

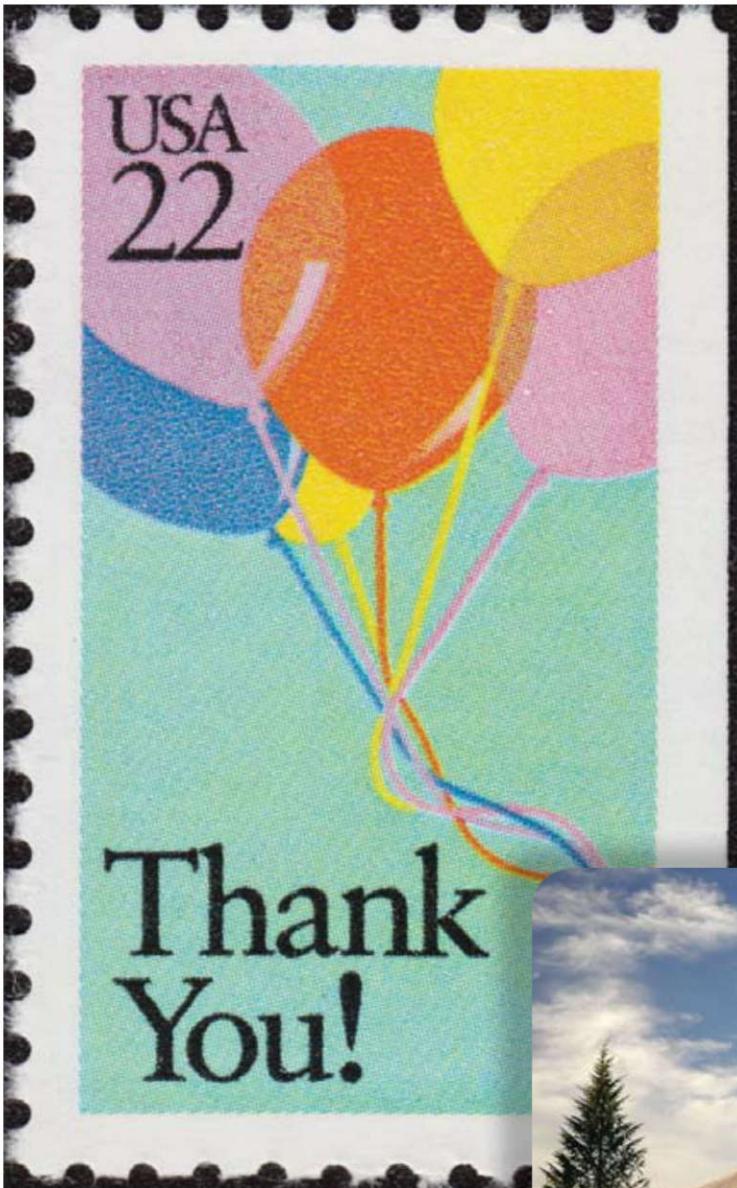
Annual ATA Recognition Issue. See Page 35

\$5.00

TOPICAL TIME

March-April 2015 Vol. 66, No. 2

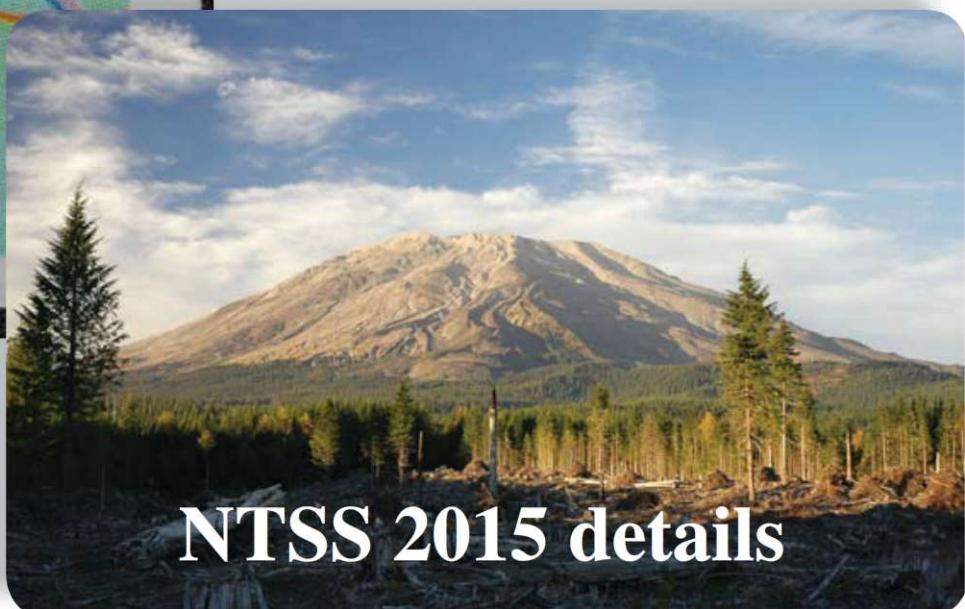
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Thank
You!



Surveyor 3 Visited
by Apollo 12 Page 70



NTSS 2015 details



Journal of Thematic Philately

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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Boldly to the Future continues for ATA! See Page 10.

YOUR VALUES PRESENTED ALL AROUND THE WORLD

SAVE THE DATE *International Auctions 2015*

SPECIAL AUCTION

April 28 - 30, 2015

April 28, 2015 / **cover and postal stationery lots**

April 29, 2015 / **picture postcards lots**

April 30, 2015 / **paper money / banknotes**

Closing date for consignments: March 10, 2015

31st AUCTION

June 15 - 20, 2015 / **philately & picture postcards**

June 24, 2015 / **coins & paper money / banknotes**

Closing date for consignments: April 2, 2015

32nd AUCTION

October 19 - 24, 2015 / **philately & picture postcards**

October 27, 2015 / **coins & paper money / banknotes**

Closing date for consignments: August 20, 2015



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C.G.

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TRUE STORY OF THE STAMP TRADE'S BIGGEST PROBLEM

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

Managing Director Andrew McGavin of Universal Philatelic Auctions explains:

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Universal Unique Reducing Estimate lot system was born

In 1999 a 6,500-lot UPA auction was created. The director agonized – "would it work?" No dealer or auction, to his knowledge, had ever done this before. Would collectors hold off from bidding and wait until the next auction when the estimate was lower? – or, worse still, the following auction – when the estimate was reduced even lower? Would collectors pass up the first opportunity at new stock and wait – and, if so, for how long?

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

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

And now, some 12 years later, we come to today. UPA runs quarterly auctions with approximately 17,000 lots in each auction and over £700,000 (US \$1,000,000+) of stamps from all over the world offered – including Thematics, British, US, and most countries of the world. Today UPA holds the United Kingdom record for the most stamp collectors bidding in a single auction – 1,491 different collectors – collectors who live in all corners of the world ... and yet, surprisingly, 9 out of 10 bidders are successful due to the auctions' significant 17,000+ lots size. Could you be one of them?

**If you would like to see Universal Philatelic Auction's next World Auction catalogue FREE OF CHARGE,
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FREE "Stamp Tips of the Trade": Please visit www.UPAstampauctions.co.uk**

**Please contribute to the 2015 ATA Boldly to the Future fund today...
Your name will appear in good company
in next year's listing of donors!**



JACK'S JOURNAL

Ever come across a neat item...

...and say to yourself, "That's NICE! I want to get that - maybe I'll even start a new topic"?

I know I'm not the only one who sometimes thinks like this. How easily we collectors of little pieces of paper can be tempted. But if we obtained every neat stamp, our albums would break. And if we started every enticing topic, our budgets would break.

What to do? One option is to take your interest in that tempting topic and channel it in another direction. Take your passion and run with it along a different path. One way could be to develop a checklist for it. That would allow you to play a bit, not with the actual philatelic items, but virtually making a list of them. You could go to eBay and find out what other items exist for that mini-topic. There you could see scans of most of them. See this column in the Nov-Dec 2013 issue for detailed suggestions in creating your own checklists. A template for making checklists is on our website: www.americantopicalassn.org/checklists.shtml.

That is what I recently did. I was deeply moved by the movie *The Imitation Game*, about the decoding of "Enigma," the Nazi coding machine. The work of Alan Turing resulted in saving millions of lives. The film was nominated for eight Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and won one, for Best Writing, Adapted Screenplay.

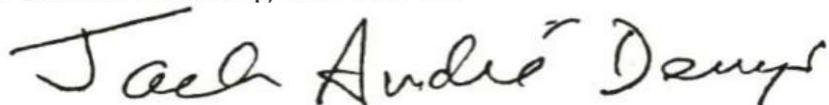


"Let me see what exists for the topic 'Enigma' – maybe I'll start a mini-topic." I found a neat Polish FDC, shown nearby. (Polish cryptologists began cracking the code and gave information to the British.) I was hooked.

But, instead of starting a new topic, I decided to make a checklist. It was fun. Here it is, in case this mini-topic is a temptation to which you want to surrender. You may even find more.

ATA CHECKLIST "ENIGMA" (Nazi Code") Country		Year	Month	Day	Denom.	Scott	Description
Great Britain		2012	April	10	1st	2970	Bletchley Park Station X (Enigma de-coding site)
Great Britain		2012	Feb.	23	1st	3005	Alan Turing, Code-breaker machine
Poland		1983	Aug.	16	5z	2582A	"E" Enigma symbol
BEYOND THE CATALOG							
Postmarks							
					City		
Great Britain		1995	Oct.	30	Bletchley Park		50 Years as codebreakers
Great Britain		1999	July	25	Bletchley Park		Britain thanks Poland for Enigma secrets;
Poland		1983	Aug.	16	Warsaw		Machine
Poland		1999	July	25	Warsaw		50 years Enigma
							60th Anniversary of Enigma
Prestige Booklet							
Great Britain		1999	Sept.	21		BK166	World Changers. Page on Turing's life
Stamps Unlisted in Scott							
Guinea		2008			5000FG		Alan Turing, Enigma, "Prix Turing"

I've shared *my* list, please share *yours* – so others may benefit – by sending it to atachecklists@gmail.com, or Tom Stillman, PO Box 210748, San Francisco CA 94121-0748. Thank you for further enriching the ATA! ☺



About ATA

For information about contacting ATA Office or leaders – please see page 4.

New on our Website: www.americantopicalassn.org

- National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS).
 - Exhibit prospectus (including form fill-in version).
 - "Free-Style Exhibits" - Informal, just-for-fun, open to all, not judged, option of discussion with experienced exhibitor.
- Youth page: Topical Tidbits: Iditarod. Beginning this year, Tidbits will be a quarterly publication. Watch for the next issue around the beginning of April.
 - Press releases: New ATA Coordinators Named
 - Checklist dATABase:

March checklist listings include a total of 631,879 items. There were 10,734 items added in the last two months, including all the new stamps in the *Linn's* New Issue listings for January and February. Major additions (more than 100 entries added) have occurred in all of the Railroad-related lists, Watercraft, Sailing Vessels, Plants including Roses, Orchids and trees/Forestry, Presidents (worldwide), Coats of Arms/Heraldry, Bodies of Water, Maps, Flags, Fish/Fishing, Art and Statesmen/Diplomats.



TopicalsOnLine

Three easy steps to find the stamps you need:

1. Log in to ***www.topicalsonline.com***.
2. Search by topic, country and/or Scott number and select stamps.
3. Pay quickly and easily with PayPal, credit card or check.

That's all! Your stamps will arrive in the mail. Plus, ATA members get a discount, and all sales benefit ATA.

Appointments

- Checklist Coordinator – **Tom Stillman** of California.
- TopicalsOnLine Sales Agent – **Myron Wambold** of Florida.
- Learning Resources Coordinator – **Tim Comas** of Maryland.

Recent Shows and New Members

Jan. 30-Feb. 1. **Southeastern Stamp Expo**, Atlanta, Ga., 4 new members.

Ambassadors: Vera Felts, Barbara Asher, Dawn Hamman, Jean Stout.

Feb. 7-9. **Sarasota National Stamp Show**, Sarasota, Fla., 2 new members.

Ambassadors: Dawn Hamman, John Hamman.

Feb. 15. **Sno-King Stamp Club Show**, Renton, Wash.

Ambassadors: Keith Edholm, Carol Edholm.

Feb. 21. **West Volusia Stamp Show**, DeLand, Fla.

Ambassador: Newt Kulp.

March 7. **Westfield Stamp Show**, Westfield, N.J., 1 new member.

Ambassadors: Allan Fisk, Fred Skvara.

Mar. 7-8. **KnoxPEX**, Knoxville, Tenn., 4 new members.

Ambassadors: Vera Felts, Carol Costa.

Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at These Upcoming Shows

If you can assist at the ATA table for an hour or two, please contact the ATA Office.

Members may save postage by contacting the ATA Office to request that certain items be brought to these shows for them.

For the shows listed in **green**, we will have the capability to print checklists upon request.

Mar. 27-29. St. Louis Stamp Expo, St. Louis, Mo.

April 12. Fenwick Stamp & Coin Show, Renton, Wash.

Apr. 16-18. ASDA Spring Postage Stamp Show, New York, N.Y.

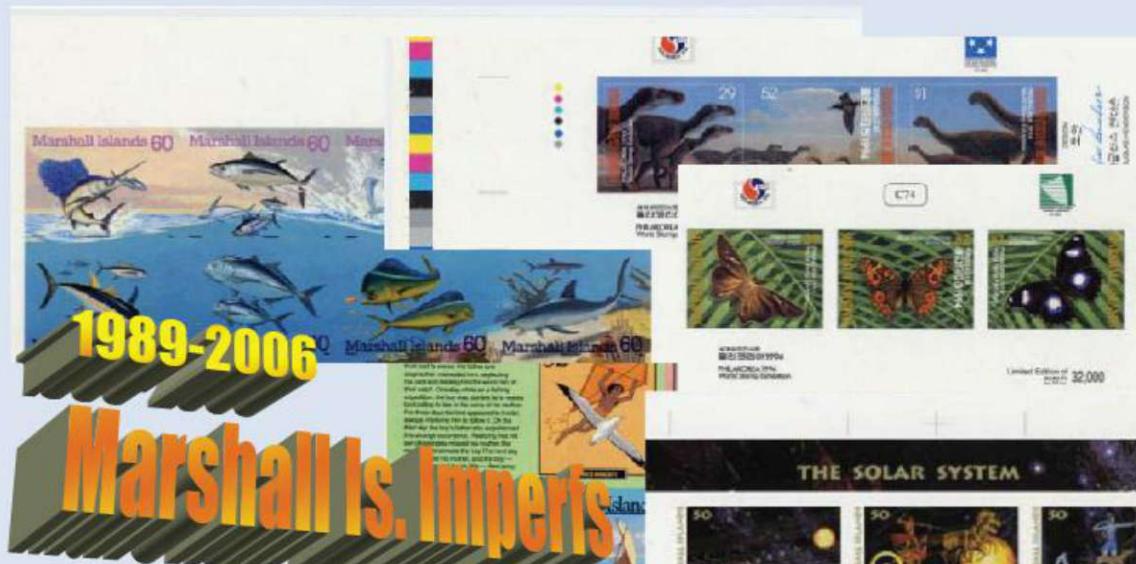
Apr. 26-27. Plymouth Show, Westland, Mich.

May 8-10. Pipex, Portland, Ore.

May 15-17. Ropex, Rochester, N.Y.

May 22-24. Royal – 2015 – Royale, London, Ontario, Canada.

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Everything for the Topical Collector!



WWII collectors:

For the 50th Anniversary of WWII, 100 sets were issued depicting events and battles. The stamps were available as singles or with an attached bottom inscription tab. Available perf & Imperf and gutter pairs!

Boldly to the Future!

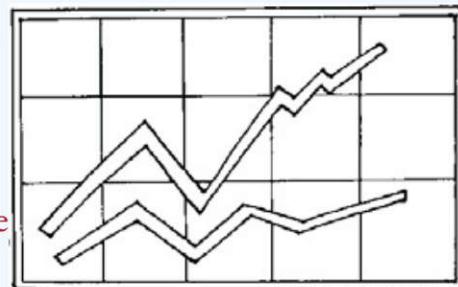
The results of the 2014 Campaign are in. It raised \$36,487 for the ATA. **This was the most successful campaign in BTTF history.** We are grateful to everyone who made this possible.

Your donations are very important to the ATA, so we would like for you to know how this money is used. The ATA costs about \$150,000 a year to operate. This goes to produce *Topical Time* six times a year, to pay for office operations and services to our members, to stage the annual National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) and to promote topical collecting.

Most of this money comes from dues, ads in *Topical Time*, income from NTSS and the sale of checklists and handbooks. Although over the last couple of years we have been successful in cutting costs and increasing income, revenue still does not cover all the Association's expenses.

The Board has decided that member services should not be cut. That's where your contributions come in. They are essential in making up the shortfall. They enable the ATA to maintain its present level of member services. Contributions also provide the seed money for new programs and enable the ATA to be a powerful voice in the hobby to promote Topical Collecting.

In 2015, our campaign goal is \$35,000. We hope you are enjoying the changes to our association and will be able to contribute to help us continue this work. Every contribution – whatever the size – is important!



These are some ways you can send your BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE gift for 2015:

- Check drawn on U.S. bank in U.S. funds - ***best, since it saves us fees*** - payable to "American Topical Association," PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008, USA.
- PayPal: to [**americantopical@msn.com**](mailto:americantopical@msn.com). This is preferable if you pay electronically.
- Visa, Mastercard, Discover card – send card info to address above, or phone or FAX it to ATA Office @ 618-985-5100.

ATA is a 501(c)(3) organization. Each donation is tax deductible for U.S. taxpayers and is acknowledged with a "tax letter" acceptable to the IRS.

If using PayPal or credit card, please consider including a small bonus to cover fee.

Together we can advance...

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!



VERA'S VIEWS

Membership Directory

The spring season is just beginning to sprout here in the northern hemisphere of our beautiful world. And an exciting new project is springing forth at the ATA Office. With your help, we are “birthing” the *ATA Membership Directory* for 2015-17. I am keenly aware that this directory – available only to ATA members and not used for commercial purposes – is a vital link to connect topical and thematic collectors of the world. Regardless of whether you have purchased a prior *ATA Membership Directory*, I feel certain you will want to add the directory to your resources for enriching your collecting.

ATA's next *Membership Directory* has been in the planning stages for more than a year. During the time since our last directory was produced in 2011, well over a thousand different collectors have joined ATA.

The result is a new, large group of collectors from all around the world who have discovered ATA and its resources. Discovering good connections to enrich our hobby is always a high point – and it is made considerably easier by use of ATA's *Directory*.

The 2015-17 *Directory* will have a different “feel.” GONE are the topic codes that were so easy to confuse with other numbers such as checklist items or pages. BACK are the very useful listings of members by country and member websites. NEW is a composite listing of stamp dealers, both in the United States and abroad, who are members of ATA.

The wonderful directory resource is made possible only by you. The more members who participate, the more valuable the directory will be.

Take a few moments to submit the directory permission form when you receive it in your mailbox or email inbox; or return the same form that you'll find on the back cover of this journal. If we do not hear from you, we will be able to include only your name and membership number (and your prior topical collecting interests as you supplied them to ATA in the past). By the way, if you prefer to totally opt out of the 2015-17 *Membership Directory* – to have your name not appear – all you need do is notify the ATA Office.

Thank you to the 41 ATA members who, during the past several months, filled out their directory permission form found on the back side of their mailed renewal reminder letters. You've given our office staff an opportunity for a head start in testing the procedures for compiling the new directory. If you wish to change any information you've previously submitted, just contact the ATA Office.

ATA no longer charges its members for listing multiple topics in the *Membership Directory*. The purpose of the directory is connectivity – and that would be somewhat stifled if you do not feel perfectly free to list as many topics as you collect.

If you enjoy collecting any topics that are not listed on pages 63-69 of this issue of *Topical Time*, please feel free to list them anyway! You just might be the very first ATA member to collect that topic and inspire others to join you in your pursuit.

For ATA's last *Membership Directory*, 106 members became Directory Donors, because they believe in this vital resource for our member services. It is my hope that even more members will support this upcoming directory with their donation. Any amount will be appreciated! If you donate \$25 or more (\$35 if you live internationally), you will be among those members preordering the directory. It will be mailed to you in July unless you ask that it be brought to a stamp show such as NTSS. Preorders are very helpful! The member receives a reduced price in return for helping us gauge the number of copies to have printed.

The final price of the Membership Directory cannot be determined until we know the number of pages to solicit bids for the printing cost. Our last directory cost \$9 plus \$5.60 domestic postage if mailed. We are hoping to keep the cost of our 2015-17 directory somewhere in that range.

This is my first "Vera's Views" that has been written about a single subject. This is because I feel it's such an important one – and because it is very much on the minds and in the activities of our office staff. We so hope you will immediately return your directory permission form and also become a Directory Donor! ☺

ATA Sponsorships for National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS)

The American Topical Association will hold its annual National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) at the Monarch Hotel and Conference Center in Clackamas (near Portland), Ore., July 31-Aug. 2, 2015.

We are seeking Sponsorships for several functions during that weekend. The event level and benefits are listed below. All sponsors will receive the following recognition:

- Sponsor's logo in the show program (our program won gold in three APS competitions).
- Sponsor's company name in all show publications.
- Acknowledgement in *Topical Time*.
- Placard indicating Sponsor's support of the NTSS event.
- Sponsorship dollars will go to underwrite each listed NTSS event.
- Literature from Sponsor's company presented at each event and show.
- Free appropriately-sized ad in the show program.
- Our *Linn's* preshow advertisement will note sponsorship.
- Free ad in *Topical Time* in a 2015 issue of Sponsor's choice (size details available on request).

Official Call, ATA Annual Meeting

Meeting will be held Friday, July 31, 2015, 1 pm, at the Monarch Hotel and Conference Center, 12566 SE 93rd Ave, Clackamas, Ore., during the National Topical Stamp Show. ☺

Additional recognition is listed below each event heading:

National Topical Stamp Show Presenting Sponsor – \$2,000

- Event will bear Sponsor's name every time the show is mentioned in publicity both before and during the show.
- Sponsorship announced multiple times all three days of show.

Awards Banquet (Saturday evening) Underwriter – \$1,000

- Event will bear Sponsor's name.
- Sponsorship announced at Banquet and during the Bourse.

Friday Reception/Dinner Underwriter – \$1,000

- Event will bear Sponsor's name.
- Sponsorship announced at the dinner and during the Bourse.

Thursday Tour of Portland Sponsor – \$500

- Tour to McMenamins Kennedy School, Northwest Philatelic Library, Pittock Mansion and Powell's City of Books.
- Event will bear Sponsor's name, credit given during the event.

Monday Tour to Mount Saint Helens Sponsor – \$500

- Tour to Mount Saint Helens Visitor Center, Forest Living Center and Johnston Ridge Observatory.
- Event will Sponsor's name, credit given during the event.

Thematic Exhibition Awards

Grand Award – \$500

- Award will bear Sponsor's name, credit given during the ceremony and in all published information about this award.

Reserve Grand Award – \$350

- Award will bear Sponsor's name, credit given during the ceremony and in all published information about this award.

For more information, or to send your sponsorship, please contact: Vera Felts, Executive Director, ATA Office, PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008, phone (618) 985-5100 or by email: american topical@msn.com. ☎

Remember to Use TopicalsOnLine!

Our new website, TopicalsOnLine (www.topicalsonline.com), continues to grow, as people discover the great selection of inexpensive stamps for sale and discover how easy it is to list duplicates. Grab your check-lists and stop in!



ATA board member Bob Lamb, who spearheaded the website project, has enjoyed watching it grow and continues to receive positive feedback from buyers and sellers.

Topical and thematic collectors have varied interests, and stamps have so far been listed and purchased for the majority of the topics that ATA officially identifies. There are some topics that are not yet represented, but more are added all the time. TopicalsOnLine is a great new tool to help you collect and is a fantastic member resource. Please check it out if you haven't already! ☎



WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

Thank you!

Each year, in our March-April issue of *Topical Time*, we take a moment (and several pages) to acknowledge all those who have provided financial support above and beyond their membership dues to help support our association. As an organization that serves and supports the hobby community extending well beyond immediate membership, the American Topical Association requires a lot of resources to keep it functional and vital. Not only do we serve members' collecting needs, we also provide support to our study units and chapters. By doing so, we're also providing support and outreach to a number of non-members who belong to study units and chapters. This support is extremely important to the stability and growth of our organization and we are extremely grateful.

While financial gifts are the most tangible to track, there are many other ways you support our ATA that must be acknowledged.

Thank you for gifts in-kind and donations of philatelic material.

Thank you for selling and buying stamps through our TopicalsOnLine website.

Thank you to everyone who writes a column, submits a feature, letter to the editor or contributes in any way to the editorial product of *Topical Time*, which is enjoyed by all members and passed along to thousands of other collectors as well.

Thank you for the time you spend either volunteering at shows to help promote the ATA or even in your own club, discussing your interests and mentioning ATA to fellow members.

Thank you for prioritizing making philatelic purchases from those who advertise in *Topical Time*. Those dealers support our organization directly, by targeting their marketing dollars to those who belong to ATA.

Who shall we recruit into our hobby?

For as long as I can remember (and likely before), our hobby has been involved with discussions surrounding its future and whether there is another generation of collectors coming as we lay down our tongs. Stamp collecting (all phases of it) is considered by those who create demographics charts as a "mature" hobby; that is, it's been around a long time, is fully developed and is not a hobby that anyone sees burgeoning anytime in the foreseeable future. But, contrary to many in our hobby who proclaim stamp collecting as a "dying hobby," based on the ages of the faces they see at club meetings and stamp shows, I do not feel it is a pursuit that's necessarily doomed to extinction. But the question always remains, "who do we recruit?"

Over the years, I've consistently heard collectors bemoaning the fact that when one attends stamp shows and club meetings there is a distinct lack of young people. But, as I've delved into the archives of the American Philatelic Society and other areas of organized philately over the years, photos of members of organizations from the 1940s, '50s and even

much earlier (the turn of the 20th century), image after image confirms that the organized part of our hobby has never been a haven for the young. Indeed, as a teen-aged collector in a very active stamp club (Los Alamos, N.M.), I was virtually always the youngest person in the room and also at shows. Most kids who collected either did so as part of a group (Scouts, 4-H or others) or as a solitary pursuit.

This does not mean we should not recruit the young, we need to. But most will leave the hobby during their adolescent to young-adult years and, if they return, will do so in their middle ages. The more troubling fact is that – unlike when most of us became collectors – stamps are not a regular part of the mail experience in the home. Incoming mail (what remains) is usually permit or metered mail, and most people now pay bills on line and do not write letters.

In her youth column this month (Page 78), MaryAnn Bowman features comments from both sides of the argument about whether we should actively recruit youth into the hobby, with some very thoughtful responses indeed.

MaryAnn also is promoting and rounding up resources for a fairly new and interesting program, Stamps Teach, which is more than a little loosely based on the longtime success of the 50-year-old plus Postal History Foundation. Although based in Arizona, PHF serves tens of thousands of educators and youth nationwide and even in foreign countries (www.postalhistoryfoundation.org). Like the PHF, Stamps Teach was developed as a means of getting stamp-based curricula into classrooms to educate children in ways that introduce stamps as a teaching tool, rather than as an end in themselves.

In a time when children are no longer naturally exposed to stamps, programs such as Stamps Teach and the venerable PHF may be just the answer. They do indeed deserve our support, philosophically, financially and with badly needed materials. Contact information for Stamps Teach is found in MaryAnn's column. Details of the PHF may be found on its website or by writing to the Postal History Foundation, 920 N 1st Ave, Tucson AZ 85719 (520) 623-6652 . ☐



***Members of the Syracuse (N.Y.) Philatelic Society in 1952.
Most any archive reveals a distinct lack of youth.***



TOPICAL POSTLINE

Wikitelic and general information

I have carefully read your article in *Topical Time* Vol. 66 No.1 (January-February 2015, pages 14-15).

Being an editor myself (*Der Musikus*, International Philatelic Music Study Group), I often have the same problem when I receive articles with thematic information that is mainly taken from Wikipedia.

However, a long time ago – the time before Wikipedia – the input for thematic articles was taken from books. Well, not every collector has or had his or her own private library. Therefore it was always one of the main tasks to distribute thematic information to the members of a study group.

Since Wikipedia has been launched, it is easier to find the information. However, not every collector really uses Wikipedia or even the internet. For example, more than 42 % of the members of Motivgruppe Musik are older than 70 years and

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We are members of ASDA, APS, ATA.

about 50% of our members don't have an email account, which means that it is very likely that they don't use the internet. For this reason I don't mind also publishing "Wikitelic" articles in our magazine.

However, I fully agree that an "overall" magazine such as *Topical Time* should not publish "Wikitelic" articles about the various topics (perhaps except from the Study Unit Spotlight). Your problem, therefore, is how to find authors for the articles you are looking for.

I think there are several ATA members who are able to fulfill the requirements, however, they are probably already engaged in writing articles for their own study groups.

My proposal therefore is: why does *Topical Time* not reprint good articles that have appeared in the magazines of some study units?

They don't have only "Wikitelic" articles about their specific topic, but also articles that might be of interest to any topical collector.

Attached to this email I'm sending you three examples from a series about "philatelic material in topical exhibits," which we published in *Der Musikus*. We started Part 1 in January 2013 with an article about stamps. In the meantime we have published nine articles, including postmarks, stationery, different forms of postal delivery and more ... to be continued. Of course, illustrations of our articles are related to music (as much as possible). However, the content is valid for any topical collector. What do you think about reprinting such articles?

Kind regards from Berlin, Germany.

— Peter Lang, via email
Motivgruppe Musik (International Philatelic Music Study Group)

Peter,

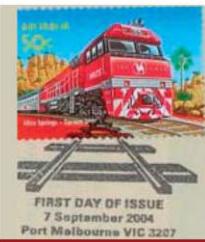
Thank you very much for your kind and thoughtful letter regarding the ongoing discussion regarding "Philatelic" and what I term "Wikitelic" writing.

Although my preference is always for philatelic writing (where a stamp is not being used merely as a prop for a story about gnomes, cats or last year's trip to New Zealand), there's no question that there is a place for "Wikitelic" writing, both in this journal (occasionally) and study unit or specialist publications. However, those types of pieces should be used judiciously, as we are, after all, philatelic publications, not broad generalist magazines that do not cover any subject in depth.

You have made the first (and best) argument for the occasional inclusion of Wikitelic pieces, in that not everyone maintains either a large personal library or ready access to the Internet. Thus, what I may consider "readily available" information may not be as easily accessible to some as to others. We do still publish "Wikitelic" pieces in *Topical Time*, but very much enjoy when an article comes along that features both information about a subject as well as solid philatelic information – the proverbial editor's "sweet spot!"

As for your suggestion about publishing pieces found in study unit newsletters and magazines, as you know, we already do that – every issue – in "Study Unit Spotlight." However it is our attempt, when possible, to recognize some of the really solid non-Wikitelic writing that is found in various journals. This month's Spotlight is found on Page 50.

— Wayne



TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

George DeKornfeld

Arrrrrrrrrrrh!

Thieves, robbers – even murderers – all terms used to describe that particular group of sea-farers who spent their days helping themselves to the ships and cargo of unsuspecting ocean travelers. More recently, an even greater connotation of evil exists due to their modern-day activities off of the coast of such lands as Somalia.

Yet, there has always existed a certain sense of lore, if not outright charm, when referring to this group of swash-buckling old salts. This perception has even given rise to a now-international parody culture with its own unofficial holiday. Aye, matey, in this issue we'll be looking at some pictorial postmarks featuring pirates, as well as the pirates themselves.

Pirates of the Caribbean is the name given to a set of four stamps issued by the Bahamas in 1987 (Scott Nos. 625-628) and, appropriately, these showcase the likes of Anne Bonney, Blackbeard, Captain Edward England and Captain Woodes Rogers (Figure 1).

Anne Bonney's family members were Irish immigrants to the New World in 1712 where, after a series of failed relationships (including that with her father, who disowned her), Anne ended up married to her second husband,

Jack "Calico Jack" Rackham, captain of the pirate sloop *Revenge*. The *Revenge* was a vessel stolen from Nassau, where they both lived. For a while, they and their crew



Figure 1 (above).

Figure 2 (below).



were quite successful in relieving others of their possessions as their paths crossed at sea and Anne, a fierce fighter, gained the respect of the otherwise all-male crew. The *Revenge* was captured by a King's ship out of Jamaica in 1720. She and the crew were taken there, tried and sentenced to be hanged. Anne's fate is unknown, as her sentence was delayed due to pregnancy (she may have died in prison or even been ransomed out by her father), but her last words to Calico Jack were "sorry to see you there, but if you'd fought like a man, you would not have been hang'd like a Dog." We'll touch on Blackbeard later. Captain Woods

Rogers was a privateer during the War of Spanish Succession (1701-14), who ended up as governor of the Bahamas. Captain Edward England was also of Irish descent and also was a privateer, but was captured by pirate Christopher Winter and pressed

into service. Eventually "borrowing" a ship of his own, he sailed off the African Coast and across the Indian Ocean. Known as one of the more humane pirates, England flew the classic Jolly Roger flag with skull and crossbones, which – at last – brings us to our first pictorial cancel (also shown in Figure 1).

Figure 2 takes us to France with a postmark applied at Saint Malo in 1982, a city in Brittany in the northwest that lies on the English Channel. Touting tourism by mentioning

its region as being a mere four hours travel time from Paris draws on Saint Malo's history of being a port notorious for pirate activity during the 1700s, by depicting a bandana-headed sailor with eye patch at the helm of a ship.

Great Britain provides us with a nice selection of pictorials. Most are tangential, in that they don't depict actual pirates, yet all fit our theme quite nicely. The marking shown in Figure 3 was used to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Sir Arthur Sullivan, composer of the music for *The Pirates of Penzance*, a comic opera first performed in New York City in 1879 (with W.S. Gilbert providing the libretto), and debuting in Lon-

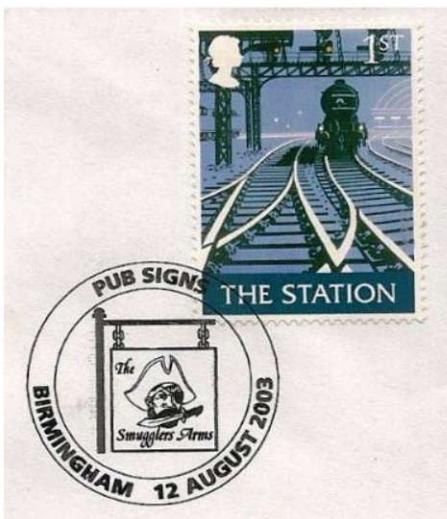
Figure 4.



Figure 3.



Figure 5 (right).

**Figure 6.**

rial, and appropriately used at Edinburgh in 1996, as Stevenson was Scottish.

Along a similar vein is the marking shown as Figure 5. J.M. Barrie wrote *Peter Pan*, first as a play in 1904, and then, later, as a novel in 1911. Here the viewers were introduced to James Hook, the pirate-antagonist of the story and captain of the vessel *The Jolly Roger*. Concordance here is provided not only by the stamp portraying Tinker Bell, the good fairy in the tale, also by the name of the town in the cancellation (Hook)! Hook is located in the Hart District of northern Hampshire, where this marking was used in 2002.

don in 1880. Designed specifically for use with the stamp shown (Scott 1461), the concordance between the stamp and cancel (both from 1992) is super.

We would be remiss if we didn't include a mention of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic piece, *Treasure Island*, a story that has helped define the popular perception of pirates with their wooden legs, hooks and shoulder-perched talking parrots.

First published in 1883, this novel introduced Long John Silver as one of its main characters, presumably illustrated in our Figure 4 pictorial.

**Figure 7.**

SPORTS - ART - EUROPA - RED CROSS - MEDICINE - OLYMPICS - SOCCER - WORLD WAR II

Anyone fortunate enough to have traveled the United Kingdom has almost certainly been intrigued

Figure 8.

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by the pubs found there, their names and their ornate exterior signage. In Figure 6, germane to our topic, we see a sign for the aptly named “The Smuggler’s Arms” in a pictorial cancel used at Birmingham in 2003.

Our final British marking (and I admit I’ve taken a slight liberty here) can be seen in Figure 7. The so-called “Pirate Radio” stations began broadcasting music from ships anchored off England’s shores in 1964. Although unlicensed and unregulated, these stations proved immensely popular with listeners and dozens popped up over the years. Located in Essex in the southwest, Frinton-on-Sea commemorated these airwave-outlaws in 2010 with this marking that includes a Jolly Roger flag.

Finishing up at home, let’s look at a handful of pictorial cancels used in

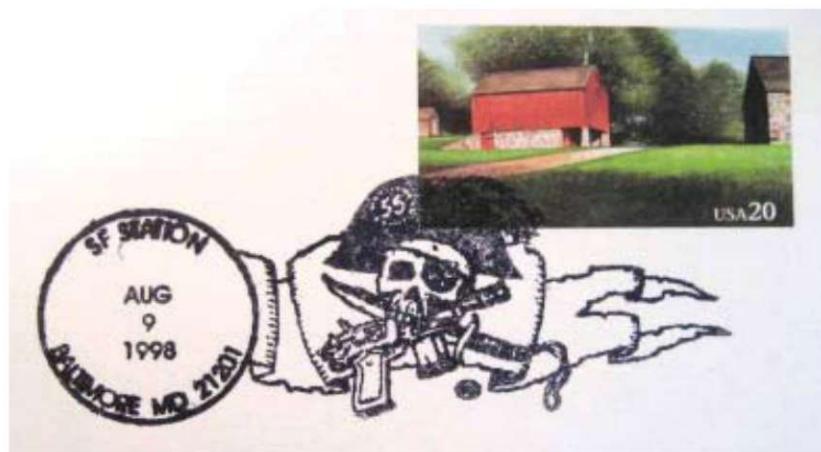
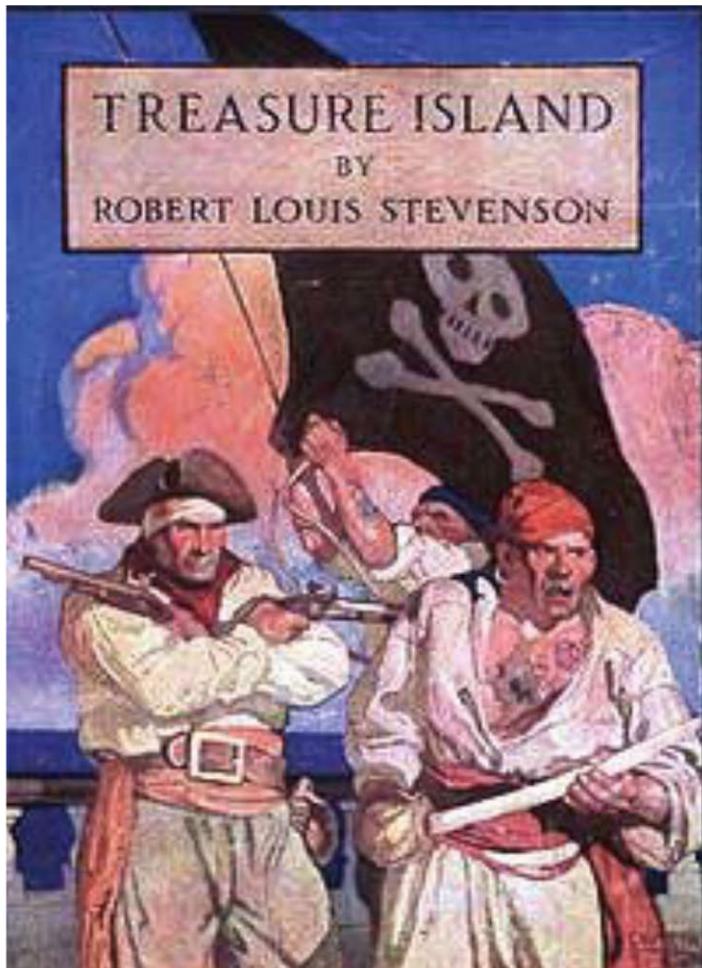


Figure 9.

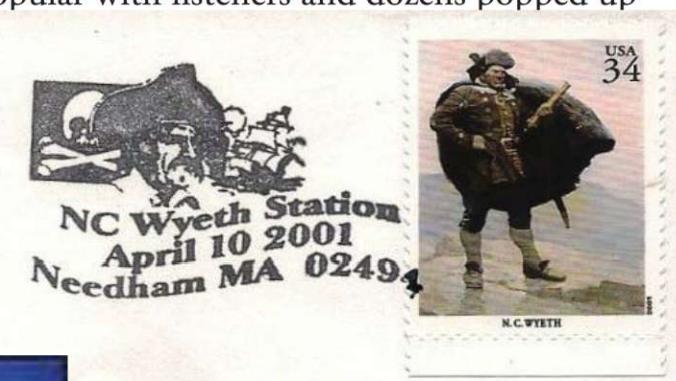


Figure 10.

the United States. Figure 8 shows us a running pirate with hat, earring, and skull-and-crossbones on his shirt, all commemorating the 10th Gasparilla Distance Classic of 1987, an annual 15K race held for charity and named in honor of The Tampa Bay Gasparilla Pirate Festival.

In Figure 9 we see a skull donning a pirate’s hat, but with “crossed bones” replaced by crossed weaponry, used at Baltimore, Md., in 1998.

Figure 10 is a pictorial cancel commemorating Newell Convers Wyeth, an artist born in Needham, Mass., where this handstamp was used. Wyeth, amongst other things

Figure 11.



Figure 12 (above).

Figure 13 (below).



Sacramento, which had, in part, a pirate theme. The marking shown honors the Treasure de las Flores, the floriculture display.

Figure 15 features a cancel for the Blackbeard Pirate Festival, an all-weekend affair held at Hampton, Va.

This marking celebrates the 2010 event. The festival includes all things marauder and those attending are encouraged to dress and act the part.

Blackbeard started his

exploits in the Caribbean but slowly moved his operation north, temporarily settling in North Carolina with his 14th(!) wife after gaining a pardon from the governor. Once a pirate, always a pirate, and it wasn't long before he was back aboard ship, this time plundering vessels along the East Coast and into Chesapeake Bay. Virginia's governor, Alexander Spotswood, was convinced that

(including being the father of noted artist Andrew Wyeth), illustrated the cover of the 1911 edition of the novel *Treasure Island* (Figure 11).

Figure 12 shows a device used at Priddy, Texas, in 2003, saluting The Pirates, the town's high school football team and its homecoming game. The pictorial presents a treasure chest and saber. Figure 13 is an example of an earlier 2003 marking with a different design.

In Figure 14 we see a cancel from the 2005 California State Fair, held in



Figure 14.



Figure 15.

Blackbeard and other pirates were operating under the protection of North Carolina. In 1718, he sent two ships crewed by Hamptonians and The Royal Navy to find Blackbeard and put an end to his rampage. After a bloody sea battle, during which Blackbeard was beheaded, Blackbeard's head, flag and

treasure were presented to Governor Spotswood, who decreed that the pirate's head be placed on a stake near the entrance to Hampton Harbor as a warning to other pirates; a "heads up," if you will.

Our final pictorial

cancel this month can be found in Figure 16. The brainchild of two friends from Oregon, "Talk Like a Pirate Day" exploded into an international parodic holiday in 2002, after Dave Barry, a syndicated humor columnist, wrote about the idea, after having heard of it. Media coverage took it from there and the rest, as they say, is history. Our marking is from 1994, the first "Annual Pirate's Day," and was used at Barnegat, N.J., Sept. 18. This was likely a precursor to "Talk Like a Pirate Day," which has been held yearly Sept. 19 since 1995 (Figure 17).

So, avast there me mateys, you have several months in which to practice and to get your pirate on in time for the September festivities!

Aaaaar ... and, until next time, I'll leave you with this:

A pirate walks into a bar and the bartender says, "Hey, I haven't seen you in a while. What happened, you look terrible!"

"What do ye mean, matey?" the pirate replies, "I be feelin' fine."

The bartender says, "But what about that wooden leg? You didn't have that before."



Figure 16.

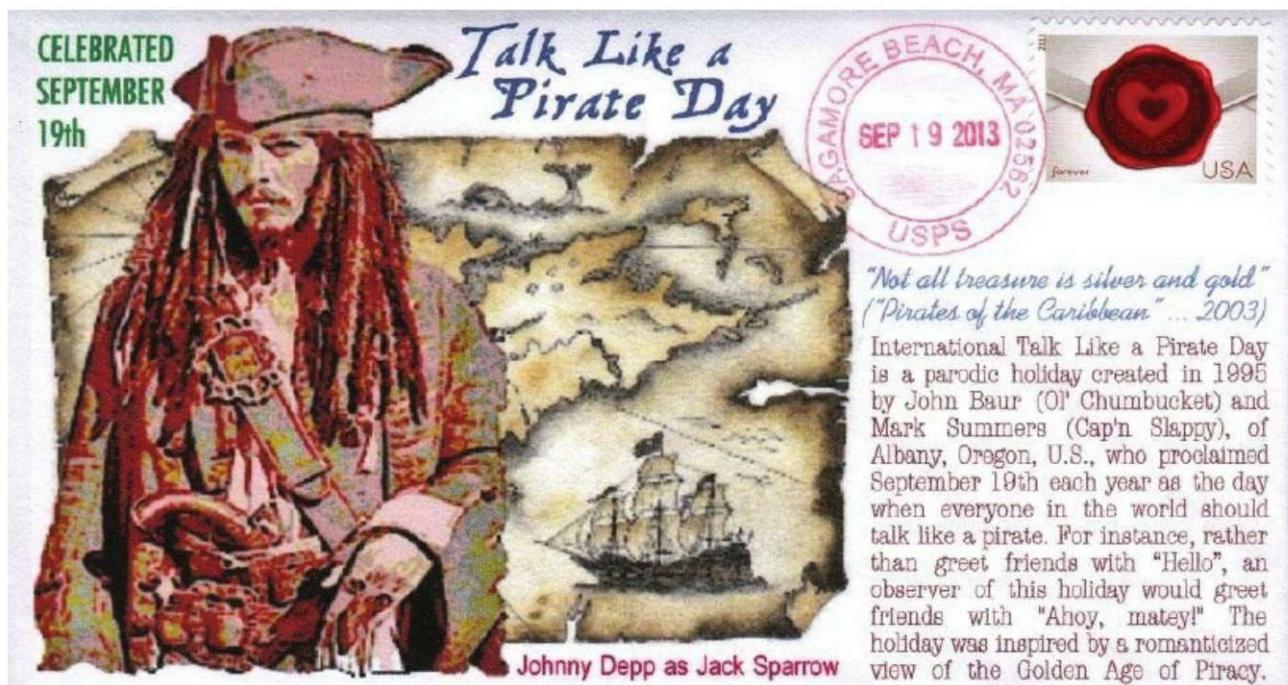


Figure 17.

"Aaarrrr," says the pirate, "We was in a battle at sea and a cannon ball hit me leg and took her right off. The ship's surgeon made me this here new one."

"Yeah," says the bartender, "But what about that hook? Last time I saw you, you had both hands."

"Aaarrrr," says the pirate, "I had the anchor rope wrapped around me wrist when one of the swabbies let the anchor down before I gave the word, and it pulled me hand right off, so the surgeon made me this new one in the shape of this here hook"

"Well," says the bartender, "What about that eye patch? Last time you were in here you had both eyes."

"Aaarrrr," says the pirate, "I was up in the crow's nest looking for ships to plunder when this gnat flew right into me eye"

"So?" replied the bartender, "are you trying to tell me you lost your eye because of a tiny gnat?"

"Aye," says the pirate, "First day with the hook!"

All comments and corrections regarding this column are eagerly appreciated.
Please feel free to contact me at: gdekornfel@fairpoint.net.



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NTSS 2015: Plan Now to Attend!

by Dawn Hamman

What makes a great stamp show? Start with a beautiful setting and a comfortable and spacious hotel. Add dealers with a wide selection of material, exhibits, interesting meetings, great food and the camaraderie stamp collectors share. That's National Topical Stamp Show 2015 in a nutshell!

We'll be gathering July 31 to Aug. 2 at the Monarch Hotel and Conference Center in the Portland, Ore., suburb of Clackamas. This modern facility offers a stamp show room rate of \$99. There is free parking, free airport transportation, complimentary Wi-Fi, a beautiful outdoor pool and more. Find out more at www.monarchhotel.cc, or call (503) 652-1515.

The show theme – Trail to Topicals – reflects the historic journey on the Oregon Trail: Friday, "To the Mountains"; Saturday, "To the Prairie"; and Sunday, "To the



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PORTLAND, OREGON – JULY 31 - AUG 2, 2015

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Oceans.” Show cachets for each day will illustrate these themes.

The bourse will have dealers who carry topical stamps, as well as stamps and other philatelic items and ephemera for all collectors. You’ll find variety for those who collect topics, countries or specialized areas.

NTSS is the only all-thematic philatelic

exhibition in the country. Myriad topics make for interesting browsing on the exhibit floor. This year, a new category – Free Style Exhibits – has been added. Read about it on our website or on Page 13 of the January-February issue of *Topical Time*. Join the fun!

The President’s Reception, on Friday, July 31, will be a hearty Italian buffet at The Old Spaghetti Factory, a short walk from the hotel. The awards banquet on Saturday evening will be at the hotel.

A pre-show tour will be offered on Thursday, July 30. The tour begins with lunch at McMenamins Kennedy School. The former elementary school has been converted into a charming hotel and restaurant. The afternoon continues with a brief tour of the Northwest Philatelic Library. A highlight of the tour will be a stop at the 22-room

Pittock Mansion. The estate overlooks and provides stunning views of the city. The mansion was built by Henry Pittock, publisher of *The Oregonian* newspaper. Next comes Powell’s City of Books, the largest new and used bookstore in the world! You will have an opportunity to browse many out-of-print and hard-to-find titles.

A tour of Mount Saint Helens will be





offered on Monday, Aug. 3. We'll travel along the Columbia River to enjoy gorgeous scenery. Then it's on to the Mount Saint Helens Visitors' Center and a stop for lunch. Along the route, we will see remnant mudflows and debris from the largest avalanche ever recorded by man. The afternoon includes stops at the Forest Learning Center and Johnston Ridge Observatory, which provides the closest view of the crater.

The weather is sure to be delightful, so you may wish to extend your stay to enjoy Oregon's scenery. Take a walk in Forest Park, with its panoramic views, or enjoy the riot of color at the Portland Japanese Garden. Portland boasts numerous acclaimed museums, including the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, and the Portland Art Museum.

Save the dates. NTSS 2015 promises to be one of our best shows ever! ☺

ATA Mission Statement

The American Topical Association promotes topical stamp collecting and the educational and recreational aspects of this hobby by...

- ☛ Encouraging the collection, research, and study of topical stamps and their subjects.
- ☛ Providing for the exchange of ideas among members worldwide.
- ☛ Developing and publishing books, checklists, and audio-visual programs.
- ☛ Holding or participating in philatelic exhibitions.
- ☛ Assisting members to acquire and dispose of collections.



METERS BY TOPIC

Wayne L. Youngblood

What is the “Right” Way to Collect Meters?

Although they are very closely related, the collecting of meters is a bit different than collecting traditional stamps and, sometimes, it's not easy to know what's best or how to proceed. Still, the addition of pictorial or text meters that are appropriate to your



Figure 1. An attractive 1954 pictorial meter promoting both the Los Angeles Angels baseball team and a radio station. The meter is not only on a piece cut from an envelope, but is a fairly pale strike as well. It is, however, quite collectible.

chosen topics or themes will make fantastic additions to your collection. But how do you choose what's best? The bottom line, of course, is whether it pleases you!

Because there is no definitive guide on how to collect meters or what topics can be found, seeking out and collecting them is full of serendipitous discoveries and – for that matter – disappointments. This is because, unlike stamps, there is no particular quality control or standard for meters. Postage stamps must meet certain consistency and quality standards to be distributed. Destruction percentages can be as high as 40% or higher for stamps, but since meters are applied by private concerns, it matters little what type of paper they appear on, the strength of the strike or how well-centered it is, as long as the postage amount can be read and registered by the machine.



Figure 2. An example of the same meter shown in Figure 1. This example, however, is not only a much stronger strike, but is on adhesive security meter tape (akin to being a stamp), making it much more desirable than its Figure 1 counterpart.



Figure 3. Of about 20 examples of this pictorial meter encountered, the author finds this the most acceptable addition to his collection, despite drawbacks.

Take, for example, the item shown in Figure 1. While I was thrilled to find an attractive pictorial meter with both baseball and radio tie-ins (in this case advertising the Los Angeles Angels on a radio station in 1954), I was also disappointed that the strike is found on a cut piece (rather than a cover) and that it is a very pale strike (no pun intended). With a bit of diligence, I was able to replace the Figure 1 item with the one shown in Figure 2, from the same meter die a year later. Not only is the strike much crisper and cleaner, it is on adhesive meter tape with a security pattern, something much more comparable to an actual postage stamp. We don't always get so lucky, however, and sometimes must take what we can find.

So what is the "best" way to collect meters? Again, there are no hard and fast rules, but there are preferences, and you'll no doubt develop your own over time, based on your own tastes and the needs of your collection.

Because my interest in meters is driven primarily through my interest in stamps and postal history, I'd always rather have a clear strike of a pictorial meter on a meter tape (either on cover or off), because it's very similar to a postage stamp. Secondarily, I'd

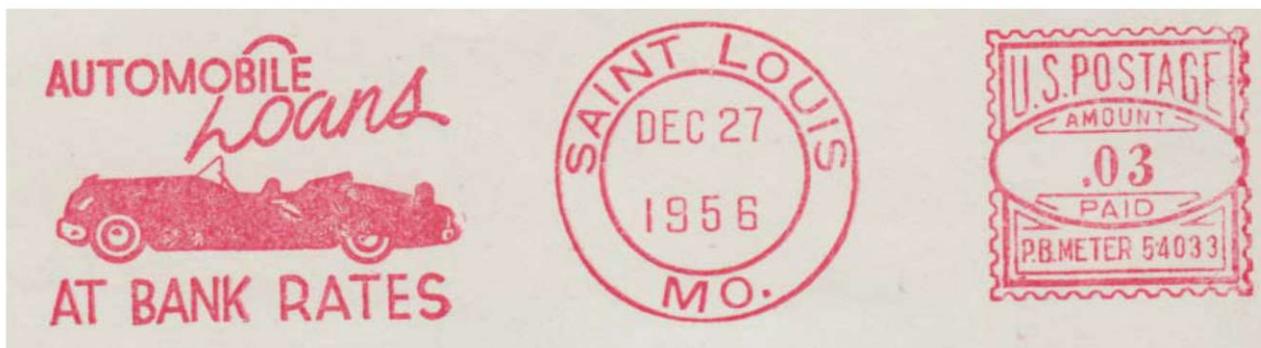


Figure 4. Although this is a far superior strike of the Figure 3 meter, it appears on an envelope cut – not a fatal flaw, but less desirable to the author. Other collectors may find it superior to the Figure 3 example.

prefer a full cover to a cut corner, but I don't always have that choice, so I content myself with what I can find, keeping my eyes open to replace items that I don't consider ideal.

Let's use three different pictorial meters that illustrate a number of different, but



Figure 5. Although each strike of this pictorial automobile meter is clear and collectible, each one has characteristics that make it less desirable than the example shown in Figure 4. From top: a "short" strike, trailing off the edge of the envelope; three dirty, damaged or overinked meter dies that feature excessive visual "chatter," including showing the left edge of the die; and (above) a die with extraneous matter that form two large "dents" in the car and a line leading from the "S" to the rear bumper. The "dent" variety could add humor to a collection, however.



Figure 6. At first glance, each of the three of these examples of a pictorial bank meter look like good, clear strikes – and they are – except for small details. The top strike is best; the middle strike was mailed at the 2¢ unsealed rate, so there is no date information in the dial; and the bottom strike shows significant damage to the meter die, most notable above the “AV” of “SAVE” and in the word “First.”

important, condition characteristics that affect their desirability. I will not duplicate negative qualities, such as short strikes, weak strikes or others. Each example builds on the strengths and weaknesses of the others, and it should be pointed out that all are collectible – particularly if it is the only example you are able to find for your collection.

Shown in Figure 3 is an attractive bank ad from 1956 that shows the silhouette of a car. The purpose of the ad, of course, is to advertise auto loans. Of the 20 or so examples of this ad I've encountered, I consider this one the best, because it is the only one on a full, small-sized cover. However, there are a couple of strikes against this item. First – and most obvious – is the fact this is a relatively pale strike of this pictorial meter. While you can see all the features, they are not immediately apparent.

Secondarily, because this is a long meter die and a short envelope, the pictorial portion of the meter slightly overlaps the return address portion of the envelope. While this isn't a problem to some, the graphic artist part of me wants to be able to see a pictorial meter clearly, and without background “chatter.” Still, the cornercard is definitely related to the subject of the meter, so presents less of a problem than it would if it did not.

The strike of the meter die shown in Figure 4, which is from an envelope cut, is much crisper, cleaner and without any other distracting features. It is highly collectible and would fit easily into most any collection.

Now take a look at the five additional examples of this same strike shown in Figure 5. While each one features a clear strike, each also has distinguishing characteristics that make it less desirable than the Figure 4 example. These characteristics are explained in more detail in the cutline.

Figure 6 shows three examples of another interesting bank-related pictorial meter. Each is a good, clear strike with no visual “chatter” to speak of. Still, a closer look



Figure 7. An example of an interesting meter that has been overcanceled with an unrelated subject.

reveals that the center example (mailed at an unsealed rate) has no date information and the bottom example shows the evidence of significant damage to the meter dial.

The fault of the Figure 7 insurance-related meter is apparent. It has been overcanceled by a slogan machine cancel. If this cancel happened – by chance – to be in concordance with the subject of the meter, it would make it more desirable. As it is, it does not, so it would be considered a fault.

The example of the same meter, which is shown in Figure 8, shows a clear, crisp impression and would certainly be preferable. As a note, there is a small “2” below the



Figure 8. An example of a very fine strike of this particular meter. While it is evenly inked, crisp and clear, it could still be replaced with a better example if one turns up at some point in the future.

date. I have seen several different numbers in meter dials with this slogan. While it exceeds my personal tolerance for specialization, one could make a study of how many different numbered meter dials exist.



Figure 9. An example of the same meter shown in Figure 8 (without number), but printed in a different color (blue).

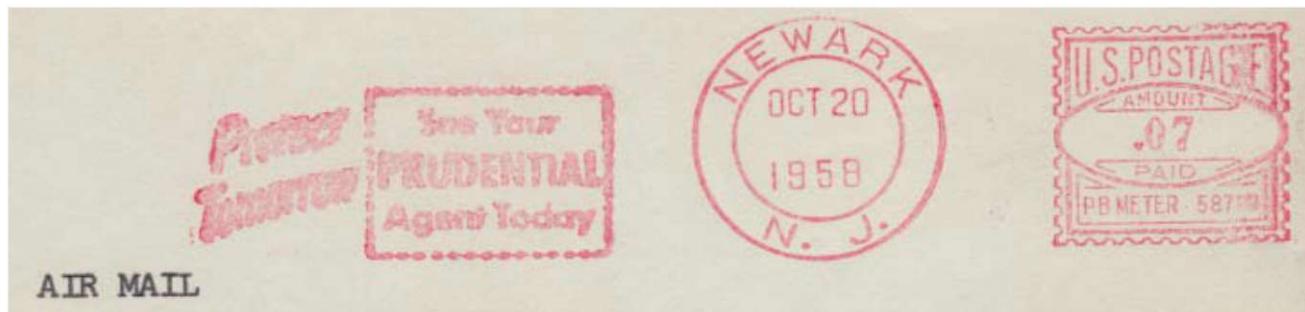


Figure 10. Another collectible type. Although the strike of the slogan isn't crisp, it is linked with a different design of meter die, similar to the old-fixed-slug type.

However, if one is inclined, there are a number of different types of collectible varieties that can be found on pictorial meters. For example, the meter shown in Figure 9 is not only the same meter slogan found in Figure 8, it is even from the same city (St. Louis). However, rather than being printed in the standard Pitney-Bowes pink color, it has been printed in blue, making it a separate and collectible variety in my eyes.

Similarly, take a good look at the meter shown in Figure 10. While it is not an overly clear strike, it is the same as those shown in Figures 8 and 9, but with two significant differences. One difference is the fact it pays a bit more of an unusual rate; the 7¢ domestic airmail rate that was current in 1958, which does show something different than the standard letter rate.

More significant, however, is the fact that this apparently duplicate slogan meter die is linked with an older form of a Pitney-Bowes meter design that more closely resembles the early fixed-slug stamp type, rather than appearing next to the omnipresent PB Eagle design.

Regardless of the fine points discussed here, it should be noted that the best meter for your collection is the one you either already have or will find soon. Waiting for perfection in an area with so many unknowns will leave you with a much smaller collection. To be sure, always keep an eye open for a better, cleaner strike. But if you run across a grubby, creased example of a pictorial meter you've never seen, your bet bet is to pick it up. You may never see another like it. □

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My Topic

Newt Culp

Dawn Hamman

This is the eighth in a series of brief vignettes spotlighting interests of some of our fellow ATA members.

A rich family tradition of volunteer fire fighting made Newton (Newt) Kulp's topic selection a natural one. The active philatelist chose fire-related stamps, especially those bright red fire engines that make such attractive stamps.

"I was a U.S. collector of mint singles, plate blocks, and postal stationery, among other things," Newt said. "One of the local clubs had interesting programs, often concerning topicals." He decided to try topical collecting and was immediately attracted to stamps with fire engines.

"I figured my collection would be maybe 500 stamps," he says with a laugh. He now has more

than 2,000 stamps and about 1,000 covers. He designs beautiful album pages on gray paper with navy lettering to perfectly complement his colorful stamps.



Newt is involved in the planning and running of the Florex, the Orlando, Fla., World Series of Philately show, and is on hand during the show to greet visitors and make all feel welcome. He also finds opportunities to promote ATA and the fun of topical collecting. "I like to tell people about the ATA's topical database. It's a great resource," he said. □

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Additionally, the following members donated stamps to ATA's youth program through the ATA Office: Carol & Keith Edholm, Norman Jacobs Jr, Christopher Loffredo, Joanne Patterson, Jan Robertson. Stamp collections were received from Alex Fine, Kenneth Lindquist, William Upholt, Frederick Van Assendelft and Barry Zarnoff. □

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Exhibit Prospectus

National Topical Stamp Show 2015, ATA

Monarch Hotel & Conference Center, Clackamas, Ore., July 31-Aug. 2, 2015

Rules and Regulations Governing Exhibits

The American Topical Association (ATA) defines a topical/thematic exhibit as one that develops a theme or story line based on the image or wording of the material shown.

1. This exhibition is open to all collectors regardless of society affiliation. Exhibits must be organized so as to be thematic in nature, but may fall into the thematic, display, illustrated mail or Cinderella divisions, or the post card, youth, or one frame classes, as defined by the APS Manual of Philatelic Judging. They will be judged according to the standards of the division or class in which they are entered. Exhibits must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor, and the preparation of the exhibit must represent the owner's efforts. The Exhibition Committee reserves the right to limit or reject any exhibit at its discretion without giving any reason. In such cases, a refund of the entry fee will be made. Each exhibitor will be notified of acceptance or rejection within 30 days after the receipt of the complete application with required attachments.

2. All entries must be submitted on the official entry form (photocopies are acceptable). The entry form must include the exhibitor's name (a nom de plume may be used), the exhibit title, and a brief description of the exhibit for the official program. Each entry must be accompanied by the appropriate frame fee (see options on the Official Entry Form), and electronic copies (or two hard copies) of the title page/plan page and synopsis. Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis, and must be received no later than May 30, 2015, or until such time as all frames have been fully subscribed. Failure to show after an exhibit has been accepted forfeits the entry fee.

3. All exhibits are limited to a maximum of ten frames. Use a separate entry form for each exhibit.

4. Frames will hold 16 individual 8.5" x 11" (or European A4) pages. Each page must be enclosed in a sheet protector and must be identified on the reverse side of the page with the owner's name and a clear indication of mounting sequence. Exhibits should not show on their face any identifying marks of ownership aside from names on the covers.

5. There will be a panel of five judges, three of whom shall be APS-ATA accredited judges and two may have only APS accreditation. The ATA urges judges to use the ATA "Official Thematic Score Sheet" to help them determine award levels for adult thematic exhibits. Judges will use the Uniform Exhibit Evaluation Form to report their opinions to exhibitors. Both these forms are posted on the ATA web site: www.americantopicalassn.org/exhibiting.shtml

Youth exhibits will be judged using the APS Youth Evaluation form.

6. There will be a Grand Award (exhibit eligible for the American Philatelic Society Champion of Champions Competition) and a Reserve Grand for the best and second best exhibits in the general class. Gold, vermeil, silver, silver-bronze, and bronze level awards will be available for all exhibits, adult and youth. Other awards of national philatelic organizations and ATA affiliates may be granted by the judges according to the rules of the sponsoring organization. All exhibitors will receive a copy of the APS UEEF (Uniform Exhibit Evaluation Form) or APS Youth form following the exhibition, representing the composite views of the judges. General class exhibits are eligible for the ATA Grand Award except for those which have won an International Grand Prix, or three international Large Gold awards. No exhibit which has won the NTSS Grand Award in the last five years shall be eligible for the current Grand Award unless extensively rewritten.

7. Exhibits will be mounted and dismounted under the supervision of the Exhibition Committee. Exhibitors or their agents desiring to mount and/or dismount their exhibits must so indicate on the entry form. Exhibits will be mounted from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday, July 30, 2015 (arrangements can be made for later mounting). Dismounting will begin at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, August 2, 2015; no early dismounting will be permitted for any reason.

8. Each exhibitor should arrange for insurance for the period of time that the exhibit is in transit, in storage prior to and following the exhibition, and while on display. Every precaution will be taken to safeguard all exhibits, including the provision of security personnel. However, the officers, representatives, and employees of the American Topical Association or the Monarch Hotel and Conference Center will not assume any liability or responsibility for loss or damage of any material due to any cause or reason.

9. Shipping instructions as well as frame assignment will be provided to exhibitors no later than July 8, 2015. Exhibitors who want ATA to return their exhibits must include the full anticipated cost for postage/insurance/registration with their application.

Official Entry Form (please fill out both parts):

Mail this form with fees to:

Douglas N. Clark (Exhibits Chair), P.O. Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648-0427

Title page (required), the plan page (required) and a one-page synopsis (recommended) should be sent by email to dnc@math.uga.edu or two copies of each included with application form.

Please accept the following exhibit. I understand that my signature on this Official Entry Form constitutes my acceptance of the stated Rules and Regulations.

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Number of Frames _____ Check Class and Division of Exhibit below

Class of exhibit: General Postcard Single-frame Youth

Division of exhibit: Thematic Display Illustrated mail Cinderella

My signature below indicates that I agree that the decision of the judges shall be final, and hereby release and agree to hold harmless the judges and the American Topical Association, its officers, directors, employees and representatives from any damage to my reputation or that of my exhibit, suffered or incurred as a result of the judging.

My signature below indicates that I understand that I will be responsible for insuring my exhibit while in transit, in storage, and on display. I will not hold the officers, representatives, or employees of the American Topical Association or the Monarch Hotel and Conference Center liable for the loss or damage of any material in my exhibit.

Signature of Exhibitor _____

Date Submitted _____

10. In anticipation of the international show New York 2016, a panel of internationally (FIP) accredited judges will be appointed so that exhibitors, regularly entered in the show, may, for an additional fee of \$10 per exhibit, have their exhibit judged by international standards. Exhibitors will receive FIP point breakdown and judges' comments, but no additional awards for this class. Judging of exhibits in this "FIP Option" class will be independent of any awards won in regular competition. Exhibits in the FIP Option class must consist of 8 frames, if the exhibit has previously won a large vermeil, gold or large gold at an international show, or 5 frames for other exhibits. This option is not available for illustrated mail, display or post card exhibits.

11. Any questions that may arise that are not covered in these Rules and Regulations shall be decided by the ATA Board of Directors at their sole and absolute discretion. For further information on the National Topical Stamp Show 2015, please contact Douglas N. Clark (Exhibits Chair), PO Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648-0427. Email: dnc@math.uga.edu. Telephone 1-(508)-428-9132.

Frame fees are higher for non-members of ATA.

Youth Exhibitor? Youth's Birth-date _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Please list my name (or *nom de plume*) in the program as:

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My exhibit should be considered as:

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Single-Frame	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 (ATA member) <input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00 (non-member)	\$ _____
Youth	<input type="checkbox"/> x No charge	\$ XXXX
F.I.P. Option	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 (per exhibit)	\$ _____

Expected cost for return of the exhibit \$ _____

Total Remittance \$ _____

Enclose check payable to "American Topical Association."

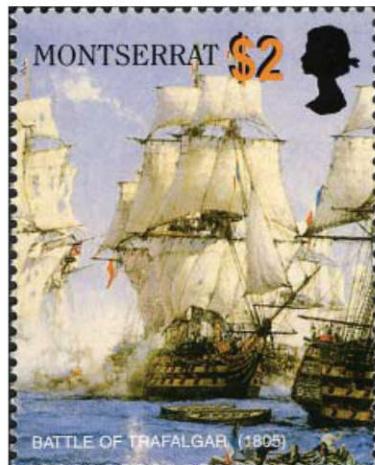
**Need NTSS 2015 info?
Check our website or contact ATA for latest info!**

A Collection That Needs Wide-Ranging Study — Admiral Nelson

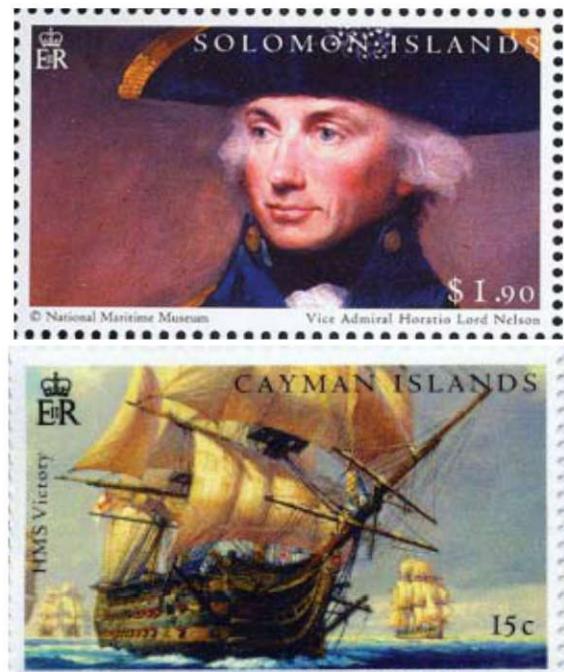
By Fraser McKee

Until a few years ago my very general topic for collecting, which in fact I didn't really work at, was "Maritime" stamps – anything maritime – ships, explorers, sea battles, fish, sea birds, shells, canoes, water sports and so forth. Then

I appreciated this wasn't going anywhere; I'd never approach a "collection." So, although I retained the five Gibbons albums I'd been using, I started only keeping an eye open for six "specialties."



An impressive Trafalgar battle scene is shown on this 2005 issue from Montserrat.



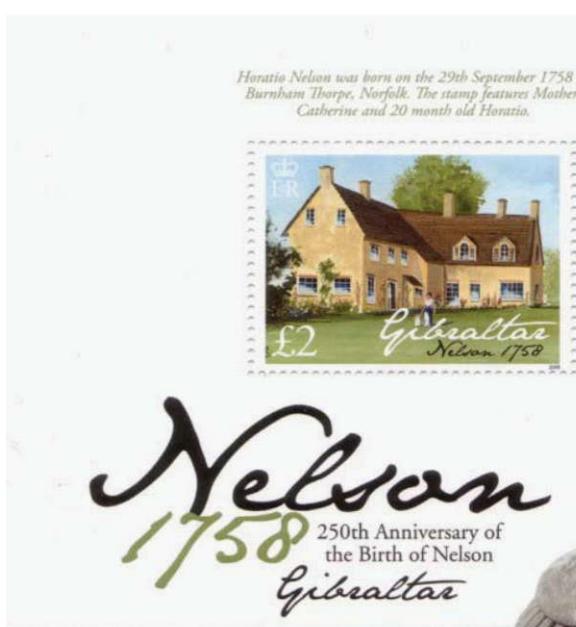
Two of the many different stamps released to mark the bicentennial of the Battle of Trafalgar, featuring a portrait of Nelson (top) and the HMS Victory (above).

site (<http://www.leuchtturm-welt.net/HTML/LTPHILA/PHILA.HTM>), as well as an American site (that seems closed as I write this) and lots of collectors. I included submarines because I'd served in a couple. Another one was personal: places in



Europe and the United States where my late wife and I had stayed, visited or had a meal. A fourth topic, naval (only)

Despite the appearance of a mature Nelson, who appears in the selvage of this souvenir sheet, the stamp itself shows him as a 20-month-old child, with his mother.





An impressive and attractive sheetlet released by Great Britain for the bicentennial.

aircraft of any nation or time, requires careful searching and background knowledge. Lots of aircraft topical boxes are available at shows, you just have to know what you're looking for.

The label attached to the British stamp below features a life mask of Nelson, made in 1800, five years before the Battle of Trafalgar. The design of the Montserrat stamp at right appears to have based Nelson's facial features on the life mask.



a topic unto itself with no support (and requires much background research). It helps that I have

a large naval library that contains books on Nelson and Trafalgar, I already knew the subject reasonably well and, when looking through lists, a name would often trigger at least a possibility: "Isn't

But the specialty from which I get the most fun is Lord Nelson, the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805 and the three opponents; Britain's Royal Navy, France and Spain. This



This Lesotho sheetlet shows the HMS Victory, Nelson, the battle and the fatal wounding of Nelson.



Shown above is a complete set of imperforate progressive color proofs for the St. Lucia Leaders of the World issue depicting the locomotive Admiral Nelson, showing how the colors were laid down during production. At left is an enlarged imperforate final proof of the issue.

he one of the French ship captains? For 10¢ I'll take it and check." To even begin you need the names of the 72 ships involved, plus their cap-

tains, and the six Admirals. And it isn't helped by the fact that some of the ships' names appear in both fleets: *Nep-tune*, in the British and the French fleets, and *Neptuno* in the Spanish. And, French names also appear in the British fleet - *Belleisle* and *Tonnant* for instance, for they'd formerly been captured – and for the same reason *Swiftsure* is in the French battle line. For Americans, a copy of Alfred Thayer Mahan's several books on Nelson and his times would be

a good start.



Nelson's wife, Frances Nisbet, is shown on this issue from Gibraltar.

I've expanded this topic to include references to the battle, Nelson's naval associates, his wife, Frances Nisbet, and his better-known girlfriend, Lady Emma Hamilton. Also, any stamp directly picturing Nelson's earlier history, including his youth, ships he served on and commanded, the Battle of the Nile, his funeral, statues to him and even a locomotive of the 1930s, the *Lord Nelson*. There's



A number of different countries, such as Jamaica, released stamp issues for the bicentennial that were very similar, if not identical to each other.

even a ship named the *Lady Nelson*. I try not to expand too far into these other, vaguer, potential connections!

My interest was much helped by the year 2005 being the 200th anniversary of the battle. About 44 countries released commemorative stamps – roughly 260 of them, and from such great seafaring nations as Lesotho and Mali! Here the problem is with dealers rarely carrying such recent issues, although they are to be found. Interestingly, there were few stamps issued for the battle's 100th anniversary in 1905. I have not tried to locate costly misprints or errors, or even – in most cases – different color varieties of the same stamp. The costs are modest and, as the saying goes, "It keeps me out of the pool halls!" So far it runs to about 262 stamps, quite a few on sheets, small and large. These topics make for interesting visits to shows and club sales, and a chance to sit sifting through boxes and sales books. ☐

Fraser McKee lives in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, spent 32 years in Canada's Naval Reserves and is a former member of the ATA, as well as a current member of the Ships on Stamps Study Unit.

Award Winners

The ATA provides awards for exhibitions of any size as a way to recognize exhibitors for their efforts and to encourage the creation of thematic exhibits to help spread the joy of topical collecting. Congratulations to the following recent winners of ATA awards. *Denotes ATA member.

First, Second and Third Awards

The following exhibitors were recent recipients of ATA Awards:

***Jonas Hällström** received an ATA 1st award at Sescal for his exhibit: *The History of the Square-Rigged Sailing Vessels*.

***Ray Cartier** received the ATA 1st at the Mid Cities Stamp Club Expo for his exhibit: *Jules Verne, Prophet*.

***Ray Cartier** received the ATA One Frame award at the Mid Cities Stamp Club Expo for his exhibit: *Jacques Cartier: French Navigator and Explorer*.

John Barrett received the ATA Novice award at the Mid Cities Stamp Club Expo for his exhibit: *Karl Bickel, Swiss Designer/Engraver Extraordinaire*.

The ATA offers a variety of exhibit awards to any show with a juried exhibit. The awards can be obtained by contacting the Awards Chair, Dalene Thomas by email at dalene1@champmail.com or by mail at 8612 W Warren Ln, Lakewood CO 80227. ☐

Dalene Thomas is a past president of ATA and president of the Lighthouse Stamp Society. She may be contacted at dalene1@champmail.com or 8612 W Warren Ln, Lakewood CO 80227.



CINDERELLA CORNER

Arthur H. Grotel

Iconography of the Spider

The early iconography of the spider in the West is steeped in ancient folklore passed on through Byzantine and Gothic imagery. During that time few people were literate, but almost everyone knew what different symbols meant. This accounted for the importance of painting and sculpture to project the tenets of the Church.

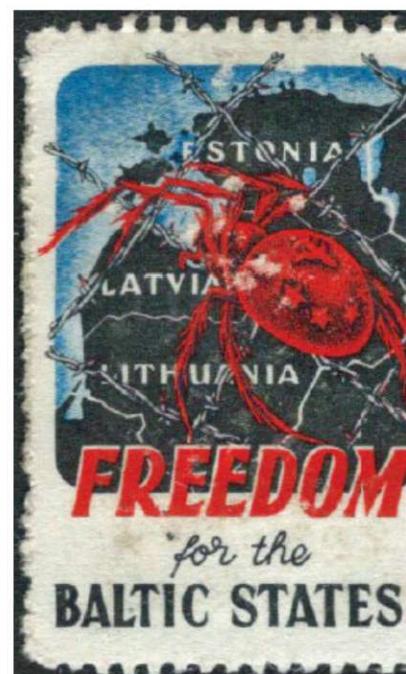
Most of the allegorical meanings concerned themselves with life and death. Thus, the spider alone came to symbolize betrayal and death and the spider in its web as the weaver of fate and indicator of intrigue. There are Biblical references as well:

"His folly shall not please him, and his trust shall be like the spider's web." (Job 8:14).

I have not been able to find paraphilatelic images to represent all these aspects. Indeed, those I have found tend to fall

into two categories. The first is the spider in its web as the entrappor of the unwary or doomed, typically as political intrigue (the German view of England as co-opter of France c. 1916, Figure 1) or conquest (of the Russians over the Baltics c. 1950, Figure 2).

Figure 1 (upper left), Figure 2 (upper right), Figure 3 (left) and Figure 4 (right).



**Figure 5.**

The most common representation is not as the weaver of fate, but rather as a symbol of industriousness, most

often related to textiles. The striking poster stamp design by Otto Arpke for the 1924 Annual show of German Textile Workers in Dresden is one such example (Figure 3).

The letter seal of the Italo-Brazilian Silk Weavers shows the spider on its woven web, used from Italy to Switzerland in 1916 (Figure 4).

A lovely 1965 illustrated meter slogan from the German textile firm of Wittkop in Bielefeld is one of very few with the arachnid image I have seen (Figure 5). For the display class devotee

I show the 1939 corner card for Bartmann & Bixer, maker of Kenneth Draperies "The Original Weaver" (Figure 6).

These images all come from a collection I have been putting together for my daughter, Natanya, a non-collector who, in another life, was a weaver (Figure 7). ☺

**Figure 5.****Figure 7.**

Arthur H. Groten, cinderella enthusiast, welcomes correspondence at PO Box 3366, Poughkeepsie NY 12603-3366 USA.

Chinese Poetry Masters

Wen Hsiao

Poetry occupies an important role in Chinese literature. Some famous poets are well known to the public, and their poems are easy for everyone to recite.

Poetry developed to its pinnacle during the Tang Dynasty. This article introduces four famous poets, three of them from the Tang Dynasty.

Qu Yuan (340 BC - 278 BC, Republic of China Scott 1515), was a Chinese poet and minister to the King from the southern Chu during the Warring States Period. His works are mostly found in an anthology of poetry known as *Chu Ci*. Li Sao is a representative work of the *Chu Ci* (Republic of China Scott 2686). His death is traditionally commemorated by the Dragon Boat Festival (Republic of China Scott 1483).

Li Bai (701-762, Republic of China Scott 1516), a renowned poet in the Chinese poetic

world, was said to be able to compose at an astounding speed, without correction. His works have a catchy sound with simple and repetitious rhymes and are known by almost every Chinese. Following is a brief excerpt from *The River Journey from White King City*: "The screams of monkeys on either bank, Had scarcely ceased echoing in my ear. When my skiff had left behind it, Ten thousand ranges of hills." From *An Exhortation*: "Do you not see the waters of the Yellow River, Come flowing from the sky? The swift stream pours into the sea and returns nevermore. Do you not see high

on yonder tower, A white-haired one sorrowing before his bright mirror? In the morning those locks were like black silk, In the evening they are all snow. Let us, while we may, taste the old delights. And leave not the gold cask of wine, To stand alone in the moonlight! Gods have bestowed our genius on us, They will also find its use some day. Be not loath, therefore, to spend, Even a thousand gold pieces! Your money will come back." And, from *Night Thoughts*: "Lifting my head, I gaze on the moon. dropping my head, I think of home."

Tu Fu (712-770, Republic of China Scott 1517, People's Republic of China Scott 610 & 611) is a prominent Chinese poet of the Tang Dynasty. In 759 Tu Fu moved to Chengdu, built a thatched hut near the Flower Rinsing Creek (PRC Scott 610) and lived there



Republic of China Scott 1515, Qu Yuan.



Republic of China Scott 1483, Dragon Boat Festival.



Republic of China Scott 1516, Li Bai.



for four years. The “thatched hut” period was the peak of Tu Fu’s creativity. He wrote 240 poems. He left some poems that are popular to Chinese, such as, *Thousands of knowledge accumulation breeds a godlike mind.* Here’s a brief excerpt from *Remembering My Brothers on a Moonlight Night:* “How much brighter the moonlight is at home!”



Republic of China Scott 1517, Tu Fu.



People's Republic China Scott 610 (top), 611 (above)
Tu Fu, 1,250th anniversary of his birth.

Bai Juyi (772–846, Republic of China Scott 1518) is another prominent Chinese poet of the Tang Dynasty. Some of his poetry and quotes have become representative of Tang poetry, well-known by Chinese, such as, “Prairie fire burn not destroy, Spring wind blow again life.” Here’s a brief excerpt from *A Song of Unending Sorrow*: “We told each other secretly in

The poet Tu Fu appears on this Sept. 9, 2009, pictorial cancel.



the quiet midnight world, That we wished to fly in heaven, two birds with the wings of one, And to grow together on the earth, two branches of one tree. Earth endures, Heaven endures; Some time both shall end, While this unending sorrow goes on and on for ever.” From *The Song of a Guitar*: “We are both unhappy – to the sky’s end. We meet, we understand. What does acquaintance matter?” ☐

Republic of China Scott 1518, Bai Juyi, poet of the Tang Dynasty.

Wen Hsiao collects stamps related to composers and opera. His mail address: No. 27, Lane 218, Section 1, Fu-Nung St., Tainan, 701, Taiwan, ROC. His email address is: wen0614n@yahoo.com.tw.

Study Unit Spotlight

This month: ESPER

[Editor's Note: This is the 27th installment of a regular feature intended to – indeed – spotlight one of our study units and the fine work done in its journal. This month we feature "George Herriman," Reflections, Volume 20, issue 4, Oct. 31, 2014. To be considered for "Study Unit Spotlight," please select what you feel may be the finest article appearing in your journal during the past year or so and submit it to the Topical Time editor (wystamps@gmail.com), or Study Unit Coordinator Jeff Hayward (stamps@jeffhayward.com). We hope you enjoy this fine feature. [Submissions of Spotlight features are earnestly solicited!]]

George Herriman

M. Rosina Major

The 2013 ESPER calendar highlighted some African Americans who deserve to be on a stamp. The calendar was titled, "In Pursuit of Cancellation," and the month of July featured people in the field of Visual Arts.

Among those profiled on this page was George Herriman (1880-1944), "one of

America's foremost cartoonists, known for the iconic Krazy Kat comic strip he produced for over 30 years."

Well, the joke is on me, the editor of the calendar! While going through my collections of covers recently, I came across the Comic Strip Classics set of stamps produced by the United States



Postal Service (USPS) in 1995 and – to my surprise – among the honored comic strips was Krazy Kat. Who knew?!?

Born into a Creole mulatto family in New Orleans, La., and raised in Los Angeles, Calif., George Joseph Herriman first made his mark as an engraver at the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner* in 1897, where he produced spot illustrations, political cartoons and daily strips. Several newspapers on which he worked also encouraged him to try his hand at comics. In 1890, Herriman moved to New York, where he sold cartoons to *Judge* magazine. He supplemented his income by painting signs for side shows and occasionally worked as a carnival barker in Coney Island.

After creating a half-dozen short-lived strips, Herriman developed the character of Krazy Kat as part of a cat and mouse chase in his 1910 "Dingbat Family" comic strip. (Herriman is credited with being the first to use the word "dingbat" as a description for a silly, empty-headed person.)

In October 1913, Krazy Kat got his own strip, and thus began the imaginative fantasy life of Krazy, Ignatz Mouse and the other inhabitants of Kokonino County, Ariz.

George Herriman brought a wealth of cartooning experience to his development of Krazy Kat for the *New York Journal*. The comics never mentioned the gender of Kat. When questioned on the subject, Herriman responded that Kat's a sprite – a pixie – free to butt into anything. Almost every aspect of Krazy Kat was unique. Using a small cast of characters, a plot that was always the same and surrealistic backgrounds, Herriman constructed an amazing number of variations that kept fans' interest alive. Another major innovation was his use of language. His inventive dialogue combined traces of slang, Yiddish, Victorian rhetoric, Elizabethan stage dialogue and his own whims.

The theme of the strip was the "eternal triangle." In the strip, Krazy Kat loved Ignatz Mouse, who disliked Kat and angrily tossed bricks at him whenever he could. But, Kat took the brick throwing as a sign of affection. Then there was Offissa Pupp, who secretly loved Kat. Because of his love for Kat and his being motivated by a sense of duty, Offissa Pupp often put Ignatz in jail for throwing bricks.

Ironically, Krazy Kat, which had become the most highly-praised of all comic strips, was not very popular during the years it ran in newspapers. Krazy Kat had only 48 subscribing publications at the height of its popularity, compared to hundreds for its better-known contemporaries. The strip mainly owed its existence to the fact that publisher William Randolph Hearst was an avid follower. Poet E.E. Cummings wrote the introduction to the first book collection of the strip. Other famous readers of the strip include Charlie Chaplin, F.

Scott Fitzgerald, Gertrude Stein, Jack Kerouac and Pablo Picasso. It was also noted that President Woodrow Wilson never missed reading it. *The Comic Journal* placed Krazy Kat first on its list of greatest comics of the 20th century. In 1944, the strip was allowed to die along with its creator. In the



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opinion of Hearst, no one could replace Herriman's genius; it was the driving force of Krazy Kat.

Well, my story does not end here. Taking the 2013 calendar in hand, I looked again at the names listed under Visual Arts and, OH NO, I found another artist

whose work has appeared on a U.S. stamp.

In 2005, the USPS issued a set of stamps titled, "To Form a More Perfect Union." Nine of these stamps were the works of African-American artists. And guess who was among them? Jacob Lawrence (1917-2000), who "rose to fame as a painter during the Harlem Renaissance. Most widely known for his paintings of heroic African American struggles, he was among the first Black artists to achieve

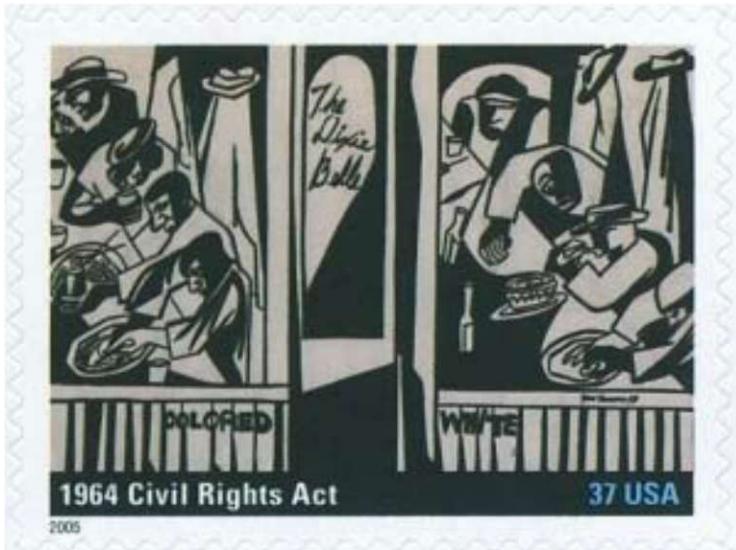
great success in the art world." Lawrence's drawing titled "Dixie Café" was used on a stamp to honor The 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Now what have I (we) learned from all of this? Look carefully at each stamp in a set; you never know what you will find.

Note: The "To Form A More Perfect Union" set also contained Romare Bearden's *The Lamp, 1964*, on the stamp honoring the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision and William H. Johnson's *Training for War* on the stamp honoring the 1948 Executive Order No. 9981. Both of these artists were honored individually by the USPS at a later date. □

ESPER

Organized in 1988, the Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections promotes the philatelic study of Black people and events related to the African Diaspora. When founding member Esper G. Hayes met Jesse Owens at a stamp show, they both noticed they were the only African Americans in attendance. Owens suggested that Esper find a way to help black collectors take pride in themselves, which was the inspiration for the Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections. Members in more than 200 countries visit schools, libraries and civic centers to introduce children and African Americans to philately and to also promote Black History. In addition to ESPER's award-winning quarterly newsletter, ESPER also has covers and philatelic material available for sale to members. More information about ESPER can be found at the group's website, www.esperstamps.org, or by contacting Manuel Gilyard, PO Box 1757, Lincoln Station, New York NY 10037-1757.



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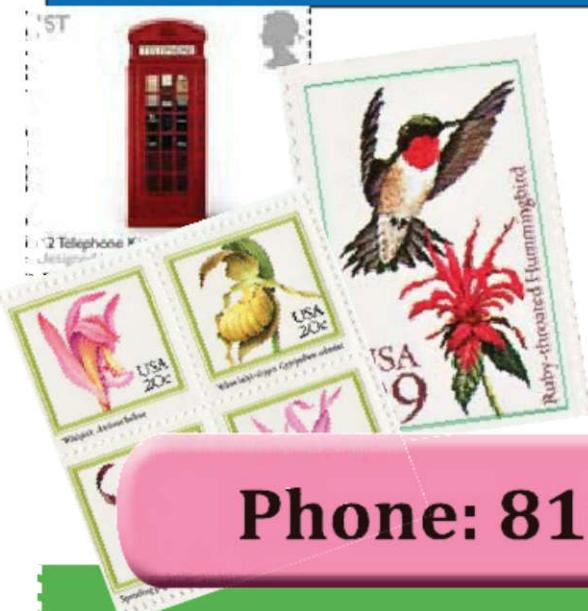
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Units in Action

Jeffrey Hayward, ATA Study Unit Coordinator (stamps@jeffhayward.com)

Collectors of the topic of postal services and postal-related items on stamps who are interested in forming a new study unit should please contact Austin Foo at PO Box 931111, Norcross GA 30003, email: ausfoo@yahoo.com.

Americana Unit

Americana Philatelic News

Americana president David Kent explains how fortunate Americana collectors are, as there are many new issues for the Americana topic. Kent highlights several recent new issues including one for the comic strip *Garfield*, which was issued by Swiss Post in September 2014.



Dues are \$6 in the United States, \$12 elsewhere. Contact Dennis Dengel, 17 Peckham Rd, Poughkeepsie NY 12603-2018.

Email: dennisdengel@verizon.net

Website: www.americanauunit.org

Biology Unit

Biophilately

In addition to more than 50 pages



of biology stamps new issue listings in *Biophilately* December 2014,

Dr. Vic Eichler identifies "Stamps With Birds Eating Frogs" from eight different countries. Eichler notes that these amphibians eat many types of insects but also end up as a meal for shorebirds.

Dues are \$20 in the United States and Canada, \$25 elsewhere and \$15 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Christopher Dahle, 1401 Linmar Dr NE, Cedar Rapids IA 52402-3724.

Email: chris-dahle@fastermac.net

Website: www.biophilately.org

Captain Cook Society

Cook's Log

Several biographies of crew members who sailed with Captain James Cook appear in the *Cooks Log* January-March 2015 issue. One crew member,



Alexander Hogg, sailed with Cook on *Resolution* during the Third Voyage in 1776 and became the ship's purser in 1782. Hogg sailed with both Cook and Nelson. Alexander Hogg joined Nelson in both the Copenhagen and Nile campaigns.

Dues in the United States are \$28, \$14 for the electronic version. Contact Brian Sanford, 173 Minuteman Dr, Concord MA 01742-1923.

Email: us@CaptainCookSociety.com

or, £14, £7 for the electronic version in the United Kingdom. Contact Alwyn



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or, \$NZ40 in New Zealand.

Contact Brian Wyeth, 4 Bush Point Rd, Cable Bay 0420, New Zealand.

Email: nz@CaptainCookSociety.com

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Carto-Philatelic Society

The New Carto-Philatelist

Roger Kirby writes about "African Birds," along with maps that are depicted on stamps. Two stamps mentioned show bird migration routes over the African continent. The



stamps mentioned show bird migration routes over the African continent. The

CartoPhilatelic Society is currently seeking a replacement treasurer. Please consider volunteering for this position.

Dues are \$20 in North America, \$25 elsewhere. Electronic membership is \$15 worldwide. Contact David E. Wolfersberger, 768 Chain Ridge Rd, Saint Louis MO 63122-3259.

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Chemistry & Physics Study Unit

Philatelia Chimica et Physica

In "Beer, Science and Stamps - 2," Foil A. Miller revisits his original article



25 years later and describes the origin, brewing process and connection between beer and science. One of those connections is with Joseph Priestley, whose study of gases resulted in

using the CO₂ produced in the brewing process to create artificially carbonated water. Joseph Priestley appeared on a U.S. postage stamp issued in October 1983.

Dues are \$20 in the United States, \$26 in Canada, \$40 elsewhere. Contact Roland F. Hirsch, 20458 Waters Point Ln, Germantown MD 20874-1091.

Email: michael@cpossu.org

Website: www.cpossu.org

Chess on Stamps Study Unit

Chesstamp Review

John Edward explores chess and chess-related postmarks in "My Big



Fat Greek Album" in the October-December 2014

Chesstamp Review. A

bibliography of chess stamp catalogs, as well as COSSU auction No. 155, are also in this issue.

Dues are \$17 in North America and \$24 elsewhere. Contact Barry Keith, 555

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Christopher Columbus Philatelic Society *Discovery*

In "Curious, Amusing and Unusual Stamp Designs" in *Discovery* January



2015, Overton T. Harris explains the connection three different stamps have with Columbus and his Portuguese connection: One of the stamps issued by Portugal shows Columbus with Portuguese King

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John II after landing in the Azores in March 1493.

Dues are \$15 in the United States and \$20 elsewhere. Contact Leslie Seff, 3750 Hudson Manor, Terrace E, Bronx NY 10463-1126.

Email: mr.columbus1492@gmail.com

Website: www.ccps.maphist.nl

Disneyana on Stamps Society *Disnemation*

Disney Films on Stamps continues in the latest Disneyana web posting



highlighting Disney stamps depicting films from 1950. One of the films during that year was *Cinderella* and the film has appeared on stamps issued by Belgium, Grenada, Japan, Nevis and St. Vincent.

Membership is free. Members receive *Disnemation* online six times a year; site access is password controlled.

Email: disnemation@yahoo.ca

Website: www.disnemation.8m.com/home.htm

Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections, Inc. (ESPER) *Reflections*

M. Rosina Major highlights cartoonist George Herriman, famous for his *Krazy Kat* comic strip,



which he produced for more than 30 years and was featured on a stamp issued in 1995 by the

USPS. *Krazy Kat* was not popular when it was first published and was in only 48 newspapers at the height of its popularity. Publisher William Randolph Hearst is credited with keeping it in existence as he was an avid follower.

Dues are \$25 in the United States and \$35 elsewhere. Contact Manuel

Gilyard, PO Box 1757, Lincoln Station, New York NY 10037-1757.

Email: esperstamps@esperstamps.org

or, Earnest Shinault, Sr, 3523 Douglass Ave, Memphis TN 38111-5721.

Email: eshinaultsr@yahoo.com

Website: www.esperstamps.org

Errors, Freaks, and Oddities

Collectors' Club

The EFO Collector

John Ryskamp reports in *The EFO Collector* July-September 2014 issue that



inverts of the recent Spiderman APC forever stamps were available from an APC kiosk in San Francisco. APC inverts are the result

of incorrectly loaded paper.

Dues are \$17 in the United States and Canada, \$34 elsewhere. Contact David Hunt, 45 Fairway Dr, Denver PA 17517.

Email: dbhunt@ptdprolog.net

Website: www.efocc.org

Journalists, Authors, & Poets on Stamps (JAPOS)

JAPOS Bulletin

In *JAPOS Bulletin* Autumn 2014 "Fictional Detectives: Oedipus to



Sherlock" stories of fictional puzzles are told using stamps. One of those stamps was issued by the United Kingdom for the novel *Bleak House*. This

Dickens novel contains a whodunit subplot, where lawyer Tulkinghorn is murdered. Inspector Bucket then investigates.

Dues are \$9 in the United States and \$12 elsewhere. Contact Clete

Delvaux, 800 E River Dr Unit B, De Pere WI 54115-4159.

Email: codelvaux@msn.com

or, Mark Winnegrad, 1450 Parkchester Rd, Bronx NY 10462-7622

Judaica Thematic Society

Judaica News

The January 2015 *Judaica News* leads with a biography of "The



Enigmatic Moe Berg: Baseball Player and Spy." After graduating from Princeton University, Moe Berg signed with the Brooklyn Robins in 1923. He would later be

traded to the Chicago White Sox, and also played with the Cleveland Indians, Washington Senators and the Boston Red Sox. Berg studied many languages, which included Japanese. While visiting a Tokyo Hospital to see the American Ambassador's daughter, Berg snuck onto the roof to film the Tokyo skyline which may have been used by the United States when planning bombing raids.

Dues are not required; the publication *Judaica News* is available in electronic format only at no cost. Contact Gary Goodman at the following email address.

Email: judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net

Lighthouse Stamp Society

The Philatelic Beacon

Several new issues are reported in *The Philatelic Beacon* January-February



2015. A mini sheet issued by the United Kingdom includes a stamp of the Godrevy Lighthouse which is located on the east side of St. Ives Bay, Cornwall, England. The

lighthouse was built in 1858-59 after all lives were lost aboard the SS *Nile* when it became wrecked on the stone reef.

Dues are \$12 in the United States, \$15 in Canada and Mexico, and \$20 elsewhere; an electronic version of *The Philatelic Beacon* is available for \$10. Contact Dalene Thomas, 8612 W Warren Ln, Lakewood CO 80227-2352.

Email: dalene@lighthousestampsociety.org
Web: www.lighthousestampsociety.org

Masonic Study Unit

Philatelic Freemason

“Prince Hall” was one of the freemason biographies in *The Philatelic Freemason* January-February 2015



issue. Born in Barbados, Prince Hall would later become a leatherworker and worked for passage on a ship to Boston. Hall

received a charter to establish the first lodge of African American Masons in North America, African Lodge No. 459.

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Dues are \$10 in the United States, \$12 in Canada and Mexico, and \$16 elsewhere. Contact Robert A. Domingue, 59 Greenwood Rd, Andover MA 01810.

Email: radpm67@gmail.com
or, Gene Fricks

Email: genefricks@comcast.net

Mathematical Study Unit

Philamath

Rachel Braun shares “Population Histograms on Postage Stamps” from



Braun’s collection of statistical graphics on stamps. One of the author’s favorite stamps was issued by Austria in 1979 commemorating the 150th Anniversary of its Central Statistics Bureau. A histogram

shows how war and economics affect birth and death rates.

Dues are \$12 in North America, \$15 elsewhere. Contact Monty Strauss, 4209 88th St, Lubbock TX 79423-2941.

Email: montystrauss@gmail.com
Website: www.mathstamps.org

Medical Subjects Unit

Scalpel & Tongs

Four pages of medical stamp new issues are included in *Scalpel & Tongs*



October-December 2014. One of these new issues is a stamp issued by France’s La Poste showing part of a fresco painting on the Necker Hospital for sick children in Paris painted by Keith Haring. Keith

Haring was an American artist noted

for his graffiti-style art and drawings with antiwar, antiapartheid and AIDS themes.

Dues are \$15 in the United States, and \$18 elsewhere. Contact Frederick C. Skvara, PO Box 6228, Bridgewater NJ 08807-6228.

Email: fcskvara@optonline.net

Penguins on Stamps Study Unit

The Rookery Report

Three pages of penguin new issues appear in *The Rookery Report* Winter 2015 issue. Jean Stout also shows stamps and a cover depicting an Adelie penguin, "The only penguin named after a woman!" A French naval commander and explorer named the penguins after his wife.

Dues are \$15 in the United States, \$20 elsewhere, and \$10 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Sandra Lingler, 239 Whitman Blvd, Elyria OH 44035.

Email: possumember@yahoo.com

Website: www.penguinstamps.org

Plate Number Collectors Club (PNC³) *Coil Line*

Al Cibulskas explores the many types of "PNC Varieties" and the popularity of collecting PNCs in the February 2015 *Coil Line*. Cibulskas believes that there has been an increase



Penguins on Stamps Study Unit

To promote the study of philatelic material pertaining to Spheniscidae (penguins); quarterly *The Rookery Report*; US \$15, elsewhere \$20, electronic \$10.

Website: <http://www.penguinstamps.org>

Sandra L. Lingler
239 Whitman Blvd
Elyria OH 44035-1750

Email: possumember@yahoo.com



in collecting PNC varieties as collectors complete their basic PNC collections. The author goes on to describe nine different varieties one could collect.

Dues are \$32-40 in the United States and Canada, \$45 elsewhere, \$18 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Michael J Conway, 239 Judd Rd, Easton CT 06612-1025.

Email: mjcconway@hotmail.com

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**Polar Philatelists, American Society of
Ice Cap News**

Built by Marine Industries Ltd.,



the “HMCS/CCGS *Labrador* - 8th Wind Class Icebreaker” was commissioned in July 1954 and sailed the Arctic waters until it was decommissioned in May 1987. The *Labrador* had a flight deck and helicopter hangars for ice reconnaissance and to also transport personnel.

Dues are \$22 in the United States,



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Website: www.polarphilatelists.org

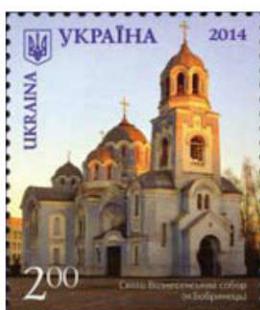
Religion on Stamps, Collectors of (COROS)

The COROS Chronicle

Rev. Paul F. Swartz provides a history of two “Renaissance Popes” and a set of stamps issued by the Vatican in August 2013. The set of stamps was issued to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the death of Pope Julius II 1443-1513 and the election of

Pope Leo X 1475-1521. Also appearing in this issue of *The COROS Chronicle*, Giorgio Migliavacca discusses “Pope John Paul II’s Canonization Stamps – Looking at the Fine Print and Learning.”

Dues are \$22 in the United States, \$27 in Canada and Mexico, and \$32



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email: info@stampnews.com.au

elsewhere. Contact James F. Bailey, PO Box 937, Brownwood TX 76804-0937.
Email: corosec@wildblue.net
Website: www.coros-society.org

Rotary on Stamps Fellowship

The ROS Bulletin

Chairman Gerhard recently gave



a presentation to members of the Ottawa Philatelic Society about the topic of Rotary on Stamps and rotary stamps issued by 193 countries. In addition to administrative announcements there were also several new issues reported in *The ROS Bulletin* December 2014.

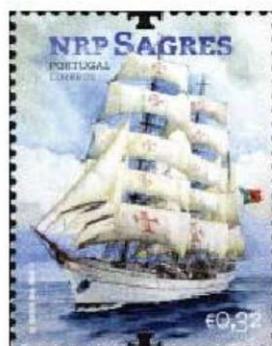
Dues are \$20. Contact Gerald FitzSimmons, 105 Calle Ricardo, Victoria TX 77904-1203.

Email: gfitz@suddenlink.net
Website: www.rotaryonstamps.org

Ships on Stamps Unit

Watercraft Philately

A history and stamps of the "Pirates of the Jersey Shores" and related ships



appear in *Watercraft Philately* November-December 2014. One of the ships, *Vulture*, was one of the most successful privateers during the Napoleonic wars.

Dues are \$15 in North America, \$22 elsewhere and \$9 for a PDF electronic version worldwide. Contact Myron P. Molnau, 1616 E 32nd Ct, Spokane WA 99203-3918.
Email: bobbies@turbonet.com
Website: www.shipsonstamps.org



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Sports Philatelists International

Journal of Sports Philately

The series "Looking Back at London



2012" continues with part 4, which explores the games, the Paralympics and gold medals.

There were no postal facilities available to the public or those attending the Olympic Games to obtain postmarks or stamps from Royal

Mail. The Athlete's Village did have a postal facility to provide basic mail services. This facility used two circular date stamps for the "Olympic Village Post Office" and also offered Olympic Personalized Smilers stamps to Olympic athletes.

Dues are \$29 in the United States and Canada, and \$39 elsewhere. An electronic version is available for \$15, worldwide. Contact Mark C. Maestrone, 2824 Curie Pl, San Diego CA 92122.

Email: markspi@prodigy.net

Web: www.sportstamps.org

Checklist Notes

The new ATA Checklist Coordinator is Tom Stillman. Tom volunteered for the position last year when Karen Cartier came to the point that she wanted to more fully retire. Although she "retired" as ATA's office manager when her husband, Ray, retired as Executive Director in early 2009, Karen voluntarily continued her work with the ATA checklists and created the dATABse that is her legacy to our organization. We have been issuing checklists from the dATABse since May 1 of last year, and more than 1,200 checklists have been produced for our members since then. Karen had entered 631,879 stamp issues into the dATABse when she released the master copy to ATA. We all owe her a big debt of gratitude; the ATA Board awarded her an Honorary Membership in appreciation of her work.

Tom Stillman is a resident of northern California who now has "very large shoes to fill." He is experienced with creating and using databases. He's now ready to begin inputting the backlog of checklist items that have been submitted during the past many months while Karen has been putting her finishing touches on the dATABse and did not have time for updates. If you submitted checklist information to the ATA Office, it will now be transmitted to Tom. Tom has established a special email address to receive checklist information directly: atachecklists@gmail.com.

If you have purchased one of the 1,200+ new ATA checklists (from May 2014 to date) and have noted stamps that are missing or items that contain a typographical error, we hope you will mail the information to Tom stillman, PO Box 210748, San Francisco CA 94121-0748, or email it to the previously given address. Our ATA checklist dATABse will never be completed; thanks to all of our members it will always be a work in progress – constantly being improved with our members' assistance.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Jane Eastwood Schemonia
ATA Administrative Assistant

Finding common goals of thematic appreciation. Enjoying shared gratitude for the hobby. Discovering historical significance depicted in the art of our stamps. Whatever your reason was for joining the American Topical Association, we are glad you're with us. Now is the time for you to make the most of your membership.

In a few short months, the 2015-2017 Membership Directory will be available for purchase. "**The ATA Membership Directory has been a useful tool for study unit recruitment; identifying collectors I didn't know existed, people who are as passionate as I am about books, printing, grapes, and wine!**" - **Bruce L. Johnson**

The American Topical Association is about sharing, informing, educating and researching all things thematic. Our Membership Directory is our pearl in conveying these points. "**One of the greatest benefits of ATA membership is the opportunity to connect with others who share your enthusiasm for a specific topic. Use your directory to find others collecting your topic--compare notes, ideas and recent finds!**" - **Dawn Hamman**

We need your help and your willingness to share your thematic knowledge. If you do your part, our organization will not become stagnant. Our Membership Directory will not be reduced to an ineffective tome like the phonebooks with the plastic wrap still attached that you likely have stored away or recycled. Your participation is the solution to bringing growth to our organization and to the hobby.

The Membership Directory is the life-blood of our organization; a breathing, integral part to helping make ATA, well, **yours**. Your effort is small; the rewards you reap for your thematic hobby have the potential to be huge. Please fill out the form on the back of this issue and submit it today.

DONATE

\$25 will net you a Membership Directory mailed to you in July and your name published in the Directory as a Donor (if you are an international member please send \$35 due to postage costs)

CONTRIBUTE

Fill out the form on the back of this issue with your name, contact information and topics you collect--to share your thematic passions with like-minded others.

ENJOY

Preorder your copy of the Membership Directory to save money and assure you'll have early access to a tool that will enrich your hobby!

TOPICS FOR ATA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Please list on the directory submission form all the topics you collect. For instance, they can be major topics such as Animals or subtopics such as specific kinds of animals. If a topic you collect is not listed here, just add it on your submission form. There is no extra charge for listing several topics in the 2015-17 Membership Directory.

NATURE	Kangaroos	Flies	Hurricanes-Cyclones-
ANIMALS-LAND	Koalas	Grasshoppers-Cicada	Tornadoes
Animals	Leopards/ Ocelots	Ladybugs	Minerals
Endangered Species	Lions	Mites/ Ticks	Mountains
Wildlife Conserv.	Lynxes	Mosquitoes	Mount Everest
World Wildlife Fund	Marsupials	Praying Mantis	Mount Fuji
Zoos/ Zoology	Mice-Rats-Rodents	Scorpions/ Centipedes	Rainbows
<u>Reptiles (all)</u>	Pandas	Spiders/ Arachnids	Snow/ Snowmen
Amphibians	Porcupines	Wasps/ Hornets	Volcanoes
Frogs/ Toads	Primates		Waterfalls/ Cascades
Crocodiles/	Raccoons		Niagara Falls
Alligators	Rhinoceros		Victoria Falls
Dinosaurs/ Fossils	Squirrels		
Lizards/ Geckos	Tamarins	PLANTS	
Snakes	Tapirs	Agriculture/	
Turtles/ Tortoises	Tigers	Horticulture	
<u>Domesticated</u>	Tigers, Sabre Tooth	Botanical Gardens	
<u>Animals</u>	Weasel Family	<u>Flowers</u>	
Cats, Domestic	Wolves	Orchids	
Cattle-Oxen-Bovine	Zebras	Poppies	
Dogs		Roses	
Donkeys	ANIMALS-AIR	Violets	
Goats	Birds	Other flowers:	
Horses	Cardinals		
Pigs-Hogs-Boars	Cranes	<u>Other Plants</u>	
Rabbits/ Hares	Ducks/ Geese	Bamboo	
Sheep	Eagles	Bonsai	
<u>Mammals</u>	Flamingoes	Cactus/ Succulents	
Anteaters-Sloths	Hummingbirds	Carnivorous Plants	
Antelopes	Ibis/ Spoonbills	Mushrooms/ Fungi	
Badgers	Owls	Trees/ Forestry	
Bats	Parrots/ Cockatoos/	Palm Trees	
Bearcats-Civets	Lories	Rubber Trees/Industry	
Bears	Pelicans	Other plants:	
Beavers	Penguins		
Bison/ Buffalo	Robins		
Camels/	Roosters/ Chickens	CULTURE	
Dromedaries	Turkeys	ART	
Cats, Wild	Other birds:	Artists	
Deer/ Related		Audubon, John J	
Dogs, Wild	Insects	Chagall, Marc	
Elephants	Ants/ Termites	Da Vinci, Leonardo	
Foxes	Bees/ Beekeeping	Dali, Salvador	
Giraffes	Beetles	Dürer, Albrecht	
Hedgehogs	Butterflies/ Moths	Michelangelo	
Hippopotamuses	Cockroaches	Monet, Claude	
Hyenas	Crickets	Picasso, Pablo	
Jaguars	Dragonflies	Rembrandt	

Remington, Frederic	Illusions/ Optical Illusions	Fruits, Berries/ Nuts	National Parks/ Theme Parks
Rockwell, Norman	Japanese Artists	Grains/ Rice, Corn, Wheat	Nubian Monument/ Egyptology
Van Gogh, Vincent	Landscapes/ Seascapes	Ice Cream	Tourism
Other artists:	Mona Lisa	Pineapples	World Fairs/ Expositions
<hr/>	Monuments/ Memorials	Spices/ Herbs	World Heritage Sites
Antiques	Murals/ Frescos	Sugar/ Sugar Indus.	
Candles	Nudes	Tea	LITERATURE
Ceramics/ Pottery	Petroglyphs/ Wall Paintings	Vegetables	Alphabets
Classic Grecian Pottery	Posters	Wine/ Grapes	Autographs
Clay Cylinders of Cyrus the Great	Silhouettes	World Food Day	Books/ Literature
Clocks/ Timepieces	ENTERTAINMENT	Other food:	Children's Literature
Fans	<u>Amusement</u>	Philately/ Mail	Detectives
Furniture	Actors/ Actresses	African Postal Union	Fairy Tales/ Fables/ Nursery Rhymes
Glass	Chaplin, Charles	Arab Postal Union	Folklore
Handicrafts	Monroe, Marilyn	Hill, Sir Rowland	Journalism/ Newspapers
Hats/ Helmets	Other actors/ actresses: _____	Holograms	Libraries/ Archives
Hummel Figurines	Balloons, Toy Cards/ Gambling/ Lottery	Intl. Year of Letter Writing	Magazines
Jewelry	Carnivals/ Festivals	Joint Issues	Medieval Manuscripts
Keys	Chess	Letters/ Postal/ Post Offices	<i>Moby Dick</i>
Lanterns	Circus	Mailboxes	Mystery, Fiction
Masks/ Face Painting	Clowns	Magnifying Glasses	<i>Pinocchio</i>
Mosaics/ Tiles	Dolls	Philatelic	Science Fiction
Sculpture/ Statues	Fireworks	Exhibitions/ Expositions	<i>Winnie the Pooh</i>
Tattoos/ Body Art	Hairstyles	Scented Stamps	Authors/ Poets
Umbrellas	Kites, Toy Love	Shaped Stamps (other)	Alighieri, Dante
Woodcarvings	Magic-Magicians- Ventriloquism	Round Stamps	Andersen, Hans
Performing Arts	Marbles	Triangular Stamps	Christian
Dance	Movie Industry	Stamp Day/ Stamp Week	Dickens, Charles
Ballet	Disney, Walt and Characters	Stampic Twins	Doyle, Arthur Conan/ Sherlock Holmes
Folk Dance	Puppets	Stamps on Stamps	Kipling, Rudyard
Social/ Modern Dance	Teddy Bears	Universal Postal Union	Shakespeare, William
Theater/ Playwrights	Toys, Games/ Puzzles	Stephan, Heinrich von (UPU)	Shaw, George Bernard
Textiles/ Crafts	Food	GEOGRAPHY	Stevenson, Robert L
Basketry/ Fiber Art	Bananas	Coats of Arms/ Heraldry	Twain, Mark
Clothing/ Fashion	Beer	Europa	Other authors:
Costumes, Folk Embroidery/ Stitchery/ Sewing	Candy/ Sweets	Flags	Poets/ Poems
Spinning Wheels	Chocolate-Cocoa- Cacao	Flags and Sports	Mythology
Tapestries	Coconuts	UN/ NATO Flags	Dracula/ Vampires
Bayeux Tapestry	Coffee	Individual US states:	Dragons
Textiles/ Lace	Coffee/ Tea Services	<hr/>	Mercury/ Hermes
Uniforms	Cooking	Languages/ Esperanto	Mermaids
Weaving		Maps	Monsters
Visual Arts		Globes	Unicorns
Cameras/ Photography		National Emblems	Other mythology:
Children's Drawings			
Chinese Painters/ Art			
Comics/ Cartoons			
Graphic Art			



MUSIC	Virgin and Child	Census/ Population	Christmas Carols/
<u>Composers</u>	Churches/ Cathedrals	Coins/ Currency/	Caroling
Bach, Johann Sebastian	Clergy/ Religious People	Banknotes	Christmas/ Secular
Beethoven, Ludwig van	Crusaders	Education/ Educators	(cookies, trees)
Chopin, Frederic	Easter/ Easter Art	Elections/ Voting	Greetings
Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus	Good Samaritan	Dem. Polit. Party	Halloween
Other composers:	Jesuits/ Franciscans	Repub. Polit. Party	Lunar New Year
 	Jesus of Nazareth	Fire/ Firefighting	New Years
<u>Genres/ Musicians</u>	Luther, Martin	Lifesaving	Thanksgiving
Musicians/ Songs	Madonnas/ Virgin Mary	Human Rights	<u>Nobel Prizes</u>
Singers/ Entertainers	Methodists	Civil Rights	Nobel, Alfred
Presley, Elvis	Moses	Freedom from Hunger	Nobel Prize-Chemistry
Jazz/ Jazz Musicians	Mother Teresa	Slavery	Nobel Prize-Economics
Opera	Noah and the Ark	Gandhi, Mahatma	Nobel Prize-Literature
Rock and Roll	Pilgrims	Holocaust	Nobel Prize-Medicine
<u>Musical Instruments</u>	Popes (all)	King, Martin Luther	Nobel Prize-Peace
Bagpipes	Specific Popes:	Peace	Nobel Prize-Physics
Bells	 	Prisoners/ PoW	<u>Organizations</u>
Brass Instruments:	Reformation	Law/ Lawyers/ Courts	European Union
 	Saints (all)	Police/ Interpol/ Law Enforcement	Intl. Labor Organiz
Drums/ Percussion	Specific Saints:	Social Security	Intl. Telecom Union
Keyboard	 	<u>Governance-Leaders</u>	Intl. Yr of Cooperation
Instrument: _____	Saint Peter's Basilica (Rome)	Dictators	Jaycees
Post Horns	Seventh Day Adventists	Hitler, Adolf	Kiwanis Club
Stringed Instruments: _____	<u>Eastern Religions</u>	Politics/ Politicians	Lions Club Intl.
Woodwinds:	Angkor Wat, Cambodia	<u>Presidents-U.S.</u>	Masons/ Masonic Gov
 	Buddhism/ Buddha	Eisenhower, Dwight	Medals/ Awards
RELIGION	Islam/ <i>The Q'uran</i>	Jackson, Andrew	NATO
Angels	Mecca/ Pilgrimages	Jefferson, Thomas	Red Cross/Red Crescent
Monasteries/ Temples	Mosques/ Minarets	Kennedy, John F.	Dunant, Jean-Henri
Philosophy/ Philosophers	Pagodas	Lincoln, Abraham	Rotary Intl.
Religious Art	<u>Judaism</u>	Obama, Barack	Salvation Army
Icons	Jerusalem	Reagan, Ronald	Scouts-Baden-Powell
Stained Glass	Judaica	Roosevelt, Eleanor	Boy Scouts/ Jamborees
Religious Housing	Synagogues	Roosevelt, Franklin	Girl Scouts/ Guides
Religious Documents/ Texts/ Bible	 	Roosevelt, Theodore	United Nations
Religious Symbols (Cross, Ankh, etc.)	SOCIETY	Truman, Harry S	UNESCO
<u>Christianity</u>	<u>Americana</u>	Washington, George	UNICEF
Biblical Subjects	Bicentennial	<u>Presidents-Worldwide</u>	World Health Organiz
Christmas/ Religious Art	Flags/ American	Ataturk, Mustafa	World Meteorolog. Organiz
Adoration	Liberty Bell	Bolivar, Simon	<u>People</u>
Flight into Egypt	Mount Rushmore	de Gaulle, Charles	African Americans
Holy Family	People (not Presidents)	Lenin, Nikolai	American Indians
Nativity	Presidents/ First Ladies/ VP	Peron, Eva	Beauty Queens
	Statue of Liberty	San Martin, Jose de	Children
	United We Stand (9/ 11/ 2001)	Sun Yat-Sen (China)	Children in Art
	Banking	<u>Statesmen/Diplomats</u>	Infants
		Churchill, Winston	Intl. Children's
		Franklin, Benjamin	Day/ Week
		Hamilton, Alexander	Intl. Year of Child
		Hammarskjold, Dag	Children's Sports Activ
		<u>Holidays</u>	Gay/ Lesbian Hist.
		Christmas/ Santa Claus and related	Hispanic People/ Events

<u>Knights</u>	Bobsleds/ Toboggan/ Luge	Nordic Cross-Country	TECHNOLOGY ARCHITECTURE
<u>Martyrs</u>	Bowling	Ski Jumping	Architecture/ Architects
<u>Murder</u>	Boxing	Skiing-Water	Buildings
<u>Spies</u>	Ali, Muhammad	Surfing	Castles/ Palaces
<u>Women</u>	Bullfighting	Swimming	Cities
<u>Keller, Helen (Educator)</u>	Canoes/ Kayaks	Table Tennis/ Ping Pong	Venice, Italy
<u>Royalty</u>	Decathlon	Tennis	Forts/ Fortresses
<u>Royalty-Female</u>	Discus	Track/ Field	Hotels/ Inns
Princess Anne	Diving	Triathlon	Lighthouses
Princess Diana	Dog Sledding	Walking Races	Museums/ Natural History Museums
Queen Elizabeth (Queen Mother)	Equestrian	Weightlifting	Sydney Opera House
Queen Elizabeth II	Extreme Sports	Windsurfing	Taj Mahal
Queen Isabella I	Fencing	Wrestling	Universities/ Colleges
Queen Victoria	Golf	Olympics	Windmills/ Watermills
<u>Royalty-Male</u>	Woods, Tiger	de Coubertin, Baron Pierre	World Landmarks
Dukes and Lords	Gymnastics	Intl. Olympic Committees	<u>Structures</u>
Emperors	Acrobatic/ Trampoline	Olympic Mascots	Big Ben, London
Kings	Rhythmic Gymnastics	Olympics-Summer-1896-1996	Bridges
Belgian Kings	Hammer Throw	Olympics-Summer-2000 and beyond	Golden Gate Bridge
British Kings	Handball	Olympics – Winter	Dams/ Hydroelectric
King Edward VII	Heptathlon	Other/ specific	Eiffel Tower, France
King George V	Hiking	Olympics:	Fountains
King George VI	Horse Racing	<hr/> Torch Bearers/ Torches	Great Wall of China
King Tutankhamen	Hunting	<u>Team</u>	Machu Picchu
French Kings	Hurdles	Sport Mascots	Pyramids/ Sphinx
Italian Kings	Javelin	Baseball	Tunnels
Moroccan Kings	Jumping	Basketball	
Romanian Kings	<u>Martial Arts</u>	Beach Volleyball/ Beach Recreation	EXPLORATION
Spanish Kings	Judo/ Karate	Cricket	Explorers/ Exploration
Thai Kings	Tae Kwon Do	Curling	Cabot, John
<u>Princes</u>	Mountain Climbing	Disabled Sports	Cartier, Jacques
Prince Andrew	Parachutes/ Skydiving	Football (American)	Columbus, Christopher
Prince Charles	Pentathlon	Hockey, Field	Cook, Captain James
Prince Philip	Pole Vault	Hockey, Ice	da Gama, Vasco
Prince William	River Rafting	Polo (Land)	Discovery of America
Coronations	Rodeos	Polo (Water)	Drake, Sir Francis
Jewelry, Royal	Running	Rowing/ Sculling	Henry the Navigator
Roman Emperors	Running, Marathon	Rugby	Lewis & Clark Exped.
Royal Visits	Running, Relay	Sailboat Racing/ America's Cup	Pocahontas
Royal Weddings/ Anniversaries	Race	Sepak Takraw	Polar Regions/ Arctic/ Antarctic
SPORTS	Scuba Diving/ Snorkeling	Soccer/ World Cup	Raleigh, Sir Walter
<u>Individual</u>	Shooting Events	Soccer Goalkeepers	Vikings
Archery/ Crossbows	Shotput	Swimming-	
Badminton	Skating-Ice	Synchronized	INDUSTRY
Ballooning, Hot Air	Skating-Roller	Volleyball	Blacksmiths
Biathlon	Skiing-Snow		Cement Factories
Bicycles/ Cycling	Alpine-Downhill		Farm Equipment/ Farming
Billiards/ Pool	Alpine-Slalom/ Giant Slalom		Fertilizer Plants
Boating Related Sports	Freestyle/ Moguls		Iron Industry



Mining/ Miners	Fingerprints/Footprints	<u>Weapons</u>	<u>Natural Sciences</u>
Mining, Coal	Hands	Bows/ Arrows	Anthropol./Early Man
Oil/ Gas Industry	Hearts/ Cardiology	Cannon/ Artillery	Archaeology
Refineries/ Chemical Plants	Organ Donation/ Transplants	Firearms/ Handguns/ Pistols/ Rifles	Aztecs/ Meso-Amer.
Salt Mining/ Desalination	Medicinal Plants	Harpoons/ Lances/ Spears	Archaeology
Steel Industry	Mental Health/ Psychology/ Psychiatry	Swords/ Knives	Atomic Energy
Surveying	Nursing/ Nurses		Biologists
Welders	Nightingale, Florence		Chemistry/ Chemists
MEDICINE	Pharmacy/ Medications		Phosphates
Ambulances	Radiology/ X-Rays		Darwin, Charles
Breast Feeding	Rehabilitation		Microbiology
Caduceus	Smoking/ Anti-Smoking/ Tobacco		Microscopes
Death	Veterinary Medicine		Nuclear Power
Skeletons/ Skulls			Physics/ Physicists
Dentistry	MILITARY		Einstein, Albert
Disabilities/ Intl. Year of Disabled	Air Force		Quantum Mechanics
Diseases (all)	Army-Infantry-Militia-Soldiers		
AIDS/ HIV	Bonaparte, Napoléon		
Alcohol/Temperance	Military Bomber		
Cancer	Planes		
Diabetes	Military Cargo		
Leprosy	Planes		
Malaria	Military Fighter		
Polio	Planes		
Smallpox	Military Surveillance		
Tuberculosis	Planes		
Yellow Fever	Military Tanks		
<u>Doctors/ Physicians/ Researchers</u>	Military Uniforms		
Avicenna	Navy-Coast Guard-Marines		
Curie, Marie & Pierre	Naval Battles		
Fleming, Sir Alexander	Navy Admirals		
Koch, Dr Robert	Refugees/ World Refugee Year		
Pasteur, Louis	Swastikas		
Rizal, Dr José	Warriors		
Roentgen, Wilhelm	Warships/ Related		
Schweitzer, Dr Albert	War/ Revolutions		
Drug Abuse/ Anti-Drug	Amer. Revolution		
Elderly/ Geriatrics	Amer. Civil War		
Health/ Fitness	October Revolution (Russia)		
Hospital Ships	World War I		
Hospitals	World War II (all)		
<u>Human Body</u>	World War II-Battle of the Bulge		
Blood	World War II-Pearl Harbor		
DNA/ RNA	World War II-Transportation		
Ears/ Deafness			
Eyes			
Blindness/ Ophthalmology			
Braille, Louis/ Braille Alphabet			
		SCIENCE	
		<u>Scientists/ Sciences</u>	
		Applied	
		Abacus	
		Communications	
		Computers	
		Electricity/ Energy	
		Electronic Devices	
		Engineering	
		Information Society/ Internet	
		Inventors/ Inventions (all)	
		Bell, Alexander	
		Graham	
		Edison, Thomas	
		Alva	
		Mathematics/ Mathematicians	
		Newton, Sir Isaac	
		Metric System	
		Numbers/ Numerals	
		Phonographs/ Record Players	
		Printing/ Printing Presses	
		Radio	
		Robots/ Robotics	
		Scales/ Measuring/ Weights	
		Scientific Glassware	
		Telegraphs	
		Telephones/ Cell Phones	
		Television	
		Typewriters	
		<u>Atmospheric/ Earth</u>	
		Balloons, Weather	
		Caves/ Speleology	
		Climate Change	
		Geology/ Geologists	
		Intl. Geophysical Yr	
		Intl. Yr of Quiet Sun	
		Meteorology	
		Weather Instruments	
		Weather Vanes	

TRANSPORTATION	Trucks/ Buses Volkswagens <u>Aviation</u> Airplanes Aviation/ Aviators Airlines Airports Airships/ Zeppelins Autogiros Bi-Planes/ Tri-Planes Commercial Planes Concorde Airplane Gliders/ Hang Gliders Helicopters Hot Air Balloons- Montgolfier Bros. Lindbergh, Charles- <i>Spirit of St. Louis</i> Private Planes Seaplanes Trainer Aircraft	Wright Brothers/ <i>Wright Flyer</i> X-Planes/ Experimental <u>Railroads</u> Trains Locomotives Steam Engines Street Cars Subways Trams/ Trolleys <u>Watercraft</u> Ships/ Watercraft Bligh, William- <i>HMS Bounty</i> Cable Ships Cruise/ Liner Ships <i>Titanic</i> Dhows Ferry Boats Freighters/ Cargo Ships Galleons Maritime Disasters	Navigational Tools/ Compass Rose Nuclear Ice Breakers Pirates Research Ships Row Boats/ Galleys Speed or Rescue Boats Steamships Submarines Tanker Ships Towboats/ Tug Boats/ Barges Sailing Vessels Brigantines Caravels Frigates Schooners Sloops Whaleboats
Coaches/ Carriages			
Motorcycles			
Stagecoaches			
Traffic Safety			
<u>Automotive</u>			
Alfa Romeos			
Audis			
Auto Racing			
Cadillacs			
Chevrolets			
Corvettes			
Ferraris/ Enzo Ferrari			
Fiat			
Fords/ Henry Ford			
Jaguars			
Mercedes/ Benz			
Peugeots			
Porsches			
Renaults/ Louis Renault			
Rolls Royce			

One or many ATA members undoubtedly collect the same topic as you. Fill out and submit the *Membership Directory* form today, so you may connect with others!!

Did you note a topic or two that intrigues you? Perhaps one that you never knew existed? There is an ATA checklist for every single topic listed here! Check out the listings on the ATA website, or in the 2014 *Topical Time* issues (May through October).



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Surveyor 3 visited by Apollo 12

Don Hillger and Garry Toth

The *Apollo 12* mission, the second in which two astronauts landed on the moon, included a unique event: a visit to the non-manned *Surveyor 3* spacecraft, which had landed 2½ years earlier. Part of the astronauts' mission was to investigate *Surveyor* and bring back some pieces for later analysis. They also made the usual collection of moon rocks and dust.

Rather than covering the entire *Surveyor* series, this article focuses on the *Surveyor 3* mission. It was the first and, to date, only occasion in which humans have visited a non-manned probe sent to another world. Only postal items showing *Surveyor 3* and the visiting *Apollo 12* astronauts are included in this article.

Surveyor 3, third in the Surveyor series

Surveyor 3 was launched April 17, 1967, and landed on the moon April 20. It was the second *Surveyor* to successfully accomplish a soft landing, following *Surveyor 1*. Of the seven *Surveyors*, only *Surveyors 2* and *4* did not complete their missions. One of the goals of the *Surveyor* spacecraft was to return data for selected lunar mare sites in support of the planned *Apollo* program landings.

The data from *Surveyor 3* showed that it had not made a fully-controlled soft landing, but in fact bounced twice before settling down in an upright position. The

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problem was due to misleading signals from the spacecraft's descent radar caused by highly reflective rocks. Despite this problem, *Surveyor 3* was able to carry out its mission.

Surveyor 3 returned data until May 4, 1967, but, unfortunately, failed to come back to life after the two-week lunar night. It was not until the *Apollo 12* mission in November 1969, more than two years later, that *Surveyor 3* was again in the spotlight. The *Apollo 12* Lunar Module landed less than 200 meters (about 600 feet) from *Surveyor 3*.

On their second moonwalk, on Nov. 20, 1969, astronauts Charles (Pete) Conrad, Jr., and Alan Bean visited and examined *Surveyor 3*. (Astronaut Richard Gordon remained in the Command Module, orbiting the moon.) Conrad and Bean took photographs and removed about 10 kg of parts from the spacecraft. They were returned to Earth and analyzed to determine how they were affected by exposure to the harsh lunar environment. The *Surveyor 3* TV camera brought back from the moon is on display at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

The returned parts of *Surveyor 3* were also examined for living material, since the spacecraft was not sterilized prior to launch. Scientists wanted to know if terrestrial organisms could have survived in space all that time. While one sample that was tested had bacteria, the verdict was inconclusive, as there may have been accidental contamination of the material after being returned to Earth.

Surveyor 3 is shown on a small number of postal items, all of which show the visiting *Apollo 12* astronauts. Included here are all of the postal items known to the authors, other than slight variations that will be mentioned.

A postage stamp from Chad (Scott 225Ac, 1970), one of a strip of three, shows an *Apollo 12* astronaut next to *Surveyor 3*, with the *Apollo 12* Lunar Module, *Intrepid*, in the background. This scene is based on an actual photograph of Pete Conrad and *Surveyor 3* taken by Alan Bean. *Surveyor 3* had landed in what was subsequently named the Surveyor Crater, and *Intrepid* is seen beyond the crater rim. This stamp is also available in an imperforate version.



Haiti
(Minkus
1318, 1973)
shows an
Apollo 12
astronaut
and *Sur-*
veyor 3. An
extendable
motor-driven
scissors-arm
of the surface

Chad (Scott 225Ac, 1970) and Haiti (Minkus 1318, 1973).

soil sampling scoop, first used on *Surveyor 3*, is very apparent in this stamp as well as in the Chad stamp already mentioned. The arm was designed to manipulate the soil around *Surveyor*, within the view of the TV camera. It was used to dig four trenches in the lunar soil. Chemical analysis of the soil was performed by an alpha-scattering instrument, and pictures of the soil were transmitted back to Earth. The same



Hungary (Scott C304, 1970) and Mali (Scott 1036d, 1999)

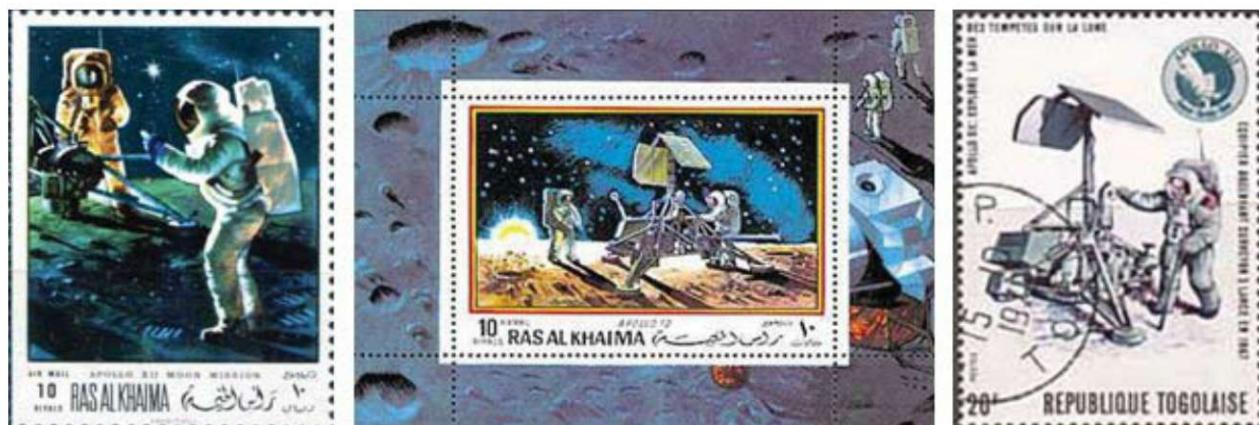
stamp was also later overprinted (Minkus 1377, 1974) for the centennial of the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

On the next stamp, from Hungary (Scott C304,

1970), both astronauts are shown along with *Surveyor 3*. This was an impossible picture, as no camera-shutter self-timer was available to the astronauts. Most other postal items show only a single astronaut, such as a stamp from Mali (Scott 1036d, 1999), which is part of a souvenir sheet of four stamps.

A stamp issued by Ras Al Khaima (Michel 392, 1969) again shows both astronauts inspecting *Surveyor 3*. The Ras Al Khaima stamp is also available as a souvenir sheet, perforated and imperforate. Another souvenir sheet of one from Ras Al Khaima (Yvert PA49, 1970) shows both astronauts. This item is not listed by either Scott or Michel. Also, Togo (Scott 743, 1970) shows a single astronaut and *Surveyor 3*. This item was later overprinted (Scott 748, 1970) with an inscription to welcome the *Apollo 12* astronauts back to Earth from their lunar visit.

The authors are aware of only one postal cover commemorating the astronauts' visit to *Surveyor 3*. The KimCover, canceled Nov. 20, 1969, shows the impossible picture of both astronauts with *Surveyor 3*, and *Intrepid* in the background. As with many postal items, what is depicted can often be attributed to artistic license, showing what must have happened, rather than being based on actual images. Other



Ras Al Khaima (Michel 392, 1969; and Yvert PA49, 1970) and Togo (Scott 743, 1970).



Special-event cover canceled at Vatican City with (KimCover) cachet showing Surveyor 3 and Apollo 12 astronauts.

covers must exist for the *Apollo 12/Surveyor 3* interaction, and the authors would appreciate receiving scans of them.

Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter evidence

In 2009, 40 years after the *Apollo 12* visit to *Surveyor 3*, the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) obtained images of the *Apollo 12* landing site. The spatial resolution of the images was good enough to show all of the major remains from the mission, including *Surveyor 3*, the *Intrepid* Descent Stage, the nuclear-powered Apollo Lunar Surface Experiments Package (ALSEP) and even the footpaths of the astronauts. The ASLEP returned scientific data directly to Earth for more than seven years after the *Apollo 12* mission. The LRO image mentioned (www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/LRO/multimedia/lroimages/lroc_20090903_apollo12.html) can be found on the Internet.

Additional online information

A checklist of known postal items showing the *Surveyor* series satellites (rammb.cira.colostate.edu/dev/hillger/Surveyor.htm), including the *Apollo 12* items highlighted in pale yellow, is available as part of a website developed by the authors for many different non-manned satellites, which can be found at the following url: rammb.cira.colostate.edu/dev/hillger/satellites.htm. Users are asked to provide missing or additional information or images that they may have. The online information will be updated whenever new details are provided to the authors. ☐

The authors have researched and written extensively on the subjects of weather, climate and non-manned satellites on stamps and covers.

Don Hillger, PhD, is a research meteorologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and holds a cooperative position at Colorado State University. Send correspondence to: hillger@cira.colostate.edu.

Garry Toth, MSc, is a retired Canadian meteorologist. Send correspondence to: garry_toth@hotmail.com.

Chapter Chatter

By James Hogbin

The following ATA Chapters have recently sent me their chapter publications, for which I am grateful. If your Chapter isn't listed, then you haven't added me to your mailing list. To be listed, please send newsletters or journals to my address at the end of this column. Should you live near a listed chapter, why not contact them about joining. Some have membership dues as low as \$5.

Ann Arbor Stamp Club (ATA Chapter 98), in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Newsletter: *AASC Newsletter*.

Editor: Harry Winter, PO Box 2012, Ann Arbor Mi 48106

Email: harwin@umich.edu; **Website:** www.annarborstampclub.org

Newsletter topics: Jan. 2015 Chapter News.

ATA Chapter 5, Milwaukee, Wis.

Editor: Robert Mather

Email: rmulatt@att.net

Newsletter topics: Nov., Dec., Jan. 2015 Chapter news, United Nations presentation

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www.championstamp.com

Battle Creek Stamp Club (ATA Chapter 117), in Battle Creek, Mich.

Newsletter: *BCSC News.*

Editor: Steve Sherman, 200 West Michigan Ave, Battle Creek MI

Email: *stevensherman@att.net*

Newsletter topics: Nov. 2014 Chapter news, USS *Constitution*.

Robert C. Graebner (ATA Chapter 93), Washington, D.C., Area.

Newsletter: *Graebner Gazette*

Editor: Rollin F. Berger Jr, 13000 Evans Ford Ct, Clifton VA 20124-1807

Email: *rollinelia@gmail.com*

Newsletter topics: Dec. 2014 Chapter News.

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter 127), Mercerville, N.J.

Newsletter: *The Hamilton Hinge.*

Editor: Tony Zingale, PO Box 3443, Mercerville NJ 08619

Email: *hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org*; **Website:** *www.hamiltonphilatelic.org*

Newsletter topics: Jan.-Feb. 2015 Chapter News.

Johnstown Stamp Club (ATA Chapter 4), Johnstown, Pa.

Newsletter: *Philatelic Chatter*

Editor: Don Smith, PO Box 576, Johnstown PA 15907

Email: *donsmith32@atlanticbb.net*

Newsletter topics: Jan.-Feb. 2015 Chapter news.

Knoxville Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter 121), Knoxville, Tenn.

Newsletter: *Knoxville Philatelic Society News.*

Editor: Tom Broadhead, PO Box 50422, Knoxville TN 37950

Email: *jbpettway@comcast.net*; **Website:** *www.knoxstamps.com*

Newsletter topics: Nov. 2014, Jan. 2015: Postal Artifacts of the 1911 & 1913 Knoxville Expositions, Chapter news.

Mid-Cities Stamp Club (ATA Chapter 90), Plano, Texas

Newsletter: *Stamping Around*

Editor: Peter Elias, PO Box 940427, Plano TX 75094

Email: *peter@pcelias.com*; **Website:** *www.mid-citiesstampclub.com*

Newsletter topics: Dec. 2014: Telegery (phone cards); Space Cover Collecting;

The Future Of Postage; Chapter news.

**Pictorial postmarks, meters,
cinderella items
and slogan cancellations
can all add greatly
to any topical or thematic collection!**

Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Inc. (ATA Chapter 112), Milwaukee, Wis.

Newsletter: *Milwaukee Philatelist*

Editor: Carol Schutta, 6814 Southview Cir, West Bend WI 53090

Email: harryncarolschutta@gmail.com

Newsletter topics: Nov. 2014, Jan. 2015 Chapter news.

Motor City Stamp & Cover Club (ATA Chapter 95), Detroit, Mich.

Newsletter: *On Cover*

Editor: Bob Quintero, **Email:** qover@comcast.net; **Website:** motorcitystampandcover.com

Newsletter topics: Dec. 2014 Chapter News.

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (ATA Chapter 118), Lancaster, Pa.

Editor: Paul Petersen

Email: pcpetersen@comcast.net

Newsletter topics: Dec. 2014 Christmas cancels, Chapter News

Salem Stamp Society (ATA Chapter 114), Salem, Ore.

Newsletter: *Willamette Stamp & Tongs*

Editor: Lucien Klein, PO Box 202, Salem OR 97308

Email: frans@geerlingsdesign.com; **Website:** www.salemstampsociety.org

Newsletter topics: Nov., Dec. 2014 Chapter news.

Stamp Collectors Club Of Toledo (ATA Chapter 66), Toledo, Ohio

Newsletter: *Frogtown Philatelist*

Editor: John Mann, PO Box 2, Maumee OH 43537

Email: john6125@earthlink.net; **Website:** www.toledostampclub.org

Newsletter topics: Nov., Dec. 2014 Chapter News.

Venice Stamp Club (ATA Chapter 122), Venice, Fla.

Editor: Dawn Hamman, 334 Rio Terra, Venice FL 34285

Email: Venicestampclub@gmail.com

Newsletter topics: Dec. 2014, Jan. 2015 Chapter News.

Webster Groves Stamp Club (ATA Chapter 12), St. Louis, Mo.

Alan Barasch: **Secretary@WebsterGrovesStampClub.org**

Website: www.WebsterGrovesStampClub.org

Westfield Stamp Club (ATA Chapter 113), New Jersey

Newsletter: *The Westfield Philatelist*

Editor: Frederick C. Skvara, PO Box 6228, Bridgewater NJ 08807

Email: fcskvara@optonline.net

Newsletter topics: Jan.-Feb. 2015 Chapter News.



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Email enquiries to jmarinomontero@aol.com

West Suburban Stamp Club (ATA Chapter 44), Plymouth, Mich.

Newsletter: *Mayflower Minutes*

Editor: Sandy Strzalkowski, PO Box 700049, Plymouth MI 48170

Email: mywssc@msn.com **Website:** www.thewssc.com

Newsletter topics: Dec.-Jan. 2015 Chapter news.

Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs (ATA Chapter 107), Wisconsin

Newsletter: *Across The Fence Post*

Editor: Aimee Devine, 2111 E Luther Rd, Janesville WI 53545

Email: spanishmoss72@sbcglobal.net; **Website:** www.wfscstamps.org

Newsletter topics: Nov., Dec. 2014, Jan. 2015 Chapter news, Santa Claus, Education On Stamps, "Walking In A Winter Wonderland."

Great Britain

British Thematic Association (ATA Chapter 100)

Newsletter: *Themscene*

Editor: Wendy Buckle, 87 Victoria Rd, Bournemouth, BH1 4RS, England

Email: Richard.wheeler@telepuppets.com; **Website:** www.brit-thematic-assoc.com

Newsletter topics: Dec. 2014 Chapter news.

India

Indian Thematic Society (ATA Chapter 102)

Newsletter: *ITS Stamp News*

Editor: Suraj Jaitly, MIG # 3464, Phase 2,Dugri Road, Ludhiana – 141 013, India

Email: Indianthematicsociety@gmail.com

Website: www.indianthematicstamps.webs.com

Newsletter topics: Oct.-Nov.-Dec. 2014, Celebrating 17 years of publishing!

South Africa

Thematics Southern Africa (ATA Chapter 103)

Newsletter: *ThemNews*

Editor: Wobbe Vegter

Email: wvegter@xsinet.co.za; **Website:** www.thematics.co.za

Newsletter topics: Nov. 2014 Chapter News. 

Jim Hogbin, ATA Life Member since 1963, is retired from the USPS and can be emailed at jimhogbin@gmail.com, Chapter Newsletters should be posted or emailed to: Jim Hogbin, 8 Aqua Dr, Cherokee Village AR 72529-1815.

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YOUTH IN TOPICS

Mary Ann Bowman

Stamps Teach

Stamps Teach, a relatively new program sponsored by the American Philatelic Society, needs your help in getting stamps into the classrooms. I am issuing a challenge to topical stamp clubs and collectors. Continue reading to find out about this new initiative and how you can help.

The idea, born at a Council of Philatelists meeting at the National Postal Museum, was simple enough. Through the creation of a learning or discovery center, classroom teachers would be provided with the necessary materials for their students to work independently through tasks and activity sheets using stamps as manipulatives to reinforce skills and concepts taught in core curriculum areas (reading/language arts, math, social studies, science and the fine arts).

The screenshot shows the homepage of the American Philatelic Society (APS) website. At the top, there's a banner for "Stamp Collecting" featuring a philatelic exhibit. The main navigation menu includes links for "About APS", "Membership", "Services", "Education", "Teachers and Club Leaders", "Stamp Collecting", "Shop", "Events/Shows", and "Support the Hobby". Below the menu, there's a "Services" sidebar with links for "American Philatelist", "Buy and Sell Online", "Buy and Sell by Mail", "Learning Opportunities", "Education", "Beginner Information", "Mentor Service", "About Stamps", "StampBuddy", "Seminars and Courses", "Teachers and Club Leaders", "All Star", "Stamp Teach", "Get Started", "Pre K to K", "Grades 1 to 2", "Stamp Teach Plus", "Fine Arts", "Language Arts", "Mathematics", "Science", "Social Studies", "Grades 3 to 8", "High School", "Provide Feedback", "Submit Ideas", "Stamp Teach Donate", "Pilot Program", "Scouts", "Request Supplies", "Slide Programs", "Young Philatelic Leaders", "Estate Advice", "Insurance", "Library", and "Reference Collection". The main content area features a section titled "Stamps Teach Plus for Grades 3 - 5" with text about the program, a "Fine Arts" icon, a "Language Arts" icon, a "Math" icon, a "Science" icon, a "Social Studies" icon, and a "QUESTIONS?" section with a photo of Jessica Welch. There's also a "News Archive" link at the bottom.

The screenshot shows the APS website's main menu at the top, including links for Stamp Collecting, About APS, Membership, Services, Shop, Events/Shows, and Support the Hobby. Below the menu, there's a navigation bar for Home, Services, Learning Opportunities, Education, Teachers and Club Leaders, and Stamps Teach.

Services

- American Philatelist
- Buy and Sell Online
- Buy and Sell by Mail
- Learning Opportunities
- Education
- Beginner Information
- Member Service
- About Stamps
- Stampability
- Seminars and Courses
- Teachers and Club Leaders
- All Star
- Stamps Teach
- Get Started
- Teacher Feedback
- Summer Camps
- Stamps Teach Details
- Pilot Program
- Books
- Resource Supplies
- Stamp Programs
- Young Philatelic Leader
- Print Adults
- Insurance
- Literacy
- Reference Collection
- Stamps At Auction
- Stamps Identification
- Translators
- Young Philatelists
- Stamp Trade
- Fraud Watch
- Book Publishing
- Activities

Stamps Teach

Welcome to Stamps Teach. Our mission is to resource educators with postage stamp-related material. Educators can use these tools to add fun and interest to their current curriculum while exposing students to world geography, languages, currencies, culture history, art, etc. through postage stamps.

This free resource includes:

- Lesson plans for preschool to 2nd Grades
- Stamps Teach Plus for 3rd to 5th Grades (Registration required)
- Lesson plans for 6th to 12th Grades

In 2011, the nation's largest stamp collecting organization, will provide free youth membership to all children who send in an application for the Young Stamp Collectors of America (YSCA) program. YSCA is a national program providing monthly online meetings with children who collect stamps, led by an APS staff person. Other services include e-newsletters about the hobby, meetings at APS stamp shows twice a year in cities around the country, and a pen pal service.

If you are interested in utilizing stamps as a learning tool with your curriculum, it's easy to get started.

Get Started Now

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

These are several children that enabled stop calling me name and mailing to share what they had found. They were excited as they were sifting through the stamps.

Christine in Wisconsin

Questions?
If you have any questions, email sarah@stamp.org or call 814-933-3803 ext. 239.

2011-2013 Pilot Report

As the concept began to take form, it became apparent that the program could not be implemented without the help of organized philately. The American Philatelic Society (APS) stepped forward and agreed to work on the development and implementation of the program. Grades 3-5 were targeted. All materials would be provided at no charge.

A pilot program began in 2011 and another group in 2012 reached 323 teachers and more than 10,000 students. No longer a pilot, Stamps Teach Plus opened and registered almost 2,500 teachers and more than 20,000 students as of December 2014. There are currently more than 1,000 teachers registered and waiting for materials to be sent this summer when more funding is obtained. The APS has had to stop sending kits as the demand is now greater than the resources and the supply of stamps needed to fulfill the program's objectives.

Each teacher receives colorful stamp posters depicting a sample of an activity from the core curriculum areas. Task cards for the learning center and a large zip-lock bag of postage stamps are also sent. Worksheets are free and downloadable from

the APS web site (www.stamps.org). Lesson plans are also available on the website. The materials have been sent to all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico.

To meet the growing needs of the program and to target the resources better, the APS is using the first half of this year to process feedback and campaign for financial aid and stamp donations. New lessons, activity sheets and task cards need to be developed. The APS will resume sending out the kits during the second half of the year.

There are costs to this program; cost to mail the kits, cost of a temporary coordinator. Members of the Stamps Teach committee are seeking grant monies to help fund future programming.

Then there are the volunteers who have put together the kits, soaked stamps, trimmed stamps and prepared the mailings.

Stamps Teach needs the help of ALL collectors. In the past, ATA members have been very supportive of youth and other outreach programs through donations of topical stamps. The ATA does not have the resources to provide this type of outreach program to school groups. Now your stamp donation can have an even greater impact reaching thousands of school-aged children. Most every collector has quantities of duplicate stamps – some of which are the very common definitives. These stamps can be put into the hands of young children and used in programs to enhance the learning process. Here's how you can help. Clubs and individual collectors can make a financial donation to Stamps Teach through the APS. Equally important is the extreme need for large quantities of on- and off-paper stamps, both U.S. and foreign, preferably singles and not multiples on paper.

Gretchen Moody, APS Director of Education, requests single stamps, on or off paper (and prefers that any nudes be removed). On-paper stamps should be neatly trimmed with 1/4 inch or so margin around the stamp. There is no need to sort the stamps because they are mixed to make the bags that are sent to the teachers. Cut squares of postal stationery can be included. Currently there is a greater need for foreign – both on and off paper.

Consider making one of your monthly club meetings a time for your members to bring in stamps on paper to trim neatly. Send your stamps to APS, Stamps Teach, 100 Match Factory Pl, Bellefonte PA 16823. Please mention that you read about the need in *Topical Time*. The ATA has much to gain from the introduction of stamp collecting to youth – the future of the hobby. As we know, topical collecting has great appeal to youth. Please consider a stamp donation to this worthy cause.

Should the hobby recruit adults or youth?

Recently a copy of the January 2015 newsletter of the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (PA) crossed my desk. One of the articles featured responses to an invitation to members to choose sides in the ongoing debate: Should we recruit adults or youth? It made for interesting reading and, with permission of the editor, Paul Petersen, I share some of the responses with our readership.

Starting on the side of recruiting youth, John Brownell opens that most PSLC members have had similar experiences “*where we were introduced to the hobby as kids, got fired up, went our separate ways, and then returned to collecting years later. We should focus on kids.*”

Len Kasper sees youth recruitment as the future of the hobby. “*If collecting ‘dies’ with our generation, only overseas collectors will rule the values.*” He continues with some suggestions and ideas regarding presentations of programs to Scout and school groups.

Others feel we should recruit young people (not necessarily children) and others feel we should focus on adults. Some of those responses follow.

Doug Milliken: “*We should recruit young collectors by having a number of copies of a recent album page and have a box of recent stamps (like at the National Postal Museum in Washington, DC) and stamp hinges available, and adults to help put the stamps in place at meetings and shows.*”

Vern Marten: “*Perhaps we could create a travel display to be shown in various middle and high schools. Most schools have display areas or perhaps hobby corners where kids could demonstrate their hobbies. Rec centers also have display areas ... I believe there are many venues to showcase our hobby; we just need the volunteers to DO it...*”

Fred Mackey: “*Not necessarily children, but young people. Give them free dues for first year. For the kids, give 'em starter packs ... Special open house for them, some training sessions, use the resources of the club and its members...*”

Hal Klein: “*BOTH! However we have a responsibility as an organization to recruit youth. Local clubs have the responsibility to foster, teach and support youth in the stamp hobby. If not, we have failed ourselves as collectors as well as the hobby's future survival. The same holds true for adults, but to a lesser extent. In any case, if we wish to have the club here in 100 years we need to recruit both, especially youth.*”

Eleanor Wheeler: “*In order to maintain the club we need to continually add adults to our membership. Adults bring with them a variety of interests and experience they can share and have the potential to maintain the financial stability of the club. Of course we cannot ignore the importance for the more distant future of encouraging philatelic interests among young people. But, our energies should focus on finding new adult members.*”

Lou DiFelice: “*I would like to be an optimist and say that youth is the future of the hobby, but unfortunately I don't feel that there is sufficient interest on the part of younger people for philately. I should note that by younger people I include all those under 30. The lure of the cell phone, iPad, internet, instant messaging, etc., has enhanced the instant gratification mechanism in younger people. Philately does not trigger this response, which seems to drive things today. Stamp collecting is a process, a journey which requires time, thought and perseverance. It is my opinion that we need to cultivate individuals more suited to the process thus, the over-30 crowd is where I would place my bet.*”

Dick Shaefer: “*Unless some of the members want to take the time to teach young people about stamp collecting, trying to recruit young people does not work. Our meetings are not*

geared for young people and the way we got some young people in the past, was that they had already been introduced to the hobby by an adult and that adult brought them to the meeting. I would suspect that if you ask those people who are in the club that started as a young person, most would tell you that they had a parent, grandparent or relative that was a stamp collector and got them interested or there was a club at their school or church. Finding adults who are interested in the hobby is the only way to grow and that is not easy either. There are a fair number of people in Lancaster County that collect stamps but for whatever reason few want to join a stamp club. I do not know the information on how many people who came to the November meeting last year joined the club, but I do not think it was many. Our biggest recruiting vehicle is the stamp show and even at that we do not get a lot of people that stay beyond the first year. I would have thought that the baby boomers, as they retire, would be looking for an interesting hobby to occupy their time, but that does not appear to be happening to the degree that I would expect. It is not an easy problem to solve and our best bet is to let people know we are here."

The newsletter also contained a lengthy Guest Editorial by Dick Colberg in support of recruiting adults into the hobby.

The editor, Paul Petersen, wrote to me: "I appreciate your work with youth, and I think it is important. I always have a discussion stopper when folks say that we do not need to reach out to kids; it is said that they will find the hobby themselves, and that all of us current (and older!) collectors came back to the hobby. And the key is 'came back.' If kids don't collect as youth, they will have no favorable experiences to come back to as adults. At the Friday AM farewell breakfast at the end of an APS Summer Session a few years ago, the crowd was asked that question. There were probably 50-60 folks, and all but two or three collected as kids. I don't do model railroading as an adult. I did not engage in this as a kid, thus I did not come back to it as an adult." □"

MaryAnn Bowman is a youth activist, director of ATA Youth Activities, was named as the 2005 ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist and currently serves on the Smithsonian's Council of Philatelists. Her mailing address is PO Box 1451, Waukesha WI 53187 USA.

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Sydfrimex 2014, Romafil 2014, Nordia 2014

Foreign Thematic Exhibits

Larry E. Davidson

In this column, we will review the thematic exhibits shown at Sydfrimex 2014, Romafil 2014 and Nordia 2014. Only those exhibits with a score of 70 or higher are listed.

Legend: **LG** – large gold, **G** – gold, **LV** – large vermeil, **V** – vermeil, **LS** – large silver, **S** – silver. * denotes ATA member.

Sydfrimex 2014

This national exhibition was held in Eskildrup, Denmark, Oct. 18-19, 2014. The main sponsors were the Danish Philatelic Federation and PostNord Denmark. All exhibitors were from Denmark.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Leif W. Rasmussen	<i>Animals Subjected to Man</i>	G, 93
Knud Rask Overgaard	<i>Chess – War on 64 Squares</i>	G, 85
Leif W. Rasmussen	<i>Our Roots in Medieval Skills and Occupations</i>	LV, 82
Henning G. Jensen	<i>Bridges – A Necessary Part of Human Communications</i>	LV, 80
Knud Rask Overgaard	<i>Homo Sapiens Life and Death in the Asphalt Jungle</i>	LV, 80
Henrik Tranberg	<i>Seaplanes Ahoy! Pontoons and Hydrofoils Fly all over the World</i>	V, 77
Erik Kolmos	<i>The Most Beautiful Owl in Denmark</i>	V, 75
John Guldborg Hansen	<i>Beautiful Parrots and their Lives</i>	LS, 74

Open/Display Exhibits

Finn Malm	<i>The World Bleeds through the Red Cross</i>	G, 85
Ove Fisch	<i>A Man's Career in the Danish Fleet</i>	LV, 84
Charlotte Stryhn	<i>Knuthenborg Safaripark – A Guided Tour</i>	LS, 74
Jutta Anni Stryhn	<i>The First Christmas</i>	LS, 71

ATA Mission Statement

The American Topical Association promotes topical stamp collecting and the educational and recreational aspects of this hobby by...

- ☒ Encouraging the collection, research, and study of topical stamps and their subjects.
- ☒ Providing for the exchange of ideas among members worldwide.
- ☒ Developing and publishing books, checklists, and audio-visual programs.
- ☒ Holding or participating in philatelic exhibitions.
- ☒ Assisting members to acquire and dispose of collections.



Romafil 2014

This national exhibition was held in Rome, Italy, Oct. 24-26, 2014. It was organized by the Italian Philatelic Societies in collaboration with the Italian Philatelic and Numismatic Association. All exhibitors were from Italy.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Claudio Grande	<i>The Americas: History of Italian Emigration Overseas</i>	G, 88
Valeriano Genovese	<i>Golf: A Magnificent Obsession</i>	G, 87
Maurizio Bulegato	<i>Gothic</i>	G, 87
Gabriella De Zanchi	<i>A Child is Born to Us</i>	G, 85
Annibale Rota	<i>Alessandro Manzoni and "The Fifth of May"</i>	LV, 83
Franco Pastori	<i>Decay and Crisis of the West: The Birth of the Middle Ages</i>	LV, 81
Gian Carlo Arata	<i>Mines, Mining Towns & Villages in Italy & in the World</i>	LV, 81
Enrico Alloni	<i>The World at War</i>	LV, 80
Alfio Fiorini	<i>The Horse in History</i>	V, 78
Vincenzo Pinti	<i>The Holy Shroud</i>	V, 78

One-frame Exhibits

William Susi	<i>The Pope in Ancient Greece</i>	LG, 91
Annibale Rota	<i>At the Gates of Heaven</i>	LV, 83
Andrea Francesconi	<i>Italy 1934 – The Second Edition of World Cup Soccer</i>	LV, 82
Gian Carlo Arata	<i>The Miners</i>	LV, 81
Salvatore Picconi	<i>The Nuragic Civilization</i>	LV, 80
Andrea Francesconi	<i>Olympic Soccer</i>	V, 78

Open/Display Exhibits

Pasquale Polo	<i>Through the Colors of the Rainbow</i>	G, 87
Massimiliano Bruno	<i>A Soccer Kick to the Past</i>	G, 86
Claudio E. Manzati	<i>Historical Documents and Orders of Italian Military Missions Overseas</i>	G, 85
Antonio Ferrario	<i>Letters of the Second War of Independence – 1859</i>	LV, 80

Nordia 2014

This multilateral exhibition was held in Lillestrøm, Norway, Nov. 21-23, 2014. The countries participating were Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The Nordia exhibitions are organized in rotation among the Nordic Philatelic Federations. The year 2014 was the bicentenary of the Norwegian constitution and this exhibition was part of the jubilee celebration. The exhibition was organized by the Norwegian Philatelic Federation, Oslo Philatelic Society and Norway Post.

Championship Class Exhibits

(These exhibits received Gold Awards prior to Nordia 2014)

The winning exhibit was Tom Komnaes from Norway with a postal history exhibit.	
Jonas Hällström (Sweden)	<i>The History of Square-rigged Sailing Vessels</i>
Hallvard Slettebø (Norway)	<i>World Scouting</i>
*Bengt-Göran Österdahl (Sweden)	<i>The History of Chemistry</i>

Multi-frame Exhibits

Turid Veggeland (Norway)	<i>Bitter Pills and Strong Drops</i>	94, G
Tommy Samuelsson (Sweden)	<i>Allied Fighter Aircraft 1939-1945</i>	87, LV
Göran Modén (Sweden)	<i>Nils Thomasson – the Photographer who tells the History of Jämtland 1899-1970</i>	85, LV
Petyer J. Taraldsen (Norway)	<i>On Tracks</i>	83, V
Gunn Nibe (Norway)	<i>Maintenance and Care of the Sick in an Historical Perspective</i>	81, V
Harald Sandsæter (Norway)	<i>Red Cross Principles – as Supervisor</i>	79, LS
Henning Georg Jensen (Denmark)	<i>Bridges – A Necessary Part of Human Communications</i>	75, LS

One-frame Exhibits

Marit Elind (Norway)	<i>A Christmas Tree Cake Recipe</i>	77, LS
Marit Elind (Norway)	<i>Colorful Mushrooms, Dying from Fungi</i>	77, LS

Open/Display Exhibits

Henning Jarle Mathiassen (Norway)	<i>Longer, Higher, Faster – Success, Trouble and Disaster</i>	90, G
Gunnar Melbøe (Norway)	<i>Narvik in War 1940 - 1945</i>	86, LV
Odd Eidet Frømyhr/Liv Norbom (Norway)	<i>Scandinavian Laws and European Documents</i>	
Gunnar Dahlvig (Sweden)	<i>Linked to Sailing Ships</i>	85, LV
Poul Michael Nielsen (Denmark)	<i>Philatelist – One Strange Phenomenon</i>	83, V
Alan Totten (UK)	<i>No War Anymore</i>	83, V
Mats Söderberg (Sweden)	<i>North Cape & Beyond – Cruising in the Golden Years: 1883 - 1914</i>	83, V
Hans Gunnar Eklöf (Sweden)	<i>“Spola Kröken” (Swedish Alcohol Campaign)</i>	80, V
Finn Aune (Norway)	<i>The Passionate Oscar</i>	80, V
Stephen Pomp (Sweden)	<i>Centenary Year 1914</i>	79, LS
Jan Drejer (Denmark)	<i>Collecting Slania</i>	78, LS
Helgi Gunnarsson (Israel)	<i>Soldiers in Germany – The Danish Brigade and the Danish Command in Germany 1947-1948</i>	73, S
	<i>The Warriors of the Snow</i>	71, S

I wish to thank Koenraad Bracke of Belgium for providing several translations of exhibit titles and for providing the results of Nordia 2014. ☺

Larry E. Davidson, a current member of the ATA board, is a retired university mathematics lecturer. He has been collecting stamps for more than 55 years and exhibiting for 30+ years. His display/thematic exhibit, Beavers: Nature's Engineers, has won several vermeil, gold and "most popular exhibit" awards. His mailing address is PO Box 154, 86 Big Tub Road, Tobermory, Ontario N0H 2R0, Canada. His email address is lawrencedavidson@gmail.com.

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Membership

New Members and Reinstatements

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Connections between ATA members, especially among those with similar collecting interests, are encouraged. The contents of the ATA Membership Listing are the property of the American Topical Association, Inc. Any commercial use, including use for mailing lists or for any other commercial purpose, is prohibited without prior written consent of the Executive Director of the Association. **This list includes new membership numbers 57167-57188 and recent reinstatements.** This reflects membership through Jan. 30, 2015. "EM" denotes "Electronic Member."

57185	ARMENDARIZ, Carlos, <i>carlos.armendariz@jci.com</i>	Insects, Rhinos, Spiders, Wild Cats
57181	ARMSTRONG, Bonnie, <i>bonniebrumby@msn.com</i>	Tigers, Elvis Presley, American Indians
55087	AULDS, Cindy	Disney
57173-EM CALHOUN, John		Butterflies, Plants, Birds, Orchids
57179-EM COLP, Bill, <i>bill@colp.info</i>		Coal Mining, Mermaids
57182-EM COLTON, Kevin, <i>kevin@kevincoltonphotography.com</i>		Women on Stamps, Space, Entomology
57167	CORTES, Emilio	
57186	DUNN, Charles E.	Triangles, Great Britain
57183	EANES, Gregory	
57171	GOGRI, Kapil, <i>kapilg25@hotmail.com</i>	Tigers, Scouting, Jainism, Odd & Unusual Stamps
	309 Amit Industries, 61 Dr .S.S.Rao Rd, Nr Gandhi Hospital, Parel, Mumbai 400012 INDIA	
57168	JACINTO, Roberto	
57187	JACKSON, Ed, 126 River Bottom Cir, Athens GA 30606-1992, <i>edjack@uga.edu</i>	Football
57178-EM JI, JUNFENG		Greek Mythology
57169	JONES, Jennifer, <i>jennifer.g.jones@gmail.com</i>	
57170-EM KOGAN, Michael, <i>admin@paleophitatelier.eu</i>		Paleontology/Paleontologists, Dinosaurs/Prehistoric
		Animals, Fossils, Contributors to Paleontology
57177-EM LAVEY, Aristide		Religion, Textiles, Ballet, Dance
57174	MALAN, Dan, <i>danmalan@aol.com</i>	Religion, Literary Classics, Gustave Dore Artwork
57188	OLIVIER JR, Leon, <i>lolivierjr@bellsouth.net</i>	Scientists, Science
	491 Hood Rd, Stockbridge GA 30281-2841	
57172-EM PERREAULT, Jean-Jacques		
57184	PINKOWSKI, Diann	
51698	RUECKER, Sheryll, <i>sheryll@sheryll.net</i>	
51539	SENKUS, William	
48093	STOVER, Sandy	
57180-EM TAFT, Charles	NATO, United Nations, Peacekeeping, 50th Anniversary of United Nations	
57175	VANDERPLAAT, Jim, <i>jvanderplaat@hotmail.com</i>	Christmas, Art, Icons
	155 S S St., Cottage Grove OR 97424-1832	
48465	WATERSTREET, Darlene	Birds

Deceased Members

7867 Czaja, Victor Anthony (FL)

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This is the final recruiting report for 2014. A total of 89 new ATA members were recruited by current ATA members. They have received \$5 credit in ATA Bucks for each new member recruited. We hope your name will appear here in 2015!

ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green.

ATA Dealer Members shown in red.

New Members

Dawn Hamman (Fla.)	19	Jack Denys (N.J.)	1
Frederick Skvara (N.J.)	7	Ed Dimmick (Calif.)	1
Allan Fisk (N.Y.)	5	Lucy Eyster (Penn.)	1
Jeff Hayward (N.Y.)	3	Roger Grider (Mo.)	1
Robert Sazama (Fl.)	3	Mike Homel (Mich.)	1
Jean Stout (Miss.)	3	Robert E Juceam (N.Y.)	1
Don Bailey-Francois (Conn.)	2	Frank Kos (Wis.)	1
Stephen Chun (Ala.)	2	Jack Ott (Md.)	1
Jack Congrove (Wash.)	2	Ayman Panki (India)	1
Keith Edholm (Wash.)	2	Jim Pettway (Tenn.)	1
Janice and David Erbach (Ky.)	2	Patricia Prevey (Alberta, Canada)	1
Bruce Johnson (Calif.)	2	Caroline Scannell (N.Y.)	1
Robert Mather (Wis.)	2	Jack Swafford (Kan.)	1
Marion Rollings (N.J.)	2	Bill Vance (Tenn.)	1
Joe Sullivan (Md.)	2	Lynn Vernon (Ind.)	1
Mark Winnegrad (N.Y.)	2	Wayne Youngblood (Mo.)	1
Barbara Asher (Ga.)	2		
Gertrude Bernstein (Fla.)	1		
Charles Brown (Mo.)	1		
Louise Chouinard (Ga.)	1		
LeA Coe (Ga.)	1		
Tony Curiale (N.J.)	1		
Leonard de Groot (N.J.)	1		

Also:

Collectors of Religion on Stamps (COROS)	1
Hamilton Twp. Philatelic Society	3
Topical Philatelists in Colorado (TOPIC)	1



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Letters to the editor, features and short pieces are always welcomed, as long as they are strongly related to topical and thematic stamp collecting and add to the knowledge base of the hobby.

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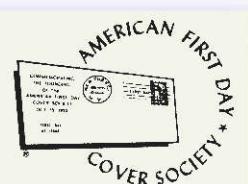
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ac.filacap@uol.com.br; www.filacap.com.br

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www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps/lover.lover.htm

Stamp Magazine: Guy Thomas and Julia Lee, editors, Hadlow House, 9 High Street, Green Street Green, Kent BR6 6BG, United Kingdom.

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Website: www.Edmontonstampclub.com

April 11, 2015, Missouri. Stratford Inn Bourse, 800 S. Highway Dr, Fenton, Mo. Free admission and parking. Hours 10-4 (every second Saturday).
Contact Gene Stewart (636) 343-5757.



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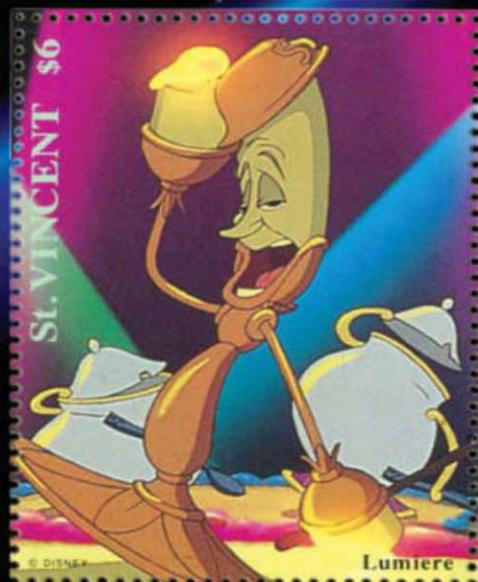
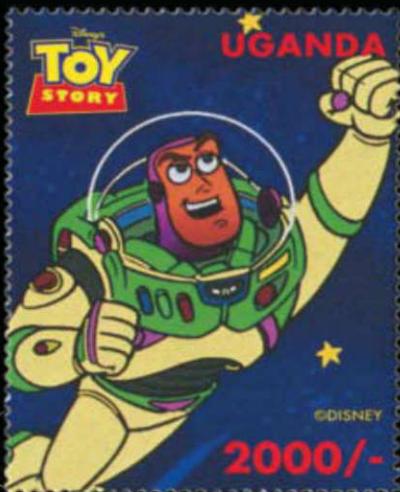
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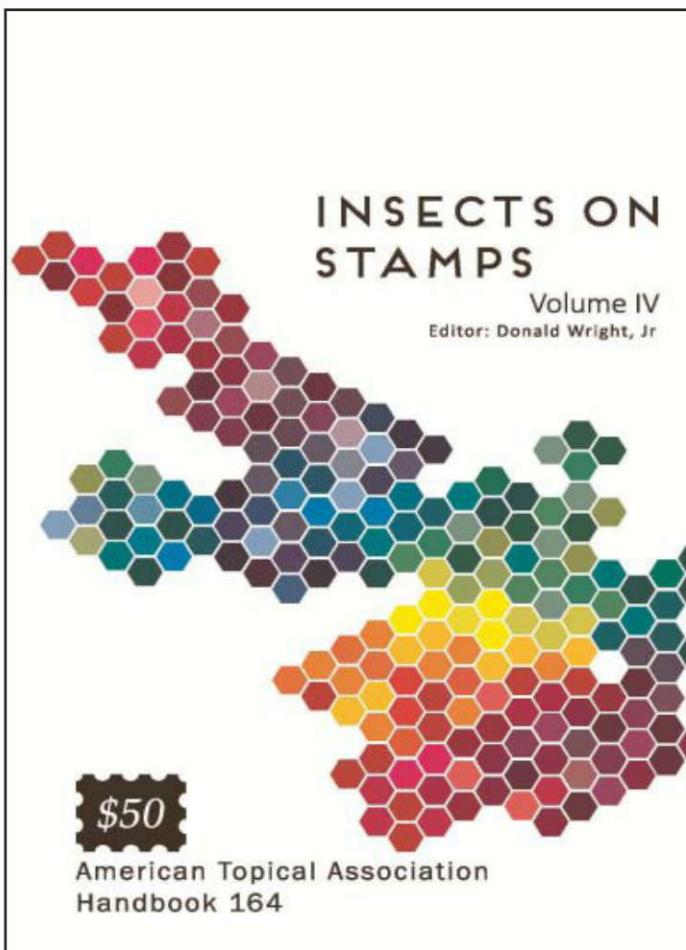
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#540, 90c. Same, ♀

#541, \$1.15. Same, ♂ underside

#542, \$1.95. Same, ♂

Sample of stamp issue by taxonomy:

FAMILY CRAMBIDAE, SUBFAMILY ACENTROPINAE

Eristena sp. Nov.

Hong Kong, 1542, 2012, \$2.40. In sheet and in s/t of 6

**Print copy, \$45 to ATA members (shipping \$4 US, \$16 Canada, \$24 international)
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TIME

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Preregister by July 24 to receive special nametag and preregistration materials upon arrival at the show hotel.

Admission is \$5 for all three days, which includes free parking for the duration of the show.

Completion of this form is required for entrance to the show. Information will not be released to other entities.

Mail form to ATA, PO Box 8, CARTERVILLE, IL 62918-0008. Or attach copy to an email, americantopical@msn.com

Last Name:

First Name:

ATA Member? Y/N

Adults: # Children: List names of additional attendees:

Address: City/State/Zip:

Email address:

If a stamp collector, please list collecting interests: _____

I plan to travel to NTSS by: car train plane bus Locally I plan to use hotel shuttle my own transport

Please indicate where you learned about this NTSS show. Check as many as appropriate:

Philatelic publication - Please give publication name: Flyer picked up at a stamp show. – Show name:

Postcard from Dealer Media (radio, TV, internet, Facebook, etc.) – Kind of media:

ATA Website ATA Society table at a stamp show; show name: _____

On what days do you plan to attend this show? Fri. Sat. Sun.

Where are you staying while attending this show?

Home Friends Monarch Hotel & Convention Center Another Hotel Other:

Please volunteer to help with NTSS! Contact Jean Stout, 656 April Sound, Pearl, MS 39208-6603, jcstout61@bellsouth.net

REGISTRATION AND EVENT TICKETS

Register by **July 1, 2015**, for prices listed below. If received by ATA Office **after July 1**, add \$5 to the cost for each numbered event. Later reservations accepted only if space is available.

Event	Function	Number	Total
	Show Registration (3 days, free parking)	____ x \$5. (youth <18 yrs, dealers and exhibitors free)	
#1	Half-day Thursday Tour Thursday, July 30, depart hotel 11:00 am (limit of 31 tickets available)	____ x \$35. Visit to McMenamins Kennedy School, lunch on your own at the school's Courtyard Restaurant, Northwest Philatelic Library, Pittock Mansion, Powell's City of Books.	
#2	President's Reception (Old Spaghetti Factory) Friday, July 31, 5:30-7:30 pm (limit of 60 tickets available)	____ x \$20. Buffet: Old Spaghetti Factory favorite entrees, salads, dessert, beverages. Cash bar.	
#3	Awards Banquet (Clackamas/Columbia Rooms, Monarch Hotel) Saturday, Aug 1, 7:00 pm	____ x \$50. Buffet: Filet of Salmon/Lemon Butter, Chicken Monarch, Slow-roasted Prime Rib, Yukon Gold Scalloped Potatoes, Mixed Greens/Candied Walnuts, Caesar Salad, Desserts	
#4	Full-day Monday Tour Monday, August 3, depart hotel 9:00 am (limit of 40 tickets available)	Motorcoach tour to Mount Saint Helens Visitor Center, Forest Living Center and Johnston Ridge Observatory. ____ x \$50. Chef salad picnic lunch included. ____ x \$50. Sandwich picnic lunch included.	
	Program Contribution	<i>Donations are tax deductible; each donor of \$10 or more will be listed in the NTSS 2015 show program.</i>	
	TOTAL Enclosed	<i>Tickets will be included in show preregistration packet</i>	

Check if registrant requires auxiliary services under the Americans with Disabilities Act

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

If paying by PayPal or credit card, please include a small bonus to help ATA cover electronic charges.

____ Check payable to ATA (preferable--saves all fees)

____ Sending payment by PayPal to americantopical@msn.com (best way to pay electronically)
MasterCard, Visa, or Discover; please complete form below.

Card Number: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiration date: _____ / _____ CVC (security) code: _____

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____