

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

JANUARY 2016 \$4.95



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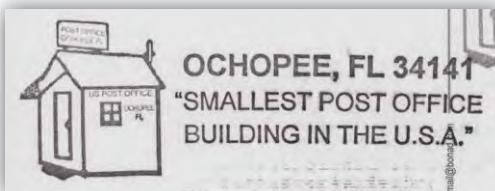
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BY STEPHEN REINHARD president
sreinhard1@optonline.net

New Year Brings Many New Opportunities

International Show, Spring Elections, and Future Planning

It is a new year, one that should be exciting for all of our members. About 10 years ago, a small group of our members from the New York area proposed the holding of perhaps the largest stamp show ever organized in the United States, well "into the future," in 2016. World Stamp Show-NY 2016 was only a dream; a dream that many of us doubted would ever come to pass. A not-for-profit organization was formed, headed by Wade Saadi, for the

sole purpose of making this happen.

Well, time has gone by faster than any of us could have imagined, and plans for this international extravaganza are well on their way to a successful con-

clusion. The ever-expanding organizing committee meets every few weeks to make sure that you have the grandest time ever. If you have not yet made plans to be at the show from May 28 to June 4, do so now. Hotels are filling up and airfares will only get higher as opening day draws closer. If you have the same love for the hobby that I do you cannot miss this opportunity to enjoy philately to the utmost. For more information, go to ny2016.org.

Spring Elections

While this show is in progress you, our members, will be voting in May for an entire new board of directors for the society, as well as for several members of the library board. There will be more changes in the APS board than we have seen in a long time. Our society is at a crossroads, as is the hobby. Our membership continues to shrink, albeit at a slower rate than a few years ago. We need to continue to focus on this matter. Part of this focus has to be the whole

area of member services. Our executive director, Scott English, is working diligently on improving current services and developing new ones. Our staff, now at its lowest number in many years,

is picking up the slack by working ever harder for you. You can help by being ambassadors for the APS. Introduce your friends and family to our wonderful hobby and to our society. If each of you signed up just one new member during 2016 we could double our membership by the end of the year. Wouldn't that be marvelous?

New Applicants and E-mail

Making it easier for our members to get to know each other, and to give a warm welcome to our new members, should be a goal for the society. Member Greg Stone has suggested several times recently that new applicants, on their membership application, be given the option of having their e-mail address printed with the present information in *The American Philatelist's* new applicant list. This would make it easier to contact these applicants and offer them our assistance. I realize that there are downsides here, but if it is the applicant's choice whether or not to have their e-mail address listed, the downsides disappear. What do you think?

By the time you read this it will be snowing in many areas of the country (and the world). What a great time to pull out those albums and work on your collection. Enjoy!

World Stamp Show



... plans for this international extravaganza are well on their way to a successful conclusion."

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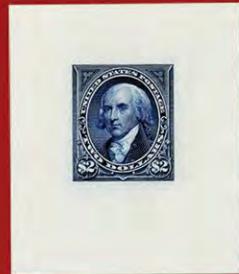


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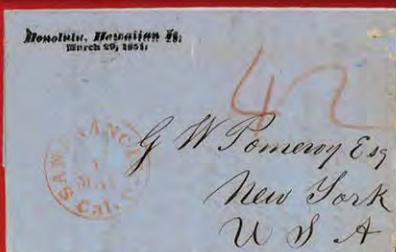
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Moving Forward in 2016

'The American Philatelist' Goes Perfect Bound

This year the United States will experience philately with much excitement. There are significant moments in stamp collecting that will take place in 2016. Of course, all eyes will be on New York City in May for the international stamp show, but there will be many other moments to watch for.

One minor moment you may notice with this issue of *The American Philatelist* is the size. This issue carries 120 pages, an increase of 24 from our average 96 page

issue and more content for our members to enjoy. Please join me in thanking our advertisers for their wonderful support of the American Philatelic Society and *The AP*.

Also, the binding for *The AP* has moved to perfect binding (pages glued into place with a cover having a spine) from the saddle stitching (stapled). There were multiple items that went into the decision which included page count limitations for saddle stitching and the additional advertising support. The spine on this issue now carries the month on it so it should be easy to locate an issue on your shelf of philatelic literature.

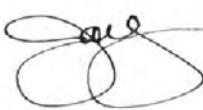
This January issue includes a very interesting feature about African adventurer Attilio Gatti and the amazing philatelic artifacts he created on his expeditions. The covers, the many stamps used on expedition mail, and his story, share with us pieces that we can collect and enjoy. What I found in working on this story was that some of the postal history from his expeditions can readily be found at an attainable price.

This issue also highlights Puerto Rico's history through its stamp issues, postal history, and its postmasters. A different way of looking at the beautiful tropical island in the Caribbean.

Both the Gatti and Puerto Rico stories feature little call outs talking up some resources that collectors might find interesting if they want to explore further themselves. Details are provided on related APS affiliates and chapters, and another box highlighting some related material in the American Philatelic Research Library's collection.

And speaking of the APRL and new items, there's a new look for the library's logo. The logo features an open book with stamp perforations subtly incorporated in it. With the new library construction's planned completion set for 2016, now was the perfect time for a new logo.

This year, 2016, will certainly be one for the books — on all fronts.


Editor,
The American Philatelist

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2-DAY COURSES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Some Newer Antarctica Cachets

In response to the November edition of *The American Philatelist* and the story by Steve Pendleton about Japan philately in Antarctica, I am sending along copies of my Antarctica covers that your readers may find of interest.

In my album, stamps are arranged chronologically in the order of the historical event that they relate to, rather than by date of issue. Included is the 3-cent Byrd Antarctic Expedition stamp (Scott 733) and a 50-cent Antarctic Treaty 30th Anniversary airmail stamp of 1991 (Scott C130). The first-day cover for the latter (shown at right below) is an original Artcraft cover that has been enhanced by California artist Argineh Zadoorian, an artist of Armenian heritage who was born in Iran.

Another cover (top right) features two stamps from Argentina with Antarctica themes. This original cover art also was expanded, this time by artist Dottie Bundy, who is known for her penguin paintings.

Bob Lewin

Temecula, California



Two Antarctic first-day covers with additional artistic enhancements from the collection of letter writer Bob Lewin.



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time, money was needed to buy food. Because several children in the classroom (including my family) were in this category, we were told not to worry, but to have our moms purchase four bars of Ivory soap and bring the wrappers to the teacher. In approximately one month, this pictured Ivory Stamp Club album catalog shown here arrived.

I have been saving stamps since then and am 91 years of age.

W.R. Dadukian

Ocala, Florida

Catalog Clarifications

In regards to the November 2015 Sales Talk column (page 1054) titled: "Catalogs Revisited: Resources for Comparing Stamp Selling Prices" was the first time I had ever seen an effort to list all the various specialty catalogs in one journal article. A very useful tool.

I would like to offer two clarifications.

The Michel catalogs were listed as covering German Areas and Europe. The Michel catalogs also list stamps issued worldwide, much like the Scott catalogs. However, each worldwide area is not issued yearly. Some are every four years or more.

In regards to the Bale catalog's cov-

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Laurence Davis
Evanston, Illinois

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

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

Brad Peterson
Waterloo, Iowa

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

Gasper Buffo
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erage of Israel with yearly new issues, Bale issues four separate catalogs (bale-catalogue.com), but none are issued yearly, rather on an irregular basis.

The website shows the following as current: *Holy Land Specialized, Ottoman and Foreign Post Offices* (1840 to 1918, most recent edition, the second, was 2008); (British) Palestine Mandate (1917 to 1948, the most recent edition, 10th, was 2010); Israel catalog (1948 to present, most recent edition 2013); and Israel Postal History (2012).

Fred Korr

Oakland, California

Cuba Produced Christmas Postage Stamps in 1951

I enjoyed reading the December issue of *The American Philatelist*. Christmas themed philatelic topics are of great interest to me.

I wanted to report that the article by Richard D. Martorelli, "Christmas Stamps and Postal History," caused some waves at the most recent club meeting of the Cuban Philatelic Society of America (cubapsa.org), in Miami, Florida. Many of the members of the club are Cuban born and lived in Cuba and were philatelic collectors of Cuban stamps at the time these stamps were issued.

Martorelli's article reads: "In December 1951, Cuba printed two postal tax stamps that depicted a poinsettia and the word 'Navidades' Spanish for 'Christmas season.' "

We dispute the statement that these were issued as postal



Cuba Christmas stamps (Scott 469–470) from 1951.

tax stamps. These in fact were the first national postage stamps issued expressly for use on Christmas greeting cards.

These stamps became very popular not only in Cuba but

Letters to the Editor Continued on Page 103.

Contact *The American Philatelist*

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

Have a suggestion for an article? Write to the above mailing address or e-mail aparticle@stamps.org.

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

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APS Election



As of December 3, 2015, 16 nominees are seeking election to the APS Board of Directors for the 2016–2019 term. Two American Philatelic Research Library board positions are to be filled by the vote of APS members for the 2016–2022 term. One APRL board position is to be filled by a vote of the founders, patrons, fellows, and Vooys Fellows for the 2016–2022 term.

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

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

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

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

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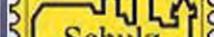
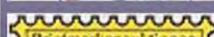
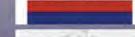
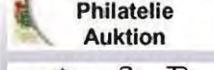
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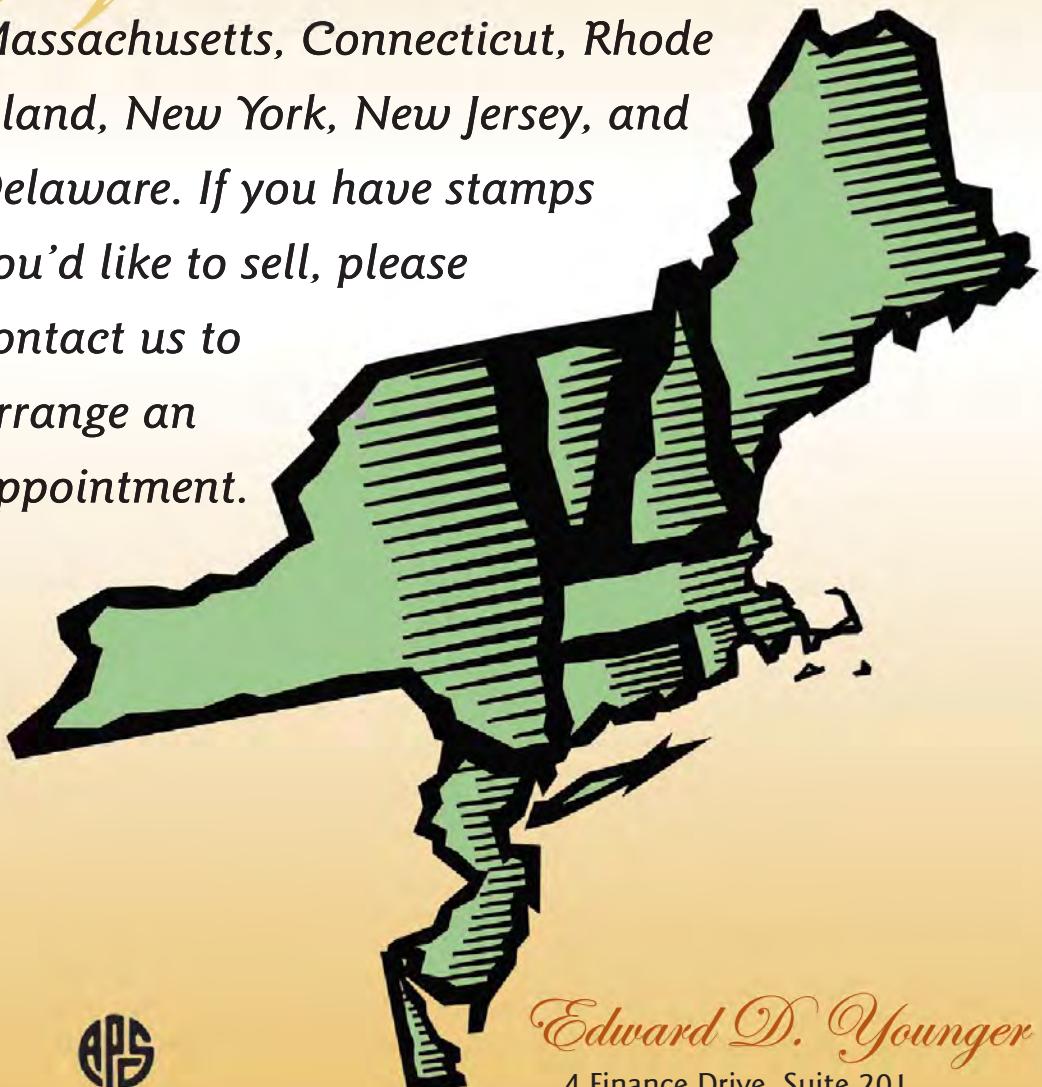


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PHILATELIC HAPPENINGS



BY KEN MARTIN chief operating officer

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

The American Philatelic Society Hall of Fame, established in 1940, this year honors three collectors — Richard Helbock, Maynard Sundman, and Lester Winick. The award annually honors collectors posthumously for a lifetime of service in philately.

The award was established at the 1940 APS convention by President Rollin W. Flower. The first class of 1941 included several philatelic luminaries, including Sir Rowland Hill, John Nicholas Luff, John Walter Scott, Thomas Keay Tapling, John Kerr Tiffany, and James Ludovic Lindsay (26th Earl of Crawford).

Subsequent inductees have included Clarence W. Brazer, Franklin R. Bruns Jr., C. Belmont Faries, Herman Herst Jr., David L. Lidman, George Ward Linn, Ethel B. McCoy, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John Walter Scott, Francis Cardinal Spellman, David Lee Straight, and Daniel W. Vooys.

APS Hall of Fame Inductees for 2015

Richard W. Helbock (1938–2011) was an enthusiastic postal historian since the 1950s, quickly making a name for himself through postal history society memberships, stamp clubs, exhibiting, judging, lecturing, and conducting auctions. He became a stalwart of the postal history field over a span of 40 years authoring more than 25 books, monographs, and CDs on postal history.

Since 1969, Helbock was the publisher of *LaPosta: A Journal of American Postal History*. He also served as editor of the *American Philatelic Congress Book* from 1999 to 2005, the *Military Postal History Society Bulletin*, and *The Alaska Philatelist*. Among Helbock's most significant honors, he received the Distinguished Philatelist Award from the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society in 1991 and a similar accolade from the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs in 2003. In 2007, he was awarded the American Air Mail Society L.B. Gatchell literature award for his four-part series, "Reaching Out to the Islands."

Helbock grew up in Portland, Oregon, and was a 1960 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. After earning his master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Pittsburgh, he became a geography professor, first at the University of Pittsburgh, then at New Mexico State University. In the 1960s, he began corresponding with Chuck Whittlesey, an Oregon collector who specialized in postal history, and in 1969 he began publishing *LaPosta*. When he returned to live in Portland in 1980, he devoted his full time to *LaPosta* and other postal history publications, living and publishing



Richard W.
Helbock.

in a woodsy house near the Tualatin River.

Helbock published and co-authored two books that deal with Oregon and Washington postal history: Chuck Whittlesey, *Oregon Postmarks, a Catalog of 19th Century Usage*, and Tim Boardman's *Washington Post Offices*. In the 1990s, Helbock emigrated to Australia and continued to publish from there. A celebration of Bill's life was held June 5, 2011, and his ashes were placed under a fig tree in Australia.

Maynard Sundman (1915–2007). That we have a vibrant hobby of stamp collecting in the 21st century is due in large



Maynard
Sundman.

part to the life of Maynard Sundman. He was the founder and chief executive officer of Littleton Stamp Company in 1945, and 30 years later purchased Mystic Stamp Company. He applied his amazing understanding of how to whet readers' appetites for stamp collecting by placing creative ads on matchbook covers, in comic books, in Sunday supplements and on the radio. Maynard's name — the Mystic name — is synonymous with the most creative outreach venture to new collectors our hobby has ever seen.

Maynard caught the stamp collecting bug in grade school, and soon began selling stamps to his grade school classmates. By the time he reached high school his dream was to become a fulltime stamp collector. After his Army service in World War II, this dream became a reality and for more than 60 years he led the hobby in creative outreach programs.

He widely expanded the practice of shipping stamps (and later, coins) "on approval," trusting prospective customers either to buy the stamps or to send them back. Over the years, he sent hundreds of millions of dollars worth of stamps to a very diverse bunch of customers from all over the United States. He had a unique and major impact on the hobby based on his acute understanding of the mail order world.

He was a Life Member of the American Philatelic Society, and received his 50-year medal in 2004. In 2002, the Smithsonian National Postal Museum established the Maynard Sundman lecture series. The annual philatelic lecture features talks by renowned stamp collectors on a variety of topics. In 1995, to celebrate the success of his 50 years in the stamp and coin business, a book telling Sundman's life story of serving collectors, *A Decent Boldness: The Life Achievement of Maynard Sundman at Littleton Stamp and Coin Company*, was published.

Lester E. Winick (1927–2015), of Chicago, was an accomplished author, exhibitor, judge, and show executive. He is perhaps best known as the executive director of the highly successful U.S. International Ameripex exhibition held in

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1986 in Chicago. It was the largest philatelic event held in the United States up until that time. He continued to serve as an exhibition consultant afterwards.

His column, "The Insider," ran more than 25 years in *Linn's Stamp News*, and he never missed a deadline. He conveyed current news, not only praising noteworthy people and events, but also constructive criticism of philatelic organizations. Winick authored a stamp column in the *Chicago Tribune* for six years that was widely syndicated. Among his books were many editions of *The White Ace Postage Stamp Identifier* (1952–1992), *Space Stamps* (1966), *Iceland: A Bibliography* (1978), and *Soviet Space Catalog* (1978).



Lester E. Winick.

Winick was an international commissioner, judge, and exhibitor. His displays of Iceland airmail and space topics won major awards both nationally and internationally. Leadership positions included president of the Illinois Federation of Stamp Clubs, president of the Collectors Club of Chicago, president of the Salm Foundation, and director at large of the American Philatelic Society. He served as president of the Space Topics Study Group of the American Topical Association and was named Distinguished Topical Philatelist by ATA in 1978.

Winick received the Chicago Philatelic Society's Saul Newbury award in 1982 and the APS Luff award for exceptional contributions to philately in 1997.

For more information on the hall of fame and a complete list of past inductees, visit stamps.org/hall-of-fame at the American Philatelic Society's website.

Stamp Cruise 2015 Visits Grand Cayman

The 29th annual APS Stamp Cruise was held from October 18 to 28 and visited Aruba; Cartagena, Colombia; the

Panama Canal; Colon, Panama; Limon, Costa Rica; and Grand Cayman. The cruise was featured in a Cayman



Philatelic office at Cayman Islands (top left), Marci and Robert Jarvis at the Cayman post office (bottom left), cruise group photograph (above). Photos at left courtesy of Marci Jarvis.

Islands Government press release titled "Stamping in George Town."

"With October being National Stamp Collectors Month, a group of American philatelists celebrated with a Caribbean cruise — and a visit to the George Town Post

Office (GTPO). The Grand Cayman stop in their itinerary included an event hosted by the GTPO, complete with refreshments, displays, guided tours, and the sale of commemorative stamps — including franking their postcards with the infamous 'Hell' postage mark."

The government release told how APS expertizing director Mercer Bristow led the group of 70, who were hosted by postal services representatives Melissa Martinez-Ebanks and GTPO staff, as well as two members of the Cayman Islands Stamp Committee, Ivan Burges and Lennon Christian. The guests heard of the importance of stamps to the islands' history, viewed the special architectural design of the GTPO, and heard of the types of postal services provided in the Cayman Islands.

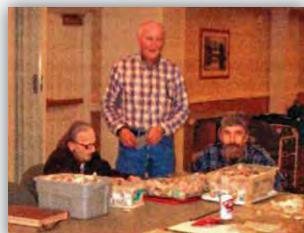
The 2016 Stamp Cruise is scheduled for December 3 to 13 aboard Norwegian Cruise Line's Norwegian Sun. Sailing from Buenos Aires, the 2016 cruise will visit Montevideo and Punta del Este, Uruguay; São Paulo, Ilha Grande, Búzios, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Local Club Helps APS, ATA Projects

The Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (Pennsylvania) in October held an APS and American Topical Association packet night. The club made up more than 50 packets each of U.S. and foreign stamps for the APS, and more than 60 packets of varied topical stamps for the ATA. APS and ATA will use these packets to promote the hobby to children and adults through educational programs including our Stamps Teach program. Lancaster County club members donated stamps for this event over the previous few months. Thanks



Hell, Cayman Islands, postmark, from a postcard sent by Marci and Robert Jarvis. Image courtesy Marci Jarvis.



Members of the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (Trudy Greiner, Fred Sargent, and Bill Greiner III) working on creating packets of stamps to promote the hobby.

to packet-makers Lesley Botte, Paul Petersen, Joy and Dennis Bouchard, Lou DiFelice, Bill Greiner, Truyde Greiner, Deb and John Ehleiter, Fred Sargent, and Doug Milliken.

Thanks also to the more than 250 APS members who in the past few months have made cash contributions to Stamps Teach totaling just over \$18,500. With their generosity we're about 75 percent of the way to qualifying for the \$25,000 challenge matching grant from the Turning Point Foundation.

APS at Clubs and Newspapers, Near and Far

The Sequoia Stamp Club in California used the New Deal presentation video of Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship fellow Charles Epting's that was taped at StampShow

2015 in Grand Rapids as their November program. This may be the first instance of a chapter using a video from the APS YouTube channel as a program. The Sequoia Stamp Club meets at the Community Activities Building in Redwood City, California, on the

Charles Epting's New Deal presentation on the APS YouTube channel at youtube.com/AmericasStampClub.



Yamil Kouri (left) with Royal Philatelic Society of London president Frank Walton after his presentation on the first stamp issues of the Spanish Antilles.

second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Several thousand miles away, another club, the Royal Philatelic Society of London was hearing from another APS member. Vice President Yamil Kouri gave a live presentation on the first postal issues of the Spanish Antilles — Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and the Philippine Islands.

Librarian Tara Murray, of the American Philatelic Research Library, was busy in November. The day after

the *Centre Daily Times* APS feature story, Tara appeared in a front-page photo showing runners participating in a five-kilometer race to raise money for the Veterans Assistance Fund. And the next week, she described the benefits of the new library construction to the Collectors Club of Akron, encouraging them to Help Finish the Job.

New library construction should be complete in March. It will take some time to relocate the library furnishings and contents, but we expect to be fully utilizing the space by June. With a busy upcoming summer — including the New York

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A wide-angle photograph of the Chicago skyline across Lake Michigan. The Willis Tower (formerly Sears Tower) is prominent on the left. Other recognizable buildings include the John Hancock Center, the Chicago Board of Trade Building, and various skyscrapers along the lakefront. In the foreground, several sailboats are visible on the water.



Recent construction photos of the new space for the American Philatelic Research Library in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

“... we are planning the official grand opening of the new library space and celebration of National Stamp Collecting Month on Saturday, October 29.”

world stamp show, our Summer Seminar, Volunteer Work week, and APS StampShow — we are planning the official grand opening of the new library space and celebration of National Stamp Collecting Month on Saturday, October 29.

APS Featured in Local Newspaper

On Sunday, November 8 the APS was featured in our local newspaper, the *Centre Daily Times*. The feature story reported “With nearly 32,000 members in more than 100 countries, the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte is a premier destination for stamp collectors — seasoned and newcomers. Youth stamp programs at the center aim at those newcomers, and at keeping the hobby alive and well for future generations.”

Lynn Ralston became involved with the Youth Stamp Club in January 2013 after her grandson became interested in her stamp collecting hobby. One weekday when school was closed for meetings, Ralston brought him to the philatelic library to look for information on stamps they had and could not identify the issuing country.

Ralston said “I thought we would be here for maybe two hours, but five hours later we were still here. He thought it was a day off from school but he learned so much that day we decided to join the Junior Stamp Club, and I became an adult member of the APS.” Ralston subsequently became an APS volunteer and has assisted with both the Young Stamp



John Barwis (left) receives the grand award for his exhibit at Chicagopex, Paul Larsen receiving his APS Carter Volunteer Award (center), and APS executive director Scott English with his first philatelic-themed tie (right).

Collectors of America and Stamps Teach programs.

Off to the Windy City

Murray returned from speaking to the Akron club just in time to hand the keys to the APS van over to APS executive director Scott English and myself to drive to Chicagopex. A pre-meeting of the Institute of Analytical Philately and upcoming APS elections helped boost out of town attendance. During the show Paul Larsen was presented with the APS Carter Volunteer Award. His accomplishments include serving more than 50 years as exhibit chairman for the Park Forest (Illinois) stamp show. Also at the banquet English was presented with his first stamp tie, quickly removing his non-philatelic tie to save it from scissors.

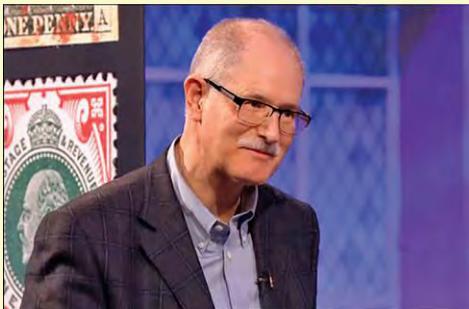
John Barwis won the show grand for Philadelphia Great Britain Mails and Chicago Philatelic Society president Robert Glass received the 2015 Saul Newbury award for distinguished service to Chicago area philately. Francois Guillotin from France received the Chicago Philatelic Society novice award.

Report From Midwest Show

Andrew Allen of Troy, Ohio, reported on the Midwest Stamp Dealers Association's regional stamp show, held the same weekend as Filatelic Fiesta, but in West Chester, Ohio. According to the wife of a dealer who greeted visitors at the door, in the first couple of hours, about 150 stamp enthusiasts came in. Dealers from eight states were on hand. Allen stayed for two hours and reported a steady stream of folks walking into the show.

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Allen noted a man and his grandson looking through collections and spending time together. It was nice to see them communicating and enjoying spending time together without all the electronic gadgets in a digital revolution.

Ralph Greenhut from the MCXI stamp store gave his view on the currency wars and how that is affecting the philatelist field in general. He said that the Euro has fallen from about \$1.35 last year to about \$1.07 today. The strong dollar has pushed foreign buyers to curtail purchases. Greenhut also believes the Canadian market is growing.

Mark Vervaeke of Sterling Stamps from Brighton, Michigan said he felt that colonial countries were more popular to collect than the mother countries. Another dealer, Telah Smith from Ashland, Ohio, recommended collectors bring a written list of items they are seeking. To see a list of upcoming shows visit stamps.org/show-calendar.

A Sad Farewell

Unfortunately, we also have to say a goodbye. William (Bill) Weiss Jr., who passed away on November 10. He was a 49-year APS member, a very well-known exhibitor, and author of several books, including *The Foreign Mail Cancellations of New York City, 1870–1878*; *The United States 15c Stamp of 1870–1890*; *The Catalog of Union Civil War Patriotic Covers*; *Confederate States General Issue Stamps Used Adversity Covers, 1861–1865*, and *Collecting United States Covers and Postal History*.

Bill was also a stamp dealer, auctioneer, APS summer seminar instructor, and expertizer.

Report from Filatelic Fiesta

Filatelic Fiesta in San Jose, California, was held the previous weekend and will be represented in the 2016 Champion of Champions competition at StampShow in Portland next August by Wayne Menuz with his exhibit *The Great Britain Compound Embossed Stationery 1855–1902*. Don



William (Bill) Weiss Jr. (left) speaking with Irv Miller during APS Summer Seminar on Philately 2015.



Don David Price's exhibit on the \$1 Rush Lamp and Candleholder stamp will be shown at the AmeriStamp Expo show in January.

David Price will represent the show in the Single Frame Champion of Champions at AmeriStamp Expo in Atlanta at the end of this month. His winning exhibit is on the \$1 Rush Lamp and Candleholder stamp, also known as the CIA Invert.

Member Sightings

Following Chicagopex we were pleased to welcome Bob Rufe and Greg Ajamian from Delaware to the American Philatelic Center. They transported a very generous gift from Don DeWees with an appraised value of more than \$300,000 of a German collection for our Reference Collection. A frequent Summer Seminar attendee and visitor we thank Bob

for his work in convincing DeWees to give this collection to the APS.

Welcome back to David Sklow who recently rejoined the APS and congratulations to him on being named as new library manager for the American Numismatic Association.

Our best wishes for exciting and enjoyable philatelic happenings to all APS members during 2016.



Two album pages and a close-up of a double printed imperforate pair of stamps from a German collection that was donated by Don DeWees with an appraised value of more than \$300,000. The donated stamps and albums will become part of the APS Reference Collection.

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HOW I BECAME A STAMP COLLECTOR

BY LAWRENCE I. GOTTLIEB

At the age of 8 I started to collect stamps. Why I started is long forgotten, but I remember riding the streetcar to downtown Cleveland, walking to one of the large department stores, riding the elevator, as the operator called out items on each floor, and going to the spacious stamp sales location.

I sat on one of the high stools and pored over the various stamps that the clerks showed me. The best remembered stamp that I bought was a mint 5-cent Louisiana Purchase stamp from 1904. Very little else of that first collecting period remains with me.

High school was not a time for philately, with sports, girls, and studies (in that order) taking a lot of my time. Likewise, college, medical school, internship, and residency also did not lend itself time-wise or financially to stamp collecting.

Phase two of my collecting career began in the mid-1960s when I had time (and some money) to permit me to begin again. I collected United States, Canada, and the United Nations. Except for the early issues, I looked for mint, never hinged stamps from local dealers and auctions.

Somehow my 5-cent Louisiana Purchase stamp, now showing its age with tropical gum stains, survived the many moves and resided in my hingeless album along with the better looking mint never hinged stamps. I then acquired my second favorite stamp, which was a magnificent \$5 Columbian with huge even margins and a pristine gummed reverse. I learned something when the expertization certificate read "authentic regummed stamp." I returned it to the dealer, received my refund and after some time replaced it with an inferior specimen.

I continued to collect and when I attended a large show in a neighboring city I visited the exhibits. I thought, "I can do that." Looking for possible sub-



The 5-cent William McKinley stamp from the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition Issue.

jects to study and exhibit, I chose the relatively unattractive 5-cent revenue stamps of 1862–71. These stamps were plentiful and inexpensive. I was able to rapidly accumulate large numbers. Drawing the borders for the single and multiple stamps was an interesting experience and failed attempts littered the floor. I photographed the double transfers, cracked plates, scratched plates and other tiny defects. In a relatively short time I was done.

The entry was submitted, and a year after I first attended the show I exhibited my study of the 5-cent revenues. Surprisingly, I was awarded a gold medal. Later, when I entered a large philatelic exhibition, one of the judges helpfully explained what I could do to improve my exhibit. Some of the items missing were proofs of the stamps. He pulled out a small folder with some of the proofs and offered to sell them to me. I continued to submit my revenue study (without proofs) to local shows.

Phase two ended with my collection, housed in a bank because the commemoratives and airmails (except for C3a) were complete and there wasn't much else to do with them. My children were not interested in stamps so I sold my collection, except for the revenue study.

Phase three began about 15 years later. I was retired and decided to collect again.

This time, I collected worldwide stamps and soon had a shelf of international albums. I saved U.S. stamps in separate inexpensive albums for the

two grandchildren. My granddaughter loved to soak stamps, but after five minutes looked for more interesting activities. Again, after several years, my interest waned and I again sold the collection, except for the albums meant for my grandchildren.

A few months ago, a friend asked me to look at a collection that his father had left him. In addition to sheets and blocks of commemoratives (many stuck together from water damage) there was an old Marquette album with a nice collection of U.S. stamps. I advised him to take the album to a local stamp show and determine what price a dealer would offer. When he told me what the top offer was, I was amazed at how low it was. My advice was to photograph some of the early pages and contact a national dealer. He did and there was not much interest. At this time, my wife suggested that I get a hobby to keep myself busy. My appetite whetted, I pulled out the grandchildren's albums and was surprised at what a nice start it would be. I told my friend that I would buy his collection, he offered to sell it at the price a dealer quoted, but I said no, I would pay him over double what they offered.

I now am busy looking for grills, secret marks, re-engravings, paper variations, and watermarks. I do not yet have a favorite stamp, but I have a lot of time.

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WORLD STAMP SHOW-NY 2016

BY STEPHEN D. SCHUMANN commissioner general

International Exhibiting 101

Selection Process of the Exhibits for the Show

How will the world's best philatelic exhibits end up at World Stamp Show-NY 2016? It is a complex process for exhibitors, organizers, and judges, but well worth it for everyone.

Exhibiting at the international level is the pinnacle of an exhibitor's aspirations. Most international exhibitions are under the patronage of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP, www.f-i-p.ch), which has set guidelines and procedures for the application, organizational, and judging aspects of exhibiting. This document is known as the "General Regulations of the FIP for Exhibitions."

To be eligible for an international show, an exhibit must first have received a minimum of 75 points (or in North America, a Vermeil medal) at a national level exhibition. In most cases, such exhibits will have received several high awards, but just one is needed.

The governing philatelic organization for each participating country appoints a national commissioner who handles applications. An official show bulletin describes the application process, rules of the competition, and includes commissioner names and contact information, as well as an application form.

Next, the exhibitor must apply to exhibit in one of several recognized FIP competitive classes: Traditional, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Thematic, Maximaphily, Youth, Revenue, Astrophilately, or Philatelic Literature. Open Philately and Modern Philately are two additional exhibiting disciplines. Note that the Popular Illustrated Mail (first-day covers) category is not among the official classes. World Stamp Show-NY 2016 will have a number of these exhibits on display as an experimental class instead.

National commissioners verify all information and forward it to the show's commissioner general, who re-verifies everything. Applications, sorted by class, are forwarded to the exhibit selection committee, which is made up of a select group of prominent philatelists. That team evaluates the entries and determines who will be sent invitations to compete. At least 20 percent of the exhibits selected must be first-time international exhibit entries. A number of the best youth exhibits from around the world also are selected. The rest are selected based on their subject, prior award levels, and an attempt to achieve a balance among the different classes and countries.

Discounted Delta Air Fare



World Stamp Show-NY 2016 has appointed Delta Air Lines as its official air carrier. Arrangements for discounted airfare were made through its Group and Specialty Sales Center. Details are on the show website ny2016.org.

World Stamp Show



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Often, the number of frames requested far exceeds the number available. This was the case with WSS-NY 2016, because some 6,400 frames were requested but only 4,000 were available. This leaves difficult decisions for the selection committee, which does its best to accommodate as many exhibitors and exhibits as possible. Results are passed along to the national commissioners who inform the exhibitors whether or not their exhibits have been accepted. If an exhibitor declines the invite, an alternate is chosen.

Judges are chosen from an international pool of candidates. It is the responsibility of the show committee, the FIP, and both organizations in concert to choose the panel. At national level shows all judges adjudicate all classes of exhibit entries. Judges at international exhibitions only judge exhibits in their recognized exhibiting class of expertise.

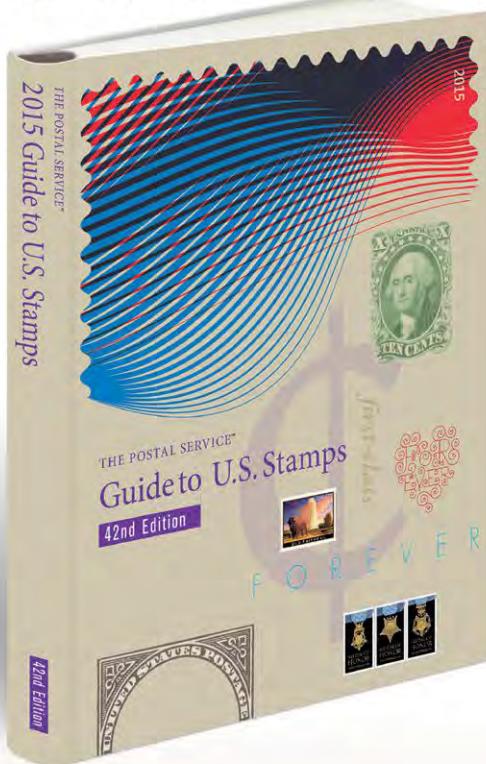
The role of each national commissioner only begins with the application process. It is their responsibility to collect, transport and safeguard all of their nationals' exhibits to and from the international show. Commissioners also check award levels given, and collecting medals and special prizes for those exhibitors not in attendance. Mounting and dismounting is done by an experienced group of philatelists.

The process may seem a bit complex, but in the end, it assures visitors to WSS-NY 2016 will view some of the world's finest philatelic exhibits.

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Notes From the Bottom Drawer

Entertaining Philatelically Significant Items

As I sort through my various collections to find items and subjects to feature in writings here and elsewhere, I frequently run across things that perhaps do not fit specific subjects, are unique in nature or are just too limited an area to gather sufficient material for an entire column. In others, I have a limited amount of material available or have been unable to find much information about a stamp or cover.

Still, many of these items have great general appeal, some are philatelically significant and a few are simply entertaining. They all go into the someday drawer of odd little nuggets.

This month I would like to share a few of these things with you, and which I hope you will enjoy as much as I do. If you have additional information for any, please share it with the editor.

Here is a cover [Figure 1] produced in 1949 by the Dayton (Ohio) Philatelic Society for its annual exhibition featuring a cachet that I find particularly amusing. The design is meant to promote philately as a positive influence on our youth. It depicts a young boy poring over his stamp album, with the inscription, "Youth of Today, Men of Tomorrow." So far so good. However, a slightly closer inspection of the cachet's text near the bottom reveals "Philately Prevents Delinquency. Let's make our children good citizens." That's a fairly heavy karma load for our hobby to bear, yet it rings of truth on some level.

Another cachet [Figure 2] is a V-J Day [victory over Japan] cover; that is, the day the peace treaty (surrender) was

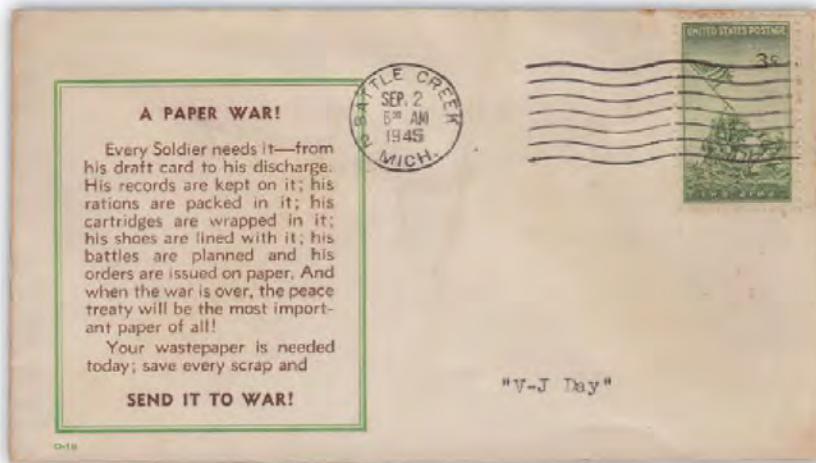


Figure 2. The cachet on this V-J Day cover explains one reason why many potentially valuable philatelic items were lost during World War II.

signed by Japan, thus ending World War II. That, in itself, makes the cover interesting. But what captured my attention is the content of the cachet, which was meant as a patriotic wartime message. It's all about paper, the substance upon which stamps are printed and from which covers are produced, yet it explains why so much philatelic material no longer exists. The cachet reads:

A PAPER WAR!

"Every Soldier needs it – from his draft card to his discharge. His records are kept on it; his rations are packed in it; his cartridges are packed in it; his shoes are lined with it; his battles are planned and his orders are issued on paper. And when the war is over, the peace treaty will be the most important paper of all!"

"Your wastepaper is needed today; save every scrap and
SEND IT TO WAR!"

I have read numerous accounts over the years of people recycling their entire family's correspondence and other important papers to support the war effort.

Speaking of the war effort, most servicemen considered their right to vote as something to be taken very seriously. In response, election boards around the country made every effort to help absentee voters cast their ballots.

Here is an item [Figure 3] that struck me because of its unusual na-



Figure 1. According to the cachet for this 1949 stamp show, "philately prevents delinquency!"

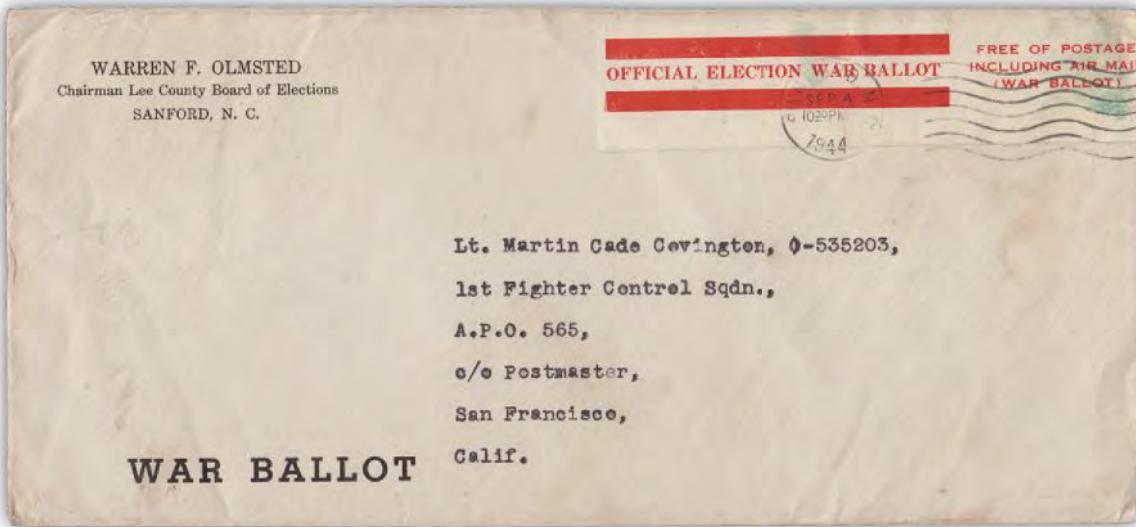


Figure 3. A war ballot destined for a pilot bears an affixed war ballot permit label.

ture. It would appear the Board of Elections of Lee County, North Carolina, created its own permit label for mailing absentee ballots to those who served. The envelope itself is a printed War Ballot envelope, with the election board chairman's return address and label tied by a September 4, 1944, postmark. The red label also specifies "Free of Postage including air mail (War Ballot)." The cover was sent to a soldier in the First Fighter Control Squadron (APO 565). We now know this APO was located in Hollandia, New Guinea, at the time this item was mailed.

The Battle of Hollandia ("Operation Reckless") took place in March–April 1944, a few months before this cover was mailed, and was a major turning point in repelling the Japanese offensive. Lt. Martin "Cade" Covington, the recipient, was a WWII pilot and was wounded at Leyte Island, Philippines, before the end of 1944. He was awarded a Purple Heart. He married Irene Hook in 1943, who was an early female aviator involved with the Petticoat Pilots, a term coined by Will Rogers for early female daredevils, along with "Flying Flappers." After the war, Covington became a physician and

established a private practice. He died in 2002.

While we are on the theme of those who served in WWII, let's take a look at the odd item shown in Figure 4. It is a censored cover, mailed to a U.S. prisoner of war in Germany. The cover (mailed free), is postmarked Columbus, Ohio, August 4, 1943. It also bears a vertical pair of German 40pf Hitler stamps, postmarked May 4, 1944, and a 3-cent Win the War stamp with a May 21, 1945, Fort Worth, Texas, cancel. A light violet marking from Oflag 64 POW camp also appears at the left of the cover. Why is there a triple franking representing three different years? The cancel, by the way, should have been enough for the Germans to return the cover as undeliverable, but they delivered it for some reason.

Before continuing, I need to stress my explanation is simply speculation at this point, as I have been unable to find any solid information on this piece. The recipient, Lt. Amon Carter Jr., may sound familiar to you. Amon G. Carter is extremely well known among numismatists, as he formed one of the stronger collections of coins and currency during the 20th century and also helped found the International Paper



Figure 4. This 1943–45 POW cover has an interesting, but unresolved, story behind it.

Money Society. But he also was longtime publisher of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, a director of American Airlines (which his father was instrumental in founding), and a well-known philanthropist.

But Carter was also a prisoner of war.

In 1943, while serving as an Army forward observer in Tunisia, Carter was captured by the Germans and soon transferred to Poland, where he was kept at Oflag 64 [outside Szubin] for virtually his entire captivity. While there, he published a clandestine POW camp newspaper and served as a clearinghouse for supplies and information for other prisoners through an underground contact he managed to make. He also smuggled information to his father, who published updates regularly in the *Star-Telegram*.

While I am not exactly sure of the function of the 1944 German franking, it may be the result of a forwarding fee after Carter was located. His family was unaware of his whereabouts for some time after Carter's capture. You will note the cover is not addressed to a specific camp; it has only Carter's POW number and "Germany."

Oflag 64 was liberated in January 1945 by advancing Russian units. Most of the POWs were marched out days before liberation. In the ensuing confusion, Carter temporarily lost contact with his family. His father traveled to Europe and eventually found Carter Jr. by chance (already released) outside the 83rd Brigade Headquarters in Germany (date unknown, but likely after May 8 V-E Day). I would be willing to bet the May 21, 1945, cancel was the day Carter arrived home in Fort Worth.

As a side note, Carter received both a Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He later founded an organization to aid former POWs and continued to send financial assistance the rest of his life to the Polish family that helped him during the war.

I finish this month with something a little more amusing. Take a look at the cover [Figure 5] mailed to the Brooks Co. (a hernia supporter) in 1936. The February 23, 1936, four-bar hand-stamped cancel clearly originates from Milesville, "S. Kak," apparently our 51st state. What? As can be divined from the return address, the location is actually in South Dakota.



Figure 5. An interesting piece of 1936 commercial mail from Milesville, South Dakota, with a typo in the state abbreviation.

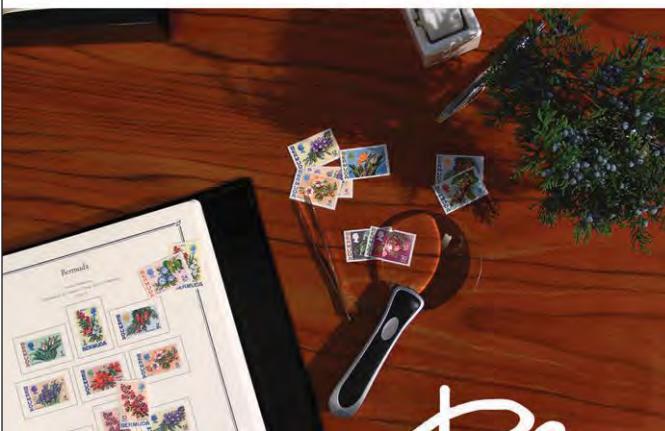
Milesville (now unincorporated) is a tiny town located about 70 miles west of Pierre, just south of the Cheyenne River Reservation, which straddles both North and South Dakota. As sometimes happens, an order for a cancellation device was botched. The new, faulty device was likely in better shape than the one it replaced and was probably used until a corrected version was received.

Cancellation device varieties such as this are uncommon, but not rare. A collection of them would be fascinating and extremely challenging to assemble.

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The APRL is also offering a **\$10,000 reward** for information leading to the successful recovery of the missing McCoy stamps. The APRL is also offering a **\$50,000 reward** for the recovery of each inverted Jenny stamp in undamaged condition, certified as genuine. The reward will be paid to the person(s) who transfer possession of a genuine McCoy inverted Jenny to the research library.

A **reward sum of \$50,000** is offered for the recovery of each inverted Jenny stamp in undamaged condition, certified as genuine. The reward will be paid to the person(s) who transfer possession of a genuine McCoy inverted Jenny to the research library.

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



We are Still Hunting for Our
Two Inverted Jenny Stamps



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Pittsburgh 22, Pa.

from the Base Camp
African Expedition
of the Masa

Attilio Gatti African Adventurer

Former Army Cavalryman's Trail of Philately BY REGIS HOFFMAN



Attilio Gatti was a former Italian cavalry officer who developed a love for African exploration. Some consider him the last of the great African explorers. To others, he may have been nothing more than a self-aggrandizing egotist who took advantage of an opportunity to cash in. Either way, he left behind an interesting trail of philately.

Beginning in 1924 when he was 28, Gatti led a series of 13 expeditions in an era when Africa was still known to many in the Western world as the “dark continent,” a far-away place still shrouded in mystery despite years of colonialism. According to promotional literature of one of the expeditions, these experiences “made Attilio Gatti today one of the greatest living African explorers, a leading authority on the topography and wildlife — of Africa.”

In 1930, Gatti — who referred to himself as “Commander,” with a capital C — moved to the United States, and began preparations for more expeditions. His historical and philatelic importance is multi-faceted.

- Gatti used the mail as a method of promotion. Promotional postcards and letters were mailed from the expeditions. These were sent as commercial advertisements rather than souvenirs for philatelists, so it is difficult to assess how many of these items survive.

- He employed special expedition cancels and sometimes cachets on the expeditions mail. He was a master of self-promotion, with numerous advertising tie-ins with corporations. Souvenir booklets were produced for at least two of the expeditions with tie-ins to the sponsoring corporations.

- He was a prolific author of books and magazine articles about his expeditions. His book titles include *Here is Africa*, *The New Africa*, *Saranga the Pygmy*, and *Killers All!*

- He also produced at least three films, including the silent picture, *Siliva Zulu* (1927), and *Perils of the Jungle* (1941), and worked on an American television show. Though a fictionalized tale, *Siliva the Zulu*, filmed in a Zulu community, is still hailed by some as an anthropological classic, as it shows images from an era when few white men had contact with the tribe.

- Mail from the ninth through 13th expeditions is known. Special covers from the expeditions are shown, together with other historical memorabilia to give a flavor of the man that commanded these excursions into Africa.

Attilio Gatti

Limited information about Gatti is available. He was an Italian cavalry officer in World War I and developed a love for Africa. He frequently posed for publicity photographs [Figure 1].

He spoke Italian, French, Arabic, and a variety of African dialects, but no English before coming to America. He traveled in 1930 to New York, where he met and married his wife, Ellen Morgan Waddill, who was his constant

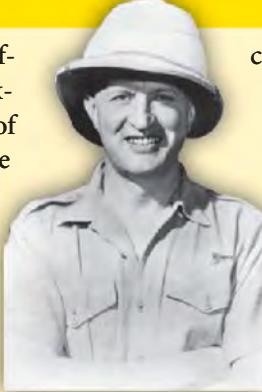


Figure 1. 1937 publicity photograph of Attilio Gatti.

companion on trips to Africa and his co-author on many books. They settled in the United States, living in Derby Line, Vermont, at the Canadian border. The Gattis' house straddled the border, part of it lying in Canada, according to a remembrance from William D. Snyder, a filmmaker, ham radio operator, and photographer who traveled on Gatti's 11th expedition in 1948.

Snyder and Robert “Bob” Leo of Bozeman, Montana, both traveled to the Gattis’ home at the same time to interview for radio and photography duties on the 11th expedition.

“He [Gatti] possessed a receding hairline, a square military jaw, deep-set piercing eyes, and a rather large but strangely crooked nose,” wrote Snyder in a 2003 remembrance. “He spoke with a moderately strong Italian accent that was melodious in tone.”

Snyder said Gatti explained who the sponsors of the expedition would be. “We will be testing their equipment under the toughest conditions,” Gatti told the men.

Snyder quickly made some judgments about the African explorer. “I was beginning to see that his African expedition was basically to discover money,” Snyder wrote. “And the so-called ‘scientific’ aspects of the trip were only for advertising purposes. The more Gatti explained the plans, the more I suspected his motives. But, for me, it was a good chance to get to Africa and see the world, so I put my suspicions on hold; I wanted to go with him.” Snyder, a WWII veteran, spent most his life as a filmmaker and died at the age of 90 in his hometown of Fargo, North Dakota, in 2007.

The Ninth Expedition

Very little is known about this expedition. Unfortunately, even though Gatti wrote books about his travels, they are more chronicles of African adventure rather than historical records of the expedition. The only cover I have seen from this expedition is shown [Figure 2]. It bears the printed return address of the “Gatti Zoological Expedition, Stanleyville.” It



Figure 2. Cover from the Gatti Zoological Expedition.

was mailed from Leopoldville, Belgian Congo, to England, on March 24, 1936.

The 10th Expedition

This expedition spanned the years 1938 and 1939. Most of the information about this expedition is found in promotional pamphlets [Figure 3]. The International Harvester Co. produced the pamphlet. The company, based in Chicago and the nation's leading truck manufacturer, supplied specialized trucks used in the expedition. These booklets were sent as promotional literature to International Harvesters' network of dealers. My copy also has a letter from International Harvester that was included with the booklet. It reads in part:

"We are pleased to send you a copy of the pamphlet describing the equipment of the Tenth Gatti African Expedition and its objectives. Our colored page in the magazine shows photographic cuts of the attractive interiors of the trailers. The booklet, which was prepared some months ago, shows preliminary sketches as made by Count de Sakhnoffsky, the designer.

"The five trucks which power the expedition are of International Harvester manufacture, and the two elaborate trailers were built by Fleetwheels Trailers, Bristol, Pennsylvania.

"As we have indicated, International Harvesters' part in the project was to furnish the automotive power which, as Commander Gatti knows, will be a most vital element in the success of his venture into the Congo."

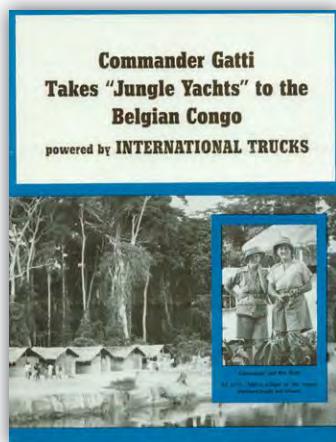


Figure 3. Promotional pamphlet for the 10th Expedition.

The pamphlet is filled with expedition photographs and descriptive text, but omits the precise expedition itinerary.

For example, the introduction in the booklet indicates that:

"After long preparation, the Tenth Gatti Expedition is ready to sail from New York for eighteen months of adventure in the African jungle. ... At Brussels, where the official sponsorship of the Belgian Government will reach its crest in a ceremonial send-off, more equipment and expert personnel will join them to go aboard Belgian steamers for the long journey to the Congo."

From Brussels, equipment left via Antwerp toward Matadi, Belgian Congo (the port of de-

barkation). There are no covers known by the author from either the New York departure or the Brussels send-off. This is surprising, because a number of covers from the expedition itself are known.

The expedition was supported in part by the Belgian government, the University of Johannesburg, and the Royal Zoological Societies of Rome and Antwerp. According to a brochure, the expedition "has commissions from various sources for the capture of rare and little-known animals. It will make explorations into great areas still known only as 'zones of mystery'."

Two promotional booklets are known from the expedition. In addition, publicity photographs were produced and used in newspaper and magazine articles.

Shown [Figure 4] is a publicity photograph highlighting



Figure 4. Publicity photograph of Commander Gatti in an expedition truck. Note the "10th Gatti Expedition" label on the truck door.

Gatti in one of the expedition's trucks.

The postcard [Figure 5] is intriguing, because I believe it is from a member of the expedition. The card is signed and endorsed "10th Gatti African Expedition" in manuscript. It is signed "Charlie," and is addressed to Philadelphia.

Mentioned in one of the pamphlets is an expedition mechanic, Charlie Whitskey, whose hometown was Philadelphia. I believe he sent the card. The card reads in part "Was



Figure 5. Postcard sent from a member of the 10th Expedition as noted by the manuscript "10th Gatti African Expedition" at top.

on board boat 56 days + was damn glad to get off." Perhaps this describes the trip from New York to Matadi.

A more common type of expedition mail is a colorfully franked (although under-franked because postage due was assessed) commercial cover from the expedition to the United States [Figure 6]. It bears the expedition cachet and circular date stamp of the "Mission Gatti."

Some covers were also autographed by Gatti; normally his signature appears following the last word in the cachet area of the envelope [Figure 7].

Both "Mission Gatti, Belgian Congo" and "Mission Gatti, Ruanda Urundi" circular date stamps are known. Most times they are dated several days before any official postal cancel, and were probably applied to a stack of expedition covers before mailing.

In addition to exploration of the Belgian Congo, the ex-



Two different circular date stamps were used by the expedition. Both with the text "Mission Gatti" at the top and different locations noted at the bottom of the date stamp marking.



Figure 6. Commercial cover from the 10th Expedition sent to New York with special "Mission Gatti" date stamp and expedition cachet.



Figure 7. Cover with cachet and autograph of Attilio Gatti in red. His signature is located after the word "Forest" in the expedition cachet handstamp at left.

pedition also traveled throughout Ruanda Urundi. For this portion of the expedition, a circular date stamp reading "Mission Gatti, Ruanda Urundi" was used [Figure 8].

Some covers are commercially used, others are less so, and perhaps were used as souvenirs [Figure 9]. Commercially used examples typically bear a single, low-denomination stamp, have the return address of a company located in the United States, and have no other cancels. These may have been sent to the United States under separate cover, and then distributed by the companies as publicity.

Recorded Uses

The nearby table summarizes the Gatti covers in my collection, together with a few entries from recent items on eBay, the Internet auction site.

This provides some evidence of the expedition itinerary; surprisingly for all that Gatti wrote, the exact dates of the expedition are not recorded and must be deduced. Few covers bear evidence of passing through the postal system; these are indicated in the table via a city name in the "Cancel" column.

All bear the expedition circular date stamp, but few also have the expedition cachet (recorded in the "Cachet" column). Note that covers from the Ruanda Urundi part of the expedition are decidedly scarcer than the Belgian Congo part.

Advertisements

Advertising played a huge role in Gatti's expeditions, such as an advertisement for Hamilton watches. The advertise-



Figure 8. Expedition cover bearing a "Mission Gatti – Ruanda Urundi" circular date stamp.

Belgian Congo Date Stamp

Date	Cancel	Destination	Cachet?
December 14, 1938	Stanleyville	United States	
December 14, 1938		United States	
December 14, 1938		United States	
December 14, 1938		United States	
December 14, 1938		United States	(seen on eBay)
January 7, 1939		United States	
January 7, 1939		United States	
January 7, 1939		United States	
January 7, 1939	?	United States	
January 7, 1939		United States	Yes
January 7, 1939		United States	Yes (seen on eBay)
January 7, 1939	Aba	United States	(seen on eBay)
April 20, 1939	Stanleyville	United States	Yes (seen on eBay)
May 10, 1939		United States	Yes
May 28, 1939	Stanleyville	United States	

Ruanda Urundi Date Stamp

Date	Cancel	Destination	Cachet?
August 20, 1939		United States	
August 20, 1939		United States	
August 20, 1939		(four total)	
August 20, 1939			Yes
August 20, 1939			Yes
August 30, 1939	Usumbara	United States	Yes



Figure 9. Souvenir covers sent via the Gatti Expedition. The top cover has a return address of *Popular Photography* magazine and the other with a return address of Ziff-Davis hobbyist magazine publishers.



Figure 10. Advertisement for Hamilton watches publicizing their connection with Gatti's 10th Expedition.

manufactured radio equipment from 1932 to 1966, when it was sold to Northrop.

The expedition explored the East African nations of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika between 1948 and 1949. Websites with detailed information about this expedition from Gatti radiomen Leo and Snyder can be found at gallatinhamradio.com/?page_id=112 and qsl.net/pa0abm/ghe/01ghe.htm, respectively.

The expedition left New York City on the S.S. *African Pil-*

ment

[Figure 10] mentions the 10th Expedition and pictures Gatti with an elusive okapi. The now-endangered animal native to central Africa looks a bit like a zebra but is the only other animal in the giraffe family.

The 11th Expedition

The 11th Expedition was more popularly known as the Gatti Hallicrafters Expedition, as it was sponsored by the Hallicrafters Company, of Chicago. Hallicrafters

Camps and Itinerary of the Gatti Hallicrafters Expedition

Camp	Location	Purpose
1	Kwale, Kenya	Organization of the expedition
2	Kilema, Kenya	Exploring Mt. Kilimanjaro
3	Bamboo Flats, Kenya	Big game
4	Narwa, Kenya	Masai, Sonyo, Big game
5	Muwenzori Range, Uganda	Radio communications
6	Nanga Point, Kenya	Study of Luo and Kavirondo natives
7	Nakuru, Kenya	Study of flamingos
8	Nairobi, Kenya	End of expedition

grim on November 23, 1947, and landed at Kilindini, Kenya on January 13, 1948.

Camps were established at eight locations in East Africa.

Souvenir covers from the expedition were sent to many electronics companies in the United States. Here is an example of one such cover [Figure 11], addressed to a photography and electronics distributor ("Cameradio") in my hometown of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. These covers are invariably in bright yellow (sure to be noticed!) and bear the expedition circular date stamp reading "Gatti-Hallicrafters Expedition" and an expedition cachet that reads "Certified Sent from the Base Camp of the Gatti-Hallicrafters Expedition to the Mountains of the Moon" (note that the "t" in expedition is broken/missing).

Five climbers on the expedition, including Leo, made a successful trek to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Enclosed in the envelopes were souvenir cards (also in yellow). The front and back of these cards are illustrated in



Figure 11. Cover from the Gatti Hallicrafters expedition with expedition cachet and circular date stamp (upper left). Both sides of the souvenir insert from the expedition with the insert declaring "Greetings from the Gatti-Hallicrafters Expedition."

Yellow Souvenir Expedition Covers

Date	Postal Cancel	Addressee
July 22, 1948	Nairobi	Dumont Marine Services
August 19, 1948	Kisumu	C.E. Beckman Company
August 19, 1948	Kisumu	Henry Herbert, New York
August 22, 1948		Cameradio, Pittsburgh
August 22, 1948	Kisumu	Aerial Survey of Pittsburgh
September 27, 1948	Nairobi	Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Montreal, Canada

Figure 11. Only about 10 percent of the covers I have recorded still contain this insert. The table above lists the date and usage range of these yellow souvenir covers in my collection.

The prime sponsor of the expedition was the Hallicrafters Company, manufacturer of radio equipment (especially amateur or "ham" radios).

Snyder wrote that he was disappointed in the arrogance shown by Gatti during the expedition.

"Ham radio is a hobby, but to Gatti it was a money-making business," Snyder wrote in 2003. "He didn't like the way we used the hobby for friendship and enjoyment, he kept thinking we were his slaves to do as he directed."

Snyder wrote that he and Leo were constantly barraged by memos, which he called "Gattigrams."

"Mr. Gatti had a separate [sic] camp from ours, and would communicate with nastygrams," Leo wrote. "Most were ... nasty."

Snyder saved and kept the messages in a three-ring binder and shared some of the content in his recollections.

Snyder presented one missive to Leo as follows: "I [Gatti] am afraid that despite so many many talks & notes from me, and 3 months of continuous contact with me, neither you nor Snyder have yet got the simple point that you are nothing more than technicians here to run my own station EXACTLY AS I WISH."

The capital letters in the last bit were at least one half inch high.

In another, Snyder recollects Gatti's message as: "Just as the photographers use very scrupulously my negatives and cameras (and some of their own) to take just the pictures I want and exactly as I wish, so you should have learned long since to use my station, my power, my recorders, etc. EXACTLY as I say."

Later, Snyder said he learned that Gatti had burned other bridges.

"I was having lunch with the superintendent of the Parc Albert over in the Belgian Congo. When he found out that I had been with Gatti, his face frowned and he said the following: 'If Mr. Gatti ever gets into the Belgian Congo again, I can guarantee you that he will never set his feet in the Parc Albert as long as I am the superintendent!' I didn't ask why, but I'll bet it was something not too happy!"

Snyder was either fired or left relatively early to take another job in the Middle East.

Leo was less critical in his writing. "Some view the

expedition as commercial, but was it any different than present day sponsorship?" he wrote not long ago.

Despite the friction, the expedition maintained radio communication with amateur radio operators worldwide. Confirmation of the contact was established by mailing of ham radio QSL cards. These cards also provide a postal record of the expedition. There are four types of cards that I have listed in the table below. Each bears a permutation of the letters "GHE" (Gatti Hallicrafters Expedition). The website previously referenced lists the quantity of each style of QSL card. Relatively few of these were sent, especially from Uganda.

These cards occasionally appear on the market and also are collected by the amateur radio community.

Figure 12 illustrates the front of one of these cards from the Kenya EGH station. Invariably these cards bear a 1-cent Kenya-Uganda-Tanganyika King George VI definitive canceled with an expedition datestamp. I suspect most of these were mailed under separate cover, as they show no evidence of passing through the East African postal system. This QSL

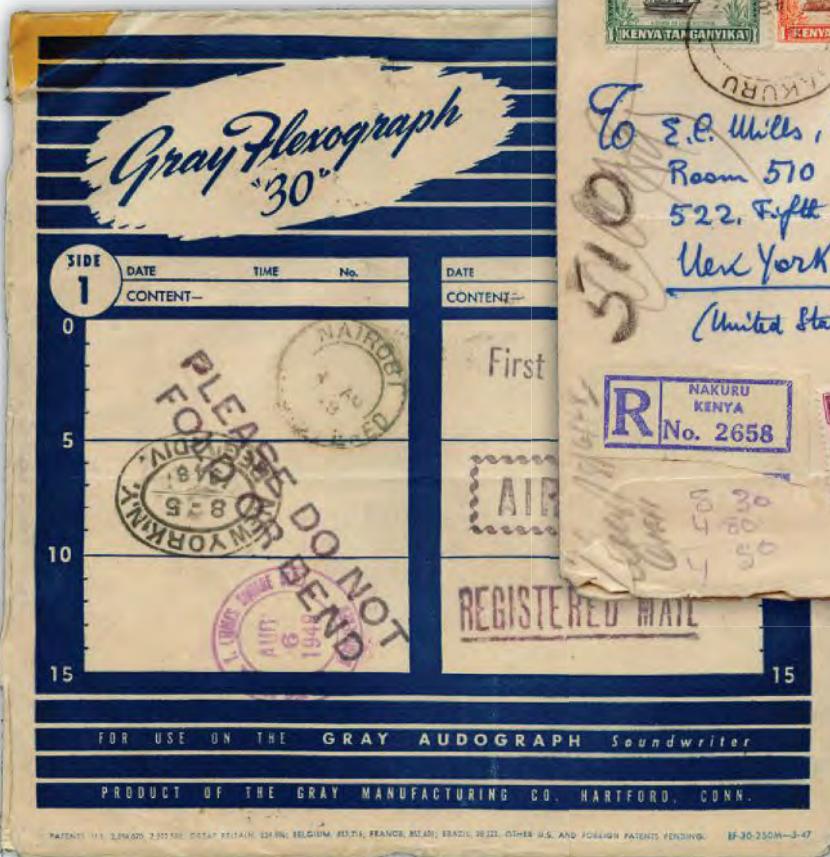
QSL Cards and Numbers Sent

Country	Start	End	QSL No.
Kenya EGH	January 21	February 16	942
Tanganyika HGE	February 20 and July 6	June 13 and July 9	2629
Uganda GHE	June 20 and June 26	June 21 and June 27	233
Uganda HEG	June 27	June 27	18



Figure 12. A front and back of a ham radio QSL card from the expedition. The address side of the card has the Gatti Expedition cachet handstamp.

Figure 13. The front and back of a registered Flexograph envelope from Attilio Gatti in Nakuru, Kenya, to his attorney in New York City. Note the return address in the upper left is that of the Gatti Expedition and sent by Gatti himself.



card was later mailed in the United States with postage being paid with a meter.

The back of the QSL card [Figure 12] indicates that communication was established on February 9, 1948. Note that the expedition datestamp reads April 27, 1948 and the meter reads August 5, 1948. I believe these cards were canceled periodically, not necessarily when the radio contact was made.

QSL cards for Tanganyika and Uganda have slightly different designs with a giraffe and alligator for the illustrations, respectively.

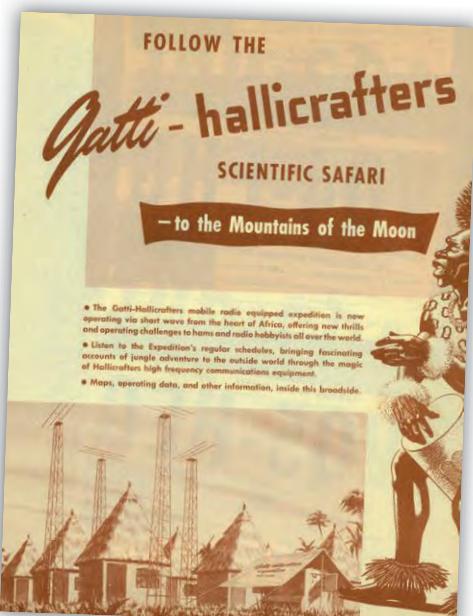
The over-sized cover [Figure 13] is an intriguing remnant of the expedition. It is a registered airmail cover from Nakuru, Kenya, with the return address (upper left) of "A. Gatti, Gatti

Figure 14. Souvenir brochure from the Gatti Hallicrafters Expedition.

Hallicrafters Expedition, Private Bag, Nairobi." It is addressed to an attorney in New York City.

The back indicates it contained a Flexograph for a Gray Audograph dictation system. This system recorded audio onto soft vinyl disks for subsequent transcription. Because Gatti was a prolific author of books and magazine articles about his travels, I suspect this envelope contained the dictation for one of these manuscripts.

Souvenir publicity booklets were produced by several of the expedition's sponsors. Nearby is a page from the publicity booklet of the Hallicrafters Company [Figure 14]. International Trucks, which supplied motorized vehicles for the expedition, produced similar booklets. These booklets oc-



APS SPECIALITY SOCIETIES

Those interested in more philately from Africa might be interested in joining the West Africa Study Circle (APS #AF0099), an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society. The group encourages the study of stamps, postal stationery, and postal history of the West African countries. Website: wasc.org.uk. E-mail: marty_bratzel@yahoo.ca.

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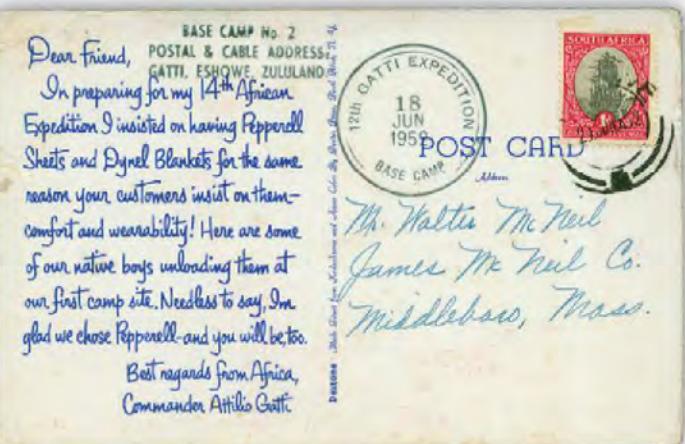


Figure 15. The picture and address side of a postcard from the 12th Gatti Expedition in South Africa advertising various bedding products.



Figure 16. A 1952 letter from Gatti to a friend in New York. It includes an expedition date stamp and postal cancellations.



Figure 17. The picture and address side of a publicity postcard for an American Broadcasting Company (ABC) television series called "African Safari" filmed during the 13th Gatti Expedition. It is unclear to the author if the adventure documentary series was ever broadcast.

casionally appear on eBay. Interestingly, I purchased one of these on eBay about 15 years ago. The seller indicated he had about 10 more copies, and would I be interested in the lot. This was curious, as I had only seen one of these offered before, and now someone had 10. The seller's address was Derby Line, Vermont, the same town that Commander Gatti lived in while in the United States. The seller was the current owner of the Gatti house, and found these booklets in the attic (presumably left there by Commander Gatti).

The 12th Expedition

Little information is known about the 12th Gatti Expedition to South Africa. The variety of philatelic souvenirs from this expedition is limited to one type of postcard [Figure 15]. The postcard has the ubiquitous Gatti Expedition circular datestamp, and return address of "Base Camp 2" in Eshowe, Zululand. The three postcards I have seen from this camp are all dated June 18, 1952.

His expedition sponsorship seems to have diminished from International Harvester trucks in earlier expeditions, to sheets and blankets.

The message reads:

Dear Friend,

In preparing for my 14th African Expedition I insisted on having Pepperdell Sheets and Dynel Blankets. Blankets for the same reason your customers insist on them — comfort and wearability! Here are some of our native boys unloading them at our first camp site. Needless to say, I'm glad we chose Pepperdell — and you will be, too.

Best regards from Africa,

Commander Attilio Gatti

Note the confusion about the expedition number — the cancel reads "12th" but the message indicates it is the "14th." One explanation is that it was the 14th time he had been a

STAMP LIBRARY RESOURCES

One of a dozen references found easily at the APRL is *The Kilimanjaro Collection of East African Stamps and Covers*, an auction catalog from 2002 published by Spink, of London. The slick 60-page catalog is filled with rare and interesting illustrations of places such as British East Africa, German East Africa, Kenya, Kenya-Uganda-Tanganyika, and Zanzibar. Included are covers, stamps, specimens, vignettes, die proofs, official overprints and essays.

More African references can be found online in *The American Philatelist* Bonus Content section.

**HTTP://CATALOG.STAMPLIBRARY.ORG
STAMPS.ORG/AP-ALBUM**



Figure 18. Postcard encouraging patronizing a New York City restaurant.

member of an African expedition, but the 12th where he was the expedition leader.

Also note the recipient address of the "James McNeil Company," a store in Middleboro, Massachusetts. Another card from this expedition is addressed to a Pittsburgh department store showing that these cards were used as advertisements.

Gatti also used the expedition date stamp on personal mail [Figure 16]. The envelope includes a sympathy note to a friend of Gatti in New York. This bears a July 18, 1952, date stamp.

The 13th Expedition

The 13th expedition returned to Kenya, East Africa and South Africa between 1956 and 1957. Mail from this expedition has a special circular date stamp cancel reading "13th Gatti African Expedition, Kenya" or "13th Gatti African Expedition, South Africa."

This expedition seems to have more media sponsorship. For example, a large, colorfully franked postcard [Figure 17] announces a television series on the American Broadcasting Company (ABC) network. The message reads:

Greetings from Mombasa!

Just arrived here en route to deep Belgian Congo. Even though it's the 13th Gatti Expedition, Africa never loses its excitement — and this trip I'm shooting a new series for ABC Television, "African Safari." This half-hour authentic adventure story should be as fascinating as the Dark Continent itself. If you are interested, check with ABC-TV in the States.

Commander Attilio Gatti

Another card advertises a New York City restaurant [Figure 18]. The picture side features a giraffe browsing on some leaves near Gatti. The message part of the postcard reads:



Figure 19. A 13th Expedition cover with a cornercard of "Winchester Proof, African Edition."

13th Gatti Expedition's base Camp, British East Africa, May '56.

This kind of outdoor lunch is wonderful — for a giraffe.

Personally, I prefer to think of those good, pleasant, relaxed New York meals — at L'Aiglon, of course.

Best regards and wishes from the African equator.

— Attilio Gatti

Also sent from this expedition were colorfully franked

covers from "Winchester Proof — African Edition" [Figure 19]. The purpose of these covers was a mystery for many years. Recently one of these covers was discovered with an explanatory insert that explains that "Winchester" was the U.S. rifle manufacturer. The original mailing contained the following short note:

Commander Attilio Gatti is a foremost authority on Africa. The author of more than a score of books and of



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Figure 20. The picture and address/message side of a postcard from South African leg of the 13th Gatti Expedition. The picture side shows a repair on a truck using a tool manufactured by one of the expedition's sponsors. The card is franked with a South African rhino stamp.

hundreds of magazine articles, the Commander has spent a lifetime in Africa — exploring, photographing, and reporting.

Last March, he embarked from the United States on his 13th safari. He was given three assignments from Winchester-Western: a motion picture on African hunting; a complete test under field conditions of the new Model 70 rifle in .458 caliber; and a special request that he bring all of us up-to-date on what's new there through an African Edition of the Winchester Proof.

The attached was written on Safari by Commander Gatti and has been mailed to you from 'somewhere in Africa.'

Included with the note was a three-page summary of big-game hunting tips for potential visitors to East Africa headed "Winchester Proof — African Edition — Printed in Kenya."

I have five of these covers in my collection; all are dated June 30, 1956. Only one retains the original insert.

Curiously, the expedition seems to have interrupted its East Africa travels to head to South Africa because two cards are known from May 25, 1957, and June 25, 1957, from South Africa. These cards, too, are used for advertising — in this case a special power tool called the Ramset Duo JobMaster [Figure 20]. These cards pictured one of the expedition trucks under repair using the tool.

Conclusions

Gatti expedition memorabilia and postal history spans more than two decades, multiple African coun-

tries and is a fascinating collecting area. He used the mails for self-promotion and as a means of advertising his sponsors' products. He successfully marketed himself and his expeditions, and left a philatelic legacy that is a fascinating collecting area.

There is little information about his final years. One Internet source states he died at age 72 on July 1, 1969, while living in Europe.

No information could be found on his burial location or what became of Ellen Gatti.

The Author

Regis Hoffman is a collector of British East Africa stamps, postal history, and revenues; British Commonwealth; worldwide military and censored mail; and Hollywood fan mail. He is a member of numerous philatelic societies and writes articles for many of them. He is the past president of the Philatelic Society of Pittsburgh and is currently an apprentice APS philatelic judge.

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OUR PRE 1940 \$4995 "MONSTROSITY" — This is our specialty and a carton of this old desirable material is offered each sale. All old and valuable material other than our large collections are sold in our monstrosity which is filled with mint and used material on album pages, dealer stockcards, old auction lots, stockbooks, etc. — all of which will be disorganized which is why it is sold so very inexpensively. Hundreds and hundreds of stamps in the \$20-\$500 range in mixed condition will easily be found and lurking gems await the astute collector. Over 40 pounds of disorganized happiness. Expect immense catalogue value. The best value in the stamp industry!

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BRITISH COLLECTIONS

001 ABU DHABI - 63 different mint stamps from 1964-1971 in mounts on Scott Specialty pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include #1-11 NH, 12-14 NH, 15-25, 26-37, etc. 2015 Scott \$869. NET \$395

002 ADEN & STATES — Mint collection from 1937-1963 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 150 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #9, 16-27a, 31, 36-46, Kathiri #1-11, 20-27, Quaiti #1-11, 20-27, 29-40, 41-52, etc. 2016 Scott \$1040. NET \$525

005 ASCENSION - Very strong mint and used collection from 1922-1967 on Palo pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include used #1-9 and mint #10-21, 62-74, etc. 2014 Scott \$1976. NET \$675

006 AUSTRALIA — Mint (20%) and used (80%) collection from 1913-1978 on Scott Quadrille pages. Approximately 610 stamps in mixed condition. Highlights include used #7, 11, 18, 41, 54, 66-76, 73a, 147-149, etc. 2015 Scott \$2915. NET \$495

008 AUSTRALIA AND TERRITORIES — Strong 99% used collection of around 1300 stamps in a Scott specialty album from 1913-1993 in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include used #7, 18, 54, 55, 130-132, 197-199, 365-379, CO1, etc. 2015 Scott \$4150. NET \$1095

011 BAHAMAS — Mint and used collection of approximately

500 stamps from 1884-1992 on Scott specialty pages and album leaves in a binder in F-VF condition. Highlights include used #100-113, 464-479, 709-724, etc. 2015 Scott \$1444. NET \$395

013 BAHRAIN — Highly desirable mint collection of over 200 stamps from 1933-1974 in mounts on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition. Highlights includes mint #1-14, 20-37, 38-51, 52-61A, 72-80, 130-140 NH, 141-152, etc. 2015 Scott \$2172. NET \$1075

015 BARBADOS — Mint collection of around 735 stamps from 1937-1996 in mounts on Scott specialty pages in generally VF condition. Highlights include mint #212-227, 235-250, etc. Includes much NH in the later material. 2015 Scott \$1392. NET \$525

016 BERMUDA — Mint collection from 1865-1990 in mounts on Minkus pages. Mainly MNH from 1965 onwards. Approximately 530 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include Mint #5, 18-25, 28-30, 105-114, 126, 134, 143-162, 255-271, 482-498, etc. 2016 Scott \$2,365. NET \$950

019 BRITISH EAST AFRICA — Highly desirable mint collection from 1890-1896 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 25 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #67, 74, etc. 2016 Scott \$310. NET \$175

020 BRITISH GUIANA — Mint collection from 1898-1952 on Palo and Gibbons pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include #152-6, 191-201, 210-222, 230-241, etc. 2015 Scott \$542. NET \$195

021 BRITISH HONDURAS — Mint collection from 1884-1973 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 200 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include Mint #14, 24, 30, 81, 82, 144-155, 167-168, B1-B5, etc. 2016 Scott \$697. NET \$295

022 BRITISH HONDURAS — Mint and used collection from 1888-1966 on Scott quadrille pages. Approximately 145 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include used #58, 67, 82, 125, etc. 2015 Scott \$625. NET \$180

023 BRITISH OMNIBUS — FREEDOM FROM HUNGER — Very clean neat all mint collection of around 320 stamps in a White Ace album in VF condition. Highlights include Hong Kong #218, etc. 2014 Scott \$417. NET \$125

024 BOTSWANA — MNH Collection from 1966-1990 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 265 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Will give one a good start in this area. 2016 Scott \$350. NET \$140

025 BRUNEI — Highly desirable mint collection from 1906-1992 in mounts on Minkus pages. Mainly MNH from 1963 onwards. Approximately 305 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #21, 29, 31, 36, 37, 56, 58, 59-61, 83-96, 194-200, etc. 2016 Scott \$1080. NET \$550

026 BURMA — Mint and used collection of around 340 stamps from 1937-1993 on Minkus pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #2N41-2N50, 122-35, O49, O56-O67, used #14, 15, 32, 64, etc. 2015 Scott \$790. NET \$275

029 CANADA — Mint collection of a few hundred mint stamps from 1897-1991 on Scott pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include #50, 122, 149-159, 162-177, 217-227, 241-5, 249-262, C2, E2, complete postage dues, MR6, O1-O10, O16-O25, etc. The Canadian market is the best it's been in years! 2014 Scott \$4496. NET \$1295

030 CANADA — Mint and used collection of approximately 500 stamps from 1858-1979 on Scott specialty pages in generally F-VF condition. Includes loads of useful issues and some better such as used #100, 123-124, etc. Material is all mint from 1956 forward. 2015 Scott \$1368. NET \$325

031 CANADA — Mint collection of around 400 stamps from 1911-1977 in a Minkus album in F-VF condition. From 1950 forward the collection is over 97% NH. Better material includes #120 & 122, 146-148, 241-245 incl. 241A, J11-J14, MR1-MR2, MR6, etc. 2015 Scott \$1652. NET \$475

032 CAPE OF GOOD HOPE — Collection of 50 used stamps

on Scott specialty pages and dealer sale cards. Condition is mixed on the triangles, then generally F/VF. Highlights include #2, 4, 12, 14-15. 2015 Scott \$1610. NET \$350

034 CHANNEL ISLANDS & REGIONAL ISSUES — MNH collection from 1941-1996 in mounts in a Minkus album. Approximately 1650 stamps in VF condition. Highlights include mint Jersey N3-N8, 7-21, 246-268, 477-506, J1-J6, Isle of Mann #531-553c, J1-J8, etc. 2016 Scott \$1795. NET \$895

035 COOK ISLANDS — Mint collection from 1920-1982 in mounts in a Minkus album. Approximately 495 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #112-114, 116-124, 131-140, 148-158, 179-191, 407a, O16-O31, etc. 2016 Scott \$820. NET \$325

036 COOK ISLANDS — Mint collection of around 415 stamps from 1898-1978 mostly in mounts on Scott specialty pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include Mint #61-66, 112-114, 123, 124, 131-140, 148-158, 179-191, 199-220, 381-402, etc. 2015 Scott \$1000. NET \$375

037 DOMINICA — Mint collection of some hundreds of stamps in mounts from 1882-1981 in a Minkus album in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #35-49, 65-82, 122-136, 142-158, etc. 2015 Scott \$1240. NET \$550

038 DOMINICA — 95% mint and 5% used collection from 1874-1982 of several hundred stamps on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include used #3 and mint #34, 49, 54, 56-63, 122-136, 142-158, etc. 2015 Scott \$1955. NET \$695

039 FALKLAND ISLANDS — Mint collection from 1878-1984 on pages in mainly F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #20-1, 22-9, 37, 38, 41-8, 62, 63, 73, 84-96, 100, 1L19-33, 128-142, 166-179, etc. Also includes some uncounted duplicates as a gift! 2015 Scott \$4633. NET \$1795

040 FALKLAND ISLANDS & DEPENDENCIES — Mint collection of around 425 stamps from 1886-1987 in mounts on Minkus pages in F/VF condition. Mostly MNH from 1962 onwards. Highlights include Mint #8, 32, 33, 77-80, 122-127, 166-179, 197-209, 210-222, 227-230, 2L1-2L8, 3L1-3L8, 4L1-4L8, etc. 2016 Scott \$1515. NET \$675

041 FIJI — Mint and used collection from 1878-1966 on Scott quadrille pages. Approximately 150 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #74, 75, MR2a, used #88c, etc. Will give one a good start in this area. 2015 Scott \$545. NET \$160

042 FIJI — Mint collection of around 500 stamps from 1880-1996 in mounts on Minkus pages in F/VF condition. Mainly MNH from 1962 onwards. Highlights include mint #71, 147-162, 163-175, 176-189, 257-276, 305-320, 305b-320b, etc. 2016 Scott \$1115. NET \$450

043 GAMBIA — Over 90% mint collection of around 140 stamps from 1880-1963 on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #12-19, 18a, 37, 61, 102-120, 132-143, 153-167, etc. 2015 Scott \$1645. NET \$595

044 GHANA — Album filled with hundreds of seemingly MNH stamps to around 1995, often accompanied by the same used stamp. This album seems about 80% complete, but is

Continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

very messy. Bargain price: NET \$195

045 GIBRALTAR – Very strong mint (95%) and used (5%) collection from 1886-1988 on pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include used #88, 90 and mint #59a, 61, 92, 107-118, 122, 132-145, etc. Nearly all the stamps are in mounts! Also includes some uncounted duplicates as a gift. 2015 Scott \$4340. NET \$1495

047 GOLD COAST – Mint collection from 1879-1953 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 95 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include Mint #5, 14, 40, 79, 98-107, 115-127 NH, 130-141, 148-159, etc. 2016 Scott \$785. NET \$310

048 GREAT BRITAIN – Around 900 mint and used stamps from 1881-1994 in generally F/VF condition. The collection is 99% used from 1881-1962, then 90% mint thereafter. Highlights include used #179, 180, 199, 312, 333, etc. 2015 Scott \$1197. NET \$275

049 GREAT BRITAIN – Significant collection including UK Regionals, Forces and Offices in a Scott specialized album running from 1840-1995. Around 2300 stamps, all used to about 1970, then some mint pockets thereafter. Generally F/VF condition with some mixed in the earlies. Highlights include used #1, 28, 42, 52, 53, 55, 60, 73, 87, 94, 95, 103-107, 140, 179-181, O5, O6, O77, Morocco 64, 87, 261, 543, Turkey used #11, Mint #52, etc. Very satisfying, far reaching collection. 2015 Scott \$11,806. NET \$2795

050 GREAT BRITAIN – Mostly used collection from 1840-1963 on Scott specialty pages in a little mixed, but generally F-VF condition. Highlights include used #1, 5, 16-17, 21, 24, 27-8, 45, 45a pl#6, 50, 51 pl#8, 53, 57 pl#1, 57a pl#2, 64 pl#12, 13, 69, 70 pl#16, 85, 87, 94-5, 103, 104, 107, 139, 140, 179-181, and mint #80, 108 !!, 122, 173, 174, 175 !!, O6, O34, O40 signed, etc. 2015 Scott \$18,447. NET \$3595

051 GREAT BRITAIN – High value collection of around 600 almost all used stamps from 1841-1990 on album pages in a 4-ring binder in generally F-VF condition (earliest are a bit mixed as usual). Moderate duplication, including several high values such as #3, 96, 103, 223, etc., not counted or included in the catalogue value, but included as a gift. Many highlights including used #3, 21, 33 (plate 219), 67, 96, 99, 102, 103, 104, 105, 107, 126, 133, 136, 138, 138a, 173, 174, 222, 223, 309-12, etc. 2014 Scott \$3417. NET \$675

052 GRENADA – Mint collection from 1875-1988 in mounts in a Minkus album. Approximately 1005 stamps in generally F/VF condition. 95% MNH from 1961 onwards. Highlights include mint #7A, 27, 28, 31, 34, 35, 39-46, 65, 77, 114-123, 131-142, 171-185, etc. 2016 Scott \$2085. NET \$795

053 GRENADA – Mint and used collection from 1875-1979 on quadrille pages. Approximately 180 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #75, 171-183, used #41, etc. 2015 Scott \$600. NET \$160

055 GUERNSEY – MNH collection from 1971-1999 in 2 Lindner stockbooks. Approximately 695 stamps in VF condition. Highlights include mint #476-497, 576a-580b BK, 604aBK, 624bBK, etc. 2015 Scott \$995. NET \$495

057 HONG KONG – Highly desirable all mint collection from 1882-1996. Some hundreds of stamps in mounts on Minkus pages in F/VF condition. Highlights include #45, 78, 102, 168-173, 197, 198, 225-8, 231-3 NH, 249-250, 298a NH, 308a NH, 388-403 NH, 490-504 NH, etc. The collection is 99% NH from 1968-1996. 2016 Scott \$2942. NET \$1595

058 HONG KONG – Scott album of around 460 stamps in generally F/VF condition from 1862-1993. Overall appears 90% used. Mint highlights include #40, 98, used #21, 65, 165, 275-288, etc. 2015 Scott \$2284. NET \$595

059 HONG KONG – Mint and used collection of around 642 stamps from 1862-1983 in mounts housed in a Scott specialty album in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #92, 113, 119, 151-153, 163B, 167, 168-173, 225-228, used #2,

53, 63, etc. 2015 Scott \$2124 NET \$725

060 HONG KONG – Neat and clean mostly used (4 mint stamps) collection of around 470 stamps from 1882-1989 on Scott specialty pages and quadrille pages in a black 2-ring binder in generally F-VF condition. The many highlights include mint #81, 464a, and used #24, 47, 63, 80, 117, 122, 135, 179, 203-17, 275-88, 316-27, 388-403, 490-594, etc. 2014 Scott \$2663. NET \$795

061 INDIA & STATES – Mint and mostly used collection from 1855-1978 on Scott quadrille pages. Approximately 655 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #19, M34-43, Chamba 45, Jind 121, Patiala 92, 93, used #15a, 50-52, 129-134, O51, Gwalior 19, 39, Chamba 97, etc. 2015 Scott \$2410. NET \$950

062 IRAQ – Impressive mint collection of over 1000 stamps in mounts from 1923-1989 on Minkus pages in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #1-13, 42, 44-60, 61-78, 79-101, 110-129, 188-194, O56-O71, etc. 2016 Scott \$3168. NET \$1595

063 IRELAND – Mint and used collection of around 375 stamps from 1922-1993 in a Scott specialty album in generally F-VF condition. Includes loads of useful issues in the \$5-\$40 range. 2015 Scott \$1520. NET \$375

064 ISLE OF MAN – 98% complete mint never hinged collection in mounts on Scott specialty pages. Highlights include #531-553c, J1-8, etc. 2015 Scott \$772. NET \$350

065 JAMAICA – 99% used collection of around 750 stamps from 1863-1996 on Scott specialty and Quadrille pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include used #4, 5, 7-12, 51, 53, 69, 99, 109-112, 159-173, MR3, etc. 2015 Scott \$1495. Net \$495

066 JAMAICA – 98% complete mint (95%) and used (5%) collection from 1860-2000 in mounts housed in a Scott specialty album in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #8, 11, 14-15, 20, 28-30, 61-73, 87, 88-100, 106-8, 116-128 NH, 159-174 NH, etc. 2014 Scott \$3853. NET \$1295

068 JAMAICA – Very nice clean collection of around 725 mint stamps from 1960-1996 on Scott album pages in VF condition. The collection appears to be virtually complete for the time period. Moderate duplication, consisting primarily of gutter pairs, was not counted or included in the catalogue value, but included as a gift. Highlights include #591-4, etc. 2014 Scott \$1326. NET \$425

069 JERSEY – 99.9% complete mint never hinged collection from 1969-1997 on Scott specialty pages in VF condition. Highlights include #7-21, 246-268, 477-506, J1-6, etc. 2015 Scott \$931. NET \$425

070 JERSEY – Mint NH collection of around 860 stamps from 1977-1987 in mounts on Scott specialty pages in VF condition. Highlights include mint #246-268, 477-506, 786d-789d, J1-J6, etc. 2015 Scott \$1135. NET \$495

071 JERSEY – 85% mint collection of nearly 500 stamps in VF condition from 1991-2002 in an old Schaubek hingeless album. The collection is around 85% complete for the period and the mint is nearly all NH! 2015 Scott \$918. NET \$295

072 JERSEY – Very nice collection of around 1300 stamps mostly used from 1958-1992 and mostly mint up to 2006 in a Scott specialty binder (page type varies) in generally VF condition. The collection is highly complete for the time period. 2014 Scott \$2116. NET \$525

073 KENYA – Mint NH collection of around 320 stamps from 1981-1990 in mounts on Minkus pages in VF condition. Highlights include mint #247-261, 424A-440, etc. 2015 Scott \$896. NET \$425

074 KENYA – Several hundred MNH stamps in mounts on quadrille pages in a binder from 1971-2010 in generally F/VF condition. Includes some uncounted used as a gift. 2015 Scott \$1718. NET \$850

076 KUWAIT – Desirable mint collection in sets in glassines in which the stamps are well identified. Highlights include #58-71, 72-81A, 93-101, C1-4, and the very scarce O1-14

(cat \$869). 2015 Scott \$2602. NET \$850

077 KUWAIT – Scarce small used collection of better items in glassines in which the stamps are well identified. Includes #13, 72-81A, 83, 99-101, C3, 05-6, O8. Very nice condition. 2015 Scott \$726. NET \$325

078 KENYA, UGANDA, TANGANYIKA – Mint collection of around 250 stamps from 1937-1975 in mounts on Scott specialty pages in generally VF condition. Highlights include mint #82, 84, 93, 115, 120-135, etc. 2015 Scott \$468. NET \$170

079 KUWAIT – An exciting opportunity to obtain a 97% complete mint collection from 1923-1972 in mounts on Scott specialty pages in mainly F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #1-15, 34, 45-57, 59-71, 72-81A, 225-243, 462-473B NH, O12, O24, etc. 2015 Scott \$3050. NET \$1395

080 LEeward ISLANDS – Around 115 mint stamps on messy Scott specialty pages from 1890-1954 in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #8, 20-8, 32, 114, 133-147, etc. 2015 Scott \$1280. NET \$475

081 MALAYAN STATES – Starter collection of around 450 stamps from 1886-1971 on Scott specialty pages in generally F-VF condition. Will give one a start in a very popular area. 2015 Scott \$1022. NET \$350

082 MALAYAN STATES – Highly desirable mint collection of around 325 stamps from 1936-1952 on Gibbons pages in F/VF condition. Highlights include Johore #130-150, Kedah #46-54, 61-81, Penang #3-22, Perak #97, Trengganu #67, J1-4, Straits Settlements, #238-252, etc. 2015 Scott \$3117. NET \$1850

083 MALAYAN STATES – Mint and used collection from 1882-1986 in a Scott specialty album. Approximately 715 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint Negri Sembilan #74, Perak N18a, Selangor 7, 9, 27, used Johore #66, 109, Penang 2, Perak 59, Selangor 75, etc. Will give one a nice start or a good expansion. 2015 Scott \$1865. NET \$750

084 MALTA – Around 150 mint and used stamps from 1863-1937 on Scott specialty pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #4, 5, 13, 41, 61, 64, 73!! 85 unused, 93, 114, 148-166 and used #6, 18, etc. 2015 Scott \$4180. NET \$1295

087 MAURITIUS – Mint 90% NH collection of around 300 stamps from 1953-1989 in mounts on Scott specialty and Minkus pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include #251-265, etc. 2015 Scott \$443. NET \$195

088 MONTSERRAT – A starter mint and used collection of around 240 stamps from 1876-1980 with additional empty pages to 1991 in generally F-VF condition. NET \$95

089 NEPAL – Mint and used collection of 240 stamps from 1886-1970 on Scott pages in a bit mixed but generally VF condition. Highlights include mint #60-83, used #7, 8, 9, etc. 2015 Scott \$858.30. NET \$195

090 NEWFOUNDLAND – Mint (90%) and used collection from 1860-1947 in mounts on Scott pages in a touch mixed, but generally F/VF condition. Mint highlights include #59, 61-74, 87-97, 115-126, 131-144, 172-182, 212-225, C6-8, C9-11, C13-17, etc. 2016 Scott \$4976. NET \$1395

091 NEWFOUNDLAND – Very strong mint collection of some 230 stamps on Scott specialty pages. Earlies are in somewhat mixed condition; thereafter, mostly VF. Loads of highlights in including 1, 13a, 22-3, 27, 32-32A, 47, 61-74, 87-97, 98-103, (without 101), 104-14, 125-126, 131-44, 145-59, 163-71, 212-25, etc. 2015 Scott \$5325. NET \$1895

092 NEW GUINEA – 65 stamps which represent the lower values of the various sets issued. Generally in F/VF condition. No stamps over \$15 catalog value. 2015 Scott \$306. NET \$89

093 NEW GUINEA AIRMAILS – Highly desirable mint collection consisting of C1-13, C14-27, C28-43 and C46-59. Condition is generally F-VF. Very hard to come by! 2015 Scott \$1683. NET \$895



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094 NEW ZEALAND – Several hundred all mint stamps from 1902-1983 in a Scott specialty album in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #165-70, 179-181, 203-216, 229-241, 288-301, 333-352, AR81, C5, J22-5, O76-O86, L5-8, etc. 2014 Scott \$2277. NET \$550

095 NEW ZEALAND – BOB - Valuable collection of around 125 war tax, Official, life insurance and newspaper stamps, mint (65%) and used (35%) from 1873-1981 on Scott specialty pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #O28, O29, O36, O37, O53, O69, O111, OY3, P1, unused #O32, P3b, used #O31, OY5, OY6, OY12, OY21, etc. 2014 Scott \$1812. NET \$550

096 NEW ZEALAND – Mainly used collection with a touch of mint on homemade pages in a three ring binder from 1862-1982 of around 900 stamps in a bit mixed but generally F-VF condition. Highlights include used #14, 39, 41, 66, 69, 79, 80, 128, 130e, 131e, 197, 198, AR4, AR6, E1, J5, O60, O69, O427, O428, P16, etc. 2015 Scott \$3480. NET \$650

097 NIUE – Mint collection of 93 different stamps from 1902-1967 in mounts on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #57, 77-85, 116a-119a, etc. 2015 Scott \$545. NET \$195

098 NORTH BORNEO – 1886-1995 mint and used collection of some 220 stamps in mixed, but generally F/VF condition in well-identified glassines. The stamps catalog up to about \$40 and the vast majority of them are of modest value. 2015 Scott \$1055. NET \$295

099 NORTHERN RHODESIA – 40 different mint stamps from 1925-1948 on pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #25-45, 49 NH, etc. 2015 Scott \$546. NET \$250

100 PAPUA NEW GUINEA – Highly desirable mint (85%) and used collection of a few hundred stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include used #34-40, 48, and mint #94-109!! etc. 2016 Scott \$2840. NET \$1250

101 ST. VINCENT & GRENADINES – Mint collection from 1890-1989 in mounts in a Minkus album. Approximately 1145 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Over 95% NH from 1960 onward. Highlights include mint #141, 156-169, 186-197, 226-240, 279-294, 407-425, etc. 2016 Scott \$1250. NET \$495

102 ST. VINCENT – Mint and used collection from 1862-1990 on Scott specialty and blank pages. 99% mint from 1904-1990. Earliest in usual mixed condition, then F/VF from 1885-1990. Highlights include used #4, 7, 9, 27, and mint #39, 104-116, 186-197, etc. 2016 Scott \$2573. NET \$775

103 SAMOA – Mint (90%) and used (10%) collection of around 110 stamps from 1877-1946 on Palo pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #7, 8a, 104, 108, 125, 158, 177, 178, etc. 2014 Scott \$2739. NET \$795

104 SARAWAK – Excellent mint collection that is very nearly complete from 1869-1957 in mounts on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition. Does not include Occupation issues. Highlights include mint #8-21, 26-7, 36-47, 50-70, 79-93, 94-08, 109-134, 135-154, 197-211, etc. 2015 Scott \$2724. NET \$1395

105 SEYCHELLES – Mint collection mainly in mounts of around 218 stamps from 1890-1969 in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #14, 15, 52-62, 73, 88, 157-171, 173-190, 198-212, etc. 2015 Scott \$1308. NET \$475

107 SIERRA LEONE – 99% mint collection of a few hundred stamps mostly in mounts on homemade pages in a binder. Condition is mainly F/VF. Highlights include #7 unused and mint #9 signed, 9a, 16, 45, 54, 56, 75, 118, 137, 152, 163, 173-185, etc. 2015 Scott \$4768. NET \$1795

108 SIERRA LEONE – MNH collection from 1971-2004 in mounts on homemade pages in 6 binders in VF condition. 2015 Scott \$6405. NET \$2995

109 SIERRA LEONE – Around 175 mint and used stamps from 1860-1964 on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition.

Highlights include used #89 and mint #45, 75, 76, 88, 137, 140-152, 195-207, etc. 2015 Scott \$2210. NET \$725

110 SOUTH AFRICA – Mint and mostly used collection of several hundred stamps from 1910-1995 on homemade pages in a bit mixed but generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #68-71, B1-4, B5-8, B9-11, J30-3, J34-8, etc. Also includes uncounted duplicates as a gift. 2015 Scott \$1087. NET \$250

111 SOUTH GEORGIA – Beautiful MNH collection of the first 30 stamps from 1963-1972 on Scott specialty pages in VF post office fresh condition. 2014 Scott \$358. NET \$175

113 SOUTHERN RHODESIA – Collection of about 100 mint and used stamps from 1924-64 on Scott specialty pages. Highlights include mint #13, 28, 30 and used #8. Condition is generally F-VF. 2013 Scott \$441. NET \$140

115 STRAITS SETTLEMENTS – Mint and used collection of 120 stamps from 1867-1948 on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #117, 119, 121, 123, and used #8, 18, etc. 2014 Scott \$1029. NET \$350

116 TANZANIA – Nearly complete mint collection that is 90% NH in mounts on homemade pages in VF condition. Highlights include \$50-53 NH, etc. 2015 Scott \$447. NET \$130

118 TOBAGO – Mint and used collection from 1879-1896 on a Scott specialty page in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include used #5, 9, 31, etc. Also includes a few uncounted duplicates as a gift. 2016 Scott \$1185. NET \$395

120 UGANDA – Mint NH collection of several hundred stamps from 1962-1991 in mounts on pages in VF condition. 2015 Scott \$1261. NET \$595

121 UGANDA – A few hundred mint stamps from 1962-1992 on pages in F-VF condition. 2015 Scott \$583. NET \$170

122 VANATU – Mint NH collection of around 290 stamps from 1980-1993 in mounts on Minkus pages in generally VF condition. Highlights include mint #323-326, 530, 595-610, etc. 2015 Scott \$555. NET \$250

123 ZAMBIA – Mint collection from 1964-1992 of a few hundred stamps on pages in F-VF condition. 2015 Scott \$642. NET \$225

124 ZAMBIA – Mint collection (few uncounted used) of around 170 stamps from 1964-1989 on Scott specialty and Minkus pages in VF condition, including much NH. 2015 Scott \$242. NET \$100

125 ZANZIBAR – Highly desirable mint and used collection of around 225 stamps from 1895-1967 on homemade pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #14, 16, and used #15, 77, 78, 111, 112, etc. Also contains uncounted duplicates as a gift. 2015 Scott \$2141. NET \$795

WORLDWIDE COLLECTIONS

128 ALBANIA – Mint and used collection of around 75 stamps from 1919-1963 on Scott specialty leaves in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #91-97, 102, etc. 2015 Scott \$655. NET \$140

132 ARGENTINA – A Scott specialized album to 1970 containing a few hundred affordable mostly used F/VF stamps. Begins with dozens of pre-1900 classics, then lots of material to 1970. Album pages are very clean. NET \$195

138 BALTIKS – Mint collection of around 215 stamps from 1920-1941 on Minkus pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint Estonia #B41-B44, Lithuania mint #264-271, B43-B46, C63-C70, etc. 2015 Scott \$605. NET \$295

140 BALTIC STATES – Mint collection from 1918-1991 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 410 stamps in F-VF condition. Highlights includes Latvia mint #2N45-2N57, Lithuania mint 277c-277k NH, C63-C70 NH, C63-C70 NH imperf, C71-C78 NH imperf, etc. 2016 Scott \$720. NET \$350

141 BELGIUM – Mini scarce collection of semi-postals in very nice F/VF condition on Scott pages. This small but juicy collection is comprised of B69-77, B78-83, B93-8, B123-4, B132-143 (cat. \$992) and used B144-50. 2015 Scott \$3939. NET \$1495

142 BELGIUM – Over 700 MNH stamps from 1999-2010 in 2 stock books. Condition is post office fresh! 2016 Scott \$2343. NET \$1295

143 BELGIUM – 35% mint and 65% used collection from 1851-1980 on Scott quadrille pages in 2 binders. Around 1685 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #B31-B33, J2, Q371-Q372, Q339, used #26, 28-36, 45-48, 70, 72, 82-91, Q1-Q6, etc. Priced to go from our home to yours! 2015 Scott \$2745. NET \$450

144 BELGIUM – Powerful mint and used collection of around 2,575 stamps from 1849-1978 on Scott specialty and Minkus pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #137, B46, B69-B77, B106, B114-B122, B132-B143, B458a, B466B, B605a, B561-B566; used #1, 8, 9, 23, 74, 121, B144-B150, B162, etc. 2015 Scott \$15,500. NET \$3395

146 BERLIN – Mint collection from 1948-1990 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 885 stamps in F/VF condition. Over 90% MNH from 1964 onwards. Highlights include mint #9N1-9N20, 9N42-9N60, 9N64-9N67, 9N120-9N136, 9N359-9N376, 9N516-9N532, etc. 2016 Scott \$1680. NET \$495

148 BRAZIL – A collection of many hundreds of used stamps in generally F/VF condition from 1850-1975 in a Scott specialty album. Begins with strong classics including #40 poor margins. After 1900, the material is of the affordable type. The album is in nice condition. Pages are clean. NET \$225

149 BRAZIL – Around 1020 mint and used stamps from 1849-1970. Condition of the earlies is a bit mixed, but generally F/VF after 1905. Highlights include mint #466 and used #60, etc. 2015 Scott \$1300. NET \$310

150 BRAZIL – Mint collection from 1850-1978 in mounts in a Scott specialty album. Approximately 1355 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #57, 59, 61, 62, 66, 109, 342-355, 989-992A, 1062a, 1147, 1181, 1222, 1441-1457, etc. 2016 Scott \$4325. NET \$1295

151 BRAZIL – Mint and used collection of over 1000 stamps from 1844-1966 on Scott International album pages in generally F-VF condition. Should be cheap at only NET \$495.

152 BULGARIA – Mint and used collection from 1879-1945 on Scott quadrille pages in a binder. Approximately 455 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #33, 101-103, 281-285, C3, J3, J13, J14, used #3, 10, J2, J4-J6, J7-J9, etc. 2015 Scott \$1155. NET \$240

154 CAMEROUN – 98% mint collection of over 1000 stamps from 1916-1985 on a variety of pages in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include #279A, 607-8, B2-6, B7-9, B14-15, B16-17, B21-5, C38-40, etc. Includes some uncounted duplicates as a gift! 2016 Scott \$2747. NET \$950

155 CAMEROUN – Just nine very scarce mint stamps in the usually found mixed condition, but generally Fine condition consisting of #102-5, 108-9, 116-7, 119. First time we have offered these scarce stamps. 2015 Scott \$1069. NET \$375

156 CAMBODIA AND LAOS – Mostly mint collection of around 425 stamps on Minkus pages from 1951-1966 in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include Cambodia mint #17, 53-8, C1-9, and Laos mint #25-6, C13, C20-1, etc. 2015 Scott \$1225. NET \$375

157 CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA – Two Minkus albums in worn condition containing many hundreds of mint and used F/VF stamps to around 1970. The countries covered are Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Colombia and Panama. All are very well represented starting at the early classics. Most of the value will be in the many hundreds of stamps before 1930. NET \$795

158 CHAD – Mint collection from 1922-1985 in mounts in a Minkus album. Mostly MNH from 1960 onwards.

Continued on next page →



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Approximately 625 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #17, 51-59, 159-162, 367-372, C2-C6, C56, C60, etc. 2016 Scott \$1560. NET \$625

160 PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF CHINA – Highly desirable MNH collection that is 90% complete from 1970-1995 in mounts on Minkus pages in VF condition. Highlights include 1074a, 1076-9, 1090-4, 1104-7, 1108-1113, 1126-9, 1255-1270, 1433!! 1547-54, 1557-1572, 1632-5, 1904, etc. 2016 Scott \$7583. NET \$5195

163 COLOMBIA – High quality mint collection from 1859-1977 in mounts in a Scott specialty album. Approximately 1335 stamps in mainly F/VF condition. Mostly MNH from 1950 onwards. Highlights include mint #1a, 7, 30, 33, 45-463, C11, C31, C34, C55-C67, C96-110, C166-C174, C175-C185, C200-C207, C208-C216, etc. 2016 Scott \$3970. NET \$1295

166 CZECHOSLOVAKIA – Collection of possibly around 1,000 mint and used affordable stamps to 1972 in a very nice Scott specialty album with very clean pages. NET \$175

167 CZECHOSLOVAKIA – Mint collection from 1918-1994 in mounts in a Minkus album. Approximately 3200 stamps in F/VF condition. 95% MNH from 1956 onwards. Highlights include mint #23-40, 187-190, 434a, 720-775, 1070-1080, 1134a, 1435-1439, 1733-1741a, B17, B140-B143, J1-J14, etc. 2016 Scott \$4020. NET \$1295

168 DANZIG – Mint collection from 1920-1923 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 275 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #27c, 35, C31-C35 NH, C36-C40 NH, J40-J42, O1-O27, etc. 2016 Scott \$805. NET \$475

169 DENMARK – Scott specialty album with around 880 stamps from 1851-1985. Collection is 95% used and in generally F/VF condition. Significant number of all frame inverts and varieties carefully documented by the collector. Highlights include mint #246-251, 325, and used 12, 17, 32, 41-52, 52a, 42c, 68, 110, 164-175, 212, 233, 246-251, 325, C3, P7, P18, etc. Large number of perfins, cut squares, documentary and charity seals not counted but included as a gift! 2015 Scott \$3036. NET \$775

170 DENMARK – Mint and used collection of around 1100 stamps from 1858-1997 in mounts in a Scott specialty album in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #629-650, 793-815, used #31, 35, 129, etc. 2015 Scott \$1645. NET \$325

171 DENMARK – Mint NH collection of around 540 stamps from 1984-2003 in a stockbook in VF condition. Highlights include mint #883-909, 1184a, etc. 2015 Scott \$1285. NET \$575

172 DENMARK – Mint and used collection of around 665 stamps from 1854-1977 on Scott specialty pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #395-400, B3-B5, C1-C5, and used #34, 129, 164-175, 210-219, C6-C10, etc. 2015 Scott \$1701. Net \$375

173 DENMARK – Powerful comprehensive classical collection of some 300 used stamps from earliest issues to 1930 on old time album pages. The former collector was very highly knowledgeable and wrote in pencil the well identified catalog number next to each stamp. This is a specialized collection with many perforation varieties and shades which are well identified but uncounted. Highlights include used #3, 5, 8, 11-14, 17, 19, 20, 27, 33a, 65-9, 80-81, O1, P1-10 and mint #138, 140-1. Condition is mixed on earlies; thereafter F-VF. 2013 Scott \$3112. NET \$625

175 DJIBOUTI – 98% complete mint collection from 1977-1987 on Minkus pages in generally VF condition. 2016 Scott \$909. NET \$275

176 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC – Mint collection of around 1325 stamps from 1867-1988 in mounts in a Scott specialty album in F/VF condition. Includes much NH from 1950 forward. Highlights include mint #9, 31, 85, 88-95, 100-110A,

151-156, 200-8, 241-8, 266-276, 310-322, 326-8, 369-375, 407, RAC 1-7, etc. A very nice collection! 2016 Scott \$3240. NET \$1050

176A ECUADOR – Mint collection from 1865-1978 in mounts on Scott specialty pages. Mostly MNH from 1958 onwards. Approximately 1550 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include Mint #7, 18, 274-286, 293-299, 304-316, 331-338, C1-C5, C26-C31, C32-C34, C35-C38, C288-C297, CB1-CB5, CO9-CO12, E1-E5, etc. 2016 Scott \$3595. NET \$1050

178 ETHIOPIA – Highly desirable all mint collection from 1894-1992 of over 1000 stamps in mounts on Minkus pages in F/VF condition. Highlights include #43-9, 273-7, 284 NH, 285-296, 308-313 NH, 327-335, C18-20, C23-33, N1-7, etc. We doubt we have ever had such a nice Ethiopian mint collection. 2015 Scott \$4316. NET \$2450

179 FERNANDO PO – Mint and used collection of 110 stamps on Scott specialty pages. Earlies are in mixed condition, modern is F/VF. Includes 2-4 unused, 170-80 mint. 2013 Scott \$366. NET \$195

180 FINLAND – Mint collection from 1867-1995 in mounts in a Scott specialty album containing around 1275 stamps in F/VF condition. 99% MNH from 1955 onwards. Highlights include mint #7, 17, 28, 56, 83-110, 111-118, 312-323, B24-B26 NH, C1, M8, Q1-Q5, Q6-Q9, etc. 2016 Scott \$4365. NET \$1295

182 FINLAND – Strong mint (over 90%) and used (10%) collection in mounts housed in a Scott specialty album from 1860-1992 in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include used #7, 13 and mint #9, 177-9, 291-6, C1, etc. 2015 Scott \$3488. NET \$695

184 FRANCE – Powerful mint and used collection from 1849-1967 in a 4 volume historical album by Pierre Brimont with detailed histories for all issues featured. Approximately 1600 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #30, 39, 41a, 93, 136, 175b, 185-196 NH, B7, B8, B9, B153-157, B285-290, B290-299, J16, used #3b, 12, 19, 24, 38, 39, 40, 41, etc. 2015 Scott \$11,625. NET \$2650

185 FRANCE – Powerful highly complete classical collection from 1850-1930 of some 450 mostly used stamps on ancient album pages in somewhat mixed, but generally F-VF condition. The highly knowledgeable former collector more than 50 years ago placed a Scott catalog number in pencil next to every stamp includes shades and varieties. Many highlights such as 3, 3a, 6 pair, 7, 9, 10, 12, 21, 24, 37, 40, 41, 46, 47b, 48a, C17, J20. Mint, some with no gum, includes 31, 35a, 38, 39, 56, B3-6, B11, J43, etc. 2013 Scott \$14,616. Priced very inexpensively. NET \$1795

186 FRANCE – Mint and used collection from 1849-1978 on Scott quadrille pages in 2 binders. Approximately 1960 stamps in mixed, but generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #95, 100, J66, N27, N42, N43-N58, used #3, 44, 66, 83, 348, J20, J22, etc. Priced to go from our home to yours! 2015 Scott \$5763. NET \$995

187 FRANCE – Extensive mint and used collection from 1849-1958 of around 1200 stamps in a Scott specialty album. Earlies are mixed condition then is mainly F-VF. Highlights include used #1, 7, 19, C1-2, C15-17, and mint #38, 39, 56, B276-281, B285-290 and much more. 2015 Scott \$15,590. NET \$2850

188 FRANCE – Fabulous mint collection of perhaps 3000 stamps from 1853-1999 in mounts housed in 2 Scott specialty albums in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #12, 23, 39 unused w/cert, 53, 64, 66, 77, 84, 89, 101, 108, 138-154, 156-184, 222-240, 251, 253, 254a, 264-283, 296-7, 315-320, 348, B11, B12-19, B20-3, B27, B28-30, B31-3, B34, B35-7, B38, B39-41, B66-7, B157a, B285-290, B294-9, C2, C23-7, C29-92, Canton #44, Port Said #18-32, etc. 2015 Scott \$16,302. NET \$4450

189 FRANCE – Valuable collection of around 1250 stamps,

mint (70%) and used (30%), from 1870-1958 on Scott specialty pages in a touch mixed but generally F-VF condition. Extensive highlights include used #3, 11, 12, 13, 24, 28, 31, 40, 41, 42, 52, 66, 74, 83, 89, 94, 107, 108, 126, 132, 251A, 253, 254A, 348, C27, J50, P3, P5, unused #38, J3, mint #50, 93, 624, B5, B7, B18, B32, B249-54, B258-63, B267-72, B276-81, B285-90, B294-99, C22, etc. 2014 Scott \$6909. NET \$1475

191 FRANCE – Mint collection of over 350 stamps from 1940-1959 on Lighthouse hingeless pages in generally VF condition. Better mint includes #700-705, B249-B254, B258-B262, etc. 2015 Scott \$1326. NET \$350

193 FRENCH ANDORRA – Mint collection of a couple hundred stamps (few used) from earliest classics to about 1965 on Minkus pages in generally F/VF condition. Includes mint sets #124-142, 143-153, C1, etc. 2013 Scott \$831. NET \$275

194 FRENCH AREA – Beautiful collection of around 950 MNH stamps from Fr. Andorra, Monaco, Cambodia, Fr. Polynesia, FSAT and Laos from 1971-1985 in a somewhat worn Scott specialty album in VF condition. Most of the value is in Monaco and French Polynesia. Highlights include Monaco #1024a, 1068a, 1114a, 1180a, French Polynesia #C136a, etc. 2015 Scott \$2523. NET \$850

195 FRENCH COLONY – Small lot of used classical stamps. Only 19, but all better stamps in nice condition. Most catalog from \$20-\$80. Includes 3 stamps in Benin between #25-45, Cavelle 5-6, Diego Suarez 3, J8, French Congo 6 stamps between #22-34, P 11, 15, French Sudan 11, 12, 14, 18. 2013 Scott \$518. NET \$175

198 FRENCH GUIANA, ININI, FRENCH INDIA – Mostly mint collection of some 300 stamps in generally F/VF condition from 1900-1950 on quadrille and Minkus pages. Most of the catalog value is in the earlier stamps. 2015 Scott \$676. NET \$200

200 FRENCH MOROCCO – Mint and used collection of over 325 stamps from 1891-1955 on Scott specialty pages in a little mixed, but generally F-VF condition. Will give one a start in a popular area. 2015 Scott \$820. NET \$195

201 FRENCH NEW HEBRIDES – Mint collection of a few hundred stamps on homemade Scott specialty blank pages from 1908-1980 in mainly F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #1-5, 11-21, 22-32, 55-66, 67-78, 83-93, 98-108, 236-248, J6-10, J11-15, J16-20, etc. 2015 Scott \$1547. NET \$595

203 FRENCH OMNIBUS – 1954 LIBERATION - Complete MNH collection of 12 different stamps from 12 countries in F-VF condition on a stockpage. NET \$79

204 FRENCH POLYNESIA – Mint lightly hinged collection of some 140 stamps on Minkus pages from 1958-1978. All the stamps are in complete sets in excellent condition. Most of the value is in large numbers of sets in the \$25-\$100 category including expensive painting sets - goodies such as C33, C37, C52-3, etc. 2015 Scott \$1632. NET \$595

205 FRENCH POLYNESIA – 95% complete mint collection from 1958-1991 in two Lindner hingeless albums. Highlights include #233-240, C24-7, C33, C37, C52-3, C54, C63-7, etc. 2015 Scott \$4303. NET \$1595

206 FRENCH SOUTHERN ANTARCTIC TERRITORY – 39 mint stamps from 1955-1968 in VF condition on quadrille pages. Highlights include #16-19, 23-4, 28, 30, C1-2, C6, C7, C14 etc. 2014 Scott \$1613. NET \$650

207 FUJEIRA – MNH collection of around 140 stamps in mounts on Minkus pages from 1964-1972 in VF post office fresh condition. Would give one a start in this area. Includes unlisted in Scott material. 2008 Michel €492 = US \$559. NET \$175

208 GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC – Mint and used collection of many hundreds in generally VF condition. Virtually complete 1949-1960, often with both mint and used. Thereafter, lots of affordable mint or used. Should be very inexpensive at NET \$325



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209 GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC – Complete MNH collection from 1949-1990 in mounts housed in 2 Scott specialty albums in generally F/VF condition. NET \$1495

210 GERMANY – Scott specialty album from 1872-1982 of around 1950 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Earlies are 90% used and transition to 99% mint by 1957. Exception to this is the semi-postals including some great mint such as B91 NH, B92 NH, B102-B106, B145 NH, B173 NH, B292-3 NH. Also has mint #363-5, C35-7 and used #7, 10, 25, etc. 2015 Scott \$5650. NET \$1350

211 GERMANY – A small used collection of scarce stamps and sets in VF condition on 12 dealer cards. The collection is comprised of #667-8, B313-31, B334-7, B444-7. 2015 Scott \$882. NET \$275

212 GERMANY – Collection of 13 VF scarce MNH sets in blocks on dealer cards. Includes #442-3, 452-3, 459-62, 463-4, 665-6, 667-8, 691, 693, 698-701, B121-2, B306-8, B318-9, B324. 2015 Scott \$2556. NET \$950

213 GERMANY – Scott specialty album with around 2500 stamps from 1872-1997 in generally F/VF condition. Appears 60% mint to 1955, then 99% mint thereafter and VF thereafter. All but a handful are in mounts. 2015 Scott \$3125. NET \$775

214 GERMANY – All mint collection of perhaps 2000 stamps in mounts from 1872-1995 in a Minkus album in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #351-362, 366-384, 634-661, 685, 702-721, B59-67, B91-2, B310-313, B320-3, B327-30, C35-7, C46-56, etc. 2015 Scott \$4883. NET \$1495

215 GERMANY – A well filled mint (30%) and used (70%) collection on Scott pages from 1949-1955 in F-VF condition (includes DDR and Berlin). Highlights include used #668, B310-313, B314-315, B318-319, B320-3, 9N35-41, 9N61-3, 9NB8-11, etc. 2014 Scott \$4614. NET \$750

217 GERMANY – Very strong comprehensive collection of around 2300 stamps, mint and used, from 1872-2000 housed in 2 Scott specialty album in F-VF condition. A very thorough, tidy collector had 2 pages for all issues until the 1950s, one for mint copies and one for used. Therefore, there are hundreds of uncounted duplicates as a gift. The many highlights include used #3, 6, 10, 19, 21, 22, 64, 76, 161, 162, 211, 228, 263, 299, 310, 370a, 530-56, 557-77, B23-27, B31, B40, B56, B57, C35-37, C46-56, O53-61, Offices in Turkey #39, 51, mint #8, 14, 16, 363-65 NH, B33a-d, B91-92 NH, B105, B106, B119, B292-93 NH, etc. 2015 Scott \$10,988. NET \$2350

221 GERMAN STATES – BERGEDORF - BREMEN - 12 mint and used stamps on a quadrille page on which the very knowledgeable collector wrote the Scott number by each stamp and noted the reprints, which are not counted. Condition is generally Fine. Includes used #1-3. Also on the page Bremen - nine mostly used stamps including used #1A, 5-6 14, and mint #10. 2015 Scott for Bergedorf is \$2855 and Bremen is \$4367. Total \$7222, duplicates not counted nor is some Brunswick. NET \$1595

222 GERMAN STATES – SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN – THURN AND TAXIS – Collection of 20 mostly used stamps and Thurn and Taxis collection of some 50 stamps on quadrille pages on which the knowledgeable collector noted the catalog numbers next to the stamps. In a bit mixed, but generally Fine condition. Highlights: Schleswig Holstein Mint 1, used 2 (guaranteed) and full of items in the \$25-\$100 range (total cat \$8180). Thurn and Taxis 1-2, 11-13, 14-15, 19-20, etc. (total cat \$1730). Cat for both \$9910. Some duplication which is not catalogued. NET \$2050.

224 GREECE – Mint and used collection from 1862-1986 on Scott quadrille pages in a binder. Approximately 1,085 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include Mint #32, 333, 480, 632-638, N1, N146, Used #16, 16a, 16b, 34, 46, 47b, 65, 94a, NJ10, etc. 2015 Scott \$3135. NET \$750

225 GREECE – Mint collection in mounts in a Minkus album

from 1861-1994 in generally F/VF condition and generally far better than usually seen. Highlights include unused #1, 3, 5, and mint #8, 21 w/cert, 22, 30, 47, 72, 334, 344-352, 481, 535-8, 545-8, 549-55, 556-67, 568-573, 574-581, 582-5, 587-600, 604-617, C8-14, etc. 2015 Scott \$7548. NET \$2395

228 HUNGARY – Valuable high quality mint collection from 1871-2000 in mounts housed in 2 Minkus albums in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #8, 9, 34, 62, 63, 82, 84-103, 415-417, 462-5, 486, B1-17, B18-34, B198D, C24-5, CB13-14, Q1-8, 11N20, 11NJ1-8, etc. 2016 Scott \$7965. NET \$2395

230 HUNGARY – Collection of around 1850 stamps all in mounts from 1871-1958 on pages in a binder in better condition than normally seen. 95% used to 1918 and 50/50 mint/used thereafter. Mint highlights include #463, 487-491 (NH!), B202, 1035, 1109, B80-B87, C8 and used #12, C23, 528 with show cancel, etc. 2015 Scott \$1638. NET \$375

231 ICELAND – Very nice mint and used collection from 1876-1974 on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include used #14 and mint #76, 85, 98, 140, 141, 142, 144-8, 150, 232-5, C4-8, C9-11, O9, O27, O40-9, O51, etc. 2014 Scott \$10,009. NET \$1950

232 ICELAND – Mint and used collection of around 350 stamps from 1873-1977 on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition. Material is all mint from 1953 forward. Highlights include mint #213-216, 278-282, 284-286, 289-296 NH, C2, C4-C8, C10-C1, C27-C29 and used #7, 138, 170-175, 209-211, 274-277, etc. 2015 Scott \$3789. NET \$795

233 INDOCHINA – Ancient mint and used collection. Annan and Tonkin 1-3, Chochin China 2-4, Indochina #1. Only seven desirable scarce stamps in nice condition. 2013 Scott \$255. NET \$140

234 INDONESIA – Mint collection of around 920 stamps from 1948-1970 on Minkus pages in generally VF condition. Includes a small handful of uncounted used as a gift. Highlights include mint #59, 61, 302, 303, 329, 345, 355, 356, 357, B69-76, B210a, B213a, etc. 2015 Scott \$2160. NET \$795

235 IRAN – A few hundred mint stamps from 1948-1990 in mounts housed in a Minkus album. 2015 Scott \$1433. NET \$450

236 IRAN – A mint VF collection in 33 glassines from 1073-1345 and a couple of better BOB issues. Includes 1074-6 NH, 1103-4 NH, 1130-1 NH, B16 NH, B28-30 and C79-82 H. Some uncounted duplication. 2015 Scott \$732 NET \$275

238 ISRAEL – MNH tab collection of fourteen early singles and sets on dealer cards. Highlights include 31-2, 35-6, 37, 48-50, C1-6, C16. 2015 Scott \$721. NET \$275

239 ISRAEL – Complete mint collection to 1981 in two White Ace albums. Almost all the stamp appear sound M NH except 1-9 which are hinged (#9 has small defect). NET \$295

240 ITALY – Collection of around 1200 stamps on Scott quadrille pages from 1863-1974 in a binder in mostly F/VF condition. Mostly used in the earlies to 1962, then mainly mint thereafter. Highlights include mint #119-122, 124-5, 387-396, 400-9, 573, C64, C79-83, and used #33, 37-44, 58-63, 64-6, 76-91, J21-4, J25-7, etc. 2016 Scott \$5150. NET \$1050

242 ITALY – 834a, the very scarce error Mint OG NH with certificate. Scott \$1500. First time we have offered this rarity. NET \$995

243 ITALY – A MNH Rarity CO2. Post office fresh, F/VF. First time we have offered this rarity. 2015 Scott \$1650. NET \$795

244 ITALY – A MNH rarity C27 VF post office fresh. 2015 Scott \$900. First time we have offered this stamp. NET \$675

245 ITALY – A very nice mint and used collection from 1863-1978 in a Scott specialty album. Approximately 1440 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #115-116, 117, 159-164, 171-174, 177a, 201a, 258-264, 280-289, 290-305, 324-328, 331-341, used #33, 72, 209, 364, 365, 366, 518,

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573, B38, etc. 2015 Scott \$12,045. NET \$2650

246 ITALY – AEGEAN ISLANDS GENERAL ISSUE - Highly desirable mint (75%) and used (25%) collection of around 90 stamps from 1912-1940 in F-VF condition attractively displayed on stockpages with no duplication. Highlights include used #12-18 and mint #33, C15-19, C20-5, C26-7, C28-31, C32-8, CE1-2, CE3-4, etc. 2014 Scott \$2777. NET \$1050

247 ITALY OFFICES ABROAD – ESTERO – Scarce collection of 12 mostly used, includes the scarce #11 signed. The other stamps cat in the \$20-\$55 range. 2015 Scott \$1558. NET \$650

248 ITALIAN STATES – TUSCANY – 16 used stamps from 1851-1860 on Scott specialty pages in generally F-VF condition. Included in this collection is used #2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, etc. 2012 Scott \$10,237. NET \$1395

249 ITALIAN STATES – TWO SICILIES - Complete used 1859 collection in very nice condition, much better than usually seen, on an ancient page. Includes #0g mint, then used #11, 12h, 13g, 14-18! From a very advanced quality collection that has not seen the light of day since 1949. 2013 Scott \$9525. NET \$1295

250 JAPAN – High quality mint collection of probably over 1500 stamps from 1894-1995 in mounts housed in 2 Scott specialty albums in F/VF condition. Highlights include #422, 463a, 479, 525-6, 523-540, etc. Also has additional empty pages to 1996-1999. 2015 Scott \$3343. NET \$1150

252 KOREA – A highly desirable well filled bulging Minkus album consisting of mint stamps and souvenir sheets in mounts in F/VF condition. The last 30 years or so are 98% NH! Highlights include mint #49, 80-4, 122-6, 132-173, 227-8 NH, 304a NH, 360-370, 385-396, 433a NH, 664a-683a NH, 728a NH, 758-780, 798a-9a NH, C23-6 NH C32-4 NH, etc. 2016 Scott \$8235. NET \$3450

253 LEBANON – Around 820 stamps from 1929-1980 in a Minkus album in F/VF condition. Appears 90% used up to about 1963, then 75% mint thereafter. Mint highlights include #29, C1-C4, C5-C8, C56, C285a, noted sheets with C266-268 and CB12-CB14. Used highlights include C87, etc. 2015 Scott \$2246. NET \$650

254 LIBERIA – Mint collection from 1880-1992 in mounts housed in a Minkus album in mainly F/VF condition appearing to be NH from 1960-1992. Highlights include mint #54-63, C27-36, C56a imperf, C77, C27-36, C56a, C56a imperf, C77, F30-4, etc. 2016 Scott \$1920. NET \$550

255 LIBYA – Mint collection from 1912-1985 in mounts on

Continued on next page →



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255 MINKUS pages of around 550 stamps in F/VF condition. Mainly MNH from 1960 onwards. Highlights include mint #95-101 MNH, 217a, 461-463, B1-B3, C1-C2 MNH, C25 MNH, O1-O2, etc. 2016 Scott \$1805. NET \$850

256 LIECHTENSTEIN – MNH collection from 1978-2003 in a Lindner stockbook. Approximately 260 stamps in VF condition. 2015 Scott \$390 NET \$190

257 LIECHTENSTEIN – Mint collection from 1912-1979 in a Schaubek hingeless album containing approximately 715 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint # 62, 64, 151, 157-159, 160-165, 266-269 NH, 287-288 NH, B1-B3, B7-B10, C1-C6, C7-C8, O1-O8, O11-O20, etc. 2015 Scott \$450. NET \$1325

258 LUXEMBOURG – Mint collection of around 195 stamps from 1921-1959 in mounts on quadrille pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #315-317, B45-B49, B50-B54, B55-B59, B60-B65, B151-B161, etc. 2015 Scott \$395. NET \$110

259 LUXEMBOURG – 85% mint collection from 1859-1967 on Scott pages in nearly all F-VF condition outside of a couple of the earliest issues. Better material includes mint #B45-B49, B67-B72, B151, etc. 2015 Scott \$1742. NET \$475

260 MALI – A few hundred mint stamps from 1960-1978 on pages in F-VF condition. 2015 Scott \$997. NET \$325

261 MAURITANIA – Nearly complete mint collection from 1960-1981 in mounts on Minkus pages in VF condition including much NH. 2015 Scott \$490. NET \$195

265 MEXICO – Powerful mint and used collection of several hundred stamps in mounts from 1856-1934 housed in a Scott specialty album in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include used #4, 9, 12, 45, 50, 82, 83, 99-104, and mint #81, 303, 310-320, 380, 381-5, 414-419, 421, 495-9, 517-527, 528-538, 539-549, 616, 620, 650-7 NH, 667-674 NH, 676-682, 684-7, C11-19 NH, C26-7, C31-6 NH, C51-3, C60, C63, C65, C67, C69 with cert., O74, O191-2, O193-4, etc. 2015 Scott \$18318. NET \$4295

267 NETHERLANDS – Mint and mostly used collection from 1852-1986 on Scott quadrille pages in a binder. Approximately 985 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #B53, B234-B237, B238-B242, B249-B253, used #1, 2, 6, 11, 20, 22, 32, 55-82, B1-B3 etc. 2015 Scott \$1915. NET \$450

268 NETHERLANDS – Scott album of around 1600 stamps from 1864-1993 in generally F/VF condition. Appears 90% used, but semis 90% mint after about 1940. Many highlights including used #6, 12, 18, 20, 22, 53, 104, 124-134, J12, J27 and mint (NHI) B144a, B145a Legion sheets. 2015 Scott #3541. NET \$795

269 NETHERLANDS – Mint collection from 1876-1994 in mounts in a Minkus album. Approximately 1500 stamps in F/VF condition. Over 95% MNH from 1960 onwards. Highlights include mint #61 MNH, 69, 74, 80, 84, 190, 201, 226-243, 286-300, 327, 336-339, 389, B54-B57, B214-B218, J80-J106, etc. 2016 Scott \$4765. NET \$1450

271 NETHERLANDS – Solid collection from 1852-1971 of hundreds of mostly mint on Scott specialty pages (no airs or dues) with highlights throughout including used #1, 83a, and mint #103-03, 142-61, 190, 201, 286-300, 368-69, B16-32, B62-65, B219-75, B281-391, F-VF. 2013 Scott \$2300. NET \$495

272 NETHERLANDS – Around 1100 mint and used stamps from 1852-1975 in a Scott specialty album in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include used #1-3, 11, 17-22, C13-14, J12 and mint #336-9, B10a, B118-122 NH, B144, B145, etc. 2014 Scott \$3982. NET \$795

273 NETHERLANDS AND AREAS – Three ring stockbook of around 900 semi-postals running from 1906-1975 in generally F/VF condition, over 95% mint. Highlights include mint

#B1-B3, B25-B32, B50-B53, B54-B57, B58-B61, etc. Includes Antilles, Curacao, Surinam material. Duplication not counted in value. 2015 Scott \$2035. NET \$625

274 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES – Mint collection from 1873-1993 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 825 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #41, 95-105, 127-143, 147-163, 543A-555, B10-B14, B15-B19, C18-C32, etc. 2016 Scott \$1060. NET \$350

275 NETHERLAND INDIES – Mint and used collection of around 440 stamps from 1864-1943 on Minkus pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #7, 102a, 123a, 157, 223, 281-290, GY1-GY7, used #1, 2, 30, 53, 56, 57, J4, O20, etc. 2015 Scott \$2215. NET \$675

276 NEW CALEDONIA – Mint and used collection of around 310 stamps from 1886-1958 in mounts on Minkus pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #8a, 16, 55, 79, 80, 136-175, B5-B9, used #11, 28, 33, 56, 182-207, etc. 2015 Scott \$2511. NET \$725

277 NICARAGUA – MNH collection from 1977-1995 in mounts in a Minkus album. Approximately 985 stamps in VF condition. Highlights include mint #2020-2027, etc. 2016 Scott \$1070. NET \$625

280 NICARAGUA – Mint and used collection of around 1350 stamps from 1862-1967 on Scott pages in a little mixed, but generally -VF condition. Too much work to catalog. NET \$325

282 NORWAY – Mint and used collection of around 660 stamps from 1856-1977 on Scott specialty pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #44, 111-114, 340-342, 350, 370-374, 416-430, B5-B8, B24, used #23, 26, 28, 45, 47a, 56a, 227, B54-B56, etc. 2015 Scott \$2097. NET \$450

283 NORWAY – Mint collection of around 1200 stamps from 1863-1995 in mounts in a Scotty Specialty album in mainly F/VF condition. Mostly MNH from 1961 onwards. Highlights include mint #10, 104-110, 154-157, 187-202A, 275-278, 310-317, 340-342, 370-374, 1004-1020, B1-B3, B24, O9-O21, O65-O82, O94-O114, etc. 2016 Scott \$4145. NET \$1250

284 PARAGUAY – Mint collection from 1870-1978 in mounts in a Scott specialty album. Approximately 1085 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #4, C74-C78, C79-C83, C88-C92, C93-C97, C102-C106, C113-C121, C124-C126, etc. 2016 Scott \$1590. NET \$495

285 PARAGUAY – 78 non Scott listed souvenir sheets from 1982-1992 in VF condition. The collection is 99% NH. Should be reasonable at: NET \$395

290 PORTUGAL – Mint and used collection from 1853-1984 on Scott quadrille pages in a binder. Approximately 1065 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #105, 189, 397A-397K, 422-436, 827, used #9, 16, 19, 22, 31, 32, 43, 52-56, 63, 74, 254, etc. 2015 Scott \$3815. NET \$795

296 ROMANIA – Mint and used collection of 668 stamps from 1865-1969 on Scott pages in generally F-VF condition. Will give one a good start in this area. 2015 Scott \$1027. NET \$225

299 RUSSIA – Huge collection in three excellent condition Scott specialty albums to 1994 containing probably two or three thousand mostly used stamps in VF condition. The collection begins with a nice representation of material in the 1865-1918 era, then is very strong in the desirable 1933-1937 era with complete used #540-610, then lots of material to 1961 including mint #330-5, 536-9 and the Lenin sheet #1325. Then virtually complete used 1961-94. Airmails are excellent and include used C58-67 and mint C53-57 (Cat \$505). A very large and desirable collection which is far too large to catalog. NET \$2195

300 RUSSIA – Well over 90% complete mostly used collection from 1858-1974 in two Scott specialty albums in nearly all F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #6, 54, 794-810, 859, 1280-3, 1302-3, 1343-7, 1364-5, 1464-8, 1508-9 and

used #438-454, 546-550, 551-4, 559-568, 857-8, C58-67, etc. Also includes starter Offices. 2015 Scott \$8631. NET \$1795

302 SAAR – Highly desirable mint collection from 1920-1959 in mounts on Minkus pages. Approximately 330 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #139-154, 204-220, 232-245, 289-308, B1-B4, B5-B8, B16-B22, B69-B73 MNH, B77-B81, B84-B88 MNH Q27-Q38, etc. 2016 Scott \$1060. NET \$550

303 SAN MARINO – Highly desirable mint collection from 1877-1997 in mounts in a Minkus album. Approximately 1315 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Mostly MNH from 1959 onwards. Highlights include mint #4, 7, 13 92, 108-110 NH, 111-114, 139-142, 169-180, 308-319, B2, B3-B11, C91, J30, Q16-Q32, etc. 2016 Scott \$6115. NET \$1995

305 SAN MARINO – Excellent quality mint and used classical collection from 1877-1926 on pages in which the highly knowledgeable collector noted in pencil the catalog number next to each stamp. Only 60 stamps, but many scarce. Highlights include mint #1-6, used #7a, 10, 13, 15, 17, 23, mint #24, J30. 2013 Scott \$1955 NET \$650

306 SAN MARINO – Powerful collection on Minkus pages of around 880 stamps from 1877-1967 in generally F-VF condition and running about 75% mint. Mint highlights include #139-142, 169-180, 291, 292, 293, 411, C70, C77, C81, J8 J17, J51, J58 NH!, Q34. Used highlights 10, 15, etc. 2015 Scott \$4998. NET \$1250

307 SAUDI ARABIA – Mint collection of just 18 mint singles or sets from #451-789 on dealer cards. All stamps have heavy hinge remnants. 2015 Scott \$334. NET \$85

309 SERBIA – Very scarce 1916 mint and used sets. Comprises 1N1-21 mint and 1N22-42 both used and mint. Generally VF condition. 2014 Scott \$850 NET \$475

311 SLOVENIA – Highly complete mostly mint collection of some 125 stamps in a bit mixed but generally F/VF condition. Regulars are complete 3L1-3L55, then postage dues complete minus 6 stamps. Newspaper stamps are complete including mint 3LP6-3LP13. Scott \$400. NET \$195

315 SOUTH AMERICA – A Scott specialty album containing Haiti, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru and Paraguay. Many, many hundreds of F/VF mint and used stamps to around 1970. Lots of material for NET \$395.

317 SPAIN – Mint and used collection from 1850-1975 on Scott quadrille pages in a binder. Approximately 975 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #213, 446, MR14, used #47, 85, 169, 217, 269, 286, 292, 306, etc. 2015 Scott \$2195. NET \$425

321 SWEDEN – High quality mint collection of around 2100 stamps form 1862-1995 in mounts in a Scott specialty album in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #13, 16, 20, 31, 33, 39, 40-9, 52-65, 66, 210, 211, 248-262, B12-21, etc. includes much NH in the later material. 2016 Scott \$9775. NET \$2995

322 SWEDEN – Mint and used collection from 1858-1980 on Scott quadrille pages in a binder. Approximately 960 stamps in a bit mixed, but generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #J1, J3, J8, J9, used #7, 12, 14, 44, 44a, 131, J11, O2, etc. 2015 Scott \$3385. NET \$495

323 SWEDEN – Classical collection of some 70 better used stamps in nice condition on a stock card from #2-224. Lots of highlights including #2, 3, 7, 15, 213-224, etc. 2013 Scott \$4354. Very inexpensive at NET \$725

324 SWEDEN – Mint and used collection of around 1130 stamps from 1858-1980 on Scott specialty pages in F-VF condition. Highlights include used #34, 41, 70, 165, 204-206, 216-218, 219, 222, 223, 289a, C1-C3, O2, etc. 2015 Scott \$1999. NET \$450

325 SWEDEN – Mint (20%) and used (80%) collection on Scott specialty pages from 1858-1963 in F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #29, 31, 33 w/cert, 35 unused w/cert,



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and used #6a, 12, 18, 126-138, B1-10, J11, etc. 2012 Scott \$4350. NET \$695

326 SWITZERLAND – Mint and used collection from 1862-1985 on Scott quadrille pages in a binder. Approximately 970 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #50, used #47, 48, 52-59, 67, 70a, 84, 87b, 108a, 111a, 125, C15, J27a, etc. 2015 Scott \$5141. NET \$995

328 SWITZERLAND – Mint high quality collection from 1862-1992 in mounts in a Minkus album. Mostly MNH from 1952 onwards. Approximately 1485 stamps in F/VF condition. Highlights include mint #41, 43a, 59, 76, 96a, 110, 113-118, 182, 352a, 376-377, 558-579, 601-608 NH, 717-789, B2-B3, B4-B6, B131, B132, B144, B178 NH, B206, etc. 2016 Scott \$5280. NET \$1550

336 TOGO – Mint collection from 1914-1980 in mounts in a Minkus album of approximately 835 stamps in mostly F/VF condition. Mostly MNH from 1957 onwards. Highlights include #154, 159, 309-326, C14-C17, C223a, etc. 2016 Scott \$1210. NET \$495

337 TOPICAL – Wide ranging collection from 66 different countries, each commemorating, a UN agency or program. Collection is in four K-Line 3-ring albums, all mint, and the over 1800 stamps run 1949 to 1975 in VF condition. Highlights abound including Hong Kong 218, Hungary C81, Italy 539, Trieste Zone A 78, French Antarctic C8, Ethiopia 327-335. Lots of fun multiples, overprints, imperfs and souvenir sheet varieties, etc. Fun collection. Scott \$4492. NET \$1195

338 TOPICAL – Extremely diverse (166 countries) collection of stamps running generally from 1954-1970 and commemorating various UN programs, UNESCO, Hunger, Anti-Malaria, ITU, etc. All appear MNH in mounts and in five 3-ring binders of 3100 stamps. Highlights all over: Albania 612 S/S, Belgium 662a, Libya S/S 218, 219, French Antarctic #31, Greece C71-C73, Qatar 100 S/S, 101 S/S, perf and imperf, etc. Lots of overprints, imperfs, and enjoyable variety. Scott #4450. NET \$1550

339 TOPICAL – WORLDWIDE FUND – Attractive collection of First Day Covers and canceled postcards from 1983-1987 housed in 7 WWF albums in excellent condition. Highlights include the 1983 Anguilla and 1984 Gambia issues. NET \$495

340 TRIESTE ZONE A – Highly desirable mint collection of around 200 stamps from 1947-1954 in mounts on Minkus pages in F/VF condition. Highlights include #1-14, 15-17, E1-4, etc. 2015 Scott \$1451. NET \$695

341 TRIPOLITANIA – Very desirable mint collection of some 80 stamps in very nice F/VF condition on Minkus pages. Loads of better sets including 28-34 NH, 43-51 NH, B50-3, B54-8 NH, C1-7 NH, and CB1-10 NH! 2015 Scott \$1433. NET \$695

343 TUNISIA – Mint collection from 1888-1992 in mounts on Minkus pages in generally F/VF condition. The collection is mainly NH from 1950-1992. Highlights include mint #24, 312-314, 338, 363b, B36, C17-20, C21-4, C25-32, etc. 2016 Scott \$1725. NET \$695

344 TURKEY – Fabulous over 90% complete all mint collection

from 1863-1995 in mounts housed in a Minkus album in F/VF condition and generally far better than normally see. Highlights include #1 unused and mint #5, 8-13, 53-8, 87-91, 132-145, 151-164, 237-250, 278-284, 420-439, 552-3, 605-623, (623 is signed!), 605b-617b, 625-632, 634-647, 648-658, 659-672, 676-681, 682-704, 705-726, 737-757, 765-773, 1101a, J67-70, P30-4, P43-8, P49-54, P61-6, RA170-RA180!! RA188-198, etc. By far, the best we've ever seen! 2015 Scott \$18,668. NET \$7995

345 TURKEY – Mint and used collection of around 695 stamps from 1913-1949 on Minkus pages in generally F-VF condition. Highlights include mint #457, 458, 470, 528, 841, 942a, O1-O12, RA101-108, used #400, 486, 682-704, C6-C8, P169a, RAC15, etc. 2015 Scott \$1830. NET \$450

346 UBANGI – Some 60 mint and used classical stamps well identified in glassines. 2015 Scott \$289. Infrequently offered. NET \$95

347 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES – Extremely scarce unissued MNH set noted after #46 in Scott which values the set at \$500. First time we have offered this set. NET \$395

348 UNITED NATIONS – A seemingly complete MNH plate block collection 1951-1792 in a Scott album in nice condition. NET \$225

349 UNITED NATIONS – MNH apparently complete collection to 1990 in a Minkus album. NET \$350

353 UNITED STATES DUCKS – MNH Duck collection on White Ace pages. Complete from RW4 through RW68 except for two stamps - RW7 and RW28. Also several uncounted MNH souvenir sheets. A beautiful, desirable collection. 2015 Scott \$4767. NET \$2095

354 UNITED STATES DUCK MNH PLATE BLOCK COLLECTION – Complete from 1977-2003 except for one item. Post office fresh condition. Mounted neatly in Minkus album on White Ace pages. Face value alone is \$1130. NET \$1295

355 UNITED STATES FEDERAL DUCK SOUVENIR SHEETS – A nice MNH group consisting of RW73b, RW74b, RW75b, RW76b and RW79b. Post office fresh. 2016 Scott \$520. NET \$250

356 UNITED STATES FEDERAL DUCKS – Mint NH collection in generally Fine or better condition on dealer stockcards. Includes #RW1, RW5-19, RW 21-28, RW30-38. 2016 Scott \$4270. NET \$1395

357 UNITED STATES FEDERAL DUCKS – MNH collection generally F/VF condition on Lighthouse hingeless pages. Absolutely complete minus only two stamps – RW2 & RW3; otherwise, complete through #RW42. 2016 Scott \$5055. NET \$1895

358 UNITED STATES FIRST DAY COVER COVERS – 25 FDCs form 1923-1937 in F/VF condition. Highlights include #559, 612, 620-1 (6 different cities), 622 North Bend OH, 655, 656 pair, C21-2, etc. 2015 Scott \$1392. NET \$395

359 UNITED STATES – FIRST DAY COVERS FROM MY SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX - A valuable collection of 77 non-cacheted addressed First Day covers from 1909-1931 in F-VF condition. Highlights include #367, 555, 557, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571 with

certificate!, 597, 658-668, 669-678, also 669-679 on one cover!, 692-701, C4-6, etc. 2015 Scott \$24,026. NET \$7295

360 UNITED STATES FLEETWOOD FIRST DAY COVERS – 1066 cacheted unaddressed FDCs from 1981-1994 in 8 Fleetwood cover albums. The covers are in very nice! NET \$495

363 UNITED STATES PLATE BLOCKS – Very nice collection of mint plate blocks from 1926-1937 in F/VF condition in a White Ace album. 90% NH! Highlights include #627 NH, 629 NH, 643 NH, 688 NH, 711 NH, 715 NH, 756-765, C10, C16 NH, C24 NH, C25-31 NH, etc. 2016 Scott \$2394. NET \$895

364 UNITED STATES REVENUE – Pair and block very scarce collection in very nice condition consisting of R35c block of six, R44b block, R46c block of 10, R48b pair, R52a pair, R54a pair, R56c block, R61c block, R62a pair, R64b pair, R70c block, R82c block, R84b block, R86c block, R87c pair, R91c strip of four catalogued as two pairs, R90a pair (\$600), R98a pair (\$450). A highly desirable rarely seen multiple revenue collection. 2015 Scott \$3622. NET \$1695

366 URUGUAY – Mint collection from 1858-1977 in mounts housed in a Scott specialty album in F/VF condition. Highlights include #5 unused, and mint #9, 29-33, 34-8, 39-43A, 108-129, 267-278, 394-407, C7-8, C25, C27-60A. etc. Very nice! 2015 Scott \$4051. NET \$1295

368 VENEZUELA – Mint collection from 1859-1978 in mounts in a Scott specialty album. Approximately 1,930 stamps in generally F/VF condition. Mostly MNH from 1961 onwards. Highlights include mint #1, 3, 6, 20, 311-317, 464-631, C17-C40, C122-C135, C143-C162, C164-C180, C256-C271, C338-C553. This collection contains some very hard to come material! 2016 Scott \$6790. NET \$2500

371 YUGOSLAVIA – Mint and used collection of hundreds of F/VF stamps in a Minkus album from 1919 to 1960. While the vast majority are of the affordable type, there are some sets or souvenir sheets up to about \$50 in catalog value. Very inexpensive at NET \$275

373 WORLDWIDE – "HONEY HOLE" – A wonderful moderate sized carton loaded with hard to identify, often scarce material. There will be huge catalog value, much in seldom seen material from the 1840 to 1920 era. Perfect for the collector who has the time and energy to wade through ancient material just begging to be properly identified. POR

375 SCANDINAVIA – A truly fabulous valuable old time dealer stock of Iceland and Denmark from the earliest classics to around 1950. A world class stock in Scott numerical order of thousands of mint and used stamps with many, many hundreds in the \$25 to \$500 or more range. Condition is generally very nice. Each stamp has been carefully identified with the Scott number with loads of perforation and shade varieties. There is large duplication as would be expected from such an advanced stock, which was purchased years ago from a Scandinavian specialist dealer. It sat on a back shelf for years, but it's time to place it in the hands of a dealer who will find it very profitable or very advanced collector who will find it extremely exciting. Being sold at a price that will make a dealer very happy. NET \$5995

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PUERTO RICO PHILATELY AND POSTMASTERS

Island's Postal System Through Stamps and Postmarks
BY RAFAEL JUAN IGARTUA

Many historians agree that Christopher Columbus landed on the shores of what is now called the Bay of Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, on November 19, 1493, on his second voyage to the New World.¹ At that time, Boriquen Island (later named Puerto Rico) was already settled by Taíno Indians. The event was commemorated 400 years later by Puerto Rico's first and only commemorative stamp [Figure 1].² Its sesquicentennial was commemorated by a United States stamp in 1993, Scott 2805 [Figure 2].

The Spanish began colonizing the island several years after Columbus' landing, and Juan Ponce de León was its first governor. Slaves were brought in from Africa. Puerto Rico remained a Spanish colony for four centuries before becoming a province of Spain in the 19th century, when Spain adopted a constitution that converted it into a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary form of government. Residents of Puerto Rico became Spanish citizens, and were allowed to elect provincial deputies and senators to the Spanish Parliament in Madrid.

Under Spanish rule, the first dozen stamps used in

Figure 1. Puerto Rico commemorated the 400th anniversary of the landing of Columbus with its first and only commemorative, the 1893 3-centavos dark green (Scott 133). The stamp was valid only on November 19, 1893.



Figure 2. The 500th anniversary of the landing of Columbus in Puerto Rico was marked with this United States commemorative stamp issued in 1993, Scott 2805.



Puerto Rico were overprints of Cuban stamps. Stamps inscribed "Puerto Rico" were first issued in 1877, beginning with Scott 13. The first stamps of Puerto Rico showed King Alfonso XII of Spain [Figure 3].

From 1879 to 1897, a childlike portrait of King Alfonso XIII [Figure 4] is found on nearly 60 stamps. A different portrait, but still childlike [Figure 5], appears on the series of 1898. Alfonso (1886–1941) was king from birth, as his father had died in 1885. Until his 16th birthday in 1902, his mother, Maria Christina of Austria, served as his regent. He remained



Figure 3. King Alfonso XII of Spain appears on some of the earliest stamps of Puerto Rico (Scott 13–74), including the 1878, 25-centavos deep green, Scott 20; the 1879, 25-centavos blue, Scott 26; and the 1881, ½-milésima lake, Scott 42.



Figure 4. The childlike image of Alfonso XIII, who was monarch from birth, appears in two ages of youth on more than 75 stamps issued from 1890 to 1898. The first set (Scott 75–132) depicts the king as a young child. Among them are the 2-milésima yellow green stamp, Scott 86; the 4-milésima blue green stamp, Scott 90; and the 20-centavos red orange stamp, Scott 122.



Figure 5. A portrait depicting King Alfonso XIII as a youth was used in a series starting in 1898. The 20-stamp set included the 2-centavos dark blue green (Scott 141) and the 10-centavos vermillion (Scott 147).

monarch until 1931, long after Spain had lost control of Puerto Rico.

By the end of the 19th century, Puerto Rico had a well-established telegraph and postal system.³ Mail was carried by pack animal, by a train that partially circled the island, and by a coastal steamer. The coastal steamer picked up and delivered passengers, cargo, and mail on a route that began in San Juan and went around the island, stopping at ports such as Ponce, Mayagüez, Aguadilla, and Arecibo.⁴

Government posts of Administrador de Correos (postmaster) and other high-ranking governmental offices usually were reserved for persons born in Spain.

In 1897, Spain granted autonomy to Puerto Rico; however, this process was interrupted by the Spanish-American War, which began April 25, 1898, one week after Puerto Rico's Insular Parliament met for the first time. U.S. Army troops under the command of General Nelson A. Miles landed on July 25 at Guánica Bay, on the southwest coast of Puerto Rico. As U.S. Army troops marched toward San Juan they met little resistance from the Spanish army troops, and they were, for the most part, welcomed by Puerto Rican civilians. Some towns lost contact with the central government in San Juan, and their post office stocks of Puerto Rican

stamps were depleted. At first, obsolete stamps were overprinted to meet local demands [Figure 6].

During this transitional period, stamps of Puerto Rico, unoverprinted U.S. stamps, and even provisional stamps (example: "Ponce," Scott 200, and "Coamo," Scott 201) were used in different towns.⁵ Covers of this period, franked with Puerto Rico, United States, Coamo, or Ponce stamps have been offered for sale in well-publicized auctions.⁶

A truce was declared in Puerto Rico on August 12, 1898. Spanish Governor Lieutenant General Manuel Macías published his last official orders in the September 29, 1898, issue of the *Gaceta de Puerto Rico*. Most government employees were to be laid off, and only a small number of employees were to be left at their posts to provide essential services at government offices. Sovereignty was transferred from Spain to the United States at a ceremony that took place at La Fortaleza on October 18, 1898 [Figure 7].

On that day, General John F. Brooke became the first U.S. military governor. Beginning on that day all federal, state, and municipal employees in Puerto Rico were required to take an oath of loyalty to the Constitution of the United States, which in Puerto Rico is, as in the 50 states, the Supreme Law of the Land.⁷

By the end of 1898, seven towns had military post offices. Puerto Ricans were hired as messengers, postal clerks, and interpreters in some towns.⁸

United States stamps overprinted "Porto Rico" were introduced in 1899 [Figure 8] and were replaced by stamps overprinted "Puerto Rico" in 1900 [Figure 9]. Only U.S. stamps have been valid for postage since May 1900.

H.M. Robinson, then assistant superintendent of the Railway Mail Service, was detailed to Puerto Rico on November 15, 1898, to take charge of the postal system. He was followed by Capt. W.H. Elliott, who was appointed director-general of posts for Puerto Rico on February 23, 1899. One of the first things that Elliott did was to take a six-week tour of every city, town,



Figure 6. War led to a shortage of postage stamps. Obsolete stamps were overprinted for island use. This 2-milésima Habilitado overprint, Scott 156, was issued in 1898.



Figure 7. La Fortaleza in San Juan appears on this United States 3-cent commemorative stamp (Scott 801).



Figure 8. In 1899, the U.S. overprinted postage and postage due stamps "Porto Rico," (Scott 210-214, J1-J3).



Figure 9. The final two stamps from Puerto Rico (Scott 215, 216) were issued in 1900, respectively as a 1-cent and 2-cent overprinted diagonally in black.

and village in Puerto Rico. The war had disrupted commerce, and months after Elliott's arrival, a hurricane on August 8, 1899, devastated the agriculture, especially the coffee plantations.

Notwithstanding, the island's postal service quickly recovered. Elliott admonished all American employees ... to treat the people with the utmost kindness and consideration. "As the affairs of the island, however, returned to normal conditions, and the postal system became systematized. ... it was plain to be seen that fewer American clerks were needed."⁹

Elliott later was appointed commissioner of the interior for Puerto Rico, a post that he held until 1905.

The U.S. military government in Puerto Rico lasted until April 1900 when the Foraker Act (31 Stat. 77) was passed by Congress and signed by President William McKinley. The Foraker Act restored civilian rule in Puerto Rico. Among its many provisions, it mandated that all U.S. federal laws would be enforced in Puerto Rico, and it established a U.S. Federal District Court in San Juan. American citizenship came later, in 1917, with the passage of the Jones Act.

In 2006, *Linn's Stamp News* made reference to a 2004 free U.S. Postal Service publication, a booklet titled *Sources of Historical Information on Post Offices, Postal Employees, Mail Routes, and Mail Contractors, Pub. 119*. I requested a copy and found out that the records of Puerto Rico's postmasters are available on microfilm at some of the regional branches of the National Archives (nara.gov).¹⁰

The records of Puerto Rico's first postmasters under the U.S. administration are handwritten in spreadsheets and are numbered pages 771 to 777. Each page is labeled "Porto Rico," and each is very legible. The pages are divided into columns for the names of the successive postmasters from 1900 to about 1930. After 1930, each barrio (a rural subdivision of a municipality), town, city, or central (a large sugar cane mill and adjacent village) was allotted a full page.



Figure 10. Luis A. Torregrosa was postmaster from May 1910 to January 1912 in Aguadilla. His son, Carlos, succeeded him as postmaster.

The page for Adjuntas, the first town by alphabetical order, has a notation at the top: "The President [Herbert Hoover] signed a bill passed by Congress changing the name of the Island of Porto Rico to Puerto Rico. Postal Bulletin of May 23, 1932." All of the individual pages have "Porto" crossed out and "Puerto" added. The confusion about the name originated during the 1898 Paris negotiations between Spain and the United States. The U.S. delegation mistakenly used the Portuguese spelling instead of the Spanish one. Adjuntas now has the lowest ZIP code in the United States, number 00601. Exceptions are two 050 prefix ZIP codes used exclusively by an Internal Revenue Service center in Holtsville, Long Island, New York.

The Foraker Act took effect May 1, 1900. On that day, 69 Puerto Ricans, including one woman, were commissioned as Puerto Rico's first U.S. postmasters. Maria Antonia Arena, from Guánica, had the distinction of being the first female postmaster in Puerto Rico. Little has been written, or is available, about Puerto Rico's early postmasters.

One notable exception is that of Luis A. Torregrosa [Figure 10],

Aguadilla's third postmaster (1910–1912). Torregrosa was a licenciado, as they used to call pharmacists in those days, although the term more often refers to lawyers today. He also was a poet, a scientist, and a journalist. He was jailed by the government in 1896 because of his political convictions, and he was denied the right to occupy his elected seat as provincial deputy in the Spanish Parliament. He served as mayor of Aguadilla from 1905 to 1907, and he was succeeded as postmaster by his son Carlos F. Torregrosa [Figure 11], who remained at his post for 31 years.¹¹

Civilian postmasters from the U.S. mainland were appointed to San Juan on June 1900, Ponce on March 1901, and Mayagüez on March 1901. Civilian postmasters from the U.S. mainland were appointed to Aguadilla, Caguas, Guayama and Lares on May 1, 1900. With the exception of Lares, a mountain town, the other localities were either seaports or cities, or both. Some of the seven postmasters from the U.S. mainland had already served as postmasters. In addition to administering the post offices, the U.S. mainland postmasters were likely brought in to train the Puerto Rican post office employees.

The U.S. mainland postmasters for Aguadilla, Caguas, Guayama, and Lares



Figure 11. Carlos Torregrosa (center, with glasses) was postmaster from January 1912 to February 1939 in Aguadilla.

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Realized: \$5,300 US



China (People's Republic), 1980, Year of the Monkey (T46)

(Scott 1586), lower left corner margin block of 4, o.g.

Realized: \$8,100 US

China (People's Republic), 1960-61, Chrysanthemums (S44) complete (Scott 542-559), top margin imprint singles.

Realized: \$5,000 US



North China, 1938, Tangxian Provisional Issue, 1¢ vermilion (Yang NC81), only 45 examples are recorded. Realized: \$4,400 US



China, 1898 (Jan 31), combination cover from Tientsin to Leipzig, Germany, with "by steamer" in manuscript at upper left on fro. Realized \$4,400 US



China, 1897, Empress Dowager 60th Birthday, 2nd printing, 12¢a pale orange yellow. Realized: \$5,900 US



China, 1897, Small 2¢ on 3¢ Red Revenue, normal, inverted "S" in "CENTS" & no period after "CENTS", a magnificent bottom margin strip of 3. Realized: \$4,700 US



Chinese Soviet Posts, Postage Due, 1932, 1¢ brown, without gum as issued, choice example of this rare issue. Realized: \$5,010 US



Japan, 1877, cover from Nagasaki to Northampton, England, lovely neat blue envelope franked by 20s violet Cherry Blossom syllabic 5. Realized: \$8,800 US

China, 1898 (Apr 27), 1¢ Imperial Chinese Postal card, used from Hangchow to Shanghai. Realized: \$14,740 US

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were replaced by local Puerto Ricans a few months after they arrived. Local Puerto Rican postmasters for San Juan, Ponce and Mayagüez were commissioned in 1920, 1911, and 1919, respectively.

It was pleasantly surprising to note that, at a time when women could not vote in most local, state, and territorial elections — that is, prior to the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920 — so many women were commissioned as postmasters in Puerto Rico [Figure 12]. By 1931, there already had been 100 women commissioned as postmasters in at least 36 barrios, villages, towns, and cities in Puerto Rico. By 1927, six women had served as postmasters in the northeastern coastal town of Luquillo.

The longest-ever serving postmaster in Puerto Rico was Julia Sánchez, who was postmaster of Aguada from July 5, 1902, to October 31, 1941. She



Figure 12. Many women in Puerto Rico were promoted to the position of postmaster, even before they were allowed to vote. Andrés de la Rosa was an early postmaster in Isabela, a position that later went to his daughter, Eduvigis de la Rosa, who served from 1902 to 1939, and then a second daughter, Blanca de la Rosa, shown with her pet dog, from 1940 to 1957.

may well have been one of the longest-ever serving women postmasters in the history of the Post Office Department.

Some of the women postmasters married

during their tenure and thus added “de” and their husband’s family name to their name, as is usually done in Spain and Puerto Rico. For example, Providencia Reilova, Rio Grande’s postmaster, changed her name in August 1919 to Providencia Reilova de Rexach after she married a Mr. Rexach.

According to the records of ap-

Postmasters Commissioned in Puerto Rico, May 1, 1900

Post Office	Postmaster	Post Office	Postmaster
Adjuntas	Enrique Durán	Lajas	Emilio Castillo
Aguas Buenas	Pascual Delgado	Lares	A.S. Helms*
Aguada	Ramón Cáceres	Las Marías	Francisco Fulladosa
Aguadilla	Charles H. Filbeck*	Mir	
Aibonito	Domingo Jordán	Loíza	José Villalobos
	Santiago	Luquillo	Ignacio Herrera
Añasco	Virgilio García	Mameyes	Santiago Hernández
Arroyo	Francisco Virrella	Manatí	Salvador Sierra
Uribe		Maricao	Raul Ibarra
Barceloneta	Cruz Alegría	Maunabo	José G. Sugranes
Barranquitas	Ramón Santini Rivera	Moca	Arelino Miranda
Barros		Morovis	Manuel Barber
[Orocovis]	H.M. Monsanto	Naguabo	Juan B. Pacheco
Bayamón	Euclides Giménez	Naranjito	Juan Valddejuly
	Dávila	Patillas	Ramón Lebrón
Cabo Rojo	Joaquín Beaumud	Peñuelas	Juan G. González
Caguas	Thaddeus Coffin*	[Las] Piedras	Tomás P. Guerra
Camuy	Guillermo Iglesias	Punta	
Canóvanas	Camilo González	Santiago	Luis F. Barbe
Carolina	José Giménez Correa	Quebradillas	A. Ruiz Soler
Cayey	José R. Puente	Rincón	Ramón Arroyo
Ceiba	Rosendo Quiñones	Río Grande	José Quiñones
Ciales	Emilio Dávila	Río Piedras	Mario Brau
Cidra	Ramón Manzano	Sabana	
Coamo	Rafael Rodríguez	Grande	José M. Irizarry
Comerío	José B. Montalvo	Salinas	Aníbal Cintrón
Corozal	Mariano Vassallo	San Germán	Enrique Rossy
Dorado	Justo Zeno	San Lorenzo	José Cordovés
Fajardo	Manuel L. Pacheco	San Sebastián	Juan González
Florida	Manuel Domínguez	Santa Isabel	Pedro Comas
Guánica	María Antonia Arena	Tallaboa	Juan García
Guayama	Robert McFarlane*	Toa Alta	Luis Izquierdo
Guayanilla	Eugenio Pagán	Toa Baja	Pío Fernández
Gurabo	Isidoro H. Rivera	Trujillo Alto	Gaspar González
Hatillo	Darío Ruiz	Utuado	Ramón S. Rivera
Humacao	José Carrera	Vega Alta	Angel Muñoz
Isabela	Andrés de la Rosa	Vega Baja	José Nater Girona
Jayuya	José D. Correa	Vieques	Victor Dutiel
Juana Díaz	Carlos Juliá	Yabucoa	Francisco Valddejuli
Juncos	Delfín Sierra	Yauco	Rafael M. Delgado

STAMP LIBRARY RESOURCES

The Postal History of Puerto Rico (1950) by R.B. Preston and M.H. Sanborn was published by the American Philatelic Society, presenting material published between 1939 and 1943 in *The American Philatelist*.

The 100-page book thoroughly covers the earliest years of the island’s postal history, with chapters devoted to the stampless era, plus several years between 1855 and 1871, plus counterfeits.

There are reproductions of stamps, postal markings and text, charts, tables, and diagrams analyzing early stamps, covers, frankings, rates, and postal markings.

More Puerto Rico references can be found online in *The American Philatelist Bonus Content* section.

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Postmasters Commissioned after May 1, 1900

Post Office	Postmaster	Date
Arecibo	Ramón Alfonzo Rivera	December 20, 1900
Mayagüez	Charles J. Landreau	March 1, 1901
Ponce	Robert A. Miller	March 2, 1901
San Juan	Walter K. Landis	June 5, 1900

pointments, men also occasionally changed or corrected their names. For example, Efraín L. Carlo, postmaster of Barrio Coto Laurel, changed or corrected his name to Efrain Lamberty. In Spain and Puerto Rico, men and single women oftentimes place both their father's and mother's family names after their first name. This is an occasional source of confusion for people in the U.S. mainland who sometimes place their mother's family name immediately after their first name.

Post offices were often basked in the warmth of a familial rather than a harsh light often linked to civil service. In the records of appointments, there are examples of husband and wife, father and son, brother and brother, sister and sister, father and daughter, and husband and widow serving as postmasters in succession in the same town. Enrique Pagán Ramos, commissioned postmaster of the village of El Rosario on March 18, 1941, was granted military leave on July 2, 1943. He returned from active

duty and resumed his functions as postmaster on December 2, 1945. One postmaster, who lived on the second floor of the post office building, developed a debilitating illness that made it difficult for him to walk downstairs to the post office. In view of this, the post office safe and its contents were carried upstairs so that he could continue working.¹²

Francisco Fulladosa Mir was a second lieutenant in the 2nd Company of the Volunteer Corps of Puerto Rico, a unit loyal to the Spanish Crown. This volunteer corps was similar to today's National Guard. His unit was not mobilized for the Spanish American War, even though there were several hundred Mauser rifles in storage in San Juan. On May 1, 1900 he became the first postmaster of Las Marias, a mountain town in the coffee-growing region east of Mayagüez.

About six weeks later, Fulladosa sent a postal card (Puerto Rico, Scott UX3) to a stamp collector in San Juan offering stamps of Puerto Rico in exchange for stamps of Baden, Bavaria, Bremen, and other countries [Figure 13]. The card is actually U.S. Scott UX14 overprinted "Puerto Rico" below the portrait of President Thomas Jefferson. It was canceled at 8 p.m. June 24, 1900, in Las Marias in the island's western mountains, and stamped "rec'd" the next day, 7 p.m. June 25, 90 miles away in San Juan. If one takes into consideration the remoteness of Las Marias in those

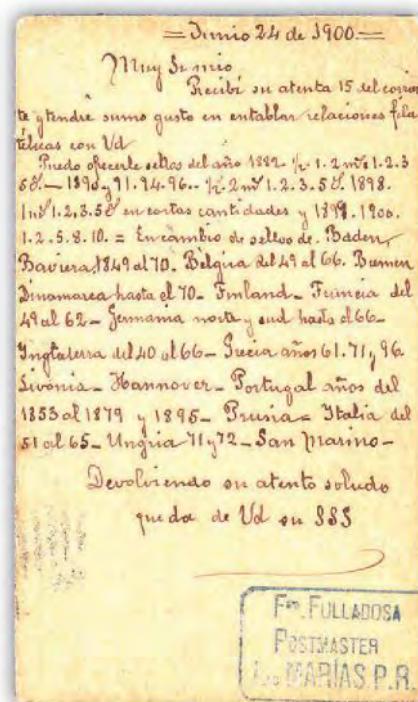


Figure 13. Francisco Fulladosa Mir, first U.S. postmaster of Las Marias, in June 1900 sent this postcard to a fellow stamp collector in San Juan asking if he'd be interested in trading stamps. Neither the author nor the author of a previous study of Puerto Rican philately know where the card is today. The card was being sold late last year on eBay.

days, and the available transportation, it is truly remarkable that the postal card arrived just 23 hours after it was canceled in Las Marias. Another interesting aspect of this postal card (and one that the postmaster presumably should have known) is that stamps and postal cards overprinted "Puerto Rico" were no longer required after May 1, 1900, since only U.S. stamps have been in use in Puerto Rico since that date.¹³

The profession of postmaster is one that is highly respected in any community in the United States. It is a competitive, demanding, highly sought after job with many responsibilities. This may explain in part why so many postmasters in Puerto Rico remained at their jobs until they were able to retire.

However, according to the *Record of Appointment of Postmasters*, some resigned, were removed, or relegated. San Juan's postmaster was terminated in 1912 by President William Howard Taft because he openly campaigned for the reelection of former President Theodore Roosevelt. In some cases, the commission expired and was not renewed, and a few postmasters died while still in office.

Since May 1900, the post offices and postal employees in Puerto Rico have been fully incorporated into first the U.S. Post Office Department, and now

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Those interested in more philately from Puerto Rico or other former U.S. possessions might be interested in the following affiliates of the APS:

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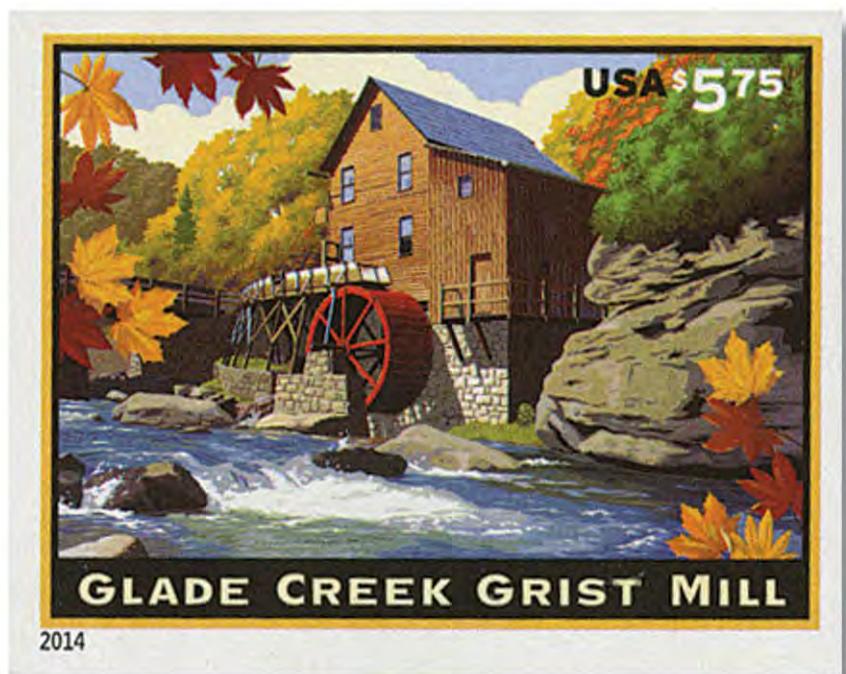
I am very grateful to the many persons, institutions, and other sources of information that provided me with the historical information and illustrations for this article. The image of Puerto Rico commemorative of Columbus landing (Scott 133) is courtesy of Luis Gonzalez Perez.

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 11. Ramón Añeses Morell, *Apuntes para la historia de Aguadilla*. This book was self published by the author in 1949. The second edition was published in 2004 by his son, Ramón Añeses Arrache. Page 255.
 12. Personal communication.
 13. Luis González Pérez, *Boletín de la Sociedad Filatélica de Puerto Rico* (December 2007). The Boletín de la S.F.P.R. is published several times throughout the year. The pages are usually unnumbered.

The Author

IRafael Juan Igartua is a retired U.S. Army nephrologist. He started collecting stamps in his hometown of Aguadilla, Puerto Rico in 1954.



Stamp enlarged to show detail.

Now You Can Own the Scarce 2014 Imperforate Priority Mail Stamp

(A Modern Rarity – Yours for Just \$5.75)

In June 2014, the U.S. Postal Service released a high-value stamp picturing the historic Glade Creek Grist Mill. About five million stamps with “die-cut” perforations (wavy lines cut between stamps to make them easier to separate) were produced to satisfy the Priority Mail rate. Only a tiny number – 30,000 stamps – were produced without perforations.

The stamp pictures the historic Glade Creek Grist Mill. At the turn of the 20th century, West Virginia had over 500 such mills. They were a necessary part of rural towns, because farmers brought their grains there to be ground into flour. The Glade Creek Mill is a recreation of one that stood in that location nearly a century ago. The new mill was built in 1976 using sections of three different mills from around West Virginia. Located in a state park, Glade Creek Grist Mill is one of the state's most photographed landmarks.

I'm so sure you'll want to own one of these imperforate Glade Creek Grist Mill stamps, I'm offering it to you at face value.

- you pay just \$5.75. Plus shipping and guaranteed delivery are FREE.

Don't miss out on this opportunity – remember no more stamp sheets are available through the USPS. Send today and you'll also receive special collector's information and other interesting stamps on approval. Limit one stamp per household.

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de Creek Grist Mill Stamp**

Yes! Please send an Imperforate Glade Creek Grist Mill Stamp. Enclosed is \$5.75. My satisfaction is guaranteed. Limit of one at this special price.

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REGISTERED

LETTER.

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE SMYRNE PIASTRES 10 PIASTRES

Large Registered Letter

Cover Sent in 1901 From British Offices in Smyrna

BY J.H. KRULLA

There is no indication of who mailed this large registered letter. Most likely the contents were something of cash value. It is less likely, but there is also the possibility that the reinforced envelope contained secret diplomatic and arcane correspondence, for this was a time of war. In the former case, the sender would probably have wanted his name and address to be documented. But in the latter case, perhaps not.

This large cloth-reinforced envelope was mailed during a time of war for Great Britain and South Africa. The closing flap is along the right edge, most visible at the very top right above the right-hand overprinted stamp.

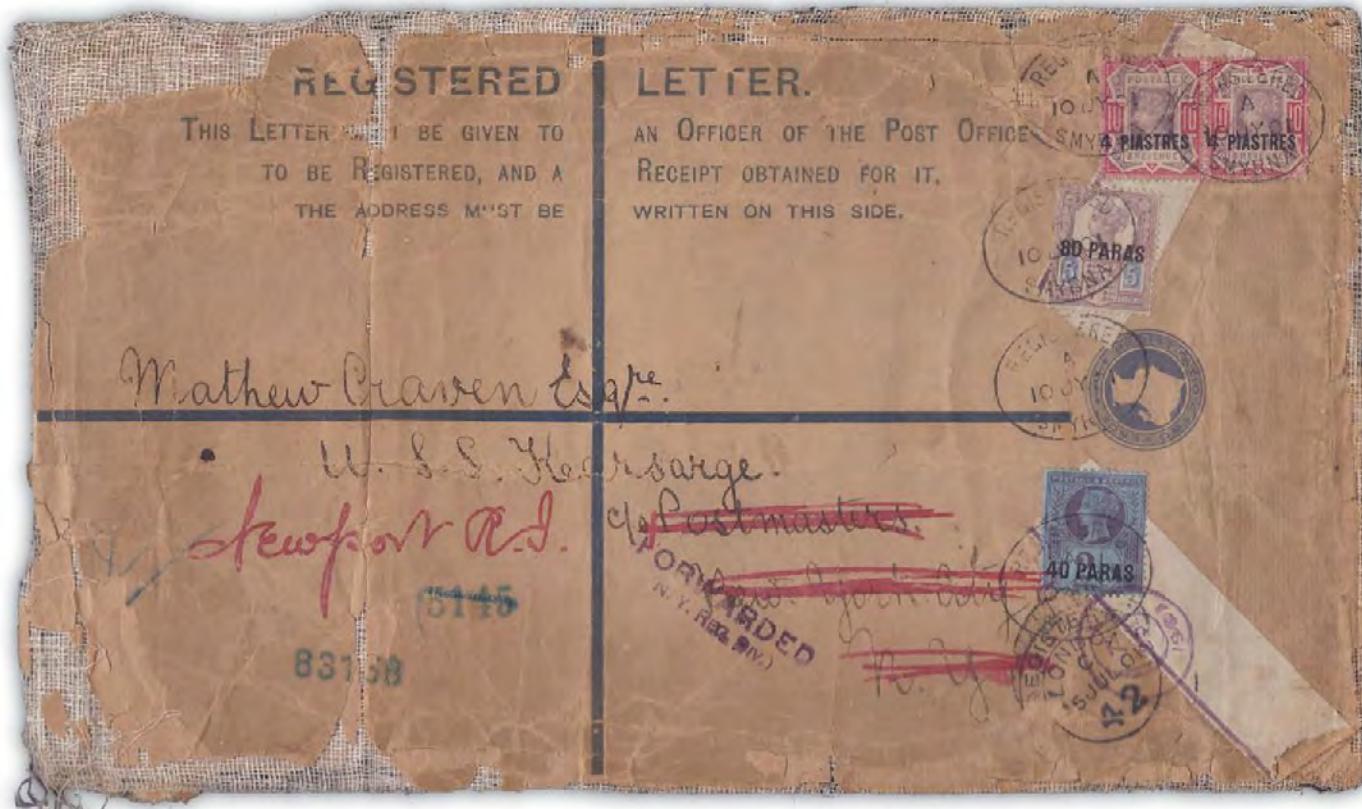
The earliest cancellation reads July 10, 1901, which was during the time of the Boer War. The mailing was originally from the British postal office in Smyrna, which today is known as Izmir, located on the western coast of Turkey, on the Mediterranean Sea. But in 1901, the region was still part of the remnants of the fading Ottoman Empire. Great Britain maintained a post office in the city with probably better security and reliability for its customers' correspondence.

The stamps are so placed as to effectively doubly seal the letter. Strips of selvage, presumably from the margins of a pane of British stamps used in the Turkish Empire, Scott 5, were used initially to reinforce the seal of the flap. Then the stamps were affixed to the strips of selvage, further ensuring the security of the contents of the envelope.

Twenty days later, what is probably a censor's cancel was added at the lower right, in violet, partially canceling the selvage as well as the stamp, Scott 4. This violet cancel is circular, containing a large serifed letter "C" and the date July 25, 1901, partially nested within. Beneath this violet cancel and partly to its left is a large black registry cancel reading "London" with the date July 15 1901, and a large bold "42".

The violet censor's cancel is superimposed over the black "London" cancel, verified by the dates. On the back there is one receiving cancellation in purple reading "Registered/ Jul 20 [?] / Newport, R.I." The remarkable thing is that these final date stamp markings indicate that the censor examined this letter and passed it only at or near the end of its journey.

The stamps on the cover are listed in Scott *Classic Special-*



A large cloth-reinforced envelope that was mailed during a time of war for Great Britain and South Africa. The cover is postmarked on July 10, 1901, and sent from the British Postal Office in Smyrna.

Mick Zais for APS President

Dear APS Members,

The 130-anniversary year of the American Philatelic Society will not lack for philatelic events and excitement. It starts with APS's AmeriStamp Expo later this month in Atlanta. Next is the once in a decade World Stamp Show – NY 2016, May 28 through June 4. In August, APS's StampShow will be in Portland, Oregon. Mix in the nearly thirty annual World Series of Philately shows across the country with hundreds of local APS Chapter and Club activities. What quickly emerges is an exciting year for collectors from all parts of the nation.

First on the APS calendar for 2016 is AmeriStamp Expo in Atlanta, at the end of this month (January 29–31). Please consider making the trip if you are not already planning to. I'll be there all three days and would enjoy meeting you at any point during the show. I have also scheduled an informal "Connect with Mick" session on each of the three days of the show. I will be next to the APS Society Booth.

- Friday, January 29th – 11 a.m.
- Saturday, January 30th – 2 p.m.
- Sunday, January 31st – 10 a.m.

An APS Candidates Forum is also scheduled for Saturday, January 30, at 10:30 a.m. in the Crystal Ballroom A-F at the Hilton Atlanta.

I look forward to hearing your suggestions, feedback, ideas and questions at any time throughout the show. If you're unable to attend, I invite you to connect with me at mickzais@gmail.com.

And, I respectfully ask for your vote in the Society election in May.
Thank You,

Mick Zais



Mick Zais, Ph.D

APS Member Since 1976

1969–2000 — Officer, U.S. Army — retiring as Brigadier General

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

2011–2015 — State Superintendent of Education for South Carolina

2011–Present — Member, APS Campaign For Philately Committee

2013–Present — Vice President, APS Board of Directors

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



mickzais.org

ized Catalogue of Stamps and Covers, 1840–1940, under the heading of “Stamps used in the Turkish Empire.”

The cover was forwarded to an American steamship, which forwarding did not occur until 10 days after arriving at London, England, approximately 2,400 miles from the letter’s point of origin. Hence, the violet cancel over the sealed flap (using two strips of the margins from a sheet of the Scott 5 stamp, most likely) is probably a censor’s mark. The same marking is on the back of the cover as well.

Not only the margin strip, but the stamps as well have been used to try to seal the registered letter along its flap. And the censor’s cancel on the front overlaps the bottom edge of the Scott 4 stamp, strongly suggesting that the censor did not open the letter to read it at this end.

At the top right of the large envelope there is another flap, but had it been pried open for inspection, censor protocol would surely have required resealing this flap with some inspection tape or another indication of having done so. Furthermore, the identical dates on the censor cancels indicate the censor did not examine the envelope until it was at or near its final forwarded destination — Newport, Rhode Island. In fact, the censor probably did not even open it, for the censor now was most likely an American, and America was not a combatant in the Boer War.

This is a very strange registered letter, indeed. Britain was at war at this time, after all and 1901 was the time of the Boer War, which lasted from 1898 to 1902. Note that the violet censor’s mark at bottom right has date 7 [July] 25, 1901, with the month and date within a large serifed letter “C”. Why wasn’t this registered letter opened for inspection while in British

hands (and territory)? In times of war, combative nations are extremely vigilant in their caution against any possible espionage or relaying of military secrets. It does not matter that the actual fighting was taking place elsewhere in what was not yet South Africa at that time. The Union of South Africa was not declared until 1910. “The sun never sets on the empire,” the British used to say proudly.

As for the ship the letter was addressed to the *USS Kearsarge*, the second such steamship of that name in the U.S. Navy. The first *USS Kearsarge*, named for the New Hampshire mountain, claimed a glorious Civil War victory for the Union over the *CSS Alabama* and was dismantled in 1894. The new steamship, which was named in honor of the original ship, not the mountain, was commissioned in 1898, and saw service in the Spanish-American War and World War I. It was even still sailing early on during World War II, under a new name.

On November 6, 1941, the *Kearsarge* was designated Crane Ship No. 1. The illustrious name was reassigned to a mighty aircraft carrier. But it continued yeoman’s service and made many contributions to the American victories of WWII.

Finally, sometime after June 1955, the ship was sold for scrap.

The Author

J.H. Krulla was born in Denmark, grew up in Austria, Canada, and New York; and now lives in New York state. He is a retired high school teacher, and an erstwhile medical student. He is also a novelist. As a novelist, he has written four books under the name Ole Romer. You can learn more about him and his books online at oleromerbooks.com.



The American Philatelic Research Library has resources on just about every aspect of stamp collecting — a subject, a place, a time, or even a person. With more than 20,000 books and 5,000 periodicals from around the world, the APRL staff can assist you with your research needs.

Learn how to use the library to increase your enjoyment of the hobby. Search the online catalog for books, journals, article references, and name sales. For more information call 814-933-3803, selection 3.



AMERISTAMP 2016

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JANUARY 29–31, 2016 • ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Downtown Hilton Atlanta • 255 Courtland St., N.E.

Friday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The American Philatelic Society's annual winter show — Ameristamp — is joining forces this year with the Southeastern Stamp Expo for a three-day philatelic exposition in Atlanta, Georgia.

The free-admission show is set for January 29 to 31 at the easily accessible Downtown Hilton Atlanta, 255 Courtland St., N.E. APS members are encouraged to register in advance (visit the website at stamps.org/ameristamp-expo to do so).

The society's second-largest show and convention — held annually each winter — will feature about 60 dealers, 300 frames of exhibits, a first-day ceremony for the U.S. Botanical Art stamps, guest speakers, specialty societies, meetings, seminars, a U.S. Postal Service retail area, a youth area, a Boy Scout merit badge course, and an awards dinner.

Friday, the first day of the show has been designated Floral Day, when the Atlanta Botanical Garden joins with the U.S. Postal Service and APS in the celebration of the issuance of the new Botanical Art stamps.

Saturday is Georgia History Day. The day's keynote

speaker will be professor Thomas Broadhead, of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, who will make a presentation exploring historical and cultural themes on stamps.

Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections (ESPER) will also have a general meeting and presentation on Saturday.

Sunday is Family Day, when a special interactive family activity is planned.

Artist and stamp designer Chris Calle also will be on hand to give a presentation about how stamps and cachets are designed.

There are two major exhibiting competitions. The World Series of Philately Single-Frame competition is held along with the World Series of Philately Most Popular Exhibit competition. Exhibits that won those awards at past World Series of Philately held shows can be entered in the competitions.

The awards banquet will be Saturday evening January 30 at the show venue. Advance registration is required and can be made online through the society website. Tickets are \$60.

Aside from APS meetings, other groups that have scheduled meetings include the Ebony Society of Philatelic Events, the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, the American Topical Association, the Canal Zone Study Group, the Auxiliary Markings Club, the Penguins on Stamps Study Group of the American Topical Association, the Georgia Postal History Society, and the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs.

The following pages include a schedule of events, dealers, and societies. More details will be available in the Ameristamp show program handed out at the event and online at stamps.org/ameristamp-expo.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, January 28

10 a.m.

American Philatelic Society Board Meeting, Open to the Public (7 hours)
Room 301, Floor 3

Friday, January 29

10 a.m.

Show Opens
Galleria
StampBuddy, Adult Beginner Assistance (8 hours)
Galleria

Stamps In Your Attic, Collection Evaluations (8 hours)
Galleria

11 a.m.

United States Postal Service First-Day Ceremony: Botanical Art Stamps
Crystal Ballroom ABEF

1 p.m.

Advanced? Beginner? Computer Makes an Album to Be Proud Of, Michael Bloom
Crystal Ballroom C

2 p.m.

How to Do Philatelic Research: Libraries and Online Resources, Tara Murray
Crystal Ballroom C

Atlanta Parking

Parking near the downtown venue can be pricey. It is only \$5 for parking on Saturday and Sunday. On Friday, the best time to park is to arrive before 9 a.m. (and depart between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.), to secure the early-bird rate of only \$6 a day. Otherwise it is \$8 an hour with a maximum of \$20 a day.

Botanical Art Stamps

The United States Postal Service will issue 10 Botanical Art commemorative forever stamps on Friday, January 29, at an 11 a.m. ceremony during Ameristamp. Additional details on these stamps, and an image of the full set are included later in the AmeriStamp show section.

Follow #BotanicalStamps on social media sites for more on the stamp issue.



3 p.m.

Tips and Tricks for Using the APS Website, Ken Martin
Crystal Ballroom C

4 p.m.

Guided Exhibit Tour, Ken Martin
Exhibit Frame 1

4:30 p.m.

AAPE Board Meeting (1½ hours)
Crystal Ballroom C

6 p.m.

Show Closes
Galleria

Saturday, January 30

9 a.m.

American Philatelic Society, General and Town Hall Meeting (1½ hours)
Crystal Ballroom AF

10 a.m.

Show Opens
Galleria

Stamp Collecting Merit Badge: A Beginner Program for Youth (6 hours)
Galleria, Youth Area

StampBuddy, Adult Beginner Assistance (8 hours)
Galleria

Stamps In Your Attic, Collection Assessments (8 hours)

Galleria

Georgia Postal History Society Annual Meeting
Crystal Ballroom C

Cachetmakers Bourse (6 hours)
Galleria

Committee on the Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges Meeting, David McNamee (2 hours)
Crystal Ballroom B

10:30 a.m.

APS Candidates Forum (1½ hours)
Crystal Ballroom AF

11 a.m.

Exhibiting Techniques: Lessons Learned in the Trenches, Gordon Eubanks
Crystal Ballroom C

Noon

Historical and Cultural Themes on Stamps, Tom Broadhead
Crystal Ballroom C

Accommodations

The American Philatelic Society has negotiated discounted rates at the Downtown Hilton Atlanta. For current information on hotel availability, visit stamps.org/ase-hotel-and-travel.



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Auxiliary Markings Club "Show and Tell,"

Ralph Nafziger

Crystal Ballroom B

Judges Roundtable, David McNamee

Crystal Ballroom AF

1 p.m.

AAPE Annual Members Meeting (1½ hours)

Crystal Ballroom AF

Stamps Related to the African Diaspora /

ESPER General Meeting

Crystal Ballroom C

Canal Zone Study Group Group Meeting

Crystal Ballroom B

2 p.m.

Scouts On Stamps — "The Classics"

Crystal Ballroom C

Updates from World Stamp

Show-NY 2016

Crystal Ballroom B

3 p.m.

Auxiliary Markings Club General

Meeting

Crystal Ballroom C

Penguins on Stamps Study Unit: Meet and Greet

Crystal Ballroom B

Historical and Cultural Themes on Stamps

How do stamps connect via their images and text to the nations, people and cultures of the world?

Tom Broadhead, a professor of geology and director in the admissions office at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will present a talk on that subject at noon January 30 during AmeriStamp.



Through his teaching career, Broadhead has offered a 1-credit honors seminar, "Images of Nations and Peoples," which focuses on the cultural and historical significance of stamp designs and their relevance to promotion and communication by countries. One element of the course is to submit a proposal for a postage stamp the U.S. Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee. He has also lectured on "A picture is worth a thousand words" from a philatelic perspective at universities in China. Broadhead, a 20-year member of the American Philatelic Society, collects the postal history of France, from 1870 to the modern era.

Judges Feedback Forum, Tim Bartshe (2 hours)

Crystal Ballroom AF

4 p.m.

PNC3 Regional Meeting (1½ hours)

Crystal Ballroom B

American Topical Association

Roundtable

Crystal Ballroom C

6 p.m.

Show Closes

Galleria

6:15 p.m.

Awards Banquet Reception (Ticket Required)

Salon A, Floor 2

7 p.m.

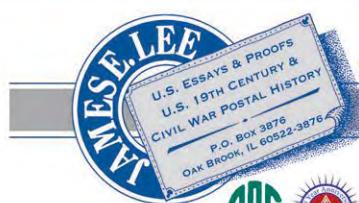
Awards Banquet (Ticket Required)

Salon E, Floor 2



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Sunday, January 31**10 a.m.**Show Opens
*Galleria*StampBuddy, Adult Beginner Assistance
(6 hours)
*Galleria*Stamps In Your Attic, Collection
Evaluations (6 hours)
*Galleria***10:30 a.m.**How to Write a Meaningful UEEF (1½ hours)
*Crystal Ballroom C***11 a.m.**Adventures of a Botanical Philatelist, Phil
Stager
*Crystal Ballroom A*Young Stamp Collectors of America
Meeting
*Galleria, Youth Area***Noon**Buying and Selling Philatelic Material
through the APS, Ken Martin and
Carol Hoffman
*Crystal Ballroom C*Stamp Collecting 101: Adult Beginner
Course (Tickets Required) (2 hours)
*Crystal Ballroom B*The Art of Postage Stamps and Cachets,
Chris Calle
*Crystal Ballroom A***1 p.m.**Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs
Annual Meeting
*Crystal Ballroom A*Walking Tour of Exhibit and Presentation
Techniques, Steven Zwillinger
*Exhibit Frame 1***2 p.m.**Estate Planning, Ken Martin
*Crystal Ballroom C***4 p.m.**Show Closes
*Galleria***Atlanta's Light Rail**

It is called MARTA and only costs \$2.50 one way to ride (\$5 roundtrip). The MARTA runs in a straight line north from the airport to downtown Atlanta.

You can buy a Breeze card online (\$1 per card fee) in advance, or in Atlanta, and the fares are cheaper; a full-day pass is: \$9 for a one-day, \$14 for two days, and \$16 for three days.

To get to the show at the Hilton, exit at Peachtree Center Station (N1). It's a two-block walk from there, either outside or by covered walkway through the Peachtree Center Mall.

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Botany on Stamps

Phil Stager, a member of the American Topical Association, will present a seminar on Botany on Stamps.



Stager has been an APS member for more than 25 years and has competitive exhibits on several palm species, bamboo, cannabis, and venereal diseases. A self-described palm nut, he volunteers at a Florida palm and cycad arboretum and raises more than 50 species of palms and cycads and 250 varieties of crotons in his yard.

He is a retired Coast Guard officer now living in St. Petersburg, Florida, who has collected and exhibited stamps since his high school days in Cleveland, Ohio.

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#4. 10¢ Black Reproduction, without gum as issued, Ample to Full Margins All Around, Intense Shade, Very Fine++, with P.F. Certificate.

List Price \$1195

Special Ad Price \$1050



#18. 1¢ Blue Type I, Mint Very Fine. A Beautiful Original Gum example of the One Cent Type I Perforated Issue, Remarkably Rare in this Choice Sound O.G. Very Lightly Hinged Condition, "Deep Rich Color!" With 2000 PF Certificate.

SCV \$2100 List Price \$2500
Special Ad Price \$1875



#39. 90¢ Blue, Original Gum, Very Fine-Extra Fine Centering, Extra Lightly Hinged, Rich Color and Detailed Impression, Choice Centering with Wide Margins! A Choice o.g. example, With 2001 PF Certificate and 2008 PSE Cert (OG PH, VF-XF 85; SMQ \$4,200.00). "We believe it should have graded a 90."

List Price \$3750
Special Ad Price \$3550



#277. \$2.00 Bright Blue, Mint Original Gum, Very Lightly Hinged, Wonderful Depth of Color, Choice Centering, P.O. Fresh and Very Fine! With a 2015 PFC For Block of 4, this Being the Lower Right Position.

List Price \$1695

Special Ad Price \$1495



#245. \$5.00 Columbian. Crisp Impression, Light Strike of Completely Face Free Target Cancel, Full Perforations All Around! "Incredible Rich Color!" With APS & PF Certificates.

List Price \$2850

Special Ad Price \$2650



#292. Used XF Super Light Face Free Cancell., Sharp Impression, 100% Sound. "America's Most Popular Stamp!" 100% Sound With PSE Certificate.

SCV \$725 List Price \$875
Special Ad Price \$775



#RW4. \$1.00 1937 Hunting Permit, Mint NH, Pretty Color, Balanced Margins, Fresh and Extremely Fine, with P.S.E. Certificate that Graded this Beauty an - XF 90; SMQ \$600.00.

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Booth 418 (Info only)

Stanley M. Piller Association
Walnut Creek, California
Booth 401

Gary Posner Inc.
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Booth 407

R.G. Stamps & Covers
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REW Stamps-Coins, LLC
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Booth 800
Booth 825 (Dollar Booth)

The Right Stamp Co.
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Rising Sun Stamps
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Roy's Stamps
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada
Booth 408

Jay Smith & Associates
Snow Camp, North Carolina
Booth 505

Stamp Art
Lincoln City, Oregon
Booths 600, 601, 602

The Stamp Explorer
Jacksonville, Florida
Booth 323, 325

Stamp Vault
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Sterling Kingbrook Auctions
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Webster F. Stickney
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Weisz Covers
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Booth 606

WIP International Inc.
Weston, Florida
Booth 417

Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship
Bellefonte, Pennsylvania
Booth 806, 808

Additional Stamp Dealer Details

Additional information on the dealers participating in the AmeriStamp/Southeastern Stamp Expo bourse (sales area) is available online at stamps.org/ASE-Dealers.

There you can find website information and the different specialities dealers will have to offer.

Up-to-date booth number assignments provided here as of December 1. Listings provided as to be determined will be updated in the online listing.



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SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors

aape.org

American Philatelic Research Library

stamplibrary.org

American Philatelic Society

stamps.org

American Topical Association

american topical assn.org

Auxiliary Markings Club

postalmarkings.org

Canal Zone Study Group

canalzonestudygroup.com

Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections

esperstamps.org

Georgia Postal History Society

stampclubs.com/gphs/index.htm

Knoxville Philatelic Society

stampsclubs.com/knoxville

Penguins on Stamp Study Unit

penguinstamps.org

Plate Number Coil Collectors Club

pnc3.org

Scouts on Stamps Society International

sossi.org

Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs

stampclubs.com

The China Stamp Society Inc.

chinastampsociety.org

United States Postal Service

usps.com

World Stamp Show-NY 2016

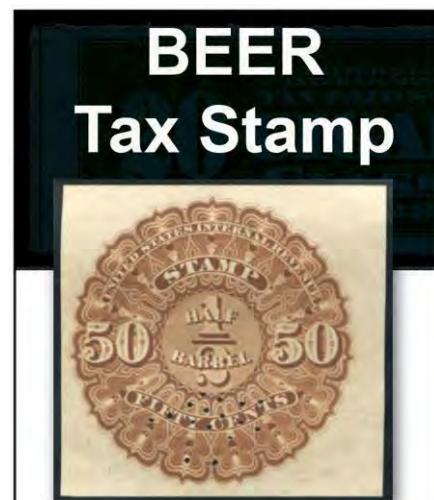
ny2016.org

Young Philatelic Leadership Fellows

stampfellowship.org

Rarities on Display

Many philatelic rarities will be on display during StampShow including the 24-cent Inverted Jenny error airmail stamp (one of only 100 stamps that show the Curtiss Jenny biplane flying upside down), a folded letter sheet sent in May 1789 by George Washington weeks after he was inaugurated as the first president of the United States, and the 1962 4-cent Dag Hammarskjold invert error pane that was sold before the U.S. Post Office Department deliberately printed 40 million more of the errors for sale at post offices.



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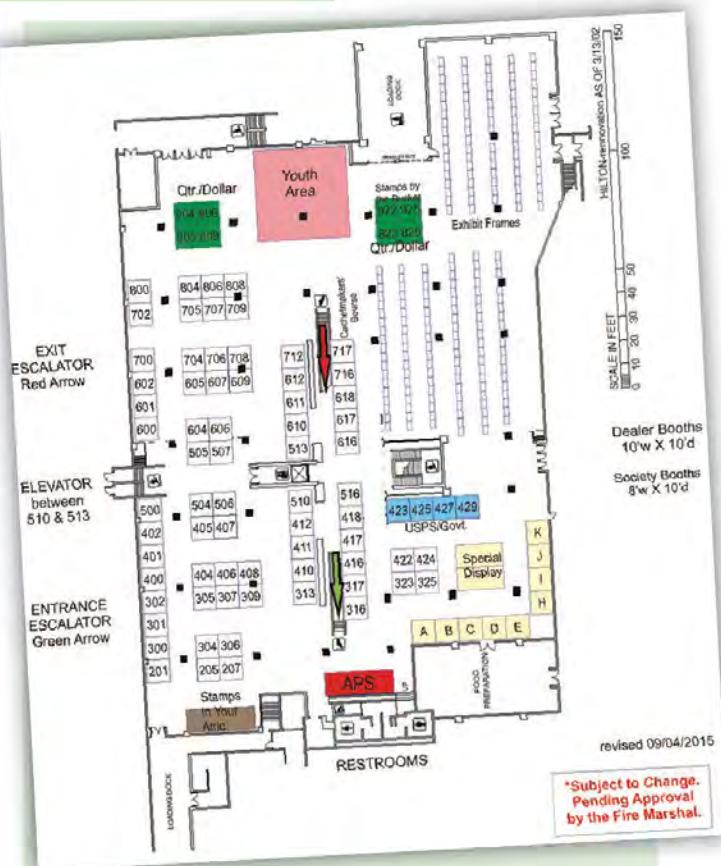
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FLOOR PLAN



Tentative floor plan for Ameristamp/Southeastern Stamp Expo at the Downtown Atlanta Hilton, 255 Courtland St., N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. For an updated layout, please visit online at stamps.org/ase-floor-plan.

Art of Stamps and Cachets Seminar

Award-winning artist and stamp designer Chris Calle will present a seminar titled "The Art of Stamps and Cachets." Calle will speak in general about stamp images and cachet artwork, and then talk about his own experiences with stamp, first-day cover, and cachet design. Calle has designed several commemorative covers for APS stamp events, including those for this show. The artist will make his presentation at noon on January 31.

Calle has designed more than 30 postage stamps for the U.S. and hundreds more for entities as diverse as Sweden, the Marshall Islands, and the United Nations.

After graduating from the University of Michigan in 1983 Calle embarked on a career as an illustrator working for advertising agencies and various publications. It was his first stamp design in 1984, a portrait of Harry Truman for the Great Americans series, that began a career in illustration with a very strong emphasis on philatelic artwork. He also has created hundreds of first-day cover cachet paintings and drawings as a freelance artist. You can view Chris' artwork online at calleart.com, and chriscallefdc.com.



Things to Do in Atlanta

After you have had your fill at the show, here are a few more notable nearby sites you might want to check out.

All are within six blocks of the hotel, with the exception of the Atlanta Botanical Garden and the Martin Luther King Jr. sites.

- ATL-Cruzers (atlcruzers.com) — Tour an engaging tour of Atlanta by electric car or Segway scooter. Register online for a tour, or schedule a private tour for your family or fellow stamp collectors.

- Atlanta Botanical Garden (atlantabg.org) — A beautiful compliment to the Botanical Art Stamps being issued at AmeriStamp, don't miss the opportunity to visit this garden. Woodlands, waterfalls, and suspension walkways are a few of the outdoor options, along with an atrium, cafe, conservatory, glasshouse, lab, library, and orchid center. Open year-round.

- Centennial Olympic Park (centennialpark.com) — Beautiful park surrounded by world-class museums. The Fountain of Rings plays every day at 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, and 9 p.m.

- Center for Civil and Human Rights Museum (civilandhumanrights.org) — Opened 18 months ago. \$15 (\$13 for seniors, free for younger than 6).

- Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site, operated by the National Park Service. (nps.gov/malu) — Walk in the footsteps of a great world leader. The Visitor Center, Historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, Freedom Hall, and Birth Home of MLK Jr. are open for tours.

- College Football Hall of Fame (cfbhall.com) — See a display of historic and modern football memorabilia, interactive multimedia exhibits, an ultra-high-definition film, and children's activities.

- Georgia Aquarium (georgiaaquarium.org) — The world's largest aquarium boasts many opportunities to explore sea life and aquatic biodiversity.

- Mall at Peachtree Center (peachtreecenter.com/Mall-home.htm) — Only two blocks from the event hotel, and connected by covered walkway, this mall has more than 60 shops and delicious restaurants to choose from. Take the MARTA light rail from here to area attractions or the airport.

- Skyview Atlanta Ferris Wheel (skyviewatlanta.com) — For a bird's-eye view of the city and Centennial Park, ride in climate-controlled gondolas 20 stories in the air. Open year-round, unless weather or maintenance prevails.

- Tabernacle Theater (tabernacleatl.com) — This circa 1910 building was opened as a tabernacle with a small infirmary, served as a church, and later a blues music club in the late 1990s before being converted into its current music performance venue.

- World of Coca-Cola (worldofcoca-cola.com) — Taste more than 100 beverages from around the world, tour the Bottle Works, and visit the vault of the famous Coca-Cola formula.



United States Botanical Art Forever Stamps First-Day Ceremony

Bright, colorful images taken from 19th- and early 20th-century seed flower and seed catalogs appear on a set of 10 Botanical Art forever stamps the U.S. Postal Service will issue at a first-day ceremony during the show.

The artists responsible for the work seen on early nursery catalogs are mostly unknown, but the designs are all based on the New York Botanical Garden's Nursery and Seed Catalog Collection, one of the largest and most important collections in the United States.

Each stamp features a detail of an illustration from an American nursery catalog printed between 1891 and 1912, according to the Postal Service. The New York Botanical Garden's collection and similar collections in other institutions are treasure troves of historical information for scholars and scientists studying a wide range of subjects, including the history of botany, horticulture, commercial agriculture, landscape design, plant exploration, graphic arts, and publishing.

The New York Botanical Garden's collection of about 43,000 objects contains catalogs issued by some 5,000 commercial nurseries primarily in North America, but also Europe and Japan, dating back to 1804. The catalogs are one of the special collections of garden's The LuEsther T. Mertz Library.

The Postal Service provided the following basic background of American botany:

Beginning in the late 15th century, intrepid Europeans explored new lands in the Americas, the South Pacific, and other areas of the world. There they discovered plants unknown in Europe, which they imported for study and propagation. Scientists, gardeners, plant hunters, and collectors required accurate botanical drawings of the exotic new species. Botanical illustrators produced works that were meticulous and highly detailed and quite often beautiful pieces of art as well. The years 1750 to 1850 are considered the height of the botanical illustrator's art.

The mid-19th century saw a flowering of another kind of botanical art. As more people discovered the joys of ornamental and recreational gardening, thriving commercial greenhouses and nurseries marketed plants — exotic as well as native — to eager gardeners. To entice buyers, the nurseries created colorful catalogs illustrated with beautiful blossoms and lush foliage. The illustrations were idealized, romantic versions of what plants could look like, but they fueled many a garden dream.

Art director Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, Maryland, designed the Botanical Art stamps, which are being issued in a double-sided pane of 20 format (convertible booklet).

The first-day ceremony will be at 11 a.m. January 29, opening day, at the show site, the Hilton Atlanta, 255 Courtland St., N.E.

Scheduled speakers include Mildred Fockele, vice president of horticulture at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, a representative from the U.S. Postal Service, APS executive director Scott English, and APS youth fellow Austin Foo.



Flowers featured in the new Botanical Art stamps are (top row, from left) corn lilies, tulips, stocks, roses, and petunias; (bottom row, from left) tulips, dahlias, Japanese iris, tulips, and daffodils and jonquils.

AmeriStamp Pictorial Show Cancellations

Three different show pictorial cancellations will be available during AmeriStamp. The different themes are floral, Georgia history, and family day. Matching show cachets will also be available. The three show cachets will be designed by Chris Calle and available for purchase at show registration and by mail after the show has concluded.

The January 29 postmark has a hummingbird flying next to flowers, the January 30 postmark has different town names making up the shape of the State of Georgia, and the January 31 postmark has a child's drawing of a mother and child with the text "I Love You!"



Function Tickets

There are many enjoyable APS ticketed events for collectors to attend during the show.

For additional details and to place orders for tickets, visit online at stamps.org/ase-function-tickets. To guarantee your seat at these events, make a reservation prior to the show. Tickets can be picked up at registration.

Awards Banquet Saturday, January 30 at 6:15 p.m. (reception) and 7 p.m. (dinner), *Downtown Hilton Atlanta, Salon E (2nd Floor)*. \$60 per person (\$70 at the show).

Boy Scout Stamp Collecting Merit Badge Program
Saturday, January 30 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., *Youth Area*. \$15 per person (\$20 at the show).

Stamp Collecting 101
January 31 from Noon to 2 p.m., *Crystal Ballroom A*. \$15 per person (\$20 for non-members).



EXHIBITS

Single Frame Champion of Champions

The competition among exhibits at AmeriStamp are highlighted by the 17th annual Single Frame Champion of Champions.

The single-frame winners at this past year's more than 30 World Series of Philately shows are eligible to compete as are a select few winners from other competitions. Seventeen exhibits are entered in this final competition.

One past winner — Mark S. Schwartz, who took the honor in 2013 and 2014 — has two entries this year, as does K. Joe Youssefi. Here are the 17 entrants:

"The Collection of Postal Due Fees in Ireland, 1914-1926," Robert M. Benninghoff; "Canada: The Twelve Pences of 1851: From Production to Forgery," Ron R. Brigham; "A Trip in the Mail Car," Douglas N. and Nancy B. Clark; "The 50-Cent Zeppelin Issue: A Study in Design," Cheryl R. Ganz; "Haiti's 50-Cent Nord Alexis Stamp of 1904," Peter C. Jeannopoulos; and "Absinthe — The Devil in a Bottle," Janet R. Klug.

Also, "Designing the 1938 King George VI Issue of Burma," Mike Ley; "The U.S. Three-Cent Jackson Stamp of the 1902 Series," Nicholas Lombardi; "Wheat Ridge, the Other Christmas Seal," Alan L. Moll; "The First Postal Cards of Persia," Behruz Nassre-Esfahani; "\$1 Rush Lamp and Candleholder Stamp," Don David Price; and "The Postal Markings of Newbury and Newburyport, Mass., During the Stampless Period: 1755-1855," Mark S. Schwartz.

Also, "The Special Arrangement Between Liverpool and the U.S., 1843-1848," Schwartz; "1838-42 Wilkes Antarctic Expedition: Its Many (often unfavorable) Facets," Hal Vogel; "2-Cent Blue Liberty Tax Stamp, 1875-1883," Timothy Wait; "India Postal Agencies in Persia," K. Joe Youssefi; and "Bushire Under British Occupation," Youssefi.

Most Popular Champion of Champions

Another award will be made to the 13th annual APS Most Popular Champion of Champions, with the same annual criteria as the single-frame competition. Seven exhibits are entered, including one past champion competitor in this category. Dawn R. Hamman won this prize in 2014. Here are the entrants:

"Baseball Centennial: Every Boy in America Could Get a First Day Cover," Jeffery Bennett; "The Walt Disney Postal Commemoration of 1968," Edward Bergen; "The Journey of a Woman Artist," Elizabeth Ward Carter; "Smokey Bear Issue of 1984," Rick Gibson; "Backyard Chickens," Dawn R. Hamman; "Oh MY!" Weird Covers," Randy L. Neil; "A Celebration of the Cockroach," Jean Stout.

Additional Exhibits

The Southeastern Stamp Expo also is a World Series of Philately show and has drawn about 70 other competitive exhibits, about two-thirds of which are single-frame exhibits.

More information on the exhibition can be found online at stamps.org/ase-exhibitors.



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Candidates for APS Vice Presidents



Dear APS Members,

As our campaign for APS Vice Presidents continues into the New Year, we would like to invite you to join us at AmeriStamp Expo in Atlanta, Georgia, January 29–31. All three of us will be in attendance throughout the show and we would love to connect with you at any point during AmeriStamp Expo. We look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you might have. We also would love to learn about your concerns and any ideas you have to improve the APS as we move forward. Additionally, please consider joining us for the APS Candidates Forum on Saturday, January 30 at 10:30 a.m. in the Crystal Ballroom AF at the Hilton Atlanta. We hope to see you in Atlanta at AmeriStamp Expo and we ask for your vote this upcoming May.

Thank You,

John Barwis, Alex Haimann & Yamil Kouri

Yamil Kouri

APS Member Since 1988

1985–Present — Physician in Hematology-Oncology field
1992–2014 — Partner, Commonwealth Hematology-Oncology, PC
2014–Present - Hematologist and Medical Oncologist with Dana Farber Community Cancer Care
1998–2005 — President, Cuban Philatelic Society of America
2008–Present — Board Director, Postal History Society – currently President-Elect
2010–Present — Board Director, Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History
2013–Present — Vice President, American Philatelic Society

John Barwis

APS Member Since 1978

1966–1970 — Staff, U.S. Naval Arctic Research Laboratory — finishing as Head of Logistics & Station Manager
1972–1975 — Officer, U.S. Army Engineer Corps
1979–2003 — Geologist, Royal/Dutch Shell, Retiring as Board Director of Shell U.K.
2006–Present — Board Member, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society — President since 2012
2007–Present — Member, APS Finance Committee
2009–2010 — Member, Long Range Planning Committee

Alex Haimann

APS Member Since 1996

2005–2010 — Collections Specialist, Smithsonian National Postal Museum
2008–2010 — Board Director, American Stamp Dealers Association
2008–Present — Founder & Advisory Board Member, Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship
2012–2014 — Associate Director, Center for Experiential Learning & Adjunct Professor of Management at the Olin Business School at Washington University in St. Louis
2013–Present — Chair, Board of Vice Presidents, American Philatelic Society
2014–Present — Head of Business Development, Less Annoying Software

Learn more about our BVP Team at

www.vote-aps-vp.org



AMERICA'S SMALLEST POST OFFICE

From Storage Shed to Post Office — Ochopee, Florida

BY STEVEN BAHNSEN

My hobby of photographing post offices took me someplace new over Memorial Day weekend 2015: South Florida, where I took dozens of pictures, both in the city of Miami and surrounding Miami-Dade County. This area was hot, flat, cosmopolitan, and bustling. Palm trees are in front of many of the post offices.

An hour west of this metropolis is Ochopee. There you can find what is claimed to be the smallest post office building in America. Sitting in a clearing along U.S. Highway 41, the office is a novel operation that a postal traveler must see.

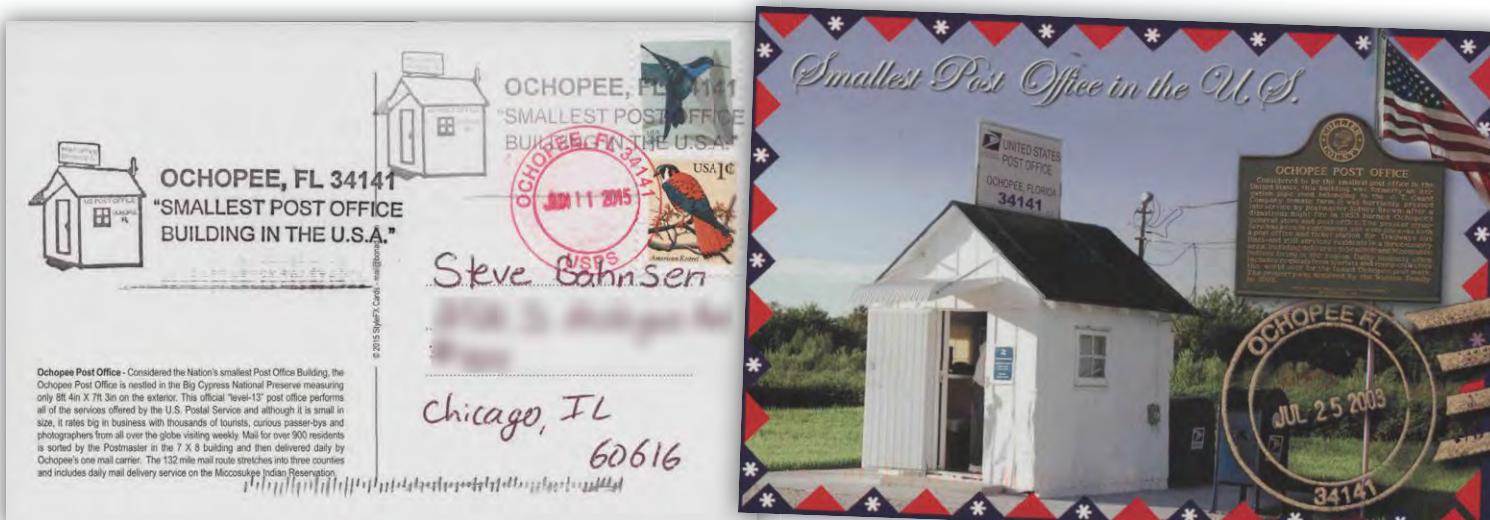
Basically, there is no town of Ochopee now. Just a few houses and a store remain. While there are no post office boxes to rent, a rural route takes mail to customers in the Everglades.

This white wooden building is just 7 feet by 8 feet. It was

once a tomato farm's storage shed for irrigation pipes. The original Ochopee post office opened in 1932 inside a general store. In 1953, a fire destroyed that building. The postmaster quickly pressed the shed into service and it has been in use ever since, according to a nearby historical marker.

Currently, the building has no running water. But it is air conditioned. The front door slides open to reveal a counter where retail business is conducted. A snorkel collection box is nearby. Another large blue box behind the office is used to hold mail coming or going to Fort Myers via Naples.

The Ochopee post office is open two hours in the morning and four hours in the afternoon during the week, along with two hours on Saturday. An office like this open just six hours a day no longer needs a postmaster. A postal clerk can operate the office under the supervision of another postmas-



The tiny post office in Ochopee, Florida, is considered today as America's smallest free-standing post office. This postcard was sent by the author in June 2015 and received a red cancellation along with another marking for the smallest post office designation.

Mark Schwartz for APS Director-at-Large

To make the APS better for all members

Who I am

I have been a stamp and postal history collector for over 45 years. I collect and exhibit both classic and modern material. After 37 years in science, marketing and strategic planning, I retired to become more active in philately. I was VP of the Greater Philadelphia Stamp & Collectors Club and remain an active member. I serve on the boards of the Philatelic Foundation, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, and am a member of the NPM Council of Philatelists. Finally, I have written several philatelic articles and given presentations at local and national shows.



What I believe

- I believe the job of the Board is to oversee the reputation and activities of the APS, to set objectives and help the Executive Director and his staff develop short and long-term strategies. The board tracks how well the Executive Director has put those strategies into effect and achieved those objectives, and stays away from day-to-day operations.
- The APRL is a critical repository for all philatelic literature and information. We must finish its construction and ensure that it is there for generations to come.
- We must make sure we are providing the services that our current members want. We still have too many members leaving the APS each year.
- We must attract new members, recognizing that many may be younger and non-traditional, and that there are many who collected in their youth and can be re-attracted to the hobby.
- We must recognize that we live and enjoy our hobby in the 21st century and must adapt our methods and communications to this changing age.
- We must elect and support officers that consider the needs of all members, from those of limited means who gain great enjoyment from collecting the modern stamps of a single country to those who can afford to collect and exhibit the classic issues of the United States.

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

ter. Marco Island now manages Ochopee.

Shanna Mitchell was the Ochopee clerk on duty when I was there. She has lived in the area all her life and worked in several postal facilities. Mitchell is to be commended for the variety of stamps that was available. This selection was superior to what many larger offices I have been to have for customers to purchase.

Ochopee postmarks all outgoing mail. While the office does not have a four-bar cancel, it does has a red round-date cancellation. It also has another handstamp that notes Ochopee as the "Smallest post office building in the U.S.A."

South Beach's entertainment area has souvenir shops across from the main Miami Beach post office. The store had picture postcards showing Atlantic oceanfront high rises for sale. I had address labels to help send cards to friends. These cards were too large for the standard postcard rate so I bought some Flag forever stamps from a self-service kiosk in one of Miami's stations. This was in case I got to Ochopee when it was closed.

Luckily, that did not happen, so my cards were perfectly canceled and delivered all across America without another mark on them.

It was amazing to see car after car pull off Highway 41. People then got out to photograph the small post office. Most went to the window to buy stamps and get something canceled. This accounts for a significant amount of revenue. And postage purchased in Ochopee can be used when people get home, so it's a stop where nothing except a little time is lost. The stamp line kept moving and people were congenial.

In my time there, I met people from Michigan, Ohio, Oklahoma, and a family from east of New York City on Long Island. One member of that family works in midtown Manhattan, just blocks from where the World Stamp Show NY-2016 will be held.

Two women in their 20s came from Dusseldorf, Germany. I asked, "Aren't there post offices in the Fatherland?"

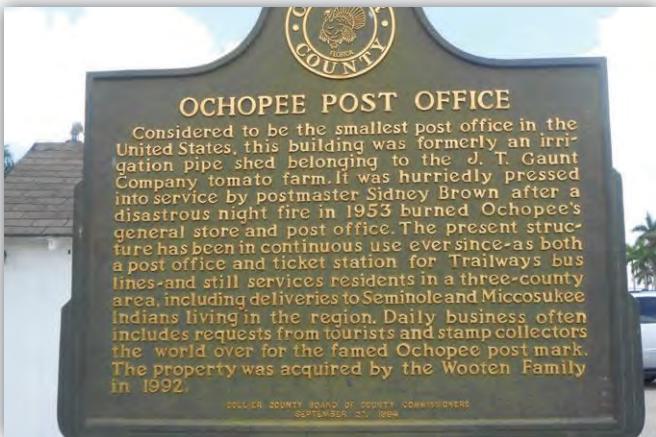
"Not like Ochopee's," they replied.

When I first met Mitchell, I told her how I had worked in the world's largest post office building, the former Chicago main post office, and it was a pleasure to now see how America's smallest post office operates. The old Chicago main post office was built in 1921, expanded in 1932, and had nine floors and 2.5 million square feet of floor space. The old building closed in 1997.

The Post Mark Collectors Club has photos of more than 21,000 post offices on its website, postmarks.org. The homepage will guide you to a map of the United States where you can select any state to view its pictures.

A picture of the Ochopee post office on that website is close, but not quite the same, as the structure pictured here. New since the website photo was taken is the sign next to the building, and the awning now has some blue stripes. Nearby is a historic marker.

Not shown in either image is that the building added a poster area to the left of the entrance where advertising for



Historical marker in front at the Ochopee post office.

new stamps can be displayed. At least once, according to documents found in an Internet search, the whole building was painted pink in honor of breast cancer awareness and the Postal Service's semipostal stamp that raises money for cancer research.

But the tiny building — America's smallest post office — remains steadfast and still open for business.

The Author

Steven J. Bahnson has been an APS member since 1971 and is a former U.S. Postal Service employee. He collects United States singles and Midwestern postmarks, and takes pictures of post offices.

An advertisement for Varisell.com. The top half features a collage of various postage stamps from around the world, including ones from Africa, Italy, and the British Isles. A blue banner across the top reads 'VIEW 14,000+ ITEMS ONLINE RIGHT NOW!' and the website address 'WWW.Varisell.com' is prominently displayed in red. The bottom half contains text in red and black: 'WORLDWIDE', 'STAMPS - COVERS - REVENUES', 'ERRORS - VARIETIES - PROOFS', 'POSTAL STATIONERY - AUTOGRAPHS', and 'PHILATELIC LITERATURE & CATALOGUES'. Below this, a smaller line of text reads 'Prompt, Courteous Service • Satisfaction Guaranteed'. The Varisell logo, which includes the letters 'APS' and a stylized emblem, is located in the bottom left corner.

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Bob's service includes serving as a philatelic judge on more than 90 WSP shows, many as Chief Judge; over 30 years on the APS Expert Committee; as a Director on the APS Board, the Youth Activities Committee, and various committee assignments. President of the American Helvetia Philatelic Society, and helped write and edit Richard Hall's *Philately of Switzerland: An Introductory Handbook*. He has also been active for many years with Indiana Stamp Club, serving as President as well as other capacities.

Background: 35-year law career as a trial attorney. Still actively involved in trying cases. He has served as Chair of the Indiana State Bar Ethics Committee, and named Indiana Defense Lawyer of the Year in 2000 by the Defense Trial Counsel of Indiana.

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Trish Kaufmann



Trish is—an APRL life member, former trustee and Tiffany Donor since 1981. Past president of the Confederate Stamp Alliance. Active financial supporter of the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship. Has served on the boards of numerous philatelic organizations. Memberships in ASDA, CCNY, RPSL. Exhibitor at the Grand Award level in the 1970-80s. She was editor-in-chief of the *Confederate States of America Catalog and Handbook of Stamps and Postal History*, the Grand Award for Literature at APS StampShow '13. Columnist/contributing editor for 4 philatelic journals and other publications. She was editor (1973-87) of *The Confederate Philatelist*, a member of the CSA Authentication Service 1996-2014 and member of the Smithsonian Council of Philatelists, NPM, during the creation the William H. Gross Gallery.

Jeff Shapiro



Past president of the Northeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs, and for the past 20 years, chairman of "Philatelic Show," an annual APS Champion of Champions show, the largest stamp show and exhibit held in New England. He is also an accredited APS Judge, a Mentor for the APS Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship and has served as an instructor at the APS Summer Seminars. He has been vice president of the United States Stamp Society as well as a member of the USSS Board of Governors, and the chair of the USSS Prexie Era Committee.

Background: Bachelor of Science in Management from Boston University and a Masters degree in Public Management from New York University. He is recently retired from a thirty-year career in non-profit management.

"Our hobby's at its best when we make connections and friendships with others through organized philately. I support APS policies that will build the Tiffany Fund (its endowment); 'Finish the Job' of building out the Library and paying off the debt incurred by the Match Factory project; do a better job of fundraising; retain our talented staff, and avoid the use of donations to fund operating expenses."

—Bob Zeigler



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BY JEFF STAGE editorial associate
jstage@stamps.org

Mahatma Gandhi, Memorial Issues of 1948 by Pradip Jain.

Mahatma Gandhi, India's great Father of the nation, has been commemorated on hundreds of postage stamps by more than 100 countries. Fittingly, though, the very first Gandhi stamps were created in the leader's beloved homeland not long after he died.

Pradip Jain has created a detailed book, *Mahatma Gandhi, Memorial Issues of 1948*, about the world's first Gandhi stamps.

The book comes with high endorsement. It is published by David Feldman, of Switzerland, one of the world's foremost philatelic auction houses. The foreword is written by Philip Kinns, Stanley Gibbons director of philately, who writes, "I have known Pradip Jain for nearly 30 years, and I salute his achievement in preparing this account ... This fascinating story has never been told before. This book is a major contribution to Indian philately, and will be welcomed by devotees throughout the world."

Indian postal authorities were already

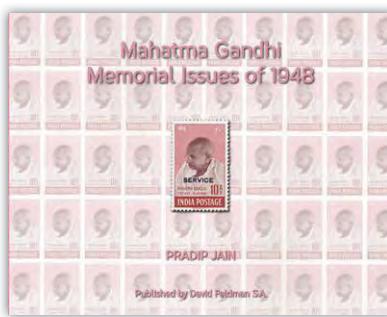
working on stamps to commemorate Gandhi for the leader's 80th birthday on October 2, 1948. He had only recently been released from imprisonment and was seriously ill with malaria when a fanatic assassinated him on January 30, 1948.

Jain tells the story of these four stamps from their inception to their issuance on August 15 of that year. The 120 pages in the coffee table book begins with a summary biography of Gandhi.

The chapter, "Father of a Nation," offers highlights, from his 20 years in South Africa (1893–1914) where he fought for immigrants' rights, to his rise upon his return home as a civil rights activist who led the nation's march to independence from British rule.

Born Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, he started being called Mahatma (high-souled) around 1914 after his work in South Africa. (Already appalled at the way immigrant workers were treated, he pledged himself to fight authority peacefully after he was forced out of the first-class section of a train even though he held a valid ticket.) Affectionately, he is called Bapu, an endearment for father.

You learn about his campaigns of non-violence — satyagraha, opposition to the Rowlett Act, and the Salt March —



and his battles (the "Quit India" campaign) and negotiations with the British, which finally led to independence in 1947. Beyond the text, the chapter includes images of several philatelic and connected items, such as stamps (not postage) from the 1920s that depict Gandhi urging the boycott of British goods and a 1913 stamped wrapper for *The Indian Opinion*, for which Gandhi was editor.

The subsequent chapters present in great detail the development of the popular 1948 stamps. The author takes us through the whole design process, including text and images of trials of unadopted designs, color trials, the printing process, official preproduction letters and other correspondence, order sheets, publicity photos, consignment forms, charts for printing orders, rare plate numbers, presentation folders, varieties, usages, and more.

A whole section is devoted to the rarest of the stamps, the "Service" overprints, which were created by a government official who did not want to use any pre-independence British-created stamps. The true rarities are the 10-rupee overprints, of which only 100 were created. All 13 known singles, a strip of four and block of four are illustrated.

The stamps include text in both Hindi and Urdu in homage to Gandhi's "lifelong struggle to maintain peace and communal harmony," Jain states. This is the only time that Urdu, the national language of Pakistan, appears on an Indian stamp.

We learn that it also is the only time an Indian stamp was printed outside of the country. It was printed by the heliogravure process on coated paper made of pulp and silk fibers by Swiss printer Courvoisier due to limitations in photogravure technology at Nasik Security Press of India.



Images of color trials for the Gandhi stamp issue.

The stamps are based on two photographs showing Gandhi wearing his familiar loincloth-leggings (dhoti) and scarf (chaadar), worn in those days by a common man who was not well-off. The 1½- (brown, per Scott catalog), 3½- (violet) and 12-anna (dark gray green) stamps have the same design, using a photo that appeared in *Life* magazine. The high-value 12-rupee (rose brown and brown) stamp is from a photo belonging to Kanu Gandhi, Mahatma's grandson.

Jain, 62, has been a stamp dealer for 44 years. He is based in Patna, a city of about 1.7 million on the Ganges and the capital of the state of Bihar in East India.

We asked the author a few questions about the book via an e-mail interview:

Q&A Pradip Jain author



At what age did you start collecting stamps? Do you remember what attracted you to the hobby?

I started collecting at age of 17 during my school days together with a few of my friends. The general post office was close to where I resided. I had to visit there many times to post letters for my parents. Sticking tiny pieces of colorful stamps on those letters is my fondest memory and I think an important pull factor toward stamp collection. Moreover, I once got a chance to attend a state-level philatelic exhibition in the 1960s, which really motivated me to go further and explore the field.

Do you remember what year you started focusing on Gandhi stamps? And, in particular, these stamps?

It's difficult to pinpoint the exact year. The Gandhi stamps of 1948 have always been an important issue for Indian collectors and difficult stamps to obtain in excellent condition because of gumming problems inherent in the stamps.

From the beginning of my career as a dealer, I got a chance to trade Gandhi stamps. However, I picked Gandhi philately seriously as a subject after the 1970 Gandhi International Exhibition, where I met several passionate Gandhi collectors.

My first price list containing prices of world Gandhi stamps came out in December 1970. For the last 42 years the release of the price list has been an annual feature, which has brought price uniformity and confidence among collectors and has gradually made Gandhi stamps one of the most popular themes among the collectors around the world.

Did you set out to tell the story of these memorial stamps or did it just evolve?

I never thought that a single series of stamp could have such an intricate and interesting story behind it. It all started in 2000 with my urge to create a stamp exhibit (five frames) based on the set of 1948 Gandhi stamps. The collection was first displayed nationally at Mahatmapex in 2001 in Ahmedabad. Later, the collection was displayed at the Israel World Stamp exhibition in 2008, for which I was awarded Vermeil. This further encour-

aged me to push my research further and make it more specific and specialized. Some articles and essays had been written by eminent philatelists about the 1948 issue, and it seemed nothing remained to be researched. But the information published was mere facts and gave little insight about trials, printing, distribution, usages, and other relevant areas.

In order to enhance my collection for a higher medal I needed that vital information. I started digging facts, collecting archival materials from the printer (Courvoisier) and other rarities of the memorial issues. Information started piling up and several hidden facts were revealed. These facts needed analysis and had to be compared with the existing prejudice surrounding the issue. The subject soon became so interesting and immersive that I started thinking about writing an article for philatelic journals. By 2013, I was able to prepare an article based on my research, which was accepted for the *London Philatelist's* October issue. But periodicals have a limitation of space. This led me to write the book.

How were the stamps received by the public?

For the first time in the history of the Indian postal administration, sale was allowed on a Sunday — August 15, 1948 — through selective philatelic bureaus in prominent cities of India. A list of such cities is mentioned in my book. People were notified through a postal notice. People lined up outside post offices to buy the stamps, folders, first-day covers, etc. There was huge craze among the people both in and out of India for the Gandhi stamps.

There is so much material in this book. How long did it take to gather the material? How much of it do you own?

It took me around 10 to 12 years to gather all the information. In the process, I was also able to collect the major part of the materials as shown in the book, which now form part of my collection on Gandhi.

What were the most difficult items to find and what obstacles did you overcome to find them?

Firstly, mint never hinged stamps with excellent fresh gum are difficult to find because the gum was never suited for the tropical weather conditions of India and most of them got spoiled. I had to source most of my materials from the United Kingdom and Europe. Most difficult to source were the famous "Service" Overprints and usages to rarely seen destinations around the world. The color trials which are shown in the book are unique and were acquired from a Courvoisier archive sale through David Feldman.

India had already decided to issue stamps honoring Gan-



Image of an unused strip of four of one of the Service overprints shown in the book by Pradip Jain. Courtesy Stanley Gibbons.

dhi before he was assassinated. Is there any evidence that he knew of this idea or had seen a proposed design before he was killed?

That was a very troublesome period for India and Gandhi. The partition of the country affected his mental and physical fitness tremendously. He could barely survive for six months post independence [August 15, 1947] during which period he devoted his life for the unification of the country and betterment of the underprivileged. He remained out of Delhi for most of the time and I think political and social upheavals kept him engaged. I don't think that he was aware of any such development. It was planned to eventually gain his approval of the design of the stamps, which I think never happened.

The final choices of colors were sepia brown (1½ annas), bluish purple (3½as), dark green (12as) and reddish brown (10 rupees). What is the story behind the final choice of colors for the stamp? Was the final choice made by an individual? A committee?

It's a detailed story and several color trials were run, which are shown and classified in my book. However, in one of the letters that I came across in the Courvoisier archives, I found that V.H. Coelho (first secretary at the Indian Legation in Berne) approved final proofs of the 3½ annas and 12 annas in purple-blue and green, respectively, on June 4, which was after the printing of 1½ annas stamp was completed. However, I feel the decision on choice of color could not have been made by an individual.

Tell me about the overprints. You note that Governor General of India C. Rajagopalachari insisted in using post-independent postage stamps instead of the remaining stock

of British Indian Service Stamps for his office. Aren't these Gandhi stamps considered post-independent stamps? If so, why not use them just as they were instead of overprinting?

In those days, it was normal to use "service" postage stamps for government purposes to distinguish between civilian and government mails and to avoid any pilferage. And since these stamps didn't have any such mention of the term "Service," they were overprinted on those that were picked for the governor general of India's office usage.

Regarding the images in the book of the RS10 Service overprints — you show the only known singles (13) and strip of four. Tell us about those.

Out of the selection, I own one of them, a single. None of them are in museums but all are in the hands of collectors. It took me a long time to find collectors and procure scans of stamps and certificates. But since I am in the field of stamp collection for a very long time now, I have been lucky enough to make connections with several collectors who were kind enough to share the information. I also had to track several past auction records and seek help from the British Philatelic Association for its record on the subject. Stanley Gibbons helped me by sharing information on the strip of four.

There also an overprint block of four shown.

It was a privilege to visit the St. James Palace during my research and to get the illustration of the unique Gandhi Service plate block of four. This is illustrated in the book with the gracious permission of Michael Sefi, keeper of the Royal collection on behalf of Her Majesty, the Queen.

There seems to be many different tones and shading

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among them ... why is that?

Tonal variations could be attributed to several factors, primarily technical limitations of the printer and also exposure to harsh weather. I have seen a few stamps lose colors slightly with prolonged exposure to heat and outdoors. Also, several of them lost their color saturation and shine due to a lack of technical know-how of how to preserve stamps.

What prompted you to include the 1969 Great Britain Gandhi stamp near the end?

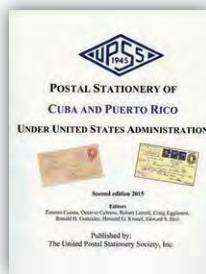
Nothing could be more fitting than the 1969 Gandhi stamp to end the book. It was a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi from the Great Britain against whom he fought throughout his life for freedom and equality. Moreso, for the first time a Great Britain stamp featured an overseas personality. My book starts with a social chapter "Father of a Nation" and ends with his impact, which he had world-over, shown via a stamp issued by Great Britain acknowledging his contributions.

The book is on sale through M/s Phila Art (www.phila-art.com) or David Feldman, SA (www.davidfeldman.com).

Postal Stationery of Cuba and Puerto Rico Under United States Administration (second edition) by the United Postal Stationery Society.

The United Postal Stationery Society, which is dedicated to the collection, research, and promotion of postal stationery worldwide, created this volume as an update to the 2009 first edition.

"With ongoing research, new listings have been added



and errors corrected," writes Edward S. Heir in the preface. Heir is one of seven credited editors for the edition.

The new edition adds color to its illustrations along with 65 new entries in the area of special request Cuban envelopes. Changes in the Puerto Rico listings include the discovery of additional corner cards and a separation of government produced special request envelopes from those with locally printed corner cards, Heir writes.

The two countries are divided into separate chapters, which are broken down by history, postage rates, envelopes, postal cards, and wrappers. Puerto Rico has an additional section on airmail envelopes. There are full-color illustrations, charts and tables, listings, and references.

The back of the book includes displays of watermarks, wrapper knife, envelope sizes, and envelope knives.

Published 2015. Softcover, 8½-by-11 44 pages. \$22, including U.S. shipping. Contact the society at upss.org or UPSS Publications, Box 3982, Chester, VA 23831.

The Postmarks of Sierra Leone, 1854–1961 (second edition) by By Frank Walton, with Philip Quirk, Michael Hamilton, and David Horry.

This is a follow-up to the first edition, published in 1990.

"The major enhancement in this edition is the inclusion

New Catalogs

Brookman

Publisher Brookman/Barrett & Worthen, Bedford, New Hampshire. Softcover, 8½-by-11 inches 392 pages. Full color illustrations.

The 2016 *Brookman Price Guide* includes listings for United States, Canada, and United Nations stamps, along with first-day covers, World War II patriotic, autographs, and postal collectibles.

A news release accompanying the new guide states "prices are based on actual market value" and reflect "actual prices" for which the publishing company would normally sell stamps and covers.

Although most prices are about the same as in the 2015 catalog, about 75 percent of the changes for 2016 are upward with most 10 percent or more, Brookman states.



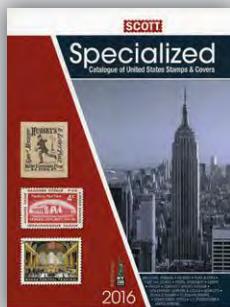
Many increases in 21st century issues center around coil and booklet issues where large quantities were not originally purchased by dealers. Prices in rarer items are often based on auction results.

Early Canada listings were very active with substantial increases in prices for "minor" varieties. Few changes are seen in modern Canada.

The catalog is available in perfect bound (\$35.95) and spiral bound (\$39.95), plus \$5 shipping and handling (U.S.). Every copy includes \$100 in coupons and a free one-year subscription to the quarterly, *The Brookman Times*. Contact Brookman/Barrett & Worthen, 167 S. River Road, Unit 3, Bedford, NH 03110; phone 800-332-3383; e-mail covers@coverspecialist.com; website coverspecialist.com.

Scott

Scott Publishing, a division of Amos Media Co., of Sidney, Ohio, has published its 2016 Scott *Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers*. Volume 1 (which includes the United States) to Volume 3 of the Scott world

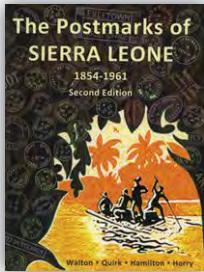


catalogs were summarized here in the September edition; Volumes 4 to 6 were summarized here in November.

The cover on the theme of all of this year's catalogs is New York City in anticipation of World Stamp Show-NY 2016, scheduled for May 28 to June 4. Each catalog cover shows a view of Manhattan and the Empire State Building. On the left side are three stamps with NYC themes. Stamps shown on the specialized volume are: Hussey's local post (Scott 87L56) of 1877, United Nations General Assembly (Scott 69) of 1950, and the \$19.95 Grand Central Terminal (Scott 4739) of 2013.

This volume contains details and images on just about every type of U.S. stamp and cover, including all postage, plus first-day covers, essays, proofs, 19th-century carriers and locals, rev-

of scanned images of almost every postmark taken from an original copy, as well as an enhanced black and white drawing," writes Walton in the foreword. "Other significant areas of change are to be found in the listing of the postmarks of Freetown, by Phillip Quirk, and also in the section on instructional marks." Walton goes on to say there has been further research in the field of skeleton postmarks, with several new discoveries reported.



The postmarks are classified with an adaptation of the Robert Topaz Universal Postmark Classification System, which was developed with interpreting postmarks from Jamaica.

More than two dozen basic postmark types are known. Anyone not familiar with the system will need some time figuring it out, but several sample cancellations are shown and explained.

There also is a helpful full page of abbreviations; for example, RO stands for registered oval, LDC is a large double circle.

Other guides in the front of the book help the reader interpret postmarks that are presented throughout on full-color glossy pages. Also included is a descriptive method of measuring postmarks. There are pages with maps and descriptions of administrative divisions, post offices, postal agencies, and valuations.

venues, telegraph stamps, Confederate states, U.S. possessions and United Nations.

The 1,226 page softcover also includes innumerable tools for the hobbyist, including a color detailed identifier and price guides by grades for definitives (including classics), grading and pricing information for classics, printing methods, a glossary, postal markings, and a lengthy subject index.

A couple of features in this catalog not found among the U.S. listings in the Vol. 1 Scott catalog are first-day cities for postage and air post stamps, including catalog values for first-day covers; and the name of the stamp designer (if available).

The catalog has many changes, according to the editors. Among the biggest is the addition of minor-number listings for imperforate stamps from press sheets without die cuts. An example is shown on Page 319 using the 2013 Modern Art in America sheet of 12, which now carries a listing of 4748m for the press sheet without diecuts. Many new press sheets sell out quickly.

Listings of dozens of post offices and agencies follow with many showing larger-than-life postmarked postage stamps and a second view of the postmark alone, as if it was just applied to a blank piece of white paper. Cancellations are presented along with their dates, time code, village/town name, etc., and rarity. The listings also state the date range when the specific cancellation was in use.

In the back are more handy maps and a chart listing post offices and their numerical postal codes.

The book is professionally laid out in full color and on glossy pages.

Published 2015 by the West Africa Study Circle. Softcover, 8 1/4-by-11 140 pages. Price, £27 pounds (about \$41) plus £14.50 (\$22.15) airmail shipping, discount for members. Contact via the group's website, www.wasc.org.uk or treasurer@wasc.org.uk to arrange payment through PayPal.

British North America Philatelic Society

The British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) in 2015 released several new books: including a massive handbook and an exhibit series book.

They are 8 1/2-by-11-inch spiral-bound softcovers in full color.

Handbook on the Transatlantic Mail of British North America (2015) by Malcolm B. Montgomery and Steven M. Mulvey. 434 pages. \$116 Cdn.

Several new earliest documented use dates were added, including 14 for stamps between 139A, the 1870 10-cent brown Jefferson, and No. 529, the 1918 3-cent violet Washington.

Many footnotes in the classics section have been updated or expanded.

A dozen new modern errors have been added, including a unique imperf plate-number block of Scott 741, the 1934 2-cent red National Parks stamp.

In the Savings Stamps section, the introduction and listings for war savings stamps has been reorganized.

New numbered minors appear in the Revenue section, along with a new major listing for the National Park Service Golden Eagle Pass stamp (Scott RVP1).

Dozens of listings for modern proofs in the Trial Color, Die and Plate Proofs section have been updated to reflect the correct paper type used for these proofs.

Two new counterfeits are listed for the first time: one for the 1966 \$5 John Bassett Moore stamp and one for the 8-cent Stamp Collecting stamp of 1972. The latter is known only on cover.

Updated annually. Available through dealers, outlets such as Amazon, and Scott/Amos Media (amosadvantage.com/scottonline). Softcover (weighs about 8 pounds), \$124.99 each; digital edition, \$75 each.

Stanley Gibbons

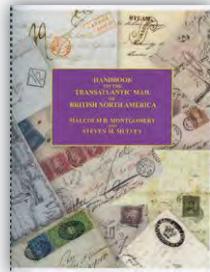
Stanley Gibbons Publications of the United Kingdom has released new catalogs for *Commonwealth and British Empire Stamps (1840-1970)* and *Poland*. Stanley Gibbons, which also sells stamps and philatelic supplies, is the leading English-language producer of specialized catalogs in Europe.

For those familiar with Scott catalogs, there are similarities and differences. Both companies offer full color illustrations, listings for major issues plus their varieties, stamp descriptions and first day of issue dates.

In both, illustrations carry their own number separate from the stamp's identifying number.

Stanley Gibbons and Scott use their own unique copyrighted catalog numbers. Also, color descriptions vary be-

Montgomery's and Mulvey's decision to revise and update Jack Arnell's 1987 *Handbook on Transatlantic Mail* has benefited greatly not only from new information that has come to light in the intervening 28 years but also from the incredible advancements in technology that have occurred in the same period, reports the BNAPS Book Department. "The book features a significantly expanded section on the handstamps used on transatlantic mail, and some 250 color plates illustrating the covers that carried these handstamps."



The book is crammed with detailed text, charts, tables, postal markings, full-color historic maps, and illustrations of covers that trace British-based transatlantic mail from the 1600s to the creation of the standardized Penny Post in 1898.

How detailed is it? Here is one small example from this voluminous work.

Section Two's 50 pages cover postage rates, starting from the king's proclamation on July 31, 1635, to packet letter rates established on December 25, 1898. There are more than 60 tables that break down rates by locations, mileage, weight, timeframe, and fees for inland waters, coastal, ships, and packets.

A section on North Atlantic packets offers scores of ships' names, service times, ports, etc. For example, the Sarah Sands

tween stamp catalog companies.

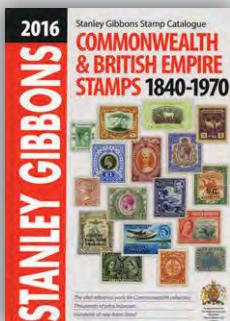
Here's a look at the basics and what's new in the information supplied by the publisher:

2016 Commonwealth and British Empire. September 2015, 118th edition. 8½-by-12 inches. Hardcover, 638 pages. Hundreds of color illustrations. 84.95 (app. \$128.36 U.S.).

A true bible of collecting for the philatelic Anglophile. The catalog has postage, airmail, special delivery, postage dues, officials and much more listed

for Great Britain and more than 100 foreign locales — from Abu Dhabi (1964 to 1966) to Zanzibar (1865 to 1936) — where the British Empire left an official imprint.

There are meticulous details for every stamp-issuing entity, including color, shading, and printing varieties, cancellations, paper differences, tag-



ging, watermarks, and important plate flaws and errors.

Stanley Gibbons editors say prices have been carefully and extensively revised and "there are increases, some of them quite significant, throughout all periods and territories," particularly in Australia and India and their respective states.

New additions include full price listings for South African stamps used in South West Africa and the listing of Transvaal stamps used in Switzerland has been extended to cover the Edward VII period and postage dues.

There are additions to the "used abroad" sections (notably India used in Bahrain and Hong Kong used in the Treaty Ports) and several new inverted and reversed watermarks.

The catalog includes a six-page article on determining stamp condition.

How detailed is this catalog? Another well-known catalog lists the 1913 Kangaroo and Map 1d Australia with two varieties. There are 13 varieties for the same stamp in this catalog. This volume will lead to many hours of serious sessions with your British Empire collections.

Poland. June 2015, 1st edition. 6¾-

departed Liverpool, England, on August 6, 1849, and arrived on August 25 in New York.

The book's major section, more than 200 pages, covers handstamps.

Again, the work is fine and informative: an 1857 postmark from Hamilton, Ontario, that looks like a gigantic numeral 6 may be "questionable" because it would be rare on transatlantic letters. There are four different crown-within-oval "Ship Lre (or Letter) Montreal" marks from 1803 to 1828.

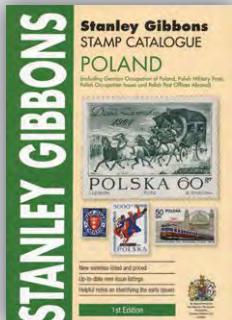
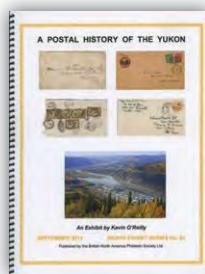
Another section covers exchange offices.

A Postal History of the Yukon by Kevin O'Reilly, 2015. 142 pages, \$62 Cdn. 83rd volume in the BNAPS Exhibit Series.

The author has been chronicling the postal history of northern Canada for more than 30 years. Joining his books on Northwest Territories postal cancellations and the pre-confederation postal history of Labrador, this volume won the Horace H. Harrison Grand Award at Bnapex 2014 held at Balplex in Baltimore, Maryland.

The volume presents O'Reilly's exhibit, which covers the postal history of the Yukon from just before the gold rush (1897) to modern times.

Scores of covers are shown life size in full color, so a viewer feels he could pluck them from the pages. The images are accompanied by text with basic



by-9½ inches. Softcover, 176 pages. More than 1,500 color illustrations. 18.95 (app. \$28.63 U.S.).

This new addition to the Stanley Gibbons volumes is

another move at the company to create handy, usable catalogs aimed at specialist collectors. This volume also includes German occupation of Poland, Polish military post, Polish occupation, Polish post offices abroad, Allenstein, Danzig, Marienwerder, and Upper Silesia. A later volume will feature Czechoslovakia, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia.

Editors say pricing has been updated and revised and several new varieties have been added.

U.S. Postal Service Guide to U.S. Stamps, 42nd Edition

This guide may not be quite as thorough as the Scott specialized catalog, but it has plenty to offer to the basic U.S.

descriptions: the type of mail service, rates involved, philatelic significance, and historical significance. A letter shown on Page 12 was delivered to a photographer in the winter of 1899 by dog team to Fort Selkirk and Stewart River. A letter shown on Page 96 was mailed from a U.S. military detachment — the U.S. Army took over operation of the White Pass and Yukon Route railway during World War II — in 1945 to the registrar's office at Cornell University.

All BNAPS books are available from: Sparks Auctions, 1550 Carling Avenue, Suite 202, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. K1Z 8S8. E-mail: BNAPS@sparks-auctions.com; phone: 613-567-3336. (Please leave a voicemail. Your call will be returned.) Internet orders can be placed at sparks-auctions.com/bnapsbooks.

BNAPS members receive a 40 percent discount from retail prices. Shipping is extra. Credit card orders (Visa, MasterCard) will be billed for the exact amount of shipping plus \$2 per order. For payment by check or money order, contact Sparks Auctions in advance. Applicable taxes will be charged on orders delivered in Canada.

Return to Sender: Devices Used to Identify Service Suspended Mails During WWII (Second Edition 2015) by Michael Deery

Reviewed by Ken Lawrence

Wartime mail is among the most popular fields to collect, but also can be among the most vexing. If rates, routes, and



postal markings are the default dimensions of postal history, suspensions, restorations, censorship, crashes, captures, confiscations, prize court releases, undercover addresses in neutral countries, Red Cross message schemes, and post-war delivery attempts provide exponential enhancements and correspondingly complex analytical challenges. Moreover, each cause of diversion, delay, and blockage of mail service elicits specialized literature to explain it.

Return to Sender catalogs auxiliary markings and tapes on a world scale, first implicitly (generic all-purpose return markings that served the purpose of returning mail after service had been suspended), later explicitly (including a suspension notice in the inscription), grouped by geographic region, and by country within each region, so that users can learn where the markings were struck or the tapes were affixed, and approximately when by reporting the earliest and latest observed dates of use. Analyses of illustrated covers teach the reader how to make best use of these data.

Taking the cover illustrated nearby as an example, it was mailed December 29, 1941, at Tenafly, New Jersey, addressed to Java in the Dutch East Indies. Postage stamps paid the 70 cents per half-ounce rate for transport by Foreign Air Mail route No. 22 from Miami, which had been extended to Singa-



collector, and in a new format, to boot.

Utilizing the copyrighted Scott numbering system, more than 3,000 postage, air post, special delivery, parcel

post, postage due, special handling, and migratory bird hunting and conservation stamps are listed and fully illustrated, along with postal stationery (though with only a relative handful of illustrations) and American Commemorative Cancellations (formerly known as Souvenir Pages) and Commemorative Panels. All illustrations are full color. Many varieties are noted. For example, the 2-cent Columbian (Scott 231), lists seven varieties.

A big plus is the new, sturdier metal spiral binding, replacing a flimsy plastic model used the past few years. Also, the layout gives nice expansive amounts of white space near most issues, leaving a studious philatelist plenty of room to add notes and remarks.

A detailed 28-page index references page and Scott numbers. It's pretty detailed, but probably not perfect. I collect stagecoaches on stamps, so aside from a nearby reference to the movie "Stagecoach" (Scott 2448), there are only four listings: Scott 1898A (also 2228), 2434 and 3131. What about the 1958 issue? Or the stagecoach in 1994's Legends of the West pane? I found them both, but indexed as Overland Mail. Topical collectors might need to think a bit. (You collect men's fashions? How about those Hawaiian shirt stamps of 2012? The USPS called them Aloha Shirts upon their issuance so they are listed under A.)

Other helpful sections are a listing for a dozen postmasters' provisionals; more than 75 U.S. stamp series over seven pages (including Olympic Games, Win the War, Space, and American Bicentennial); a glossary; organizations, publications and resources; and postmaster generals.

For many years, the annual guide has included sidebar illustrated text sections of philatelic interest. This year's sidebars include watermarks and a decade by decade rundown of U.S. stamps.

What's missing continues to be



Sample page from the U.S. Postal Service Guide to U.S. Stamps, 42nd Edition.

first-day cities (other than the 2015 program), though official first-day dates are noted.

Softcover; spiral bound, 382 pages. Order through U.S. Postal Service catalog or online at <http://store.usps.com>. Price is \$39.95.



Cover sent December 29, 1941, from Tenafly, New Jersey, to Java in the Dutch East Indies. The cover also has a large service suspended auxiliary marking on it.

pore, Malaya, Straits Settlements, about a week before. An examiner at the Office of Censorship in New York City opened and read the letter, resealed it with a tape, and sent it on its way. But it never arrived at the intended destination.

The triangular censor mark in black ink was struck at Cal-

cutta, India. Deery's book confirms that the boxed two-line "SERVICE SUSPENDED RETURNED TO SENDER" auxiliary marking in reddish magenta ink — listed as HS-IN-B2.1 in his numbering system — also was struck at Calcutta (but seen by him "in violet and black" only). He brackets the period of use for this device as October 21, 1941, to February 16, 1942.

The cover was unable to travel farther because Japanese forces had overrun much of the Dutch East Indies and had probably cut air routes beyond Malaya by the time it reached Calcutta.

One appendix illustrates and describes unidentified markings. A second amounts to a concordance that allows the reader to locate images of covers by country of origin, destination, and date.

The author's bibliography includes not only books and journals, but also websites. Though his book would have benefited from a professional editor's intervention, he has done a splendid job. Recommended.

Second edition 2015, spiral bound with card covers, 342 pages, published by the author (michderr@kent.net), Wallaceburg, Ontario, Canada.

Spiral bound with card covers, 342 pages, published by the author (michderr@kent.net), Wallaceburg, Ontario, Canada.



LEGACY

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AMERICA'S STAMP CLUB
STAMPS.ORG

American Philatelic Society
100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823
Phone: 814-933-3814 • E-mail: scott@stamps.org



Name Change for the Sake of Clarity

'Circuit Sales' Defines Our Member Service

The APS Sales Division began as the American Philatelic Association Exchange Department in 1886-87. The association operated it through the organization's infancy, adding the approval service to its offerings in 1890, when members and chapters (called branches back then) would just buy stamps rather than exchange or use credits to obtain stamps. Eventually, the exchange service gave way to the sales department during J.E. Guest's tenure (1920 to 1958) and became the APS Sales Division on October 1, 1958, when it was moved to State College, Pennsylvania, as an in-house operation.

The sales division has been known as the buying-and-selling arm of APS, although some members mistakenly thought we also sold publications and specialty items. We even got calls from non-members who thought we were the Philatelic Sales Division of the U.S. Postal Service.

In 2000, StampStore, the web-based store, was born and offered another venue for buying and selling. As of January 1, 2016, the Sales Division will be known as Circuit Sales to further define what we do and what we offer. Our forms, sales books, and correspondence will be changed as the next printings are done. Of course, the staff will be making the transition to using the phrase "Circuit Sales" in our normal conversations with members as well.

Lowering Sellers' Net Value in a Few Categories

Our needs list for sales books includes a couple of categories that do not typically have high value stamps. U.S. Precancels is one of those. Most U.S. precanceled stamps are valued at the minimum catalog values and attempting to make a sales book of them

to reach the minimum per-book asking price of \$30 is difficult. The same is true for many of the Latin American countries and a couple of other categories. We do suggest placing a couple of higher value items in the book or mounting several stamps in a mount as a set to increase the number of stamps you are placing in the book to hit that minimum. Many sellers use these two methods. There are others who do not submit sales books of these categories because they do not have the three or four higher value stamps to sell.



Circuit Sales is testing lowering sellers' net value in a few categories that include the Philippines and Latin America.

"As of January 1, the Sales Division will be known as Circuit Sales to further define what we do and what we offer."

Therefore, as a trial for the next 12 months, we are accepting sales books that have a total value of \$25 or more in only these categories:

Czechoslovakia

Latin America (single-country and mixed books)

Philippines

Spanish Colonies

Topical categories (stamps only, no covers)

U.S. Plate Number Singles

U.S. Precancels

The other two requirements are that only the 16-page singles books (yellow covers) will qualify and that every page must be mounted with stamps. As a couple of our buyers (who are also sellers) have noted, the lower valued material is not easily found in dealer's stock, so having a lower minimum will help sellers make it available to buyers. Please also note that there will still be a \$3-minimum commission applied when the book is retired if it does not sell \$15 or more.

It's Easy to Request Circuits

This month's issue has a peel-off front cover with the list of circuit categories we offer printed on the back side. Complete the form and send it to us to get started receiving these mini-stamp stores in the mail. For first-time requests, select up to three categories for which you want to receive circuits. Members who are already receiving or

www.aps-future.org



Ken Nilsestuen Candidate – APS President

- Current APS Treasurer
- CPA and Business Adviser
- Co-Founder: APRL “Finish the Job” Campaign
- 36-Year APS Member
- C of C Exhibitor, Judge, Author
- Former Stamp Auction House Owner
- U.S. and Worldwide Collector
- **Contact:** nilsestuen@sbcglobal.net

“A dream that our great hobby will grow and our APS and APRL will be the leader. We are a great Society, striving to be better.”

WE APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE IN MAY 2016!



Bruce Marsden Candidate – APS Treasurer

- Current APRL Treasurer
- CPA – MBA – CFA
- Co-Founder: APRL “Finish the Job” Campaign
- 39-Year APS Member
- Supports Member Services and APRL
- 30+ year Exhibitor (Switzerland)
- **Contact:** bmarsden@verizon.net

“Deeply committed to assuring financial stability for the library and APS member services for the enduring enjoyment of stamp and postal history collecting.”

Please visit our website—www.aps-future.org—to learn more about us!

Circuit Sales Details

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

who have received circuits may request as many as they want to handle. Let us know if you have questions.

Sales Books: Regular to Clearance

Of the 576 sellers who have sales books in our inventory, 110 of them resubmit their retired books for selling on the clearance circuits at a discount. Of the 13,400 clearance books retired between March 2011 and November 2015, 4,860 were sold for a total of \$316,836. In percentages, 36 percent of the books sold and 27 percent of the available value sold. The regular inventory shows an average of 32 percent of the originally submitted value sells by the time the books are retired. In the clearance inventory, we work with selling whole books, so the number of books sold is our goal. The average price of a sold clearance book fluctuates between \$65 and \$80.

If you are thinking about offering your retired sales books in the clearance inventory, please keep a couple of details in mind. The suggestion about not duplicating stamps within a book is even more important to follow for the clearance books. Buyers usually buy clearance books because they have found enough items of interest in them. The other stamps in these books either duplicate what they have already or they are of no interest. Having multiple examples of the same stamps in a book will deter them from considering it for purchase. So, when mounting sales books for the regular circuits do not duplicate the stamps at all and you might have a better chance of selling the remaining material on the clearance circuits.

Pricing is important for the regular sales books. That pricing combined with the percentage discount is impor-

tant for the clearance books. Buyers first look at the discount to make their purchase decisions. Some will use a calculation of the original pricing and the discount to make their decisions. Others will only see the book's price from the discount perspective. One buyer wrote that the material was too high priced even with the discount, but he did buy one book. In reviewing the returned books, we found that several books were originally priced at 20 percent to 25 percent of catalog values and the discounts were in the 30 percent to 40 percent range, knocking the prices to about 15 percent or less. This tells us that 30 percent to 40 percent off the original pricing was not enough for that buyer and the original pricing percentage was a non-issue for him.

Retired sales books can be handled one of two ways for offering in the clearance inventory. You can elect to have them sent back to you with the statement and check after they are circulated for individual stamp sales. This procedure allows you to mark the prices you want on each book, keeping in mind that a 20 percent discount is the minimum. Any books that have a remaining value of less than \$20 are not eligible for the clearance and the minimum, after applying the discount, is \$10. The more successful sellers are applying the discount that results in the material being offered at 20 percent or less of the catalog values. This entices the buyer to buy the book even though there are items in the book they do not need.

The second procedure involves having us mark the discounted price on each book. The seller gives us instructions on applying the discount percentage you want for calculating the price for each book. We would not accept a variety of discounts for the books, just one to be applied to all of the books.

The advantage to having us mark the prices is that you would not be paying postage for the return of your retired books and sending them back to us for the clearance inventory.

The suggested pricing for the regular circuit inventory is less than 50 percent of the catalog values, with some exceptions. Pricing discounts for the clearance inventory must be 20 percent or more off the amount remaining in the books upon retirement from the regular circuits. Most of the sellers are choosing 40 percent to 50 percent as the range for a discount.

Avoid Sales Interruption by Paying Membership Dues

If your APS membership dues for 2016 are not paid by January 15, 2016, Circuit Sales will send you a reminder to pay. On February 5, 2016, we will pull the names of those who have not paid dues from the circuit lists.

Make sure your circuits are not interrupted by getting your dues to us now.

'5 For 10' Categories (Needs)

You can earn coupons for free blank books for every 10 completed books (clearance books do not qualify) containing material from a set list of categories.

The list below shows the only categories that qualify for coupons with less than \$50 in them. These may be submitted with \$25 or more in the books, as noted in this column. As you earn coupons for free blank books, the coupons can only be redeemed if accompanied by an order for sales books and/or mounts.

Each month we list categories that are in particularly short supply. Single-country books usually have better sales.

Czechoslovakia

Latin America (single-country and mixed books)

Philippines

Spanish Colonies

All Topical categories (stamps only, no covers)

U.S. Plate Number Singles

U.S. Precancels

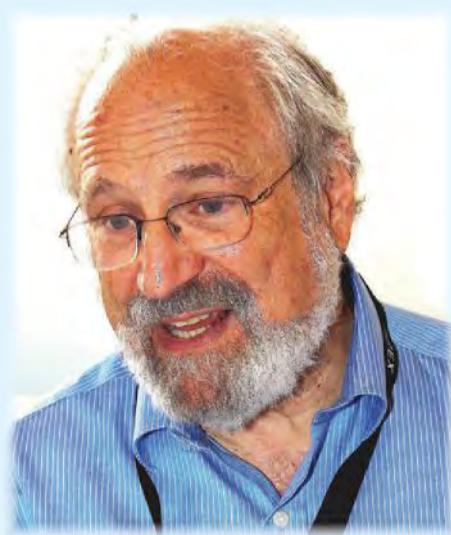
In My Opinion ...

by Michael Bloom

Chairman, APS Collector and Student
Education Committee

Chairman, NY2016, Entry Level and Youth Committee
Member, APS Membership Committee

I'm a candidate for APS Director at Large. This is the first in a series of essays where I'll tell you what I think about things. I hope you'll vote for me.



Why Can't We Find Each Other?

Do you ever feel like you are collecting in isolation? You've put together an amazing collection. Your album pages are your masterpieces. You have friends; some of them are stamp collectors, but can you really talk to them about the embossed eagle stamps of Germany that you collect? You regularly attend your local stamp club meetings, but can you find someone there who knows, or cares, about the postal markings on telegram forms of Latvia?

I think there's a better way of finding one another.....

The APS as Convener

Our APS could act as a "convener" and provide a platform to meet each other. Not by email, but face-to-face, in real time. Imagine joining a moderated video conference, on your computer, of Latvian collectors; including some collectors actually in Latvia. Each online meeting might have a brief presentation on a topic of real interest to you. Share images of stamps while viewing those of your new friends.

You already buy at auctions, StampStore.org, bourses, APS circuits, and club meetings. In my experience, one of the best ways to purchase hard-to-find material is to buy from collectors you actually meet. Why not meet them virtually in an APS organized video meeting?

Our incredible societies would have an important role: they would provide moderators for the meetings. What a great way to build Society membership!

Since you would have to be an APS member to join an online meeting, this could be a great membership-building tool.

Just an idea..... Let's make it happen. Questions? Suggestions?

My email address is mbloom@oshore.com.



Michael Bloom



OUR STORY



BY SCOTT ENGLISH executive director
scott@stamps.org

Commitment to Education

Several Opportunities to Help Strengthen the Hobby

In November, Ken Martin and I traveled to the 129th annual Chicagopex held in Itasca, Illinois. The show is impressive with more than 80 dealers and nearly 300 exhibiting frames, and an enthusiastic group of volunteers from the Chicago Philatelic Society welcoming visitors from all over the world. We were also joined by the Society of Australasia Specialists/



United States 50-cent Graf Zeppelin stamp.

to our history, with a great Chicago flavor. The education area, located near the exhibiting frames, introduced great educational videos put together by Andrew Oleksuk, and I got the chance to help a 5-year old young lady gather Christmas stamps for her and car stamps for her baby brother, while her big brother shopped with dealers. I would encourage any of our members to stop by the education area at their local shows and welcome additions to our family of collectors.

What happened

in Chicago happens to some degree at stamp shows around the country. Among the dealer booths and exhibiting frames, are experienced collectors who have a passion and a depth of knowledge they are waiting to share with the new collector and even the non-collector. Transferring that knowledge to the next generation is the education challenge.

While those education programs at stamp shows are incredibly important, we live in a world where so much information is available at our fingertips. When looking at ways to boost our educational mission, we will be working to meet people where they are, in hopes of making them collectors.



Bill O'Connor staffs the Eire Philatelic Association table at the Chicagopex stamp show held in November.

Oceania, the India Study Circle, and the Eire Philatelic Association. Before the show began, the Institute for Analytical Philately held its second International Symposium covering a range of topics on expertizing and techniques for spotting fakes and forgeries.

For those who braved the highest November snowfall in Chicago in the last 120 years, it was an excellent show.

Thanks to show chairman Jerry Nylander for leading the effort to put together a great event for collectors, new and old. On Saturday, Cheryl Ganz delivered an educational talk on "The 50-cent Graf Zeppelin Stamp Design of 1933" to a standing-room-only crowd, reinforcing how important stamps are

There are three different places we are looking to help build the knowledge of our members:

Youth Programs

We offer educational programs, from Stamps Teach for third- to fifth-grade students, to Young Stamp Collectors of America, to the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship program for the high school to college-age collector.

Our new education director, Cathy Brachbill, a former educator and curriculum director, will be working to make stamps a teaching tool for the demands of the classroom of today.

We also need to evaluate the programs to ensure that the people we are serving can grow into collectors. To



The three 2015–2016 Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship members (from top): Truth Muller, Austin Foo, and Evan Schlosser.

VATICAN CITY 1929—2014

TIME PAYMENTS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE

1929-1939	219-22.....1.50	936-38.....6.20
1-13 +	223-26.....85	939-41.....3.00
E1-2	49.50...185.00	227-28.....1.00
14	2.00.....6.75	229-32.....1.50
19-34 +		1994
E3-4	77.50...325.00	233-38.....85
35-40 See Separate Listing!		239-42.....3.25
41-46	140.00...750.00	242A S/S.....15.95
47-54	75.00...375.00	942-43.....1.95
55-60	45.00...160.00	944-51.....7.65
61-67	30.00...100.00	952 S/S.....4.25
We have LH available at 1/3 off the NH prices for most sets through the 1960's		953-54.....1.55
1940's		955-58.....4.25
68-71	7.75	960-62.....5.95
72-76	3.25	963-67.....8.75
77-79	.45	968-70.....3.20
80-83	.60	
84-86	.50	
87-90	.210	
91-98 + E5-6	.195	
99-101	.50	
102-109 + E7-8	.11.00	
110-21 + E9-10	.22.25	
122-31 +		
E11-12	.68.00	
1950-1957		
132-39	.45.00	
140-42	10.50	
143-44	.9.75	
145-48	16.50	
149-53	.49.00	
154	.1.30	
155	.3.90	
155A S/S	.107.50	
156-57	.5.75	
158-68 +		
E13-14	.2.50	
169-70	12.50	
171-72	.5.75	
173	.25.00	
174-75	.3.25	
176-81	.3.50	
182-84	.5.35	
185-86	.2.60	
187-88	.2.15	
189-91	.16.95	
192-94	.1.05	
195-96	.4.95	
197-99	.1.00	
200-02	.2.15	
203-08	.1.95	
209-11	.85	
212-13	.1.15	
214-15	.2.25	
216-18	.1.30	
1991		
870-81.....9.75		
155A S/S.....6.00		
882-84.....5.60		
885-87.....5.60		
888-89.....4.95		
890-94.....7.75		
895-97 strip.....5.95		
1992		
898-02.....5.75		
903 S/S.....5.00		
904-07.....5.50		
908-09.....1.95		
910.....5.75		
912-15.....4.25		
1993		
916.....95		
917-26.....10.50		
* Booklet.....6.75		
927-30.....5.75		
931.....4.25		
932-33.....1.40		
934-35.....2.60		

Roman States 12-18



Beautiful Reprint Set with original gum on spectacular surface colored paper were made from original plates. It is sure to dress up any Vatican or Italian area collection!

Set of 7 NH.....\$9.00
Block of 4 NH.....\$36.00

FREE set (single set) with
1st order over \$75.00 — please

TERMS OF SALE: Condition: Stamps are accurately described condition and priced in S.U.S. Payment Methods: \$US; cash, check, money order, bank transfer, Paypal, credit cards (Visa, M/C AmEx, Disc – please add 3 or 4 digit security code). Sales Tax: All orders shipped to New York addresses must add sales tax. Please indicate county of residence. Shipping/Handling Chart: U.S. under \$100, \$3.50; U.S. \$100-\$499.99, \$6.50; U.S. \$500 and over, \$8.50; Foreign, under \$100, \$5.50; Foreign \$100-\$499.99, \$15.00; Foreign \$500 and over, \$19.50. Special shipping requests such as UPS, Fedex, EMS may be extra. Alternates: Please include alternate selections when possible to avoid refunds.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED! Any item that does not please you may be returned for a prompt refund or exchange.

2000

1136-40.....7.00
1141-49.....22.50
1150 S/S.....5.00
1151.....3.00
1152.....3.25
1153-55.....5.95
1156-59.....7.75
1160-63.....6.45
1164 SA.....1.50
*Booklet.....5.50
1165.....2.25
1166.....1.50
1168-71.....7.00

1958

942-43.....1.95
944-51.....7.65
952 S/S.....4.25
953-54.....1.55
955-58.....4.25

1959

963-67.....8.75
968-70.....3.20

1994

971-72.....1.40
973-76.....4.90
977 S/S.....2.75
978-79.....1.75
979-80.....8.75

1995

1172-75.....9.00
1176-78.....5.50

2001

1179.....2.50
1180-81.....5.25
1182-84.....5.50
1185-89.....11.50
1190 S/S.....4.50

2002

1204-13.....14.00
1214.....6.00
1215-18.....7.95
1219-20.....3.75
1221-23.....5.25

1996

1000-01.....3.00
1002-03.....3.40
1004-07.....5.35
1008.....2.00
1009-10.....1.75

1997

1011.....7.25
1012-14.....2.60
1015-18.....6.00
1019.....1.00
1020-21.....2.75

2003

1028-37.....13.50
*Booklet.....9.00
1038-39.....3.50
1040.....2.25
1041-44.....6.75

1998

1052-55.....1.00
1056-61.....17.50
1062.....1.50
1063-64.....3.00
1065-72.....27.50

2004

1073-74.....4.75
1075-80.....6.95
1081-84.....7.95
1085.....5.50
1086.....2.00

2005

1095-1102.....29.50
1103-04.....6.00
1105.....1.25
1106 S/S.....2.95
1107-11.....4.25

2006

1112 S/S.....14.00
1113-16.....7.50
1117.....3.75
1118-22.....7.95
1123.....1.35

2007

1124-27.....4.50
1128-35.....5.75
1136 S/S.....8.75
1301-02.....7.50

2008

1196-97.....2.25
1198 S/S.....7.25
1398 S/S.....5.50
1399-1400.....3.25
1401.....1.75

2009

1396-97.....4.00
1398 S/S.....7.25
1399-1400.....3.25
1401.....1.75

2010

1402.....2.50
1403-09.....13.75
1410 S/S.....8.95

2011

1493.....1.75
1494.....3.75
1495-96.....3.25
1496-97.....9.50
1498-81.....6.50

2012

1499.....1.75
1500.....3.25
1501-02.....3.25
1505.....1.75
1506.....5.50

2013

1507 S/S.....10.50
1508-12.....16.00
1513-14.....3.25
1515 S/S.....50.00
1516.....2.25



VATICAN 35-40 OVERPRINTS

HGPI only sells Vatican 35-40 issues signed usually by an Italian expert as overprint forgeries are common. We have matched sets for uniform centering.

learn more about our youth programs, you can go to stamps.org/young-philatelists.

Collector Classrooms

We offer in-person educational opportunities for collectors to learn with teachers in the classroom.

We offer "On the Road" courses at a stamp show near you and every year, members travel to the American Philatelic Center to participate in our Summer Seminar on Philately.

For years, these courses have proved

invaluable to the participants.

StampCampus

We offer online courses where you can learn about different elements of collecting from the comfort of your own home.

We recently concluded courses on the basics of stamp collecting and another on exhibiting, but more courses will be available soon.

To sign up for those courses, please go to stamps.org/stampcampus.

What Can You Do?

The knowledge and resources of our APS members can help in many ways:

— Give us feedback. In our monthly e-newsletter, we have started surveys on the educational offerings that we have and those you would like. We hope that you will provide us with feedback there or feel free to contact our education department at any time.

— Offer to be an instructor. We have many great educators who teach online or in the classroom, but your

knowledge can be incredibly important. We are also starting courses on being an instructor and welcome you to sign up.

— Enroll in a class. One of the things we hear often is that people would like to learn more and interact with fellow members. Each course has an interesting group of students and a great instructor. You will not only learn more about the hobby, but you will also make friends across the country.

— Donate stamps. Thanks to the kindness of our members, we are able to provide students young and old with stamps to begin their collections and learn through stamps. We have volunteers at the APC who help us with these donations and prepare them for students. If you would like to donate, please go to: stamps.org/inkind-gifts.

— Be a mentor and recruiter. Each of us knows someone who has that collector gene whether they are just starting out or have reached retirement. Many collectors give of their time and help us grow the hobby. We offer mentor ser-

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vices for new collectors through some amazing volunteers around the country. To find or become a mentor, go to: stamps.org/mentor-service.

— Provide financial support. Especially with our youth programs, so many members kindly give of their time and their wallets in order to make these programs available. We recently received hundreds of donations for the Stamps Teach program with just one request. If you would like to donate, please go to: stamps.org/online-mail-or-phone.

The one area we will be adding that

will, hopefully, be meaningful for our members is in the area of on-demand videos. If you've ever visited the Khan Academy or watched a TedTalk or even a do-it-yourself video on YouTube, you know there is a vast amount of information at your fingertips any time.

By developing those resources both in short videos and longer presentations, we can document and retain hundreds of hours of knowledge and teaching that will be available to you and other collectors for years to come.

We hope you will take us up on the education challenge and help us serve

you and the rest of our APS membership. Tell us what you think and contact me at scott@stamps.org.

I also receive letters from members around the country and respond to all of them. Please feel free to share your thoughts in writing to American Philatelic Society, Attn: Scott English, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

Thanks for the thousands of APS members who give so much of their time and knowledge to advance collecting and teach our community.

We look forward to increasing those opportunities in 2016 and beyond.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor Continued From Page 12.

abroad, so much so that folks would send their greeting cards in bulk from all over the world to Cuba to have these stamps affixed to the envelopes. The cards were then mailed out from Cuba with these stamps attached, a practice that went on for several holiday seasons. Many of the cards came from the United States because the U.S. did not have a Christmas stamp issue at the time and did not issue its first until 12 years after Cuba did.

I believe the statement that these were "postal tax stamps" may have come about from the fact that 25 percent of the proceeds of the sale of these stamps was contributed to the Communications Employees Retirement Fund. But there is no doubt among our club members that these were regular issue stamps. These stamps were also such a big hit in Cuba that a special first-day of issue pictorial cancellation was created for them.

For the ultra-curious, the outer frame of the stamps was engraved and printed by the Security Bank Note Co. of Philadelphia. The center was then printed in Cuba.

**Peter M. Abreu, Cuban Philatelic Society of America
Miami, Florida**

Editor's note: Apologies from the editor who added information about worldwide Christmas issues to Richard Martorelli's story. The Scott *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, Vol. 2, lists the Cuban stamps as postage, Scott 469 and 470.

Author's Story Based On Outstanding Research

I thought the Battle of the Falklands article in the December edition was, overall, an outstanding piece of research. Although I am not particularly a collector of material from that event, I have walked out to the battle monument in Stanley, capital of the Falkland Islands. It stands in some lonely splendor on a point overlooking the harbor at the west end of town. I have also walked along the shore of Cumberland Bay

on Robinson Crusoe's Island. You cannot see the remains of the German warship Dresden but there is a monument in the local cemetery for the German sailors that were killed.

It should be mentioned that there is quite a bit of [philatelic] material available of the Dresden. There are many postcards both of the period and more modern. You can find prisoner of war mail from the German internees in Chile. And, the postmaster on Robinson Crusoe's Island has created a number of cachets about the Dresden.

**Steve Pendleton
Visalia, California**

British Navy Defeated by U.S. Forces in 1813–1814

Albert-Friedrich Gruene's article in the December issue, "Battle of the Falklands, 1914," was a very interesting and well-researched article. The depths that the author delved to discover the identity of the writer of a postcard far surpasses any that I have ever tried.

However, he has made a common mistake about British naval history, the same mistake made by Erik Larson, author of *Dead Wake, The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*. The battle off the West coast of Chile was not the first disaster the British navy suffered after the triumph of Trafalgar in 1805.

The British Naval Forces in North America suffered two major defeats in the War of 1812: at Plattsburgh, New York, also known as the Battle of Lake Champlain, and the Battle of Sandusky, known variously as the Battle of Put-In-Bay or the Battle of Lake Erie, just west up the coast of Lake Erie from where I am sitting.

**Myron Palay
Lakewood, Ohio**

Editor's note: In 1813 at Put-in-Bay, the British lost 41 sailors, its commander was permanently disabled and all six ships were captured. The forces battled a year later on Lake Champlain, where the British were again defeated, with 168 sailors killed and four ships captured.



SHOW TIME

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

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

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

Michigan **January 2-3**
BIRPEX 2016 Birmingham Stamp Club,
Birmingham Masonic Temple, 37357
Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. *B*
Contact: Chuck Daliege, 810-287-0087
Email: birpexshow@outlook.com

New Jersey **January 7-9**
Garden State Stamp and Cover Show New
Jersey Stamp Dealers Association, The



Bethwood, 38 Lackawanna Ave., Totowa. *B*
Contact: Tom Jacks, 908-232-0539
Email: tiacks@verizon.net

Louisiana **January 8-9**
New Orleans Winter Stamp Fest Crescent
City Stamp Club, La Quinta Inn, 2610 William
Blvd., Kenner. ***B***
Contact: Eric White, 504-715-9538
Email: ericwhitegypsymoth@yahoo.com
Website: www.cscsno.org

California **January 8-10**
ORCOEXPO The Hotel Fullerton, 1500
Raymond Drive, Fullerton. *B*
Contact: Stephen Pattillo, 888-995-0548
Email: qualitystampshows@gmail.com
Website: www.stampshowsteve.com

Indiana **January 9-10**
MSDA Indianapolis Winter Show Midwest
Stamp Dealers Association, Lawrence Parks
District Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin
Rd., Lawrence. *B*
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Illinois **January 16-17**
MSDA Winter Stamp Show North Midwest
Stamp Dealers Association, Country Inn and

Suites, 600 N. Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Hgts.
B

Contact: Jim Bardo, 847 634-2676
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

South Carolina **January 16-17**
Winter Stamp and Postcard Show Columbia
Philatelic Society, Spring Valley High School,
120 Sparkleberry Lane, Columbia. *B*
Contact: Mark Postmus, 803-309-2534
Email: mapostmus@yahoo.com

Pennsylvania **January 22-23**
York County Stamp Show White Rose
Philatelic Society of York, York Expo Center,
334 Carlisle Ave., York.
Contact: John Hufnagel, 717-235-1528
Email: glenrockott@comcast.net

California **SANDICAL** San Diego County Philatelic Council, Al-Bahr Shrine Temple, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., San Diego. ***WSP***
Contact: Linda Mabin, 619-582-9311
Email: mabin7@cox.net
Website: www.sandical.org/

Texas **January 23**
5th Greater Rio Grande Valley Stamp and Coin Show McAllen Stamp Club, Cultural Arts Center, 576 76 Drive, Harlingen. *B*
Contact: Steven Kirpes, 956-380-2930
Email: skirpes@bühline.net

Florida **January 23-24**
West Pasco Stamp Roundup New Port Richey
Area Stamp Club, Regency Park Civic Center,
10240 Regency Park Blvd., Port Richey. ***B***
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
Email: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.floridastampdealers.org/
www.floridastampshows.com,
www.ocalaqfmstampclub.com

Wisconsin **January 23-24**
MSDA Winter Show - Milwaukee Midwest
Stamp Dealers Association, Crowne Plaza
- Milwaukee Airport, 6401 S. 13th Street,
Milwaukee, *B*
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Georgia **January 29-31**
**APS AmeriStamp/Southeastern Stamp
Expo 2016** American Philatelic Society/
Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs,
Hilton Atlanta, 255 Courtland Street, NE.,
Atlanta. *WSP*

Email: stampshow@stamps.org
Website: www.stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE

Washington **January 30-31**
GESSPEX Greater Eastside Stamp Society,
Redmond VFW Hall, 4330 148th Ave., NE,
Redmond. *B*

Florida **February 5-7**
Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition Sarasota Philatelic Club, Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. *WSP*
Contact: Liz Hisey, 941-444-0777
Email: lizhisey@comcast.net
Website: www.sarasotastampclub.com/
sarasotastampexhibition.htm

South Carolina **February 6-7**
Myrtle Beach Stamp & Postcard Show Myrtle Beach Stamp Club, Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 101 Fantasy Harbour Blvd., Myrtle Beach. *B*
Contact: Donn M. Ebert, 843-347-0087
Email: liflort@scccoast.net
Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/myrtlebeachstampclub/>

Michigan **February 7**
Lansing Stamp Show Lansing Area Stamp Club, Royal Scot Golf and Bowl, 4722 West Grand River, Lansing. *B*
Contact: Jim Adams, 517-394-5953
Email: 48jim15@comcast.net

Florida **February 12-14**
ASDA Winter Show American Stamp Dealers Association, War Memorial Auditorium, 800 NE 8th St, Fort Lauderdale. *B*
Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207
Email: dana@americanstampdealer.com
Website: www.americanstampdealer.com

Michigan **February 13-14**
Dearborn Stamp Club Stamp Show Dearborn Stamp Club, Sokol Hall, 23600 WEst Warren, Dearborn Heights. *B*
Contact: Fred Levantrosser, 313-278-6764
Email: fredlevantrosser@hotmail.com

Ohio **February 14**
Hudson Stamp Bourse Lincolnway Stamps, Clarion Inn, 6625 Dean Memorial Parkway, Hudson. *B*
Contact: David G. Pool, 330-832-5992
Email: lincolnway@sssnnet.com

Arizona **February 19-21**
ARIPEX Arizona Fed. of Stamp Clubs, Mesa Convention Center, 263 N. Center St., Building "C", Mesa. *WSP*
Contact: Kevin Lesk, 480-240-0388
Email: aripepx2016arizona@gmail.com
Website: www.aripepx.org

Florida **February 20**
Annual Stamp Show West Volusia Stamp Club, Sons of Italy, 1270 Doyle Rd., Deltona. *B*
Contact: Mike Daley, 407-417-7818
Email: miked129e@gmail.com
Website: <http://floridacsp.com/wvstamp/>

Kansas **February 20-21**
The Cessna Show The Cessna Stamp & Coin Club, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita. *B*
Contact: Ralph E. Lott, 316-683-6593
Email: ralphlott@sbcglobal.net

Ohio **February 20-21**
MSDA Southwestern Ohio Show Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Four Points by Sheraton Cincinnati North, 7500 Tylers Place Blvd., West Chester. *B*
Contact: Jim Bardo, 847-634-2676
Email: jfb7437@aol.com
Website: www.msdastamp.com

Texas **February 26-28**
TEXPEX 2016 Texas Philatelic Association, Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center, 1800 HWY 26 E, Grapevine. *WSP*
Contact: Vince King
Email: entech.design@verizon.net
Website: www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex.htm

Florida **February 27-28**
FSDA BAYPEX Stamp & Coin Show Florida Stampdealers Assoc. & Clearwater Stamp Club, Honeywell Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Avenue North, Largo. *B*
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
Email: h.rogg@verizon.net
Website: www.floridastampshows.com
www.floridastampdealers.org

Nebraska **February 27-28**
LINPEX 2016 Lincoln Stamp Club, Country Inn & Suites, 5353 N. 27th St., Lincoln.
Contact: Kenneth Pruess, 402-464-6939
Email: kpruess2@unl.edu
Website: www.lincolnstampclub.org

Ohio **February 27-28**
Toledo Stamp Expo 2016 Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, Holland Gardens, 6530 Angola Rd., Holland.
Contact: Clifford Campbell, 419-874-6241
Website: www.toledostampclub.org

Virginia **February 27-28**
SPRINGPEX 2016 Springfield Stamp Club, Robert E. Lee High School (Cafeteria), 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield.
Contact: Gerry Frazier
Email: frazierg@cox.net
Website: www.springfieldstampclub.org

Florida **March 4-5**
NAPLEX 2016 Collier County Stamp Club, Cypress Masonic Lodge No. 295, 5850 Tamiami Trail North (Rte 41), Naples.
Contact: Robert Hausin, 239-732-8000
Email: newengstmp@aol.com

Alaska **March 4-6**
Alaska Philatelic Exhibition Anchorage Philatelic Society, Anchorage Senior Activity Center, 1300 East 19th Avenue, Anchorage. *B*
Contact: Patrick Hoffmann, 907-346-2717
Email: phoffmann@alaska.net
Website: <http://anchoragephilatelic.org/>

New Jersey **March 5**
Westfield StampShow Westfield Stamp Club, Westfield Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield.
Contact: Ed Grabowski, 908-233-9318
Email: edjjg@alum.mit.edu
Website: www.westfieldstampclub.org

California **March 5-6**
NOVAPEX 2016 Redding Stamp Club, Redding Senior Citizens Hall, 2290 Benton Drive, Redding.
Contact: Bob Grosch, 530-549-4872
Email: bobgrosch@frontiernet.net
Website: www.reddingstampclub.org

New York **March 5-6**
BUFPEX 2016 The Buffalo Stamp Club, VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga.
Contact: George Gates, 716-633-8358
Email: gghg53@aol.com

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Tennessee	March 5-6	*WSP*	Illinois	March 12-13
Knoxpex 2016 -National Parks Centennial Stamp Show	Knoxville Philatelic Society, Holiday Inn Knoxville-West, 9134 Executive Park Dr., Knoxville.	Contact: Roger Rhoads Email: rrrhoads@aol.com Website: www.garfieldperry.org	Rockford Stamp and Cover Show	2016 Rockford Stamp Club, Forest Hills Lodge, 1601 West Lane Rd. (Hwy 173), Loves Park.
Contact: Tom Broadhead, 865-696-4803			Contact: Tim Wait, 815-670-5869	
Email: broadhea@utk.edu			Email: t.wait@comcast.net	
Website: http://knoxstamps.com			Website: www.rockfordstampclub.org	
Ohio	March 10-12	California	March 12-13	New Mexico
Garfield-Perry March Party	Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, La Villa Conference and Banquet Center, 115000 Brookpark Road, Cleveland.	Frespex 2016	Fresno Philatelic Society, Veterans Memorial Building, 435 Hughes Ave., Clovis.	March 12-13
		Contact: Dick Richardson, 559-431-5013		Mesilla Valley Stamp Show
		Email: starstamps@thegrid.net		Mesilla Valley Stamp Club, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 East University Ave., Las Cruces.

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Colonial Stamp Company	www.colonialstampcompany.com	Kristal Kare Protective Pockets	www.protectivepockets.com	Varisell	www.Varisell.com
		Lawence J Mozman	www.mozianstamps.com	Weisz Covers	www.douglasweisz.com

Contact: Richard Hiss, 575-202-1937
Email: RHHiss@comcast.net
Website: www.meetinlascruses.com

Ohio **March 12-13**
Finpex 2016 Fort Findlay Stamp and Post Card Club, "The Lighthouse" Building, 10055 St. Rte. 224 West, Findlay. *B*
Contact: Scott Little, 419-296-5565
Email: moeberg2@roadrunner.com

Massachusetts **March 13**
SOPEX 2016 Samuel Osgood Stamp Club, Elks Hall, 652 Andover Street, Lawrence. *B*
Contact: Robert A. Dominique, 978-470-0583
Email: radpm67@gmail.com
Website: www.norcalstamps.org/sopex.htm

Illinois **March 18-20**
ASDA March Show American Stamp Dealers Association, Linder Conference Center, 610 E Butterfield Rd, Lombard. *B*
Contact: Dana Guyer, 800-369-8207

Email: dana@americanstampdealer.com
Website: www.americanstampdealer.com

Ohio **March 19-20**
McKinley Stamp Club Show McKinley Stamp Club, St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW, North Canton.
Contact: David Pool, 330-832-5992
Email: lincolnway@sssn.com
Website: http://mksc.webs.com

Tennessee **March 19-20**
Nashville Stamp Show 2016 Nashville Philatelic Society, Fifty Forward, 301 Madison Street, Madison.
Contact: Tom Tribke, 615-833-5161
Email: show@nashvillephilatelic.org
Website: www.nashvillephilatelic.org

Missouri **April 1-3**
St. Louis Stamp Expo Area Clubs, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge

Road, St. Louis. *WSP*
Contact: David Kols, 800-782-0066
Email: expo@regencystamps.com
Website: www.stlstampexpo.org

Alberta **April 2-3**
Edmonton Stamp Club Spring National Stamp Show Edmonton Stamp Club, Edmonton Central Lions Centre, 111 Ave & 113 Street, Edmonton. *WSP*
Contact: Ed Dykstra, 780-420-7243
Email: eddykstra@shaw.ca
Website: www.edmontonstampclub.com

Florida **April 2-3**
Tampa Stamp & Coin Expo Tampa Collectors Club, Tampa Stadium Hotel (Formerly Holiday Inn Express), 4750 North Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa. *B*
Contact: Sheldon Rogg, 727-364-6897
Email: h.rogg@verizon.net
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Washington

April 2-3
2016 Apple Blossom Inland Empire Philatelic Society, Hilton Garden Inn, 9015 West Highway 2, Spokane. *B*
Contact: J. Wilson Palmer, 509-443-8147
Email: ickyburg@comcast.net
Website: www.ieps-stamps.com

Indiana

April 9-10
Spring Stamp Fair Indiana Stamp Club, Lawrence Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin, Lawrence. *B*
Contact: Tom Chastang, 317-913-9319
Email: tchas@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.indianastampclub.org

Wisconsin

April 10
DANEPEX '16 Badger Stamp Club, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave., Madison.
Contact: Bob Voss, 608-838-1933
Email: lestamps@charter.net
Website: www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger

Michigan

April 16-17
Plymouth Show West Suburban Stamp Club, Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland. *WSP*
Contact: Tim Strzalkowski, 313-533-7737
Email: mywssc@msn.com
Website: www.plymouthshow.com

Connecticut

April 23
MANPEX 2016 Manchester Philatelic Society,

East Catholic High School, 115 New State Road, Manchester.

Contact: John Bereuter, 860-978-7856

Email: jrbereuter@cox.net

Website: http://manchesterphilatelic.webs.com/

Delaware

April 23
DELPEX 2016 Brandywine Valley Stamp Club, Nur Shrine CenterTemple, 198 S. Du Pont Hwy (US Routes 13 & 40), New Castle.
Contact: Bill Clark, 302-322-2719
Email: kmc4076@aol.com
Website: www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com

Illinois

April 23-24
MSDA Spring Show North Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Country Inn and Suites,

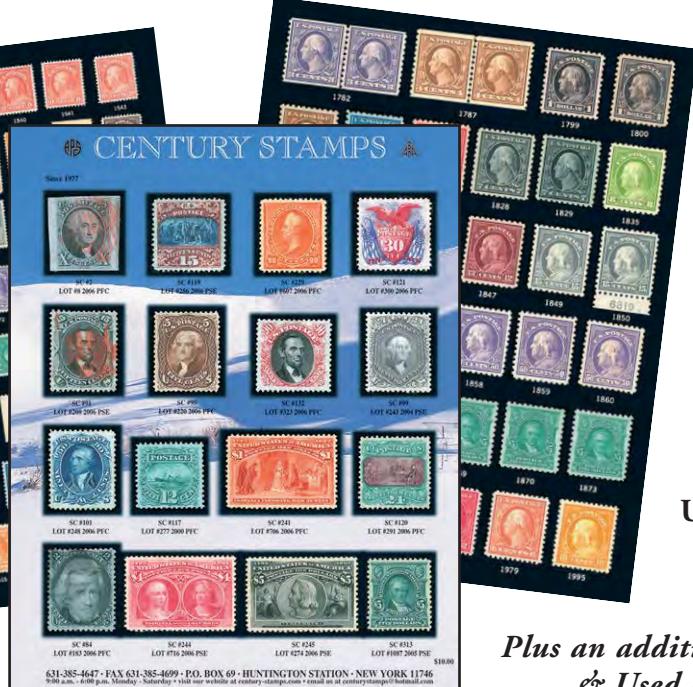
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Website: www.msdastamp.com

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WESTPEX WESTPEX, Inc., San Francisco Airport

Marriott Waterfront Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame. *WSP*
Contact: Edward Jarvis, 415-387-1016
Email: ejarvis@westpex.com
Website: www.westpex.com

Ontario **April 30-May 1**
ORAPEX 2016 RA Stamp Club, RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa. *WSP*
Contact: Peter MacDonald
Email: info@orapex.ca
Website: www.orapex.ca

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Membership Peak and Decline — What Now?

Examining Why Membership Matters

As discussed last month, the American Philatelic Society's membership peak occurred in 1988 and membership has declined every year since 1998. Why did this decline occur, and what has been done about it?

It is tempting to conclude that a decline in APS membership numbers correlates with a decline in philately, but while we do believe that philately as a whole is changing, we don't agree that it's declining. There may be some internal factors that lead to membership losses. For example, 1998 marked a change in insurance carriers by APS; the result was the addition of a second philatelic insurer to the marketplace. Some members for whom insurance was an important benefit left the APS.

Not long thereafter, in the early 2000s, the APS began the long process of discussing a headquarters move and the eventual purchase of the Match Factory in Bellefonte. This process was controversial and was quickly followed by two \$5 dues increases in 2003 and 2004 and a \$10 increase in 2008. Dues have remained unchanged since.

But 1998 also correlates closely with the rise of the Internet. It's the Internet that has provided what is probably the single biggest change to organized philately and has in many ways disrupted existing institutions. The Internet allows for easy person-to-person transaction (through eBay

or other venues), provides virtually unlimited research resources, and may otherwise substitute for philatelic organizations, institutions, and publications for some collectors. Perhaps while the members who had joined in the 1960s left the hobby in the 2000s, new collectors relied on Internet resources and were not as attracted to the APS or its then-current services. Whatever the reasons, the decline in APS membership is a fact.

Why has it continued unchecked? The society has been active for many years in adding services (such as APS Stamp-Store for online sales and QuickID) and in promoting the APS and membership in them.

A membership committee has been active since 2010 in generating additional ideas to turn the tide. But every member can help the committee — and the APS — by helping to recruit additional members.

We invite you to join us in our work by inviting another collector to join the APS. That's how we will change this.

This series of articles was written by Michael Bloom, Don Chenevert, Terry Dempsey, Judy Johnson, Matt Liebson, Ken Martin, Gerry Robbins, and Michael Sales, all members of the APS Membership Activities, Recruitment, and Services Committee.

No. 11, November 30, 2015

NEW APPLICANTS

The following applications were received during November 2015. If no objections are received by the Executive Director (814-933-3803) prior to January 31, 2016 these applicants will be admitted to membership and notice to this effect will appear in the March 2016 issue.

Agustin, Sofronio (225278)
Debary, FL PHILIPPINES-SCIENCE/SCIENTISTS-WORLD WAR II; Professor
Angel, Lori J. (225254) **Houston, TX**; 49
Buswell, Bruce (225242) **Mesquite, TX** US-GERMANY-CANADA; 78; Retired
Cappello, Phil J. (225291) **Holland, MI**; 79; Retired
Cook, James C. (225256)
Cumberland, MD; 65; Retired
Crump, Gene (225292) **Lincoln, NE** BLACK HISTORY, HERITAGE; 68; Retired

Datschefski, John W. (225257)
Independence, MO US-TOPICALS-INSECTS-SPACE-ANIMALS-DINOSAURS-DOGS-LINCOLN-TRAINS; 67; Retired
Davis, Wilmer G. (225270) **Casper, WY** US-WORLDWIDE-FDC-POSTAL HISTORY; 63; Retired
DeArmond, Curtis F. (225258)
Fairfield, CA US; 54; Aviation Maintenance Technician
Del Rio Roure, Juan C. (225251)
Ocala, FL PUERTO RICO-US 19TH CENTURY, PHILATELIC/NUMISMATIC COVERS; 53; Pediatrician
Dew, Meagan (S-225269)
Syracuse, UT BELGIUM-NETHERLANDS-GUATEMALA-FRENCH INDIA; 31; Homemaker
Dodd, Lori (225268) **Tunnel Hill, GA**; 40; Realtor
Everly, Donna J. (225243) **Dayton, OH** US; 83; Retired
Ferk, Matjaz (225250) **Greer, SC** SPAIN-BELGIUM-LATIN AMERICA; 41
Gasper, Dennis (225282)
Plymouth, WI US WASHINGTON FRANKLINS, 19TH & 20TH CENTURY; Retired
Gerhart, Dave (225271) **Akron, PA** MINT US, AIRMAILS, PLATE BLOCKS, FDC; 70; Retired
Gerstenfeld, Ivan H. (225240)
Chagrin Falls, OH US COMMEMORATIVES/PANELS, AIRMAILS, BOOKLETS/PANES, SOUVENIR SHEETS, SPECIAL DELIVERIES; 72; Retired
Gist, Austin (225266) **Raymond, CA** US COMMEMORATIVES, DEFINITIVES, DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING-CHINA-KOREA-RUSSIA/USSR/INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS; 45
Gonda, Mark S. (225259)
Youngstown, OH US 19TH CENTURY, CLASSICS; 61; Retired
Hahn, Klaus D. (225272) **Bondorf, Germany** BRITISH SOUTH ATLANTIC-TRISTAN DA CUNHA-FALKLAND POSTAL HISTORY; 60; Retired

NEW MEMBERS

Applications 224939, 224997 through 225116, and 225118 through 225135 as previously published have been accepted for membership by the Board of Vice Presidents.

SUMMARY

Total Membership, October 31, 2015.....	31,171
New Members	137
Reinstated	41 178 31,349
Deceased.....	70
Resignations.....	94 164
Total Membership, November 30, 2015	31,185
(Total Membership, November 30, 2014 was 31,950 a difference of -765)	

Hale, Thaddeus G. (225253)
Montgomery, AL US 19TH CENTURY, CLASSICS, CIVIL WAR COVERS, CONFEDERATE STATES,

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- STAMLESS COVERS, COVERS; 66;
Stamp/Coin Dealer
- Heemstra, John J. (225296)
Mitchell, SD US 20TH CENTURY,
SD POSTAL HISTORY
- Hiller, Terry A. (225276)
Newcomerstown, OH US-
CANADA-FDC; 77; Retired
- Hobden, David L. (225255) **Milton,**
ON CANADIAN POSTAL HISTORY,
PRE-1885 MILITARY POSTAL
HISTORY; 56
- Hoblit, John W. (225244) **Saint**
Petersburg, FL MINT US; 68;
Retired
- Johnson, Dennis (225273)
Jamestown, NY US-
WORLDWIDE; Stamp Dealer
- Kay, Stephen J. (225260) **Decatur,**
GA EUROPE-WWII; 50; Economist
- Keltner, Thomas (225241)
Freeland, WA US FDC, AK
POSTAL HISTORY, SHEETS/SMALL
PANES, AIRMAILS, PLATE BLOCKS,
PATRIOTIC COVERS, MARINES; 67;
Retired
- Kendig, Doug (225275) **Tappen,**
BC PRE-1960 WORLDWIDE; 75;
Retired
- Kennett, Paul (225245)
Middlebury, CT US-CANADA-
GREAT BRITAIN, COLONIES-
GERMANY-FRANCE; Retired
- Kingsley, Todd W. (225267) **Gilbert,**
AZ US FDC, POSTAL HISTORY,
20TH CENTURY, CIVIL WAR
COVERS, COMMEMORATIVES-
BRITISH AMERICA; 53; Real Estate
Ops Manager
- LaMaire, Phillip (225239) **Jackson,**
MI US AIRMAILS, MI POSTAL
HISTORY-HISTORY-MILITARY; 46
- Lind, James (225246) **San Ramon,**
CA 1840-1940 NEDERLAND
SYNCPATED PERFORATION
PRECANCELED COIL; 65; Retired
- Lynaugh, Dale A. (225285)
Peacham, VT US PLATE BLOCKS,
COMMEMORATIVES, SHEETS/
SMALL PANES; 68
- Mantle, William J. (225293)
Cleveland, GA US-WORLDWIDE-
COMMEMORATIVES; 69; Retired
- Mikeska, Charles (225286) **Temple,**
TX CZECHOSLOVAKIA-BOHEMIA/
MORAVIA-ROMANIA-BRITISH
COLONIES-FRENCH COLONIES;
46; Executive
- Miron, Craig (225294) **Berry Creek,**
CA WORLDWIDE-US-JAPAN-
PRE-1950; 60; Repairman
- Oeckler, John (225289) **Melbourne,**
FL
- Overstreet, Paul A. (225261)
Riviera Beach, FL US,
COMMEMORATIVES, AIRMAILS,
POSTAGE DUE; 67; Retired
- Pirz, Joseph (225277) **Okatie, SC** US
19TH & 20TH CENTURY-CANADA-
AUSTRALIA-GREAT BRITAIN-
GERMANY; 69; Retired
- Pisarra, Mark S. (225290) **Bixby, OK**
- Pontbriand, Michael W. (225280)
Lecanto, FL US 19TH & 20TH
CENTURY-USED WORLDWIDE,
19TH CENTURY; 62
- Prekschat, John (225262)
Plentywood, MT CANADA-US-
NEWFOUNDLAND-ISLE OF MAN-
AUTOMOTIVES; 69; Retired
- Pugh, Tom C. (225283) **Placentia,**
CA US FD PROGRAMS, BLOCKS/
GUIDELINE BLOCKS; Manager
- Reiter, Gary C. (225247) **Edina, MN**
POSTAL HISTORY-SCANDINAVIA;
71
- Ripley, Michael (225265)
Indianapolis, IN US
CUT SQUARES, MATCH &
MEDICINE, DUCK/HUNTING/
FISHING, POSTAL CARDS,
COMMEMORATIVES, REVENUES/
TAX PAIDS (FEDERAL); 72
- Roberts, Dennis (225274) **Ocean**
Springs, MS US; 67; Retired
- Rohatgi, Gautam (225281) **New**
Delhi, India INDIA-GREAT
BRITAIN-FOREIGN STAMLESS
COVERS-INDIAN LITHOGRAPHS
OF 1854; 67; Business
- Roque, Elio (225295) **Claremont,**
CA US JOINT ISSUES, POSTAL
HISTORY, SPECIAL EVENT
COVERS/CANCELS, 19TH
CENTURY, CIVIL WAR COVERS-
CUBA; 51; Law/Accounting
- Sanford, John (225263) **Clyde,**
OH TELEPHONES-STATUE
OF LIBERTY-CLYDE, OHIO
POSTCARDS-POSTCARDS; 51;
Telephone Man
- Saunders, Erle (225264) **West**
Covina, CA US 20TH CENTURY
COMMEMORATIVES, FDC,
MAXICARDS, CHRISTMAS SEALS
& STAMPS; 63; Retired
- Slettebo, Hallvard (225288)
Stavanger, Norway SCOUTS-
SCANDINAVIA-ZEPPELIN
COVERS/STAMPS-CRASH
COVERS; 57; Engineer
- Tucker, William G. (225248) **Chagrin**
Falls, OH US; 75; Health Aide
- Wang, Agustin (225284) **Cerritos,**
CA CHINA-US 19TH & 20TH
CENTURY-TAIWAN-MACAO-
HONG KONG
- Whitney, Eric (225287) **West**
Jordan, UT US 19TH CENTURY,
REVENUES/TAX PAIDS (FEDERAL),
DUCK/HUNTING/FISHING-BULLS
EYE/SON CANCELS, MATCH &
MEDICINE
- Williamson, Theodore A. (225252)
Umatilla, FL US, LOCALS &
CARRIERS, 19TH CENTURY, CUT
SQUARES, CONFEDERATE STATES;
73
- Yursik, Warren (225279)
Charlottesville, VA
- Zimmer, Ronald A. (225249)
Oakdale, PA MINT US-TRISTAN
DA CUNHA; 71; Retired



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Bickham, C. F. (7828-055204), Denver, CO
Boatwright, Neilen W. (182475), Marietta, GA
Booth, Edgar H. (5411-038923), Glen Rock, NJ
Boyett, Charles M. (213379), Bernalillo, NM
Cialek, Stanley J. (4703-027570), Easthampton, MA
Cohen, Benjamin H. (2907-040927), Niles, IL
Coletta, Dominique (9409-062405), New York, NY
Conley, Robert M. (8272-057244), Paintsville, KY
Davidson, Merlin D. (9995-068038), Dallas, TX
Davis, James H., Jr. (9686-064980), Sanford, NC
Diaz-Buxo, Jose A. (12045-053769), Wilkesboro, NC
Dixon, Norman G. (10974-068552), Longview, TX
Edwards, Sue (8343-058551), Finksburg, MD
Erler, Martin E. (10438-073483), Icking, Germany
Eskridge, Harold E. (082014), Hillsboro, MO
Flanigan, Michael J. (111749), Elm Grove, WI
Fogle, Benjamin R. (8839-061288), Grand Rapids, MI
Folsom, Charles P. (201711), Pensacola, FL
Frisk, Jack L. (8000-054670), Anacortes, WA
Gilchrist, Bruce (6536-046833), Richmond, VA
Goldman, Paul M. (4757-037038), Canton, MA
Grantham, Larry (198915), Dodge City, KS
Hicks, Bernie E. (5970-044118), Colebrook, NH
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Johnson, Alexander L. (182561), Lancaster, PA
Jones, Philip H. (7009-048095), Shelton, CT
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Leininger, Rodney W. (9834-045227), Sherman Oaks, CA
Leppman, Elizabeth J. (186651), Lexington, KY
Litwinowicz, Vincent K. (7933-053654), Terrytown, LA
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Lorenz, Frank K. (7735-051299), New Hartford, NY
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Payne, Paul E. (9885-066866), Janesville, WI
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Robinson, Thomas W., Jr. (10022-069650), Sparks, NV
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Michael Bloom	Joe Crosby	Howell Gage	Galen Johnson	Galen McPherson	G. Retchkiman	Terry Riccardi	James Weigant
Charles Bombaci	Peter Cross	Tom Geurts	Richard Judge	Peter Meschter	Dan Richmon	Henry Sperling	Steven Westfahl
James Booth	Michael Crump	James Giacomazzi	Rodney Juell	Annette Metz	Gary Meyer	Michael Spring	Jeffrey Westheimer
Robert Bramwell	George Cumming	Wayne Giampietro	Leon Kadoch	Levynn Miller	Elwynn Miller	Holly Springer	Charles White
Robert Brand	Richard Czaja	Carter Gilbert	Ronald Kane	Margaret Miller	Peter Rikard	Joseph St. John	Mary White
Gary Brehe	Freddie Danes	William Gillen	Peter Kata	Dennis Miner	Richard Rizzo	Richard Stein	Richard Wolf
Edward Brett	Richard Daniels	Todd Gladstone	Thomas Kendall	Thomas Molchan	Christopher Roth	Richard Stevens	Richard Woodring
Timothy Brewton	Leticia Delaney	Douglas Goding	Jeffrey Kent	Gretchen Moody	Vincent Rubino	Kenneth Stewart	Charles Wooster
William Bronk	Terry Dempsey	E. Goldshinsky	Joseph King	Michael Moody	Arthur Rudd	John Stover	Steve Swain
Raymond Burby	Donald Dennett	Edward Grabowski	William Kircher	Letty Moon	Dan Rudin	Keith Stupell	Edward Szapiro
Chuck Burg	Ronald Dewey	Herman Graffunder	Everett Klein	Peter Mosiondz Jr.	Joseph Running Jr.	Steven Runyon	May Day Taylor
Maurice Bursey	Carl Dischner	Jennifer Granger	Janet Klug	Duane Moss	Norman Ruschefsky	John Russell	Jay Tebo
Carol Busher	Susan Dixon	Kenneth Grant	Lewis Knudsen Jr.	Douglas Mueller	James Nelson	Blue Sandrock	Irving Tesmer
James Byrne	David Drach	Paul Grasse	Ronald Kosarko	Kenneth Newman	John Nilsestuen	Charles Sauls	C. Stetson Thomas Jr.
Stevan Cady	Richard Drews	Carol Grosvenor	Bobby Kouri	Kenneth Nordstrom	Phil Nordstrom	James Savage	Edward Thompson
Peter Caldwell	William Drosseller	Alfred Gruber	Theodore Kury	Gerald Norgaard	Paul Larson	Robert Savage	Camille Tomao
Al Capparelli	Jack Dykhouse	Patricia Hacker	Janet Kurz	C. Northern	Mike Schadale	Laura Tomaszek	Jose Zavaleta Jr.
Peter Caracci	John Earle	Joan Hackett	Richard Larkin				Curt Zeisig
Thomas Carlson	Cheryl Edgcomb	Alexander Haimann	Paul Larsen				
James Cayey	James Elam	Thomas Hamilton	Paul Larson				





2015 NEW STAMPS

BY JAY BIGALKE

Purple Heart Variety

New Version Sneaks Into Post Offices in October

It was believed that no new stamps would appear in the remainder of 2015, but one new issue snuck in without a first-day and ushered in a new policy for so-called “reprints.” A reprint, as defined by the Postal Service, is when an existing stamp design goes back on press. Collectors, however, view certain “reprints” to be new stamps.

The new Purple Heart stamp, as discussed after this section would be considered a new stamp to collectors because of the number of things that changed from the previously issued stamp of the same design.

Typically, new stamps like this would also receive a first-day postmark and an announcement in the *Postal Bulletin*. However, U.S. Postal Service spokesman Mark Saunders told *The American Philatelist* in November that “we won’t be conducting FDOIs for reprints.” This is a new policy.

“To better serve our customers, we reprint non-commemorative stamps when supplies run low and distribute them among our postal network as needed—as such we don’t plan for official FDOI dates,” said Saunders. “If we planned for an official ‘FDOI date,’ this would require significant lead time and possibly run the risk of not having said stamps in stock at some post offices and diminish our ability to serve our customers.”

The AP inquired as to how under this new policy collectors would be able to purchase new varieties or find out about new varieties moving

forward. “We understand the concerns collectors may have and we are in the process of addressing this issue internally,” said Saunders.

We will report on any additional information we receive on this subject.

Purple Heart Variety

A Purple Heart definitive forever stamp with a 2014 year date and produced by a new printer started shipping to post offices nationwide in October. The stamp shown here were purchased at a post office in western Pennsylvania in mid-November. The postmaster indicated that she received the stamps the previous month.

The new variety was printed in a pane of 20 by Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products using the offset printing process. There is microprinting on the stamp.

The previous version of the stamp (Scott 4704a) was produced by CCL Label and issued on October 11, 2014. CCL Label stopped printing stamps for the Postal Service in early 2015 which is why a new printer was needed for the Purple Heart stamp.

Design

The stamp features the same photograph.

First-Day Ceremony

No first-day ceremony took place for the new Purple Heart variety and no first-day postmark was offered. *The American Philatelist* is interested in any collector being able to provide an earliest known usage of the new variety.



The new Purple Heart forever stamp printed by Sennett Security Products with a 2014 year date. The new variety started showing up in post offices in October 2015 and did not have an official first day of issuance.

PURPLE HEART DEFINITIVE FOREVER STAMP WITH 2014 DATE (SSP VARIETY)

USPS Item Number: No specific order number available; main item No. 115404

Format: Pane of 20, 200 stamps per revolution

Issue Date and City: None. Released to post offices in October

Designer and Art Director: Jennifer Arnold, Washington, D.C.

Typographer: Greg Breeding, Charlottesville, Virginia

Photographer: Ira Wexler, Braddock Heights, Maryland

Modeler: Donald Woo

Manufacturing Process: Offset with microprinting

Printer and Processor: Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, Browns Summit, North Carolina

Press Type: Alprinta 74

Print Quantity: 200 million stamps

Paper Type: Phosphor tagged paper, block tagging

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive adhesive

Ink Colors: Cyan, magenta, yellow, black,

Pantone Matching System 266 purple, PMS 1805 red

Stamp Sizes: 0.73 inches by 0.84 inches, 18.54 millimeters by 21.34mm (image); 0.87 inches by 0.98 inches, 22.09mm by 24.89mm (overall); 5.35 inches by 4.93 inches, 135.89mm by 125.22mm (pane)

Plate Numbers: “S” followed by six single digits

Marginal Markings: “Purple Heart, The Medal for the Combat Wounded,” plate numbers (front); “©2015 USPS,” plate position diagram, barcode, USPS logo.



GREAT BRITAIN NATIVITY STORY

Great Britain, on November 3, issued a set of eight stamps depicting scenes from the biblical story of the nativity, painted by artist David Holmes. Some scenes included in the stamp designs feature animals, the shepherds, and the three wise men.



JAPAN DISNEY CHARACTERS

On November 6, Japan issued 20 stamps: 10 postcard rate, hexagon-shaped stamps honoring Disney's classic Winnie the Pooh and 10 domestic rate stamps picturing Disney princesses, including Cinderella, Snow White, Belle, Rapunzel, and Ariel.



ISLE OF MAN COMMONWEALTH

Isle of Man issued an unusual souvenir sheet of 27 different stamps from 27 Commonwealth nations on November 27, selling at £20. The stamps celebrate 2015 as the year in which Queen Elizabeth II became Britain's longest reigning monarch.



GIBRALTAR MAGNA CARTA

On November 13, Gibraltar issued a souvenir sheet of two stamps to mark the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta. The two stamps carry a £2 denomination and the selvage of the souvenir sheet includes images of part of the document.



CANADA CHRISTMAS ANIMALS

Canada, on November 2, issued three stamps at different denominations showing a moose, a polar bear, and a beaver, all dressed in a human holiday wardrobe. The stamps were also issued as a water-activated souvenir sheet of three.

NEW WORLDWIDE STAMPS

A quick peek at stamps issued in November from 10 different countries around the world.



ICELAND
ICELANDIC ART VI
Iceland's postal service issued four commemorative stamps on November 5. The stamps honor works of art showing the tentative emergence of avant-garde in the country. The stamps were issued in separate panes of 10 stamps each.



ITALY
SALVATORE FERRAGAMO
On November 30, Italy issued a single €0.95 commemorative stamp to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the shoe maker. The red shoes depicted were created for actress Marilyn Monroe in the 1950s.



NEW ZEALAND
STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS
New Zealand on November 4 issued five Christmas stamps that use stained-glass windows for the design. The souvenir sheet of five was produced cut-to-shape and a translucent paper was used to give it a window effect.



SWEDEN
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS
Sweden issued six Christmas-themed stamps on November 11 showing different Christmas decorations ranging from ornaments, a snowflake tree topper, a candle, a present, a star, and a tree with a single red ornament.



AUSTRIA
FIR TREE
On November 13, Austria issued multiple Christmas stamps that included this single €0.80 Fir Tree stamp. The stamp depicts a modern rendition created by artist Anita Kern who used triangles and bright colors of green to simplify the tree shape.



WORLDWIDE IN A NUTSHELL

BY BOB LAMB

Venezuela

Status: Republic in northern South America

Area: 352,144 sq mi

Population: 29,275,460 (2015 est.)

Currency: 100 Centimos = 1 Bolivar (US\$1=Bs6.30) (2015)



Venezuela's first stamps were issued in 1859, including the ½ real yellow, Scott 1.



South American hero Simon Bolivar appears on several Venezuelan stamps, Scott 79.



In 1943, stamps of 1937 (Scott 311 to 317) were overprinted and sold only in sets to philatelists. Scott 383 is the four-stamp set's high denomination.



A 1947 overprinted airmail of 10 cents on a 20-cent Bolivar's birthplace, Scott C238.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is about twice the size of California. Columbus landed in eastern Venezuela on his third voyage in 1498 — the only place he actually came ashore on the South American mainland. The following year, a Spanish expedition under Alonso de Ojeda, which included the famous Italian Amerigo Vespucci, sailed into Lake Maracaibo in the west, where they saw the local Arawaks living in thatched huts on stilts in the water. They named it Venezuela — "Little Venice." Beginning in the 1520s, Spain began permanent settlement of the coastal areas. But without gold or silver, agricultural Venezuela remained in the shadows of Spain's American dominions.

In the early 19th century, Caracas-born Simon Bolivar emerged as the great Latin American liberator. On December 17, 1819, he proclaimed the independence of the Spanish viceroyalty of New Granada as Republic of Gran Colombia, composed of the modern countries of Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Panama. Bolivar's dream of a grand union fell apart with Colombia, Ecuador, and Venezuela declaring their independence before his death in 1830.

After independence, Venezuela was ruled by a series of strongmen. One of the most durable was Juan Vincente Gomez, who took power in 1908 and remained until his death in 1935. The discovery of oil in 1910 helped Gomez stabilize the national economy and pay off its international debts. By the 1920s, Venezuela was the world's largest oil producer. A 1958 military coup led to the first democratically elected president to complete a five-year term. The populist Hugo Chavez was elected president in 1998. Chavez died in office in 2013. Chavez's polarizing policies have been continued by Nicolas Maduro, his hand-picked successor.

In the 18th century, Spain attempted to improve communications with its American colonies. Administrative postal centers were set up in the major ports by 1721. In 1765, regular mail routes were established between Caracas and the motherland.

A decree of June 28, 1858, authorized the first issue of postage stamps. Three denominations depicting the national coat of arms were printed, probably in the United States, in yellow, blue and red — the national colors. The stamps were issued January 1, 1859. Little is known about the printer or the quantities printed but the stamps were printed again in 1859 and 1861 in Caracas from the original stones. In the 1870s, to satisfy a postal need, stamps originally designed to raise revenue for schools (escuelas) were validated for postal as well as fiscal use.

Stamp shortages during periods of civil strife resulted in provisionals around the turn of the last century. A local issue was issued in La Guaira, the main port for Caracas, to pay for transporting mail to St. Thomas to connect with steamship service to Europe. The British also operated a post office in La Guaira from 1865 to 1880.



A handsome set of five airmails from 1950 feature the Signing of Independence, including the 1 bolivar stamp, Scott C315.



Simon Bolivar reappeared on a series of 27 stamps in 1976, Scott 1133.



Gen. José Antonio Sucre, on a stamp in 1980, Scott 1241.

Gordon Eubanks Candidate for Director At Large



I am a life-long collector and have been exhibiting for ten years. My collecting interests range from classic United States to Prexies and World War II postal history.

I am running for office to improve transparency and services for all collectors. I serve as a board member of the U.S. Classics Society and a *Chronicle* section editor, a member of the Campaign for Philately, as well as over a dozen philatelic organizations.

My professional background includes serving as a submarine officer during the Cold War and as CEO of a public technology company for 18 years. I spend time now working with startups and serving on boards.

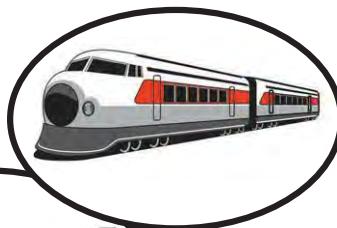
My campaign is based on the following principles

- ✓ The first and most important role of the board is to provide oversight of the APS on behalf of members. This critical role is the cornerstone of good governance and the primary role of the board. Day to day execution is the responsibility of the Executive Director not the board of directors.
- ✓ Transparency and open communications are critical. There is no room for backroom maneuvering and secrecy. This starts with a respect for the staff and the membership and a commitment to openness.
- ✓ Listen first to our members. Outreach is not a campaign slogan but a strategy to best achieve a strong future for the APS.
- ✓ Work with the Executive Director to set overall strategy and objectives for the APS and publish them. Report clearly on the performance relative to the objectives. Strategy is dynamic and must be reviewed frequently.
- ✓ Fully fund and finish the American Philatelic Research Library. The APRL is a treasure we must continue to invest in.
- ✓ Reduce the debt load. This will give the APS significant flexibility going forward. The transformation of the Match Factory has been wonderful but left us with debt that we need to pay off.

I would appreciate your support for APS Director At Large 2016 - 2019. Please let me know what is important to you.

gordoneubanks@gmail.com

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