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# AMERICAN PHILATELIST

May 2008

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# Commemorating 90 Years of U.S. Air Mail

by Don David Price and the AP Staff

The first regular U.S. air mail service was initiated during World War I, but the existing wartime conditions meant there was a shortage of civilian airplanes and available pilots. Consequently, the Post Office Department arranged for the Army to fly the mail as a way of training Army pilots before they were sent off to the war in Europe.

On February 27, 1918, it was announced that a new air mail service would begin flying on April 15, 1918, between the cities of Washington, Philadelphia, and New York. However, finding suitable landing fields near New York or Philadelphia proved to be a major problem, delaying the inception of service until May 15, 1918.

There was little time to make all necessary arrangements as Congress only ratified the 24-cent air mail rate a few days before the flights were to begin. This rate included costs associated with the flight plus a

The dates of May 13, 14, and 15, 2008, commemorate the 90th Anniversary of U.S. air mail in philately:

- **May 13, 1918** was the date on which the first U.S. air mail stamp, nicknamed the "Jenny," after the Curtis JN-H4 biplane pictured in the vignette, was issued.
- **May 14, 1918** was the day on which philatelist William T. Robey bought a 100 stamp sheet of the new issue, only to discover that he had purchased a full sheet of *inverted* "Jenny" stamps.
- **May 15, 1918** marked the inauguration of the first air mail service in the United States, with flights from New York City, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.

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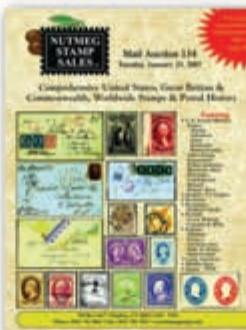
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10-cent special delivery fee, and could be used for regular mail as well as the new air mail service. The planes themselves weren't delivered until May 13 — assembly was required — with the first flights scheduled for just two days later.

Nor was the May 15th departure without incident. The plane leaving Washington, DC, ended its flight upside down in a field twenty miles south, after the pilot took off in the wrong direction. Still, the postal service satisfactorily overcame these early tribulations and eventually succeeded in providing the United States with fast, reliable, and affordable delivery of the mail.

On June 26, 1918, the Postmaster General reduced the air mail rate to sixteen cents for the first ounce (which still included ten cents for special delivery) and six cents for each additional ounce. Scott C2, the 16-cent green "Jenny" was first used on July 15, 1918. Further reductions in the air mail rate, to six cents per ounce, were ordered on November 30, 1918, and Scott C1, the 6-cent orange, was first used on December 16.

## The Bicolor "Jenny"

On May 9, 1918, Third Assistant Postmaster General A.M. Dockery made the following announcement:

Special Stamp for Aeroplane Mail Service.

Office of the Third Ass't P.M. Gen.

Washington, May 9, 1918

1. Postmasters and other officers and employees of the Postal Service are notified that the Department is preparing to issue a new postage stamp of 24-cent denomination. It is intended primarily for the new aeroplane mail service, but will be valid for all purposes for which postage stamps of the regular issue are used.

2. A description follows: The stamp is rectangular in shape, about  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch long and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch high. The central design is a mail aeroplane in flight. Above in a curved line of Roman capital letters are the words "U.S. Postage." Triangular ornaments appear in the two upper corners. Below the aeroplane, in a straight line of Roman capital letters is the word "Cents." with the numerals "24" within circles in the two lower corners. The border design is red and the aeroplane is blue.

3. To obtain the new stamps, central-accounting and direct-accounting postmasters will draw requisitions upon the Department on Form 3201, writing the denomination "24" on one of the blank lines, and carefully complying with Sections 27 to 29, 33 and 36, pages 34 and 35, 1917 Postal Guide. Requisitions which disregard these instructions will be returned to postmasters for completion. Requisitions will not be made special, but will be filled in the order of receipt at the Department.

A. M. Dockery  
Third Ass't P.M. Gen.



The inverted "Jenny" courtesy of the American Philatelic Research Library.

## Printing the "Jenny"

The bicolor printing process necessitated that each color be printed separately. Thus each stamp sheet had to be passed through the press twice: once for the red frame and once for the blue vignette. Aligning the vignette inside the frame was time-consuming and difficult, and the BEP was in a hurry to get the new stamps printed and sold to the public. Not surprisingly, quite often a misalignment occurred, creating several varieties of the stamp — the most famous of which is the "grounded plane" stamp, in which the wheels of the Curtiss "Jenny" airplane must clearly cut into the word "CENTS" in the bottom of the frame. Other misplaced vignettes include such varieties as the high-flying plane, the fast plane, the slow plane, and the landing plane.

The famous *inverted* "Jenny" occurred when the red frame sheet was inserted into the press upside down. To avoid a recurrence of this mistake, the word "TOP" in capital blue letters, with serifs, was added to the upper selvage on the blue vignette plate for the second printing, above the third stamp, to show the pressmen the correct direction for placing the blue plate in the press, and the correct direction of the blue vignette stamp sheet. For the third printing the BEP took the additional precaution of adding a second word "TOP," also in capital letters but without serifs, to the margin of the carnine red frame plate.

The single discovered sheet of *inverted* "Jenny" stamps is thought to have gone unnoticed by both the printers and the postal inspectors because the top selvage containing the carmine red frame and blue vignette numbers had been trimmed off during the first margin-cutting process. On May 14, 1918, a stamp collector named William T. Robey purchased a sheet of the new 24-cent air mail stamps at his local post office. He was astounded to see that the full



The "Grounded Plane," one of the many registration problems with this issue.  
Courtesy of Don David Price.

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December 18, 1918, a flight from New York landed in Bellefonte and departed early that afternoon carrying this cover. It was backstamped in Cleveland at 11 p.m. that evening. (Courtesy of Kathleen Wunderly.)

sheet contained the blue center vignettes of the airplane flying upside down and immediately sought a buyer for his sheet. Within a week he had sold it to a Philadelphia stamp dealer, Eugene Klein, for \$15,000.

After the error was discovered, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) altered the marginal cutting so that during the second and third printings, the top margin was left intact, as was either the left or the right side selvage.

## The APS Connection

The American Philatelic Center (APC) is located in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania — a small town in a broad valley in the center of the state. It proved to be the perfect halfway refueling stop for the first leg of the proposed transconti-

nental air mail service: New York to Bellefonte to Cleveland to Chicago. A permanent airfield facility was built to provide gasoline, oil, and mechanical help for the pilots and their planes. Local townspeople offered the hospitality of their homes when the hotel was full.

Air mail enthusiasts visiting the APC can spend time going through photos and correspondence from pilots and their families, and discover what it was like for a small rural community during such an exciting time.

The following suggested readings on the "Jenny" and early air mail can be found in the American Philatelic Research Library:

Amick, George. *Jenny! The Exciting Story of the World's Best-Known Stamp Error* (Sidney, OH: Amos Press, 1986).

Johl, Max G. *The U.S. Postage Stamps of the 20th Century, Vol. 3* (New York: H.L. Lindquist, 1935), pp. 166–67, 190.

Leary, William M. *Aerial Pioneers, The U.S. Air Mail Service, 1918–1927* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1985).

National Postal Museum. *A Jenny Class Reunion and the Story of the 24-cent Airmail Stamp of 1918; Catalogue of the Smithsonian Exhibition, Sept. 30, 1996* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1996).

Wunderly, Kathleen. *Bellefonte and the Early Air Mail, 1918–1927* (Bellefonte, PA: American Philatelic Society, 2007).



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# letters to the editor

## Soakable Stamps — One Answer

Here is a summary of my experience with soaking recently issued U.S. Stamps. Much has been written in the *AP* and *Linn's* about the subject. The main complaint seems to be that it is not easy to remove the stamp from the envelope without damaging it. It is assumed that most of those who are commenting have tried soaking the stamps, unsuccessfully, in warm water.

I followed a different approach to the problem. I remembered a fellow collector from one of our local stamp clubs, now passed away, who recommended putting the stamps in charcoal lighter fluid for ten minutes. I did this by just putting the paper and stamp (a 41-cent *Star Wars Yoda*) on the surface of the fluid without submerging it. The stamp was easily removed but there was still glue in the back of it. So, I submerged it in warm water for another ten minutes, after which the stamp was clear of gum and the front had not been altered in any way.

Some might say that this is a complicated process. I would remind them what actor Anthony Quinn said in a radio advertisement for a brandy: "If things that are worthwhile were easy anybody would do them." Recovering a clean stamp from the envelope should be

considered worthwhile to a stamp collector! I know that there are four different printers of current U.S. stamps and that this method might not be useful across the board, but it is worth trying.

Enrique Setaro  
Miami, Florida

## Soakable Stamps — Silver Lining

Robert Ausubel raises an interesting question in his March Letter to the Editor ("Non-Soakable," page 200): "what constitutes a normal used stamp: one with the paper still attached, or a uniformly thinned copy...?"

The former is the obvious answer. The secret decision by the U.S. Postal Service to reduce costs by eliminating the requirement that stamp paper must have a water-soluble layer to allow stamps to be soaked off is not the end of philately, but it is the end of an era.

From now on, all collectors of used U.S. modern stamps no longer need to mess with soaking them. They should merely trim away the paper close to the perforations and hinge the back.

After ruining a few nicely canceled 2007 Madonna Christmas stamps, I decided just to crop the remaining twenty and put them in my stock book.

So, if you look at the silver lining around the black cloud created by this

decision of the USPS, collecting used U.S. modern stamps will now be quicker and easier — for whatever little they are worth.

Joseph Scafetta Jr.  
Falls Church, Virginia

## Soakable Stamps — Cheapest Paper

The letter by Robert Ausubel in the March *AP* (page 200) and the APS Board's letter to Postmaster General Potter (page 246) warrants a comment, considering the importance of the subject for the future of stamp collecting.

The response from the USPS as published in the *AP* (page 247), namely, "that the problem stems from a diminished number of paper suppliers," is a rather lame one if not laughable despite the seriousness of the subject for stamp collecting's future. It will be interesting to see to what degree "the organized voice of philately" pursues the problem in the future.

Are collectors to assume that the paper suppliers now used by the USPS are completely different from those who supplied soakable paper in the past? Or that those who supply non-soakable paper now were not in business in the past when stamps were soakable? No, it is not a question of a "diminished number of paper suppliers" or the availability of

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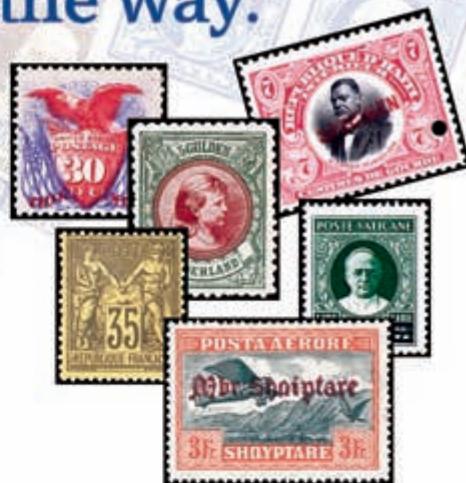
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**STAMPS**  


a soakable paper, but rather a question of who can supply the cheapest quality of paper. That has been the bottom line regarding many other issues that the USPS has dealt with concerning the operation of the mail system, and there is no reason to believe it is otherwise at this time.

A secondary rationale is that the USPS might also be trying to prevent the re-use of stamps that have gone through the mail uncanceled due to inefficiencies of their technology. So they are solving two problems at once by getting cheaper quality paper from their current suppliers, who probably are the same now as in the past.

Until the APS finds other information, this is what I will believe about this particular problem, and what I feel the "organized voice of philately" and its 42,000 members should also believe. What can be done about it by the APS is yet another problem.

**Kenneth M. Davis**  
Muncie, Indiana

## Soakable Stamps — Solution Found

I first spray the front of the stamp with "Goo Gone," which I purchased at Wal-Mart. After a minute or so, I remove the stamp from the paper. Then I spray the back of the stamp, wait awhile and scrap off the glue with a straight-edge piece of plastic. The stamp should be on a paper towel, so that the glue will adhere to the towel. Sometimes it takes two or three tries to get all the glue off. (The 37-cent Quilt stamps, however, are very difficult to remove the glue from.) This technique makes a very nice stamp for any collection. No after effects are found after two to three months.

**Eugene Paul**  
New Oxford, Pennsylvania

## Unique?

I was enjoying my March issue of the *AP* when I came to Wayne Youngblood's article, "Double Your Collecting Pleasure!" (page 216). As a specialist in re-

entries (double transfers), this was right up my alley, so I settled in for a good read. My reading came to a halt, though, when I reached page 219 and saw the lovely photo of the 2-centavos Philippine Islands major double transfer. Not that there was anything wrong with the photo...it was the comment "(thought to be unique)" that concerns me. This was mentioned twice: once under the photo, and again within the article on page 220.

First of all, I recognized the double transfer because I was bidding on one just like it on eBay a couple of years ago. Not realizing it could be so "scarce," I stopped when bidding reached \$100. (If I recall correctly, it sold for under \$120 USD.) Luckily, I saved the scan from the eBay listing, and I have it on my website (<http://www.re-entries.com>), which is devoted entirely to the study of re-entries (mainly B.N.A., but also worldwide). As you can see from the scan (<http://www.re-entries.com/philippines>.

## NEWFOUNDLAND 1931 AIRMAILS SPECIAL OFFER # A219

Between 1919 and 1930 Newfoundland released five airmail stamps, each being issued for use on a special flight. The quantities printed were low, ranging from a mere 200 to 14,000. Some of these are great rarities today. Demand for regular airmail service grew, and in 1931 was such that a permanent series of three stamps was issued (Scott #C6-C8). The designs, which showed various forms of mail transportation, are among the most beautiful of all Newfoundland stamps. The 15¢ brown was for mail within the country, and portrayed a bush plane flying above a dog team. The 50¢ green paid the airmail fee to Canada or the United States. It is a beautifully engraved design depicting the famous plane flown by Alcock and Brown above an old sailing vessel. The \$1.00 blue was for overseas mail. It shows routes flown to Europe, even the unsuccessful attempt of Harry Hawker in 1919!

I recently purchased some nice mint sets of this issue from an old time dealer stock in Newfoundland. Condition is very fine mint unmounted. Price is \$129.00 postpaid.



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The screenshot shows the homepage of gradedstamps.com. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Welcome, Stamp Galleries, Graded Stamps, Your Account, Other Services, and Contact Us. Below the navigation is a search bar and a "Stamp Galleries" section. A "Value Tracker" button is highlighted with a red arrow. To the right, there's a "Print your own price list (pdf format)" button. Further down, there's a "Convenient payment options Credit terms available" section with payment method icons (VISA, MasterCard, etc.) and a note about immediate credit for APS members. On the left, there's a sidebar with "Top Ten" sales, "10 Most Recent Sales", and "10 Most Viewed Items". The main content area features a "Galleries" section with various stamp categories like "Encapsulated Our Finest PSE Graded XFS95 to GEM100", "Our Finest PSE Graded XF95 to GEM100", "Our Finest PSE Graded VF85 to VF95", "USA USED Stamps PSE Graded VF85 to GEM100", and "High Flying Airmails". A specific stamp listing for "433 - XF-Superb 95, Never Hinged" is shown with details like Lot Number: 539139, Scott #: 433, Year: 1914, SHQ Value: \$1250.00, Description: PSE Graded Capsule, Orange Yellow, Condition: Never Hinged, Centering: XF-Superb, Num Grade: 95, and Price: \$1250.00. There are also "PSE Population Report for SC# 433" tables and two large images of the stamp at different zoom levels.

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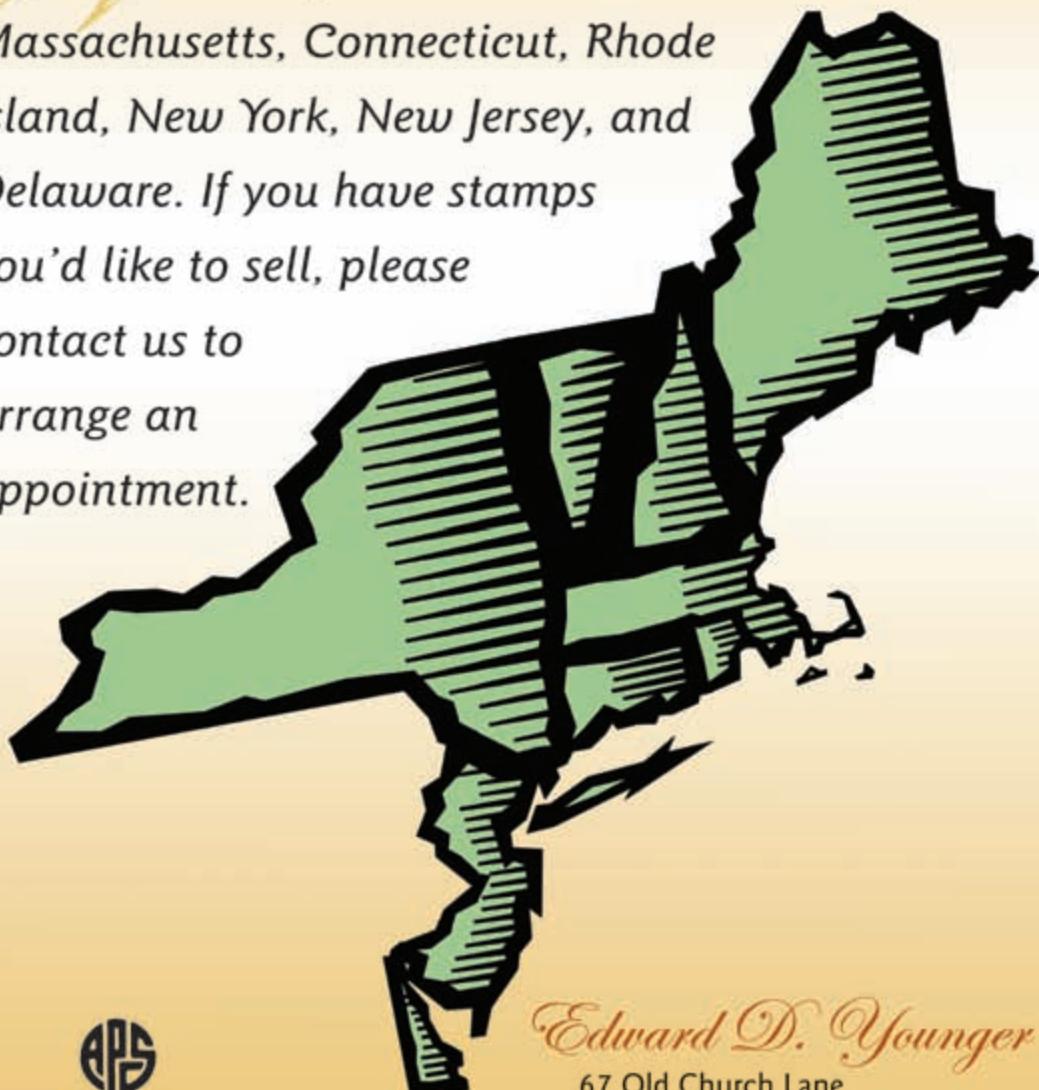


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html), this double transfer certainly is not "unique." (The color difference might be due to the seller's scan.)

Indeed, unless the printer (the U.S. Bureau of Engraving & Printing) printed only one single sheet of this stamp, it would have occurred on every single sheet printed! I would doubt very much that after one sheet the printer would have stopped the press and pulled the plate to repair this "faulty entry." Indeed, this is the sort of thing that is done from the proofs well before the plate even goes to press. So, however many sheets of this stamp there were printed, that is how many copies of this double transfer that should exist. Hidden away in collections or bargain bins, sure. Scarce, possibly. But unique? Sorry.

An International level judge once told me that whenever he sees the words "unique" or "one of a kind" in an exhibit, he expects to find another half a dozen of them or so in the next exhibit down the line. (Words of wisdom when writing up an exhibit, or an article.)

Other than that, I very much enjoyed Mr. Youngblood's article.

**Ralph E. Trimble**

President, Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada

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*Editor's Note:* Unique in this context also can mean "only one copy known to exist."

## More on Nikolski, Alaska

In his article published in the March AP ("Margaret V. Benson: An Obliging Postmistress from Nikolski, Alaska," page 232), Robert Collins praised the kindness of a small town postmistress who went out of her way to accommodate a philatelist's request. He probably didn't know that the same Mrs. Benson was, four years later, one of the few Americans chased out of her home by military operations of World War II. His further study of postal records disclosed that the Nikolski post office was closed from 1942 to 1947, and gave an enigmatic hint that mail addressed to Nikolski during that period had been forwarded to Ketchikan, Alaska, 1150 miles away.

I was in Alaska during and after World War II, and I was unaware of some tragic events that are touched on in Mr. Collier's article. While I was never on Umnak Island itself, I was on several



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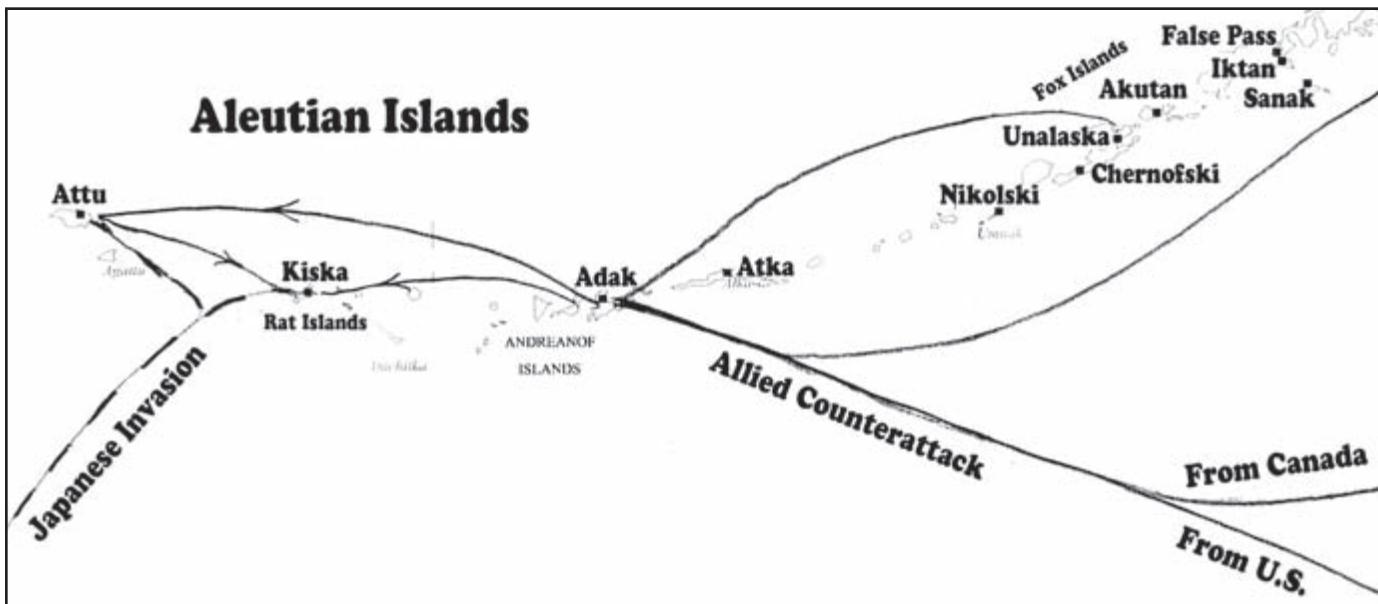
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## Aleutian Islands



nearby islands, and I flew over Umnak. His apparent difficulty in assembling scraps of peripheral information on that occurrence convinces me that I should write down the story as I remember it.

During the few months following the June 1942 Japanese invasion of Alaska, the entire civilian population of the

central and western Aleutian Islands was removed. Circumstances of the removal were different on different islands.

The few people believed to have been on Kiska disappeared without a trace. They may have moved to other islands before the Japanese arrived; no one knows for sure. The several dozen

residents of Attu, though civilians, were taken to Japan as prisoners of war. About half of them survived to return after the war. Civilians living on the islands east of Kiska and west of Unalaska, about 800 in all, were removed by the United States Government and given temporary shelter in abandoned work camps in south-



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east Alaska. Those from Nikolski and several nearby villages went to the former Civilian Conservation Corps camp at Ward Lake near Ketchikan. Most of them received their mail there for the duration of the war. This removal served two purposes. It prevented having any more American civilians fall into Japanese hands, and it cleared the deck for the Allied counter-offensive. Evacuation of Nikolski took place in August 1942, though the post office was not formally discontinued until October.

Two military airports, and probably some other small installations, operated on Umnak Island during the war. Soldiers stationed on the island were served by Army Post Offices. Those APOs are an integral part of the postal history of the area.

Evacuees could go anywhere in the United States, if they had the wherewithal to do so, except back to their homes. Some of them joined the Armed Services; a few found employment in war industries. Still, their treatment fell far short of what they deserved. Their housing, food, and medical treatment were inadequate.

They were often shunned by the local population. And many of the homes they left behind were vandalized by GIs.

By later 1944 the military situation had improved enough that the restriction on the Aleutian residents returning to their homes was removed. There was no large organized expedition to return them, they simply drifted back singly or in small groups whenever they had the opportunity. By 1947 enough of the former residents had returned to Nikolski to warrant reopening the post office.

**C. Robert Snider**  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

### Rats!

The U.S. New Issues column in the March AP lists, in the section on the 2008 Chinese New Year stamp (page 286), a group of "famous Rats." The second name is that of Queen Elizabeth II. Her Majesty was born in 1926 ... a year of the Tiger. This information is easy to check, especially with all the interest in the New Year stamps, and in Queen Elizabeth II. Incidentally, Princess Anne, the Queen's daughter, is also a Tiger, born in 1950.

If one is interested in the Lunar, or Chinese, New Year it is useful to remember that the year 1900 was a Rat year. One has only to count forward to calculate any year, provided the list of animals is kept in order. The current year is, as we know, a Rat year.

Thank you for maintaining the high standard of the journal. I read it cover to cover every month and keep a five-year file. The old issues go to the Girl Scouts.

**Nancy Haynes**  
Norman, Oklahoma

*Editor's Reply:* Our information in the U.S. New Issues column is taken directly from USPS press releases. Fact-check government statements? How could we be such doubting Thomases...?

### Tightening Noose

With my hope that our hobby of philately will grow and prosper, I am appalled to see "the noose tighten" on stamp collectors! So much mail being metered, and so few commemoratives used — and the noose tightens a bit more!

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**1942** Line perf 2/6 "lower Right Scroll Broken Tail" SG 117ac, fresh u/m. Rarity. \$5,400.

**1942** Line perf 10/- Corner block of 4 incl both scroll varieties, SG 119bd & 119be both u/m. Exhibition piece of great rarity. \$6,800.

**1951** £1 SG 121d, COMPLETE PANE OF 60, fresh u/m. Seldom offered now & rare. Would frame well. \$5,950.

**1970** 2c on 2d Lilac omitted, SG 233a u/m Cat \$1,700. \$1,500.



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May! Here is what is in store for collectors of U.S. mint:

May 2	.52 Elk
May 12	.27 Corinthian Column
May 12	.59 James Michener
May 12	4.50 Mount Rushmore
May 12	.76 Edward Trudeau
May 13	.42 Frank Sinatra
May 16	.72 New Hampshire
May 16	.94 Virgin Islands
May 17	.42 Minnesota
May 18	.62 Dragonfly

And now a look at the final tug of the noose that will really choke collectors: the \$16.50 Hoover Dam stamp, which will only cost \$66 for a plate block!

Why aren't young people pursuing the hobby? Because, unless they own a house and can take out a home equity loan, how can they afford it?

My congratulations to the USPS. You were determined to choke us out, and you have succeeded.

Phil Edelstein

Danbury, Connecticut

## Correction

Regarding the item on page 385 of the April AP's APS Affiliates column, the Wreck & Crash Mail Society was formed in 1994 — not 2007. Also, the American Philatelic Research Library has a complete run of our journal *La Catastrophe* from 1994 through the March 2008 issue.

Ken Sanford

Editor, *La Catastrophe*  
Oxford, Connecticut

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— *In Memoriam* —

# Col. James T. DeVoss (1916–2008); APS Staff Remembers

Colonel James T. DeVoss (U.S. Army, Ret.), 92, of State College, Pennsylvania, died April 8, 2008, at Brookline Village. Though well known to the stamp collecting community for his writing, exhibiting, and judging, DeVoss may be best remembered for his service as Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society from 1963 to 1981, when APS membership mushroomed from 13,000 to nearly 50,000 members.

DeVoss was born in Ocheyedan, Iowa, on March 22, 1916, a son of the late Jesse Franklin and Ada Calista Johnson DeVoss. He graduated from Ocheyedan High School and attended the University of Iowa. He earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Maryland. On October 10, 1938, while employed by the circulation department of the Des Moines *Register and Tribune*, he married Dorothy A. Durr of Williamsburg, Iowa.

Commissioned in the Infantry in 1937, DeVoss joined the U.S. Army in 1940, and served most of his distinguished career as a staff officer in military intelligence and security during World War II and Korea. He spent the two and a half years immediately following Pearl Harbor in the Canal Zone, a region that would become the philatelic focus for much of his collecting. Following World War II, he was a member of the staff of Supreme Allied Commanders Europe, in Paris. Honored for "outstanding services" with the Legion of Merit in 1958, he came to Washington to work for the Joint Chiefs of Staff and retired from the Pentagon as a colonel in 1961.

DeVoss began collecting at age ten, with an interest in the United States and Central America, and took his lifelong fascination with stamps everywhere he went. He became the stamp editor for the *Honolulu Advertiser* during two years of military duty in Hawaii.

He began specializing in Canal Zone stamps and early Isthmus of Panama postal history in the late 1940s, and in 1951–52 he helped form the first Canal

Zone Study Circle. The *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps* adopted a completely revised Canal Zone section submitted by a committee of collectors chaired by DeVoss.

DeVoss skillfully built a "Via Panama" postal history collection that won the Champion of Champions Award at Balplex (1969); Large Golds at international shows in London (1970), Brussels (1972), and Munich (1973); and *Prix d'Honneur* at Stockholm (1974), Interphil in Philadelphia (1976) and Toronto (1978). After publishing the exhibit in 1978, it was dispersed in a Sotheby Parke-Bernet auction. His separate collection of Canal Zone stamps was said to have been the first to include "all of the 'great' varieties," including two unique items and many others of which fewer than ten were known.

DeVoss joined the American Philatelic Society in 1946, and served as International Secretary (1949–54) with such distinction that he received the first of the Luff Award for Outstanding Service to the Society in 1952. His second Luff Award, for Distinguished Philatelic Research on the Canal Zone, was presented in 1958. In 1957 he was awarded the Til-leard Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, for the best display and presentation before the society of the season, becoming only the second American so honored in thirty-eight years.

In 1949 DeVoss was one of the organizers of Napex, the first national-level show in Washington, DC. In the 1950s, he pioneered the use of color slides to illustrate stamps, having applied for special permission from the U.S. Treasury Department to do so.

After retiring from the Army, he joined the APS staff as Assistant Executive Secretary (1961–63), and became Executive Secretary (1963–79) and Executive Director (1979–81).

Long an expert on Canal Zone issues, DeVoss brought the Society's American Philatelic Expertizing Service to its centralized operation in State College in 1965



and became its head. DeVoss chaired the APS committee that developed a successful plan for putting the Mexico-based forgery operation of Raoul Ch. de Thuin out of business, as recounted in the 1974 APS book *The Yucatan Affair*, of which DeVoss was an associate editor. He also co-authored, with Robert H. Schoen, *Counterfeit Kansas-Nebraska Overprints on the 1922–34 Issue*, a philatelic best-seller first published in 1973. In addition to other writings, DeVoss had articles in four editions of the American Philatelic Congress' annual *Congress Book*, edited *The Congress Book 1953*, and received its McCoy Award in 1953 and 1959 and the Jere Hess Barr Award in 1959.

After retirement from the APS staff, Life Member DeVoss continued to serve the APS as Director of Expertizing Services, on the Luff Award Committee, and as Chair of the APS Hall of Fame Committee. He was Vice President of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie from 1978 to 1986.

DeVoss received the Collectors Club of New York's Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award for Distinguished Service to Philately in 1978, and signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in Great Britain in 1981. In 1991 the Philatelic



**Colonel DeVoss and APS President John Foxworth placed the cornerstone of the new American Philatelic Building located at 100 Oakwood Avenue in State College, Pennsylvania.**

Foundation honored DeVoss — a PF trustee from 1979 until 1986 — with its Mortimer L. Neinken Medal for meritorious service to philately.

DeVoss was president of the American Philatelic Research Library from 1980 to 1983. It was in that capacity in 1981 that he joined APS President John E. Foxworth Jr. in placing the cornerstone of the new American Philatelic Building in State College. Ironically, the very success of the library assured that the society would outgrow its new quarters within a short period of time.

In 1981, as DeVoss stepped down as Executive Director, Foxworth wrote, "Jim DeVoss has been the mainspring that made the staff, the committees, and the Board function so well together over the years." Among the accomplishments of the era were a 379 percent increase in membership, the Philatelic Code of Ethics, improvements to the Luff Awards, a new Century Club recruiting award, philatelic correspondence courses, week-long "Schools of Philately" (the popular Summer Seminars that continue to this day), and the increase of *The American Philatelist* from 80 to 96 pages per issue.

In 1990 one of the grand old voices in the stamp hobby, Herman Herst Jr., wrote of DeVoss that he "did more in his

tenure for the APS than anyone else at that time... One could write a book on the advantages he brought to the Society. He established competency of philatelic judges, by seeing that our stamp exhibits were judged by qualified men and women. He put the American Philatelic Research Library on the path it travels today. His 'World Series of Philately' program placed the United States in a position where its best collections could advance to International exhibitions."

Having distinguished himself in twenty-year stints serving the military and philately, DeVoss went on to another decade of distinction serving his community. He was a trustee of the Centre County Community Foundation from 1983 to 1987, and served as its Executive Secretary from 1988 until the third of his three retirements came at last in 1993.

DeVoss was a member of State College Presbyterian Church, serving as an elder.

In addition to his wife, Dorothy, he is survived by three children: Richard A. DeVoss of Fort Worth, Texas; Robert N. DeVoss and his wife, Jill A. Aller, of State College; and Rosalie J. Starr and her husband, William E., of Lemont, seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

## The Staff Remembers

I began my career at the American Philatelic Society at the same time Colonel DeVoss was ending his. I vividly remember his last couple of weeks at APS. As I awaited the arrival of my desk and computer the Colonel put me to work validating the ballots for the election — I learned early on just how important our elections were.

Our membership records were not computerized then as they are today. I would check the APS Number on the envelope that contained the ballot against the number on a computer-generated list, which by the way seemed to be about a foot-and-a-half wide by a foot thick. I would then put a check mark by the membership number, signifying that we had received the member's ballot. Then I would have to put the envelopes in numerical order before they went to be opened and the ballots counted.

The Colonel had fixed me up with a pigeon-holed-type apparatus for sorting the envelopes. One day while I was tossing envelopes into the holes, he walked passed, did a double-take, and came back to me. I then learned the "correct" wrist-flicking technique for throwing envelopes into the appropriate hole.

**Barb Boal, AP Editor**

Colonel DeVoss holds a very special place in my heart. There are many nice memories of the years I worked as his secretary. He didn't mind if you called him Jim, Colonel, or Colonel DeVoss, whatever was comfortable for you.

We were the "APS Family" and we truly were. This was very important to him. He treated us with a firm, but kind hand. Though he didn't openly express his appreciation to us, he showed us through his actions — for example, taking us all to lunch several times a year until our group grew too large to be accommodated by the local restaurants. On very nice days, around 3 o'clock, he would announce that we had the rest of the afternoon off to enjoy.

The Society grew in membership, and he could get donations from anyone it seemed. He was a very special fellow. I believed that Col. DeVoss knew everyone in the hobby worldwide personally and all were his dearest and closest friends. He treated all of us the very same way.

With much respect and full of pride, I was happy and satisfied working with

him. It was a very exciting time for me and I learned so much from the experience. I felt that I knew all of his collector friends myself, though I had never seen or ever been introduced to them. When they came to visit the headquarters, I was thrilled to meet them in person.

**Helen Bruno, AP Advertising Manager**

Col. DeVoss hired me right out of high school in 1969. I worked in Sales Book Retirement position.

Although he was a very strict boss, he was fair to everyone. That made a great impact in my life. I'm afraid in today's world he would have been in trouble. He would take us out to eat on a Friday and wouldn't tell us where we were going. We would all follow in a line behind him to the special place. It was always a different place, and different types of food.

All dues were printed on the old addressograph machine and the whole office would shut down to apply postage on each dues notice. The stamp had to be placed in the correct position, and when tearing the sheets of stamps apart you had to be real careful to not tear any stamps because no torn stamps were allowed on the envelopes. In the winter he would take the deposit to the bank and if the roads were bad, he would allow us to leave early. You had to start working at 8:00 a.m. and you didn't clear up your area until 4:30 p.m. If you had everything put away before then he would find something for you to do.

**Barb Johnson, Shows**

I began working at APS part-time during grad school in 1974. In 1976 our janitor had to quit and Col. DeVoss was looking for a replacement. He asked me if I would do the job. I said yes and spent the last two hours of each day cleaning the building on Fraser Street in addition to doing circuit work for the Sales Division. He then asked if I would go to his house and mow the lawn during the summer. One day, as I was cleaning, his wife, Dorothy, was waiting for him by his office, and the Colonel asked me when I was going to mow his lawn. I had been busy with school work for the past week and could not get to his home. I said I had planned to mow that evening. He said the grass was getting long and that I might need to rake the clippings. As he walked to the back of the Sales Division, Dorothy said under her breath, "If you didn't put so much fertilizer on it, it

wouldn't grow so fast." That was the year that he tried four or five different lawn fertilizers to see which one was the best. I learned all about how to PROPERLY cut a lawn that year.

"The Colonel" was always watching pennies. On a trip to the National Postage Stamp Show at the Armory in New York City in 1980, we stayed at a motel in New Jersey because the rates in the city were too expensive for his taste. Since then, I have had to explore ways to accomplish things without too much monetary outlay; after all, the APS is a nonprofit entity. Col. DeVoss would be proud of the directions the Sales Division has taken with its buffet of buying possibilities, the flexibility of the customer service to members and the continuation of the multiple-name circuit system he helped renovate when zip codes were introduced.

**Tom Horn, Director of Sales Division**

Col. DeVoss hired me out of school, and again after I had my children. He came across as rough and tough, but always had a big heart. He watched out for us. He kept his hands in every department.

**Ruth Ann Mayes, Sales**

Col. DeVoss gave me my first job right out of high school. At that time I had no idea what "Philatelic" or what a "Philatelist" was, let alone how to pronounce those two words. Hopefully, he would be happy to know that I am still working for the Society that he was so proud of and that I know the meaning of the word "Philatelic" and, even better, I can pronounce it correctly.

One thing I remember about Col. DeVoss was that several times during the year he would take the staff out to lunch, which we all enjoyed. He would tell us that he ordered our lunch because he wanted to broaden our horizons about different foods as there was much more out there than hamburgers and fries.

**Connie I. Swartz, Administration**

My best memory after all these years is the time he spent with the employees. He enjoyed taking us out for lunch and bringing each and everyone a gift from his trips. He often would say we are not just APS employees we are APS family.

I will remember him as a thoughtful and caring individual.

**Carol Zener, Sales**

The thing I remember most about

Col. DeVoss is how much pride he had in the Society and how he thought of us as one big family. He seemed to take great delight in planning our Christmas parties or taking us all out for lunch. He would come in on the first nice Friday of spring and tell us we were closing at 2, go home and enjoy the weekend. I believe he really loved the APS and the APS family. **Lisa M. Clemson, Accounting**

What I remember about Col. DeVoss was that he treated every employee like they were an asset to the Society and that everybody was a family. He took pride in planning special things for us such as Christmas Parties, extra time off on nice days, the safety of employees when the driving conditions were bad, and our birthdays.

**Carol Hoffman, Sales**

I was one of the lucky ones. When I started my employment as an Assistant Librarian at the American Philatelic Research Library in March 1981 I had the opportunity to meet and work for Col. James T. DeVoss before his retirement as Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society. After my employment began, it soon became apparent to me that Col. DeVoss was both deeply dedicated to the Society and to its employees. While he always seemed to be in a hurry, he was never too much in a rush to exchange a quick hello and usually a smile for me, the newest kid on the block. It was evident to me that he was very proud of the American Philatelic Society and also proud of its employees when they had done their jobs well. He recognized our work ethic and achievements with both respect and in many other ways, such as surprise locations for luncheons (even his country club!), occasional early afternoon dismissals, and wonderful gifts from his philatelic trips — my favorite, a tapestry pin from Austria. One of my fondest memories of Col. DeVoss was a smile that we exchanged in a moment of mutual pride at the dedication ceremony of the American Philatelic Society Building at its prior location on Oakwood Avenue in State College, Pennsylvania. I'll never forget that moment. Looking back, it is a moment frozen in time. It said everything about what the American Philatelic Society meant to Col. DeVoss and to all of us who have been afforded the opportunity to work for and know it up close and personally.

**Martha M. Micuda, APRL**

# Playing Post Office

Collectors of a certain age will no doubt remember a teenage party game in which one visited the "post office" to receive a kiss. However, other post office games have left us with more tangible items to collect, such as the 1-cent "Toy Postal Card" from a game called "Children's Post Office" first marketed by the Patek Company in 1938. This game also included sheets of 1-cent and 3-cent stamps resembling the Prexie issue, stationery, envelopes, picture postcards, and toy money orders.

Post office games date back to at least the 1880s and have been produced as recently as a dozen years ago. Besides the United States, they are known from several European countries and Japan.

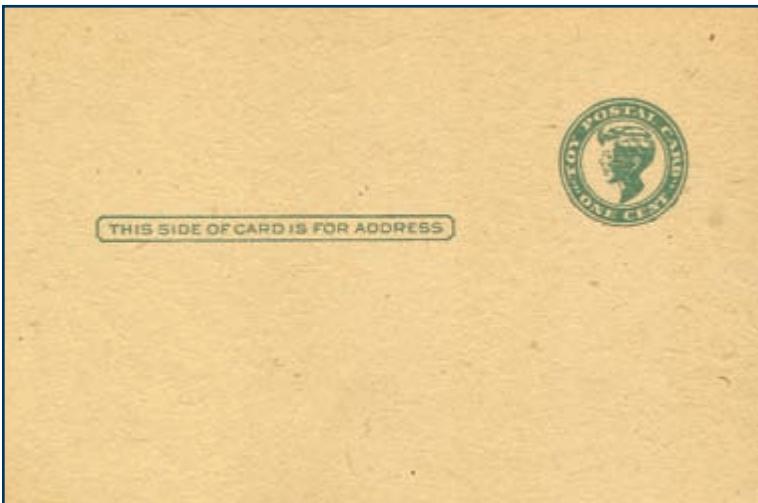
Like many children's activities, post office games served an educational role. Through play, children were trained in the correct method for addressing and franking mail as well as learning about the operation of the post office itself.<sup>1</sup> In addition to using the stamps, postal stationery, and postal forms, the more elaborate of these games include bottles of ink, inkpads, cancelling devices, pens, stamp wetting trays, and play money. The better games came in hinged wooden boxes that could be set up to provide a "desk" for the postal clerk and a post office window for those mailing letters. And a few even included masks for the

Post office games date back to at least the 1880s and have been produced as recently as a dozen years ago. Besides the United States, they are known from several European countries and Japan.

"postal employees" to wear.

Despite admonitions to the contrary in the instructions for these games, sometimes a game piece would enter the real postal service. While there are no indications for the origin of this toy picture postcard, with Hebrew as well as English inscriptions, Palestine is certainly a possibility. Since it bears neither legitimate postage nor an address, the toy card must have been enclosed in a real letter. However, the Austrian censor marking is real and would date its mailing to the immediate post-World War II years.

The stamps and postal stationery included in post office games vary to reflect the actual postal services of the country and time period in which each game was marketed. Given my interest in pneumatic mail, I am particularly attracted to the French and German game pieces representing

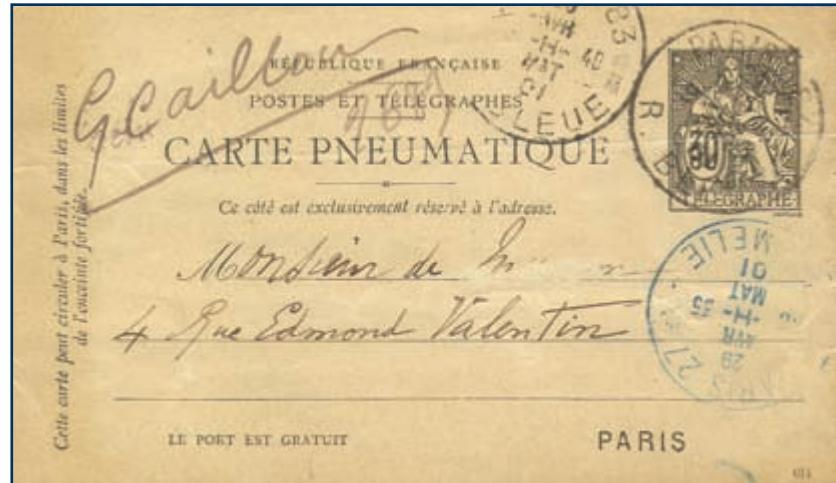


The indicium with three palm trees has been cancelled with a handstamp reading "Children's Post" in both English and Hebrew.

In its design, this toy postal card bears a general resemblance to the U.S. George Washington reply postal cards in use from 1915 to 1952 (Scott UY7).



The toy card has a very strong resemblance to the actual French stationery except for the lack of text at the left margin and the replacement of "Postes et Telegraphes" with "Poste Enfantine."



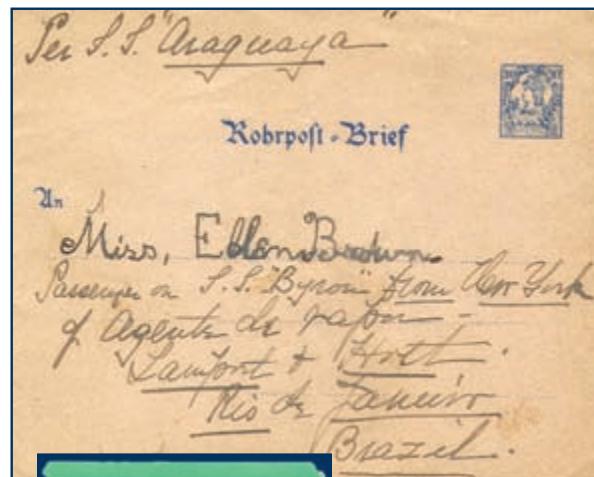
An April 1901 use of a French pneumatic postal card.

those services. The French "Poste Enfantine" games manufactured from the 1920s through the 1950s include pneumatic postal cards with indicia resembling the Chaplain design used in France from 1880 until 1984, except for two short periods (1907–1916 and 1941–1944).

A German similitude that saw postal service between Argentina and Brazil in 1907 resembles the German "Rohrpost Brief" (pneumatic mail letter) envelopes introduced in 1900 with the *Germania* design. Instead of "Reichspost," the toy envelope reads "Kinder Post" in the bottom panel. While addressed to "Miss Ellen Brown" in a child's hand, an adult has added the additional information that addressee is a "Passenger on S.S. *Byron*" from New York arriving in Rio de Janeiro; and that the letter is to be mailed "Per S.S. *Araguaia*." Argentine postage added to the back of the envelope, along with Brazilian receiving marks, confirms the postal use of this toy envelope.

Playing post office was also once a part of business education training. The Victorian notion of "practice stamps" as instructional tools for students learning the correct method of preparing business correspondence seems rather quaint today. During the nineteenth century, as America moved from a largely agrarian economy to an industrial economy, the growing demand for trained clerical workers led to the creation of business colleges. While several opened their doors before the Civil War, the number swelled afterwards. Almost every town in America with a population of more than 5,000 had at least one business college by 1890. Not only were students

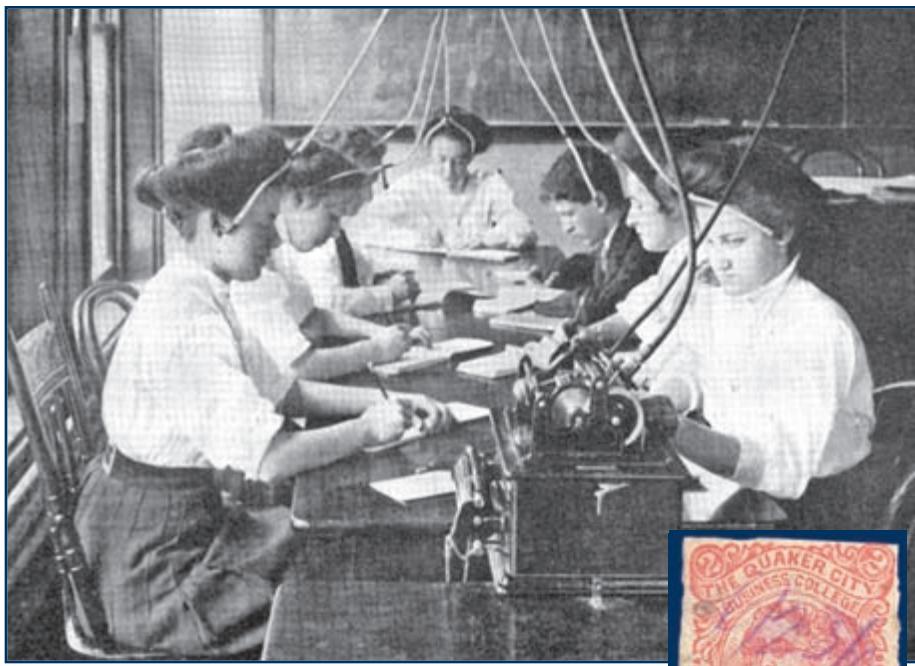
A 2-cent coil "practice stamp" printed for use by students at the Snell Business College in the 1890s.



The Argentine stamp allowed this toy envelope to be mailed to Brazil



A 1901 use within Berlin; the large blue crayon "62" is the routing mark, which matches the receiving cancel on the back.



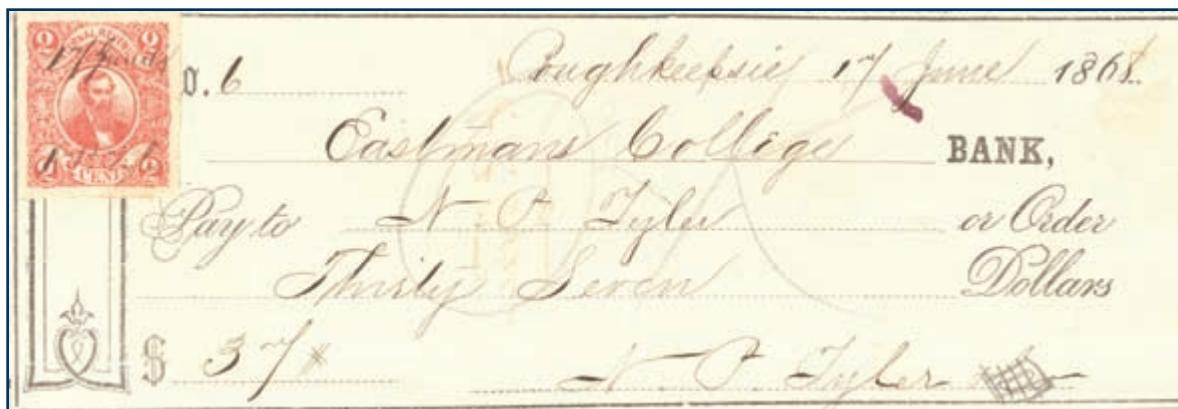
Women practicing shorthand at the Haverhill (Massachusetts) Business College circa 1909.



An imperforate 1869 "practice" revenue stamp from the Quaker City Business College in Philadelphia.

trained in the proper method of writing (and later typing) business letters and envelopes, but many business colleges had their own stamps printed in order that students could learn to place them correctly on the envelopes. The Practical Text Book Company of Cleveland, along with supplying practice stamps to several schools, informed students that "Placing a stamp on the envelope at random, is evidence of carelessness, and disrespect for your correspondent."

In his catalogue, *College and School Stamps*, Jim Drummond introduces collecting these stamps with a pictorial essay on attending nineteenth century business colleges. The core curriculum consisted of bookkeeping and shorthand. At many of the better schools students were "immersed into a very realistic simulated business environment" that included not only the use of practice postage stamps but also practice revenue stamps and a wide variety of simulated business forms including checks, bill heads, express re-



An 1868 "practice" check with a "practice" revenue stamp from the Eastman National Business College in Poughkeepsie, New York.



Other reasons to use air mail included it being "Essential in Modern Business Competition" and providing "Prestige in Social or Business Correspondence."

ceipts, promissory notes, ledgers, and even insurance policies.

Initially most of the students were young men, but as women entered the work force they, too, attended business colleges. Except for Christmas break, these schools were generally open year round, charging an average monthly tuition of \$10. After a few months of training, students could pass an examination and become employed. Through these hard-to-find stamps, Jim has opened a fascinating window into the development of an American clerical workforce.

## Air Mail Promotion

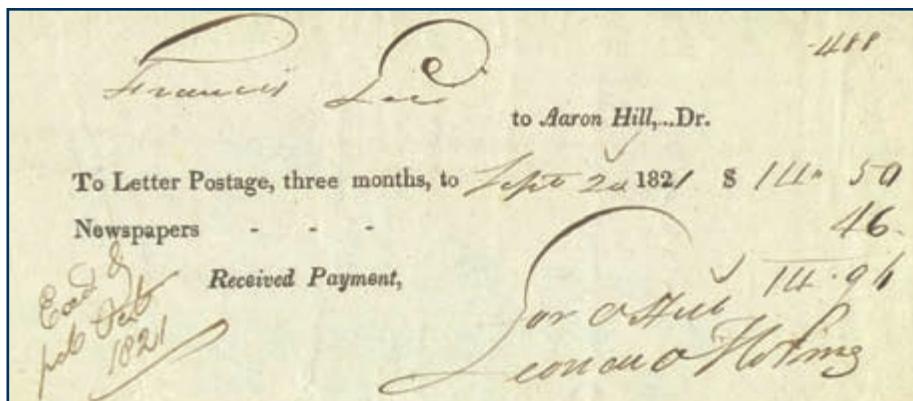
Returning to my September theme of promoting the use of air mail, I have recently acquired two items from a Post Office Department campaign to encourage the use of air mail because it was "Only 3¢ more." On the back of the leaflet, postal customers are reminded that "Air Mail travels three to four times faster than surface mail" and that "Only 3 Cents More may Save Days." While the 3-cent relationship between domestic surface and air mail letter rates occurred twice, this campaign appears to be linked with the reduction of the domestic air mail rate to 6 cents per ounce on July 1, 1934, rather than the 1949 increase to that rate. One key piece of evidence is the reference on the leaflet to "a distinctive combined special delivery air mail stamp" that was issued in 1934. Although not used on stamp booklet covers, the slogan also was printed on booklets of air mail etiquettes (labels).

## Newspaper Postage

Unlike the 1853 Worcester receipt for newspaper postage and box rental shown in the February issue, the receipt



The booklet contains five panes with four labels each.



Aaron Hill was the Boston Postmaster from 1808 until the wholesale purge of postal employees at the beginning of the Jackson administration, in 1829.

signed by a clerk for the Boston Postmaster represents not a payment for future delivery of newspapers, but payment of postage charges already due to the Post Office. This 1821 receipt clearly shows the great disparity between letter and newspaper rates existing before the postal rate reforms that began in 1845. Postage for three months worth of newspapers cost Francis Lee only 46 cents, but the total of his letters received was \$14.50. Although newspapers predominated in the mails by weight, this receipt clearly shows the extent to which newspapers were subsidized by letter mail.

### Reference

1. The educational background of these games as well as a catalog of examples that include postal similitudes will be found in "Kinderpost" by Ruth M. Caswell and Diane DeBlois, *Postal History Journal* 130 (February 2005) 6-15

1847-1945

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# *Letters from Fake-Town*

## **Postal History of a Spanish-American War Camp**

by David A. Norris

**T**he biggest army camp during the brief Spanish-American War of 1898 was set up in a national park. In 1890 Congress authorized the creation of the Chickamauga National Military Park in Georgia to preserve some portion of the site of the great Civil War battle fought there on September 19–20, 1863. Later legislation established that the parkland also would be made available for military use, and thirty-five years after the original conflict, thousands of soldiers again poured onto the Georgia battlefield. This time, however, while they hailed from nearly everywhere in the United States, all wore blue uniforms. Although a few regiments were from the regular army, the vast majority of men were volunteers who had signed up to fight after America declared war on Spain on April 25, 1898.

One of the first camps set up to sort out and train these new volunteers was Camp George H. Thomas. General George Thomas (1816–1870), an officer in the antebellum U.S. Army, was born in Virginia but held an unshakable loyalty to the Union. At the Battle of Chickamauga, while most of the shattered Union Army was in full retreat, Thomas made a stand on Horseshoe Ridge. Scooping up whatever fragments of regiments he could find, Thomas held back the advancing Confederates until late afternoon, permitting much of his army to escape and earning him the nickname of "The Rock of Chickamauga." Appropriately enough, as the soldiers of 1898 pitched their tents on the same site as their predecessors of thirty-five years earlier, many were wearing 1860s hand-me-downs as part of their uniforms.<sup>1</sup>

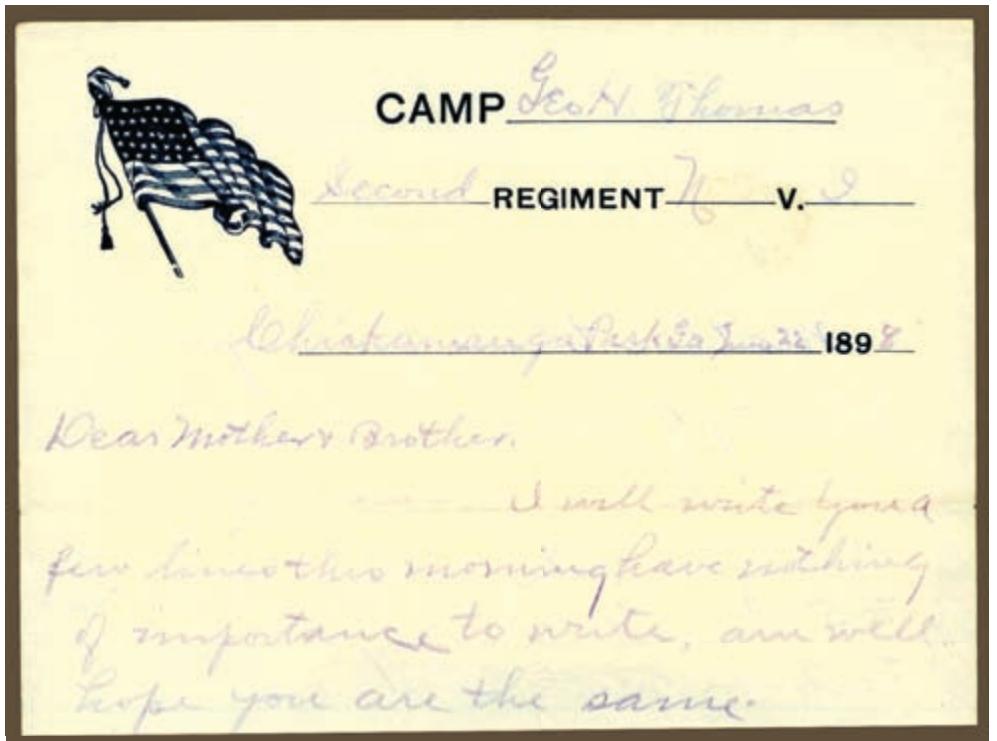
Camp Thomas opened April 15, 1898, and Major General John R. Brooke (1838–1926) took command on April 20. Brooke had been a Union general during the Civil War and had seen action in numerous battles. In 1866 he resigned his commission as major general of



**The first troops to arrive at Camp Thomas were from regular army units such as the 7th U.S. Infantry. Most of the regulars were soon shipped off to the war.**



**Troopers of the 9th U.S. Cavalry, one of the famous all-black "buffalo soldier" regiments of the Old West, tend their horses at Camp Thomas. Like other regular regiments, the 9th Cavalry was soon transferred from the camp.**



Private W.H. Lierley of Company A, 2nd Nebraska Infantry, wrote this letter on generic patriotic stationery to his family on June 22, 1898. He had little news to relate other than "I really cannot think of any thing to write, we have about 3½ to 5 hours drill every day...."

volunteers and re-enlisted in the regular army with the rank of lieutenant colonel. At the time of his death at age 88 he was the next-to-the-last living Union general.<sup>2</sup>

The first troops to arrive at Camp Thomas were U.S. Army regulars, rushed in by train from posts in the west or wherever they could be found. They included some of the famous "buffalo soldiers," members of all-black regiments such as the 9th Cavalry and the 24th Infantry. The entire army at that time consisted of only 2,143 officers and 26,040 enlisted men. The regulars, for the most part, stayed for only a few weeks before being sent on to the war.<sup>3</sup>

To fight the war, thousands of recruits volunteered for regiments being raised by the individual states, as was the practice during the Civil War. States scrambled to form their regiments and scrape up sufficient uniforms, weapons, and equipment before hustling the men onto trains and off to boot camps.

By June, when it was at its peak, Camp Thomas was home to about sixty regiments — 58,000 soldiers and 10–15,000 horses. Many state volunteers arrived without complete uniforms, tents, or other equipment. Some sentries at Camp Thomas hadn't received rifles and stood guard duty armed with wooden clubs. And although the



This roughly opened cover, postmarked at the overworked Lytle, Georgia, post office, carried Private Lierley's letter home. The red-white-and-blue motif on the cover, showing an eagle with crossed U.S. and Cuban flags, resembles Civil War patriotic envelopes.

Franked with a 2-cent Trans-Mississippi stamp (Scott 286), this cover follows regulations by giving the recipient's company and regiment: "Co. A, 1st Ga USV" (Georgia United States Volunteers).



army had recently authorized the use of comfortable cotton summer uniforms, most of the uniforms being worn were made of heavy blue wool, making the men look like Union soldiers from the Civil War.<sup>4</sup>

Also in short supply was camp furniture. Even some of the officers of the 14th New York went without chairs. "There is one store table in camp," wrote a soldier, "and seven others 'faked' out of slabs and boxes."

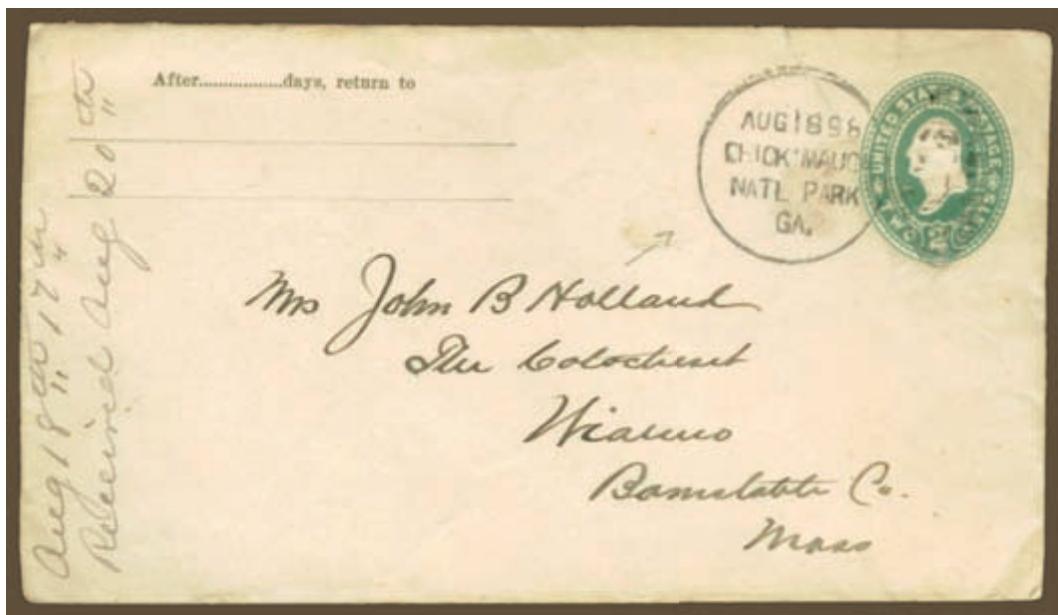
To cater to the burgeoning military population, a horde of merchants swarmed into the small town of Lytle, the railroad stop at the edge of the national park, named for Union Brigadier General William H. Lytle (1826–1863) who was killed leading a charge at the Battle of Chickamauga. "Scores of frame shacks" soon sprouted up. The soldiers called this street "The Midway," reflecting its resemblance to a carni-

val. Perhaps because its shacks and tents were "faked," like the tables of the 14th New York, the area also was known as "Fake-town." Whatever it was called, the quarter-mile long street was crammed with tents, shacks, and hastily erected frame buildings housing saloons, dance halls, restaurants, hotels, photographers, gambling joints, and "all the penny-catch schemes known to the fakir's art." It looked much more like something out of the Klondike Gold Rush than anything you might expect to find in the usually quiet Georgia countryside. By one estimate, the opportunity to participate in the Midway had attracted "at least five hundred newcomers" to the tiny rural community.<sup>6</sup>

Volunteers poured in faster than the army could absorb them, and many regiments languished at Camp Thomas for the entire duration of the war. Other than drill, perform te-

This pre-stamped cover was posted in the waning days of Camp Thomas.

The postmark reads "Chick'mauga Natl. Park Ga," reflecting the large army post office built to relieve pressure on the civilian post office in the nearby town of Lytle, Georgia.





A company of Spanish-American War-era soldiers pose at an unknown location. Although the U.S. Army was switching to light khaki summer uniforms, the army was unable to provide enough of them to clothe its food of volunteers. Most Spanish-American War soldiers wore old-style blue woolen uniforms like these, making them resemble Union soldiers of the Civil War.

dious camp duties, or visit “the Midway” or Chattanooga, there was little to do. History-minded soldiers could tour the Chickamauga battlefield with veterans of both sides. Some units adopted mascots. The 14th New York alone had several dogs and squirrels, a rabbit, a robin, a turtle, an owl, and “Corporal John Morgan’s lizard, who goes to drill riding on his shoulder.” There was plenty of time to write letters, even if there was not much to write about.<sup>7</sup>

With almost 60,000 new residents to serve, no one was busier around Chickamauga than the postal workers. Before the war, the Lytle post office took in less than \$400 a year. A peak times in May 1898, it sometimes took in \$400 in a single hour. The post office handled not only mail but also sold money orders so the men could send some of their pay home. By the end of May, twenty-two postal clerks were on duty at Lytle. Mail was delivered to the post office three or four times a day, with as many as 25,000 pieces in each delivery. Wagons took the letters on to the various regiments. Correspondents were told to be sure and include the soldier’s regiment and company in the address to speed delivery.<sup>8</sup>

A “rough but commodious” new post office building for the camp was rushed to completion in June. Clerks worked there from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., as the daily mail grew to 175,000 letters, plus several thousand parcels. The volume of letters leaving the post office was almost as great: the 14th New York once posted more than 2,000 letters in a single day. The new post office was about five miles closer to the “heart of the camp” than Lytle, which helped cut down the time of mail delivery.<sup>9</sup>

The disorganization and supply shortages affected letter writers as well. Correspondence was scrawled with blunt pencils when pens or ink could not be found. “The man who can find a barrel top to write on and a tree root for a seat is doing pretty well,” wrote one soldier.<sup>10</sup>

Regimental canteens, an early version of the PX, were set up for many units. Besides beer and snacks, the soldiers could buy stamps or stationery. Red-white-and-blue patriotic envelopes, similar to those printed during the Civil War, were common during the brief Spanish-American War, and



“Blanket tossing” was a popular kind of horseplay with Civil War soldiers as well as “the Boys of 1898.”

some were printed just for Camp Thomas.<sup>11</sup>

A soldier of the 12th New York robbed the regimental post office when the sergeant assigned as post master stepped out for a few minutes. The thief grabbed a box full of money, stamps, and registered letters, one of which contained \$75. An officer chased the thief and caught him at the edge of camp.<sup>12</sup>

Many of the letters sent from Camp Thomas bore complaints about the poor food, overcrowding, the spread of disease, and the sheer waste of keeping so many willing soldiers bottled up in camp instead of off winning the war. Countless such complaining letters ended up in local newspapers.

And there was plenty to complain about at Camp Thomas. The number of soldiers stretched the available water supplies. A New York soldier explained, “we must walk three miles to a creek, get a canteen full of musty water ... boil it, put it into a hole in the ground to cool and to settle, and then we have at hand a muddy creek cocktail.” Tents were pitched

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in the woods, to shade soldiers from the Southern sun, but the shade also kept the ground from drying out after a rain. Even worse, the clay and rock just below the topsoil kept water from draining properly and it was impossible to dig deep enough for sanitary latrines. Rain "washing over what is the equivalent of a city of 40,000 inhabitants ... carries with it, of necessity, much pollution," which ended up in the water supply.<sup>13</sup>

A serious typhoid epidemic broke out in the summer, with 4,400 cases reported in August alone. A Red Cross report condemned the unsanitary conditions, and newspapers blasted the Army's handling of the camp with headlines such as "Chickamauga a Pesthole." Living at Camp Thomas was more dangerous than fighting the Spanish. A Congressional report charged that 752 soldiers died of disease at Camp Thomas, twice the 379 who were killed in action during the actual war. The Army began transferring troops to other camps in August, too late to save many of the sick. Spain signed an armistice on August 12, so the volunteers would have been demobilized in a few weeks or months anyway. Camp Thomas was empty by the end of September, except for two unlucky regiments ordered to stay behind and help the park staff clean up after the soldiers. Reversing the damage to the national park took several years.<sup>14</sup>

In 1904 the Army established a new post, called Fort Oglethorpe, not far from the site of Camp Thomas. Just as the boys in blue flooded Chickamauga in 1898, soldiers in khaki and drab would serve at Fort Oglethorpe in both of the World Wars, adding even more layers of postal history to one of the Civil War's greatest battlefields.

### Endnotes

1. Ezra J. Warner, *Generals in Blue* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1964), pp. 500–502.
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 46–47.
3. Brad K. Berner, *The Spanish-American War: A Historical Dictionary* (Lanham, MD: The Scarecrow Press, 1998), p. 22.
4. Gregory Dean Chapman, "Army Life at Camp Thomas, Georgia, During the Spanish-American War," *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, Vol. LXX, No. 4 (Winter 1986): 640, 642.
5. *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (June 3, 1898).
6. Chapman, *op. cit.*, p. 643; *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (June 20, 1898; September 4, 1898; May 21, 1898).
7. *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (June 3, 1898).
8. *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (May 28, 1898).
9. *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (June 10, 1898; July 11, 1898; June 5, 1898).
10. *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (June 3, 1898).
11. Chapman, *op. cit.*, p. 645.
12. *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (July 1, 1898).
13. *New York Times* (June 13, 1898; August 14, 1898).
14. *New York Times* (August 14, 1898); Berner, *op. cit.*, pp. 30, 62–63; Chapman, *op. cit.*, pp. 655–56.

### The Author

David A. Norris is an artist/writer who has written on Civil War history and other topics. His stamp collection has been a source of enjoyment since he was in second grade. He is still a worldwide collector, although he admits that worldwide stamps are being turned out much faster than he can keep up with them.

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# Postal Rates of the Roman States

## *Bajocchi Period, 1852–67*

by Andrew M. Munster

Postage stamps were introduced in the Roman (Papal or Pontifical) States January 1, 1852, when Rome already had a widely-established postal system — probably the most extensive in the world at that time. The Roman States consisted of Lazio, Umbria, Romagna, and Marche. Within this area, postal rates remained stable, under the regulations issued in 1844 by then-Treasurer to the Holy See, Cardinal Tosti (the so-called "Tosti rates") and with some minor modifications by his successor, Cardinal Antonelli, in 1845, until political events forced changes on December 31, 1863. Foreign or external rates, however, are a far more complicated subject. Rome had a different relationship with each of the sovereign governments (dukedoms, kingdoms, etc.) that make up present-day Italy, as well as with other European countries and distant lands. These relationships changed frequently — as the result of war, new political alliances, and treaties. Even the introduction of postal reform in 1864 and the adoption of the metric system in 1866–67 did not stabilize the postal rates entirely: with the final occupation of Rome by the Italian forces on September 20, 1870, and the abolition of the temporal authority of the Pope, this tumultuous era in postal history came to an end.

There is little information on this subject available to the

English-speaking reader. Although there is excellent original research in the Italian literature, even there the information available is sometimes incomplete. Because of these complexities, the organization of postal history in this area becomes a monumental task.

It is my belief that these rates can be organized according to major historical and political events. I therefore have devised a "period" structure corresponding to such events. It comprises two internal and four external periods, each corresponding to a series of changes in postal rates. Needless to say, the "events" defining each set of rates overlap and are not simultaneous — since treaties were concluded with separate governments at different times — so the system is certainly not "clean" and is entirely arbitrary on my part. I thought it worthwhile, however, to try to organize this difficult subject.

It is impossible to list all the rates in a short essay, and the complete rate structure is not totally available even from the archival research published. Therefore, some examples will be given in the text, and appropriate illustrations are provided.

**First Period for Internal Rates:** From the introduction of the first issue of stamps January 1, 1852, to new regulations taking effect January 1, 1868.



April 30, 1852, Bologna to Florence, Grand Duchy of Tuscany. The rate of 7½ bajocchi was valid only from January 1 until the adoption of the Austro-Italian League on October 1. First Period for external rates.



The lowest rate available: October 6, 1855, printed matter from Bologna to Zola Predosa, ½ bajocchi, paid with a 1-baj bisect. First Period for internal rates.

The rates existing in 1852 were, as already mentioned, the “Tosti rates,” and they simply remained in effect throughout this sixteen-year period. These rates are summarized in the accompanying table. By 1858, however, war against the newly formed Italy was initiated in the Piedmont and strongly supported by France and Austria. First Romagna (1859), then Marche (1860), and finally Umbria (1861) were lost to the Papal States, which were reduced to the Patrimony of St. Peter — essentially the City of Rome and the surrounding area of Lazio (Latium).

**Second Period for Internal Rates:** From the General Postal reform and the introduction of new rates on January 1, 1864, to the introduction of the metric system (centesimi) into postal rates, which began September 21, 1867.

It is noteworthy that for a period (1866–67) it was permissible to continue to use bajocchi stamps according to a conversion table, where 1 lira (100 centesimi) was equivalent to 18.66 bajocchi, or roughly 1 baj = 5 centesimi. The rate system was simplified: local mail = 1 baj (or 5 centesimi). Elsewhere in the new Patrimony area the fee was 2 baj. Distances were abolished.

At the end of this historic era, the efforts of three men — Mazzini the patriot, Cavour the politician/diplomat, and Garibaldi the general — succeeded in making Italy a united country, with Victor Emmanuel II of Sardinia as its king. The Papal States were invaded and ceased to exist as a political entity in September 1870. The centesimi period of 1866–67 of the Roman States quietly changed to the use of Italian stamps September 30, 1870. Letters franked with bajocchi during the last few weeks of use are great rarities: the latest known is a mixed bajocchi-centesimi cover dated October 5, 1867.

**First Period for External Rates:** From the first issue of the bajocchi stamps January 1, 1852, to the ratification of the Austro-Italian Postal League by the Holy See October 1, 1852.

Like the first internal rates, these also correspond-



January 16, 1855, Fossombrone (Marche) to Fano (Marche). Same distance, different but adjoining directorates, 2 baj, double rate >7.5 grams, = 4 baj. First Period for internal rates.

## The ‘TOSTI’ Rates within the Roman States, 1844–1863

Tariffs were calculated according to *Distances* and *Directorates*. There were three Distances: the patrimony of St. Peter (essentially Rome and Lazio) and southern Umbria; March and northeastern Umbria; and Romagna. There were forty Directorates, subdivided into primary and secondary. The first distance (Rome, etc.) further had three “rays” or zones. The following is a simplified illustration of these rates:

**Simple letters, one-leaf folded letters, weighing less than 7.5 grams:**

Within the same Directorate	1 baj
Within adjoining Directorates	2 baj
To a non-adjoining Directorate	3 baj
Within adjoining Distances	4 baj
To a non-adjoining Distance	5 baj
Registration	50% extra
Printed matter, 1 leaf	½ baj
Printed matter, larger: each ounce or fraction	1 baj

**Special higher rates applied from the farthest rays within the first Distance, both ways:**

From 1st Distance, third ray, to 2nd Distance	6 baj
From 1st Distance, third ray, to 3rd Distance	7 baj

Extra weight was assessed at double, triple, etc., for each 7.5 grams. One of the great difficulties in interpreting current material is the use of the “piombino,” or lead seal, that was attached by a string to the wax seal of envelopes. These weighed several grams and, of course, can no longer be found on their covers today.



August 10, 1855, Savignano to Rome. Non-adjoining distance, third ray, 6 baj. First Period for internal rates.



March 29, 1864, Rome to Monkstown near Dublin, via Marseilles and London. Rate 22 baj, >7.5 grams = 22 baj. Fourth Period for external rates.



July 2, 1852, Rimini to Trieste. 13 baj rate + registration 50% = 6½ baj, franked 20 baj. First Period for external rates.

ed to the Tosti rates of 1844. Examples: England, 15 baj; United States, 27 baj; Malta, 17 baj; Tuscany by land, 11½ baj. These rates, as well as subsequent ones, were not always followed to the letter. Frequently, neighboring towns just outside of the States would be charged the internal rates or even the local rate for mail.

Further difficulties are caused by the decision of the authorities to "split" certain rates into part pre-paid (with stamps) and part cash-on-delivery. This was done deliberately to allow the States to collect an assigned portion of the fee, while the destination country collected the rest. The use of lead seals ("piombini" or little leads) affixed to the usual wax seals by silk or thread added to the weight of the letter, and make it difficult to estimate rates for letters that are franked with apparent overweight penalties. An educated guess, but no more, can be made based on the size of the wax seal that supported the "piombino," some trace of which invariably remains on the flap of the cover.

**Second Period for External Rates:** Beginning with the adoption of the Austro-Italian League, which became official on October 1, 1852, and lasting until February 5, 1859.

Under the League, the rate to England went up to 26 baj; Malta was reduced to 15 baj; and all League countries were divided into three distances paying 2, 5, or 8 baj. There were four specific modifications during this period:

1. New rates for France were introduced April 1, 1853.
2. A convention with Tuscany was concluded June 2, 1853. The changes arrived at through this convention were determined basically because both France and the Grand Duchy of Tuscany wished to come to arrangements with the Austro-Hungarian League. Accordingly, closed mail to France was to be charged 20 baj, split between the Roman States and France. The inclusion of an extra tax for transiting Tuscany was abolished. The handstamps "P.P." and "P.D." were introduced to signify, respectively, that the weight and rate paid to the destination have been

verified or, that in transit through France, the rate had been paid to the exit port. If the franking for these destinations was insufficient, the amount of tax to be paid by the recipient was inscribed onto the letter by hand.

3. Some supplementary foreign rates were issued January 1, 1854. The rate for England was now 22 baj to the destination port; for overseas destinations it was 38 baj to the arrival port. Other rates were split to indicate both an obligatory sending rate and a receiving rate over which the States had no authority and were therefore dubbed “optional” in the regulations. For example, the obligatory sending rate to Sicily was 5 baj to the borders of the Kingdom of Naples, or the sender could elect to pay 21 baj to the arrival port. In 1855 Piedmont joined in alliance with France and Britain to send troops to the Crimea. This alliance helped align northern Italy with the European powers and set the stage for the historic events that were to take place within the next three years.

4. Modifications of some of the foreign rates took place December 24, 1857. Included was the rate to the United States, now 32 baj.

### Third Period for External Rates:

From February 5, 1859, soon after Austria announced monetary reforms, to the General Postal Reforms of January 1, 1864.

Following the Crimean War, a secret alliance was entered into by France (under Louis Napoleon) and the Piedmont, and popular agitation began to support an invasion to unify the country. On February 5, 1859, a series of new rates were set. The former rates for the Austro-Italian League were confirmed and continued, including the three distances. The rate for Britain was 22 baj and for the United States was 39 baj, if sent via Germany. For the Kingdom of Sardinia, the Balkans, and northern Switzerland, the rate was 12 baj.

**January 21, 1867, Rome to Susa (Savoy).**  
Basic rate 6 baj + 4 baj arrival tax = 10 baj;  
this letter is paying a triple rate of 30 baj.  
Fourth Period for external rates.



November 20, 1855, Rome to Naples. Letters to Naples were incremented each 6 grams, the basic rate to the city being 13 baj. This letter is paying the quintuple rate of 65 baj. Second Period for external rates.



February 25, 1858, Rome to Boston, via Marseilles, Paris, and Liverpool. Basic rate 32 baj, this letter is paying the triple rate of 96 baj. Second Period for external rates.



April 20, 1867, Rome to Guber, Prussia. The rate is 55 centesimi, which here was allowed to be paid at the exchange rate of 1 baj = 5 centesimi, or 11 baj. Fourth Period for external mail.



During this period the invasion of the Italian peninsula began from the north, with the loss, in turn, of Romagna, Marche, and Umbria, as previously mentioned. The sovereign principalities surrounding the Papal States to the north joined the new alliance. (There is rare and interesting philatelic material used by the various provisional governments as the troops advanced south, but that is beyond the scope of this essay.) On November 1, 1859, the Roman administration again attempted to split rates in an effort to maintain postal revenue, and published a limited series of modifications in European rates. During the last two years of the war it was very difficult to get any mail out of Rome, except by sea through France, and in March 1861 limited rates were issued for Europe purely for the Civitavecchia-Marseilles route.

**Fourth Period for External Rates:** From the introduction of General Postal Reform on January 1, 1864, to the adoption of the decimal system by the Roman postal service, October 1, 1867.

Essentially, the rate to the new Kingdom of Italy was 4 baj, but Rome favored the former provinces of the Roman State, which were termed "usurped," with a rate of 2 baj. Additional rates were issued for delivery by sea to Livorno and to Genova, Naples, and Messina. No further formal foreign rates were introduced until after the adoption of the lira/centesi

tesimi system. As mentioned above, Rome was occupied by the invading forces in September 1870, and the stamps of Italy came into use.

### Acknowledgments

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# On the Track of the Snowy Egret (Coil)



by Ronald E. Maifeld

It was a warm June evening when I received

a call that triggered an area-wide search for the P5s, a previously unreported plate number combination of P55555 on the self-adhesive 37-cent Snowy Egret coil of 100 printed by Ashton Potter. A fellow Plate Number Coil (PNC) collector informed me with great glee that he had found a coil of 100 of the 37-cent Snowy Egret with a new number, P55555, in a local Kroger supermarket, and, at the same store, copies of the double-sided Antique Toys convertible booklet of 20 with plate combination V2221, a number that we knew existed, but had not located.

Shortly thereafter, I announced on the Internet that the P5s had been found, and almost immediately had inquiries from dealers and collectors wanting me to help them fill their needs. After the initial numbers were totaled, we found that we needed several hundred full rolls. I also

contacted a couple of dealers about the Antique Toys and determined that need was there for about eight dozen panes.

I picked up what Antique Toys were available from the store that I knew had them, minus three that they would not sell me because they wanted to have some for other customers. I walked out of the store with fifty-six copies and no hope of finding more. The clerk told me that they would have a new supply of stamps in about ten days.

A conversation with a Kroger manager revealed that they get their stamps through a supply chain, rather than the post office, and apparently the stamps came from a distribution center in Tennessee. Except for one instance, we have not found "shrink wrapped" Egrets in any post office locally. It is speculated that Ashton Potter has farmed out production of this particular stamp to American BankNote and the whole production run is being sent to retail stores. American BankNote may not be the same as American Bank Note Company, which has supplied stamps to the Postal Service in the past. As far as we know at this point, since there have been no other reports of the P4s or P5s, the entire stock may be going to the Kroger grocery chain and/or those stores under the Kroger umbrella.

The vast majority of the coils that I've looked at have very good centering, and all have the triangular-shaped die cut that begins with a valley at the top.

Meanwhile, my collector buddy continued to search, with lackluster results. He expanded his efforts to include looking in Meier's and Bigg's stores. Neither venue had coils.

Many of the Kroger stores, which were now the main focus of his search, either had no coils or only Flags. Those that did have coils usually had them prefolded in strips of five stamps, held with a paper clip. Occasionally, he found an unopened coil that had not been desecrated by folding. Fortunately, the strips "usually" — but not always — provided a clue to what plate number was in stock.

A big problem in the search was that all of the coils are shrink wrapped and the only way to tell what the number is inside is to open



**Scott 3645b, BK 292, Antique Toys Plate 2221.**



**"Pie in the Sky" Constant Plate Variety discovered by PNC dealer Mike Lipson.**



**Egret P5s — Seam — Blue Seam line in margin of stamp to the left of the plate numbered stamp.**

them, unless a number can be seen on one of the stamps visible on the outside of the package, which is a long shot. Complicating the search was the problem that most of the coils of the Egrets, usually referred to as "birds" by the store clerks, were mixed in with plate combination P22222. This nixed the idea of buying everything they had, because the mix was generally half and half. The occasional hostile clerk who did not

want you to handle more than one coil also was a problem, although the majority of the customer service people were very helpful and accommodating.

Over the course of a couple weeks' searching we developed some "work around" techniques. We found that the main cache of stamps was at the Customer Service Desk and, except for a handful up front, the reserve was tucked away in the safe. Most stores would let you open a coil, especially if they had none already opened. If that coil happened to be P4s, then we stated that we would like to purchase it, and proceeded to open another, hoping that we would hit pay dirt again. When the wrong number appeared, that coil was returned and the searching stopped, although a few people did allow us to open more coils. Generally, there only half a dozen or so coils at most to look at, and it became a tough decision to call it quits or gamble on paying \$37 for an unwanted coil, which I did on several occasions.

I could tell that it was going to be a long road to the finish line, since most of those stores that had Egrets only had a few coils and some of them wanted to limit the number we could purchase.

There was one store in particular that let my partner open all the coils they had, a total of eight, which all turned out to be P2s. Obviously, he did not take any of them. The very next place he visited had an equal number of coils with P5s, but the clerk would only let him purchase three of them so they would have "stamps for other customers." He mentioned that the previous store had excess stock and asked if he could go back and purchase some from them and then exchange those for the P5s that he needed. Surprisingly, the clerk agreed, even though

the wrappers had been opened, and the exchange was made.

Up until this point, I had not been searching for the Egret numbers, opting to finance the search. My searcher was charging the stamps to his credit card and I was then reimbursing him with a check when he turned the finds over to me. To speed up the process, I made the decision to join in the hunt.

On the way to our local stamp club meeting, I decided to stop at a Kroger store near the meeting place, looking for more P5s so we could "share the wealth," and was very surprised to see P44444 on the coil. I looked at three coils, found they were all P4s, and walked away happy. After the meeting, I stopped back, planning on buying what they had left. When asked, the clerk at Customer Service said he thought there were six or seven rolls left, but he only returned with three. I bought them sight unseen, as far as the number was concerned. All three turned out to be P4s.

There were a few other stores on the way home, and I checked out a couple of them. The first store had a good dozen or so rolls and I found one with P4s showing on the outside of the coil. I ended up buying three coils, and they were all P4s. The last place I checked before heading home at almost 11 p.m. did not have coils.

I could not wait to announce the news that I had located a previously unreported number, which I dubbed "the missing link." Within hours after posting the find on Virtual Stamp Club (<http://www.virtualstampclub.com/>) and the U.S. Stamp Discussion Group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/usstamps/>) on the Internet, we were flooded with requests for P4s and charged with locating copies equal in number to the P5s, of which we were still a long way from our goal of several hundred coils of 100 with the P55555 plate combination.

At the time of writing, it's only been three days since we found the P4s and both of us have made one extensive canvas of the area. My colleague's outing produced the remaining needed booklets and a few more P5s, along with some P4s. I'll cover my outing and add some random thoughts.

My trip started at about 12:30 p.m. and lasted until I got weary at about 6 p.m. or so, and covered 96.6 miles. I had a loose travel plan, being fairly familiar with the Kroger stores in the area, and trying to incorporate a few errands along



Snowy Egret — Scott 3892A,  
Plate P44444.



Snowy Egret, Scott 2892A, Plate  
P55555.

the way. I've not actually counted all the Kroger stores in the Cincinnati phone book, but there are more than seventy, including one in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, and a dozen or so in northern Kentucky. My plan was to head east and then swing to the northwest, generally following the outer belt, I-275, not knowing how long it would take and/or what obstacles I might encounter.

Wouldn't you know, the three closest stores did not have coils. Of the eleven stores that I visited, it was not until the fifth store that I found any P4s. Over the course of the afternoon, I only came up with two coils of P5s, although I did find a good number of the P4s. I found one store listed in the phone book that was hidden behind a large shopping mall and that I previously had no idea even existed. It was a worthwhile find. In fact, most of the trip was fruitful after the initial letdown.

The last place I ventured, which was a little farther north than I had planned on going, had perhaps fifty coils in stock. The young clerk (who along the way received an education on Plate Number Coils) was very friendly and cooperative. She let me look at every coil, and I found two with numbers showing on the outside: a P22222 and a P44444. I immediately set the P4 coil aside and said that I would like to open one at random, and that I would buy that one regardless of what number it was. It turned out to be a P2 — BUMMER! But the clerk said she would keep that one to sell from and that I could open another. It also turned out to be a P2.

It was now decision time, and I opted to quit opening coil packages and head for home. I walked out with the lone P4



Both Snowy Egret numbers, Scott 3892A, Plate P44444 and P55555, printed by Ashton Potter.

coil that I had previously set aside. Fortunately, she did not require me to buy either of the two I had opened. I passed a few more Kroger stores on the way home, but I was bushed and hungry, and decided to wait until another day.

The next day I mapped out another trip, this one heading to the west side of Cincinnati, with a planned itinerary of twelve stops followed by dinner with a friend. Only one of the stores did not have any Egrets. All the rest of the nine I visited had the P4s and, overall, I did quite well. No P5s to be seen, but it was still a very good day.

The last stop before dinner was the most memorable. They had an open coil of P2s and eight full coils, four of which had P4s showing. My request to purchase all eight was met with the stern response, "We can only sell you a couple." I pleaded and even said please, and mentioned that I had driven all the way across town, a distance of forty-plus miles. None of this had any effect.

I then mentioned that I had seven "open" rolls in the car that I could trade so that they would have rolls left for other customers, and that I would be happy to have them verify that the rolls still had all their stamps. The clerk accepted this proposal, and I hurried out to the car and returned with the seven coils in a Kroger bag. They neglected to count the stamps. Go figure.

OK, deal done, but when I went to pay for the one extra coil my credit card was turned down. Fortunately, I had another card available and used that. It turned out that the card company put a block on my account because of all the activity and high dollar amounts, especially in grocery stores. I got everything straightened out the next day, and I was on the prowl again, trying to supply PNC collectors and dealers with the Egret P44444.

My third trip out netted a plastic grocery sack full of P4s, but not more P5s. In all, we came up with fewer than eighty coils of the P55555 but enough P4s to satisfy everyone who wanted them. My feeling, considering what I've found,

is that perhaps we discovered the P5s near the end of their run and the beginning of the influx of P4s. It is possible that the P5s could surface again.

A short time later, Ric Lovett (a philatelic clerk in Providence, Rhode Island), as a result of my posts on the Internet, began a search at the Providence Accountable Papers Office, and announced that he had found supplies of the Egret P55555 and P44444 sufficient to supply the needs of all interested collectors. This was indeed very good news!

I subsequently received three other reports of P4s — one in Richmond, Indiana, and one in Ann Arbor, Michigan, both at Kroger stores. The last report was at a Sam's Club in Riverside, California.

Only after I had shipped most of the coils to dealers and other collectors around the country did I realize that a good percentage of the coils existed with seam lines on the stamp to the left of the plate-numbered stamp. Fortunately, several of the strips that I retained for myself ended up having the sought after seam lines.

One of the recipients of the first batch shipped out was PNC dealer Mike Lipson. Mike sent me an e-mail with a scan of what he described as a "constant plate variety" and challenged me to come up with a name, in exchange for a plate strip with the variety. I dubbed the discovery "Pie in the Sky" and it was accepted. A scan of the variety is included.

## The Author

Ronald Maifeld is a retired U.S. Postal Service Supervisor who started collecting stamps in grade school in 1953. His primary focus is U.S. plate number coils and booklets. Other collecting interests include the Americas and Scandinavia, plus Railroading on stamps. He serves as webmaster of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club (PNC<sup>3</sup>) website located at [www.pnc3.org](http://www.pnc3.org) and is the moderator of the U.S. Stamps discussion group on Yahoo.com.

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# 1925 Air Race Souvenir Postcard

by Charles A. Fricke

Aeronautics was still an exciting and perilous activity in 1925. People would stop in their tracks to watch a plane pass overhead, and entire small towns would turn out to watch an unscheduled landing. Air races were wildly popular events and generated an equally popular philatelic collectible — the souvenir postal card.

The air races that took place around the country during the 1920s and 30s had a significant impact on the airplane industry, as manufacturers sought to build the winning aircraft by improving performance and reliability. They were both endurance and speed races, usually lasting from four to ten days of competition, and often included a variety of spectator events such as parachute-jumping contests and glider demonstrations. Many of the fast planes, such as the British "Spitfire," originally developed for racing were later purchased by the military as fighter planes. Most of the early pilots were military or former military men.

One of the early competitions was the Pulitzer Trophy race, sponsored by Ralph Pulitzer, oldest son of Joseph Pulitzer, who inherited the *New York World* following his father's death in 1911. Ralph Pulitzer

was known as a sportsman with a particular interest in air flight; indeed, his 1939 obituary in *Time* magazine noted that he "cared more for big game hunting than for journalism."

The first Pulitzer Trophy Race was held Thanksgiving Day 1920 at Mitchell Field, Long Island, New York, established in 1917 as an army aviation field. It was won by Capt. Cortiss Moseley, flying a Verville-Packard VCP-R racer at an average speed of 156.5 mph. The sixth, and final, Pulitzer Trophy

Race was held five years later on October 12, 1925, also at Mitchell Field. The race was won by Lt. Cyrus Bettis who flew a specially built Curtiss R3C-1 four laps around tall pylons for a total distance of 124.28 miles, coming in first with a speed of 248.9 miles per hour! Two weeks later Lt. Jimmy Doolittle flew the same plane, now equipped with pontoons and redesignated as seaplane R3C-2, in the Schneider Trophy Race, and established a new world seaplane record with a speed of 245.7 mph on the straight course. The two pilots were jointly awarded the 1925 Mackay Trophy, which is on display at the Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC.

A year later on August 23, 1926, Lt. Bettis was one of a trio of pilots flying



The Mackay Trophy.

Curtiss planes to a competition to be held at Selfridge Field, Mount Clemens, Michigan, when they encountered dense fog and became separated. Pilots John J. Williams and Luther S. Smith made it to Selfridge Field within an hour of one another, but Bettis never arrived. He crashed into a tree near the place where air mail pilot Charlie Ames had his fatal wreck a year earlier. After waiting a day — and realizing that the planes he could hear could not see him — suffering from a broken left leg, with both jaws broken, and other injuries, Bettis managed to drag himself down the mountain and to a road, where he collapsed in the pouring rain. Unfortunately, the road was closed due to construction and it was only sheer chance that two men on the highway crew came across him the next day, still grimly dragging himself down the road. Bettis was first taken to the Bellefonte hospital, and then a passenger plane modified with an "invalid hammock" landed at the air mail field and transported him to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington. Although the doctors initially pronounced him on the road to recovery, he died of complications September 1st. Cyrus Bettis was thirty-three years old.

The card shown was created as a souvenir for the 1925 Pulitzer Trophy Race. Although the actual race was held October 12, the banner across the top of the card reads: "National Aeronautic Exhibition Flights October 8–10, 1925." The card is franked with a 2-cent Hugenot-Walloon stamp (Scott 615) and postmarked "Hempstead, N.Y. / Signal Br. / Oct 10." Two cents was the current postal rate for postcards. While the card was not actually carried on an air mail run, it is a terrific example of the ties between aerophilately and aerial flight.

### The Author

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

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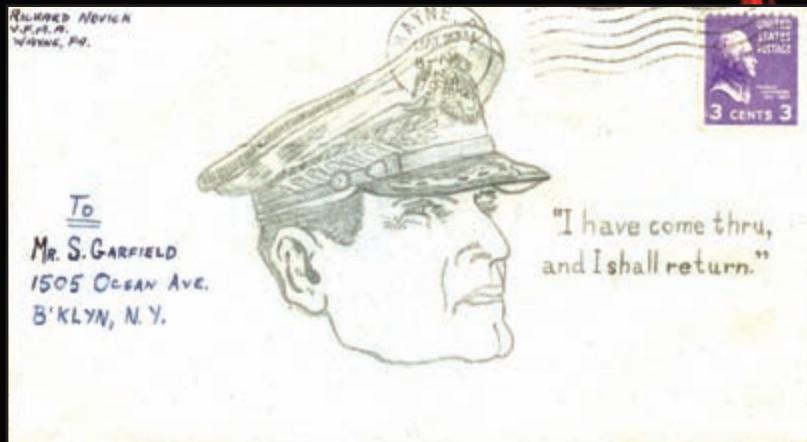
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# Ideas to Share: Art & Envelopes

by Richard Novick

Long before I knew what a cachet was, I came up with the idea of placing drawings on the front of my mail, and sending the mail to my best friend. Back in 1939, when I was sixteen years of age, I lived in Brooklyn, New York, and so did my best friend, Stanley Garfinkel (who later changed his name to Stanley Garfield). When I went off to Valley Forge Military Academy in Wayne, Pennsylvania, and we wrote to each other.

I was a pretty good artist, and my friend Stanley was a fabulous artist. We decided to include drawings on the envelopes we sent to each other, and did so for four years. We also decided that we would return the originals, so I got back the illustrated envelopes that I sent to Stanley, and he, in turn, got his drawings back from me. Many times the mailing address was mixed into the drawing, just to drive the mailman crazy, but all the letters arrived safely.

I always enjoyed the comics in the newspapers (and still do to this day), so many of my drawings are of those comic figures. I also was very patriotic (I enlisted during World War II), thus many of the drawings have patriotic themes.

My first endeavor was a cover posted March 20, 1939 with an aviation theme, quickly followed by one for the 1939 New York World's Fair. I chose my subjects at random, and the next one was a butterfly with the mailing address on its wings. The mailman must have loved that one! Then I drew, in succession, an army officer, an American Eagle, and Zoe, one of my favorite comic strips of 1939. A sword hilt followed, and another comic of an Indian whose name I cannot recall, and another comic.

During the summer months of July and August I was away at camp, and the letters continued from Lake Como, Pennsylvania. World War II began September 3, 1939 when Great Britain and France declared war on Germany, so naturally I came up with a drawing of a soldier and added the

popular slogan "Keep America Out of War." Moon Mullins, a comic figure followed, and, with Christmas only sixty-five days away, I had to include a Santa Claus. Another patriotic drawing for Armistice Day, and then the lovable comic Lil' Abner. With Easter coming, I drew a rabbit, followed by Lucy the Cow, and BO the dog. I copied a picture of Snap, from the ad for a cereal with Snap, Crackle, and Pop.

As I grew older, my art work improved and I made a nice stylized picture of Batman. Conscription Day was not a happy day for many men who were drafted into the services, reflected by my bugler with the oversized wake-up horn. I never made a Mickey Mouse cover, but I did do a Donald Duck. Just a few months before Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 1941, I created another patriotic picture with the title "God Bless America." The Spirit was another comic figure, and then, on May 29, 1942, came what I believe was my finest drawing — General Douglas MacArthur, with the quotation, "I have come thru, and I shall return." My final drawing from the series was a skull used as a tobacco humidor for pipes.

It was all great fun while it lasted, and fortunately I saved all these drawings.

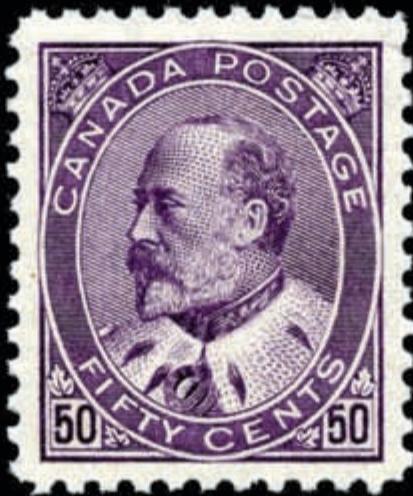
My friend Stanley went on to become an artist working for the Sears Catalogue, in the ladies undergarments division, drawing girdles, and later opened his own very successful advertising agency around 47th Street on Broadway in New York City. As for me, I became a girdle and bra manufacturer. I always thought that it was ironic that both Stanley and I were involved with girdles.

## The Author

Richard Novick has been collecting stamps since 1929 and picture postcards since 1969. He began selling stamps in 1946 after his return from the U.S. Air Corps, and became a full-time dealer in 1979.

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# Learn More, Do More, Enjoy More Through the APS!

## May — Spring Is Here with Stamps Galore

This is the month when spring is finally with us, *and* a month of stamps. The world's first postage stamp — the Penny Black — was issued May 6, 1840. The First of May is Labor Day in much of the world, and there have been many stamps to commemorate it. And in the United States May is, and will probably remain, a month of many new stamps, due to the scheduled rate change. Although the "24/7" flag stamps were issued in advance, on April 18, followed by the postcard rate 27-cent tropical fruit stamps on April 25 and the 42-cent Purple Heart on April 30, the bulk of the new stamp issues will be released this month.

The new offerings begin with the 42-cent Elk stamped envelope on May 2, to be followed by the 27-cent Corinthian capital on May 12. Also on May 12 will be issued the 59-cent James A. Michener and the 76-cent Edward Trudeau stamps, and the Mt. Rushmore Priority Mail Envelope. Two new international rate stamps, the 72-cent 13 Mile Woods, New Hampshire, and the 94-cent St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, will be issued May 16. May also will see the release of the 42-cent Frank Sinatra (May 13), the 42-cent Minnesota Statehood card, and the 62-cent Dragonfly stamps (May 18).

The new Forever stamp also will be released on May 12. One might ask why a *new* (2008) Forever stamp? Apparently the USPS wants to track the usage of the different cost "Forevers."

This is a busy time for the Post Office and for those of us who collect U.S. stamps. And, of course, the month is full of stamp shows and bourses, including four WSP shows: the Philatelic Show (Boston, Massachusetts), Ropex, (Rochester, New York), Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (Denver, Colorado) and Nojex (Secaucus, New Jersey) — with Westplex (San Francisco, California) just before and Napex (McLean, Virginia) just after the month of May. Three of these plan to have USPS First Days. I hope all of you are going to at least one such event this month.

## Progress

Have you noticed what's new at the APS? Part of each issue of *The American Philatelist* now is online. Our regular columns are now available for you to read as of the first of each month. In addition, we are continuing to place articles from past issues of the *AP* on our website, with a new one each month and a growing archive. New members in particular will enjoy discovering this wealth of reading; old members will have a chance to discover articles they might have missed — all on our website for you to download at your leisure. For the present time, this feature is available to anyone who visits our site; however, when we get the new site up and running, it will only be accessible to members — one of the privileges of belonging to the APS.

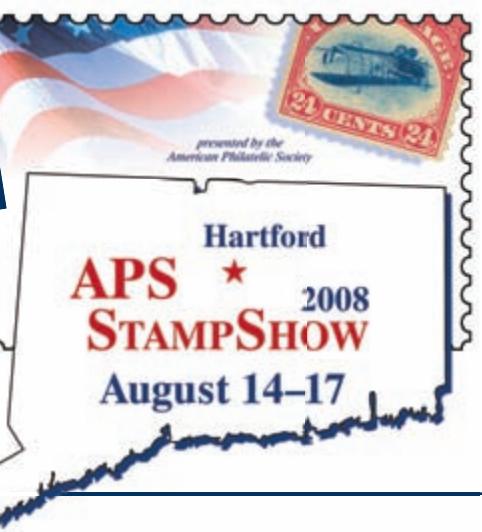
Our Sales Division is working on a means of allowing our overseas members to participate in our sales circuits. While the new procedure is still not quite ready, it promises to address a problem that has long vexed our members.

Our monthly e-mail newsletter is coming soon — hopefully during this month. We want you to know what is happening at the APS, and in the hobby, on





## Plan to Attend StampShow 2008



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a timely basis. While by its very nature a printed magazine has a significant time lag before it reaches readers' hands (I am writing this in March), and has a fixed amount of space available, the e-newsletter is designed to get around these limitations. I hope you will enjoy it.

### Unsoakable Stamps

We sent a letter on this subject to Postmaster General Potter in January that also was printed in the March issue of *The American Philatelist* (pp. 247–48). Postmaster Potter replied to this letter in February. His letter reads, in part:

Our Stamp Services manufacturing team is very much aware of the issue and the impact it is having on the stamp-collecting community. We publicly stated that we have not given up on the idea of producing self-adhesive stamps that can be removed from their covers. Unfortunately, there are a number of factors making it increasingly difficult for us to maintain a water-soluble layer on our stamp paper. Because of this, we cannot guarantee that all future postage stamps will be easy to soak off of an envelope.

In the meantime, we will continue to work closely with our stamp printers and the paper industry to search for a solution that will be acceptable to our customers and the collecting community.

I appreciate the opinion of the APS Board of Directors and look forward to the continued strong relationship our two organizations share.

In the April AP, I made the following observation: "For the USPS it is a matter of cost — while their postage rates are increasing at the rate of inflation (about two percent is the most recent number), their volume has been falling at twice that rate, so that their revenues are decreasing. Thus the need to contain costs — which, by one account, includes the water-soluble layer of our stamps." Beyond this, there seems to be another factor to be considered: stamps that cannot

be soaked intact off an envelope cannot be re-used. Remember the security experiments of the nineteenth century, especially the grills? Once again there seems to be a substantial trade in stamps that have been used, but not cancelled. Although we often see stamps that were missed by the cancelling machine simply obliterated with a ballpoint pen, many more continue to arrive with no cancel at all. If, however, the stamp cannot be soaked off, it cannot be re-used. This was probably a factor in the decision of the USPS to omit that soakable layer requirement in their recent stamp printing contracts.

So, if the U.S. stamps we collect are destined to stay on the envelope — or, in the case of mint stamps, on the backing, then we need to consider the archival properties of the self-stick "gum" layer. We all remember the 1974 Mt. Vernon Weathervane Christmas stamp and the discoloration that has turned up in the intervening years, and apparently so does the USPS.

They tell us that the self-stick gum formulation has not changed since 1989 (the Eagle self-stick stamps), and that it has passed all the testing that has been done. The USPS is, however, presently engaged in another series of tests stressing the gum from the standpoint of what happens if, for instance, the self-sticks are carried in a wallet for a protracted period of time? Issues such as temperature, humidity, rubbing, etc., are part of that sort of testing. Now, with the Forever stamps intended to be out there for many years, this is even more important. The USPS is confident that the gum will withstand the testing, but wants to be absolutely certain.

Moreover, they tell us, the self-stick gum should serve as an effective inert barrier to the acid content of envelope paper if stamps are stored in cool dry conditions, which certainly are the ideal conditions that we collectors should strive to employ.

So, let's start thinking about clipping around the cancelled stamp and mounting it in an album or stock book. Those of us who collect recent mint U.S. stamps are already cutting around the backing paper. Like cut-squares of days gone by, this may end up being the norm in the years to come. Nonetheless, we will continue to keep this matter on the agenda as we discuss collector concerns with the USPS.

### Summer Activities

Finally, make your plans to attend the APS Summer Seminar on Philately in Bellevue (June 22–27) and then StampShow in Hartford (August 14–17). And don't forget to check out the *American Philatelist* reprints on our website ([www.stamps.org/Services/ser\\_ArchivedArticles.htm](http://www.stamps.org/Services/ser_ArchivedArticles.htm)). New this month is Dr. James W. Milgram's "The Transcontinental Railroad: A Meeting of East and West" from the February 2003 issue of the AP (pages 126–135).

And above everything else, remember to share THE JOY OF PHILATELY!

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## from the executive director

by peter mastrangelo



**F**inally, Spring is here! For those of you who know me, this is an understatement. If I had my way church bells would chime, parades would be held in every town, a national holiday would be proclaimed, and newspaper headlines would exclaim: "No more snow!" Well, that's my personal opinion, anyway. At the APS, Spring means something entirely different. It is during this time that we are putting the final touches on June activities at the American Philatelic Center.

Saturday, June 21, hobbyists will descend upon the APC for a variety of special activities. This is the first of our Summer Saturdays at the APC. The Library, Circuit Sales, and the Headsville Post Office will be open for business from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday the local Mt. Nittany Stamp Club will host Sco-

pex, its annual show featuring about a dozen dealers and sixty-five frames of exhibits.

Also on June 21 we will dedicate the St Louis Patio (1 p.m.) as well as the Mary Ann Owens Thematic Reference Collection (2 p.m.), to be followed immediately by a reception for those in attendance. I also would like to welcome collectors from throughout Wisconsin, who will be making a special bus trip not only to visit the APC but also to remember Mary Ann Owens who was active in the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs. The St. Louis Patio and Mary Ann Owens were highlighted in the recognition issue of *The American Philatelist* last month.

On Sunday evening June 22, we will welcome participants and instructors for the beginning of our annual Summer Seminar, a week-long event filled with philatelic learning experiences. It's not too late to join your fellow philatelists for this annual philatelic happening. We also are pleased to announce that former Postmaster General Benjamin Bailar will be the speaker for Thursday evening's closing banquet.

### Survey Says'

Over the past few months I have been providing a synopsis of various results from the APS Stamp Collector Survey. This month I would like to focus on "why" we collect stamps. As you know, our survey included both members and non-members. "Why" we collect stamps is no different for either group as a whole, but we found that there was a significant variance for one subset of collectors: those under fifty years of age differ in their reason as to why they collect stamps. Here are a few examples:

- Twenty-five percent of *all of those surveyed* indicated that "history" was a major reason why they collected as compared to 48 percent for those *under age fifty*.



The APS Sales Division always is a popular spot.

# June at the APC



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- Thirty-three percent of those *over fifty* emphasized that a major reason they collected stamps was because of the “relaxing” nature of the hobby (compared to 10 percent of *all those surveyed*). This same group also enjoys the hobby because they find it challenging and intellectually stimulating (14 percent versus 5 percent of *all those surveyed*).
- The general population of respondents (20 percent) emphasized that they collected stamps for the “overall enjoyment” as compared to 7 percent for those *under fifty* years of age.
- Each group seems to be almost equally captivated by the artwork and beauty of stamps as well as the opportunity to learn about other countries and people.
- Those *under fifty* are more inclined to cite the “hunt and discovery” aspect of stamp collecting as a major motivator in their interest in the hobby.

#### Help Us ‘Raise the Roof on the APC’

Twice a year we come to the general membership with a fund-raising appeal, in the spring and at dues renewal time. Our spring appeal will be out shortly. While contributions

are welcome for all aspects of APS and APRL programs and services, our focus this year is to ask your help in securing the resources needed to re-roof the undeveloped portions of the American Philatelic Center complex. Full details will be presented in a special mailing to the membership. Your support is most appreciated.

#### StampShow 2008

Now is the time to plan on joining us, August 14–17, in Hartford, Connecticut, this summer for StampShow 2008. Once again, it will be the philatelic event of the year — dealers eager to buy and sell, fantastic displays of philatelic material, meetings and seminars covering all aspects of the hobby, three first day ceremonies, beginning activities for all ages, advice on the collection you found in Uncle Charlie’s attic, social functions, the APS General Membership Meeting, and much more. The July issue of the *AP* will feature the show schedule, the bourse, the exhibits (both philatelic and literature), and other featured activities. Visit [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org) for the latest show information.

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# 2008 Kehr Award Nominees Sought

Can you name a collector who makes our great hobby appeal to newcomers? Someone who works with beginners — young, old, or both — to make them collectors, too? These men and women make vital contributions to building a bright tomorrow for our hobby. These are the people the American Philatelic Society has honored since 1991 with its Ernest A. Kehr "Future of Philately" Award.

The Kehr Award recognizes a living philatelist each year who has contributed to the future of the stamp hobby. The candidate's endeavors must exhibit sustained excellence, lasting value, and demonstrated positive results. To be considered for the award, activities in one or more of the following listed categories should have been demonstrated by the nominee for at least five years.

1. Work showing a high level of creativity in making stamp collecting attractive to newcomers.

2. Efforts over several years showing a high degree of dedication in working directly with newcomers and youth.
3. Activity in developing and administering programs that are aimed at recruiting newcomers and fostering their development in the hobby.

The Kehr Award is named for Ernest Anthony Kehr (1911–1986), one of philately's most distinguished spokesmen. He became hobby news editor of the *New York World-Telegram* in 1935 and then stamp news editor of the *New York Herald Tribune* from 1939 until the newspaper closed in 1966. Kehr distributed tons of philatelic materials to Veterans' hospitals as head of "Stamps for the Wounded" and, as a newspaperman, probably produced more lineage to support philately than any other person in history. He continued as stamp columnist for *Newsday* (Long Island, New

York) until his death. Kehr also wrote several popular books, of which *The Romance of Stamp Collecting* (1947) was a philatelic bestseller. In 1964 he founded the Philatelic Press Club (later known as the International Philatelic Press Club), and was its chairman emeritus at the time of his death in 1986.

To nominate a recipient for the Kehr Award, please include his or her name, accomplishments, and supporting documentation. Send your nomination to the American Philatelic Society, Attn: Kehr Award Committee, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte PA, 16823 by June 13, 2008.

Additional information on the award and the complete list of previous winners is available on the APS website at [www.stamps.org/Almanac/alm\\_kehrAward.htm](http://www.stamps.org/Almanac/alm_kehrAward.htm). For more information, contact Ken Martin, 814-933-3817; [kpmartin@stamps.org](mailto:kpmartin@stamps.org).

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# 3-Cent Washington of 1861

In my last two In the Know columns, I introduced several of the “usual suspects” among United States stamps that need expertizing to certify their genuineness. These are stamps that have most often needed expert scrutiny to establish their authenticity — either because the stamp has been the subject of attempts to modify its appearance to boost apparent value, or even simply because the stamp is frequently misidentified. Such is the case with this month’s “suspect,” the 3-cent Washington of 1861.

As noted in February’s column, after the beginning of the Civil War in April 1861, U.S. Postmaster General Blair ordered the withdrawal and devaluation of all existing U.S. stamps that summer, and their replacement with new designs. Since 1851, the 3-cent stamp had been America’s most widely used denomination, paying for half-ounce letters traveling up to 3,000 miles. To replace the perforated 3-cent rose and dull red stamps printed by Toppan, Carpenter & Company since 1857, adhesives again showing a left-facing profile of George Washington were printed under a new contract with National Bank Note Company.

The new stamps were printed in rose, rose pink, pink, and a distinctive shade known by the somewhat grisly name “pigeon blood pink.” All four of these versions were first used between August 17 and August 21, 1861. The most common of them (Scott 65) is common indeed. The rose, bright rose, dull red, and rose red versions of this 147-year-old stamp catalogue just \$3 in used condition.

In all, nearly 1.8 billion of these stamps, including later grilled versions, were printed from just twenty-six plates.

In Volume II of *The United States Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century*, Lester G. Brookman recorded shades of rose, bright rose, dull red, rose red, brown red, pale brown red, and dark brown red, and opined “...it is more than probable that the first delivery of the 3c stamps not only included the pink and the rose but some shades of each.” The

In all, nearly 1.8 billion of these stamps, including later grilled versions, were printed from just twenty-six plates.

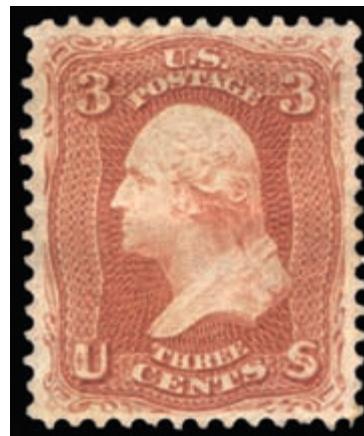
uncanceled example of Scott 65 nearby displays a common brown red shade of the issue.

Brookman made a tortured attempt to describe the elusive 3-cent pink (Scott 64), concluding, “it has more pink than rose, but it is not as soft a color as the real pink.” And noting rare shades of “deep pigeon blood” and “pale pigeon blood,” he ominously concluded, “I consider the ‘Pink’ to be quite susceptible to changes brought about by natural causes....”

Undaunted, scientifically inclined collectors took up the challenge of these stamps. A notable example is William H. Beck, whose “Color Analysis of 1861 — 3 cent stamp Design” filled seventy 11 x 14-inch pages in an exhibit at the APS Convention in Baltimore in August 1941. It was distilled down to a still massive article with graphs galore in H.L. Lindquist’s *The Stamp Specialist*, and anthologized in twenty-four pages in Susan M. McDonald’s *American Philatelic Miscellany*.

Four decades later, as R.H. White observed of this issue in his magisterial *Encyclopedia of the Colors of United States Postage Stamps*, “The printings of the 1861 issue have stimulated more discussions, provoked more controversy in philatelic literature, and confused more collectors than virtually any other classic United States stamp.”

White and Beck both warn that the subtle range of colors displayed on these stamps can easily mislead the collector, depending on the state, the whiteness and even any relatively minor soiling of



This example of Scott 65 displays the more common brown red shade of the 1861 3-cent Washington issue.

the stamp paper, envelope, or piece to which the stamp may be affixed — even the type and intensity of the lighting under which the stamp is viewed.

Compounding the complexity is a susceptibility of the stamps to fading, a process that has been going on for nearly a century and a half now. This is far from a new concern, as Elliot Perry recorded in his *Pat Paragraphs*. Under the headline “The New Three Cent Postage Stamps,” the September 5, 1861, *Buffalo Express* recorded, “The color of the new three cent postage stamps has faded since they were printed owing to defect [sic] in the ink. The Post Office Department will insist on an improvement... In a very short time the stamps will be issued in a brighter tint.”

Which “tint” your stamp has is a matter of some importance. In used condition, the design that catalogues \$3 in rose and its related common hues (Scott 65) is valued at \$160 in rose pink (Scott 64b), \$1,000 in pink (Scott 64), and \$4,000 in the seldom seen pigeon blood pink (Scott 64a).

The later E-grill rose (Scott 88), F-grill red (Scott 94), and F-grill rose

(Scott 94a) are fairly common, although other later grilled versions of the 3-cent Washington produced in 1867–69 also are rare and valuable. Only four used examples are known of the scarcest of these, the 3-cent rose B-grill (Scott 82) — none of them in any better than fine condition. Its current Scott catalogue value is \$200,000.

Shown nearby is a genuine used example of the 1861 3-cent pink shade (Scott 64) from the APS reference collection. Dated November 11, 1861 — four months after the stamps were issued — this stamp was a donation from Richard Drews some years ago.

As will happen whenever the temptation of big profit is present, some fraudsters have attempted to exploit the confusion over color on these 3-cent stamps to fatten their own wallets. Also shown nearby is a 3-cent rose (Scott 65), which under magnification reveals that pink paint or crayon has been painstakingly applied to the raised ridges of engraved ink in an attempt to simulate the more valuable pink stamp. Although the process used is unusual, this deceptive alteration took a lot of time and a steady hand to complete.

Here at the American Philatelic Center, APEX receives on the average twelve to fifteen applications per month asking if an item is the pink shade of the 3-cent 1861. One quick way to check is to compare your stamp with the two illustrations of genuine stamps provided here. Does it come close to the pink shade in the photo of Scott 64? If so, you may want to consider submitting it for a certificate.

Next time you attend a stamp show, you can talk to a dealer specializing in classic U.S. material and ask to compare your copy with certified examples in stock.

Another approach is to send a scan via the APS Quick ID Service. If the color is well represented in the scan, the Quick ID can suggest the proper shade. If it is definitely the brown red shade of Scott 65, there is usually no need to go further. If it appears that it may indeed be the pink shade, we can recommend formal certification to be sure.

Whatever its color, the American Philatelic Expertizing Service can provide you with a certificate of authenticity and condition, so you can rest assured that your stamp is genuine in all



Shown here is a genuine used example, dated November 11, 1861, of the 1861 3-cent pink shade (Scott 64) from the APS reference collection. It was a donation from Richard Drews.



Best viewed under magnification, this example of the 3-cent rose (Scott 65) shows a topical application of pink paint or crayon applied to the raised ridges of the engraved ink in an attempt to simulate the more valuable pink stamp.

respects. Application forms and guidelines are available by contacting APEX, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823; telephone 814-933-3803, ext 206; or by logging on to the APS website

([www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org)) and clicking the “Services” tab across the top of the page and selecting “Expertizing” from the choices in the left margin.

# RHM Philatelist's



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# Summer Saturday Openings

The Sales Division will be open on five Saturdays this summer. Saturday #1 is the Saturday before the annual APS Summer Seminar, **June 21**, 2008. This also coincides with the Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society's annual stamp show (Scopex) that Saturday and Sunday, held here at the Match Factory. The hours will be 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday #2 is **July 12**, during the Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts. While you are visiting the Match Factory, your spouse can visit this top-rated arts festival. Saturday #3 is **July 26**. Saturday #4 is **August 9**, the week before StampShow 2008, and Saturday #5 is August 23, the week after the Hartford show. Plan your vacation around a stop at the Sales Division this summer. Come in on Friday to make it a relaxing two days of browsing through the sales books.

## APS Cancels

The days of the sloppy "Altoona" cancels are over. With the opening of the Headsville Post Office, we are hand-cancelling all of our mail.

## Entries in the Sales Books

We strongly suggest that sellers routinely complete several pieces of information in their sales books when preparing them for submission into our system:

- Enter catalogue values for the items to simplify the price comparison process for the buyers. This is part of the psychology of selling.

- Also, total the net prices for each page and enter the totals at the top of the page and on the appropriate line for each page inside the back cover of the sales book.
- Sellers who submit the blue-covered covers books should number the pages. Many buyers record their purchases using page numbers for their own records. Chapters use the page numbers for recording their members' purchases.
- When mounting more than one country in a book, identify the switch to another country when it occurs on a page. The countries should at least be noted on the top of the page and in the description block on the front of the book.

Sellers who pay attention to details when mounting sales books make buying easier and more pleasurable for collectors. This also applies to those who are mounting sales sheets for our Stamp-Store. Buyers appreciate details that show that the sellers really know what they are selling.

## How Did You Start Collecting Stamps?

This is Marty Graff's response to my beginning comments in the February 2008 Sales Talk column:

I started collecting stamps by mistake! The year was 1980 and I had just finished building (literally) our new house in Farmington Hills,

## APS Sales Division

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Michigan. I was exhausted; I didn't want to move from the couch. My wife was determined that I needed to have a hobby to keep me from working so much. She remembered my brother and me talking about how we used to collect coins from the change we received from our collections as newspaper delivery boys. Problem was she thought we were talking about stamps. So on the occasion of my next birthday I received a gift certificate from the concession stamp store located in the J.L. Hudson Co. downtown store.

Mary told me she tried to buy some stamps and an album but the dealer refused to sell them to her. He told her that the stamps a collector chooses to collect are too personal and that I would have to select them myself. He did show her some items that were very popular

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to collect, like duck stamps and news paper stamps, and explained that many collectors found great pleasure in searching for stamps at bourses and auctions.

Eventually I made my way downtown (Detroit) to Hudson's and stood in front of the counter gazing at a vast amount of stamps in the showcases. I should stop here and explain that when one walked into the Woodward Avenue entrance of the J. L. Hudson store one stepped back in time about fifty years. The escalators to the mezzanine had wood steps; the elevators had human operators; and the confectionary department, book and magazine store, and perfume counters emitted fantastic scents that made you want to buy something. I was open to the idea of stamp collecting because I had been exposed to a little of it when I joined the after-school coin and stamp club in seventh grade. I had been awestruck by the look of plate blocks. I left the store with a small stock book and several U.S. plate blocks with images of birds on them, including Scott catalog number 968 celebrating the Centennial of the American Poultry Industry. I was already having fun! From there I started buying current issue stock from the Post Office including Duck Stamps.

The most difficult part of collecting was to decide on a topic or goal. I collected birds on stamps for several years but was getting a bit bored and wanted something more focused to collect. I also found myself attached to back-of-the-book stamps but was afraid to buy them. I was concerned that I would spend a lot of money on stamps that I wouldn't be able to sell when I wanted to. That all changed after a conversation I had with Erling van Dam of E.S.J. van Dam Limited, in Canada. I was interested in several of the old conservation issues he specialized in. I expressed my concerns about re-sale and he offered this advise, "Collect what you like and what you can afford and enjoy the hobby." Best advice I'd had to date. I thought about it and then dove in! I now collect conservation stamps, revenues, essays, proofs, trial col-

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ors, locals, carriers and Sanitary Fairs (Scott WV).

We are interested in *your* story. Contact me at [twhorn@stamp.org](mailto:twhorn@stamp.org).

### ‘5 for 10’ Categories (Needs)

We need U.S. items, *except* U.S. First Day Covers, U.S. Mint post-1950, U.S. Used post-1950, and U.S. Plate Blocks

post-1950. You can earn coupons for free blank books and mounts for every ten completed books containing material from a specific list of categories. Please note the change from an **average value** per book to a **minimum value** to qualify for the coupons. (Each group of ten or more qualifying books must be received at the same time and contain at least \$50 per book. The coupons are issued when the qualifying books are reviewed soon after arriving.) Each book must be designed to fit one of the categories, exclusively. Details are sent with blank sales book orders. You also may visit [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org) and click Sales Division and How to Sell. [Note: Single-country books usually have better sales.] Below are categories that are in very short supply at this time:

U.S. Plate Number Singles

U.S. Precancels

British Africa (pre-Independence)

German States

Iran

Italian Colonies

Liberia

Spanish Colonies

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# From Art Covers to Disinfected Mail

## Society for Czechoslovak Philately (Unit 18)

The Society for Czechoslovak Philately was founded in 1939 to promote the philately of Czechoslovakia, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, the Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia, and other Czech and Slovak related areas. *Dues:* U.S. \$18; outside U.S. \$23. *Benefits:* bi-monthly journal *The Czechoslovak Specialist* six times each year, local chapters, sales book circuits, expertizing, slide programs, speakers bureau, handbooks, exhibition awards, library, and annual convention. *Website:* [www.csphilately.org](http://www.csphilately.org). *Contact:* R.T. Cossaboom, P.O. Box 4124, Prescott, AZ 86302. *E-mail:* klfck1@aol.com

Welcome to the Society for Czechoslovak Philately

The Society for Czechoslovak Philately (SCP) is an international organization founded in 1939 which is devoted to the collecting, study of, education, and publishing all aspects of philately represented by geographic areas of the former Czechoslovakia.

Map of Central Europe showing the regions of Bohemia, Moravia, and Slovakia.

Links: Auction, Catalogues, Exhibits, Store, Wanted Ads.

This Day in History: In this month: 1791 Death of Christian Mayer, Czech astronomer.

"The ethic and religious life is not for Sunday and holidays, but for every day."

\$15; outside U.S. \$35. *Benefits:* quarterly *Way Markings*, directory, auctions, exhibition awards, annual convention. *Website:* [www.virginiaphilatelyhistory.com](http://www.virginiaphilatelyhistory.com). *Contact:* VPHS Secretary, Darrell Ertzberger, P.O. Box 16208, Crystal City, VA 22215-1208. *E-mail:* mteton@aol.com

## American Society of Polar Philatelists (Affiliate 31)

The society encourages and supports the study of Polar Regions philately. *Dues:* \$22. *Benefits:* the award-winning quarterly journal *Ice Cap News*, study groups, auctions, handbooks, exhibition awards, and annual convention. *Website:* [www.polarphilatelists.org](http://www.polarphilatelists.org). *Contact:* Alan Warren, P.O. Box 39, Exton, PA 19341-00939. *E-mail:* alanwar@att.net.

## Confederate Stamp Alliance (Affiliate 73)

The alliance was formed to promote the collecting and encourage the study of the stamps and postal history of the CSA. *Dues:* U.S. \$28. *Benefits:* bi-monthly *The Confederate Philatelist*, directory, expertizing services, slide programs, handbooks, exhibition and special awards, library, and annual convention. The CSA 2008 annual conference will be held in conjunction with CHARPEX 2008 in Charlotte, NC, on July 25-27. *Website:* [www.csalliance.org](http://www.csalliance.org). *Contact:* Patricia A. Kaufmann, 10194 North Old State Road, Lincoln, DE 19960-3644. *E-mail:* trishkauf@comcast.net .

## Haiti Philatelic Society (Affiliate 81)

In May 1975, a few collectors of the stamps and covers of Haiti started a study group. Within a year there were twenty-five members and the decision was made to organize a formal society. Officers were elected and the Haiti Philatelic Society (HPS) began to publish a quarterly journal, *Haiti Philately*. The Society, dedicated to the dissemination of knowledge and the promotion of research on the stamps and postal history of Haiti, has grown and matured through the years, and now has nearly 100 members residing throughout the United States and more than a dozen foreign countries. *Dues:* U.S. \$15.00, outside U.S. \$23. *Benefits:* quarterly *Haiti Philately*, four mail auctions a year, and a mentoring service to provide information to any member who has such a need. *Website:* [www.haitiphilately.org](http://www.haitiphilately.org). *Contact:* C.L. Loyd, RR 340 719, Maiden Choice Lane, Balti-

The 2008 annual CSA convention will be held at CHARPEX 2008 in Charlotte, N.C. at the Harris Conference Center, 3218 CPCC West Campus Drive, Charlotte NC. The dates of the show are July 25 - 27 2008. Watch for more news coming soon!

Confederate Stamp Alliance • [www.csalliance.org](http://www.csalliance.org).

The Haiti Philatelic Society

Message from the Society

Fransais

WELCOME TO THE HAITI PHILATELIC SOCIETY HOME PAGE AND ITS ASSOCIATED LINKS. OUR ORGANIZATION IS DEDICATED TO THE PURPOSE OF INFORMING INTERESTED PERSONS ABOUT ALL ASPECTS OF THE HAITIAN POSTAL SYSTEM FROM THE MID 1790'S TO THE PRESENT TIME. THE SOCIETY IS COMPOSED OF COLLECTORS OF ALL DEGREES OF SPECIALIZATION FROM BEGINNERS TO ADVANCED SPECIALISTS. HOWEVER, ALL OF US ARE CONTINUALLY LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER LARGELY THROUGH THE INTERESTING ARTICLES IN OUR QUARTERLY JOURNAL, HAITI PHILATELY.

Haiti is an excellent country upon which to focus ones philatelic efforts. Its history is fascinating. Once the richest of all French colonies, in 1804 it became the second country in the Western Hemisphere to gain its independence. The interaction of this small nation with French, German, British, Spanish, Dutch and American interests are reflected in its stamps and postal history. The Liberty Head issues rank as classics comparable to the early emissions of any nation. However, most of the stamps are relatively inexpensive and rather easily obtained. As a result more and more collectors are beginning to discover the attractiveness of this small country.

Haiti Philatelic Society • [www.haitiphilately.org](http://www.haitiphilately.org).

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### Chemistry and Physics on Stamps Study Unit (Affiliate 123)

Affiliated with the American Topical Association, CPSSU membership is open to anyone interested in collecting and studying stamps pertaining to chemistry, chemists, chemical industries, as well as physics and physicists. *Dues:* U.S. \$15, others \$17-\$20. *Benefits:* quarterly *Philatelia et Physica*. *Website:* [www.cpossu.org](http://www.cpossu.org). *Contact:* Dr. John B. Sharkey, 1559 Grouse Lane, Mountainside, NJ 07092-1340. E-mail: mmorgan@lausd.k12.ca.us.

### Hawaiian Philatelic Society (Affiliate 136)

The society was founded to stimulate, encourage, create, sponsor, advance and guide the collection and study of Hawaiian stamps and postal history. *Dues:* \$16. *Benefits:* quarterly *Po'Oleka O Hawaii*, and expertizing (Hawaiian stamps only) services. *Contact:* Harry A.

Welcome to the Art Cover Exchange

Contact Officers History Photo Logout

The Latest Journal  
**PHILATELIA CHEMICA ET PHYSICA**

Good science! Check it out! [See page 10](#)

Featured Cover by HCE 009 - Maxi-trap

We hope you enjoy this mail and if you are interested, join our club. It is great to meet people from all walks of life to share your interests with them also.

Please understand that HCE is very interactive. Members are encouraged to exchange covers regularly. It's nice to receive covers, but often, a cover is received, one would like to send in return.

Art Cover Exchange Society  
[www.artcoverexchange.org](http://www.artcoverexchange.org).

Fogletta, 1122 Elm Street, #702, Honolulu, HI 96814.

### Disinfected Mail Study Circle (Affiliate 219)

The study circle was founded to research and publish accounts of the treatment of mail in ways thought to prevent the spread of infectious disease, as well as studying the postal history of quarantines and of vaccinations. *Dues:* U.S. \$40. *Benefits:* very colorful newsletter *Pratique*, auctions, and speakers bureau. *Contact:* William A. Sandrik, P.O. Box 3277, Arlington, VA 22203. E-mail: vdvpratique@aol.com.

### Art Cover Exchange Society (Affiliate 243)

The ACFS was founded for the exchange of philatelic covers of an artistic nature, and to promote friendly correspondence among its members with a similar interest. *Dues:* U.S. \$12, others \$22. *Benefits:* colorful monthly *From Cover to Cover*, directory, auctions, hand books, slide programs and an annual

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convention. *Website:* [www.artcoverexchange.org](http://www.artcoverexchange.org). *Contact:* Joseph Doles, 105 Lawson Road, Rochester, NY 14616-1444. E-mail: artcoverexchange@aol.com.

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# Building Bridges in the Collecting World

My chapter counterpart in the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and I met a few months ago in Toronto, as I discussed in my prior column. I can now report that additional inroads have been made with our coin-collecting friends in the American Numismatic Association.

Michael S. "Stan" Turrini sent me a letter around the holidays to introduce himself to me as the ANA's newly appointed national coordinator for their Club Representative Program, the equivalent of the CAC. They are in the process of resurrecting their chapter publication, *The Mint Mark*, formerly published four times a year as part of their outreach efforts. The ANA currently has 33,000 members and is headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where they also operate a museum.

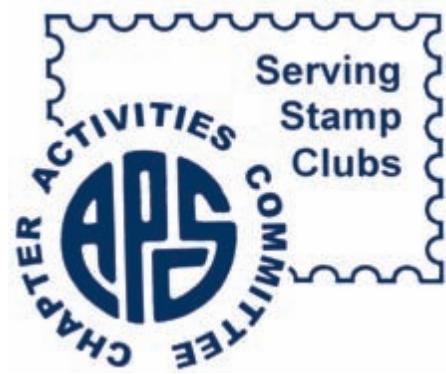
Take a look at the ANA's website when you get a chance: <http://www.money.org>. Appropriately named, don't you think? By the way, Michael is also an APS life member and president of the Vallejo Stamp Club in California, APS Chapter #1289.

I hope to be making a visit to Los Angeles October 10–12 to attend Sesac/America's 2008, sponsored by the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California, APS Chapter #246. This national World Series of Philately show is going "international" in celebration of the fortieth anniversary of The Fed-



ación Interamericana de Filatelia (FIAF), our hemisphere's main philatelic organization. The event will feature 500 frames of competitive exhibits and sixty dealers from all over the world, with delegates coming from throughout North, Central, and South America. I have put in a request to hold an hour-long CAC forum at the show to meet with club representatives and interested collectors to discuss topics of interest. Won't you join me? Check the Sesac schedule of events for the specific date and time.

Word continues to spread about the collection of more than 400 articles specifically about club operations and activities written by John Hotchner between 1977 and 1995 from his "Stamp Club Trading Post" column published in *Stamp Collector*. The issues discussed are just as relevant today as they were then, including growing club membership, ideas for meeting programs, avoiding "burn-out,"



and so on.

For \$3 postpaid to U.S. Chapters (\$4 elsewhere) I'll send you this collection on a 700 MB CD-ROM along with extras like the entire contents of the CAC website (including all *CAC Newsletter* issues from 1990 to date), a number of philatelic exhibits, a 2004 photo tour of APS headquarters, and the final version of the Washington 2006 website (with photos, newsletters, articles, philatelic gems, the Palmares, and much more). Everything is PC and MAC compatible and accessible in HTML format. Send payment in U.S. funds with checks made payable to "Tom Fortunato" to: Hotchner CD-ROM, c/o Tom Fortunato, 28 Amherstwood Place, Rochester, NY 14626-4166.

The latest *CAC Newsletter* is now available on the CAC website at [www.stamps.org/cac/cac\\_arch.htm](http://www.stamps.org/cac/cac_arch.htm). Featured articles in this issue include: Promoting Your Club or Affiliate with an 'Information Kit', Stamp Collecting Month Cancel Available for October, Online Exhibits: A Growing Trend, and Bob Quintero Responds to 'Without Them ... The Dealers'.

As always, send me your Chapter's news for this column. E-mail me at [stamptmf@frontiernet.net](mailto:stamptmf@frontiernet.net) or write to me at the address mentioned above.



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# TOPICALS!

The following is only a small sample of from our extensive stock. If you're searching for an exciting item to enhance your topical or Country collection, or looking for a beautiful and scarce exhibition piece, we may have just what you are looking for! Be sure to ask for any free price list for the areas listed below!

## German Specimen Overprints

German Specimen Overprints with the German word "Muster" (literally "sample") were issued from the 1950s on for presentation and promotional purposes and to give advance notice and information on the design to be issued.

Scott	Michel	Description	Price
739	228	Clavichord, birth of Mozart	\$150.00
770	267	Television screen	60.00
901	453	John F. Kennedy	150.00
969-70	533-34	Europa	125.00
1012	608	Mahatma Gandhi	125.00
1102	760	Meteorological map	45.00
1153	825	UPU, early mail boxes	65.00
1378	1144	Ecology, water pollution	35.00
1450	1264	Old German train: Nuremberg	40.00
1563	1387	International Red Cross	35.00
1597	1453	Youth Science & Technology, Maze	35.00
1641	1525	Historic aircraft: Graf Zeppelin L2127	70.00
1815	1703	Max Reinhardt, theater director, cinema	50.00
1849	1936	220pf Brül's Terrace, Dresden	25.00
1874	1769	Fall of Berlin Wall anniversary, car	40.00
1981	1958	Soccer Champions, Munich	35.00
2167	2266	Endangered Species, Freshwater pearl mussel	40.00
B356-59	270-73	Children, Nurse, Midwife	200.00
B418-21	523-26	Fairy Tales: "The Princess and the Frog"	180.00
B463-66	650-53	Puppets, Jester, Hanwurst, Clown, Harlequin	225.00
B474	682	Olympic Games 1972 - Downhill Skiing	60.00
B666	1360	Rock Stars, Buddy Holly	50.00
B697	1484	Christmas decorations: angel w/candles	35.00
B820	1948	Water Mills: Black Forest	30.00
B912	2292	Autos: 1949 Beetle	75.00
9NB65-68	348-51	Tin toys	200.00
9NB125	518	Sports: hockey	45.00
9NB221	732	Sports: Basketball	45.00

## Belgium Imperf & Proofs

Topical and Belgium Collectors — add spark to your collection! Treat yourself to these rarely seen items and add interest to your collection or exhibit

Scott	Description	Imperf	Black Proofs
318-21	Water Exhibit	\$90.00	5400.00
490-91	Nude Sculpture	60.00	200.00
630	Telecommunications, telephone	30.00	110.00
811	Medicine, Chemistry, Insulin	40.00	160.00
885	Astronomer Quetelet, Math	30.00	120.00
991	Dog, Reindeer, Angel	30.00	125.00
1064	Radio, Broadcasting	20.00	100.00
1166	S/S Olympic, Archery	90.00	200.00
1332	Horse, U.P.U.	35.00	125.00
1411-14	Mushroom strip	200.00	375.00
1501	Magritte, Art, Moon	40.00	150.00
1618-21	Auto racing, Mercedes, Ferrari	200.00	600.00
1749-50	Nobel Peace Prize, engraved by Szeslania, Joint Issue Sweden	175.00	450.00
1925-26	Windmills	90.00	—
1945d	Nurse, Medicine	45.00	—
2160	Rembrandt Tulips booklet pane of 10	185.00	—
B604	Railroad Car	50.00	200.00
B779-82	Reptiles, Chameleon, Iguana, Salamander, Komodo dragon	125.00	450.00
B883-91	Stamp on Stamp, Belgica	200.00	700.00
B985	Journalism, newspaper	30.00	100.00
B1092-94	Beethoven, Music, Art	125.00	390.00
B1113	Figure skating, Winter Olympics	50.00	200.00
B1171	50¢ + 12¢ Red Cross - Tsunami Reliefs	100.00	—

## Photo Essays & Photo Designs

Photo essays were photographed proposed designs of stamps that were never issued and often contain topical elements not found in the issued stamp. Approved photo designs are also listed and these are usually signed by the designer or engraver.

Scott	Description	Price
706	11½ with portrait used in final design of 704	\$200.00
777	Rhode Is., Roger Williams, vertical typeface	100.00
880	John Philip Sousa	125.00
926	Cinema, larger viewing screen	125.00
931	FDR, approved design, signed	150.00
938	Texas, proposed design "Centennial" instead of "Statehood"	125.00
962	Francis Scott Key, on ship, horizontal format	150.00
1004	Betsy Ross standing, different picture	100.00
1021	Opening of Japan, no portrait, ships	100.00
1026	Gen. Patton, army tank, WWII, laurel leaves	150.00
1063	Lewis and Clark Expedition, canoe, Indian border	100.00
1097	Marquis de Lafayette, gun, sword, proposed	100.00
1125	José De San Martín, approved design, signed	125.00
1339	Illinois, like final design	100.00
C58, C63	Liberty For All, Statue of Liberty, different view of statue	100.00

## U.S. Photo Essays & Autographed Plate Blocks

### Autographed Plate Blocks

These are mint plate blocks autographed by the designer, lettering and frame engravers. Also listed are plate blocks that are signed by the famous individuals who inspired the issue.

Scott	Description	Price
735	Antarctic, cross gutter block signed by James Farley	\$150.00
775	Michigan, deer, margin block of 6	.90.00
785	Army, Geo Washington margin block	.80.00
868	James Whitcomb Riley, poet, Pegasus	100.00
925	Corregidor	100.00
1067	U.S. reserves military	.575.00
1158	US - Japan Treaty	100.00
1178	Civil War, Fort Sumter, Sea Coast Gun of 1861	100.00
1258	Verrazano Bridge, NY map	100.00
1267	Salvation Army	100.00
1361	John Trumbull, sword, gun	.75.00
1410-13	Anti-Pollution margin block of 20	125.00
1499	President Harry S. Truman	90.00
1699	Nursing, dull sheet of 40, signed by the artist, Paul Calle	.75.00
C75	USA and jet	.75.00

## Austrian Black Prints

Black Prints are ungummed imperforated proofs printed in black from the original printing plates. Quantities printed are very small. They are sold on the folders with complete design and printed information, written in German (more recent ones German, French and English).)

Scott	Description	Price
519	Amerling, Painter, Art	\$55.00
572	Stamp Centenary, Philately	45.00
592	Dr. Rokitsky, Medicine	45.00
631	Ski Federation, Sports	20.00
649	Vienna Orchestra, Instruments	30.00
739	Radio, Communications	20.00
759	Prater Park, Ferris Wheel	23.00
797	Railroad Engine, Trains	25.00



## Artist Die Proofs

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Item#	Year	Description	Price
832	#611 1949	Arctic exploration with dog team, signed proof in black, wmk. ARCTIC, DOGS	\$300.00
<b>Mali</b>			
1784	#C125 1971	100fr Signed proof in emerald green, 1492 Santa Maria SHIP, COLUMBUS	250.00
<b>Monaco</b>			
3995	#323 1954	Knight in armor, shield, proof in black signed by R. Serest BIRD, HORSE, KNIGHT, SWORD	200.00
4015	#370 1956	15fr jewelry, portraits, medals, crown, proof in brown PRINCE RANIER III 7 GRACE KELLY'S WEDDING	200.00
4030	#B20 1937	90c+90c Welfare Work "Rock" of Monaco, trees, proof in black signed SAILBOATS, CACTUS	300.00
<b>Peru</b>			
4210	#C128 1957	50c, French Exposition in Lima, proof in black, signed by J. Pheulin CATHEDRAL, EIFFEL TOWER	225.00
<b>Senegal</b>			
3564	#312 1969	75f, Signed proof in olive green, Leopold Panet, 1st explorer Sahara mountains, MAP, CAMELS	200.00

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# Fifteen Years of Philatelic Exhibits

**F**ifteen years ago this summer, the Smithsonian National Postal Museum opened its doors to large crowds and praise. Michael Kilian of the *Chicago Tribune* called the museum “one of the most interesting to be found in the capital.” Closer to home, Benjamin Forney of the *Washington Post* noted that the museum’s “stories are both entertaining and important, demonstrating, in myriad ways the profound impact of a system we often take for granted.” While I was not here on that warm summer day, I am proud of my association and time with the National Postal Museum. In the six years I have been with the museum, I have watched it improve year after year. The staff is among the best I have had the pleasure to work with and the museum attracts exceptional volunteers and interns. Each and every one of them strive to help this museum offer visitors a host of wonderful experiences, from exhibitions and public programs to our latest online offerings and subject matter expertise.

While only in our “teens,” the museum has a rich history of delivering first-class exhibits and intriguing public programs. In addition to the museum’s original exhibits, we have had several remarkable temporary exhibits. Each has showcased an item or theme mined from the complex and intriguing history of America’s postal system. In 1994 the museum opened “Unwelcome: Moritz Schonberger and the S.S. St. Louis,” an

exhibit featuring letters between a Jewish Hungarian man escaping Nazi persecution, and his wife who had previously fled to the United States. The couple’s dramatic tale intrigued thousands of museum visitors. The next year, the museum echoed that common summer holiday question with “Are We There Yet? Vacationing in America,” an exhibit that presented postcards from a variety of American vacation destination spots to discuss the use of postcards to mark and memorialize family vacations.

In the past few years, philatelists have feasted on some of the most preeminent museum exhibits ever presented. From “The Queen’s Own,” a selection of extraordinary materials from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II’s personal philatelic holdings, to “Rarity Revealed: The Benjamin K. Miller Collection,” treasures that were otherwise unavailable to the general public have been shared with the world through the National Postal Museum. This remarkable contribution will continue in 2009 with the display of stamps and covers from the Charles A. Hirzel Collection, a world-famous collection of classic United States philatelic

items that currently resides in the Museum of Communication in Bern, Switzerland, and has not been seen in the United States since 1966.

The museum is celebrating its fifteenth anniversary throughout the year with a variety of special events, programs and lectures. An exciting new exhibit, “Alphabetilately,” opens on June 30. I will talk about that exhibit in more detail in my next column. For now I can tell you it is a philatelic show unlike any you have seen before. In the meantime, I’d like to tell you about some of the programs we are offering to our visitors through our anniversary year.

Aviation and air mail fans should join us this month for “Adversity, Adventure, and the 90th Anniversary of Airmail in America,” a celebration of the 1918 flights that launched regular air mail service in the United States. In addition to learning about the early pilots and aircraft of the service, participants will learn about the covers flown by Amelia Earhart and the story behind America’s most famous error, the “Inverted Jenny.” This program will be presented on Thursday, May 15, from 1–3 p.m. in the museum.

On Thursday, July 17, we are presenting a public program in conjunction with the exhibit “Postal Inspectors: The Secret Service.” The program will run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will offer something for the entire family. Learn how postal inspectors work; try out investigative techniques on your own; and chat with experts. Join us and relive the mysteries, shady characters, and ingenious investigative techniques that have been part of America’s postal history.

There will be much to do during our 15th anniversary week between July 28 and August 1. In addition to the “Alphabetilately” exhibit opening, an activity cart will be on the museum floor every



**In 1999 museum visitors learned that the letters preceding the name of the famous ship, *Titanic* stood for Royal Mail Ship. “Posted Aboard RMS *Titanic*” told the story of five mail clerks — three Americans and two British mail workers — who died trying to save 200 sacks of registered mail in the doomed ship on that cold night in April 1912. Among the items on display was American mail clerk John Starr March’s pocket watch, recovered from his body.**



This block of four stamps was issued in 1993 to celebrate the opening of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.

The “Moving the Mail” exhibit features a variety of postal vehicles in the building’s attention-grabbing atrium. The exhibit features three new galleries, *On the Road*, the story of city mail trucks, *Airmail in America*, and *Networking the Nation*, a history of the Star Route Service.



day that week from 1–3 p.m. Visit the cart to learn about upcoming exhibits, some of the fifteen most interesting and oddest items in the museum, and a few surprises. That week will end with a celebration of one of the museum’s most popular attractions, Owney, the unofficial mascot of the Railway Mail Service. We invite families to join Owney on his mail adventures across the United States and around the world. Make souvenirs of your travel and create your own dog-themed commemorative stamp design.

In October, we’re asking the public to join us in a celebration of Stamp Collecting Month. “Commemorative Cancels and Covers” will be presented on Saturday, October 11, from 1–3 p.m. The program is designed for families and general visitors who will be invited to explore the special world of cachets and special cancellations.

I have much more to share with you about our past and our anniversary year, so stay tuned to this column. I will let you know why I believe that we are on track to make the next fifteen years even more exciting. And I would like to personally invite each of you to continue this journey with us.



“Trendsetters and Trailblazers” stamp stars Elvis and Marilyn flank the museum’s original director, James Bruns (left), and current director, Allen Kane.



Visitors have until June 2, 2008, to catch “Trendsetters and Trailblazers,” an exhibit of original U.S. postage stamp art.

# show time

To obtain a listing in this section, submit a "Show Time" form, available online at [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org) or by mail from APS headquarters. Information must be received 60 days before desired publication time. Listings are free to shows sponsored by APS chapters and affiliates. Shows that do not include exhibits are identified with \*B\*. Grand award winners from \*WSP\* shows are eligible for the annual APS World Series of Philately Champion of Champions competition.

All information is subject to change without notice. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, you should check with the specific show to verify information. The APS website listing includes shows much further in advance than we have space to include in The American Philatelist

**Pennsylvania May 3**  
HAVEX, Havertown Stamp Club, Union Methodist Church, Allston Rd. & Brookline Blvd., Havertown. Contact Ernie Anderson, [drexelhillernie@comcast.net](mailto:drexelhillernie@comcast.net); 610-259-1045.

## New Jersey

**May 3-4**  
Clifton 2008 Spring Stamp, Cover, and Post Card Show, Clifton Stamp Society, Inc., Community Recreation Center, 1232 Main Avenue @ Washington Ave., Clifton. Contact Thomas Stidl, [stidl@verizon.net](mailto:stidl@verizon.net); [www.cliftonnj.org/stamp](http://www.cliftonnj.org/stamp); 973-471-7872. \*B\*

## New Jersey

**May 3-4**  
Garden State Spring Stamp Show, New Jersey Stamp Dealers Association, La Quinta (formally Wellesley) Inn, Route 46 West about 1 mile west of the junction of Routes 46, 80 and 23, just behind Jose Tejas Restaurant, Fairfield. Contact Larry Liebowitz, [njshows@optonline.net](mailto:njshows@optonline.net); 732-247-1093; 732-247-1094. \*B\*

## Pennsylvania

**May 9-10**  
BUTLERPEX, Butler County Philatelic Society, Tanglewood Senior Center, 10 Austin Ave., Lyndora. Contact Tom Sivak, [tomsstamps2133@earthlink.net](mailto:tomsstamps2133@earthlink.net); 724-287-1931.

## Utah

**May 9-10**  
Utah Spring Stamp Fest, Utah Philatelic Society, Utah State Fair Park, Bonneville Building, 1000 West North Temple, Salt Lake City. Contact Dave Blackhurst, [dblackhu@wcfgroup.com](mailto:dblackhu@wcfgroup.com); [www.utaphilatelic.org](http://www.utaphilatelic.org); 801-580-9534.

## Massachusetts

**May 9-11**  
Philatelic Show, Northeastern Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Holiday Inn, Boxborough. Contact Jeff Shapiro, [dirtyoldcovers@aol.com](mailto:dirtyoldcovers@aol.com). \*WSP\*

## May 3-4

## Louisiana

**May 10**  
Baton Rouge Stamp Show, Baton Rouge Stamp Club, Council On Aging Building C O A, 5790 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge. Contact Zbigniew S. Cypel, [mrbretired@aol.com](mailto:mrbretired@aol.com); 225-275-1458.

## Canada

**May 16-18**  
Royal 2008 Royale, La Societe Philatelique de Quebec, Hotel Gouverneur, 3030 Boulevard Laurier, Sainte Foy, Quebec. Contact Jacques Poitras, [chrisjac@mägequebec.net](mailto:chrisjac@mägequebec.net); [www.royal2008royale.com](http://www.royal2008royale.com).

## Colorado

**May 16-18**  
Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (ROMPEX), Rocky Mountain Phil. Exhibition, Inc., Holiday Inn - Denver International Airport, John Q. Hammonds Trade Center, Chambers Rd & I-70, Denver. Contact Ronald Hill, [rmss@rockymountainstampshow.com](mailto:rmss@rockymountainstampshow.com); [www.rockymountainstampshow.com](http://www.rockymountainstampshow.com); 303-241-5409. \*WSP\*

## New York

**May 16-18**  
ROPEX, Rochester Phil. Assoc., ESL Sports Centre, 2700 Brighton Henrietta Townline Rd., Rochester. Contact Ray Stone, [stampmf@frontiernet.net](mailto:stampmf@frontiernet.net); <http://www.rpstamps.org/ropex.html>; 585-266-2524. \*WSP\*

## Pennsylvania

**May 17-18**  
VALPEX 2008, Spring-Ford Philatelic Society, Friendship Fire Company, 269 Green Street, Royersford. Contact Dick Dehner, [DickRoslie@aol.com](mailto:DickRoslie@aol.com); <http://SFPS.TRIPOD.com>; 610-970-5408. \*B\*

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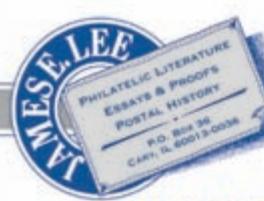


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### Illinois

COMPEX 2008, 10 Clubs of the Combined Philatelic Exhibition of Chicagoland, Inc., Forest View Educational Center, 2121 S. Goebbert, Arlington Heights. Contact Charles Berg, [shermanrandall@hotmail.com](mailto:shermanrandall@hotmail.com); 773-775-2100.

### New Jersey

NOJEX, North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, Inc., Crown Plaza, Meadowlands, Two Harmon Plaza, Secaucus. Contact Robert G. Rose, [rrose@phks.com](mailto:rrose@phks.com); [www.nojex.org/](http://www.nojex.org/); 973-966-8070. \*WSP\*

### Connecticut

May 25

NHPS 4th Sunday Show, New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. Contact Brian McGrath, [soggy3@aol.com](mailto:soggy3@aol.com); <http://www.NHPS1914.org/>; 203-389-2863. \*B\*

### Washington

May 30-June 1

PIPEX, Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs/Oregon Stamp Society, Seattle Center, Seattle. Contact William Geijsbeek, [geijsbeek@verizon.net](mailto:geijsbeek@verizon.net); [www.nwfedstamps.org.](http://www.nwfedstamps.org/) \*WSP\*

### Vermont

May 31

Vermont Stamp Show, Brattleboro Stamp Club, VFW Post 1034, 40 Black Mountain Rd., Brattleboro. Contact Bob Mellish, [bmellish@jgbc.com](mailto:bmellish@jgbc.com); 603-357-0140.

### Virginia

June 6-8

NAPEX, National Phil. Exhibitions of Washington D.C., McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean. Contact Thomas Lera, [frontier2@erols.com](mailto:frontier2@erols.com); [www.napex.org/](http://www.napex.org/); 703-205-0600. \*WSP\*

### Alabama

June 7-8

HUNTSPEX, Huntsville Philatelic Club, University of Alabama in Huntsville Tom Beville Center,

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256-536-7785.

**Oregon** **June 13-15**  
National Topical Stamp Show, American Topical Association, Monarch Hotel, 12566 SE 93rd Ave. I-205 and Sunnyside Rd. Exit 14, Clackamas. Contact Ray Cartier, atadir@sbcglobal.net; [www.americantopicalassn.org](http://www.americantopicalassn.org); 817-274-1181; 817-274-1184. \*WSP\*

**Ohio** **June 15**  
Hudson Stamp Bourse, Lincolnway Stamps, Hudson Holiday Inn, 240 Hines Hill Rd. (Near Rt. 8 and Ohio Turnpike), Hudson. Contact David G. Pool, lincolnway@ssnet.com; 330-832-5992. \*B\*

**Pennsylvania** **June 21-22**  
SCOPEX, Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society, APS Building, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte. Contact Joseph Hahn, joehahn2@yahoo.com; <http://geocities.com/joehahn2/MountNittany.html>; 814-237-7418.

**Connecticut** **June 22**  
NHPS 4th Sunday Show, New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMCA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. Contact Brian McGrath, soggy3@aol.com; <http://www.NHPS1914.org/>; 203-389-2863. \*B\*

**Indiana** **June 27-29**  
INDYPEX, Indiana Stamp Club, Indiana Convention Center, 500 Ball Room, 100 S. Capital Ave., Indianapolis. Contact John Becker, indypex@indianastampclub.org; <http://indianastampclub.org>. \*WSP\*

**Wisconsin** **June 28-29**  
TRIPEX Stamp Fair 2008, A.T.A. Chapter 5-Northshore Philatelic Society, St. Aloysius

Gonzaga Hall, 1435 S. 92nd Street, West Allis. Contact Robert Henak, henak8010@sbcglobal.net; [www.milwaukeephilatelic.org](http://www.milwaukeephilatelic.org); 414-351-1519. \*B\*

**Illinois** **July 5-6**  
MSDA Summer Stamp Show, Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Wingate Inn, 600 Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Heights. Contact Jim Bardo, jfb7437@aol.com; [www.msdastamp.com](http://www.msdastamp.com); 847-922-5574. \*B\*

**Nevada** **July 12-13**  
Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show, Nevada Stamp Study Society, National Bowling Stadium, 300 North Center Street, Reno. Contact Harvey Edwards, renostamp@earthlink.net; <http://home.earthlink.net/~renostamp/>; 775-246-4769.

**Minnesota** **July 18-20**  
Minnesota Stamp Expo, Crystal Community Ctr., 4800 Douglas Dr., N., Minneapolis. Contact Tom Eckers, tome56@earthlink.net; [www.stampsminnesota.com](http://stampsminnesota.com); 763-533-1860. \*WSP\*

**North Carolina** **July 25-27**  
CHARPEX 2008, Charlotte Philatelic Society, Harris Conference Center, 3216 CPCC Harris Campus Dr. (Formerly CPCC West Campus Dr.), Charlotte. Contact Gene Zhiss, ejzhiss@carolina.r com; [www.charpex.info](http://www.charpex.info); 704-553-8110.

**Connecticut** **July 27**  
NHPS 4th Sunday Show, New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMCA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. Contact Brian McGrath, soggy3@aol.com; <http://www.NHPS1914.org/>; 203-389-2863. \*B\*

**Michigan** **August 3**  
Northwestern Michigan Coin, Stamp and Postcard Show, Northwestern Michigan Coin and Stamp Club, Odawa Hotel (formerly Victories), US 131 South, Petoskey. Contact Richard Silet, rsilet@

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[portup.com](http://portup.com); 906-643-7941.

### Washington

August 9

Strait Stamp Show, Strait Stamp Society, Sequim Masonic Lodge, 700 So. 5th and Pine, Sequim. Contact Cathie Osborne, [rickcath@olympen.com](mailto:rickcath@olympen.com); 360-683-6373.

### Michigan

August 9-10

COLPEX, Collectors Club of Michigan, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights. Contact Charles Wood, [jarnick@wowway.com](mailto:jarnick@wowway.com); 248-546-1282. \*B\*

### Connecticut

August 14-17

APS STAMP SHOW, American Philatelic Society, Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford. Contact Dana Guyer, [stampshow@stamps.org](mailto:stampshow@stamps.org); [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org); 814-933-3803 ext. 217; Fax 814-933-6128. \*WSP\*

### Kansas

August 16-17

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

### Virginia

August 22-24

AMERICOVER, American First Day Cover Society, Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. Contact Norman Elrod, [showinfo@afdcos.org](mailto:showinfo@afdcos.org); [www.afdcos.org](http://www.afdcos.org). \*WSP\*

### Connecticut

August 24

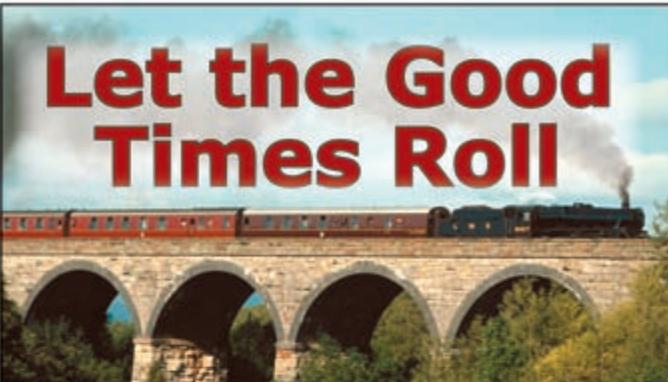
NHPS 4th Sunday Show, New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. Contact Brian McGrath, [soggy3@aol.com](mailto:soggy3@aol.com); <http://www.NHPS1914.org/>; 203-389-2863. \*B\*

### Canada

August 29-31

BNAPEX 2008, British North American Philatelic Society, Lord Nelson Hotel, 1515 South Park St., Halifax, Nova Scotia. Contact J. A. Forbes, Jr.,

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#### **Maryland**

**August 29-31**

BALPEX, Baltimore Phil. Soc., Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., I-83 Exit 20 E., Hunt Valley. Contact Robert E. Gibson, Sr., [balpex@aol.com](mailto:balpex@aol.com); [www.balpex.org](http://www.balpex.org); 410-332-4741. \*WSP\*

#### **Nebraska**

**September 5-7**

Omaha Stamp Show, Omaha Philatelic Society, Metro Community College-South Campus, 2909 Babe Gomez Ave., Omaha. Contact Edgar Hicks, [edgar@fcstone.com](mailto:edgar@fcstone.com); [www.omahaphilatelicsociety.org](http://www.omahaphilatelicsociety.org); 800-228-2316 ext 2506. \*WSP\*

#### **Pennsylvania**

**September 5-7**

Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition, Valley Forge Convention Center, 1160 First Ave., King of Prussia. Contact Chip Blumberg, [pnse@earthlink.net](mailto:pnse@earthlink.net); <http://pnse.home.att.net>; 610-828-8631. \*WSP\*

#### **Arkansas**

**September 6-7**

31st Annual Stamp & Postcard, Mountain Home Area Stamp Club, Ramada Inn Convention Center, Hwy. 62 and Commerce Drive, Mountain Home. Contact Bill Burdick, [whbj@suddenlink.net](mailto:whbj@suddenlink.net); 870-425-7799.

#### **Ohio**

**September 6-7**

AIRPEX XXXI, Dayton Stamp Club, Hope Hotel and Conference Center Bldg. 823, Area A, Wright Patterson AFB. Contact Mike Komiensky, 937-299-9297.

#### **Wisconsin**

**September 12-14**

MILCOPEX, Milwaukee Phil. Soc. Inc., Bergstrom Hall, Mount Mary College, 2900 N. Menomonee River Parkway, Milwaukee. Contact Rob Henak, [henak@execpc.com](mailto:henak@execpc.com); 414-351-1519. \*WSP\*

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**Florida****September 13-14**

Ocala Stamp Show, General Francis Marion Stamp Club & Florida Stamp Dealers Assoc., Ramada Inn, 3810 NW Bonnie Heath Blvd. (I-75 & US 27), Ocala. Contact Sheldon Rogg, h.rogg@verizon.net; www.floridastampdealers.org; 727-364-6897. \*B\*

**Texas****September 19-21**

Greater Houston Stamp Show, Houston Philatelic Society, Humble Civic Ctr., 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy., Humble. Contact Denise Stotts, stottsdj@swbell.net; www.houstonphilatelic.org.

**Ohio****September 20-21**

MAVEX Annual Stamp Show Exhibition and Bourse, Mahoning Valley Stamp Club, St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church, 4310 Kirk Rd., Austintown. Contact George Riebe, GeorgeRiebe@aol.com; 330-792-8724.

**Georgia****September 26-28**

Southeastern Stamp Show, Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs, Cobb County Civic Ctr., 548 S. Marietta Pkwy., Marietta. Contact Scott Mark, mark\_s@bellsouth.net; www.stampclubs.com; 770-619-2917. \*WSP\*

**New Jersey****September 27-28**

Clifton 2008 Fall Stamp, Cover, and Post Card Show, Clifton Stamp Society, Inc., Community Recreation Center, 1232 Main Avenue @ Washington Ave., Clifton. Contact Thomas Stidl, stidl@verizon.net; www.cliftonnj.org/stamp; 973-471-7872. \*B\*

**Connecticut****September 28**

NHPS 4th Sunday Show, New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. Contact Brian McGrath, soggy3@aol.com; http://www.NHPS1914.org/; 203-389-2863. \*B\*

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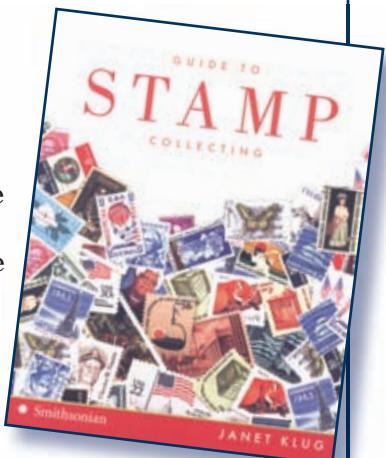
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WINEPEX 2008, Redwood Empire Collectors Club, Marin Center Avenue of the Flags, Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael. Contact Kurt Schau, auctions@harmerschau.com; 707-778-6454.

**Vermont** **October 4**  
Crossroads Stamp Show, Upper Valley Stamp Club, Mid-Vermont Christian School, Gilson Avenue, Quechee. Contact John Lutz, jalutz@yahoo.com; 802-728-6212.

**Illinois** **October 4-5**  
CUPEX, Champaign-Urbana Stamp Club, Urbana Civic Center, 108 E. Water Street, Urbana. Contact Louise B. Toft, [www.prairienet.org/cusc/](http://www.prairienet.org/cusc/); 217-359-9115.

**Illinois** **October 4-5**  
MSDA Fall Stamp Show, Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Wingate Inn, 600 Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Heights. Contact Jim Bardo, [jfb7437@aol.com](mailto:jfb7437@aol.com); [www.msdastamp.com](http://www.msdastamp.com); 847-922-5574. \*B\*

**New Jersey** **October 4-5**  
CASDA, Doubletree Hotel, 515 Fellowship Road North, Mt. Laurel. Contact Jennifer Reeves, [jreevesandcompany@hotmail.com](mailto:jreevesandcompany@hotmail.com); [www.jamesreeves.com](http://www.jamesreeves.com); 800-701-7091; 814-643-4585. \*B\*

**Utah** **October 10-11**  
Utah Fall Stamp Fest, Utah Philatelic Society, Utah State Fair Park, Bonneville Building, 1000 West North Temple, Salt Lake City. Contact Dave Blackhurst, [dblackhu@wcfgroup.com](mailto:dblackhu@wcfgroup.com); [www.utaphilatelic.org](http://www.utaphilatelic.org); 801-580-9534.

**California** **October 10-12**  
SESCAL/AMERICAS, Federated Phil. Clubs of Southern California, Radisson Hotel at Los Angeles

Airport, 6225 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles. Contact Carl Shaff, II, [c2shaff@aol.com](mailto:c2shaff@aol.com); [www.sescal.org](http://www.sescal.org); 213-383-7111. \*WSP\*

**Illinois** **October 11**  
Will County Stamp Show, Philatelic Club of Will County & Naperville Area Stamp Club, Messiah Lutheran Church, 19901 S. Houbolt Road (Jefferson-Route 52 & Houbolt), Joliet. Contact Max Zollner, [mezollner@comcast.net](mailto:mezollner@comcast.net); <http://www.virtualstampclub.com/apschapwillcounty.html>; 815-725-7544.

**Ohio** **October 11-12**  
Cuy-LorPex 2008, Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, Lutheran High School West, 3850 Linden Rd., Rocky River. Contact Stan Fairchild, [cuylorstmpclub@hotmail.com](mailto:cuylorstmpclub@hotmail.com); 440-333-2536.

**Pennsylvania** **October 12**  
Fall 2008 CAPEX, Capital City Philatelic Society, Linglestown American Legion, 505 N. Mountain Road-I-81 Exit 72, Harrisburg. Contact Linn Kinney, 717-732-7813.

**Oregon** **October 18-19**  
Stampfest 2008, Umpqua Valley Stamp Club, 7 Feathers Casino, Exit 99 off I-5, Canyonville. Contact Rob Horn, [rhorn@or.blm.gov](mailto:rhorn@or.blm.gov); 541-672-5054. \*B\*

**Connecticut** **October 19**  
THAMESPEX, Thames Stamp Club, Waterford High School, Rope Ferry Rd., (Rt. 156 & Rt. 1), Waterford. Contact Obie Hill, [obiehill@tvconnect.net](mailto:obiehill@tvconnect.net); 860-464-0000.

**New York** **October 23-26**  
The 2008 ASDA Fall Postage Stamp Mega-Event, American Stamp Dealers Association, Madison Square Garden Expo, 4 Pennsylvania Ave., New York. Contact Joseph Savarese, [asda@](mailto:asda@)

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**October 26**

NHPS 4th Sunday Show, New Haven Philatelic Society, Annex YMA, 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven. Contact Brian McGrath, soggy3@aol.com; <http://www.NHPS1914.org/>; 203-389-2863. \*B\*

### Oklahoma

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Columbian Stamp Co. Inc.	493	Legion Stamps, Inc.	C6	Rasdale Stamp Co.	490	Taylor, Stephen
Confederate Stamp		Lippert, Robert	477	RCS Stamps	450	474
Alliance Membership	459	Malack, Steve	426	Regency/Superior	409	TNC Enterprises, AP magazine
Cripe, Steve, Graded Stamps	423	McConnell, E. Joseph, Inc.	450	RHM Philatelist	473	protective slip cases
Crown Colony Stamps	473	McCusker, James	493	Richard Friedberg Stamps	484	490
Dale Enterprises	477	Miner Stamp Co.,		Rising Sun Stamps	490	Torres, Antonio
Daugherty, H.J.W.	493	Irwin Weinberg Rarities	500	RUBBER STAMPS	493	478
Davidson's Stamp Service	493	Minnesota Stamp Expo 2008	493	Rupp Brothers	415	Tropical Stamps, Inc.
E & M Graded Stamps	450	Mountainside Stamps	439	Sam Houston Philatelic		478
Eastern Auctions Ltd.	475	Mowbray, J.R.	493	Auctions/Duck Co.	C5	Van Dam, E.S.J.
Eastick, Michael	493	Mozian, Lawrence	493	Sandafayre, Ltd.	444	493
eBay	470	Muscott's	430	Saskatoon Stamp Centre	488	Vance Auctions, Ltd.
						459
						Victoria Stamp Company
						451
						WAP Würtembergisches
						Auktionshaus Postwertzeichen
						GmbH
						419
						Washington Press
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						Hobby Publishing/Linn's
						Stamp News/Scott
						489



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# membership report

No. 3, March 31, 2008



## NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during March 2008. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to May 31, 2008, these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the August 2008 issue.

Ain, Aaron (213663) **Montreal, QC CANADA-ISRAEL**; 63; Developer  
Alamance Stamp Club (1569-213661) **Alamance, NC**  
Amato, Thomas M. (213591) **Belford, NJ** 57; Manufacturing  
Anthony, Steve R. (213579) **Linden, VA** 37  
Arias, Donald (213531) **Santee, CA** 58; Bottle Water Sales  
Arnholt, Wayne R. (213665) **Seymour, IN** US; 57; Accountant  
Auletta, Christopher T. (213510) **White Plains, NY** 29  
Baker, Brent D. (213553) **Tulsa, OK** TEXAS POSTAL HISTORY;  
Barfield, H. Brian (213672) **Wichita Falls, TX** FDC-WORLDWIDE; 42  
Belber, Jerry A. (213635) **Brimfield, MA** US-GLASS-PLATE BLKS-COVERS-WWII PATRIOTIC COVERS; 65; Pharmacist  
Bennett, Michael J. (213639) **Marietta, GA** US-CANADA-GB-WORLDWIDE; 67; Retired  
Blazejack, Michael F. (213557) **Dunedin, FL** 48  
Blodgett, Harley (213532) **Taylorsville, NC** US, REV, CUT SQUARES, BOB; 70; Retired  
Bonenfant, Marc R. (213560) **Warner, NH** US; 57  
Brown, John (213593) **Rochester, MN** 43; Customer Service  
Bryan, Mike (213533) **Burlington, NC** 70; Self Employed  
Bui, Thaddeus (213561) **Ojai, CA** 46  
Byrne, John E. (213594) **Norris, TN** PRE 1940 US-CANADA; 82; Retired  
Castillo, Jorge (213580) **Mexico DF, Mexico** LATIN AM; 35; Stamp Dealer  
Chambers, Michael T. (213534) **Philadelphia, PA** MINT US; Retired  
Charnley, Richard H. (213624) **Gwynn Oak, MD** ICELAND-GREENLAND-GB; 52; Fiscal Supervisor  
Cinis, Mirdza (213618) **Tappan, NY** 78; Retired  
Clark, Alvin E. (213535) **Arkadelphia, AR** 90; Retired  
Cline, Nancy M. (213654) **Cambridge, MA** PRE 1940 WORLDWIDE; 61; Librarian  
Cluthe, Ela A. (213636) **Short Hills, NJ** 68  
Coleman, Elliot W. (213587) **Pound Ridge, NY** US POSS-PANAMA; 48; Stamp Dealer  
Cook, Christopher H. (213565) **Palm Beach Gardens, FL** WORLDWIDE; 64; Retired  
Cooksey, Dollie J. (213673) **Mojave, CA** WORLDWIDE; 62; Retired  
Costello, Mark W. (213552) **San Diego, CA** US COMMEM; 45; Postal Worker  
Croak, Martin F. (213592) **Madison, WI** WORLDWIDE; 54; Attorney  
Crowe, William T. (213586) **Danbury, CT** POSTAL HISTORY, FAIRFIELD COUNTY & WATERBURY CT; 60; U.S. Stamp Authenticator & Grader  
Crowley, Wesley E. (213657) **Newburyport, MA** MINT US; 76; Retired

Davey, Joseph J. (213536) **Carmichael, CA** US; 84; Retired  
Davidson, Gordon S. (213595) **Baton Rouge, LA** US COMMEM CANCELLATIONS-FDC-EXHIBITION SOUVENIR SHEETS; 69; Retired  
Davis, Katherine A. (213634) **Phoenix, OR** 47; Registered Nurse  
Deady, Francis (213571) **Arnold, MO** 61  
Dimitriadis, Alexandros A. (213582) **West Paterson, NJ** 45; Teacher  
Dirsa, Richard (213558) **Dalton, NH** US-SHIPS; 60; Retired  
Discua, Juan A. (213614) **Comayagua, Honduras** SOCCER-OLYMPICS; 31  
Doty, William H. (213537) **Saint Louis, MO** COMMEM-AIR MAIL-DUCK-US-SOUVENIR SHEETS; 74; Retired  
Dover, Don J. (213566) **Laytonsville, MD** US, POSTAL HISTORY-JAPAN-PRE 1940 WORLDWIDE; 49; Facilities Manager  
Dowling, Paul L. (213651) **Midland, TX** US POSTAL HISTORY & POSTAL STAT; 66; Pipeline Controller  
Dubes, Brian B. (213677) **Lenoir City, TN** INVESTMENT; 59; Optometrist  
Eberle, Melda A. (213597) **White Sulphur Springs, WV** 70; Retired  
Eichler, Bradford C. (213596) **Lemont, PA** WASHINGTON 2 CENT; 52; Assistant Director  
Eschenbrenner, Jeanne S. (213598) **Saint Louis, MO** US, SINGLES, PLATE BLKS; 65; Custom Handwork  
Flamm, Joan F. (213599) **Staten Island, NY** 79; Retired  
Foley, Michael E. (213674) **Bath, NY** CLASSIC US-COVERS-CUBA-IRELAND; 65; Retired  
Francisco, Paula J. (213589) **Oakhurst, NJ** US-RUSSIA-CUBA; 45  
Fritsche, Donald (213611) **San Leandro, CA** US-GER-NZ; 45; Buyer  
Gallo, Michael (213506) **Glendale, AZ** US; 65

Gamarra, Igor (213538) **Buena Park, CA** WORLDWIDE; 52; Engineer  
Gehring, Betty S. (213600) **Short Hills, NJ** 52  
Gingelewski, Walter R. (213555) **Troy, NY** Retired  
Glynn, James V. (213529) **Fullerton, ND** CHINA-EGYPT; 62  
Gordon, Carey (213626) **APO, AP** 58  
Gordon, Joseph L. (213574) **Fishers, IN** PRE 1900 US; 48; Geologist  
Gordon, William E. (213559) **Ithaca, NY** SPACE; 90; Retired  
Grace, Joseph C. (213539) **West Roxbury, MA** US, SINGLES, 19TH & 20TH C; 69; Retired  
Graham, Kenny W. (213505) **Ames, IA** US CLASSICS; 49; USPS Clerk  
Grant, Judith W. (213575) **San Antonio, TX** GB-IRELAND-US; 60; University Administrator  
Gray, Wayne W. (213601) **Bowerston, OH** WORLDWIDE-UNUSUAL; 66; Retired  
Grinker, Thomas E. (213629) **Greendale, WI** 64; Retired  
Harris, Becky J. (213619) **Leasburg, MO** 52; Homemaker  
Harris, Bob (213658) **Saint Petersburg, FL** 73; Retired  
Hayden, William C. (213615) **Kalamazoo, MI** US-CANADA-WORLDWIDE; 77; Retired  
Hendrickson, Kenneth (213540) **Wichita Falls, TX** 1870-1980 US, DEFINITIVES, PLATE BLKS; 71; Professor/Rancher  
Hensel, Harold (213679) **Metairie, LA** 1901 PAN AM COVER; 67; Retired  
Hoffman, Scott (213541) **Marion, OH** MINT US; 50; Lawyer  
Honey, William B. (213613) **Randolph, NY** 84  
Jiang, Jian (213667) **Shenyang, China** 30  
Johnson, Dusty (213655) **Gainesville, FL** 50  
Jones, Edward G. (213585) **New York, NY** US-RUSSIA-JAPAN-VAT; 62; Consultant  
Kalohn, August E. (213578) **Milford, MI** US COVERS-ZEPP-ROESSLER; 56; Sales Manager  
Khandansima, Javad (213664) **Seattle, WA** IRAN; 53; Teacher  
Kite, Dennis R. (213521) **Fort Wayne, IN** US; 53  
Klamut-Kurycz, Nancy A. (213522) **Gettysburg, PA** US-BRIT-CANADA-TOPICALS; 52  
Knappe, Carl F. (213641) **Snohomish, WA** CANADA; 59; Law  
Koonin, Marc A. (213542) **Concord, CA** US, POSS-RYUKYU IS-MANCHUKUO-S KOREA-ASIA/PACIFIC; 39; Attorney  
Kramarczuk, Alexander Peter (J-213543) **Minneapolis, MN** US; 17; Student  
Kroschel, Shawn G. (213609) **College Place, WA** 40; Ad Manager  
Kuniyuki, Kevin (213544) **Wahiawa, HI** US, COMMEM, AIR MAIL, HAWAII-JAPAN-RYUKYU-BUDDHIST ART; 53  
Laffey, Nelson (213573) **Saint Louis, MO** US; 64; Software Consulting  
Laramie, Dewey (213519) **Rochester, NH** 65

## NEW MEMBERS

Applications 213177, 213237 through 213384 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

## SUMMARY

Total Membership, Feb. 29, 2008	42,831
New Members	148
Reinstated	50.....198
Dropped, Unable to Locate	53
Deceased	58
Resignations	89.....200
Total Membership, Mar. 31, 2008	42,829

- Laurent, John F. (213562) **Bartow, FL** 61  
 Lawrence, Shawn M. (213583) **West Harrison, NY** 35; Engineer  
 Leadem, Timothy (213633) **Victoria, BC CANADA-US-COSTA RICA**; 59; Lawyer  
 Leff er, Cynthia P. (213666) **Carmichael, CA US-BRIT COMM-GB-DISNEY**; 54; CPA  
 Leggate, John S. (213576) **Coon Rapids, MN MINT US**; 66; Transportation  
 Lehman, Barbara A. (213602) **Falls Church, VA US**  
 Lema, Gloria W. (213642) **Plainview, NY US-SPAIN-CUBA**; 62; Self Employed  
 Lemke, Ken W. (213632) **Burlington, ON CANADA**; 63; Semi Retired  
 Lepore, Michael (213627) **Estes Park, CO US**; 63; Retired  
 Liddle, Robert (213564) **Montgomery, TX US**; 43; Geologist  
 Lord, Lisbeth B. (213610) **Lafayette, CO** 56; Librarian  
 Maguire, Virginia (213545) **Broomfield, CO SCAND STAMPLESS MAIL**; 65; Systems Analyst  
 Malinowski, Bernice E. (213570) **Detroit, MI US**; 57; Retired  
 May, Freda E. (213669) **Omar, WV** 52; Housewife  
 Mayer, Dorothy (213620) **Port Charlotte, FL US**; 81  
 McGovern, Richard J. T. (213652) **Patterson, LA US, SINGLES, YEARS, AIR MAIL, SPECIAL DELIVERY**; 61; Retired  
 Meinert, Edward F. (213512) **Viera, FL** 55  
 Michno, Nathaniel C. (213523) **Fort Lupton, CO WORLDWIDE**; 27; Import Purchasing  
 Middleton, Cyndi E. (213518) **Pepperell, MA PUREBRED DOGS**; 47; Internet Retailer  
 Miller, Edward A. (213675) **White Springs, FL PRE 1900 US-STAMPLESS COVERS-BAVARIAN STATES**; 65; Management Consultant  
 Mills, Pauline C. (213608) **Hillsborough, NC** 84; Retired  
 Moore, Raymond (213621) **Philadelphia, PA US**; 49; O.R. Technician  
 Moreno, Steven John (213546) **Chicago, IL US, REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTS-SPAIN-VAT-CHRISTMAS**; Store Clerk  
 Mormile, Andrea (213547) **Staten Island, NY** 75; Real Estate  
 Mourning Stamps and Covers Club (1570-213676) **Falls Church, VA**  
 Mullisen, Warren C. (213556) **Culver City, CA USED US**; 64; School District Buyer  
 Mussin, John R. (213530) **Seaside, CA US**; 43; Bookstore Owner  
 O'Donnell, Ilene L. (213568) **River Vale, NJ** 41; Vice President Human Resources  
 O'Neal, Don M. (213648) **Bristol, TN PRE 1900 GB**; 52; Graphic Designer  
 Ogden, Thomas D. (213590) **Lowell, MA WORLDWIDE**; 41; Drilling  
 Osorio, Jose A. (213650) **Miami, FL** 55; Truck Driver  
 Pabedinskas, Rose Marie C. (213507) **Centerville, MA** 49  
 Pang, Chee Ming (213516) **Selangor, Malaysia MALAYA-US-AUST**; 37; Manager  
 Peterson, Jeffery M. (213548) **Willmar, MN**  
 Potosky, Henry R. (213622) **Scottsdale, AZ US COMMEM-GREENLAND-FAROE IS**; 65; Retired  
 Poulin, Richard A. (213549) **Saint Petersburg, FL** 78; Retired  
 Pugliese, Albert (213563) **Staten Island, NY US, POSTAL HISTORY-WORLDWIDE**; 53  
 Pursel, John H. (213527) **Phillipsburg, NJ US**; 67; Judge  
 Puttemans, Leon (213628) **Wolvertem, Brabant, Belgium** BELGIUM-BELGIAN CONGO-BRIT; 50; Stamp Dealer  
 Raab, Warren D. (213617) **Bellevue, NE US-UN**; 54; Warehouse Manager  
 Raju, Tonse N. K. (213662) **Gaithersburg, MD MEDICAL-MEDICAL HISTORY**; 62; Pediatrician  
 Rambeau, Nicolas A. H. (213588) **Mandaue City, Cebu, Philippines** 27; Businessman  
 Ramsaur, William H. (213623) **Bailey, CO US**; 74; Retired  
 Remigiusz, Pakos (213524) **Ervalla, Sweden** 37  
 Robertson, Erika A. (213638) **Corinth, MS US**; 40; Manager  
 Rohan, Peggy (213509) **Citra, FL** 52; Registered Nurse  
 Roing, Mats O. (213607) **Brighton, MA SWEDEN**; 40; Accountant  
 Rosenblatt, Jonathan I. (213643) **Bronx, NY PRE 1960 BRIT COMM**; 51; Rabbi  
 Rosenthal, Jeff I. (213525) **Palm Beach Gardens, FL US**; 60; Retired  
 Sandeen, Jay R. (213554) **Saint Paul, MN ICELAND-SCAND**;  
 Sanders, David (213584) **New York, NY** 56; Landscape Designer  
 Schumacher, Jeff (213649) **Brookings, SD PRE 1965 WORLDWIDE**; 66; Retired  
 Schumann, Marianne M. (213526) **Florence, MA US-BRIT COMM-EUR**; 75  
 Scott, E. P. (213644) **Austin, TX US SOUVENIR SHEETS**; 65; Retired  
 Scudero, Frank E. (213517) **Pleasant Hill, CA US POSS**; 60; Accountant  
 Senti-Willis, Anne E. (213513) **Atherton, CA US**; 37; Attorney  
 Shinners, Michael J. (213678) **Chicago, IL PRE 1970 US**; 66; Retired  
 Shirota, Tamae (213640) **Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan** 64  
 Sikorski, Jozef (213550) **Wallington, NJ** 61; Welder  
 Simpkins, Phillip J. (213603) **New Castle, DE US**; 50; Retired  
 Sims, John D. (213511) **Lakewood, CO SHEETS-19TH C-COMMEMS**; 49; Grocery Clerk  
 Sklow, David J. (213670) **Colorado Springs, CO POST CARDS**; 61  
 Smith, Margaret M. (213668) **Philadelphia, PA** 67  
 Smith, Tom (213659) **Waukesha, WI** 63; Retired  
 Spore, Richard L. (213637) **Albany, TX US-DUCK-FDC-UN**; 64; Retired  
 Springer, Holly L. (213514) **Wyomissing, PA** 59  
 Stijve, Koert (213660) **Grange-Adelaide, SA, Australia** Retired  
 Stotler, Denis L. (213572) **Cuba, MO** 58; Retired  
 Sutter, Charles D. (213671) **Lachine, MI** 54  
 Swarner, Homer H. (213612) **Pottstown, PA US**; 76; Retired  
 Swedick, Mickey I. (213630) **Kincaid, IL** 51  
 Tabladillo, Mark (213645) **Atlanta, GA** 42  
 Theall, Robert W. (213647) **College Park, MD** 38  
 Thornburgh, Jerry (213653) **Woodward, IA PLATE BLKS-BOOKLETS-WORLDWIDE**; 67; Retired  
 Tomao, Camille R. (213581) **Bronx, NY UN-VAT-US**; 49; Director Finance  
 Toner, Robert W. (213604) **Oscoda, MI US**; 53; Project Manager  
 Towns, Douglas E. (213515) **Dulles, VA** 44  
 Townsend, P. M. (213605) **Stanton, TX GER COL & OFFICES**; 58; Retired  
 Tucker, Greg (213606) **Readyville, TN PRE 1980 US**; Retired  
 Turnbull, James A. (213616) **Weyauwega, WI** 61; Retired  
 Vazquez, Juan (213528) **Brooklyn, NY COMMEM DEFINITIVE-AIR MAIL**; 57; Retired  
 Verbiest, Joel C. (213508) **Searsport, ME** 37  
 Way, Lance J. (213567) **Minneapolis, MN WORLDWIDE**; 63; Retired  
 Wetterstrom, Kerry K. (213631) **Lancaster, PA US**; 47; Self Employed  
 Wilkins, Kenneth (213551) **Locust Grove, GA US**; Retired  
 Wrobel, Peter D. (213646) **Pasadena, CA POSTAL HISTORY-UPU**; 48; CPA  
 Yonder, Joseph M. (213520) **Depew, NY US COMMEM-WWII GER-FINLAND**; 60; Retired  
 Zavaleta, Jose L. (213625) **Hercules, CA ANIMALS-LIGHTHOUSES-SPORTS-TRANSPORTATIONS**; 40; Financial Advisor  
 Zelwinder, George (213656) **Venice, FL POLAND**; 68



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# USPS Honors American Scientists

**O**n March 6, 2008, at Mega Stamp Show in Madison Square Garden, New York City, the Postal Service recognized some of the most impressive achievements of the twentieth century with the issuance of the 41-cent American Scientists commemorative stamps in four designs. This second American Scientists stamps issuance honors theoretical physicist John Bardeen, biochemist Gerty Cori, astronomer Edwin Hubble, and structural chemist Linus Pauling.

For each stamp, artist Victor Stabin created a collage featuring a portrait of the scientist, along with diagrams or

photographic representations that are associated with major contributions made by the scientist. Information about the specific elements in each collage is contained in the design briefs of the individual profiles on the back of each stamp.

Theoretical physicist John Bardeen (1908–1991) co-invented the transistor, which was arguably the most important invention of the twentieth century. Bardeen also collaborated on the first fundamental explanation of superconductivity at low temperatures, a theory that has had a profound impact on many fields of physics. He remains the only person ever awarded two Nobel Prizes in physics.

Biochemist Gerty Cori (1896–1957), in collaboration with her husband, Carl, made important discoveries — including a new derivative of glucose — that elucidated the steps of carbohydrate metabolism and became the basis for our knowledge of how cells use food and convert it into energy. Their work also contributed to the understanding and treatment of diabetes and other metabolic diseases.

Astronomer Edwin Hubble (1889–1953) played a pivotal role in deciphering the vast and complex nature of the universe. His meticulous studies of spiral nebulae proved the existence of gal-

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Structural chemist Linus Pauling (1901–1994) determined the nature of the chemical bond linking atoms into molecules. He routinely crossed disciplinary boundaries throughout his career and made significant contributions in several diverse fields. His pioneering work on protein structure was critical in establishing the field of molecular biology and his studies of hemoglobin led to

many findings, including the classification of sickle cell anemia as a molecular disease.

#### TECHNICAL DETAILS

**Denomination:** 41-cent Commemorative

**Format:** Pane of 20 (4 designs)

**Series:** American Scientists

**Designer/Artist:** Victor Stabin, Jim

Thorpe, PA

**Art Director/Typographyher:** Carl T.

Herrman, Carlsbad, CA

**Engraver:** WRE ColorTech

**Modeler:** Avery Dennison, SPD

**Manufacturing Process:** Gravure

**Printer:** Avery Dennison (AVR),

Clinton, SC

**Press Type:** Dia Nippon Kiko (DNK)

**Paper Type:** Prephosphored, Type II

**Adhesive Type:** Pressure-sensitive

**Colors:** Yellow, magenta, black, cyan

**Stamp Orientation:** Horizontal

**Sizes (w x h):** 36.068 x 21.59 mm (image);

39.624 x 24.892 mm (overall); 184.15 x

148.59 mm (pane)

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

**Marginal Markings:** Front: ©2007 USPS;

Price .41 x 20=\$8.20; Plate position diagram; Header "American Scientists"; Plate numbers in 4 corners of pane.

Back: Barcodes 462200 in 4 corners of pane; Biographical paragraphs on back of stamps; USPS logo

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# book reviews

by bonny farmer

**A Philatelic Tour of the American Civil War (Also Known as the War Between the States)**, by Larry Dodson. Published 2006 by the American Topical Association, Arlington, Texas. Softcover, perfect bound, 8½x5½ inch, black-and-white illus., several color plates, 214 pp., ISBN 978-0-935991-55-7. Available for \$22 (ATA members), \$26 (non-members), plus postage from American Topical Association, P.O. Box 57, Arlington, TX 76004-0057; e-mail [american topical@msn.com](mailto:american topical@msn.com); website [www.american topicalassn.org](http://www.american topicalassn.org). ATA Handbook #155.

A great resource for collectors interested in the American Civil War, but the extremely low resolution of the illustrations will lead readers to think it's time to upgrade their eyeglasses. Worldwide stamp issues related to the war are given with their Scott number and date of issue, and are broadly catalogued by Battles (single and multiple); People (CSA, USA; government, military, other); Transportation (observation balloons, trains, ships, ambulances); Other (primarily battle flags); Movies, Literature, etc.; and Miscellaneous. Within the various categories, the listings become much more detailed. For example, although admittedly more extensive than most, following a brief biography of the president, Abraham Lincoln stamps are listed as Lincoln Only, Lincoln Stamps on Stamps, Lincoln's Birthplace, Lincoln's Home, The Gettysburg Address, Lincoln Quotations, Lincoln's Assassination, Lincoln Memorial, Mount Rushmore, and Other Lincoln Stamps.

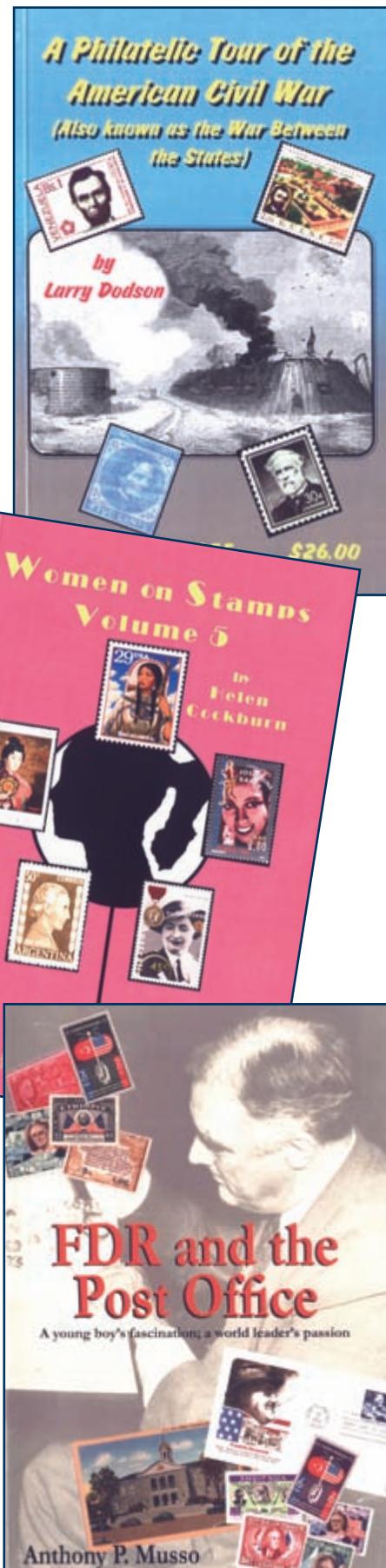
**Women on Stamps, Vol. 5**, by Helen Cockburn. Published 2007 by the American Topical Association, Arlington, Texas. Softcover, perfect bound, 8½x5½ inch, several color plates, 312 pp., ISBN 978-0-935991-57-3. Available for \$22 (ATA members), \$26 (non-members), plus postage from American Topical Association, P.O. Box 57, Arlington, TX 76004-0057; e-mail [american topical@msn.com](mailto:american topical@msn.com); website [www.american topicalassn.org](http://www.american topicalassn.org). ATA Handbook #157.

cal@msn.com; website [www.american topicalassn.org](http://www.american topicalassn.org). ATA Handbook #157.

More a len gthy checklist than a handbook, this volume is the fifth in the series *Women on Stamps* and covers the years 1999 through 2004. The volumes opens with a 31-page alphabetical listing of countries that have issued stamps featuring women in this time period, along with the dates and Scott numbers of the stamps themselves. The bulk of the text is an alphabetical listing of the women so honored, each with a "thumbnail" biographical note followed by the country of issue and the stamp's Scott number. Very few stamps are illustrated, but this compact listing should be of great use to the collector of this topical.

**FDR and the Post Office: A Young Boy's Fascination; A World Leader's Passion**, by Anthony P. Musso. Published 2006 by AuthorHouse, Bloomington, Indiana. Paperback, black-and-white illus., 144 pp., ISBN 1-4259-0931-0 (sc). Available for \$16.95 (p pd) from Anthony P. Musso, P.O. Box 34, Lagrangeville, NY 12540.

An entertaining, anecdotal overview of the philatelic role played by Franklin Delano Roosevelt in American history, including tidbits such as his proposal to name a wartime merchant ship *The Philatelist*, his appearance in one panel of the 1940 mural painted for the Hyde Park (New York) Post Office, and his intimate involvement with certain stamp designs, such as the 1934 Mother's Day issue. The text is somewhat repetitive and the confusing chronology of the chapters makes the book read more like a collection of individual articles than a coherent narrative, but author's colloquial approach is engaging and makes the volume very approachable for the novice or non-collector. Chapter 12 includes a descriptive list of all stamps issued during the Roosevelt administration; a listing that would



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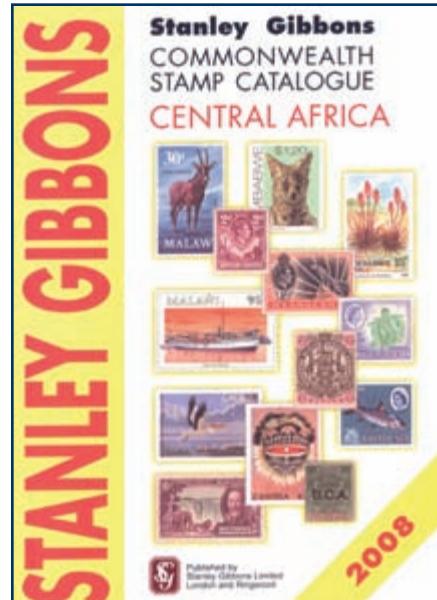
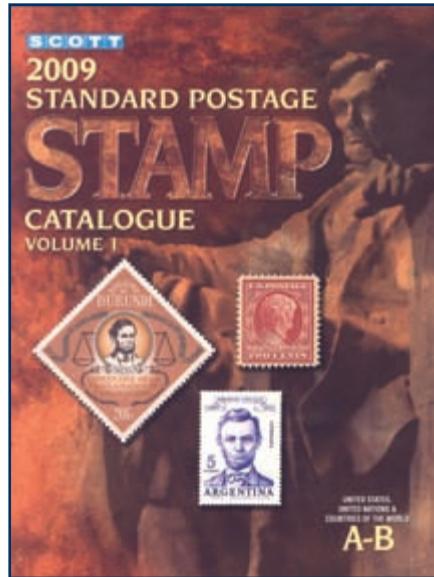
have been improved by the addition of their formal names and Scott numbers.

## Catalogues Received and Noted

*2009 Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Volume 1: United States, United Nations & Countries of the World A-B*, edited by James E. Kloetzel. Published 2008 by Scott Publishing Company, Sidney, Ohio. Softcover, full color illus., 1294 pp., ISBN 0-89487-417-9. Available for \$69.99 (DVD version \$64.99; Special Valuing Supplement \$17.99) from Scott Publishing Co., Box 828, Sidney, OH 45365; telephone 937-498-0802; website [www.amosadvantage.com](http://www.amosadvantage.com).

It's hard to believe that the first volume of the indispensable *Scott Catalogue* for 2009 has already appeared on my desk; I've hardly had time to get fingerprints on all of the last six volumes! Long-time Scott editor Kloetzel notes that "There are more value changes in this Volume I than there have been in any single volume since the Standard catalogues went to six volumes in 1996"—this translates to some 58,000 value changes. He further points out that "almost all the value changes in the U.S. section are upward." But it's not all about tracking market changes in stamp value. The clean color reproductions of stamps make it easy to identify that mystery stamp in your collection. Enjoy!

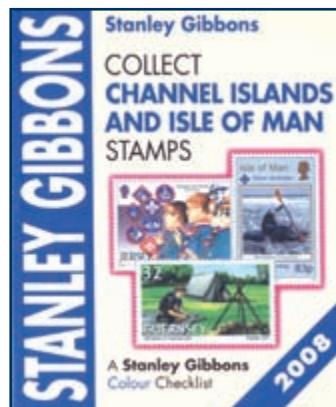
**Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue: Central Africa, 2nd edition.** Published 2008 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, color illus., 44 pp., ISBN 085259-676-6. Available for £14.95 from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, U.K.; e-mail [sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk](mailto:sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk); website [www.stanleygibbons.com](http://www.stanleygibbons.com).



Another in the series of Gibbons color catalogues that lists and prices the stamps of Commonwealth countries from SG1 to date. The Central Africa catalogue covers the stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Prices for issues up to 1970 have been taken from the 2008 *Commonwealth and Empire Stamp Catalogue*. Later issues have been specially repriced for this volume.

**Stanley Gibbons Collect Channel Islands and Isle of Man Stamps.** Published 2008 by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Softcover, color illus., 416 pp., ISBN 085259-674-X. Available for £24.95 from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, U.K.; e-mail [sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk](mailto:sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk); website [www.stanleygibbons.com](http://www.stanleygibbons.com).

The colorful and attractive stamp issues from the Independent Postal Administrations of Guernsey (including Alderney), the Isle of Man, and Jersey are exceedingly popular with collectors,



and this full-color checklist provides a comprehensive priced listing for all of the stamps from these islands up to the end of 2007. Much detailed information is included, and the scope incorporates listings for the German Occupation issues, the British Post Office Regional issues, miniature sheets, first day covers, presentation packs, commemorative covers, and postcards.

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# Isle of Man

**Status:** A British Crown Dependency

**Location:** In the Irish Sea almost equidistant from England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland

**Area:** 221 square miles

**Population:** 75,831 (2007)

**Currency:** Isle of Man pound 100p = 1£, 1£=\$2.02



Early in any conversation about the island — even before they get into the virtues of their kippers — the Manx want visitors to know they are *not* part of the United Kingdom. The island has its own government, its own laws, and its 1,000-year-old Tynwald is second only to Iceland's Althing as the world's oldest parliament.

The Isle of Man, with its strongly rooted Celtic culture, became a Viking kingdom about the same time as the Norman Conquest of England. Two centuries later, the King of Norway ceded the island to Scotland, resulting in a struggle with the English for the island that the British ultimately won. Finally, in 1765, the British monarch bought the island from a British nobleman. Since that time British monarchs have been the Lord of Mann, a title the Queen continues to hold. In practice, the island was administered much like a colony until the twentieth century. Self-government accelerated during World War II. Since that time there has been considerable devolution of power from London to Douglas, capital of the Isle of Man, and to the popularly elected House of Keys.

Originally, the Isle of Man used British postage stamps, but in the wake of the Isle of Man Act of 1958, the British post began issuing "regional issues." The British offered the IOM responsibility for its own postal and telecommunications services in 1966; however, initially, the offer was rejected. While the Manx authorities saw the sale of stamps as a potential money-earner, they were hesitant to take on the telecommunications system, which was undergoing a capital intensive modernization program. After protracted negotiations, the British agreed to separate the two, and the IOM Postal Authority commenced operations on July 5, 1973.

IOM currency shows the monarch's portrait without a crown, since she rules as the Lord of Mann rather than queen. ATM machines on the island provide only Manx pounds, but British currency circulates interchangeably. In the United Kingdom, Manx currency can only be exchanged at a bank.

There are twenty-nine retail post office outlets in the IOM.





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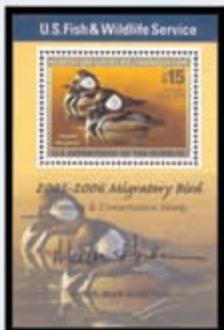
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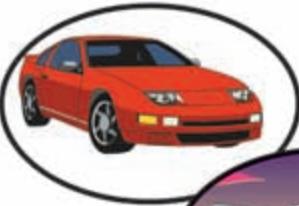
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