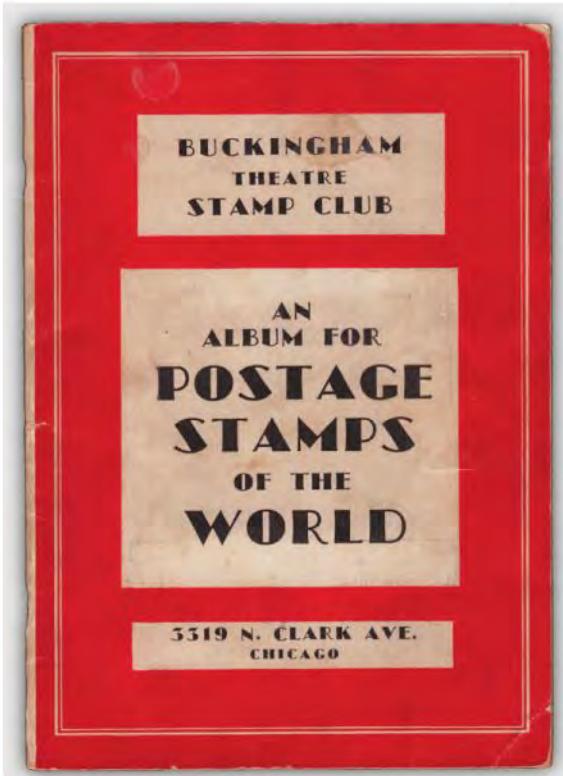


Figure 6. When the cover of this Buckingham Theatre Stamp Club album is opened, the title page reveals it is a 1934 Harris Discoverer album.

When the cover is opened, the title page reveals it is a 1934 Harris *Discoverer* album. We don't know anything about the Buckingham Theatre Stamp Club or how big it was, but someone certainly thought that getting a custom-branded Harris album was a good idea. I suspect this was one of the smaller-run Harris-created custom albums.

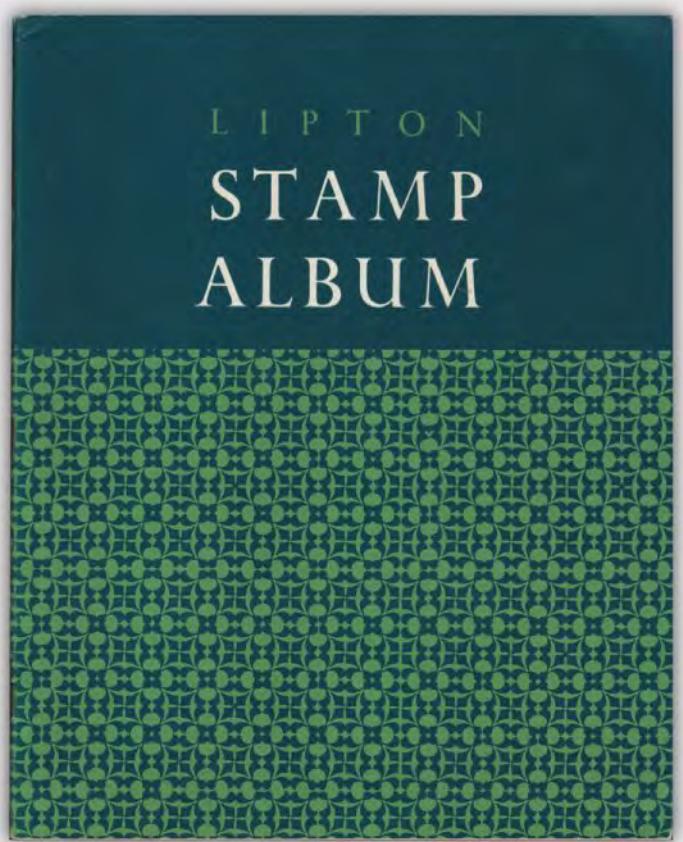


Figure 7. The cover of the Lipton Tea stamp album.

As a national brand, Lipton Tea fared somewhat better, contracting with Harris to create a branded version of the *Adventurer* (again revealed on the title page), shown in Figure 7. It was created in 1959 to accompany stamps kids found packaged with tea bags. Lipton wasn't exactly a stranger to stamps. The company created lavish poster stamps near the beginning of the 20th century and distributed movie star "stamps" and similar premiums during the 1940s. In this case, a packet of eight stamps was included in every package of 60 tea bags or half-pound of bulk tea, with even more stamps in larger packages. I don't know the original cost of the album, but they aren't seen frequently. The promotion continued in Australia through the early 1970s.

Figure 8 shows text from a page in the album promoting the stamp hobby. Text at the bottom praises Lipton Tea for its "new richer flavour," that superfluous "u" being a tip-off that this is a Canadian publication of the 1950s or 1960s. Lucky Canucks got an "Exciting folder — Free!" with their tea, with "exclusive stories about stamps and tips on stamp collecting by Douglas and Mary Patrick of the CBC Stamp Club," heard coast to coast on the Canadian Broadcasting Corp.

A late 1940s Kellogg's stamp promotion was part of an ef-

FREE!

Valuable Stamps of the World

inside packages of Lipton Tea



Genuine! All different! Collections vary from box to box!

Collect stamps! They're more exciting than ever before. Countries around the world are making postage stamps of greater interest and beauty than ever before. In the Lipton collection you'll see the mystery of the exotic Orient—jungle beasts—and world-famous heroes.

Big values in every package. 8 valuable postage stamps with a retail value of over 20¢ in every package of 60 Tea Bags or Half Pound of packaged tea . . . and the bigger the package the greater the number of stamps. The entire collection includes Giants, Midgets, Air Mails, Commemoratives, Triangles and Diamonds. All are selected and guaranteed genuine

by the famous H.E. Harris & Co., world's largest stamp dealer.

Exciting folder—free! Inside every package there are exclusive stories about stamps and hints on stamp collecting by Douglas and Mary Patrick of the CBC Stamp Club. PLUS—special offers, for getting Lipton Stamp Albums at HALF PRICE.

Start now! Look for the new Lipton Tea packages with stamps pictured on them. Here is a wonderful opportunity for you and your family to enjoy popular LIPTON TEA and at the same time discover why stamp collecting has fascinated kings, generals and famous personalities the world over.

LIPTON *new richer flavour* TEA

TEA BAGS • PACKAGED TEA • INSTANT TEA

Free stamps
with Lipton
Instant Tea, too!



Figure 8. This promotional ad (from the album) helps explain how stamps related to Lipton tea, and demonstrates that the album was marketed in Canada.

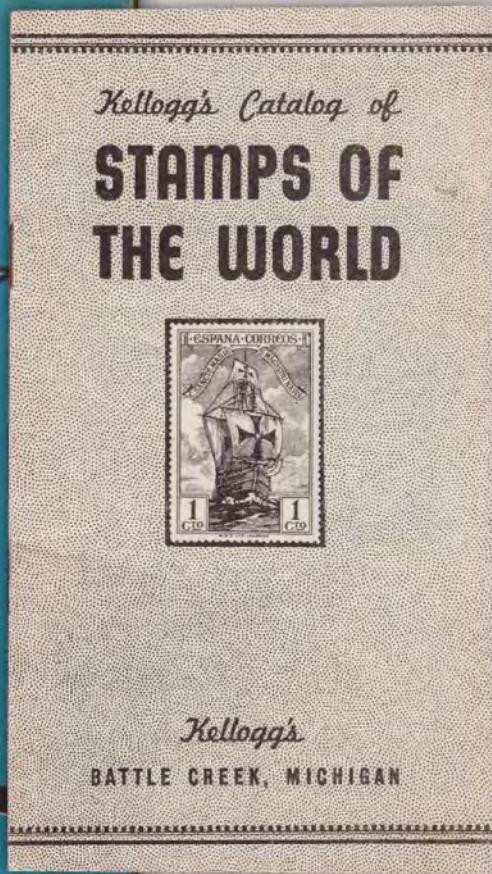


Figure 9. Kellogg's stamp album and catalog.

fort to sell more of its Pep cereal, a whole-wheat product that was among the first of the vitamin-fortified cereals. Similar to today's Wheaties, Pep was introduced in 1923, was heavily promoted in print ads with premiums and was even the sponsor of Mutual Radio's *Adventures of Superman* program. It's no surprise that Kellogg's figured it could leverage the Captain Tim popularity.

Although Kellogg's stopped short of creating its own stamp club, it did have its own branded version of Harris' *Adventurer* album, and a small catalog listing hundreds of different packets and small collections of stamps, ranging from 5¢ to \$2.25 (2,000 different), plus Pep box tops. The album and catalog are shown in Figure 9.

One could even purchase hinges, tongs, magnifying glasses and more — all fulfilled, of course, by H.E. Harris.

The number of required Pep box tops ranged from two (for orders less than 10¢) to 10 (for any order more than \$1). Although the stamp promotion seems to have lasted for only a few years, Pep was produced until the late 1970s.

The undisputed king of Captain Tim-like promotions, however, was Nestle's, maker of chocolate, baby formula, baby food, tea and a host of other products. It is the largest food company in the world. Beginning in 1957, to promote its line of candy bars, cocoa mix, tea, coffee and a few other products, Nestle's rolled out its stamp promotion, complete with its own branded version of the Harris *Adventurer* album and even a combination stamp catalog and comic book!

The covers of these items, shown in Figures 10 and 11, feature the central portrait borrowed from a 1940 Mozambique Company stamp (Scott 201), seen in Figure 12. Tying

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NESTLÉ'S POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM



Figure 10. The cover of the Nestlé's Stamp Album.

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- First time purchasers reorder with us well over 90 percent of the time.
- The majority of our collections are sold on Scott, Minkus or Hingeless album pages- often in expensive albums, which are at no additional cost.
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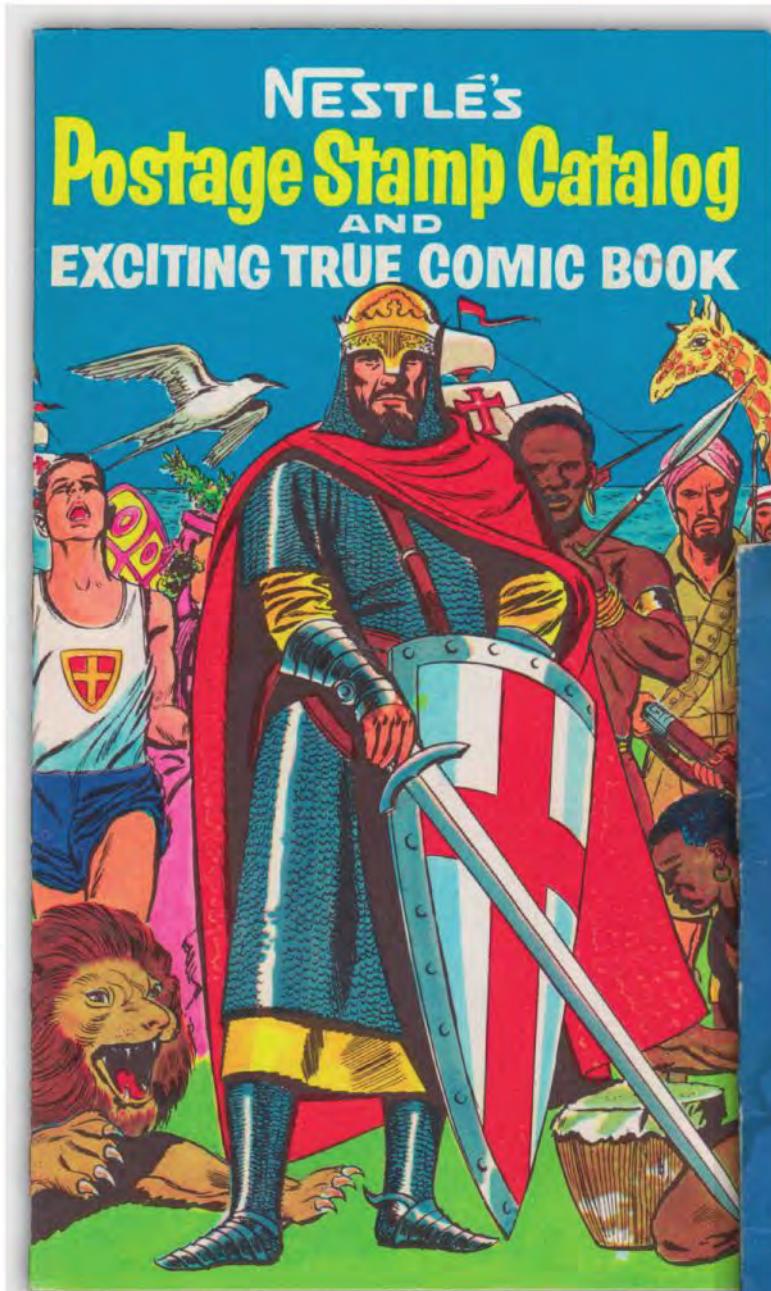


Figure 11. The cover of the Nestlé's stamp catalog.

in beautifully is the comic book story, which is that of King Alphonso Henriques, founder of Portugal as an independent country — the bold knight depicted on this very stamp.

As a part of the promotion, various packets and supplies could be ordered, along with each "Nestlé's Label Unit." While Nestlé's did call itself a "stamp club," that portion of the promotion was very soft, with only a few perks for members. One of these, however, was *Nestlé's Super Stamp Album*, shown in Figure 13, which had spaces for stamps from China, Colombia, French Somaliland, Iceland, Laos, Mongolia, San Marino and Yugoslavia, as well as spaces in the back for Nestlé's Prize Stickers.

Although we've focused on albums here, these promotions weren't done in a void. They were part of a much larger movement kicked off in the early 1930s by the perfect storm of Captain Tim, stamp collecting President Franklin D. Roo-



Figure 12. The central character on the covers of Nestlé's album (page 942) and catalog was taken from this 1940 1.75-escudo Mozambique Company stamp portraying Alfonso Henriques, first king of Portugal and father of Portuguese independence.

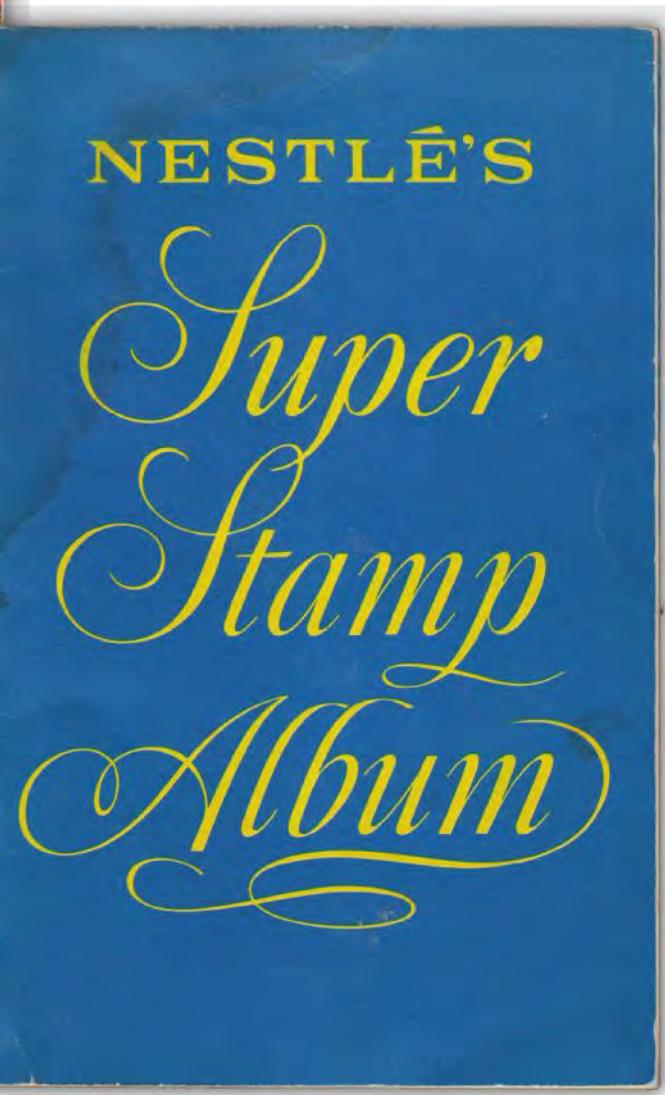


Figure 13. Nestlé's Super Stamp Album, was a smaller album with a limited number of spaces, but featuring more description for each of the featured countries.

sevelt and a need for an engaging, inexpensive diversion during the heart of the Depression.

The momentum built within the hobby took decades to taper off. There are scores of other stamp-related promotions, inside and outside of the hobby, but we'll have to save those tales for another time.



Name the country! We'll buy good collections from all over!

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[This is part of a series of lessons I have learned over the years in how to conduct myself when working with the fine people who wish to sell some or all of their stamp and/or coin holdings.]

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Shipwrecked on Wake Island in 1866

BY KEN LAWRENCE

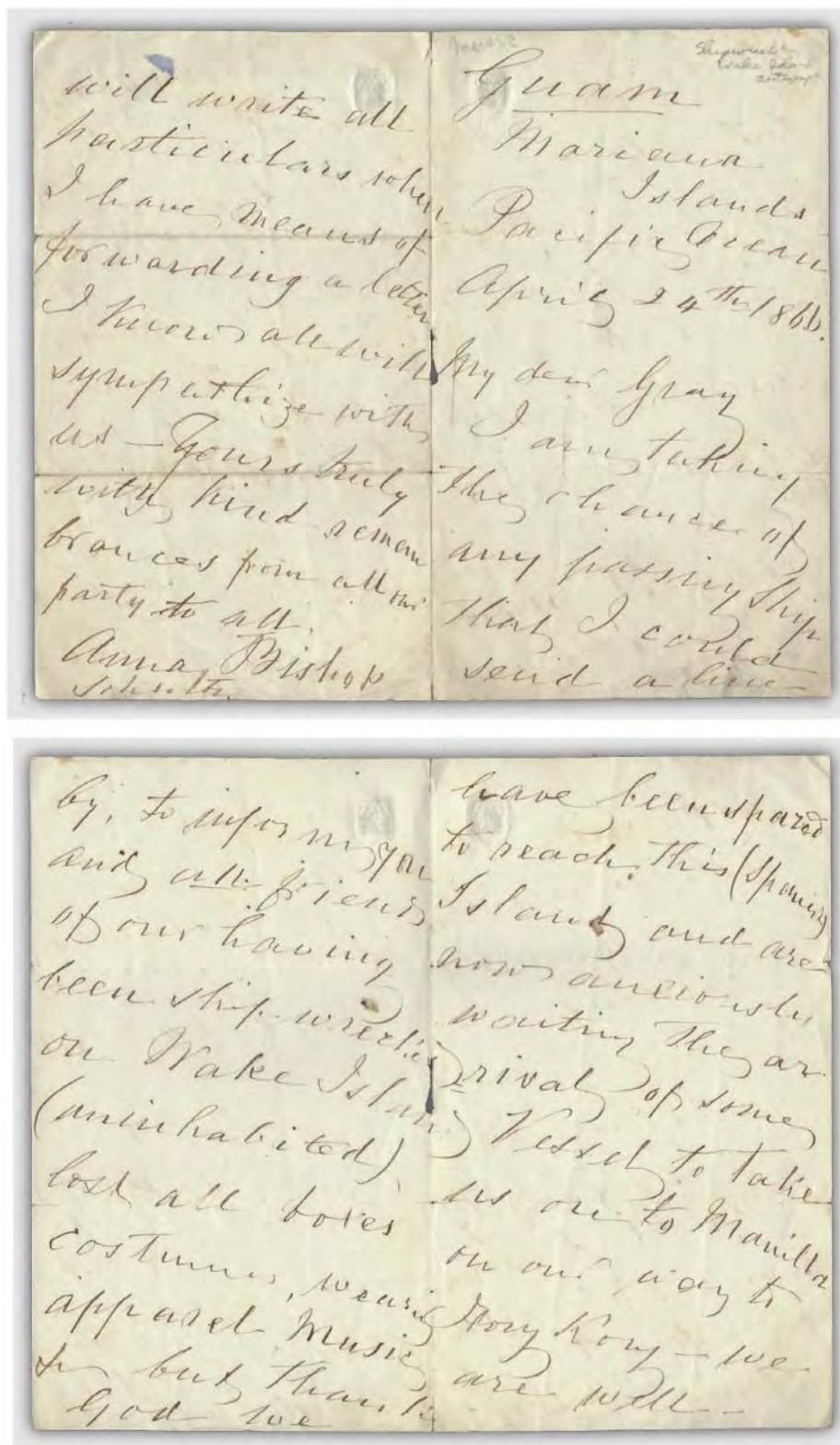


Figure 1. This brief note was probably the earliest written report of a shipwreck at Wake Island, the event that brought that remote outpost to public attention in 1866 and literally put Wake Island on world maps and globes for the first time.

On the evening of March 4, 1866, the 650-ton iron-hulled barque *Libelle* of Bremen, Germany, commanded by Captain Anton Tobias, sailed into a gale on her westbound journey across the Pacific Ocean from Honolulu to Hong Kong. The ship smashed into the coral reef off the east end of the Wake Island atoll, ran aground and broke apart.

The hastily scrawled note illustrated here [Figure 1] probably represented the first report of the *Libelle* castaways' fate to reach the United States. Here is a transcription:

Guam
Mariana Islands
Pacific Ocean
April 24th 1866

My dear Gray

I am taking the chance of any passing ship that I could send a line by, to inform you and all friends of our having been shipwrecked on Wake Island (uninhabited), lost all boxes costumes, wearing apparel Music &c but thanks to God we have been spared to reach this (Spanish) Island and are now anxiously waiting the arrival of some Vessel to take us on to Manilla on our way to Hong Kong — We are well — will write all particulars when I have means of forwarding a letter. I know all will sympathize with us — Yours truly with kind remembrances from all our party to all.

Anna Bishop Schultz

To my knowledge this is the sole surviving original manuscript account of the shipwreck and subsequent rescue of the writer and her party, events that thrust Wake Island into national and international news for the first time.

According to the former owner of the letter, James Millgram, M.D., no cover for it has survived, if one ever existed. Today there is no way to know whether the note was delivered and, if it was, whether as a ship letter or by favor of whoever might have carried it to San Francisco.

The sender [Figure 2], Anna Bishop Schultz (1810–1884), was a global celebrity "whose reputation as a singer extended over the entire civilized, and a great part of the uncivilized, world, and whose travels were more extensive than those of any artist of the age," according to her *New York Times* obituary.

She was born Anna Riviere in London. Her parents recognized and nurtured her natural talent for music. In 1831 she married Sir Henry Rowley Bishop (1786–1855), professor of music at Oxford University, with whom she had three children. For the rest of her life she was known professionally as Anna Bishop, a soprano *sffogato* prima donna.



Figure 2. Anna Bishop Schultz.

Her love life was as public and licentious as the trysts of today's tabloid libertines. Then as so often now, notoriety enhanced her popularity and kept her name in the news. In 1839 she eloped with opera composer and harp player Nicholas Charles Bochsa (1789–1856), deserting her children. Bochsa [Figure 3] was a rogue, on the run from a criminal conviction *in absentia* for crimes of fraud, forgery, and counterfeiting committed in France in 1817, facing a sentence of 12 years at hard labor and a fine of 4,000 francs.

The carefree couple headlined concerts throughout Europe (except for France), and in North America, then settled in Italy for two years. Henry Bishop refused to grant a divorce, but he died in 1855 while Anna Bishop and Bochsa were on a world concert tour. Bochsa died of dropsy in 1856 during their appearance in Sydney, Australia, during the gold rush that brought throngs of immigrants to that continent, keen for cosmopolitan entertainment.



Figure 3. Nicholas Charles Bochsa.

On their voyage to Australia, Anna Bishop had met and become enamored with Martin Schultz (1823–1893), a fortune-seeker from New York who had fallen on hard times in California. Schultz became her business manager and, upon Bochsa's death, her husband. He accompanied her for the rest of her life, as she charmed admiring audiences in Mexico, South America, South Africa, India, China and Singapore.

After performances in Hawaii in 1865, the Schultzes and their troupe em-



barked aboard the star-crossed *Libelle* for Hong Kong on February 18, 1866, for their next scheduled appearance. Tragedy struck en route, stranding them on Wake Island until they chanced a desperate dash to refuge at the nearest habitation, 1,400 miles away, in a small boat. Against all odds they arrived safely at Guam, weather-beaten and pitiable but otherwise unscathed.

Anna Bishop's correspondent, Matthias Gray (1829–1887), had left his birthplace, Manchester, England, for Chile in 1849, and followed the American gold rush to California in 1851. His *San Francisco Bulletin* obituary recognized him as "one who had so long occupied a conspicuous place in the musical world in San Francisco."

Like most others who hoped to strike gold, Gray lost his stake and had to take up a different trade. After a harrowing encounter with Apache Indians that left him scarred for life, he worked briefly as a Spanish-to-English interpreter in Mexico before returning permanently to the Golden Gate city. First as a clerk in Joseph Atwell's musical establishment, and subsequently as proprietor of Gray & Herwig, he became the only music publisher on the Pacific Coast. "Many a struggling musician testifies to his large and kindly heart," wrote the *Bulletin's* reporter. "He loved to do a good turn, and was a friend of the strugglers." Also, evidently, a friend of the world's most famous castaway.

True to her word, Madame Bishop, as the newspapers designated her, sent Gray a more complete account of the *Libelle's* misfortune two weeks later, which was published in the July 28, 1866, *Weekly Alta California*, and copied by papers across America:

Guam, Marshall Islands,) May 7th, 1866,

You will be shocked to learn we have been wrecked on Wake Island on the 5th of March, and lost all. We were

*three weeks on the uninhabited island. No water, and had to wait three days before we could get any from the ship. We had no clothing but what we stood in up to arriving on this island. The Governor and inhabitants have been most kind, and furnished us with a few materials to make up a little clothing. They have no stores here. We came, twenty-one of us, in an open boat, fourteen hundred miles. How we wished it was to San Francisco! A perfect miracle our safe passage to this place. The Captain of the *Libelle* left at the same time we did from Wake Island, in a small boat, with four of his men and three Chinese, but up to this time we have not heard of them. We are here a month to-day. The Governor has sent a schooner to Wake Island for the specie saved from the wreck, and we have to wait its return to take us to Manila, where we hope to commence operations. Mr. Van Reed and the Japanese are allowed to go with this to Hongkong.*

You cannot imagine how we suffered all one night, from 9 o'clock P.M. till 8 A.M., thinking every moment would be our last; but the Almighty was watchful over us, poor sinners!

*Mr. Schultz, Mr. Lascelles and Maria, are with us.
Truly yours, Anna Bishop Schultz*

The New York Times titled its August 26 reprint of her letter, "Madame Anna Bishop as Robinson Crusoe."

As she wrote, after being stranded for three weeks without finding a source of fresh water, and having depleted the *Libelle's* supply, Captain Tobias ordered the crew to retrieve valuable goods from the ship (money, precious gems, and 1,000 flasks of mercury), and to bury them on the island. Passengers and crew then departed Wake Island in two open boats — 21 passengers aboard a 22-foot longboat commanded by first mate Rudolf Kausch; and the captain, his crew, and steerage passengers on a 20-foot gig.

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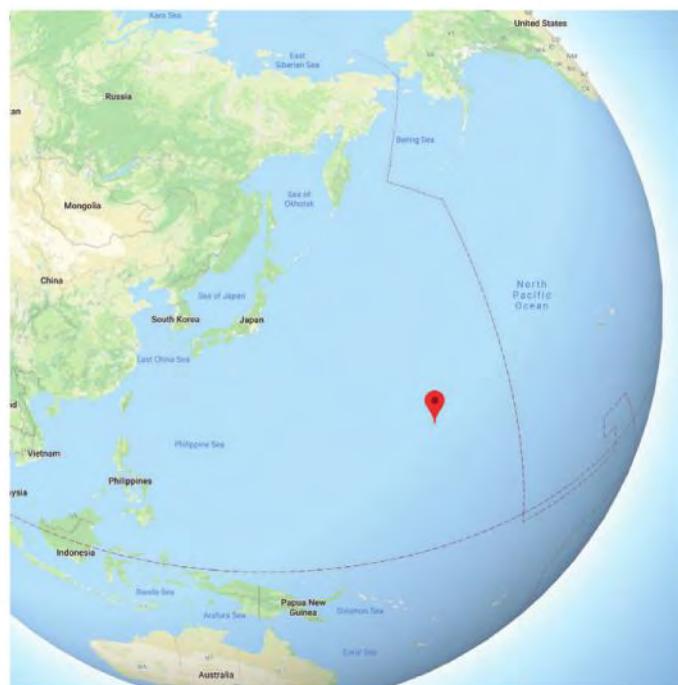
Modern Photo of Wake Island. (Photo: U.S. Air Force/Senior Airman Alexander W. Riedel)

Despite punishing squalls and harsh tropical sun, the hungry longboat travelers arrived safely at Guam on April 8. Besides Madame Bishop and her husband Schultz, passengers included their maid Maria Phelan and Charles Lascelles of her troupe, a Japanese man named Kisaboro and Eugene Miller Van Reed, an American appointed as Hawaiian consul general to Japan, who were traveling together to Japan to negotiate a treaty between the two governments and to recruit Japanese laborers for Hawaii. Published reports failed to name the other passengers. Captain Tobias's gig and its voyagers were lost at sea.

After welcoming and assisting his grateful guests, on April 10 the Spanish governor of the Mariana Islands, Francisco Moscoso y Lara, dispatched the schooner *Ana* commanded by his son-in-law George H. Johnston with first mate Kausch to search for Captain Tobias's gig and to recover the *Libelle*'s valuable treasure from Wake Island.

That expedition dug up and salvaged specie, jewelry, and part of the mercury cargo. It was the first of at least five salvage attempts. A party aboard the sloop *Hokulele* left Honolulu May 9, 1867, and returned July 29 with 247 flasks of mercury, having divided the riches with the crew of a brig from China that took 248 flasks. In September 1867 divers from Hawaii were engaged in salvage operations while the schooner *Moi Wahine* that had brought them was blown out to sea by a gale. The ship and its crew were lost at sea, but in March 1868 the marooned divers were rescued by the English brig *Cleo*. They returned to Honolulu with 240 flasks of mercury and other salvaged property on April 29.

Despite so many attempts to locate and recover the *Libelle*'s spoils, Pan American Airways contractors discovered *Libelle*'s anchor unclaimed at Wake Island when they arrived there in 1935 to build a fueling base and hotel for trans-Pacific flying boats. It was an appropriate memento, considering that Pan Am president Juan Trippe might never have found Wake Island on a map had the shipwreck not brought that remote atoll to the world's attention.



GoogleMaps image showing Wake Island in the Pacific Ocean.

A Postal History Forerunner

BY KEN LAWRENCE



The March 2016 edition of *The American Philatelist* carried my article, "The Postal History of Wake Island: A U.S. Pacific Ocean Possession." In that article I illustrated a December 20, 1929, cover posted at Saint Paul, Minnesota, addressed to Postmaster, Wake Island, returned to the sender as undeliverable, which was "the earliest attempt at postal communication with Wake Island seen by the author."

The first mail from the Wake Island atoll bears August 2, 1933, postmarks struck aboard the Navy ship USS *Chaumont*.

When the crew and passengers of the barque *Libelle* found themselves marooned there more than 67 years earlier, no postal communication from Wake Island was available to send for help. To me Anna Bishop Schultz's 1866 letter from Guam about the shipwreck amounts to a

forerunner of Wake Island postal history.

Guam had no post office in 1866, and little need for mail service. Written messages between the Mariana Islands — Spanish colonies at that time — were carried informally. Letters to the outside world entered the mails at Manila. If addressed to the United States, they were carried to Europe by British or French packet ships, then across the Atlantic.

That was probably the route traveled by Madame Bishop's May 7 letter, the one that the newspapers published. But the April 24 letter reproduced here, entrusted to "any passing ship," probably went by a more direct route, or so I choose to believe — probably eastbound to San Francisco via Hawaii — thus prefiguring the path established by Pan American Airways flying boats in 1935.



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Philately and Martin Luther

The Five Hundredth Anniversary of the Reformation

BY RODNEY JUELL

October 31, 2017 marked the beginning of the 500th anniversary year of the Lutheran Reformation. It was on October 31, 1517, All Saints' Eve, that Martin Luther, an Augustinian friar, posted on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany a document known to history as the 95 Theses. In that document Luther presented theological propositions that he intended for debate among church theologians. A Polish stamp quotes the introduction to those theses [Figure 1]. It is one of many stamps that have been issued to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

It may be fairly said that the 95 Theses were the world's first "tweet to go viral." The spread of the document through Germany, and beyond, was facilitated by the cutting edge social media of the day – the printing press. German stamps honored Johannes Gutenberg and his moveable type, which enabled the printing revolution. A U.S. stamp issued in 1952 honored the first book to be printed – the Gutenberg Bible [Figure 2].

We will survey stamps issued for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, but we begin with what might be considered the first philatelic tribute to Martin Luther. A charity sheet [Figure 3] was locally produced in Wittenberg (the epicenter of the Reformation) in 1946, the year after the end of World War II. It was a desperate time in Wittenberg. Though the city had been spared the catastrophic destruction endured by some German cities, the rape of local women by Russian soldiers



Figure 1. A Polish stamp in 2017 quotes the introduction to the 95 Theses, posted in 1517 by Martin Luther.



Figure 2. The United States, Scott 1014, and West Germany, Scott 723, are among the countries that have commemorated the Gutenberg press on stamps.





Figure 3. A 1946 local charity sheet of six stamps helped raise money to help the citizens of post-WWII Wittenberg.

resulted in numerous pregnancies. In an effort to aid the children and their mothers, local authorities produced the charity sheet.

The sheet depicts the city church in Wittenberg where Luther was the parish priest (upper left), the Castle Church where the theses were posted and where Luther is buried (upper right), the cloister where Luther lived and raised his family (lower right), Luther's seal (lower central), the seal of Wittenberg (upper central), and the statue of Luther in the town square (lower left). When communist postal officials in Berlin learned of this unauthorized local issue they ordered its sale halted. However, some covers, including the one shown here, were illegally cancelled, likely with the connivance of a bribed postal clerk.

Luther (1483-1546) was born in Eisleben, a town in the Holy Roman Empire, located in what is now east-central Germany. Although Luther originally intended to study law, his spiritual struggles led him into an Augustinian monastery and the priesthood. Appointed professor of theology at Wittenberg University, his writings thrust him into a position he neither sought or welcomed. It led to a reforming movement that brought about a schism in the Western Church which resulted in the establishment of Lutheranism (a name to which



Figure 4. Martin Luther first appeared on a stamp when Saar issued this semipostal (Scott B83), which also showed Johannes Calvin. West Germany followed soon after with definitives, Scott 689 and 828, both parts of larger sets of famous people.

Luther strenuously objected), and other protestant denominations.

The depiction of Martin Luther on authorized stamps started in the 1950s [Figure 4], first in 1951 when he shared the spotlight with John Calvin on a semipostal stamp from Saar. Luther first appeared on a regular stamp in 1952, issued to mark the assembly of the Lutheran World Federation held in Hanover, Germany that year. The year 1961 saw the issuance by Germany of a definitive stamp picturing Luther.

The year 1983 witnessed a flurry of stamps commemorating the 500th anniversary of Luther's birth, including one

Collect

Martin Luther



1483-1983 USA 2Oc

Copyright U.S. Postal Service 1983

Issue Date: November 11, 1983

First Day City: Washington, D.C.

Designer: Bradbury Thompson
Riverside, Connecticut

Modeler: Richard C. Sennett

Press: Gravure

Colors: Yellow, red, blue, brown and black

Image Area: .84 x 1.44 inches or
21.3 x 36.5 millimeters

Plate Numbers: One group
(preceded by the letter A)

Stamps per Pane: 50

Selvage: ©U.S. Postal Service 1983
Use Correct ZIP Code®
Mr. ZIP® (running position)

Martin Luther Commemorative Stamp

A 20-cent commemorative stamp honoring the 500th anniversary year of the birth of Martin Luther was issued on November 11 in Washington, D.C. The first day of issue ceremony was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Martin Luther, the inaugurator of the Reformation, was born in Eisleben, Germany, on November 10, 1483, and died on February 18, 1546.

Luther made historic and significant contributions to universal education, freedom of religion and expression, freedom of the press and the expansion of knowledge through the translation of Latin into the vernacular and the printing of books. He influenced the history of music and the growth of public education by appealing to all German cities to establish comprehensive schools for the teaching of languages, history, mathematics, music and other fine arts. This postage stamp was issued to commemorate Luther's role in the growth of Western Civilization, and therefore his contributions to the cultural and historic heritage of the United States.

Bradbury Thompson based the stamp design on a portrait of Luther executed in 1533 by Lucas Cranach, Luther's banker, supporter and close friend.

The Martin Luther stamp is the seventh to be produced in recent years by the private firms of the American Bank Note Company and J.W. Fergusson and Sons acting in partnership. The plate numbering system, as with all the stamps printed by the partnership, features the letter "A" as a prefix.



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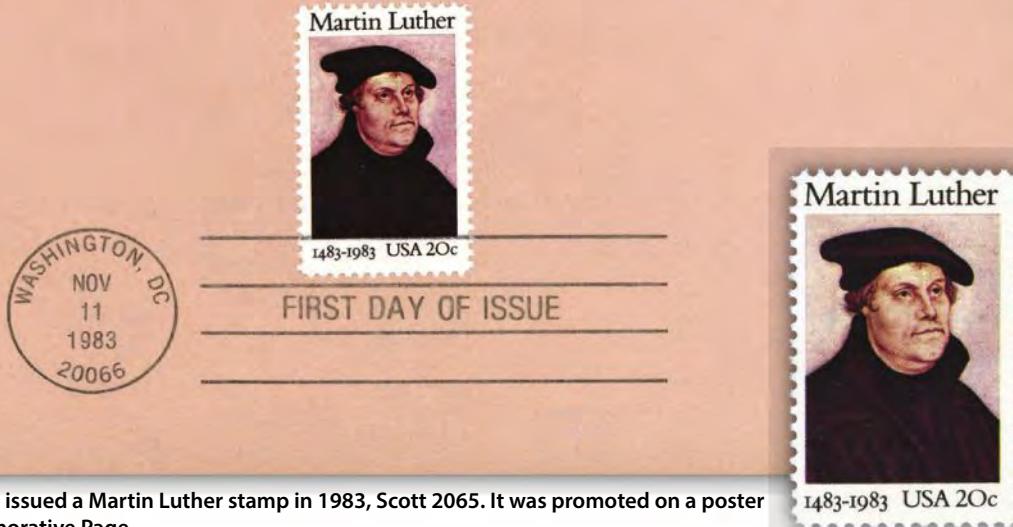
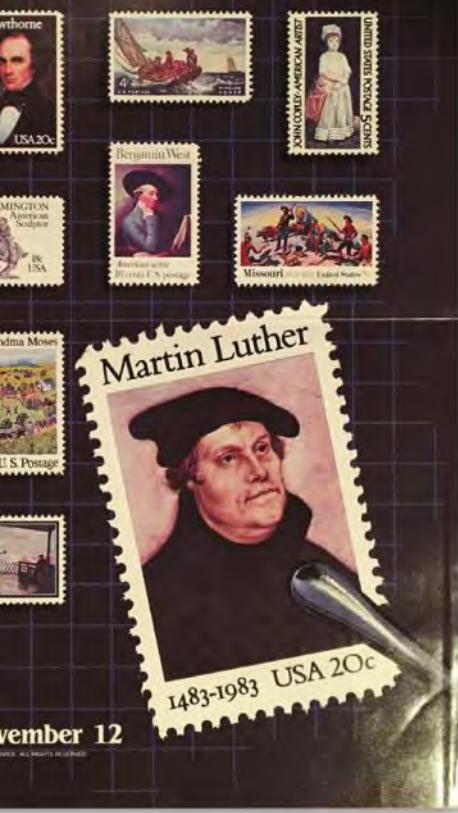


Figure 5. The U.S. Postal Service issued a Martin Luther stamp in 1983, Scott 2065. It was promoted on a poster and sold on an official Commemorative Page.

art on stamps



issued by the United States [Figure 5]. Not surprisingly there were many, including the legendary Herman Herst Jr., who considered this stamp a violation of the “separation of church and state.” The Postal Service was sensitive to this criticism, and that sensitivity was apparent in the arguably humorous rationale offered for the stamp. In the souvenir poster issued in conjunction with the stamp the Postal Service offered the following rather disingenuous, dubious, and politically correct rationale: “Luther made historic and significant contributions to universal education, freedom of religion and expression, freedom of the press and the expansion of knowledge ... This postage stamp was issued to commemorate Luther’s role in the growth of Western Civilization...”

A poster that hung in many post offices, invited people to collect the Luther stamp because it is an example of “art.” Well, of course it is that, but that too seems to miss the point. The portrait of Luther on the U.S. stamp, painted by Lucas Cranach the Elder (1472-1553), is probably the best known portrait of Luther in existence. Lucas Cranach the Elder and his son, Lucas Cranach the Younger (1515-1586), were the most prolific painters of Luther and his colleagues. The Elder appears on stamps from both East and West Germany [Figure 6].

Other stamps honoring the 500th anniversary of Luther’s birth were issued by Czechoslovakia, East Germany, West Germany, Bulgaria, Brazil, Netherlands, France, French Polynesia and Surinam [Figure 7].

The design chosen by the Netherlands emphasizes the 16th century schism in the church that is still in the process of being healed

Figure 6. Artist Lucas Cranach appears on a 1953 stamp from the German Democratic Republic (DDR; East Germany), Scott 176, and West Germany, Scott 1091.



Figure 7. Many countries – among them Hungary, Scott 2796; Surinam, Scott 662; German DDR, Scott 2309; the Netherlands, Scott 652; and West Germany, Scott 1406 – issued stamps in 1983 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s birth.

today. The 50-cent Surinam design is interesting. It is a wood-cut depicting John Tetzel peddling indulgences. It was this very activity of Tetzel’s that was the tipping point that sparked the events of October 31, 1517.

A rather busy souvenir sheet from Hungary depicts not only Luther, the Castle Church and the City Church, but also a profile of Wittenberg as seen from the Elba River, and the papal pronouncement of Luther’s excommunication being burned. A 1983 East German minisheet of 10 depicts Luther as “Knight George,” the disguise he used while hiding out at the Wartburg Castle while Emperor Charles V was hunting him. Luther, as “Knight George,” also from a Cranach painting, appears on a German stamp.

Our reference to the Wartburg Castle will take us on a slight digression. We'll get to the castle in a bit, but first, Luther's raising of troubling questions was creating turmoil throughout the Holy Roman Empire. He was therefore summoned to appear before Emperor Charles V and the Imperial Diet in Worms in 1521 [Figure 8]. It was at Worms that Luther famously refused to retract his teachings and was thus proclaimed an outlaw, "to be done to death at will." Only allowed to leave Worms alive because Charles had given him a 30-day passage of safe conduct for his travel, Luther was "kidnapped" on his way home to Wittenberg by his protector and benefactor, Duke Frederick the Wise of Saxony, who had him spirited away to the Wartburg.



Figure 8. Luther faces Charles V at the Diet of Worms on this woodcut by Rabus reproduced on a 1971 stamp from West Germany, Scott 1063.



During Luther's time at the Wartburg he translated the New Testament into German. A 1983 souvenir sheet from East Germany shows the title page from the Luther Bible of 1541 [Figure 9].

Figure 9. A 1983 East Germany souvenir sheet (below) and a 2017 stamp (left) from Germany commemorating Martin Luther's translation of the Bible.



Stamps in 2017 honoring Luther's work in translating the Bible were issued by Germany, Iceland and Austria.

Though Luther was unquestionably its most well-known guest, the Wartburg itself was a historic site long before Luther arrived there [Figure 10.] While the Wartburg is probably the best known of all the Luther sites, other sites important to the Reformer's life also can be found on stamps. One German stamp depicts five of them: his birth house in Eisleben,

his home in Wittenberg, the Castle Church, Melanchthon's house (see below) in Wittenberg, and the house where Luther died in Eisleben.



Before turning our attention to the stamps honoring the 500th anniversary of the Reformation not already mentioned, we need to note a few other Luther-themed stamps that help tell our story. The 450th anniversary of the Reformation was honored by East Germany, Finland, and South Africa [Figure 11].

Several stamps depict those with a significant influence on Luther [Figure 12], including his wife, Katharina von Bora. When a group of nuns escaped from a convent, Luther took on the task of finding either domestic positions, or husbands, for them all. When only one was left, Katharina, he married her himself.

Perhaps Luther's best friend and certainly his most trusted colleague was the theologically trained layman and first systematic theologian of the Lutheran Reformation, Philip Melanchthon (1497-1560). It was Melanchthon who wrote the Augsburg Confession, which remains the chief Lutheran confessional document to this day. He presented it to the emperor, at Augsburg, in 1530. The other main confessional document of the Lutheran movement is Martin Luther's Small Catechism, honored on a German stamp [Figure 13].

As one might expect, Germany led the way over the past 12 months in issuing 500th anniversary stamps. Brazil issued a stamp with the same



Figure 10. The Wartburg is seen on several German stamps, including one from 1923, Scott 237. A 2009 stamp (top) shows five buildings significant to Luther, Scott 2530.



Figure 11. Stamps for the 450th anniversary of the Reformation in 1967 came from East Germany, Scott 960, Finland, Scott 449, and South Africa, Scott 344, which shows the modern bronze doors of the Castle Church engraved with the 95 theses. The original wooden doors are long gone.



Figure 12. Several stamps show key influences on Martin Luther's life, including three from Germany. One shows Luther's wife, Katharina von Bora, Scott 2026; another Philipp Melanchthon, Scott 1955; and a third depicts the Augsburg Confession, Scott 1330.

design [Figure 14]. The caption on both stamps translates, "In the beginning was the word..." (John 1:1). The German stamp also was issued in booklet form with a stamp depicting the Wartburg.

October 31, 2017 was a busy day in Wittenberg [Figure 15]. My good friend from university days was photographed there, pointing to the triptych behind the altar in the City

Figure 13. Martin Luther's Small Catechism is honored on a 1979 stamp from Germany, Scott 1296.



500 ANOS DA
REFORMA
2017

Figure 14. A 2017 Martin Luther stamp from Brazil. The design is shared with a stamp from Germany. The German booklet (below) also includes stamps with a modern image of the Wartburg.

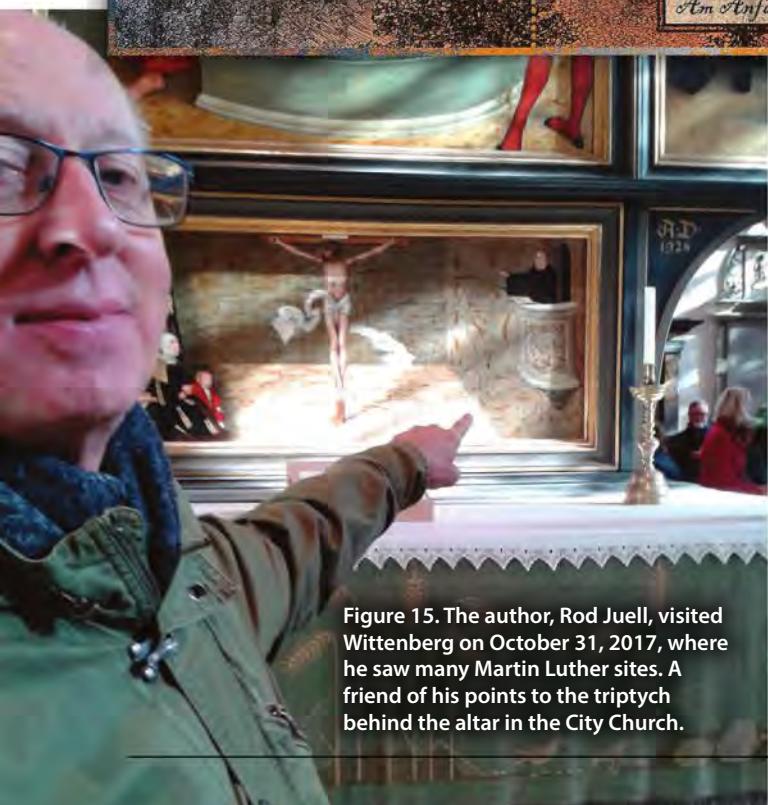
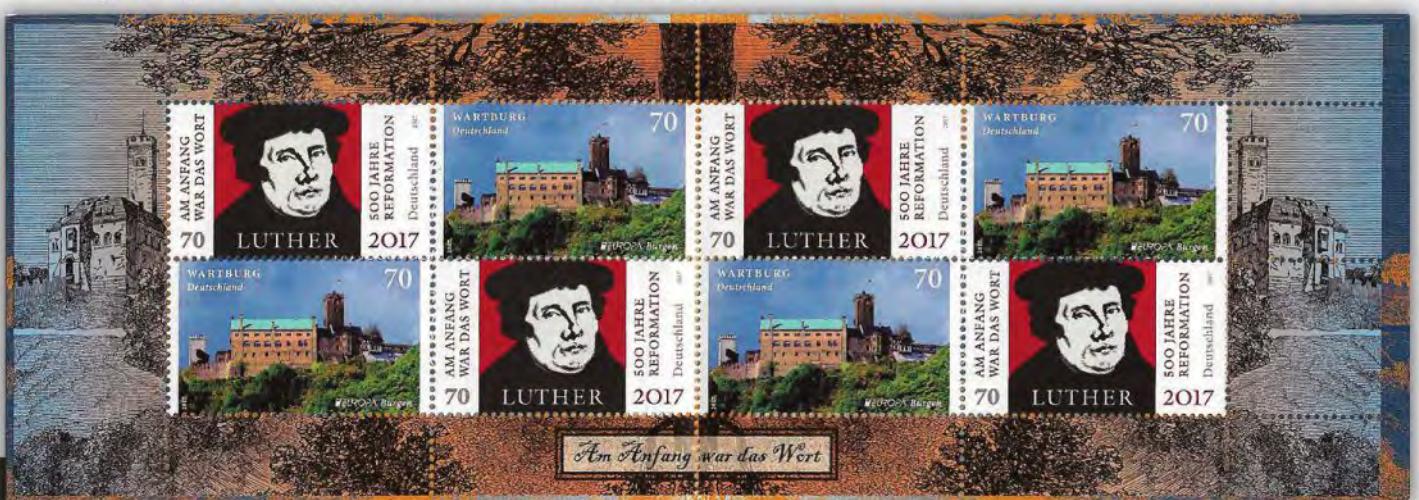


Figure 15. The author, Rod Juell, visited Wittenberg on October 31, 2017, where he saw many Martin Luther sites. A friend of his points to the triptych behind the altar in the City Church.

Church which was painted by Lucas Cranach the Younger the year after Luther's death. A German stamp gives a detail from that triptych, depicting, in the anachronistic style of the day: Luther, as a participant in the Last Supper.

A cover commemorating the birth anniversary of Cranach the Younger bears a cachet showing another anachronistic scene from the Wittenberg triptych [Figure 16]. It depicts Melanchthon baptizing – something that, of course, never actually happened because Melanchthon was not a priest. The Italian stamp honoring the 500th anniversary of the Reformation is another delightfully anachronistic painting by Cranach, depicting the crucifixion from the altarpiece of the parish church in Weimar. Those three figures at the lower right are John the Baptist, Cranach the Elder and Luther.

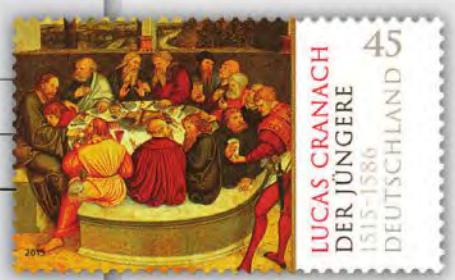
Here is a rundown on some other stamps issued over the past 12 months, most of them in 2017 [Figure 17]:

A Latvian stamp depicts Luther and Andreass Knopkens, the leader of the Reformation in Latvia. A Lithuanian stamp depicts Luther and the Castle Church. Rounding out the Bal-



Cranachaltar von 1547 in der Wittenberger Stadtkirche
linker Seitenflügel: Lucas Cranach d. Ä. assistiert
Philipp Melanchthon bei einer Taufe.
Vorn im Pelz: Sybille von Cleve, Kurfürstin von
Sachsen, Gemahlin Johann Friedrichs I.

Briefmarkensammler-Verein Lutherstadt Wittenberg e.V.

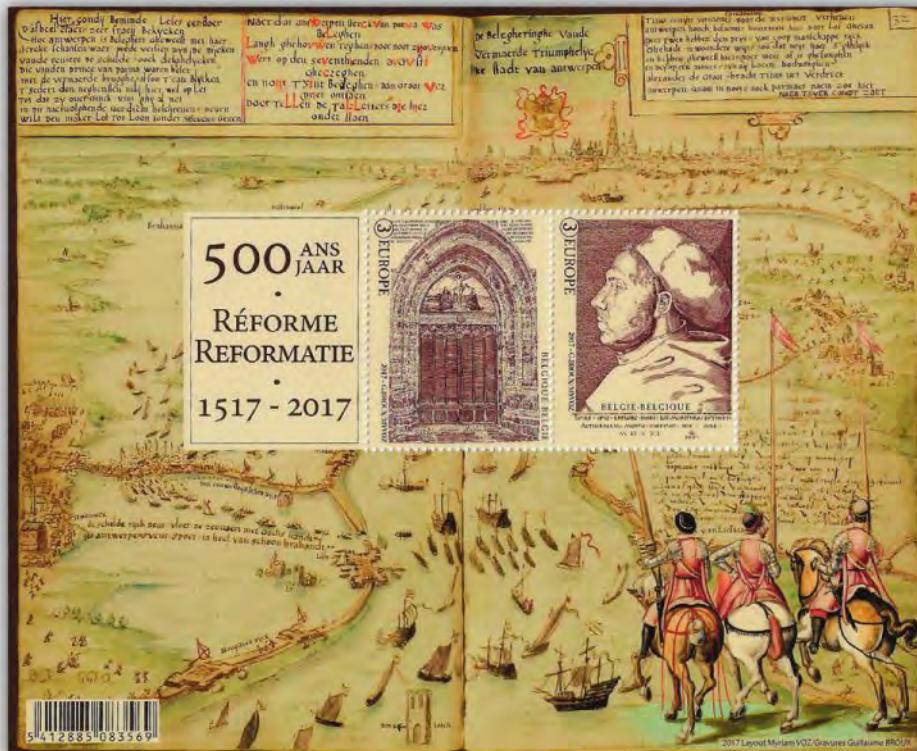


tic Republics, a stamp from Estonia shows the statue of Luther in Kelia, erected in 1862. Belgium issued a busy souvenir sheet. Of note on the stamp from the Faroe Islands is the outline of Luther caught in the thunderstorm in which he called to St. Anne to save him, promising to become a monk. And she did; and he did.

Many African nations offered philatelic celebrations of the Reformation. Almost all might fairly be called contrived issues for collectors, but a number of them have interesting features.

Four scenes from Luther's life are depicted on a souvenir

sheet from the Central African Republic, depicting, clockwise from upper left: Luther in front of the present doors of the Castle Church; Luther in his study, Luther with his wife, Katie, and, Luther burning the papal bull. Another Central African Republic souvenir sheet depicts Luther as a swan. Approximately 100 years before the time of Luther, Jan Huss was burned at the stake over his efforts to reform the Church. As he was being executed he is reported to have said, "Today you kill a goose, but in a hundred years God will send a swan to whom the world will listen." Hence the depiction of Luther, the swan. Also portrayed on this stamp is Pope Leo X, the



pope who excommunicated Luther.

A souvenir sheet from Sierra Leone includes images not only of Luther and Pope Leo X, but also of England's Henry VIII, who would break with Rome to form the Church of England. This sheet also features the sale of indulgences, the proceeds of which were used to construct St. Peter's in Rome. Another Sierra Leone souvenir sheet oddly includes (lower right) a depiction of a conflict in France which had nothing to do with either Luther or Lutherans.

Four souvenir sheets were issued by Guinea-Bissau, a nation with a very small Lutheran population. One features a reproduction of a portion of the Cranach altar triptych from the City Church, a Luther family Christmas, and incorrectly identifies the Castle Church as a "catheWdral."

Unlike the issues of Guinea-Bissau, the sheet issued from Namibia is not at all contrived. Namibia is the only Lutheran majority country outside of Europe, and its stamp commemorates not only the Reformation, but the meeting of the Lutheran World Federation held in Namibia in 2017.

The postal card issued by Portugal is most notable for the odd way it characterizes the 95 Theses: "a builder of modernity." A Hungarian souvenir sheet depicts Luther posting his theses on the door of Castle Church.

The last of the anniversary stamps we will consider, and my personal favorite, was issued, either appropriately or ironically, by Vatican City. It depicts the painting which today is over the famous portal of the Castle Church. It is an image of Luther, at left, holding a Bible, and Melanchthon holding the Augsburg Confession, kneeling in adoration before the crucified Christ. I have no doubt Luther would approve.

Several covers for the release of these stamps and cards exist, all postmarked on October 31, 2017, the 500th anniversary.

sary of the posting of the 95 Theses. A postmark on a cacheted postal card from Wittenberg [Figure 18] is translated, "A dispute on the efficacy of indulgences." The postmarks on the other covers depict the Castle Church, City Church, Luther's birth house Eisleben, and the house in which he died, also in Eisleben.

The Author

The Rev. Rodney Juell, STS, is a Lutheran pastor who lives in Joliet, Illinois, and has been a collector since childhood. He is a regular contributor to *American Stamp Dealer & Collector* and the *United States Specialist*, and is one of the editors of the *Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting*.

Resources

2018 and 2019 Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Amos Media, Sidney, Ohio.

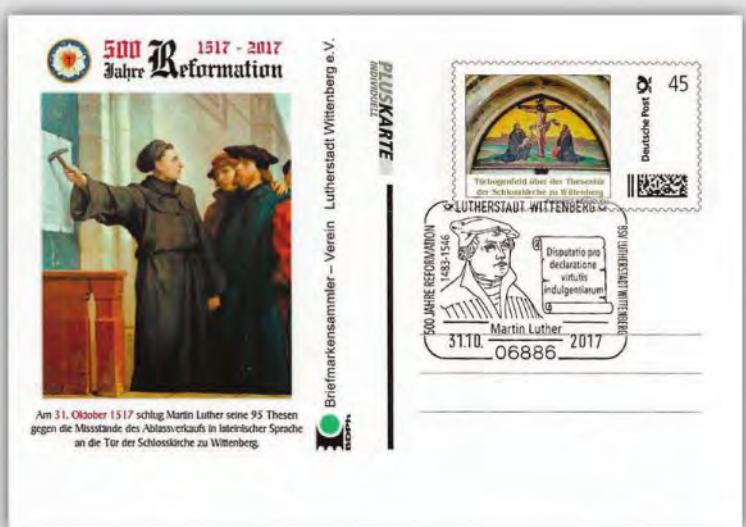


Figure 18. A postal card from Wittenberg postmarked on October 31, 2017, the 500th anniversary of the posting of the 95 Theses.



Figure 17. Among the stamp and stationery releases in 2017 honoring the 500th anniversary of the Reformation: a somewhat busy souvenir sheet from Belgium; Luther depicted as a swan on a souvenir sheet from Central African Republic; a postcard rate stamp from Namibia, a Lutheran majority nation; a stamp from the Vatican; and a postal card from Portugal.



EXPLORING STAMPS

BY GRAHAM BECK AND FRED BAUMANN

In the March 2018 edition of *The American Philatelist* (page 282), we introduced you to Exploring Stamps, a YouTube channel dedicated to the experiences of philately. The producer of this channel, Graham Beck (his wife is the artist behind the camera) is not only a great promoter of the hobby, but has also become a valuable supporter of the APS. In August, Graham and Laura spent four days at StampShow/NTSS experiencing, filming and contributing to the show. This article, the first in a series, is just one of the outcomes from this important partnership. In the coming months, the APS and Exploring Stamps will be sharing stories toward the goal of joint articles and YouTube videos. Hopefully, this partnership will produce philatelic content that can be shared with collectors of all ages and experience levels. Be sure to explore the links in each article to get the full multimedia experience of this collaboration.

American Lighthouses Exploring Stamps

Season 2, Episode 4

view online at: <https://aps.buzz/lighthouse>



Figure 1. Opening screen from "USA Lighthouse Stamps" from *Exploring Stamps*.

From the bottom of the big box of stamps comes the used pair in Figure 1, picturing two different United States Lighthouses. You can see that each stamp's value is 25-cent U.S. cents. There's a circular datestamp and a cancellation on these stamps, which I have recreated an easy-to-see version of here for you in Figure 2. I was able to figure out that they were sent from Ellicott City, Maryland in 1991. The cancellation on the left in black is asking us to "Fall in Love with Stamp Col-

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Figure 2. Reconstruction of the cancellation from the stamps in the video.

lecting," one in a series of National Stamp Collecting Month machine cancels that used to be introduced each October at many U.S. post offices.

Lighthouses are no strangers to stamps. They make compelling stamp subjects, firstly because they're serving a purpose of protecting the sailors and ships at sea, a task with drama built into it. In addition, lighthouses are all placed at very scenic, often elevated, locations along the coastlines, where mariners most need protection and can most easily see their powerful lights.

Many lighthouses have unique or distinctive characteristics that make for colorful and exciting stamp designs. From land or sea, for sailors and landlubbers alike, lighthouses are picturesque landmarks the world over. I found several more lighthouse stamps in my big box of stamps, including ones from Germany, the United Kingdom, Denmark and Canada.



Figure 3. Booklet pane of the 1990 Lighthouses issue (Scott 2474a). Photo courtesy of StampStore.org

Looking up those two used U.S. stamps online, we can see that they were issued in 1990. A complete booklet pane from this issue (Scott 2474a) includes stamps showing five different lighthouses from across America — from Washington, North Carolina, Maine, and then the pair we pulled from Florida and New Jersey. The straight edges at the top and bottom of the stamps, and on the right margin of the rightmost stamp, are seen on many modern U.S. stamps that are printed and bound together in stamp booklets, which is a secure way



Figure 4. Booklet pane of the 1995 Lighthouses issue (Scott 2973a). Photo courtesy of StampStore.org



Figure 5. 2003 Southeastern Lighthouses issue (Scott 3787-3791). Photo courtesy of StampStore.org



Figure 6. 2007 Pacific Lighthouses issue (Scott 4146-4150). Photo courtesy of StampStore.org



Figure 7. 2009 Gulf Coast Lighthouses issue (Scott 4409-4413). Photo courtesy of StampStore.org



Figure 8. 2013 New England Coastal Lighthouses issue (Scott 4791-4795).

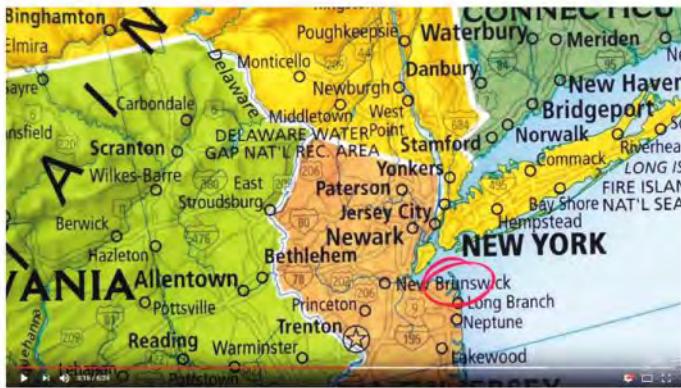


to carry small amounts of postage around with you.

The stamps must have proven popular, and certainly look very attractive. The proof is that in 1995, a second booklet [Figure 4] was released (Scott 2973a), this time featuring U.S. lighthouses on the five Great Lakes, with one each from Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario.

In 2003, a third U.S. Lighthouse issue arrived [Figure 5], picturing Southeastern Coastal lighthouses in the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida again and Virginia. Then another one came out in 2007 for lighthouses on the Pacific coast [Figure 6]. Another one debuted in 2009 with five Gulf Coast lighthouses, and the most recent one in 2013 with New England Coastal lighthouses.

It's been five years since that last booklet, but I'm confi-



[Figure 9. Map of New Jersey with Sandy Hook circled.]



Figure 10. Overhead view of Sandy Hook Lighthouse.

dent that's not going to be the end of this popular series. We will probably see more in the future. As things stand, these 30 different stamps not only display colorful and interesting subjects, but represent many different parts of the United States.

Returning to the two stamps I pulled from the box to begin with, the one on the left is the American Shoals Lighthouse, which is in the Florida Keys south of Florida, and the one on the right is in Sandy Hook, New Jersey [Figure 9] which is on a tiny peninsula in New Jersey.

A lot of U.S. lighthouses have been around for a very long time, and have an incredible amount of history associated with them, such as the one in Sandy Hook. So I'm going to take a quick trip, and see what I can learn from it.

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334 * XF.....	55	379 **/* VF PI. Blk.....	.260
334 * VF.....	45	380 ** VF.....	.50
335 ** VF.....	85	381 * XF/S.....	.225
335 * XF.....	110	381 * XF.....	.70
335a ** Imprint Pr w/cert, 2,500	380	381 * VF.....	.48
336 * XF.....	130	382 ** VF PN Single w/cert.....	.350
336 * VF.....	34	383 ** XF Line Pr.....	.32
337 * XF w/cert.....	250	390 ** XF Pr.....	.35
337 ** VF/XF.....	140	390 ** XF Line Pr w/cert.....	.95
337 * VF/XF.....	32	392 * XF/S Line Pr.....	.395
337 * VF.....	24	395 * XF Line Pr w/cert.....	.375
339 ** XF.....	80	396 * VF Line Pr w/cert.....	.240
340 ** VF.....	90	396 * VF Pr w/cert.....	.135
340 * VF.....	35	397 ** XF.....	.50
341 * XF/S.....	240	397 ** VF.....	.40
342 ** VF w/cert.....	725	397 **/* VF 12-BLK.....	.120
346 * XF PI. Blk.....	170	398 ** XF.....	.50
346 * XF/S.....	75	398 ** VF.....	.27
346 * VF Pr.....	35	400 ** VF/XF w/cert.....	.340
348 ** VF/XF Line Pr.....	440	400 ** VF.....	.175
348 ** VF Line Pr w/cert.....	375	400 ** XF.....	.130
348 ** VF.....	47	403 ** VF w/cert.....	.205
357 **/* VF 4-BLK.....	450	404 ** VF w/cert.....	.950
358 ** VF w/cert.....	125	404 o VF.....	.40
358 **/* VF/XF 4-BLK w/cert.....	450	405 ** VF Blkt Pane.....	.64
367E2 VF Photo Essay.....	1,100	406a * VF PN Blkt Pane.....	.37
367 ** VF 12-BLK.....	60	407 * XF.....	.75
368 ** XF 4-BLK.....	145	413 o VF.....	.15
368 ** VF 6-BLK.....	50	414 * XF.....	.50
369 ** VF/PN w/cert.....	200	414 * VF.....	.22
369 ** XF w/cert.....	100	415 ** XF.....	.110
369 ** XF Pr w/cert.....	400	415 * VF.....	.30
369 ** XF 4-BLK w/cert.....	1,250	417 ** XF.....	.595
371 ** VF Pr.....	36	419 * VF.....	.110
371 ** VF Arrow 4-BLK.....	120	419 * XF.....	.125
373 ** VF.....	56	424 o S.....	.15
373 ** XF PN 3-strip.....	180	425 **/* VF PN Coll 5-Strip.....	.68
373 **/* XF PI Blk.....	265	426 * VF PN Single.....	.18
373 **/* VF 4-BLK.....	75	426 **/* VF PI. Blk.....	.150
374 **/* VF 4-BLK.....	29	427 * XF.....	.30
375 **/* VF 4-BLK.....	29	428 ** XF/S w/cert.....	.200
375B ** VF w/cert.....	995	428 ** VF.....	.42
376 ** XF.....	100	429 ** XF/S w/cert.....	.295
376 ** VF PN Single.....	37	429 ** XF.....	.95
377 ** VF/XF.....	95	429 * XF.....	.55

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The Sandy Hook lighthouse began working in June of 1764, and therefore is the oldest working lighthouse in the United States. Here's what it looks like from directly overhead [Figure 10].

It used to be called the New York Lighthouse, because its primary purpose was bringing vessels safely into New York Harbor. So this is a true piece of American history, built 12 years before the Declaration of Independence was even signed. It survived a great deal these past 254 years, including the Revolutionary War, and that's when New York Congress decided the lighthouse should be dismantled or destroyed so that it would be made useless for the British. But even though the lighting apparatus was dismantled, the British were able to get the lighthouse up and running in just three months.

An attack was mounted by 300 American troops with light cannon and muskets on June 21, 1776, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Tupper, whose troops had burned the Boston Light in Boston Harbor in 1775. But although they fired at the Sandy Hook Lighthouse for over an hour, its walls had been built so stoutly that the cannonballs weren't even masking an impression, and were just bouncing off the walls. I find that incredible.

It's a remarkably interesting lighthouse, and you can see why it was on a postage stamp. I'm glad I made the trip, and I hope you'll join me again next time!

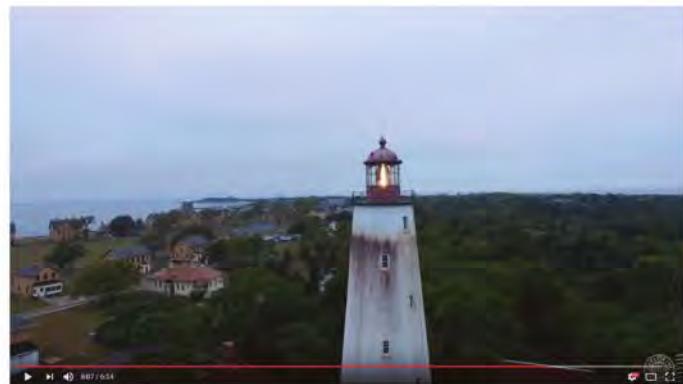


Figure 11. Drone's-eye view of the Sandy Hook lighthouse.



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566a	500	1451	180
620-7	800	1492	300
621i-7i	2500	1518	800
628	8000	1540	110
716-31	700	1586	1,300
782	800	1607a	250
798a	1200	1617	150
967-80	1500	1647a	100
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LONELY BEACON PROTECTING THOSE UPON THE SEA

BY FRED BAUMANN

They are not all pictured on stamps, but the *Lighthouse Directory* lists 18,600 lighthouses worldwide. The American Topical Association checklist count of worldwide lighthouse stamps currently stands at 2,361.

Michigan, which has coastline on four of the five much-traveled Great Lakes, has the most lights of any state with more than 150 past and present lights.

The 193-foot Cape Hatteras Lighthouse in Buxton, North Carolina, is the tallest lighthouse in the United States. The current lighthouse, completed in 1871, replaced an earlier lighthouse. Both were designed to warn sailors of the dangerous Diamond Shoals off the coast. Nicknamed "the Graveyard of the Ocean," its treacherous waters have claimed more than 5,000 vessels since the first loss was recorded in the 16th century.



Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is the tallest lighthouse in the United States.

Stamps are not the only way lighthouses have been portrayed on U.S. postage. They also can be found on U.S. postal stationery, including U.S. postal cards, which have a printed stamp to prepay postage. These are listed in the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers* with a "UX" prefix. In 1972, the Eastern Point Lighthouse in Gloucester, Massachusetts, was pictured on the printed black 6¢ stamp in a set of picture postal cards to promote U.S. tourism (Scott UX63). Enlarged here is the printed 20¢ stamp from a 1999 postal card depicting Rhode Island's Block Island Lighthouse (Scott UX306).

When New Zealand introduced stamps to prepay Government Life Insurance fees in 1891, it sought a symbol to

represent the importance of protecting people from life's vicissitudes. It came up with lighthouses and used them exclusively on 56 stamps over 90 years — first a generic design as on this 1891 2p red brown stamp (inscribed "V.R." for "Victoria Regina"), then actual New Zealand lighthouses includ-



Printed stamp from the Block Island Lighthouse postal card (enlarged).

ing "The Brothers" Island Lighthouse on a 6p Life Insurance stamp in 1947 (Scott OY35) — one of very few horizontally formatted lighthouse stamp designs.

The most valuable regularly issued lighthouse stamp of which we are aware is a rare variety of a U.S. Flag & Anthem definitive coil stamp issued in massive quantities in 1981 (Scott 1891). The stamp depicts the Portland Head Light at Cape Elizabeth, Maine. These were the first U.S. plate number coils — horizontal coil stamps with a small number at the foot of the design at regular intervals in each coil roll identify-



ing the plates from which it came, printed once on each coil strip from every complete rotation of the printing cylinder. The tiny numbers slipped right by most stamp users including many collectors, but the sharp-eyed noticed and saved them. Of the seven different plates used to print these stamps, No. 6 is the scarce. Mint No. 6 strips of three and five with the numbered stamp at the center currently catalog \$525 and \$2,100, respectively. Even the used single illustrated here is listed by Scott at a very respectable \$500.

The most valuable lighthouse stamp error occurs on the first U.S. stamp ever to depict a lighthouse, and perhaps the smallest depiction of a lighthouse on any U.S. stamp. It occurs on the 1923 20¢ carmine rose in the 1922-25 definitive issue, Scott 567, picturing San Francisco's Golden Gate 14 years before the famous bridge opened. Barely visible at the left edge of the vignette is the Point Bonita





Golden Gate Imperf Error, Scott 567a. (Image shown courtesy Siegel Auction Galleries.)

Lighthouse, the third lighthouse built on the U.S. Pacific Coast. One complete pane lacking vertical perforations was discovered in 1929, yielding 50 horizontal imperforate-between pairs, Scott 567a. The mint never-hinged pair shown realized its full 2018 catalog value of \$5,000, plus commission, on September 22, 2009, at Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries in New York City.

A light from a lighthouse is clearly recognizable in the background above the recruits exercising on this 29¢ stamp (Sc 2559b). It recalled "America's First Peacetime Draft, 1940" in the 1991 50th Anniversary of World War II commemorative sheet of 10, but the beacon is listed as "unknown" in the Lighthouse Stamp Society's list of U.S. Lighthouse stamps. Perhaps it is simply artistic license used to add visual interest to the finished stamp.

The U.S. stamp that best tells what makes a lighthouse valuable is this 1978 29-cent Americana series definitive, also depicting New Jersey's Sandy Hook Lighthouse. The inscription celebrates this "LONELY BEACON • PROTECTING THOSE UPON THE SEA."

Australia's 1968 5-cent stamp marking the 150th anniversary of the Macquarie Lighthouse in New South Wales is not the most beautiful lighthouse stamp, but has one of the most remarkable stories. It was the brainchild of Francis Greenway, an English-born architect transported to Australia in 1814 as a convicted forger. He was soon recognized as an educated and skilled man, and between 1816 and 1818, although still a convict, he designed and built the Macquarie Lighthouse. For this success, he was freed by Governor Lachlan Macquarie, and went on to build many significant buildings in the colony prior to his death from typhoid fever in 1837.



The Lighthouse Stamp Society (APS Affiliate 221) studies and shares images and checklists of philatelic material depicting or related to lighthouses, including stamps, postal stationery, postmarks and cinderellas. The LSS website (www.lighthousetampsociety.org) features news and images on the latest lighthouse issues from around the world, national checklists and a vast archive of images of all known lighthouse stamps for each nation. The society publishes *The Philatelic Beacon*, an eight-page bimonthly journal. With electronic membership, *The Philatelic Beacon* will be delivered to you by email in PDF format anywhere in the world, or you can have it mailed at additional cost. Membership information and applications are available at the website at <http://lighthousetampsociety.org/wp/society/join/>

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Collecting American Stampless Covers

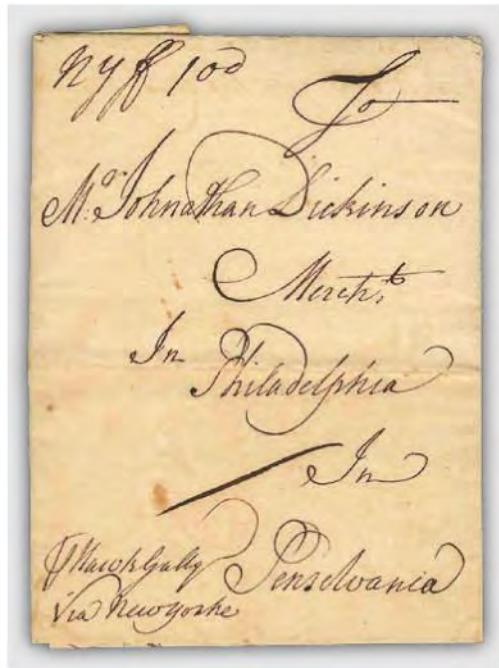


Figure 1. A postmarked colonial letter from Jamaica on August 2, 1712 marked at bottom left "pr Hawk Gally" to New York. It was postmarked in manuscript at top left "N.Y. ppd 10d" (postpaid 10 pence, 9 pence plus one pence ship fee). This is a very early colonial postmark. Illustration courtesy Siegel Auctions October 24, 2007.

First, one needs to define the term stampless cover. It is a postally used folded letter or envelope that traveled through some type of mail system without bearing postage stamps. So this would include letters that were carried by the Post Office Department, but it would also include

letters carried out of the mails by private or commercial mail carriers. The latter group could include some type of express company, a steamboat or ship, and letters that were rated free of postage (free franking). Here, we will only consider mail carried by the Post Office Department.

In the beginning of American mail, all letters were stampless covers because there were no stamps until the 1840s. Many of the earliest colonial letters were carried by hand, that is, by the favor of some person who was traveling over the course that the sender intended to have it reach the addressee. Official dispatches and some military mail were car-

ried by express riders who were paid for each trip. Later, the colonies set up systems for mail carriers to follow a schedule over set post roads. Most postally carried letters went from post office to post office. You had to go to a post office to send a letter and you had to go to a post office to receive a letter. Connections were made so these carriers could travel between the different colonies allowing letters to be sent from New York to Boston, for example. Benjamin Franklin was the first American postmaster general and he set up a system of charges and routes [Figure 1].

After American independence communication between cities was organized into a postal system. The postal rules of 1792 set rates depending on the mileage that a letter was carried. The weight of a letter and the number of sheets inside of it (a folded letter then) also was factored into the rate. Many letters were sent postage due, the fee to be collected at



Figure 2. A postmarked cover bearing a rimless "Ashfield MSS." with negative lettering of state initials, manuscript dated "Nov 27" (1838) within the postmark and rating "18 $\frac{1}{4}$ " due from Miss Bates.



Figure 3. This stampless cover bears the manuscript postmark "Clinton Oneida Co. July 4th" (1806) and a "17" rating due for 150 to 300 miles under the Act of March 2, 1799. The usage of the county name in the postmark is very unusual.

the receiving post office. Prepaid letters were marked "paid." Franked letters from or to someone with the franking privilege were marked "free." The amount of postage when paid or unpaid was marked on the outside of the letter. Generally, postmarks were applied at the town of origin.

For more than 50 years, postally carried letters resembled one another. They bear postmarks of a town with postal ratings. They might be marked paid. And they bear the addressees of to whom they were sent. The town markings were usually circular, but straight lines and ovals were used at many towns or cities, particularly in the earlier period [Figure 2]. Many of the small towns only used manuscript postal markings [Figure 3].

So, who collects such letters and why? Well, the answer is that different people collect for different reasons. The classic postal historian is interested in odd markings and usages.

This collector might be interested in all cities of origin. But other collectors seek items from specific cities, counties or states. These collectors frequently collect both stampless and stamped covers from these locations. While genealogy is of interest to many, it is not really associated with collecting covers. A third group is interested in stamps, but the stampless covers can frequently show usages that also appear on covers with stamps. The 1850s are the crossover period when stamps were available and it was cheaper to send a letter prepaid than unpaid. Then, in 1855 it became mandatory to pay postage with stamps. It also was during the 1850s that the use of envelopes superseded the folded letter. Earlier, the use of an envelope with letter would be two rates for two sheets of paper. Postal reform resulted in weight being the determining factor for charges. During the Civil War, a uniform postage of 3 cents was charged throughout the country. Earlier the



Figure 4. A presidential free frank of President Thomas Jefferson from 1808 with a brown postmark from December 9. The "FREE" handstamp certifies the "free" manuscript marking at top left.



Figure 5. A cover mailed at Boston with a red 31 DEC postmark showing "paid" for a 5-cent rate to Laurence, Massachusetts. The letter was missent to Taunton, Massachusetts and is postmarked in blue green with tiny straight line "MISSENT & FORWARDED." There was no charge on a missent letter, so the 5 cents in the Taunton postmark was ignored. In retrospect, one can see the "Laur" of the address resembles "Taun," which may explain the misdirection.

transcontinental rate was significantly higher.

This is not to say that all stampless covers disappeared in 1855. There are many reasons when a person might not have postage stamps. During the Civil War the soldiers lacked post office facilities so laws allowed them to send their mail postage due. Ship mail was frequently stampless. And, of course, free mail was stampless [Figure 4].

Because of the interest in the postal markings of a particular region, many state postal history societies have emerged. Most of them publish a newsletter or a journal in which items of a state's interest are featured in articles. Those that collect more specialized areas, such as only a few towns, still find much to interest them in the state journals. And, of course, there are larger societies that cater to collectors of different time periods, including multiple states.

In addition to the variety and dating of town markings during the stampless period, there are some specialized usages that have resulted in what are called auxiliary markings. When mail was readdressed from the city of destination to another city, it would be forwarded. Sometimes the postal workers sent a letter to a wrong destination. This is termed missent letter, and some of these show special postmarks [Figure 5]. Letters by steamboats, ships, railroads and express companies all bear special markings. Registration caused certain towns to use registered postmarks.

It should be obvious that if one collected a particular usage, one would need to consider both stamped and stampless covers. During the 1850s and later, the Post Office Department required that all letters be sent in stamped envelopes (to pay postage) even if not carried by mail carriers. The majority of western express letters are of this type.

I wrote in *The American Philatelist* (July, 2013) about stampless covers that had to be glued to a franked stamped envelope to meet this requirement. Many later usages, however, only exist on covers on which the postage was paid by stamps. Few collectors are purists collecting only stampless covers unless their period of interest is only during the stampless cover era.

The Author

With more than 550 published articles and books, Dr. James W. Milgram is an author and frequent contributor to several leading philatelic journals, including *The American Philatelist*. Milgram was the winner in 2013 of the United States Stamp Society Barbara R. Mueller Award for the best article of the year in *The American Philatelist*, an co-winner in 2007 with Steven J. Berlin. He collects postal markings and illustrated stationery of the early United States. His most recent book, published in 2016, is *American Illustrated Letter Stationery, 1819-1899*.

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BY CHARLES POSNER



Children's Stamp (Scott 1085)

The Making of the Stamp

On September 24, 1956, Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield announced that his Department would issue a 3-cent stamp whose theme was children and peace. He said that, "the stamp will be the symbol of the aspirations of all Americans who fervently hope for world peace in the years ahead." Summerfield was confirming the 1955 announcement made by Robert Edward Fellers that the design of the stamp would be selected from the submissions of primary and secondary school pupils.

For those in the know, issuing such a stamp was seen as the inevitable conclusion of an unusually organized and vigorous campaign launched in 1948 by the most unlikely of crusaders.

In his declaration Summerfield went on to pay a fulsome tribute to the moving force behind the stamp: Lady Hilda Johnston Waters Butterfield (1884-1957). Lady Butterfield was, in fact, born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her Scottish-born father, John Johnston (1836-1904), was a Wisconsin banker, historian of education, philanthropist and author. Lady Butterfield was the widow of Sir Frederick William Louis d'Hilliers Roosevelt Theodore Butterfield (1858-1943), one time United Kingdom consul in Ghent and later mayor of Keighley, Yorkshire.

During World War II, Lady Butterfield lived in the United Kingdom, where she conscientiously devoted herself to promoting the cause of children's welfare. Her guiding principle was "Peace will not come at the point of a gun, but from the heart ... Anything I can do that will help the children of every land to get to know the children of other countries of the world, will be one more step towards peace of the whole

world." She said, "We older people have too much distrust, too much bitterness to make over our world into a world of peace." To that effect she set up an organization called "Children of the Fighting Forces," and after the conclusion of the war she began touring the world to convince political and cultural leaders that young people must be organized to fight for peace. She vacated her house and gave it to the charity.

Like many born or married into the British aristocracy, once committed to a cause, she was all but unstoppable. Because of her title, reputation and doggedness, during an around-the-world mission in 1949, she cajoled prime ministers, presidents, and even UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) to take up the cause. How could the makers and shakers of such countries as Australia, France, Iran, Israel, Japan, Pakistan, South Korea, Spain and Thailand resist her Midwest twang overlaid with Churchillian gravitas?

By the early 1950s she was convinced that if several countries would issue a postage stamp celebrating world peace designed by primary and secondary school children themselves, a step in the right direction would have been taken.

Her plan was to have schoolchildren all over the world take part in contests arranged in their art and drawing classes to design a children's flag. The winning design for each country would be made into a postage stamp, and children all over the world would be encouraged to make collections of these by entering into correspondence with young people from other countries.

She secured the support of UNESCO and promises from 44 countries and 37 states of the United States to bring her plan to fruition. By March 1955, 11 countries indicated that they would participate. A committee composed of prominent

people in each country was set up to select the winner of the contest, and he or she would then be flown to the United Nations, where the winning flag would be flown next to that of the U.N. itself.

However, just as the project seemed on the verge of success it was abandoned by almost all governments due to "lack of funds." Seemingly, only the United States remained in the running, though in the end, Spain also came through, thanks no doubt to a special visit Lady Butterfield made to that country (See sidebar).

In the U.S., she formed a good working relationship with the normally retiring Mamie Eisenhower, and together they plotted to advance the cause of the postage stamp. The formidable duo lobbied an unusually compliant Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, an even more willing Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield and secured the support of two key educational agencies: the United States Office of Education and the National Council of Chief State School Officers.

These two organizations were chosen by Lady Butterfield to conduct a six-month national competition open to all primary and secondary school pupils. Entries from the schools were funneled through a committee set up in each state, and that committee selected a design to be sent to Washington, D.C.

Writing in the *Washington Star*, Belmont Faries saw this as part of an important and welcome trend. A national committee of judges was set up, composed of Donald R. McLeod, the superintendent of the engraving division of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Ralph Gilbert Beelke (1917-1983), a specialist in the arts for the National Education Association and the first executive secretary of the National Art Education Association; Edgar Fuller, the executive secretary of the National Council of Chief State School Officers; and Blanche Crippen, assistant executive secretary of that organization. Naturally, Lady Butterfield dominated the committee, and she convinced its members to select a sketch submitted by Ronald Lionel Dias (1937-2013), at



The Lady and the General

American-Born British Royal Promoted Stamp to Highest Authorities

BY JEFF STAGE

Let's face it, Lady Hilda Butterfield (1884-1957) was a pitbull with little regard to what fascist dictator she had to face down.

Having little understanding of the word "no," the American-born Butterfield – with a British royal title by marriage – grasped hold of a cause and refused to give in. Such was the case when she campaigned hard in the era of post-World War II recovery and Cold War escalation for an international postage stamp with a theme of peace, friendship and understanding among the world's children.

As Lady Butterfield trekked from the White House to Spain to Paris to Israel to South Korea, she made friends, acquaintances and allies wherever she went.

One ally was C. Belmont Faries (1913-1998), a copy editor, reporter, White House correspondent and, starting in 1956, the news editor for



A cover sent in 1956 by airmail from Lady Hilda Butterfield to Belmont Faries at the Washington Star, where he was news editor.

the Washington (D.C.) *Evening Star* newspaper. He's best known to stamp collectors as the newspaper's 26-year longtime philatelic columnist, a philatelic editor and a member and chair of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee.

Faries' personal file on the U.S. Children's stamp of 1956 – which resides at the American Philatelic Research Library along with several of his other files – includes correspondence with Butterfield. She sent Faries several letters and notes during her travels to promote the international importance of the stamp. He didn't necessarily endorse the cause, but she certainly was good copy, as they say in the business. Some correspondence in the folder is on onion-paper stationery from the Hotel Plaza in Madrid.



Lady Hilda J. Butterfield shows the design of the U.S. Children's stamp to Spain's Gen. Francisco Franco, right, and Spain's consul general to Algeria

In a letter dated June 1, 1956, Butterfield tells Faries of her meeting with strong-arm Spanish dictator General Francisco Franco (1892-1975), who was prime minister from 1938 to 1973. She writes in somewhat scrawling cursive:

"El Jefe del Estado Generalissimo Franco invited me out to El Pardo, his home, which is really a palace. It is the hunting lodge of the Kings of Spain, with huge hunting miles of royal lands for the shoots, which have been taken over for agricultural experimental stations and two fine golf courses. General Franco was delighted with the idea of a children's stamp, and his minister of education, Jesus Rubio, and his minister of posts and telegraphs, Luis Miguel, are going right ahead with it."

"I sent President Eisenhower a photograph of General Franco admiring the U.S.A. Children's stamp (the large one the *Star* made for the chief of the State School Officers). I told President Eisenhower to give this picture to his press secretary for publication, as it helps the cause."

As a side note, Lady Butterfield writes about a "gen-

tlemen's (bicycle) race" at the hippodrome also attended by newly married Prince Rainier III and Princess Grace. Princess Margaret's ex-fiancé, Peter Townsend, finished second, but "stole the show." She also reports about contacts with UNESCO, Ecuador, Italy and Monaco, among others. Butterfield noted how she would meet the Russian ambassador in Monaco. We don't have a letter saying how that visit went.

Butterfield clearly made an impression with Franco. She lobbied for the stamp and clearly referenced the crisis in Hungary. The country sustained the double blow of being part of the WWII's losing Axis powers, followed by the domination of the Soviet Union, which, among other abuses, exported hundreds of thousands of young people to forced labor camps. Everything burst open in the fall of 1956 with a Hungarian uprising against the Soviets. Caught in the middle from start to finish were children, who struggled to survive.

Franco himself is the main subject of more than 60



Three types of Spanish Franco Stamps: Scott 690, 713 and 828.

stamps printed during his rule. There are three prime designs, those of 1939-1953 (Scott 678-704), 1942-48 (Scott 712-715) and 1954-56 (Scott 815-835). The final group had a few more printed and are occasionally known among collectors as "big heads."

In the end, Franco stayed true to his word to Lady Butterfield. Two days after the U.S. issued its Children's stamp, Spain issued a set of six Hungarian Children stamps showing two young people within an outline of an envelope.

The official stance on the Hungarian revolution of 1956 – which was crushed in two weeks – was condemnation. But in 2016, Hungary issued a stamp to commemorate the events, which since 1989 have been marked by a national holiday.



In the end, Spain did follow suit with the U.S. and issued a set of six children's stamps of similar design, with the high value being 3 pesetas. Instead of an international stamp of friendship, Spain's issue was specifically "in sympathy to the children of Hungary," according to the Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue.



In a 1956 photo op, students from Kramer Junior High School in Washington, D.C. visited a local post office to purchase the new Children's stamp. The clerk here is Acting Postmaster General Maurice H. Stans, helped by his daughter, Terry, 13. Kramer students were chosen because they voted to give up their Christmas party and instead to send money to the Red Cross to help children in Hungary. The girl holding the stamps is Csilla Pulvari, 13, who escaped Hungary with her parents in 1949. (Photo from *Washington Star* newspaper.)

the time a 19-year-old student at Roosevelt High School in Honolulu – hardly a child, and perhaps for that reason newspapers such as the *Palm Beach Post* claimed he was 15.

Hence the story behind the generation and making of the Children's stamp is also the story of Dias, who decided at the age of 6, upon seeing Walt Disney's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, that he would become an animator. He finished his secondary education and went on to receive formal art training at the Honolulu Academy of Art and the Famous Artists Schools in Westport, Connecticut. In 1956, the same year as the contest, Walt Disney Studios hired him as a clean-up animator for *Sleeping Beauty*. Afterward, he worked for Disney, Hanna-Barbera, and DePatie Freleng. He was involved in the production of *Pink Panther*, *Daffy Duck* and *Speedy Gonzales* films. In 1993, he became art director for Disney Art Editions. Dias painted more than 90 backgrounds for these limited editions. When he retired in 1999, he focused on fine art painting and advocacy for art in the school system. In 2010, he was presented with the Life-Time Achievement award – Champion of the Arts.

The successful design was submitted by the Post Office Department to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing

to be adapted to the format of a postage stamp. Dias' submission was composed of two principal elements – on the upper right side, a key representing the possibility of friendship and peace, and on the left-hand side, the faces of a dozen young people of various races. The key is enclosed in a halo and radiates light upon the faces of the youngsters. They are transfixed by its power. Smiling cartoon-like visages stare expectantly and with awe across the composition at the key. Victor McCloskey was asked to translate Dias' near cartoon-like figures into a model. He produced four designs, none of which respected Dias' partly child-like original.

Although the 1950s Post Office Department welcomed the idea of children competing to produce a design, they were

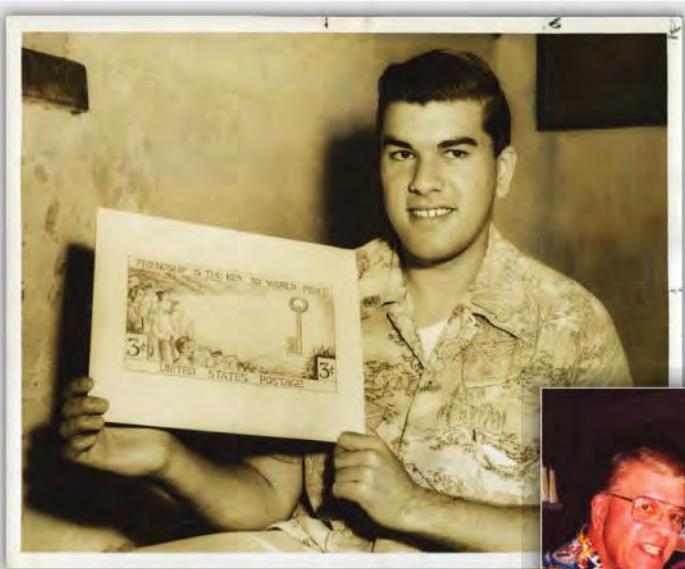
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Stamp designer Ronald Dias would go on to work on modern masterpieces including Disney's animated classic *The Little Mermaid*.

not quite ready to accept a design executed by children. Hence, in his four adaptations of Dias' original design McCloskey transformed the naïveté of the captivated group of young people into such a realistic portrayal that its child-like quality was annihilated. If the original idea of the contest was to produce a stamp that gave a young person's impression of the world, this was effaced by the 1950s proto-realism that governed postage stamp design at that time.

On the three rejected models the key varies in size. On one, "Childrens Stamp 1956" (without the apostrophe), appears among the light's beams; on another, at the top; and on the final rejected design, not at all. The billows on the Dias design are minimized and the shading varies.

The four designs were sent to the Post Office Department on September 4, and nine days later, the postmaster general made his selection.

Originally, it was announced that the stamp would be launched at a ceremony to be held in October at the White House, with Ronald Dias and Lady Hilda Butterfield in attendance. The date was abandoned when it became clear that the president would be fully immersed in his campaign for re-election. This led to an unprecedented situation, because the stamp was put on sale on December 15 at the Washington D.C. post office, but what were called the "special dedication" ceremonies were not until December 20.

The Design Itself

Over the years we have become accustomed to compositions produced by children exuding a joyful and ingenuous style that circumvents adult attempts at realism. It is impossible to distinguish McCloskey's translation of the Dias design from the traditional cautious and unadventurous compositions that the long-serving Bureau of Engraving and Printing designers were expected to produce. In essence, it is not what one would expect from a child, and the stamp becomes



a composition about children, but no longer by children, or in this case a young person. Paradoxically, in his later work, particularly as a cartoonist for Walt Disney Studios, Dias displayed the very childish unbridled joy entirely absent from the sober stamp.

The final design includes a group of young people from different cultural backgrounds gazing, as in the Dias proposal, expectantly and reverentially upwards toward the distant key of peace, surrounded by an aura of bright light and radiating a beam of life back toward the children. The children of the world, assembled at the left, are looking toward the right in "pleasurable" prospect of attaining the "radiant Key of Friendship with which to unlock the door of peace."

In a lighter panel across the top of the composition, an inscription reads, "Friendship is the Key to World Peace" in dark Gothic typeface. Within the vignette itself one finds the wording "Children's Stamp 1956" in white Gothic type spread over two lines. Across the bottom panel the denomination is enclosed in boxes at either end of the stamp. Within the panel are the words "United States Postage" in dark Gothic type.

The Subject

Many religious and secular organizations proposed that a special day should be set aside to promote the welfare of children. In the United States as early as 1856, exactly 100 years before the issuance of the postage stamp, the Rev. Charles Leonard, pastor of the Universalist Church of the Redeemer in Chelsea, Massachusetts, established what he called Rose Day as the special day to baptize children and get parents and guardians to rededicate themselves to the nurturing of their youngsters. It was set for the second Sunday in June. Other groups and organizations followed. However, observance was fitful until the aftermath of the World War II focused attention on the problems and potentials of young people.

In 1952 the International Union for Child Welfare, allied to UNESCO, convinced 40 countries and territories to celebrate a day devoted to children. In 1953 special ceremonies took place around the world. The idea was taken up by Vengalil Krishnan Krishna Menon (1896-1974), who got the United Nations, with the support of key agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Labor Organization (ILO), and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), to proclaim a Universal Children's Day. The goal was to organize both educational and recreation activities to highlight the potential of young people and promote fraternity and understanding that surmounted cultural, political and social boundaries. They planned to hold the first celebrations in 1956, with UNICEF the promoter of these activities.

By the time the World War II concluded, in the eyes of Western World, the concept of the child had altered from seeing children as adjuncts to the labor force to one of extending their education and social apprenticeship to the point of their

being redefined as valuable individuals and a source of hope for the future. With that war and others fought in its wake having led to millions of orphans, displaced young people, and refugees, compassion became combined with hope and the belief that these young people would be agents for world peace. However, education had to be provided to overcome the horrors they witnessed because, as Anna Freud observed, children were unfortunately likely to be "scintillated" by violence.

Lady Butterfield, called a children's ambassador-at-large, was one of the many concerned adults who worked in parallel to these new movements. The *Palm Beach Post* wrote that she was "as young in heart and as keenly alive as any of the children she has so earnestly represented in the world of politics and education ..."

She pointed out on many occasions that the stamp would never have been approved without the strong and continuous support of her good friend, Mamie Eisenhower, whom she called "the best aide any president has had," a figure who normally never left the shadows. The president's wife stated that she remained invisible in an attempt not to overshadow her husband's activities, whether in politics or the golf course, but when an opportunity presented itself for her to push her own causes, she would do so. Indeed, she did.

There is a Christmas footnote to our story.

Because of the proximity of the first-day-of issue of the stamp to Christmas, some individuals, displaying what could be labeled wishful thinking, felt that it should be considered to be the first Christmas stamp issued by the American postal authorities. One commentator thought that the key could be considered to be the star of Bethlehem and the children pictured in the design could be the shepherds in the hills of Judea "who heard the angelic message 'Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men.'"

While it is true that the Post Office Department received many re-



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RONALD DIAS
3401 W. OLIVE AVE.
BURBANK, CALIF



Mr. Belmont Faries
to "The Sunday Star"
Washington 4, D. C.

Dec 30, 1956

Dear Mr. Faries:

Thanks very much for the wonderful photo taken by the Evening Star for the article you did about my trip to Washington D. C. I will add it to my collection of articles I have saved about my stamp. Thanks also for the newspaper article you clipped out for me.

I hope you and your family have a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Ronald Dias

Cover and note sent from Ronald Dias to Belmont Faries of *The Sunday Star*.

quests to issue a stamp for Christmas, there was a debate as to whether it was appropriate for it to issue a stamp honoring one religion. In fact, some argued that commemorating any religious festival violated the First Amendment to the Constitution. By that time, a number of countries had issued Christ-

mas stamps.

In 1898 to mark the advent of the Imperial penny postage rate, Canada issued a dramatic stamp bearing the inscription "Xmas 1898" (Scott 85). Austria issued two general greetings stamps in 1937, which were called by some "Christmas greeting stamps," and one each in 1953, 1954 and 1958. Brazil produced four semipostal holiday stamps in 1939. Hungary issued a single semipostal stamp in 1941 to pay for soldiers' Christmases, and three special stamps in 1943 depicting the nativity. Cuba followed suit in 1951, Haiti in 1954. Luxembourg and Spain issued Christmas stamps in 1955, and Australia, South Korea, and Liechtenstein in 1957. Thereafter, some of these and other countries began issuing Christmas stamps on a more regular basis. The debate in the United States was to continue until 1962, when the first U.S. Christmas stamp (Scott 1205) was issued.

First-day Ceremony

There was a build up to the issuance of the stamp. First, in September the president launched the "People to People Program,"

designed to bring about a peaceful climate to counter the Cold War through educational, cultural, and humanitarian activities. The issuing of a postage stamp promoting friendship among children around the world was mentioned as an example of such exchanges.

Second, the eighth annual show of the American Stamp



Die proofs and the approved engraving and color proof. Courtesy of the Postmaster General's Collection, United States Postal Service, courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution, National Postal Museum.



Approval of engraving and color

September 21, 1956

Postmaster General

Dealers Association, held in New York between November 16-18 at the climax of National Stamp Collecting Week, anticipated the launching of the Children's Stamp. After consultations with the postmaster general, Peter Keller, on behalf of ASDA, decided that the theme would be the "Children of America." He declared, "The youth of the land carry on not only our heritage but are the land's future. It is with this thought that National Stamp Collecting Week and the show pay homage to the children of America." The organizers issued small adhesive "posters" in the form of postage stamps featuring the faces of two children, with the legend "Stamp collecting entertains and educates." The otherwise identical labels were issued in four different colors.

As with the Labor Day stamp (Scott 1082, issued on September 3), the official first-day-of issue ceremony was upstaged by the president. Without any fanfare, the stamp was quietly issued at the Washington D.C. post office on a cold, foggy, and rainy December 15.

However five days later, on an unseasonably warm and rainy December 20, a celebration dedicating the stamp to the Youth of America and the cause of world peace took place in the afternoon at the White House. The press described the event as a brief ceremony. In fact, it lasted all of fifteen minutes from the moment at precisely 2:33 p.m. when the president, accompanied by Maurice Hubert Stans (1908-1998), the acting postmaster general; Marion Bayard Folsom (1893-1976); Rocco C. Siciliano (1922-2007); and Bernard Shanley (1903-1992), the White House appointments secretary, entered the room where the assembled guests, all adults, were in attendance. Almost all of the guests were heads of

movements created for the youth of America. Among the organizations represented were Boy and Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, 4-H Clubs, and Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant youth and welfare groups.

The president and Mamie Eisenhower acted as hosts, and Maurice Hubert Stans, standing in for Arthur Summerfield, presided over the event.

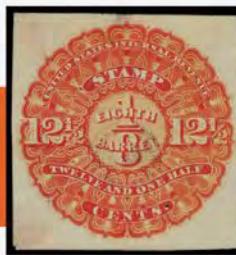
Ronald Dias and a frail but ebullient Lady Butterfield, ac-

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accompanied by her daughter, had been flown in for the ceremony and were treated as guests of honor. Other special guests were Ogden Reid, president of the *New York Herald Tribune*; Supreme Court Justice Harold H. Burton; and Richard M. Carrigan of the National Education Association.



Stamp designer Ronald Dias, left, joins President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Lady Hilda Butterfield and First Lady Mamie Eisenhower, right, during a stamp dedication ceremony December 20, 1956 at the White House.

True to her colors as a force for world peace, Lady Butterfield used the occasion to attack the invasion of Egypt by Britain and France.

There was a large contingent from the Post Office Department, including Deputy Postmaster General Albert J. Robertson, Assistant Postmaster General for Operations Norman R. Abrams, Herman Emmett of the Post Office Department, Robert E. Fellers of the Division of Philately, Assistant Postmaster General for the Bureau of Facilities Ormonde A. Kieb, Assistant Postmaster General and Director of Personnel Administration Eugene J. Lyons, Deputy Controller of the Post Office Department Lindsey H. Noble, Deputy Postmaster General Albert J. Robertson, and Assistant Postmaster General (Bureau of Transportation) E. George Siedle.

Religious organizations were represented by Maurice Bisgyer, executive vice president of B'nai B'rith; Rev. Dr. A. Wilson Cheek, executive secretary of the United Christian Youth Movement; Albert Mendlovitz, the chair of the National Jewish Youth Conference; Rev. Joseph E. Schieder, director of the Youth Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference; Philip Schiff, of the National Jewish Welfare Board in Washington; and Charles C. Zimmerman, representing the B'nai B'rith Youth Organizations.

Youth organizations were represented by Dr. Edward W. Aiton, executive director of the 4-H Club and Young Men-Women Programs, Federal Extension Service; Livingston Blair, national director of the American Junior Red Cross; W. N. Elam, executive secretary of the New Farmers of America; Laurence C. Hart, executive vice president of Junior Achievement Incorporated; Mary McCall Imes; Mrs James W. Irwin

for the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association; Olivia Cameron Higgins Layton, president of the Girl Scouts of America; Shane McCarthy, executive director of the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition; Randolph E. Myers, general secretary of YMCA; Dr. Lois Oliver, national adviser to the Future Home Makers of America; Francis B. Sayre, of the United States committee for UNICEF; Dr. W. I. Stanton, national adviser to the Future Farmers of America; Dr. Gerald M. Van Pool, representing the National Association of Student Councils; and Mrs. W. Harvey Young, vice president of the Camp Fire Girls.

In a short, almost telegraphic, address, Stans paid tribute to Dias and Lady Butterfield, thanking them "for their efforts in assuring a beautiful stamp symbolizing the aspirations of all Americans."

The president, joined by Mamie Eisenhower making one of her rare public appearances, posed for a photograph which appeared in hundreds of newspapers. It featured the president and First Lady holding up a blowup of the stamp with



3¢ PROMOTION OF FRIENDSHIP AMONG CHILDREN THE KEY TO WORLD PEACE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP



Date of issue: December 15, 1956

Catalog number: Scott 1085

Designer: Ronald Lionel Dias

Modeler: Victor Stephen McCloskey

Vignette engraver: Charles Alton Brooks

Frame engraver: John Samuel Edmondson

Letter engraver: John Samuel Edmondson

Color: dark blue (Scott); blue (Post Office Department)

Format: Electric eye plates of 200 divided into four post office panes of 50 by horizontal gutters; arranged 5 horizontally by 10 vertically

Perforation: 11 by 10 1/2

Size: 0.84 inch by 1.44 inches (21.34mm x 36.58mm)

Printing: Bureau of Engraving and Printing using a Cottrell Electronically Actuated Web Press

Quantity issued: 100,975,000

First-day site: Washington, D.C.

First-day covers serviced: 305,125

PLATE NUMBER REPORT

Plate. No.	Impressions	Printed
25533	166,656	September 25, 1956
25534	166,656	September 25, 1956
25535	163,700	September 27, 1956
25536	163,701	September 27, 1956

suitable smiles on their faces. Ronald Dias and Lady Butterfield also appeared in the photo, he on the left and she next to Mrs. Eisenhower.

After very brief interventions by the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Marion Folsom, and Rocco C. Siciliano, assistant secretary of the Department of Labor, Stans presented the first leather-bound album containing a sheet of the stamps signed by the postmaster general to President Eisenhower. In turn the president presented similar albums to Lady Butterfield and to Ronald Dias, congratulating the new Disney employee on his artistic ability. Stans then presented four albums to Mamie Eisenhower for her four grandchildren. Other albums were given to Folsom

and to Siciliano for Secretary of Labor Mitchell, who was unable to attend the ceremony.



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The Future for Your Collection — and Beyond

Time Spent Planning Strengthens Your Collection

It's only natural to think about your stamps and covers during Stamp Collecting Month. But have you considered planning for the future of the collection? Doing so can be time well spent, whether the collection outlasts you in this world, or you intend to dispose of it before you leave this world.

Let's take the first scenario: your collection is here after you are not. How are your heirs going to handle your stamps? Are they coached to recognize what your collection is, the value of it, and outlets that may be willing to pay well to acquire its contents? Are they prepared to cope with it? Or could they use estate advice? As a member of the APS, you should let your heirs know that the American Philatelic Society can provide them with one or more of the names of over 200 APS members who have volunteered to offer advice on how to maintain or dispose of the collection — whichever they prefer.

Upon hearing of the member's death, we send information to their last known address, informing the heirs about the APS Estate Advisory Service. The heirs contact us, providing their name, mail and email addresses and the member's name and APS membership number, if available.

We send information, usually by email, that includes a letter about the service and the names of volunteers in their area, a report form for the volunteer to complete with their advice noted in writing, as well as the guidelines volunteers must follow in the process of giving advice. The heirs take it from there, contacting the volunteers named in the letter to make arrangements for viewing the collection.

If the deceased member was an active member of a local stamp club, the heirs might want to start there to get an idea of the value of their loved one's collection and whether an appraisal is needed. If you, the member, have your own advice for your heirs, put it in writing for them to make things simpler for them when you are no longer there to help.

The second scenario — in which you, the collector, are still very much in the picture — involves you planning to sell now, so your heirs don't have to try to deal with it later. When

people call for a collection evaluation, we point to our APS website to search for help in their local area. No one can evaluate a collection remotely, whether on the phone or through email and letters. It must be seen in person, so local is the way to go.

Visit <https://stamps.org/Dealers> to search by proximity to ZIP code, by state or by specialty. Check the specialties and/or business services of the dealers listed to see which would be a good match for what you want to do with the collection. Also, you can search <https://stamps.org/Local-Clubs> for a local club whose members might give you a preliminary opinion on the collection and guide you on what should be done.

The search is about the same as for dealers: by proximity to ZIP code, by state or by club name. Some local clubs might have someone who could review your items and determine if they need to be authenticated by experts before you attempt to sell them. Many scarce or unusual items require a certificate by a recognized authority if you hope to sell them for more than a small fraction of their catalog value. Dealers would

tell you this also. All of those listed in these two searches are APS members and must agree to a Code of Ethics to remain members.

Again, if you are an active member of a local club, you already have a great resource of information to help determine your collection disposition plan.

Please contact the American Philatelic Expertizing Service (APEX) at twhorn@stamps.org or call 814-933-3803 ext. 205 with any questions about these services.

And plan now to visit the American Philatelic Center the weekend of November 3, 2018, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our great American Philatelic Research Library. The APEX office also will be open giving you access to viewing stamps from our APS Reference Collection. You will have a great time browsing through books and stamps, and I'll be delighted to meet you.

in my opinion
by Scott Troutman

Case Files from an Estate Advisor

The APS Estate Advisor service is one of the least discussed services the APS has to offer. That may be because it is not needed until the member is dead. It is a service designed to aid people who wanted to sell their collection but did not know where to use or who to use it, or to determine its value. The role of an estate advisor is that of trusted friend, able to aid a person who needs help. It is a role that many philatelists will play in an informal capacity, but it is important to understand the reasons I have written up some of my experiences working in both a formal and an informal capacity as an estate advisor.

I became an estate advisor with the APS about 1986 and continued in that capacity until about 2002 when I left Oklahoma after retiring, and returned to Pennsylvania. I was not a dealer, just a collector with a general knowledge of U.S. postage stamps, a few other countries, and a collection of revenue stamps, a general knowledge of foreign material, and a few for the dealers in my area (which ones were honest, which were not). I could read a catalog, which I did, and subscribed to *Stamp News*. I had no real idea of what I would get into, and every case I worked brought me knowledge and tested my creativity. I was not looking for a career, but I did not mind helping others.

And that, to me, is what the estate advisor program is all about.

As I said, I don't remember the people names involved in these cases. On the few cases, odds, do file reports with the APS as to the outcome. But the names are not important. I am trying to impart some of the lessons I learned.

First Case
The first case came to me when I was living in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The APB had been contacted by a widow of an APS member who needed to dispose of her husband's collections. She lived in a well-to-do section of town and invited me in for a meeting. She had decided to sell off house and move into an assisted living collection home, and there was no room at the time to take her husband's stamp collection.

He had a nice U.S. collection, mostly never hinged material, well kept in albums. He had a surprising number of sheets of the 8-cent Adelphi Ochs stamp (Scott 1700) — it

turned out he had known Ochs personally. And he had a subscription service from the USPS, receiving 8½x11-inch sheets with detailed information on each new stamp. Each sheet had a small photo of the stamp, and the date it was issued on the sheets. I had seen these before and knew that stamp dealers considered them "dogs" as they were slow movers.

The question is if her husband's philatelic interests were such that she also had a desire to keep them, or should she pitch it? He didn't have a great number of books but he had some good ones, and I said I thought I could find them a home.

An afterthought, she said she had a bunch of old postcards that her mother had given her. At the time I wasn't interested in postal history, but I said I would check on their possible value.

I left her with a rough estimate of what the stamps were worth. There was nothing of great rare, but there was still some value. I suggested she sell the collection and then total it up. I warned her the post office sheets would probably go cheap, and I took the books with me, which made her happy, as it was one less thing she had to deal with.

The books I took to the local stamp club and we auctioned them off. She netted another \$100 or so, for stuff she had been ready to throw in the trash.

Posted on the APS website is a pdf of an article by Scott Troutman titled "Case Files from an Estate Advisor," available online here:

aps.buzz/2NPPuZV

The article appeared on pages 199-204 of the March 2007 *American Philatelist*.



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BUY AND SELL



BY WENDY MASORTI sales director
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APS Offers Safe Member-to-Member Shopping

Buying With Confidence is an APS Hallmark

October is Stamp Collecting Month in the United States — a great time to add to your collection!

Being an APS member means that you have an entire network of fellow members, dealers, clubs and specialty groups to share their knowledge and offer ways for you to acquire stamps for your collection. Shopping for new material is exciting, but can also be a bit intimidating dealing with sellers with whom you've never done business before.

The APS Sales Division was one of the earliest services provided to members in 1886, and our objective remains the same today: to provide a safe means for members to buy and sell stamps and covers. Buying from fellow members gives an extra sense of security as all members agree to abide by the APS Code of Ethics, and are governed by our Bylaws. This means that, should difficulties arise, the APS can assist in resolving any disputes.

Three Ways to Buy with APS

You may consider purchasing from the APS Sales Division, from APS dealer members, or through APS Club/Society participation.

The APS Sales Division offers two ways to purchase – by mail through Circuit Mail Sales, or online at www.StampStore.org. All material is owned by APS members, and a the smooth functioning of both mail and online sales is facilitated by an experienced staff. Best of all, both options are accessible to you from the comfort of home.



TOP U.S. SELLER

This United States 3-cent, ultramarine Locomotive from the first Pictorial series of 1869 (Scott 114) was a top-selling U.S. stamp in July on StampStore.

Overall monthly sales reports are posted each month online at stamps.org/Stampstore-Sales-Report. Visit it on the Internet to view sales and see what is hot for the month.



Circuit books ready for shipping to give members a hands-on buying experience.

Through Circuit Mail Sales, members receive books delivered to their home for a hands-on experience to examine the stamps before purchasing. Signing up for this service is as easy as selecting a category; the APS has more than 160 categories and over 35,000 sales books in its Circuit Sales inventory.

We have placed our list of available Circuit Sales categories along with basic instructions on the inside back cover of this issue. All you need to do is use the form to request a circuit or two, sit back, and wait for the fun to begin with your first mailing. Full details are also available online at [www.stamps.org/How-to-Buy-thru-Mail](http://stamps.org/How-to-Buy-thru-Mail) or can be requested from the staff by calling 814-933-3803 ext. 231.



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The screenshot shows the main page of StampStore.org. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home, Shop, StampStore, Stamp Collecting, About APS, Membership, Services, Shop, Events/Shows, and Support the Hobby. Below the navigation is a search bar with fields for Email, Password, and Remember Me. A banner at the top right says "Currently 315470 items for sale". The main content area features a large image of various postage stamps. Below it, a section titled "SEARCH IT - SAVE IT - BUY IT - new Want List feature debuts" includes a search form with fields for Item name, Description, and Condition. The results show three items for "United States 784": one from a dealer (Seller ID: 102) with a price of \$7.70, another from a non-member (Seller ID: 103) with a price of \$7.00, and a third from a member (Seller ID: 104) with a price of \$24.75. Each listing includes a "Buy It Now" button.

StampStore includes a power search function to assist in locating exactly the items you want.

Our online store at www.StampStore.org provides for viewing and immediate purchase on the worldwide web. Here you can enjoy searching more than 320,000 stamps and covers. Search by country and Scott catalog number, or by topic.

Transactions are secure, and your order ships the next business day. U.S. members receive free shipping on orders over \$100, and we carry a 30-day no-questions-asked money-back guarantee. For the more expensive items, you can elect to have them expertized by the APS Expertizing Service at check out, or you may request a return extension to send them to another service.

It is important to remember that even though the APS provides these services to its members, the APS does not own

the material being sold, and cannot guarantee the accuracy of members' content in the listings. While members price and describe their material, they may unknowingly misdescribe the quality or authenticity of the items being sold. That is why we offer a 30-day money-back guarantee on StampStore purchases.

You may also want to consider purchasing items from one of our dealer members. Dealer status is provided as a service to identify the professional dealers who are APS members for the benefit of the hobby. Simply visit www.stamps.org/Dealers where you can search for an APS Dealer member near you or search by services they provide or by specialty. Searches will provide contact information and links to their websites where many sell online or provide locations of shows where they will be participating.

APS Clubs and Specialty Societies also may be a good source as most offer a buy and sell night, or use their journal as an auction catalog, and most participate at local shows. Please note that each group is a separate organization offering its own services to its members. To find a club near you visit www.stamps.org/Local-Clubs where you can search by state/country or by your ZIP code. To find a group that specializes in your area of interest, visit www.stamps.org/Specialty-Societies and select the interest you wish to search.

Obviously, there are many ways you can shop for new material, but we felt it important to let you know as a member of the APS what was available exclusively to you, and how purchasing through fellow members provides protection that you can't get anywhere else.



If you decide to buy at other venues, be sure to protect yourself. Examine websites carefully. Read the seller's terms of sale, making certain you understand their return policy, and inquire if they allow extensions for material to be authenticated. Also, no matter where you purchase, it is always important to inspect your purchase as soon as it arrives to confirm it is as described. If a return is required, it is best to contact the seller as soon as possible.

Happy Stamp Collecting Month and enjoy shopping with the APS!

Circuit Book Sales Categories Needed

We continually monitor Circuit Book categories that are in particular short supply on APS Sales Circuits (not StampStore). To see our full list of stamps needed for circuits (as well as those not currently in need) visit www.stamps.org/Stamps-Needed. If you have material in needed areas that you are interested in selling, consider using APS circuit sales. For those new to selling, seller information is available online, or can be requested by contacting our staff at 814-933-3803 ext. 231.

The screenshot shows the APS website with a search bar at the top. Below it, a banner for "Swamy & Susan Iyer" with a link to "Stamp & Cover Buying & Selling Price Lists". The main content area has a heading "Dealer Search" with a sub-section "Dealer Search". It lists two dealers: "Mr. Robert C. Taylor" and "APS Dealer Since: 2015". Each entry includes contact information (name, address, phone, email), selling methods (Internet, Mail, Public Auctions, Show Booths), dealer status (Full Time), and a note about APS Dealer Since: 2015. There are also sections for "DEALER INFORMATION" and "CIRCUIT BOOKS NEEDED". At the bottom, there's a note about the APS Code of Ethics and a link to "Contact Judy Johnson if you have any problems or need additional information".

The APS website at Stamps.org enables you to search for APS dealer members (shown above), local clubs and specialty societies.

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PHILATELIC HAPPENINGS



BY KEN MARTIN chief operating officer

kpmartin@stamps.org • Share your photos of your stamp show, club, or affiliate activities with us via e-mail at aparticle@stamps.org for possible use online and in print.



Central Florida Stamp Club 50th anniversary logo.
(Courtesy CFSC member Mel Borofsky.)

president and newsletter editor Francis Ferguson. The night included remembrances from long-time members, an outstanding cake and the fine philatelic fellowship club members have enjoyed since 1968.



A group shot of 54 of the 96 members of the Central Florida Stamp Club, proudly celebrating its 50th anniversary. *(Photo courtesy CFSC member Robert Rideway.)*

The Central Florida club is one of 12 APS chapters reaching 50 years of membership this year. The others are the Sequoia Stamp Club (California), the Clearwater Stamp Club (Florida), Germany Philatelic Society Chapter 5 (Illinois), the Harford County Stamp Club (Maryland), the Waltham Stamp Club (Massachusetts), the Maplewood Stamp Club (Minnesota), the Kingdom Philatelic Association (Missouri), the Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club (Pennsylvania), the Arabian Philatelic Society (Texas), the Edmonton Stamp Club (Alberta, Canada) and the Oslo Filatelist Klubb (Norway).

In total 158 APS chapters have been APS members for 50 or more years, 43 of these have been chapters for 75 years or longer and 14 have been with the APS for over a century. One of the more-than-50-year chapters, the Collectors Club of Akron, Ohio, celebrated its 1,000th meeting September 18, which included former APS President Randy Neil as the special guest.

APS currently has 454 chapters (lo-

In August the Central Florida Stamp Club celebrated 50 years as an APS chapter. At their best-attended meeting in the last 20 years, 62 of their 97 members showed up, 54 of whom posed for this wonderful group photo, which appears in the AP courtesy club

cal clubs). We also have 189 affiliates, which are specialty organizations that serve the entire country.

One of our newer groups that has been affiliated with the APS for about three years is the Institute for Analytical Philately. This group is dedicated to sponsoring technical research activities to better the stamp hobby. To facilitate this, IAP provides research grants and technical support to qualified philatelists to assist them in performing their valuable work. Their goal is to assist philatelists in gaining new insight and



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knowledge of stamps through the application of rigorous scientific methods. Because one of the most important aspects of research is the dissemination of results, all philatelists receiving grants from IAP are required to publish in widely circulated journals of record, both scientific and philatelic.

Their website, www.analyticalphilately.org, is dedicated to providing all philatelic students with announcements of new scientific research in philately and an archive of research in their Reference Library. The presentations given at their Third International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately in London, England, are now available on their website. Their Fourth International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately will be held in Washington, D.C., on November 13, 2020, at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.

Hail and Farewell

Two well-regarded APS members passed away in August. Bill Olcheski was the 2001 recipient of the Ernest A. Kehr "Future of Philately" award. In 1976, Olcheski wrote *Beginning Stamp Collecting*, which was selected for use by the USPS-sponsored Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs. Four years later, he followed this up with the text for the Pennsyl-

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vania State University "Beginning Stamp Collecting Correspondence Course," which became the most popular noncredit course offered by Penn State.

In 1982 Olcheski wrote *100 Trivia Quizzes for Stamp Collectors*, which provided many a program for APS chapters. Olcheski also assisted in the production of *Letters of Sand*, a U.S. Postal Service book featuring wartime letters and military service-related stamps for the general public. For a number of years, Olcheski also wrote the beginner column for *U.S. Stamp News*. Olcheski had been an APS member for 59 years.

Although not as widely known, Ron Robinson also had a great impact on our hobby. In 1993, he was appointed to the United States Postal Service Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee by the U.S. Postmaster General. The group is responsible for providing recommendations of topics to be shown on U.S. postage stamps. During his 15-year membership, Ron was involved in the creation and production of more than 1,750 postage stamps, and used his influence to make certain Arkansas was the subject of several new issues.



Bill Olcheski ("in his stamp shirt," recalls his daughter) at the Washington, D.C., 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition. (Photo courtesy Julie Olcheski Stirling.)

Ron was also an advocate for bringing the APS AmeriStamp Expo to Little Rock in 2014, where he went to great lengths to make all attendees welcome. Ron was a 40-year APS member.

On With the Shows

At the Atlanta AmeriCover 2018 show, Charles J. O'Brien, III, of Georgia, received the Claude C. Ries Chapter Multi-frame Grand Award for his exhibit "Frank Lloyd Wright – First Days and Usage of the Two-Cent Issue." Remarkably, it was the very first showing of this exhibit. O'Brien, who served as the architect for our American Philatelic Research Library, has taken home eight Americover Grand Awards since 2001. When shown at StampShow in Omaha next August, this will become his sixth different exhibit to compete in the Champion of Champions competition.

The Richard B. Thompson Reserve Grand Award went to Todd Ronnei of Minnesota for "The U.S. Winston Churchill Memorial Stamp and its First Day Covers." It was Ronnei's second Reserve Grand for the Churchill exhibit in just two weeks time (having also won at the Minnesota Stamp Expo in July).

The Curtis B. Patterson Best in Show Single Frame Award went to Ronald J. Klimley of Florida for "Hand-Crafted FDCs of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse Stamp." Like O'Brien, Klimley claimed the award with an exhibit shown for the first time. The show's Marge Finger Award for most popular exhibit

Auction Announcement

November 2018

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1. an advantageous combination of circumstances

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Young Philatelic Leader Fellow Darren Corapcioglu receiving the AAPE Youth Champion of Champions from Trish Kaufmann.

went to Mark Thompson's "Women of the Black Heritage Series 'From the fields of slavery to the halls of Congress.'

The week after AmeriCover, from August 9-12, StampShow/National Topical Stamp Show was held in Columbus, Ohio. James Allen won the Benjamin & Naomi



Mark Thompson receives The StampShow Most Popular Award from Trish Kaufmann.



Trish Kaufmann (left) presents the NTSS Most Popular Award to Dawn Hamman for her exhibit "Backyard Chickens — Raising Chickens at Home, Then and Now."

Wishnietsky World Series Champion of Champions for his exhibit "The First United States 12¢ Stamp Series of 1851-1861," which had qualified by winning the grand at the St. Louis Stamp Expo. Young Philatelic Leader Fellow Darren Corapcioglu won the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Youth Champion of Champions for his exhibit "The Universe."

The StampShow multiframe open competition Grand Award was won by Charles Wooster for "The Postage Due Issues of Peru 1874-1948." Reserve Grands were awarded to Ian Gibson-Smith for "The Hong Kong 'China' Overprints" and Daniel Knowles for "The Confederate States of America (CSA) Postal Initiative."

The StampShow single-frame Grand went to Larry Lyons for his "Honour's City Express." Hugh Feldman received the philatelic literature Grand Award for U.S. Contract Mail Routes by Railroad (1832-1875). The StampShow Most Popular Award was a repeat of the previous week as Mark Thompson again won with his "Women of the Black Heritage Series 'From the fields of slavery to the halls of Congress.'

The National Topical Stamp Show multiframe Grand went to "Alexander Hamilton: Soldier, Financier, Statesman, Founder," the work of Jack R. Congrove. Their reserve grand went to Carl Jennings for "Ancient Egypt: The Time of the Pharaohs." Fran Adams won the NTSS Single Frame grand for "Atlantic Meeting (Roosevelt and Churchill in Newfoundland, 1941)" and Dawn Hamman captured the NTSS Most Popular Award for "Backyard Chickens — Raising Chickens at Home, Then and Now."

United for Success

Special thanks go to Dawn Hamman and her husband John for helping coordinate the efforts of the first joint StampShow/National Topical Stamp Show. APS and ATA will again join forces for our August 1-4 show in Omaha next year, and the following year at Hartford August 20-23 the American First Day Cover Society will join in the fun as well. Even before combining with NTSS, StampShow had more dealers and frames than a number of international shows. The combined efforts will continue to bring appreciative American audiences international-sized shows at collector-friendly prices.

It's never too early to plan ahead for the joint 2019 StampShow/National Topical Stamp Show. The show hotel, the Omaha Hilton, is already prepared to take your reservations for next July 28 to August 4 at <https://book.passkey.com/e/49756779>

While there is no major exhibition at the American Philatelic Center this fall, we do hope to see many members at our 50th-anniversary celebration for the APRL on November 2 and 3. Check our website, stamps.org, or contact us for up-to-date information.

We hope each of you celebrates October as National Stamp Collecting Month by finding a few items for your collection and helping to promote our hobby.

Another Loss to the Hobby

BY KEN LAWRENCE



Jeffrey Segal (1941-2018), a longtime member of the American Philatelic Society who collected worldwide stamps, died April 9 at his home in Louisville, Kentucky. He had been honored at the 1997 APS Summer Seminar on Philately as a Distinguished Philatelist guest speaker.

Although Jeff wasn't famous in the philatelic community, the importance of his hobby to his life was the story he presented to the seminar. These days most of our members specialize in specific countries, topics, or uses of stamps, but Jeff was an old-style collector who collected stamps of the whole world, mounted in Minkus albums that filled an entire wall of his residence, plus first day covers of Great Britain.

Collecting new issues of every country isn't easy. Some suppliers require buyers to purchase multiples of each issue. For those, Jeff sought trading partners to help keep up without building a large accumulation of duplicates. For many years he swapped his Marshall Islands extras for mine from China, and we both exchanged with other subscribers in round-robin trades.

As Jeff explained, a person who leads an active life needs a refuge for reflection, study, and growth. Stamps of the world supplied that ongoing cosmopolitan intellectual pursuit for him.

In public life, Jeff was well known as a political activist, from the 1950s until his death. He and I first met in Chicago in 1963, when he was a student at Roosevelt University in Chicago. He became national secretary of Students for a Democratic Society in 1965, and organized opposition to United States involvement in the Vietnam War.

From 1980 to 2008, Jeff was a staff counsel for the Legal Aid Society in Louisville. In retirement Jeff was an officer of United Auto Workers Local 2320, which represented legal workers. He chaired the Louisville chapter of the National Lawyers Guild. He was on the steering committee of the NLG Military Law Task Force.

In an ironic touch that he savored, having been appropriately designated a Kentucky colonel, he signed letters and documents "Col. Jeffrey Segal, Esq." I will miss him. For about 20 years we corresponded by e-mail almost daily, about evenly divided between political discussion and Jewish humor, and we shared observations about new stamps that we liked or disliked.

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SHOW TIME

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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 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 for a complete listing of shows and APS events.

New York **October 5-6**
STEPEX 2018 Elmira Stamp Club, American
Legion Post, 45 S. Olcott Rd., Big Flats.
Contact: Alan Parsons, 607-732-0181
Email: alatholleyrd@aol.com

Dublin, Ireland **October 5-7**
STAMPA 2018 Irish National Stamp Exhibition
Dublin.
Contact: Robert Benninghoff, 215-813-8036
Email: mercer01@aol.com

California **October 5-7**
WINEPEX 2018 Redwood Empire Collectors Club, Marin Civic Center, 10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael.
Contact: Kurt Schau, 707-347-6343
Email: kurtschau@comcast.net
Website: www.redwoodempirecollectorsclub.org

Indiana **October 5-7**
INDYPEX 2018 Indiana Stamp Club, Hamilton
County 4-H Fairgrounds and Exhibition Center
2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville. *WSP*
Contact: Richard Nelson, 317-595-0304
Email: janelsonncp@comcast.net
Website: www.indianastampclub.org



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Visalia Stamp Show Visalia Philatelic Society, St. Paul's Church, 120 North Hall Avenue, Visalia.*B*
Contact: Mikell Royston, 559-738-1236
Email: vpsclub@yahoo.com

New Jersey **October 6**
MSC Monthly Bourse Merchantville Stamp
Club, Marlton Elementary School, 190 Tomlinson
Mill Rd, Marlton.*B*
Contact: Carol Anne Visalli, 856-562-1389
Email: cavisalli@gmail.com
Website: www.merchantvillestampclub.org

New York **October 7**
Stamp and Coin Show and Sale Western
Monroe Philatelic Society, Brockport Firemen's
Exempt, 248 West Avenue, Brockport.*B*

Santiago, Chile **October 9-13**
EXFIL 2018 FIAF Continental Exhibition and
Assembly, Santiago.
Exhibit Contact: Commissioner Mr. Carlos
Vergara carlosvstamps@gmail.com Contact
Address: 1107 S. Naperville Rd., Wheaton, IL

Minnesota **October 12-13**
Metropex Maplewood Stamp Club, Roseville
Skating Center, 2661 Civic Center Drive,
Roseville.*B*
Contact: Pete Boulay, 651-490-3251
Email: happypebb@gmail.com
Website: www.facebook.com/

California **October 12-14**
Stamp Exposition of Southern California

October 6

atelic Society, St.

(SESCAL) Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California, Ontario Convention Center, 2000 E. Convention Center Way, Ontario. ***WSP***
Contact: John Weigle, 805-485-7121
Email: john.weigle@gmail.com
Website: www.sescal.org

Illinois **October 13**
Will County Stamp Show Philatelic Club of
Will County and Naperville Area Stamp Club,
Messiah Lutheran Church, 40 Houbolt Rd, Joliet.
Contact: Rodney Juell, 815-741-2734
Email: rajuell2@gmail.com
Website: willcountystampclub.wordpress.com

New York **October 13**
Stamp and Postcard Show/Sale Leatherstocking
Stamp Club & Tri County Stamp Club,
Oneonta Holiday Inn, 5206 State Highway 23,
Oneonta. *B*
Contact: Ellen Tillapaugh, 607-547-5646
Email: kuchtill@gmail.com

Illinois **October 13-14**
MSDA Fall Show North Midwest Stamp
Dealers Association, Ramada Inn- Chicagoland
Executive Airport, 1090 S. Milwaukee Avenue,
Wheeling.***B***
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Ontario **October 13-14**
CANPEX 2018 Middlesex Stamp Club, Hellenic
Community Centre, 133 Southdale Road West,
London. *WSP*
Contact: John Sheffield, 519-871-7637
Email: info@canpex.ca
Website: www.canpex.ca

Washington **October 13-14**
Tri-Cities Stamp Show Tri-Cities Stamp Club,
The M Hotel, 1515 George Washington Way,
Richland.*B*
Contact: Randall Vessey, 509-837-4084
Email: randyvessey@hotmail.com

The banner features the company's logo at the top left, followed by the text "THE RASDALE AUCTION ADVANTAGE" in large, bold, serif capital letters. Below this is a stylized graphic of a building with a grid pattern. The central message "Why just get one offer when we can get you hundreds!" is displayed in a white, rounded font. Below it, the text "Rasdale Stamp Co. has thousands of potential buyers participating in every auction." is shown in a smaller, italicized font. A call-to-action "Sell to us directly or consign your collection today!" is also present. The bottom half of the banner features the company name "Rasdale Stamp Co." in a large, bold, serif font. Below the name, the text "Family Owned and Operated Since 1932" is written in a smaller, italicized font. At the very bottom, contact information is provided: "35 Chestnut Ave, Westmont, IL 60559-1127", "(p) 630.794.9900 • (f) 630.794.9958", and "(e) info@RasdaleStamps.com • www.RasdaleStamps.com".

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New Jersey **October 19-21**
NOJEX/ ASDA North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, Inc. and ASDA, Meadowlands Hilton Hotel, 2 Meadowlands Plaza, East Rutherford.
WSP

Contact: Robert G. Rose, 908-305-9022
Email: robertrose25@comcast.net
Website: www.nojex.org

Delaware **October 20**
Dover's 67th Stamp Show Dover Stamp Club, Camden-Wyoming Fire Hall, 200 E. Camden-Wyoming Avenue, Camden.*B*
Contact: Melvin Nace, 302-674-0837
Email: doverstampclub@aol.com

Maine **October 20**
MAIPEX Waterville Stamp Club, VFW Winslow, 175 Veteran Dr, Winslow.*B*
Contact: Al Tieman, 207-692-0477
Email: atieman@msad49.org

Pennsylvania **October 20**
Gettypex 2018 Blue and Gray Stamp Club, Gettysburg Fire Company, 35 North Stratton Street, Gettysburg.*B*
Contact: Dwight L. Monn, 717-624-4864
Email: dmonn@pa.net

Wisconsin **October 20**
CENWISPEX 2018 Central Wisconsin Stamp Club, Holiday Inn & Convention Center, 1001 Amber Ave., Stevens Point.
Contact: J. D. Manville, 715-341-5555
Email: jadeco@charter.net

California **October 20-21**
Filatelic Fiesta 2018 San Jose Stamp Club, Elks Lodge, 444 West Alma Ave, San Jose. *WSP*
Contact: Jessica Rodriguez, 408-656-0623

Email: filatelicfiesta@gmail.com
Website: www.filatelicfiesta.com

Florida **October 20-21**
FSDA Sarasota Fall Stamp Show Florida Stampdealers Assoc. & Venice & Sarasota Stamp Clubs, Columbus Hall, 4880 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota.*B*
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
Email: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.floridastampshows.com / www.floridastampdealers.org

Michigan **October 20-21**
MOTOPEX-18 Motor City Stamp & Cover Club, Sokol Hall, 23600 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights.*B*
Contact: John Gorney, 313-550-6459
Email: dgeorney2010@comcast.net
Website: www.motorcitystampandcover.com

New Mexico **October 20-21**
NewMexPex 2018 Albuquerque Philatelic Society, Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane, SE, Rio Rancho.
Contact: Thomas Clinkenbeard, 505-823-2018
Email: magcthc@ix.netcom.com
Website: madjac.com/stamps.htm

Connecticut **October 21**
THAMESPEX 2018 Thames Stamp Club, Clark Lane Middle School, 105 Clark Lane, Waterford.
Contact: Obie Hill, 860-464-0000
Email: obiehill@tvconnect.net

Iowa **October 27**
Tr-State Stamp Expo Tri-State Stamp Club, Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC), 8342 NICC Drive, Peosta.*B*
Contact: Sally Maier

Email: 3statestamp@gmail.com
Website: stamps.org/Tri-State-Stamp-Club

Pennsylvania **October 27**
Eastern PA Stamp Show (EPASS) Allentown Philatelic Society, Jordan United Church of Christ, 1837 Church Road, Allentown.*B*
Contact: Bill Harris, 610-866-3323
Email: wthii3@rcn.com
Website: greatzvmer.wix.com/aps/#!epass

Arkansas **October 27-28**
PINPEX 2018 Pinnacle Stamp Club of Arkansas, Jacksonville Community Center, #5 Municipal Drive, Jacksonville.*B*
Contact: Ann Austen, 501-868-4553
Email: anniephant@aol.com

California **October 27-28**
East Bay Collectors Club 73rd Annual Show East Bay Collectors Club, Civic Center Assembly Hall, 1375 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek.
Contact: Randy Tuuri, 510-653-3471
Email: tuurifam@comcat.net
Website: eastbaystampclub.com

Massachusetts **October 27-28**
WALPEX 2018 Waltham Stamp Club, Minuteman Science-Technology High School, 748 Marrett Road, Route 2A West, Exit 30B off I-95/128 then second left, Lexington.
Contact: Norm Shufrin, 508-877-3296
Email: normshu@verizon.net
Website: www.walpex.org

Ohio **October 27-28**
Cuy-LorPex 2018 Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, Rocky River Civic Center: Memorial Hall, 21016 Hilliard Boulevard, Rocky River.
Contact: Stan Fairchild, 440-333-2536

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Ohio **October 27-28**
Cuy-LorPex 2018 Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, Rocky River Civic Center: Memorial Hall, 21016 Hilliard Boulevard, Rocky River.
Contact: Stan Fairchild, 440-333-2536
Email: cuylorclub@gmail.com
Website: www.stampshows.com

Connecticut **October 28**
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

Illinois **October 28**
Fall Stamp Bourse 2018 Springfield Philatelic Society, Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center, 625 E. Saint Joseph St., Springfield.*B*
Contact: Chad Payne, 217-341-4838
Email: illinibasketball@live.com
Website: www.stamps.org/Springfield-Philatelic-Society

New Jersey **November 3**
MSC Monthly Bourse Merchantville Stamp Club, Marlton Elementary School, 190 Tomlinson Mill Rd, Marlton.*B*
Contact: Carol Anne Visalli, 856-562-1389
Email: cavisalli@gmail.com
Website: www.merchantvillestampclub.org

Pennsylvania **November 3**
Annual Reading Stamp Club Show Reading Stamp Club, Leesport Auction Pavilion, 312 Gernant's Church Rd, Leesport.*B*
Contact: Kent Weaver, 610-779-0175
Email: kewsr78@yahoo.com

Michigan **November 3-4**
AAPEX 2018 Ann Arbor Stamp Club, Morris J. Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor.
Contact: Harry & Dottie Winter, 734-761-5859
Email: harwin@umich.edu
Website: www.annarborstampclub.org

Pennsylvania **November 3-4**
PITTPEX 2018 Philatelic Society of Pittsburgh, South Fayette Fire Hall, 661 Millers Run Rd., Bridgeville.
Contact: Bryan Gross, 412 352-1317
Email: maxaugust@aol.com
Website: www.pittsburghstampclub.org



Texas **November 9-10**
31st Annual Mid-Cities Stamp Club EXPO Mid-Cities Stamp Club, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 South Main Street, Grapevine.
Contact: Ralph Poore, 817-235-8472
Email: rspoore@ralph-s-poore.com
Website: www.mid-citiesstampclub.com/stampshow.htm

Ohio **November 10**
Rubber City Stamp Club 99th Annual Stamp Show Rubber City Stamp Club, Akron General Health and Wellness Center, 4125 Medina Rd (Rte. 18 at Crystal Lake Road), Akron.
Contact: Tom Hirschinger, 330-336-8227

Ohio **November 10-11**
MSDA Fall Cincinnati Area Stamp Show Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Four Points by Sheraton Cincinnati North, 7500 Tylers Place Boulevard, West Chester.*B*
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Illinois **November 15**
Postal History of World War II in the Pacific Ocean On the Road Course, Prior to CHICAGOPEX-Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd, Itasca. *APS*
Contact: Ross Jones
Email: education@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses

Illinois **November 16-18**
CHICAGOPEX Chicago Philatelic Society, Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd., Itasca. *WSP*
Contact: Charles Berg, 773-775-2100
Email: stampkingchicago@hotmail.com
Website: www.chicagopex.org

New York **November 17**
Autumn Stamp Festival Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga.*B*
Contact: George H. Gates, 716-633-8358
Email: gghg53@aol.com

Ohio **November 17**
Black River Stamp Club Annual Show Black River Stamp Club, St. Judes School, 590 Poplar St., Elyria.
Contact: Dennis Sadowski, 440-937-0069
Email: blackriver.stampclub@gmail.com

Illinois **November 24**
SUPEX 2018 Suburban Collector's Club of Chicago, Union of Operating Engineers Hall, 6200 Joliet Road, Countryside.*B*
Contact: Scott Mitchell, 630-929-5761
Email: scott.mitchell@advocatehealth.com

Connecticut **November 25**
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

Bangkok, Thailand **November 28-December 3**
Thailand World Stamp Exhibition/FIP World Stamp Exhibition and Congress, Bangkok.
Exhibit Contact: Commissioner Mr. Sandeep Jaiswal sj722@aol.com Contact Address: PO Box 8689, Cranston, RI 02920

Florida **November 30-December 2**
FLOREX-The Florida State Stamp Show FSDA & Central Florida Stamp Club, Osceola Heritage Park, Events Center, Hall B, 1901 Chief Osceola

Trail, Kissimmee. *WSP*
Contact: Francis Ferguson, 407-493-0956-Cell
Email: show@florexstampshow.com
Website: www.florexstampshow.com

Michigan **December 1**
Fernpex 18 Birmingham/Ferndale Stamp Club, Sokol Cultural Hall, 23600 W. Warren, Dearborn.*B*
Contact: Fred Como, 586-863-7934
Email: karate1dad@netscape.net

New Jersey **December 1**
MSC Monthly Bourse Merchantville Stamp Club, Marlton Elementary School, 190 Tomlinson Mill Rd, Marlton.*B*
Contact: Carol Anne Visalli, 856-562-1389
Email: cavisalli@gmail.com
Website: www.merchantvillestampclub.org

California **December 1-2**
PENPEX Sequoia Stamp Club, Community Activities Bldg., 1400 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City.
Contact: Kristin Patterson, 408-267-6643
Email: penpexredwoodcity@yahoo.com
Website: www.penpex.org

Wisconsin **December 1-2**
MSDA Holiday Milwaukee Stamp Show Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Crown Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 South 13th Street, Milwaukee.*B*
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Illinois **December 8-9**
MSDA Fall Show West Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Holiday Inn Chicago Oak Brook, 17 W 350 22nd Street, Oak Brook Terrace.*B*
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Connecticut **December 23**
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

2019

Michigan **January 5-6**
BIRPEX 2019 Birmingham Stamp Club /Ferndale Stamp Club, Birmingham Masonic Temple, 37357 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills.*B*
Contact: Fred Como, 586-863-7934
Email: karate1dad@netscape.net

Louisiana **January 18-19**
NOLAPEX Stamp & Postcard Show Crescent City Stamp Club, Doubletree New Orleans Airport, 2150 Veterans Memorial Blvd, Kenner.
Contact: Doug Weisz, 773-914-4332
Email: weiszcovers@yahoo.com
Website: www.ccsnco.org

Georgia **January 25-27**
Southeastern Stamp Expo Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs, Hilton Hotel Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Norcross. *WSP*
Contact: Scott Mark
Email: sestampexpo@gmail.com
Website: www.sefsc.org

Arizona **February 15-17**
ARIPEX Arizona Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Mesa

Convention Center, 263 N. Center St., Building "C", Mesa. *WSP*
Contact: Kevin Lesk, 480-240-0388
Email: aripex2019@gmail.com
Website: www.aripex.org

Florida

February 16

Annual Stamp Show West Volusia Stamp Club, Sons of Italy, 1270 Doyle Rd, Deltona.*B*
Contact: Mike Daley, 407-417-7818
Email: miked129e@gmail.com
Website: floridacsp.com/wvstamp/

Ohio

February 22-23

Toledo Stamp Expo 2019 Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, Holland Gardens, 6530 Angola Rd., Holland.
Contact: Charles Habilitzel, 419-297-7604
Email: president@toledostampclub.org
Website: www.toledostampclub.org

Florida

March 2

15th Annual Stamp and Coin Show Flagler County Stamp and Coin Club, Elk's Lodge, 47 Old Kings Road North, Palm Coast.*B*
Contact: David Rosenthal, 386-437-0368

Email: stampandcoin@hotmail.com
Website: www.stampandcoinclub.com

Ohio

March 2-3

McKinley Stamp Club Show McKinley Stamp Club, St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW, North Canton.
Contact: Dave Pool, 330-832-5992
Email: lincolnway@sssnet.com
Website: mksc.webs.com

California

March 9-10

Frespex 2019 Fresno Philatelic Society, Veterans Memorial Building, 435 Hughes Ave., Clovis.*B*
Contact: Dick Richardson, 559-472-8445
Email: starstamps@thegrid.net

Illinois

March 9-10

Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo Rockford Stamp Club, Forest Hills Lodge, 1601 West Lane Rd., Loves Park.
Contact: Tim Wait, 815-670-5869
Email: t.wait@comcast.net
Website: www.rockfordstampclub.org

Michigan

March 9-10

Michipex 2019 Michigan Stamp Club, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 West Warren, Dearborn Heights.*B*
Contact: John Bendzick, 313-277-2298

Ohio

March 15-17

Garfield-Perry March Party Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Holiday Inn Strongsville, 15471 Royalton Road, Strongsville.
WSP

Contact: Roger Rhoads
Email: rrrohoads@aol.com
Website: www.garfieldperry.org

Oregon

March 16

STAMPFEST Greater Eugene Stamp Society, Willamette Valley Stamp Exhibition, a two-day show in cooperation with Salem Stamp Society on March 17, 2019; see website for more information; contact George Struble, 503-364-3929 or gstruble@willamette.edu, St. Jude's Catholic Church, 43rd and Willamette, Eugene.

Contact: Clarin Lewis/ George Struble, 541-461-3574/503-364-3929

Email: clarin44@comcast.net / gstruble@willamette.edu

Website: www.greatereugenestampclub.weebly.com

Oregon

March 17

STAMPEX Salem Stamp Society, Willamette Valley Stamp Exhibition, a two-day show in cooperation with Greater Eugene Stamp Society on March 16, 2019; see website for more information., Red Lion Hotel, 3301 Market St. NE, Salem.

Contact: George Struble, 503-364-3929

Email: gstruble@willamette.edu

Website: www.salemstampsoociety.org

Illinois

March 22-24

ASDA Stamp Show American Stamp Dealers Association, Holiday Inn Chicago Oakbrook, 17 W 350 22nd Street, Oakbrook Terrace.*B*

Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207
Email: dana@americanstampdealer.com

Website: www.americanstampdealer.com

Missouri

March 29-31

St. Louis Stamp Expo Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. *WSP*
Contact: Mike Peter
Website: www.stlstampexpo.org

Florida

March 30-31

TALPEX 2019 Tallahassee Stamp and Cover Club, Tallahassee Senior Center, 1400 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee.*B*
Contact: Gerard York, 850-284-4712
Email: gerard_york@msn.com

Website: www.tsandcc.info

Michigan

April 13-14

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

Contact: Tim Strzalkowski, 313-533-7737

Email: showchair@plymouthshow.com

Website: www.plymouthshow.com

California

April 26-28

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

Ohio

April 27

TUSCOPEX 2019 Tuscora Stamp Club, Tuscora Park, 161 Tuscora Avenue, NW, New Philadelphia.*B*

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

Massachusetts

May 3-5

Philatelic Show Northeastern Fed. Of Stamp Clubs, Boxboro Regency Hotel & Conference Center, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough. *WSP*

Contact: Jeff Shapiro
Email: coverlover@gmail.com
Website: www.nefed.org

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

No. 8, August 31, 2018

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during August 2018. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to October 31, 2018 these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the November 30, 2018 issue.

Ahmed, Nilufar (229209)

Woodside, NY WORLD CULTURE; 31

Amble, John (229327) **Richfield, MN** EARLY US-CONFEDERATE-NAZI GERMANY; 75

Anderson, Jeffrey (229264) **Brookfield, WI** CANADA-US 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES-RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS-BUTTERFLIES/INSECTS-WORLD WAR II; 37; Radiologist

Anderson, Laurie R. (229272) **Kent, WA** WOMEN IN OLYMPICS-LIGHTHOUSES-WINDMILLS; 51; LTC Surveyor

Barnes, Kevin (229328)

Grapeview, WA GERMANY-US-CANADA; 53; Engineering Technician

Bendel, Matthew C. (229240) **Milktown, NJ** US FDC, FD PROGRAMS, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, MATCH & MEDICINE, NJ POSTAL HISTORY, SHEETS/SMALL PANES; 36

Berke, Carolyn (229353) **Fremont, CA** WORLDWIDE-US-AFRICA-JAPAN-FRANCE-EUROPE; 53

Bingham, Gary (229223) **Worland, WY** US-RUSSIA; 76; Retired

Blanks, Mary Lynn (229285) **New York, NY** USED WORLDWIDE-LOTS & COLLECTIONS-US CUT SQUARES, AIRMAILS, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES; Writer

Borgers, Thomas (229235) **Glen Ridge, NJ** US LUMINESCENT/TAGGED, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, FDC, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, USED-WORLDWIDE USED; 69

Brantman, Michael (229241) **West Allis, WI** SPORTS-US COMMEMORATIVES, AIRMAILS, CONFEDERATE STATES, WI POSTAL HISTORY, USED; 59; Retired

Bullard, Amie (229323) **Austin, TX**; 29; Teacher

Burleson, George S. (229265) **Troy, OH** USED US & WORLDWIDE-TRAIN; 57; Production Manager

Cady, James P. (229354)

Canton, GA US AIRMAILS, COMMEMORATIVES, FDC, POSTAL HISTORY, SPACE COVERS-BRITISH EMPIRE; 69

Cannon, Chad A. (229349)

Kankakee, IL US, FDC, IL POSTAL HISTORY, AIRMAILS, CHRISTMAS SEALS, COMMEMORATIVES; 38; Cashier

Carr, Alan (229224) **Pendleton, OR** US; 83; Retired

Clarkin, Pat (229297) **Evergreen Park, IL**; 68

Cleaves, Chuck (229225) **San Diego, CA** MINT US; 55; Environmental Planner

Cobb, David M. (229220) **Georgetown, KY**; 39

Collins, Gary W. (229236) **El Paso, TX** US COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS, BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, AIRMAILS, 20TH CENTURY; 80

Coolidge, David (229247) **Folsom, CA** US-BRITISH COLONIES; 77; Retired

Culp, Doyle (229299) **Wenatchee, WA** US; 67; Retired

Cummings, Michael (229214) **Seattle, WA** SPACE-AVIATION-TRANSPORTATION-AMATEUR/HAM RADIO-GEOLOGY/GEMS/MINERALS-US; 53

Dahlberg, Thomas (229246)

Glendale, AZ US, POSTAGE DUES, CANCELS, COMMEMORATIVES PANELS, PLATE BLOCKS-WORLDWIDE USED; 30; Engineer

Dapprich, Gary A. (229266) **Belleville, MI**; 78

Deal, Laura B. (229282) **Hebron, OH**; 61; IT Program Manager

DeRudder, Cooper J. (J-229337)

Rolling Hills Estates, CA GERMANY; 17; Student

Dinkler, David (229226) **Muncy, PA** US & WORLDWIDE BACK OF BOOK; 49; Warehouse Worker

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Forest Hills, NY UNUSUAL; 52; Writer

Emery, John J. (229296) **Caledon, ON** AVIATION-ZEPPELIN COVERS/STAMPS-WAR COVERS/STAMPS-PICTURE POSTCARDS-BALLOONS-SCIENCE/SCIENTISTS; 77; Retired

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Ferraro, Chris (229227) **Merrick, NY** WORLDWIDE; 50; Pharmaceutical Sales

Fersan, Semaan (229320) **South Hamilton, MA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COILS, AIRMAILS, CANCELS, BUREAU ISSUES; 55

Flynn, George J. (229311)

Plattsburgh, NY EARLY US-VATICAN; 71; Physics Professor

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 229012 through 229085 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, July 31, 2018 28,250

New Members 74

Reinstated 76 150

Deceased 28

Dropped Unable to Locate 32

Resignations 0 60

Total Membership, August 31, 2018 28,340

(Total Membership, August 31, 2017 was 29,118 a difference of -778)

Forde-Johnston, David T. (229350)

London, OH GREAT BRITAIN-US-FDC (FOREIGN)-AVIATION-WORLDWIDE

Forrest, William R. (229284)

Motherwell, Great Britain US, COMMEMORATIVES, 20TH CENTURY, FDC; 75

Fraser, Charon (229283)

Eureka Springs, AR US COMMEMORATIVES, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, PLATE BLOCKS, DEFINITIVES, FDC

Freeman, Linda (229221) **Poulsbo, WA** US POSTAGE DUES, COMMEMORATIVES, AIRMAILS, POSTAL CARDS-FOREIGN FDC-NURSES; 63

Frey, David (229228) **Saint Marys, PA** US-WORLDWIDE USED; 66; Retired

Friedman, Mark (229207)

Silver Spring, MD US COMMEMORATIVES, POSTAL HISTORY-ISRAEL TABS; 57

Gale, John (229324) **Yardley, PA** FRANCE

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- Pratt, Joe Jake N. (229206) **Kerrville, TX** US SPACE COVERS, FDC, TX POSTAL HISTORY, CLASSICS, COMMEMORATIVES-SPACE; 65
- Ramirez, Angel (229347) **Reno, NV** US, WASHINGTON FRANKLINS, AIRMAILS, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, USED-WORLDWIDE USED
- Ravenscroft, Tim (229259) **Sarasota, FL** CHINA, PRC, CHINESE TREATY PORTS-TIBET-TAIWAN; 66; Retired
- Resnick, Stephen (229289) **Englishtown, NJ** US; 72; Attorney
- Rickard, Daniel (229252) **Frankfort, IL** US; 65; Retired
- Ruder, Chris R. J. (229278) **Columbus, OH** US MINT 1800'S; 69; Retired
- Russ, Byron (229295) **Green Forest, AR** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY-BUTTERFLIES/INSECTS; 67
- Seymour, Jack L. (229238) **Nashville, TN** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS; 69
- Shaffer, Julie (229215) **Slatington, PA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, CLASSICS, CONFEDERATE STATES, FLAG CANCELS-WORLDWIDE USED; 57; Homemaker
- Simon, Susan (229326) **Garland, TX** AFGHANISTAN-AUSTRIA-GERMANY-UKRAINE-BOSNIA/HERZEGOVINA-ALBANIA; 54
- Smith, David R. (229281) **Columbus, OH** MINT US; 75; Business Owner
- Sparks, Mark (229343) **Evanston, IL** US AIRMAILS-TRAINS-AVIATION-TRANSPORTATION; 58
- Spikes, Daniel (229341) **Takoma Park, MD** FOREIGN CLASSICS; 65
- Stefanek, John P. (229304) **Bannister, MI** GAYS/LESBIANS-CANADA; 54
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- Suffet, Marilyn (S-229271) **Sunnyside, NY** FDC CEREMONIES; 71; Retired
- Sullivan, John (229242) **Lawrenceville, GA** US 19TH & 20TH CENTURY-WORLDWIDE USED-FORMER/DEAD COUNTRIES-SCIENCE/SCIENTISTS-CANADA; 67; Engineer
- Tam, Ida (229263) **Staten Island, NY** US SOUVENIR SHEETS, COVERS-DISNEY-FDC (FOREIGN)-SOUVENIR SHEETS (FOREIGN)-MINIATURE SHEETS
- Thomas, George (229301) **Waynesville, NC** US; 65; Retired
- Thompson, Richard (229302) **Tarpon Springs, FL** MINT US; Retired
- Tracy, Karen L. (229344) **Gualala, CA** US 20TH CENTURY, COVERS, COMMEMORATIVES, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES, FDC, WASHINGTON/FRANKLINS; Retired
- Tyson, Linda (229294) **Davenport, FL** US COMMEMORATIVES, COVERS, ERRORS/FREAKS/ODDITIES-SPACE/JET/ROCKET COVERS-FORMER/DEAD COUNTRIES-PRE-1993 FOREIGN COMMEM; 69; Self Employed
- Uffelman, LaVonne C. (229339) **Lincoln, NE** US-POLAND-GERMANY-SWEDEN-ENGLAND-RUSSIA-WORLDWIDE; 69; Retired
- Valleau, John (229290) **Independence, MO** US; Printing Broker
- Vandergoot, David (229234) **Asheville, NC** US; 70; Retired
- Walters, Mark (229318) **Turnersville, NJ** US BLOCKS/GUIDELINE BLOCKS, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY, CLASSICS, COVERS, COMMEMORATIVES; 53
- Whitley, Dione (229208) **Oak Harbor, WA** US, CLASSICS, COMMEMORATIVES, IL POSTAL HISTORY, COVERS; 50
- Wilkins, Jonathan W. (229314) **Cordova, TN** GERMANY-US, FDC-DINOSAURS-SPACE-SHIPS/BOATS; 32
- Wisniewski, Jeffrey (229306) **Milton, FL** US SPACE COVERS, CLASSICS, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING, PLATE VARIETIES, SPECIAL EVENT COVERS/CANCELS, USED-SCIFI-ACTORS-WARS; 55
- Young, Gary R. (229291) **Huntsville, AL** US COMMEMORATIVES, ZIP BLOCKS, AIRMAILS-PRE-1945 GERMANY, OCCUPATION-BAVARIA-DANZIG-MEMEL; 65
- Zincone, Ronald (229348) **Kingston, RI** ASTRONOMY-SPACE-METEOROLOGY-PHOTOGRAPHY-SCIENCE FICTION-SCIENCE/SCIENTISTS-CIVIL WAR; 55

DECEASED

- Boggs, William D. (133711), Gladstone, OR
- Christensen, Elef (219559), Headley, BC
- Clark, David A. (154292), Simpsonville, SC
- Cocke, William J. (040804), Phoenix, AZ

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2018 NEW STAMPS

BY FRED BAUMANN

Midsummer of Magic and Monsters

Disappearing Rabbits, Fire-Breathing Dragons Among Amazing August Issues



U.S. philately took a turn for the fanciful with new issues for the month, featuring five stamps to celebrate legerdemain, four more drawn from fantastic beasts of legend and , plus biplanes and bright blossoms to bring August to a close.

The Art of Magic

The US Postal Service celebrated the art of magic with a 20-stamp pane with slightly spooky digital illustrations displaying five time-honored tricks that generations of magicians have used to amaze and delight astounded onlookers: a rabbit in a hat (production); a fortune teller using a crystal ball (prediction); a woman floating in the air (levitation); an empty bird cage (vanishing); and a bird emerging from a flower (transformation).

On August 7, at The Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, the U.S. Postal Service issued The Art of Magic stamps (Forever priced at the First-Class Mail rate) in five designs, in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps. The Forever stamps are priced at the basic domestic first-class letter rate (currently 50 cents), and also went on sale nationwide August 7. The USPS states that the Art of Magic pane of 20 stamps may not be split and the stamps may not be sold individually.

“From backyard birthday parties to Las Vegas auditoriums, from the largest of illusions to sleight-of-hand tricks

performed merely inches from our eyes, magic reminds us that wonder and astonishment are still alive and well,” said USPS Chief Human Resources Officer and Executive Vice President Jeffrey Williamson, who served as dedicating official at the ceremony. “Today, we tip our symbolic top hats and dedicate this collection of stamps to magic and magicians who inspire, amuse, bewilder and astound us.”

The stamps features digital illustrations of five classic tricks, but for those looking for additional magic, a lenticular souvenir sheet of three of the stamps is also available, featuring a digital illustration that shows a white rabbit actually popping out of a black top hat. This is the first time this technique has been used on a U.S. postage stamp. The souvenir sheet is available for purchase online at usps.com and by toll-free phone order at 1-800-STAMP24.

The only previous American stamp with a clear-cut connection to magic is the 2002 37¢ Houdini commemorative (Sc 3661). Its first day ceremony, in which renowned illusionist David Copperfield took part, was held in conjunction with the Society of American Magicians Centennial Convention in New York City. The Houdini stamp, too, had a touch of Postal Service prestidigitation — a hidden 3D image showing Houdini “in chains” when viewed through a special optical decoder you could buy from the USPS.

Art director Greg Breeding designed the Art of Magic stamps, and Jay Fletcher created the illustrations and served

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as the typographer.

Customers have 120 days to obtain the first-day-of-issue postmark by mail. They may purchase new stamps at their local Post Office or at The Postal Store website at usps.com/shop . They must affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes (to themselves or others), and place them in a larger envelope addressed to

FDOI – The Art of Magic Stamps
USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services
8300 NE Underground Drive, Suite 300
Kansas City, MO 64144-9900

In a July 19 update, the USPS displayed six pictorial first-day postmarks for this issue – five digital color postmarks in gold measuring 2.29 inches by 1.06 inches reproducing the graphics on each of the five stamps, and one black pictorial postmark measuring 3 inches by 1 inch.

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for the postmark up to a quantity of 50. There is a 5-cent charge for each additional postmark over 50. All orders must be postmarked by December 7, 2018.



Dragons

The U.S. Postal Service joined the American Philatelic Society to unveil four colorful stamp designs of 16 Forever stamps depicting dragons on the opening day of the joint APS StampShow 2018 and American Topical Association National Topical Stamp Show August 9 in Columbus, Ohio. "This is one of the premier stamp shows in America" said USPS Stamp Services Director Mary-Anne Penner, "and serves as an excellent platform to showcase these special stamps."

The Dragon stamps were issued as a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 16 stamps showcasing one of four designs:

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ART OF MAGIC FOREVER STAMPS

USPS Item Number: 476800

Format: Pane of 20 (5 designs), 120 stamps per revolution

Issue Date & City: August 7, 2018, Las Vegas, Nevada

Designer & Art Director: Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

Typographer & Artist: Jay Fletcher

Modelers: Sandra Lane / Michelle Finn

Manufacturing Process: Offset

Printer & Processor: Banknote Corporation of America, Browns Summit, North Carolina

Press Type: Alprinta 74

Print Quantity: 20 million

Paper Type: Phosphor, Block Tag

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Colors: Warm Gray 1, Warm Gray 5, Warm Gray 10, Pantone

Black 6, Pantone 021, Pantone 7574, Pantone 131, Pantone 139, Pantone 174

Stamp Sizes: 1.085 inches by 1.42 inches / 27.56 millimeters by 36.07 mm (image area); 1.225 inches by 1.56 inches / 31.12 millimeters by 39.62 millimeters (overall size); Full Pane Size (w x h): 7.38 inches by 8.75 inches / 187.45 millimeters by 222.25 millimeters (full pane)

Plate Numbers: "B" followed by nine (9) single digits

Marginal Markings: Front – Header: The Art of Magic, plate number in two corners

Back: ©2017 USPS , USPS logo, Two barcodes (476800), plate position diagram, promotional text

a green fire-breathing dragon towering over a medieval-inspired castle; a purple dragon with orange wings and sharp black armor on its back snaking around a white castle; a black dragon with green wings and green armor on its back swooping past a ship on the sea; and a wingless orange dragon weaving its way around a pagoda.

The stamps feature digital illustrations created by artist Don Clark of Invisible Creature studio. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamps. The stamps went on sale nationwide as well on August 9.

Throughout history and across the globe — from Europe and the Middle East to Asia and the Americas — people have enjoyed tales of mythological creatures. Though these legendary animals vary in shape, size and color, they're most often described as lizard-like, with four legs, sharp claws, scales, wings and spiky tails. In the Far East, dragons are ubiquitous.

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DRAGONS FOREVER STAMPS

USPS Item Number: 477500

Format: Pane of 16 (4 designs)

Issue Date & City: August 9, 2018, Columbus, OH

Art Director & Designer: Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, VA

Artist & Typographer: Don Clark, Maple Valley, VA

Modeler: Sandra Lane/Michelle Finn

Manufacturing Process: Offset, Hot Foil Stamping

Printer: Banknote Corporation of America

Printed at: Browns Summit, NC

Press Type: Alprinta 74, Müller-Martini Custom

Print Quantity: 30 million

Paper Type: Phosphor, Block Tagged

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Processed at: Banknote Corporation of America, Browns Summit, NC

Colors: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black

Stamp Sizes: .84 inches by 1.42 inches, 21.34 millimeters by 36.07 millimeters (image area); .98 inches by 1.56 inches, 24.89 millimeters by 39.62 millimeters (overall size); 4.542 inches by 8.375 inches, 115.367 millimeters by 212.725 millimeters (full pane)

Plate Numbers: "B" followed by four (4) single digits

Marginal Markings: Front: Header: Dragons • Plate number in two corners

Back: ©2017 USPS • USPS logo • Two barcodes (477500) • Plate Position Diagram • Promotional text

The wingless orange dragon weaving its way around a pagoda is inspired by creatures found in Asian art, architecture, folk religion and ancient lore. The Chinese, in particular, have venerated the dragon for thousands of years, and dragons appeared on many of China's earliest postage stamps of 1878 to 1900.

European folklore inspired the dragons on two other stamps. The purple dragon with orange wings and sharp black armor on its back snakes around a white castle that evokes Camelot. The green fire-breathing dragon towers over a medieval-inspired castle.

Characterized in an earlier USPS press release as "high-flying, fire-breathing mythological creatures that have roamed our imaginations for millennia," dragons join what is in fact a fairly crowded field of imaginary, make-believe and tall tale-dwelling characters great and small that have found their way onto U.S. postage.

A by-no-means-exhaustive list might begin with the Stat-



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ue of Freedom and the other striking demigoddesses and allegorical figures on newspaper and periodical stamps of 1875 (Scott PR9-PR56), but also include the 1966 5-cent Johnny Appleseed stamp (Scott 1317), the Dove of Peace on the 1977 13-cent Peace Bridge stamp (1721), Dorothy and Toto from the Wizard of Oz (2445), Space Fantasy dwellers of 1993 (2741-45) and 1998 (3238-42), Folk Heroes (Scott 3083-86), Movie Monsters (3168-72), Sylvester & Tweety (3204), Bambi & Thumper (3866), Pegasus (3948), Superheroes (4084 a-t)... you get the idea. Philately is full of fiction — and fun.

Dragons have been depicted on U.S. Lunar New Year issues including a 33-cent stamp in 2000 (Sc 3370) and a Forever (45c) Lunar New Year Dragon stamp in 2012 (Sc 4623).

Each of the 2018 Dragon stamps and the header on the pane of 16 features orange-foiled highlights that add a fire-like glint. At the top of the pane, "Dragons" appears alongside a black fire-breathing dragon.

The *Postal Bulletin* shows four digital color postmarks and one black pictorial postmark for this issue. Customers have 120 days to obtain the first-day-of-issue postmark by mail. They may purchase new stamps at their local Post Office or at The Postal Store website at usps.com/shop. They must affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes (to themselves or others), and place them in a larger envelope addressed to:

FDOI – Dragons Stamps
USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services
8300 NE Underground Drive, Suite 300
Kansas City, MO 64144-9900

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for the postmark up to a quantity of 50. There is a 5-cent charge for each additional postmark over 50. All orders must be postmarked by December 9, 2018.

U.S. Airmail Centennial (carmine)

The first U.S. airmail stamp – the famous bi-colored 24-cent carmine rose & blue Curtiss Jenny, Scott C3 (and its infamous inverted counterpart Scott C3a) – were issued on May 14, 1918, the day before the commencement of airmail service between New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. A century later, the U.S. Postal Service on May 1 of this year issued a blue Forever stamp paying the standard one-ounce

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domestic first-class rate in Washington (Scott 5281). Although the largest text on the stamp reads "AIR MAIL," it is in fact a commemorative stamp, U.S. airmail service as a special premium product having effectively come to an end following the release of Scott C149 in 2012.

Why did the Postal Service issue a second stamp August 11, identical in all but its carmine color with the blue one released three months ago?

The early airmail that began on May 15, 1918, six months before the end of World War I, was flown by a small group of U.S. Army pilots. However, the U.S. Post Office Department, predecessor to today's USPS, took charge of airmail service that summer, operating it from August 12, 1918, through September 1, 1927.

For airmail service to succeed in the early days of flight, the USPOD had to develop profitable routes, such as those between New York and Chicago, and to establish the infrastructure for safely making night flights. It set up lighted airfields and erected hundreds of airmail guide beacons between New York and San Francisco so that by 1924 regularly scheduled, transcontinental flying was possible, day and night.

Airmail delivery, daily except on Sundays, became part of the fabric of the growing American economy and spurred postwar growth of the nation's aviation industry. And by 1927, a bright future for U.S. airmail service had been secured.

It is to commemorate the milestone represented by this second period that the second, carmine Forever Airmail Centennial stamp was issued at Maryland's College Park Aviation Museum on August 11.

Both stamps, printed with the intaglio method—a design transferred to paper from an engraved plate—depict the type of plane typically used in the fledgling days of early airmail service, a Curtiss JN-4H biplane. The biplane was also featured on the stamps originally issued in 1918 to commemorate the beginning of regularly scheduled airmail service. The stamp designs are intended to evoke that earlier period.

On the 100th anniversary of the beginning of regular airmail service, this stamp celebrates the courage of the pio-

neering commercial aviators and the foresight of those who fostered the new service and made it a success. For first day covers, a digital color postmark is available as is a black first-day pictorial postmark. Customers have 120 days to obtain first-day-of-issue postmarks by mail. They may purchase new stamps at their local Post Office or at The Postal Store website at usps.com/shop. They must affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes (to themselves or others), and place them in a larger envelope addressed to:

**FDOI – United States Air Mail (Red) Stamp
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8300 NE Underground Drive, Suite 300
Kansas City, MO 64144-9900**

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for the postmark up to a quantity of 50. There is a 5-cent charge for each additional postmark over 50. All orders must be post marked by December 11, 2018.



U.S. AIR MAIL CENTENNIAL FOREVER STAMP (CARMINE)

USPS Item Number: 477900
Format: Pane of 20, 120 stamps per revolution
Issue Date & City: August 11, 2018, College Park, Maryland
Art Director: Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia
Designer & Typographer: Dan Greta, Alameda, California
Modeler: Joseph Sheeran
Manufacturing Process: Intaglio
Printer & Processor: Ashton Potter (USA) Ltd. (APU), Williamsville, New York
Press Type: Stevens Vari-Size Security Press
Print Quantity: 20 million
Paper Type: Nonphosphored Type III, Block Tagged
Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive
Color: Pantone 7623 Red
Stamp Sizes: 1.42 inches by 0.84 inches / 36.07 millimeter by 21.34 millimeters (image area); 1.56 inches by 0.98 inches / 39.62 millimeters by 24.89 millimeters (overall area); 7.25 inches by 7.25 inches; 184.15 millimeters by 184.15 millimeters (full pane size)
Plate Numbers: "P" followed by one (1) digit
Marginal Markings: Front - Header: United States Air Mail, Established 1918, plate number in two corners of pane; Back - ©2018 USPS, USPS logo, Two barcodes (477900), plate position diagram, promotional text

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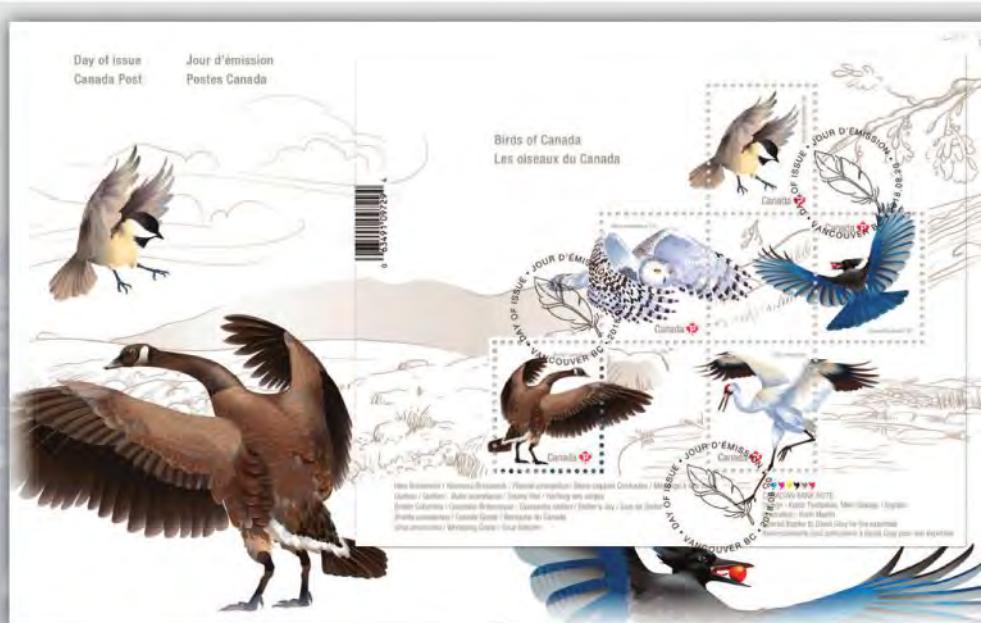
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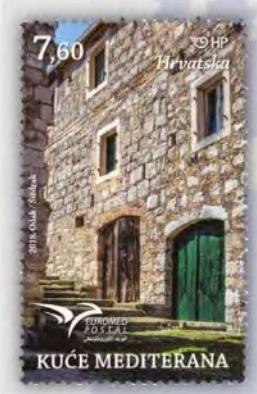
A quick peek at stamps issued in July from different countries around the world.



CROATIA

MEDITERRANEAN HOUSES

The mild, sunny climate and abundant stone of Croatia's Adriatic Coast inspired this 2018 7.60-kuna commemorative picturing the façade of an old stone house typical of those to be found in towns and cities there. According to Croatian Post, these "high stone houses leaning against each other create shadows and comfortable shade during hot and dry summer months." Designed by Natasa Odak, the stamp was issued in panes of 16, and first-day covers frame the text "KUCE MEDITERANA" with a five-sided, house-shaped outline.



NETHERLANDS

PANE HAILS CHILDREN'S TV MILESTONE

On July 23, Post NL issued this five-stamp souvenir sheet as a first salute in a philatelic broadside to honor the 50th anniversary of a favorite children's television program that will soon return to TV screens throughout Holland. The show is "De Fabeltjeskrant" (The Daily Fable), and the beloved narrator depicted on the stamp is "Meneer de Uil" (Mister Owl) — the first issue in a series that will revive 25 characters from the popular program. From 1968 to 1989, 1,640 four- to five-minute episodes recounted famed fables from the age of Aesop to the present day, not only on Dutch TV but to audiences in France, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Japan and the United Kingdom. Mister Owl's "Netherlands 1" stamps pay the domestic rate for delivery of items up to 20 grams.

CANADA

BIRDS TAKE FLIGHT AS POPULAR SERIES ENDS

Official birds of British Columbia (Steller's jay), Quebec (snowy owl) and New Brunswick (black-capped chickadee) join two other species with Canadian connections (Canada goose and whooping crane) taking off in the final flight in the Birds of Canada stamp series begun in 2016.

Biologist David Gray and stamp illustrator Keith Martin worked closely on all three five-stamp sets in the series. As with the stamps that preceded them, this year's feathered friends pay the "P" Permanent domestic letter rate in Canada (currently 85 cents) and are available in self-adhesive booklets of 10, lick-and-stick souvenir sheets of five and international-rate picture postal cards priced at \$12.50 for a set of five. The Canada goose in subarctic Canada and the northern U.S. states, with its estimated population of 5 million in North America, contrasts markedly with that of the whooping crane, which shrank to 15 cranes by 1941. Thanks to international conservation, their population now numbers several hundred, the largest flock nesting in Alberta and the Northwest Territories.



SWITZERLAND

LETTER-WRITING

MAKES OCCASIONS SPECIAL

Issued August 18 by Swiss Post, a quartet of whimsical flora and fauna designs promotes putting down your feelings on paper as a way to make any occasion special. The four stamps — two denominated 0.85 Swiss francs (the cost of delivery in three days or less, known as "B" mail, for a standard letter up to 100 grams and 2 centimeters thick) and two stamps valued at 1 Swiss franc (the cost of next-day delivery for the same latter, rated as "A" mail) — make up a colorful, whimsical set concocted by Swiss illustrator Claudine Etter from Berne, suitable for carrying your message on a wide range of occasions.



NEW ZEALAND

STAMPS PICTURE A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR NATIVE WILDLIFE

On August 1, New Zealand issued five new stamps in the roll-out of a nation-wide effort that is uniquely New Zealand in conception and chance of success — the possibility of a predator-free future for indigenous creatures in the Land of the Kiwi.

"Predator Free 2050" is New Zealand's plan to eradicate all such predators over the next 32 years by trapping and disposing of the worst offenders.

New worldwide stamps are presented for information and are not necessarily shown at the correct scale. The quality of images available at the time of release varies widely and we resize to achieve the best possible reproduction.



SOUTH AFRICA & GERMANY

JOINT ISSUE CELEBRATES MANDELA'S CENTENNIAL

Though their stamps and histories are far from similar, South Africa and Germany claimed a joint issue July 18 marking the 100th birthday of former South African president and global civil rights icon Nelson Mandela. South Africa issued a square stamp designed by Rachel-Mari Ackermann of the SA Post Office on a horizontal background with a photo of Mandela as a confident senior statesman from the Nelson Mandela Foundation Blue Media archives.

The horizontally formatted German stamp designed by André Heers and Annette le Fort uses a photo of a more youthful Mandela by South African anti-apartheid activist Paul Weinberg. Taken after his release from prison in 1990, it shows Mandela "looking upwards into the light with an expression of relief."



GREAT BRITAIN

THE OLD VIC

On August 30th, The Old Vic theatre was honoured with a 8 stamps issued by Great Britain. Marking the bicentenary of one of the most important venues in the UK's performing history, the stamps commemorate eight actors in some of their greatest performances at The Old Vic, from the 1950s to modern day. The actors include: Richard Burton – Henry V, 1955; Judi Dench and John Stride – Romeo and Juliet, 1960; Laurence Olivier – The Dance of Death, 1967; Maggie Smith – Hedda Gabler, 1970; Ralph Richardson and John Gielgud – No Man's Land, 1975; Albert Finney – Hamlet, 1975; Sharon Benson – Carmen Jones, 1991, and; Glenda Jackson – King Lear, 2016.



VIETNAM

Status: Socialist Republic in Southeast Asia
Population: 96,160,163 (2017 est.)
Area: 127,881 sq miles
Currency: Dong | U.S. \$1 = 23,300 dong (₫)

Vietnam is located on the eastern coast of the Indochinese Peninsula. About the size of New Mexico, it is the 15th most populous country in the world. As part of the Chinese Empire for a thousand years, the Vietnamese were exposed to the more advanced Chinese civilization but resisted Chinese attempts to assimilate them. They defeated the Chinese in 939 and established an independent state that developed a unified administration and expanded Vietnamese control from the Red River Delta southward. By 1757 Vietnam had reached approximately its current boundaries.

In 1516, Portuguese traders arrived in Vietnam. They in turn brought Christian missionaries. When the missionaries faced serious persecution in the 19th century, they turned to the French for help. France responded with a military expedition to Saigon, which resulted in France acquiring three southern provinces as a colony by treaty on June 5, 1862. The French used a French merchant's dispute with the Tonkin authorities as the pretext for a military expedition against Hanoi. An 1874 agreement granted France special privileges in the north. Vietnamese efforts to enlist aid from China led the French to force the government in Hue to agree to make all of Annam and Tonkin French protectorates on Aug 25, 1883.

Stamps of France were used in their territories after 1851. French Colonies stamps were used from 1859 until 1886, when specially overprinted stamps were introduced in Cochinchina. French Colonies stamps specially overprinted for Annam and Tonkin were released on Jan 21, 1888.

In 1887, Paris decided to unite Cochinchina with the protectorates of Annam and Tonkin – along with Cambodia -- under a single governor general as French Indochina. (Laos was added in 1893.) While two provisional stamps overprinted “Indo-Chine” appeared in 1889, the first full set of Indochinese stamps was issued in 1892 – a 13-value set of the Navigation and Commerce series.

With the fall of France in 1940, the Japanese moved into Indochina. In the last months of World War II, they interned or executed the French authorities. After the Japanese surrendered, the communist Vietminh under Ho Chi Minh seized power and declared Vietnam an independent democratic republic.

The Vietminh overprinted Indochinese stamps in 1945. The French returned in 1946 and by the end of the year the long Vietnamese War had begun. The French defeat at Dien Bien Phu in 1954 led to the Geneva agreement which divided the country at the 17th parallel, creating a Communist North Vietnam and a non-Communist South Vietnam. Each issued its own stamps.

Skirmishes between the two sides intensified, as did U.S. involvement as an ally of South Vietnam. Communist insurgents in the south, the Vietcong, created the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam in 1960 as their political arm in the South, and this group also issued stamps. The first set of three appeared December 20, 1963, to commemorate the third anniversary of the group's founding. These stamps remained valid until 1977.

After several years of Vietnamization — withdrawing U.S. troops and transferring responsibility for prosecuting the war to South Vietnam — the last U.S. Marines pulled out of Saigon on April 30, 1975, and North Vietnamese forces took control of the city. On July 2, 1976, the two Vietnams were united as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Stamps produced since 1977 have been inscribed “Viet Nam Buu Chinh” (Viet Nam Post).



Viet Minh
(Scott 1L19)
Overprint of
4¢ Indochina
(Scott 25).



30-piaster
Emperor Bao-Dai
(Scott 13).



Undenominated
1965 Military
stamp (Scott
M10).



1961 6xu Gherman
Titov's Test Flight
(Scott 174).



Red Cross
semipostal
with Empress
Nam-Phuong
(Scott B1)



Circuit Selections

U.S. General (Mint & Used)
 U.S. Mint Only
 U.S. Used Only
 U.S. 1900-1940 (Mint & Used)
 U.S. 19th Century
 U.S. Back of the Book
 U.S. Air Mails
 U.S. Officials
 U.S. Cut Squares
 U.S. Revenues
 U.S. Possessions
 U.S. Ryukyu Islands
 U.S. Blocks
 U.S. Plate Blocks
 U.S. Coils
 U.S. Plate No. Singles
 U.S. Fancy Cancels
 U.S. Precancels
 U.S. Covers
 U.S. Covers (19th C.)
 U.S. Covers 1900-1945
 U.S. Picture Postcards
 U.S. Postal Stationery
 U.S. First Day Covers
 British Empire
 British Empire-Victorian Era
 British Empire Mint only
 British Empire Used only
 British Pre-Elizabeth
 British Atlantic Islands
 British Africa
 Southern Africa
 British America
 British West Indies
 British West Indies Mint
 Bahamas
 Bermuda
 Br. Caribbean Saints
 Jamaica
 British North America
 Canada General
 Canada pre-Elizabeth
 Canada Mint Only
 Canada Used Only
 British Asia
 Hong Kong
 India & States
 Malaysia-Singapore

British Europe
 Channel Islands
 Great Britain
 Great Britain 19th Century
 Ireland
 British Middle East
 British Oceania
 British Oceania Mint
 Australia
 Australia States
 New Zealand
 Topicals (General)
 Animals & Flora
 Art and Painting
 Europa
 Space
 Sports
 Transportation
 Africa
 Air Mails Worldwide
 Argentina
 Asia
 Austria
 Balkans
 Baltic States
 Belgium
 Benelux
 Bolivia
 Brazil
 Central America
 Central Europe
 Chile
 China
 Colombia
 Costa Rica
 Cuba
 Czechoslovakia
 Danzig
 Denmark
 East Germany
 Eastern Europe
 Ecuador
 Egypt
 Ethiopia
 Europe
 Europe(1840-1940)
 Far East
 Finland
 France
 France & Colonies
 France 19th Century
 French Africa
 French Colonies
 German Colonies
 German Covers
 German States
 Germany
 Germany Pre-1945
 Global (1840-1940)

Global Covers
 Global General (Mint & Used)
 Global Used Only
 Greece
 Guatemala
 Honduras
 Hungary
 Iceland-Greenland
 Iran (Persia)
 Israel
 Italian Colonies
 Italy
 Japan
 Korea
 Latin America
 Latin West Indies
 Lebanon
 Liberia
 Liechtenstein
 Luxembourg
 Mexico
 Middle East
 Miniature Sheets
 Monaco
 Netherlands
 Netherlands Colonies
 Nicaragua
 Norway
 Panama
 Paraguay
 Peru
 Philippines
 Poland
 Portugal
 Portuguese Colonies
 Romania
 Russia (USSR)
 Saar
 Salvador
 San Marino
 Scandinavia
 Siam (Thailand)
 South America
 Southeast Asia
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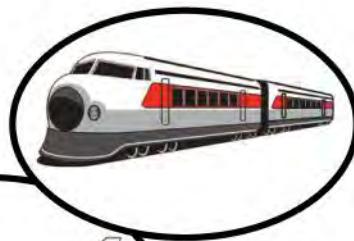
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