

Important Checklist Information/Lists See Page 62

TOPICAL TIME

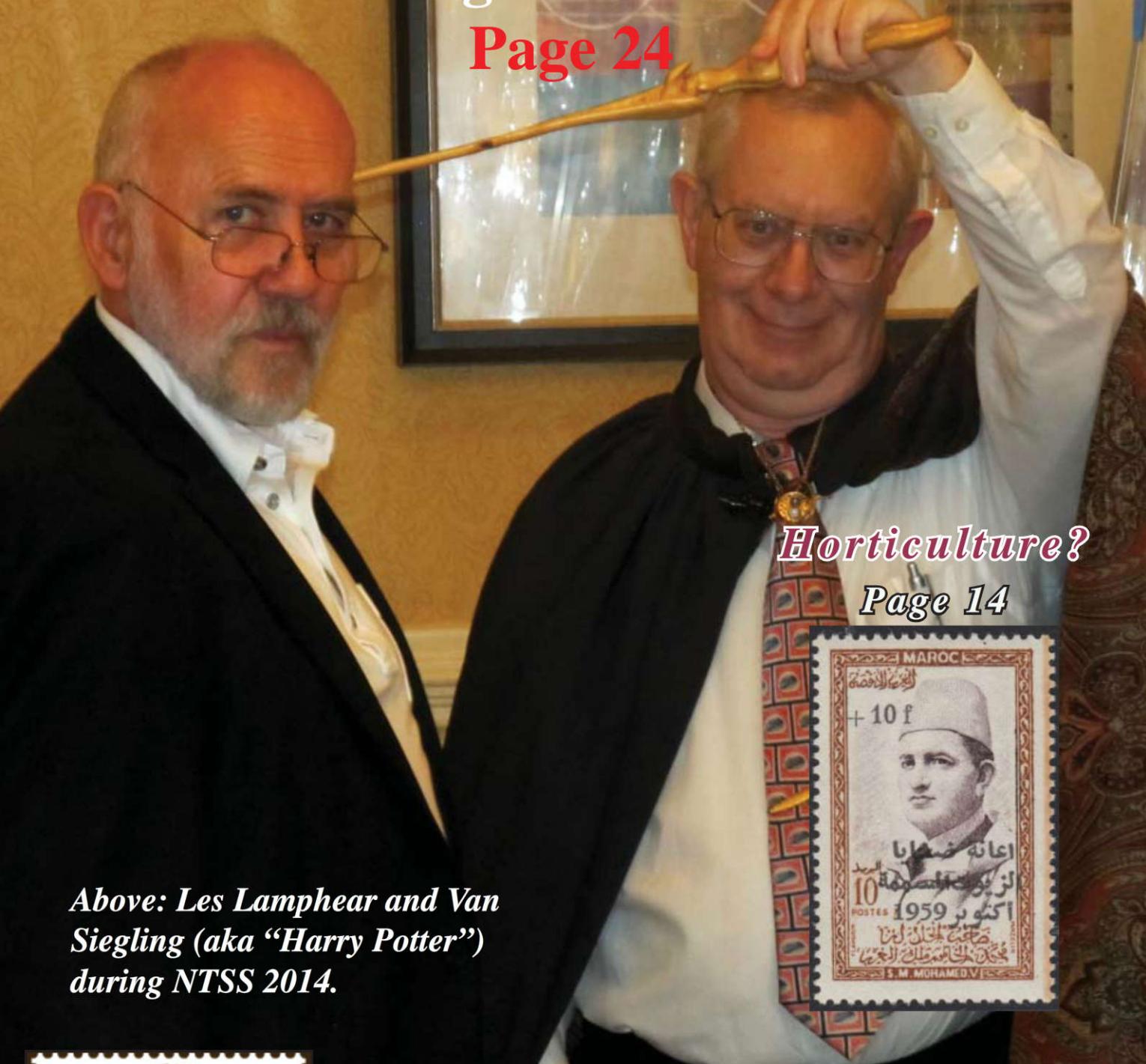
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July-August 2014

Vol. 65, No. 4

Whole Number 386

There was magic in the air at NTSS
Page 24



Above: Les Lamphear and Van Siegling (aka "Harry Potter") during NTSS 2014.



Study Unit Spotlight: JAPOS, Page 48

Journal of Thematic Philately

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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

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(hammer price + premium)



OLYMPIA / 27th Auction / lot 4,190
start: 8,200 US\$ realized: 9,200 US \$
(hammer price + premium)

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2014-16 ATA Officers and Board of Directors

President

Jack André Denys
3 E. Cadillac Dr.
Somerville NJ 08876-1701
Telephone: (908) 725-6010
Email: jdenys@verizon.net

First Vice President

Dale E. Smith
1212 NE 96th Terr.
Kansas City MO 64155-2149
Telephone: (816) 734-4536
Email: smidale@kc.rr.com

Second Vice President

Dennis Dengel
17 Peckham Rd.
Poughkeepsie NY 12603-2018
Telephone: (845) 452-2126
Email: dennisdengel@verizon.net

Secretary

Laurie J. Ryan
4134 Wenbrook Dr.
Cincinnati OH 45241-2963
Telephone: (513) 706-3095
Email: doxiemom7@gmail.com

Treasurer

Myron Molnau
1616 E 32nd Ct
Spokane WA 99203-3918
Telephone: (509) 808-2721
Email: hobbies@turbonet.com

Board of Directors

Douglas N. Clark
PO Box 427
Marstons Mills MA 02648-0427
Telephone: (508) 428-9132
Email: dnc@math.uga.edu

Beth C. Collins
344 W Main St
Cottonwood MN 56229-2122
Telephone: (507) 828-9215
Email: bc309167@gmail.com

Lawrence E. Davidson
PO Box 154, 86 Big Tub Rd.
Tobermory ON N0H 2R0 Canada
Telephone: (519) 596-2917
Email: lawrencedavidson@gmail.com

Robert E. Lamb
1340 Oak Ridge Dr.
State College PA 16801-6911
Telephone: (814) 237-0358
Email: belpa383@msn.com

Robert J. Mather
S56-W29562 Roanoke Dr.
Waukesha WI 53189-9035
Telephone: (262) 968-2392
Email: burrobob@wi.rr.com

Van Siegling
243 Landover Rd.
Gahanna OH 43230-3175
Telephone: (614) 440-4173
Email: sieglinge@yahoo.com

Dawn Hamman
334 Rio Terra
Venice FL 34285-2951
Telephone: (941) 485-1193
Email: dawnthephilatelist@gmail.com

Jean C. Stout
656 April Sound
Pearl MS 39208-6603
Telephone: (601) 936-1553
Email: jcstout61@bellsouth.net

Appointed Officials

Executive Director

Vera Felts: See contact information below

Editor, *Topical Time*

Wayne L. Youngblood
4615 Lindell Blvd. Apt. 1102
Saint Louis MO 63108
Telephone: (314) 361-5699 (work)
Email: wystamps@gmail.com

Founder/Director Emeritus

Jerome D. Husak
13810 W Sandridge Dr
Sun City West AZ 85375-4473
Telephone: (623) 546-8376

Director Emeritus

Catherine Fechner
411 Poplar Ave.
Maywood NJ 07607-1244
Telephone: (201) 845-8769

ATA Office, PO Box 8

Carterville IL 62918-0008 USA

Telephone/FAX: (618) 985-5100

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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 ...

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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 ...

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Jack's Journal

Connectivity

That's a word we didn't know when we were kids!

Connectivity. Jerry Husak, ATA founder, didn't know that word either, when he wrote:

"Our biggest satisfaction came from helping others, gathering and disseminating information on topical stamp collecting, and the fulfillment of our 1949 aims — the mutual cooperation among members for the betterment of all."

Connectivity. The ability to make connections with others who have similar interests.

Connectivity. It is one of four purposes of our ATA, according to our mission statement:

- provide for the exchange of ideas among members worldwide.

Connectivity. Two other ATAers and I founded the Albrecht Dürer Study Unit 36 years ago. Our dozens of members benefitted greatly from sharing ideas, information and friendship. Though that unit is now inactive, I still enjoy keeping in touch with several of its members.

Connectivity. It remains one of the most rewarding benefits of ATA membership.

"A couple of years ago I had the opportunity to meet the leaders in topical collecting and the officers of ATA. That made the ATA personal and I want to help it succeed." – Orlie Trier

"I cannot tell you how rewarding it is to me to be part of the ATA. The philatelic world has not only given me hours upon hours of enjoyment but also valued friends, and the opportunities to help out...Fred Skvara got me connected to this wonderful developmental psychologist who lives on Long Island. He collects one of my topics-mental health, psychology, psychiatry on stamps. He and I are thinking of compiling a checklist for our topic and then of course giving it to the ATA." – Marion Rollings

Connectivity. Our new membership directory is expected to be released in a few months. You will be asked to list topics you collect and ways to contact you. Please consider maximizing your topical connections by permitting the ATA to include at least one form of contact – postal or email address – in the new directory. This will help others with similar interests to contact you. We promise that we will not release this information to anyone without your permission.

Connectivity. Good for the ATA! Good for YOU! ☺



About ATA

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

New on our Website: www.americantopicalassn.org

- Topical Tidbits, July-August issue: A Philatelic Zoo
- Press Release: *Topical Time* Archive Available
- National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS)
 - Palmares (exhibition and literature awards)
 - Exhibit pages from this year's winners

The Olive – Olea Europaea – Grand Award – **Vincent De Luca**

Coconuts – Reserve Grand Award – **Phil Stager**

The Royal Palm – One-Frame Mary Ann Owens Grand Award – **Phil Stager**

Recent Shows and New Members

May 2-4 Winnipeg Philatelic Society Stampshow, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Ambassador: **Bernie Smith**.

May 3 Augusta Spring Bourse, Augusta, Georgia. Ambassadors: **LeA Coe, Barbara Asher**.

May 3-4 Orapex, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Ambassador: **Larry Davidson**.

May 9-11 Pipex, Portland, Ore. – 3 new members. Ambassadors: **Jack Congrove, Orlie Trier, Cathie Osborne, Robbin Quinn, Pat Prevey**.

May 16-18 Rocky Mountain Stamp Show, Denver, Colo. Ambassador: **Tonny Van Loij**.

May 16-18 Ropex, Rochester, N.Y. Ambassador: **Fred Haynes**.

May 23-25 Compex, Arlington Heights, Ill.- 1 new member. Ambassadors: **Susan Jones, David Witkosky, Ann Byerly**.

May 30-June 1 Nojex, Secaucus, N.J. - 3 new members. Ambassadors: **Allan Fisk, Tony Curiale, Marion Rollins, Fred Skvara**.

June 8 Fenwick Stamp & Coin Show, Renton, Wash. Ambassadors: **Keith Edholm, Carol Edholm**

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 (handbooks, membership directories, checklists, DVDs) be brought to these shows for them.

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

Aug. 15-17 Americover, Somerset, N.J.

Aug. 21-24 APS StampShow, Hartford, Conn.

Ambassadors needed at StampShow. Ambassadors-in-Training sessions

will be held at 9 a.m. on Fri, Aug. 22, and on Sun., Aug. 24; notify ATA Office if you are interested.

Aug.	29-30	Merpex, Pennsauken, N.J.
Aug.	29-31	Balpex, Hunt Valley, Md.
Sept.	12-14	Seapex, Tukwila, Wash.
Sept.	19-21	Milcopex, Milwaukee, Wis.
Sept.	27-28	Indypex, Indianapolis, Ind.

Topics List

The ATA Topics List you will use to choose your topics for publication in our Membership Directory has been organized and revised. Its 1,200 topics now match the checklist titles. The new Topics List is divided into three parts, according to those adopted by the Thematic Commission of the International Federation of Philately (FIP). The three major divisions are: Nature, Culture and Technology. It is posted on our website and the Culture listings are printed in this issue. An Alphabetical List of the topics with additional “see” references and a People List of the ~200 individuals for whom ATA now has checklists are also available on the website. Contact the ATA Office if you’d like any or all of the three lists emailed to you.

The *Membership Directory* questionnaire will be distributed by email/hard copy in early September. You can help the ATA Office greatly by returning it immediately after you receive it.

NEWS FLASH!

As this issue of *Topical Time* was going to press, we were informed that our website (www.americantopicalassn.org) was just awarded a Gold medal in the APS website competition. More on this soon...

WANTED:

- **Checklist Proofreaders** - Compare old and new checklists and identify any entries not included in new lists. Scott catalog is NOT needed.
- **Someone** to search web for email addresses of 20-30 international philatelic publications.

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!

ATA Election Results 2014

The highest number of ATA members in recent years voted in the latest election of the Board of Directors, despite the fact the election was non-contested. This shows we have a very involved membership!

The election saw 129 members vote, as 12 incumbent and one new board member were elected. Jack André Denys was elected president for an unprecedented fourth term, and Dawn Hamman replaced Fred Skvara on the board. The full list of board members appears on page 4.

Thanks to our Committee of Canvassers – Bob Ulatt, chair, and Wayne Redlinger of Wisconsin – for counting the ballots. ☺.

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Thank you

... to everyone who has contributed to the Boldly to the Future Campaign. We are pleased to report that the 2014 campaign – so far – is ahead of last year, which was the ATA's most successful campaign ever. PLUS there has been a significant increase in the number of donors this year.

2014 GOAL: \$30,000

Given or pledged to date \$25,367

Needed to reach goal \$4,633

Contributions to the BTTF campaign are very important to the ATA. But they do not fully reflect the generosity of the membership. Members contribute to the ATA in many ways every day. A number of members add a little extra to their annual renewals. Others add a small overage when they pay ATA using PayPal or credit cards. Members send mint U.S. stamps to the ATA Office to help cover postage costs. One Board member produced a gold-medal winning show program for the NTSS for several years and generously donated it to the ATA. Everyone who has been to a recent NTSS has enjoyed these award-winning programs. And, of course, we have to mention the members who give generously of their time by being ATA ambassadors at stamp shows, or helping out at the NTSS or in so many other ways. We try to recognize all these contributions in the annual recognition issue of *Topical Time*.

There is also one group of members – very important members – that we have not been able to recognize (because we don't know who they are). We think there are members who plan to leave money or a stamp collection or other assets to the ATA in their wills. If you have remembered the ATA in your will, please let us know so we can recognize you. If you have already contributed, thank you. If you have not contributed please consider doing so.

All Donors are helping the ATA go



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These are the ways you can send your BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE gift for 2014:

- 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. 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.

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Vera's Views

National Topical Stamp Show. Our 2014 NTSS is now a jumble of memories—but what a fine time was had by all! It was very nice to meet so many ATA members. Members from 34 states and three other countries converged on St. Louis for the ATA Annual Meeting, several Study Unit meetings, a fine all-thematic exhibition and an excellent dealer bourse. Added to the mix was excellent Italian food at the President's reception, some of the best banquet food ever experienced and interesting tours to the St. Louis neighborhoods (including the Basilica) and to Hannibal, Mo. Gary Hendren, our local show manager, received well-deserved kudos for the fine tours. Henry Sweets, philatelic judge and director of the Mark Twain Museum and Home did triple duty for us on the Monday tour, serving as local guide, lunch arranger and program presenter. Many dozens of ATA members (and spouses/significant others) volunteered incredible time and energy to make the show a success. My thanks to all!

Several ATA members are already devoting time and expertise to planning for NTSS 2015, "Trail to Topicals," in Portland (Clackamas), Oregon. The date will be a bit later in the calendar year: July 31 to August 2. I look forward to seeing you there!

Roland Essig. A sad pall fell over the ATA Office recently, when the news arrived that member Roland Essig had died. He was a kind supporter who took it upon himself to "adopt" our small staff. I could not attend a show or event when Roland was present without him slipping a few dollars into my pocket—he insisted I use the donations to buy coffee and pastries for our staff, or for



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a special lunch together. Though our staff is tiny, he always remembered how important it is to our membership. Later, we learned that, through his will, Roland's entire philatelic estate was given to ATA. This special man will always be remembered, not only for his groundbreaking thematic exhibits but also for his wonderful kindness to our organization and its staff. A brief obituary appears elsewhere in this issue.

ATA Membership Directory. Preparation of the *ATA Membership Directory* is one of the larger projects achieved by our office staff. You can help us so very much by immediately replying to our first inquiry about your current collecting interests! You'll receive your inquiry by email or mail during the next few weeks. If we are to complete the Directory this year, we will need your immediate response. Many of our members who paid dues within the last couple of months have already responded to our inquiry added to the membership reminder form. Thanks to all for helping us!

The ATA list of collecting topics has expanded—and now matches our list of checklists. This will eliminate confusion caused by two different lists. When you do respond to our inquiry regarding the Membership Directory, please look over our new checklist list to remind yourself of interesting topics you collect (even if you have only a few stamps in those areas). This will help ATA be the best that it can be—by connecting members everywhere with others who collect similar kinds of stamps.

Enjoy your summer! Keep COOL by playing with your stamps! ☺

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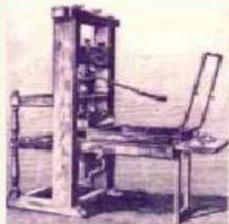
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Wayne's Impressions

Topics can show up Where You Least Expect Them

One of the many topics I collect involves various aspects of horticulture. Of course, it's a fairly simple matter for me to seek stamps with fruits and vegetables and other obvious elements of horticulture. Similarly, the search for advertising covers, cancellations, meters and postal history that reflect this theme is relatively systematic, if not occasionally serendipitous.

However, very seldom does a new horticulture item hit me completely out of the blue, as happened recently. In this case the link is somewhat tangential, but is an event that has been all but buried by the sands of time.

Take a good look at the stamps pictured at the top of the facing page. At first glance I would never place them in a horticulture-related thematic. The basic

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stamps picture Sultan Mohammed V, part of a definitive set released in 1956-57. A slightly closer look reveals that these stamps have been overprinted and surcharged and, I suppose if I read Darija (a form of Arabic), I would have known about this set earlier. A chance encounter led me to the discovery that these stamps are actually Morocco's first semipostal issues (Scott B1-B5), and that they were released in March 1960 to raise funds to aid families who suffered the devastating effects of adulterated peanut oil.

Here's the story (although some of the details vary depending upon which account one reads): On Nov. 4, 1959, the government of Morocco imposed emergency measures as thousands of people in the Meknes district of Morocco fell sick and became paralyzed (more than 6,700 at that point). It had been noted since October that a number of people were beginning to exhibit strange medical symptoms, culminating in paralysis and, in some cases, death. Local physicians were unable to determine the cause. As the seeming epidemic picked up speed, the United Nations' World Health Organization and the International Red Cross requested assistance in determining the cause of the malady and treating the sick. In response to a request from Morocco, Canadian and other physicians rushed in to run tests, investigate similarities of cases and, ultimately, determine the cause.

Finally, it was discovered that the culprit was tainted cooking oil. Apparently, unscrupulous Moroccan businessmen purchased surplus jet engine lubricant from U.S. Air Force surplus stocks held at a base in Nouasseur and cut more expensive peanut oil with the stuff. The lubricant, apparently believed by the merchants to be some sort of mineral oil, actually contained TCP (tricresyl phosphate), a highly poisonous neurotoxin. After mixing it with peanut oil, the tainted compound was sold at market in Meknes during the feast of Ramadan in September and October. The victims were slowly being poisoned, with the mystery symptoms appearing over a number of weeks following continued ingestion of the oil.

By the time the crisis was over, more than 10,000 people required treatment for injuries. A total of 27 merchants were arrested and charged with preparing the toxic oil. Five of them were sentenced to death, but they were never executed.

The political fallout from this event was a black eye for U.S. foreign relations and continued to haunt our relationship with Morocco for a number of years. Although little more than a footnote in my horticulture collection, the story is a fascinating one that deserves to be remembered. ☐

Your ATA board, at its recent meeting...

- Confirmed appointments.
- Dalene Thomas as Awards Coordinator for Non-NTSS shows.
- Orlie Trier and Jack Congrove as Co-chairs of National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) 2015 (Portland).
- Endorsed the concept of a joint show for 2017 and authorized the appointment of a research team to explore possibilities and report to the Board.
- Recognized the executive director's outstanding work performance by approving an increase of her allowed vacation in lieu of a salary increase.
- Voted to award Karen Cartier an honorary membership in appreciation for her devotion and expertise in developing the new database for ATA's checklists.
- Continued its ongoing review of our financial situation and our continued use of the reserve fund to meet expenses.
- Amended the board's job description by adding the responsibility: "lead by example by giving financially to the ATA at their highest possible level."
- Received 32 ideas to provide additional member services and significantly increase our income. Considered 13 of them in detail, and endorsed action plans for the following eight:
 - Developing a bequests campaign, including a planned giving folder.
 - Cultivating larger donors.
 - Increasing exhibit fees by \$5/frame (to APS Stampshow level) – Youth exhibits remain free.
 - Canceling tours at NTSS if they don't break even.
 - Providing instructional classes available on computer.
 - Seeking name sponsors for ATA Events.
 - Soliciting contributions of philatelic material.
 - Establishing an advisory service for selling stamp collections.

Several other ideas, including seeking grants to support ATA projects, were referred to their proposer teams for further research.

- At its show evaluation meeting, the Board decided to charge the same admission for next year's show (Portland): \$5 total for all three days. ☐

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



Topics on Postmarks

George DeKornfeld

Sailboats in Postmarks

Even though Old Man Winter took a few last swings at us as he begrudgingly exited our hemisphere, the temperatures are finally moving up to those oh-so-comfortable 70s and 80s. The days are witnessing noticeable increases in the

precious daylight that cleanses us of our cold-weather doldrums and the trees and flowers are well along in the process of their miraculous rebirth. The smell of freshly mowed lawns and fields permeates the air with its unmistakable perfume and that miserable icy cold wind from the north is gone too, being replaced by the pleasant breezes

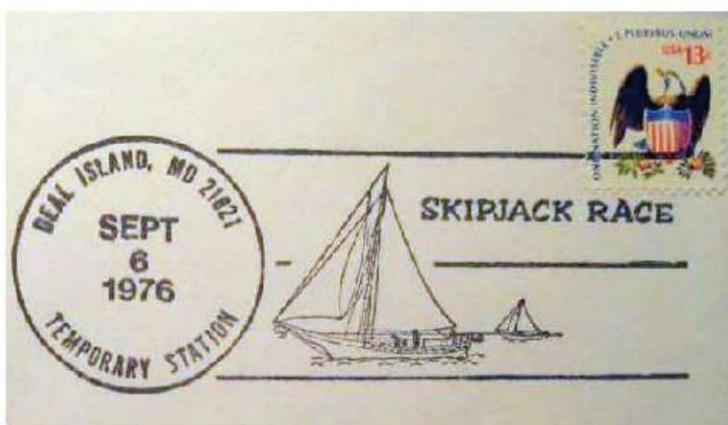


Figure 1.

so enjoyable now, and soon a necessity as the heat of summer moves in. These winds and breezes that carry this and other seasonal aromas brings to mind that for those so inclined, the time has arrived to clean, inspect and ready for service those treasured watercraft that have been ignored and mothballed over the last several months; be they used for fun, competition, or, for as we'll see, work.

Although I first got my feet wet, literally, on a Sunfish in a New York lake and on a Wayfarer, sailing Cornwall, England's coastal inlets, I'll be the first to admit

that I, now an old sea dog, hold a strong personal preference for a rig with a good flying bridge sitting tall above twin gasoline-powered engines of a bazillion horsepower each (it's a lot less work!). Yet, there is most certainly something to be said for the powerboat's wind-powered brethren, and with breezes and peace and quiet in mind, in this issue let's take a look at some sailboats (and



Figure 2.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.

area, a Skipjack, a sloop-rigged sailboat traditionally used for oyster dredging in the Chesapeake Bay where the use of power boats for shell fishing is restricted. The sailboat was designated as Maryland's official state boat in 1985. Hosted by the Deal Island Lion's Club, the Skipjack Race has been held annually for more than 40 years, and includes a two-day festival held at the harbor over the Labor Day weekend, the postmark shown commemorating the event held in 1976.



Figure 7.

Pan American Games held at Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1987. A Yachting Station postmark for these events can be seen in Figure 3.

It's back to the East Coast for another 1987 pictorial shown in Figure 4, commemorating the America's Cup Race and the American entrant, *The Stars and Stripes*, a 12-meter-class yacht that outperformed the Australian entrant to take the win. 1987 was also the last year 12-meter-class rigs were

to keep it manageable, we'll stick to the smaller types this time and save the big ships like the tri-masters for the future).

Let's start stateside, specifically in Maryland, with Figure 1, where we see, appropriate for the geographic



Figure 5 (above), Figure 6 (above right).

Moving over to the left coast, in Figure 2, we see a pictorial cancel used in Long Beach, Calif., in 1984. It's neat the way the designer made the stylized obliterator portion of the postmark at the right to mimic a bunch of sails as they might appear from a particular vantage point when watching a yacht race, lending a sense of action to the marking.

Six gold medals were won by the United States yachting team racing various sailboat classes such as the Laser, Board Boat and Snipe at Michigan City in the

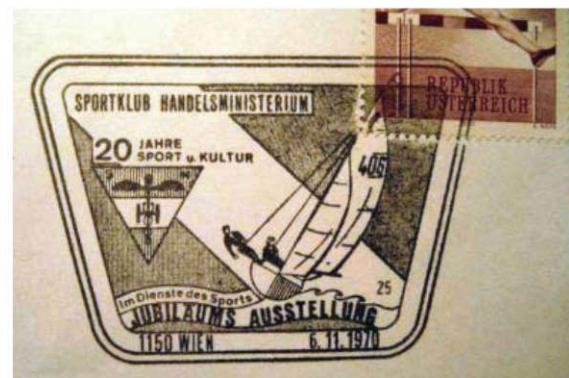


Figure 8.

used for the America's Cup, multi-hull boats becoming popular as the race rules were changed. Once again, we see an imaginative use of the killer portion of the hand-stamp with the use of waves.

Having mentioned Australia, let's visit there next, although we'll start with a couple of hybrid items. In Figures 5 and 6 we see a pair FRAMA labels, each issued

in Australia to commemorate CUP-PEX 1987, the National Stamp Exhibition held at Perth, as well as that year's America's Cup, but postmarked here in the States at Claremont, Wash.



Figure 9.

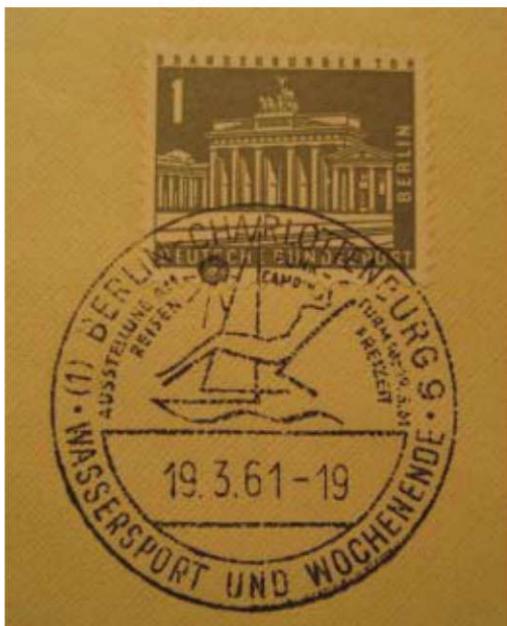
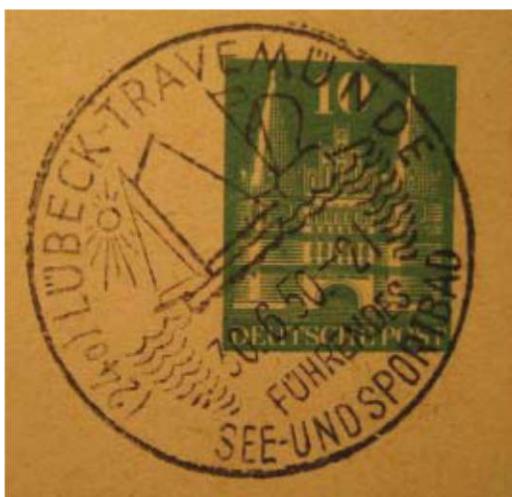


Figure 10 (top), Figure 11 (above).

on the coast of Brittany where, with a really nice concordance between the stamp and its postmark, we commemorate "Race Around the World," a non-stop, single-operator yacht race that since 1992 has taken place every four years. Our postmark was created in 1989, the inaugural year of the competition.

Next let's look at a few older pictorials. The first two, from Germany, each promotes tourism with an emphasis on water sports while happily depicting

An all-Aussie pictorial is seen in Figure 7. This colorful marking is from Portland, the oldest European settlement in Victoria that includes a magnificent bay that has seen its fair share of floating vessels during its long history as a port, from whaling ships to pleasure boats. If you look closely, you can see a whale at the top right enjoying a swim next to the sailboat.

Next stop, Europe, and we'll begin with an Austrian postmark (Figure 8) issued in 1970 commemorating 20 years of the Sports Club Ministry of Vienna, celebrated with an exhibition that this marking was designed for. The 'beam reaching' sailboat in this somewhat complex design is obviously moving along at a pretty nice clip!

In Figure 9 we're in Lorient, a northwestern French seaport



Figure 12.

**Figure 13 (left).**

our choice of topic. Figure 10 shows a 1950 postmark from Lübeck, a major port in northern Germany on the river Trave; Figure 11's 1961 postmark comes

from Charlottenburg, a section of Berlin on the Spree River, and touts "Water Sports and Weekends," a delightful combination indeed. The Figure 12 pictorial, also German, was used at Kiel, the capital of Schleswig-Holstein, and was used for the 1972 Olympics held in Munich.

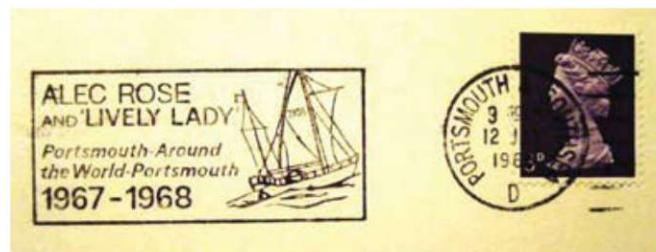
Let's cross the English Channel next, with a quick stop on our way at the Bailiwick of Guernsey, to take a

**Figure 15.**

elements shown is nicely accomplished here.

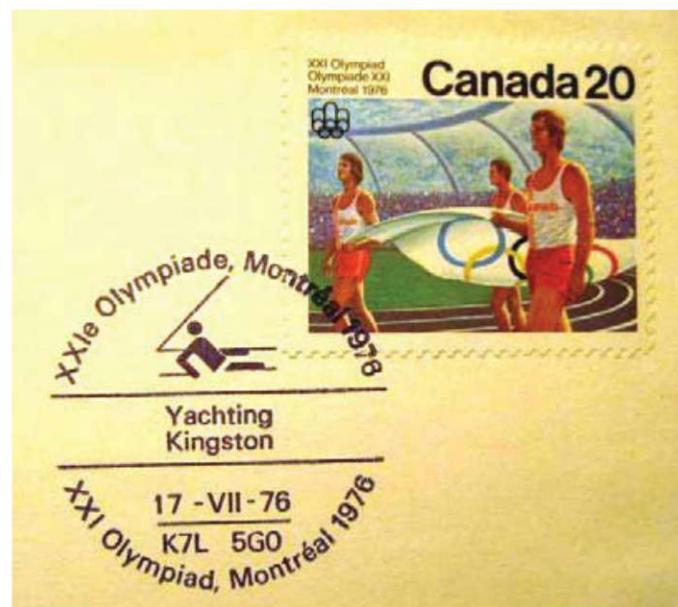
In 1967, Brit Alec Rose sailed his modified 36-foot cutter, *Lucky Lady*, around the world, returning to Portsmouth on July 4, 1968, after 354 days at sea. The very next day he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II and nine days later he turned 60 years old, an impressive trifecta of events.

Our Figure 14 marking was applied to the 3d Machin issue at Portsmouth to pay tribute to this lengthy and no doubt arduous voyage. Last, from Great Britain is the marking found in Figure 15, which celebrates the 100th anniversary of

**Figure 14.**

look at the first day of issue postmark used on its sailboat issues of 1991 (Figure 13). The concordance between the two

**Figure 16 (above), Figure 17 (left).**

F
p
H
tl

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 checklists 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! ☺





the Royal Dorset Yacht Club, another example in terrific concordance with the stamps used.

As usual, we'll close with a simple listing of a few more items using our theme:

- Figure 16, Spain, 1974.
- Figure 17, Spain, 1987.
- Figure 18, Spain, 1991.
- Figure 19, Spain, 2003.
- Figure 20, Sweden, 1970.
- Figure 21, Canada, 1976.
- Figure 22, Italy, 1982.
- Figure 23, Mozambique, 1978.
- Figure 24, Poland, 1983.
- Figure 25, USSR, 1985.

Figure 22 (above left).

Figure 23 (above).

Figure 24 (left).

Figure 25 (below).





Figure 26. An important reminder...

So, that's it for this issue, and I'd like to wish all ATA members a healthy, fun and safe summer, and also remind everyone that if you do spend any time on the water zipping along in a sailboat this season, don't forget to wear your (see Figure 26)!

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



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Notes from NTSS 2014

Dawn Hamman

The mood was celebratory as ATA members arrived in St. Louis to greet old friends and make new ones.

The 65th annual National Topical Stamp Show was held at the Renaissance Airport Hotel June 27-29. The schedule was packed with exhibit viewing, meetings, tours, social gatherings and shopping at the dealer booths. Here are a few highlights.



Old and new friends meet at the registration table for NTSS 2014.

first-time exhibitors. Vincent De Luca won the Grand Award for *The Olive-Olea Europaea*. It was his second NTSS Grand, as he won in 2001 for *Leonardo da Vinci--the Universal Man*. Double award winner was Phillip J. Stager, who

The show featured 150 frames of exhibits, with five

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Marshall Is. 110-13a marine life.....	8.00
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Norfolk Is. 596 gecko.....	4.00
Pakistan 719 black bear	8.00
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Sierra Leone 586-89 chimpanzee	17.60
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Singapore 670-73a egret.....	5.50
Sudan 460-63 African wild ass	6.75
Tajikistan 92-95 wild cats.....	8.00
Togo 1720 antelope.....	7.00
Tonga 915-18 whales	21.10
Turks and Caicos 710-13 iguana.....	19.00
Uganda 176-80 tortoise	9.55
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Setup for the show (both exhibits and bourse area) went smoothly, with the help of volunteers, exhibitors and others.

won the Reserve Grand for *Coconuts*, and the Mary Ann Owens One-Frame Grand for *The Royal Palm*.

A complete list of awards accompanies this story and is on the ATA website.

Dealers offered a wide variety for the topical collector, as well as stamps for those who collect in other ways, such as by country or specialty. Dealer booths were fully subscribed, and dealers have begun reserving space for next year's show in Portland, Ore.



Above: The bourse area was active with topical and non-topical collectors. **Below:** An after-banquet tour of the exhibits was enjoyed by many, with an opportunity to see exhibits in an unrushed manner. **Below right:** Jack André Denys received the Distinguished Topical Philatelist award at the Saturday night banquet.



Jack André Denys was honored with the ATA's highest award, Distinguished Topical Philatelist. Selec-





The new ATA board gets sworn in at the Annual Meeting.

tion committee member Dalene Thomas made the presentation during a gala evening awards ceremony.

An ATA study unit literature competition, initiated this year, received 16

At our annual ATA meeting, we...

- ☞ Recorded attendance of 42 ATA members.
- ☞ Remembered the 28 members who died in the past year.
- ☞ Celebrated ATA member anniversaries: **Ken Martin - 25 years; Kathy Kirk – 50 years.**
- ☞ Recognized new chapter - Oklahoma City Stamp Club, Chapter 124.
- ☞ Noted new study unit - Plate Number Coil Collectors Club (PNC³).
- ☞ Honored Featured Study Unit - Americana.
- ☞ Acknowledged gold awards earned by *Topical Time* and our ATA website.
- ☞ Thanked outgoing board member Fred Skvara for eight years of service.
- ☞ Previewed NTSS 2015 (Portland, Ore.: July 31 – Aug. 2).
- ☞ Looked ahead to NY2016 international show (ATA will have a booth and will meet during the show) and 2017 (we are researching joint show possibilities). ☐



Kathy Kirk receives recognition as 50-year member at ATA Annual Meeting during NTSS 2014.



An exhibits critique is held by the distinguished NTSS jury. From left: Tom Fortunato, Ron Leshner, Nancy Clark, Ken Martin and Liz Hisey.



ATA Executive Director Vera Felts presents Fred Collins with the patriotic quilted wall hanging he won in a raffle.

entries. Three gold awards were given to the American Society of Polar Philatelists (unit with more than 200 members), Cartophilatelic Society (50-200 members) and Wine on Stamps (fewer than 50 members). The list of all literature awards also accompanies this feature and is on the ATA website.

Volunteers greeted visitors at the registration and ATA tables, where show cachets were sold. Colorful cachets by Tom Minor and John Colasanti were popular; limited quantities are still available from the ATA Office. First-day ceremony duck stamp programs are also for sale for \$3 postpaid in the United States and \$4 for international purchasers.

F

Dealer and cachet artist Fred Collins was the winner of a beautiful patriotic quilted wall hang-



Among the many sights seen on the Thursday half-day tour was the St. Louis Basilica, with its thousands of mosaics (above). Outside the cathedral was one of the many decorated birthday cakes around the city, which is celebrating its 250th anniversary this year. Photo by Barbara Herbert

July-August 2014

ing, generously crafted and donated by Lynda Hendren, with raffle proceeds benefiting the ATA.

Ticket sales for the Thursday tour of St. Louis (including the Basilica), the President's Reception on Friday and the Monday tour to Hannibal all set records for NTSS events.



Above: The Americana Boys, representatives of the featured study group, Dave Kent, Dennis Dengel and Fred Skvara, pose in their Americana Unit T-shirts.

Photo by Dawn Hamman

Right: Local volunteers and friends and family of Dale Smith made light work of tear down of frames and cleanup of the bourse and show floor Sunday evening, making the considerable effort invisible to all but a few. By dinnertime almost all traces of a great show had been removed.



Group picture of the sizable crowd that ventured out to Hannibal, Mo., after the show for a tour of the Mark Twain Museum. Photo by Kathy Kirk



A quilt, won by Vera Felts' mother at the Mark Twain Museum more than 25 years ago, was donated back to the museum during the tour. Photo by Kathy Kirk

As our time together drew to a close, a group traveled to Hannibal, for a bit of Mark Twain history. At lunch, Henry Sweets, curator of the Mark Twain Museum and longtime collector, told stories of first-day ceremonies in Hannibal. Vera Felts' mother, Anna Mae Dean, was on hand for the day and donated to the museum a quilt she won in a raffle there more than 20 years ago.

Show Chair Gary Hendren, in summing up a very successful event, noted, *"It was a pleasure for me to work with the ATA board and give a little back to the organization I have been a small part of for over 25 years. For now we look to the great Northwest, and Portland, Ore., where local chairs Orlie Trier and Jack Congrove are already planning for a great show."* □



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We met in St. Louie, Louie

Robert L. Hanson

My purpose is to let those who plan conventions see what their plans look like and how they turn out to an average convention goer. I have been collecting topically for about 10 years and have been a member of ATA during that time. My wife, Bev, and I have now attended two ATA conventions, one in Milwaukee and one here in St. Louis, my home.

This one, the 65th annual ATA Convention, met in St. Louis, Mo., June 27-29 at the Renaissance Airport Hotel. The name, "Gateway to Topicals," cleverly hitchhiked on a nickname from St. Louis' famous arch symbolizing the "Gateway to the West."

During the 1820s-60s millions traveled through St. Louis on their way west, many in covered wagons. Some were from Eastern states and many were recent immigrants from Europe. My family fell into this group. I was impressed with the wide array of people and philatelic interests at this convention, from dealers to collectors. It almost seemed that the movement west was repeating itself and even more so, this time.



Vera Felts helps people at the ATA booth, which always seemed busy. Photo by Dawn Hamman

I met many folks who were from all over the United States, and I also met many who were a bit centralized from the states around Missouri. I noticed many in leadership positions were from the upper Midwest, including Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois and other states, but not all. To me, this convention seemed more diversified than the previous one, without having looked at registration information.

Some 32 dealers were there with special emphasis by some on topical items. The dealers' area was full of customers most of the days of the show. There were 33 exhibits, all but one thematic. Nine different study units met during the three days, ranging from Americana and Penguins units to our own Casey Jones Rail Road Unit.

Other meetings included the ATA Annual Meeting and a forum on the new checklist database now available for use by members, explained by Vera Felts, Executive Director of ATA. A cachetmakers' bourse also was open all day Saturday for those interested in learning how cachets are made, purchasing and learning tricks to creating them.

The United States Postal Service booth was also open. Architect and president of the Greater Mound City Stamp Club in St. Louis, Tom Minor, designed three show

cachets, which were postmarked with three special cancels created for the occasion.

There is a lot to see in St. Louis and there were tours before and after the show. A tour to see that famous white fence of Mark Twain's *Tom Sawyer* in Hannibal was of interest to many. A first day of sale of the Migratory Waterfowl Stamp was at the show, as well. One could go to the old Post Office in downtown St. Louis and find many other things of interest. An ATA hospitality room among several other hospitality rooms was available in the evenings with snacks for munching!

Our own study unit, Casey Jones Railroad Unit (CJRRU) had a business meeting on Friday afternoon. It also had an information booth in the registration area for two of the three days. Our booth was manned by my wife, Bev; Dean Keating, a sophomore at Parkway South High School; and me. Dean, who helped set up the booth, also ran the audio-visual for my presentation, "Cabooses' Uses" at our study unit business meeting.

The awards dinner was a great affair well organized. Many of the exhibits received not just gold, vermeil or silver awards, but another award for signal achievement; most interesting, most creative or others. I do not recall that happening previously. There were no railroad-related exhibits, so no award usually given by our unit was made.

One person had been at my session on "Cabooses' Uses" and complimented me on the Keynote (Power Point) presentation. I am considering sending the "Cabooses Uses" presentation to anyone who requests it once I resolve the copyright issues with Apple Computer. It seemed to be well received.

CJRR gained two new members; Dr. Richard Robinson, retired professor of reading/literacy in Education at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo. His primary interests are trains, covers, FDCs and RPOs. The other is Jeffrey D. Lough, school psychologist at a school district near Kansas City, Kan. His primary interests are trains, trolleys, covers, FDCs, meters and cinderellas. He writes articles for his local stamp club newsletter and wanted to know if he could submit something to *The Dispatcher*, our newsletter for CJRRU. I told him we would love to have an article from him and to contact the editor. It is a good sign to see people joining and even offering to write.



Henry Sweets explains exhibits to visitors during the Monday tour to the Mark Twain Museum.
Photo by Kathy Kirk



NTSS 2014 show chair Gary Hendren.

Photo by Dawn Hamman

seems to build on another. The shows just keep getting better and better.

Where is the next ATA convention? Portland, Ore., July 31-Aug. 2, 2015, and I will see you there, when someone else can write about another fine convention. ☐

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.



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NTSS 2014 Souvenirs in Your Collection

If you missed NTSS this year, you may still vicariously enjoy it! The lovely 36-page show program produced by Dawn Hamman has received

absolutely rave reviews. It is taking its place alongside the three gold-award-winning show programs by Fred Skvara from 2010-12 as a fantastic collectible show souvenir. Forty ATA members generously donated so the program could be produced on lovely cream-colored paper and with nice color illustrations. In addition to the program schedule, you will find the exhibit and dealer listings, color photos of the major awards and cachets and an interesting quiz on Mark Twain. There is a nice piece on St. Louis Streetcar Mail written by Gary Hendren and information about the show's Featured Study Unit, the Americana Unit. The show program is available for \$4 postpaid (\$6 postpaid international).

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An APS World Series of Philately Show

2014-15 Canvasback Federal Duck Stamp. The ceremony was held at NTSS on June 27, one-half hour following the ceremony at the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C. It was arranged by ATA member Chris Lazaroff (who also designed this year's show cancels). If you came to the show but missed the ceremony – or if you were not able to make it to St. Louis at all – you may still order the ceremony program for \$3 postpaid (\$5 postpaid international). The Federal Duck stamp is not included.

While supplies last, the ATA Office still has show cachets, illustrated on the inside front and back covers of this issue of *Topical Time*. We will gladly combine items to save on postage costs.

Another NTSS souvenir that will delight collectors of birds on stamps is the first-day ceremony program for the

Duck



2014 CANVASBACK 2015 FEDERAL DUCK STAMP

First Day of Sale | June 27, 2014 | National Topical Stamp Show | St. Louis, Mo.

Adam Grimm, an Ohio native who now lives in Burbank, S.D., was the winner of the 2013 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest. This is Grimm's second Federal Duck Stamp Contest win. His art previously appeared on the 2000-2001 Federal Duck Stamp.

Grimm's oil painting of a canvasback appears on the 2014-2015 Federal Duck Stamp. The Federal Duck Stamp sells for \$15 and raises about \$25 million each year to provide critical funds to conserve and protect wetland habitats in the National Wildlife Refuge System for the benefit of wildlife and the enjoyment of people.

Waterfowl hunters age 16 and older are required to purchase and carry the current Migratory Bird Conservation and Hunting Stamp – commonly known as the Duck Stamp. Conservationists, stamp collectors and others may also purchase the stamp in support of habitat conservation. A current Duck Stamp can also be used for free admission to any national wildlife refuge open to the public.

Ninety-eight percent of the proceeds from sale of the \$15 Federal Duck Stamp go to the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund, which supports the purchase of migratory bird habitat for inclusion into the National Wildlife Refuge System. You can buy Federal Duck Stamps at many national wildlife refuges, the U.S. Postal Service or online at <http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps/stamps.htm>.

Remember, ATA always charges only exact postage – no hidden “shipping and handling” costs here! Here is a summary of available NTSS 2014 items:

Programs

\$4 (\$6 international) – NTSS 2014 Show Program

\$3 (\$5 international) – First Day Ceremony Program, Canvasback Duck Stamp

Cacheted Covers (see inside front and back covers of this issue)

\$2.50 plus 50¢ postage – Day 1 NTSS Cachet (St. Louis skyline)

\$2.50 plus 50¢ postage – Day 2 NTSS Cachet (250th St. Louis anniversary)

\$2.50 plus 50¢ postage – Day 3 NTSS Cachet (110th Ice Cream Cone anniversary)

\$7.00 plus \$1 postage – All three NTSS Cachets

\$12.50 (postage paid) – Day 1 Limited Edition Cachet

\$12.50 (postage paid) – Day 2 Limited Edition Cachet

\$12.50 (postage paid) – Day 3 Limited Edition Cachet

\$30 (postage paid) – All three Limited Edition Cachets

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- Or phone 618-985-5100 ☎

Van Siegling

This is the fifth in a series of brief biographies of our Board of Directors.

Van Siegling of Gahanna, Ohio, is widely known as “Harry Potter” because of his Gold-winning exhibit on that theme. Not as well-known is the fact that he also collects dinosaurs, pirates, sumo and *Lord of the Rings*, as well as Bergedorf, Tannu Tuva, Biafra and Katanga.

An ATA member since 2005 and board member since 2010, Van is a member of JAPOS (Journalists, Authors and Poets on Stamps) Study Unit. He is a Life member of the APS and the Germany Philatelic Society. Other memberships include AAPE and local clubs in Michigan and Ohio. Van has recently been named as interim Executive Director of the American Stamp Dealers Association.



When he's not promoting philatelic magic, Van is writing, doing crafts, wargaming, playing computer games or reading science fiction and fantasy. He is recently retired from Federal Civil Service. ☎

Topical Time Archive Now Available

The ATA has released a complete digital archive of all *Topical Time* issues from 1949-2013. It contains 382 issues (34,782 pages) of our thematic journal in an electronically searchable .pdf format. The archive is housed in a 16Gb water-style flash drive the size of a credit card. It plugs into USB ports in both PC and Apple computing devices.

Topical collectors seem delighted with the comprehensive searchable index supplied with the archive. The index has been prepared and refined during the last two years and is supplied in three different formats. There is ample space on the archive flash drive for hundreds more issues of *Topical Time*. Archive users are downloading current and future *Topical Time* issues from the ATA website at www.americantopicalassn.org. Purchasers of the *Topical Time Archive* will have access to FlippingBook versions of every issue on a website.

ATA members contributing to the development of the *Topical Time Archive* are Myron Molnau (team chair), Dorothy C. Smith (indexer), Chris Steenerson and Todd Ronnei.

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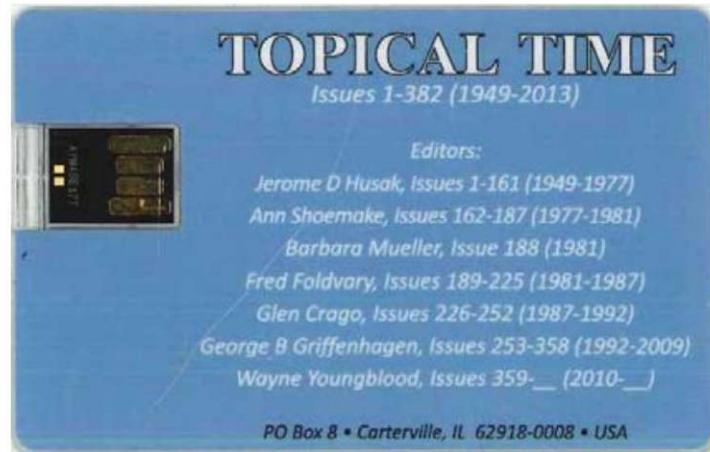
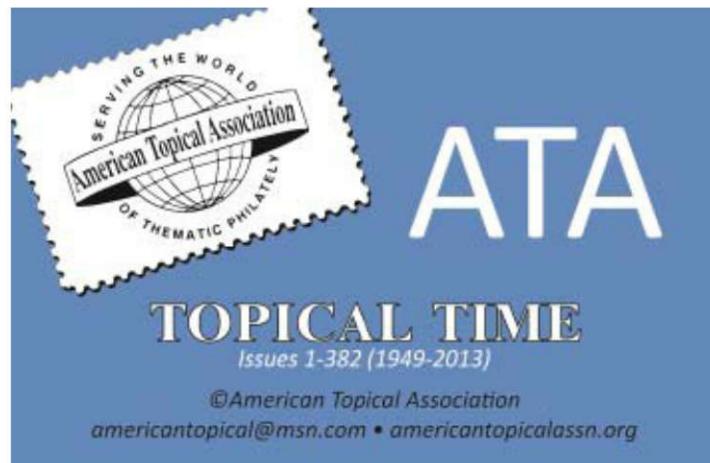
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NTSS 2014 Palmares Grand Award

The Olive - Olea Europaea, **Vincent Deluca** (also, Gold, Biology Unit Award)

Reserve Grand Award

Coconuts, **Phillip J. Stager** (also: Gold)

Mary Ann Owens One-Frame Grand Award

The Royal Palm, **Phillip J. Stager** (also: Gold)

Best Display Division Award

Hitler Youth - the Generation of Lost Innocence, **Prof. Dr. H. J. Sammler**

(also: NTSS Most Popular Exhibit, Gold, National Stamp Dealers Association Most Popular Exhibit Award)

Youth Grand Award

Building a Nation...One State at a Time, **Adam S. Mangold** (also: Vermeil, Americana Unit Award)

NTSS Medal Awards (Multi-Frame)

Gold

The Magical World of Harry Potter, **Van Siegling** (also: American Philatelic Congress Award)

Plague. The Story of the Most Infamous Bacterial Disease, **Edwin J. Andrews**

Alexander Hamilton: Soldier, Financier, Statesman, Founder, **Jack Congrove**

Relapse - Ailments of Venus-Revisited, **Phillip J. Stager**

The Donkey, **Robert J. Mather**

Vermeil:

Thar She Blows - A History of Whales and Whaling, **Dennis Carman** (also: Ships on Stamps Award)

Backyard Chickens, **Dawn R. Hamman** (also: AAPE Award of Honor)

A Celebration of the Cockroach! **Jean C. Stout** (also: AAPE Creativity Medal, AAPE Novice Award)

Exploring the Evolution of Plants, **Christopher Dahle**

Libraries in the 20th Century, **Larry T. Nix** (also: American Philatelic Society Research Medal)

Silver:

Pre-Christian Armenia: from the Origins to the Temple of Garni, **Igor Grigorian**

(also: Collectors of Religion on Stamps Award, Old World Archeological Study Unit Award)

Laundry Day 1880-1920, **Dalene Thomas**

The African Coelacanth, **Susan B. Jones**

Circus Wagons, **Dalene Thomas**

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Bronze

United We Stand - Remembering 9/11, Allan Fisk
Automobiles of Western Europe and Their Makers, Sam Lainoff

**Single Frame:
Gold:**

The American Library Association and World War I, Larry T. Nix

Vermeil:

How to Grow Tomatoes, Dawn R. Hamman (also: AAPE Award of Honor, Best Title Page awards)
Making Whitetail Venison Sausage, George DeKornfeld
Go: the World's Oldest Board Game, Lester C. Lamphear III

Silver:

Lawn Bowling: Rulers to Results, Clemens Reiss

Candy, Dawn R. Hamman

California Quail - Beyond Their Native Territory, Barbara Herbert (also ATA Chapter V Incentive Award)

Silver-Bronze:

Coccinellidae - Ladybird Beetles and their Impact on Man, Janice Erbach (also: WE [Women Exhibitors] Sterling Achievement Award)

Map Stamps that Never Made It, Miklos Pinther

Bronze:

And Our Beat Goes On, Charlene A. Blair

NTSS 2014 Jury:

Nancy B. Clark, Chief Judge; Thomas M. Fortunato; Elizabeth M. Hisey; Ronald F. Lesher; Kenneth P. Martin

**NTSS 2014 ATA Study Unit
Literature Competition**

This year marks the first time ATA has featured a literature competition.

Large Study Units (more than 200 members)
Gold

Ice Cap News, American Society of Polar Philatelists

Vermeil

The Musician, Motivgruppe Musik (International Music Study Group)

The SOSSI Journal, Scouts on Stamps International

Medium Study Units (50-200 members)
Gold

The New Cartophilatelist, Cartophilatelic Society

Vermeil

Scalpel & Tongs, Medical Subjects Unit

Silver

Americana Philatelic News, Americana Study Unit

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ArPA Journal, Armenian Philatelic Association
Biophilately, Biology Unit
Europa News, Europa Study Unit
Watercraft Philately, Ships on Stamps
The Yule Log, Christmas Philatelic Club

Silver/Bronze

The Rookery Report, Penguins on Stamps
The Philatelic Beacon, Lighthouse Stamp Society

Small Study Units (less than 50 members)

Gold

Enophilatelica, Wine on Stamps

Vermeil

The Canadian Connection, Canadiana Study Unit

Silver/Bronze

The Old World Archaeologist, Old World Archaeology Unit

NTSS 2014 Literature Jury:

Christopher Dahle, Chief Judge, Bruce L Johnson, Wayne Youngblood

NTSS postmarks still available.

You may wish to buy one or all three of the daily cachets designed by local St. Louis artist Tom Minor, or an additional special set created by John Colasanti. Each is canceled with a special pictorial postmark designed by Chris Lazaroff. Lazaroff also created this year's Duck Stamp

Station postmark. Minor has been the designer of the St. Louis Stamp Expo cachets for about 15 years. Colasanti is a professional cachetmaker, as is Lazaroff, who also has designed a number of pictorial cancels over the years.

However, if you'd like to have some of your own materials canceled with the special pictorial cancels from the

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show, or even the special cancel created for the Federal Duck Stamp ceremony held at NTSS (all pictured nearby), there's still time!

There is no charge for the cancels themselves. All requests postmarked by Aug. 24 will have the requested postmarks applied. Simply send stamped, addressed materials to the following addresses (one for each cancel):

American Topical Association, **Gateway to Topicals Station**, Manager, 1720 Market St MOFU, Saint Louis MO 63155-9998.

American Topical Association, Manager, **250th Anniversary Station**, 1720 Market St MOFU, Saint Louis MO 63155-9998.

American Topical Association, Manager, **Ice Cream Cone Station**, 1720 Market St MOFU, Saint Louis MO 63155-9998.

American Topical Association, Manager, **Duck Stamp Station**, 1720 Market St MOFU, Saint Louis MO 63155-9998.

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June 27, 2014
St. Louis, MO 63155

Standard USPS instructions for preparation of covers and mailing envelopes appear below. Following these will help ensure proper postmark servicing. ☐

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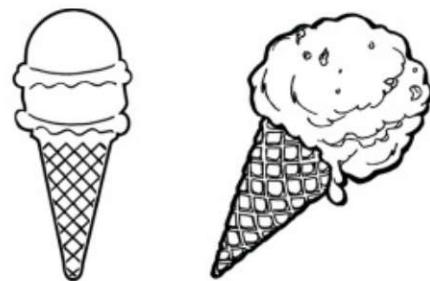
06 | 27 | 2014

Gateway to Topicals Sta.
St. Louis, MO 63155



06 | 28 | 2014

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St. Louis, MO 63155



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in a larger envelope and address it to: Pictorial Postmarks, followed by the Name of the Station, Address, City, State, ZIP+4® Code, as listed below.

Customers can also send stamped envelopes and postcards without addresses for postmark, as long as they supply a larger envelope with adequate postage and their return address. After applying the pictorial postmark, the Postal Service returns the items (with or without addresses) under addressed protective cover.



Youth in Topics

MaryAnn Bowman

Summer conjures up images of fun in the sun, vacations on beaches, visits to zoos and museums, lazy days tubing downstream, food and fun at county fairs, visits to grandparents and other relatives, day trips to sites of local and regional interest, riding bikes down dusty roads, quiet times reading a book under the shade of a tree and, hopefully, working on collections and exhibits.

If you have summer club meetings, consider offering armchair travelogues to your young collectors. Many adult collectors have traveled to parts of the world that others can only dream about. Tap into this resource. Ask them to present a youth-friendly PowerPoint/slide presentation on a country or region of their choice. Follow through with stamps from that country and album pages. There are many free sources of album pages. Additionally, with today's technology one can create customized album pages with just a click or two of your mouse. One doesn't need a whole set of album pages for the chosen country, one or two pages with a simple country title would suffice.

"View the World through Stamps" Contest

Just a reminder: Youth will have had an opportunity to do some armchair traveling by participating in the "View the World Through Stamps" contest. Youth were asked to create a travel poster and use stamps to illustrate a country, state, city or region of the world. Entrants chose any place on earth to promote. Posters identified the location and used captions, short sentences or a paragraph to describe it, using stamps related to the destination as illustrations. Stamps were to be mounted along with text on a single sheet of 8½- by 11-inch paper. Prizes will be awarded in three age groups: 8 and younger, 9-12 and 13-16. Photocopies of the travel poster were accepted. The contest deadline was July 31.

SpongeBob Writing Program

In the March-April 2014 issue, I wrote about the surprise announcement in December 2013 of the USPS regarding a "MailPants" letter writing program. Teaming with Nickelodeon, a website created for this promotion introduced kids to the proper way to write a letter. As part of the promotion, young people could pick up a special postage-paid customized SpongeBob postcard from one of (supposedly) 25,000 post offices to use in sending holiday messages and thank yous to family and friends. I asked our readers to let me know if they had received one of these cards from a child and/or whether their local post office had displayed the materials and promoted the letter-writing campaign.

I heard from only one collector. Carol Edholm, formerly with Youth Stamp Collectors, wrote to say that she did see a display at her local post office, but had not paid any attention to it. However, she did receive a postcard in the mail from her nine-year-old nephew as part of a letter-writing requirement for his Cub Scout badge.

U.S. Flag Stamps

The U.S. flag is depicted on many of our country's stamps and so it is easy to find them in donations that you may receive. Additionally, it is a national symbol that is easily recognized by children of all ages. In fact, I am always amazed at the number of children who choose and take flag stamps from a mixture that contains many other colorful topics.

There are many projects and activities that can be done using these flag stamps. Let's look at a few. These are easily adaptable for youth/beginner areas at stamp shows or can be used as mini-lessons at a club meeting. It is also easy to tie flag stamps into an anniversary or patriotic holiday, such as Flag Day (June 14), Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Patriot's Day (Sept. 11) and Veteran's Day. Anniversaries include this year's 200th anniversary of the *Star Spangled Banner*.

Scavenger hunts are always a popular activity – either a list of specific flag-related items to look for, or a general description of the items to seek can be given. For example: "The U.S. Flag flies over schools and government buildings. Search through the mixture of stamps and find examples of our flag flying over buildings or as a part of a scene on postage stamps." Another example could be: "How many different denominations of stamps can you find that illustrate a flag?" If desired, the stamps can be hinged onto paper or just laid out in front of the collector.

Scavenger hunts are often given as lists with specific items to look for. Your list of flag objects to find could include: a 6¢ Flag stamp, flag and the Statue of Liberty, flag flying over the White House, flag flying over the Capitol in Washington D.C., one stamp showing both the 50-star and 13-star flags (Hint: the 10¢ Crossed Flags issue), a flag design in banner or shield format, a "G" stamp featuring Old Glory, flag on the moon or more.

There have been a number of flag issues that have been released as sets or as parts of sets. Challenge your young collectors to find all of the examples of the Flag Issue of 2008 (the flag against a sky background at dusk, night, dawn and midday). A more recent set is the Flag for All Seasons, depicting the American Flag viewed from below, flying against a background of trees from each of the four seasons (winter, spring, summer and fall).

Want to make an educational mini-lesson about the U.S. Flag? Consider showing youth the 10 different stamps from the Historic Flag Series of 1968 – flags that were carried by American colonists and citizens of the new United States. The Stars and Stripes flag sheet released June 14, 2000, depicts 20 additional historic flag stamps.



There is a worksheet available for free download and printing that tells the story of Flag Day and utilizes the Stars and Stripes stamps for an activity. It can be found at: www.wfscstamps.org>Youth/WisconsinSheets/FlagDay.pdf.



In 1885, Bernard J. Cigrand, a grade school teacher in Waubeka, Wisconsin, held the first recognized formal observance of Flag Day at the Stony Hill School.

Cigrand then spent several years speaking around the country promoting patriotism, respect for the flag, and the need for the annual observance of a flag day. He thought it should be held on June 14 which was the day in 1777 that the Continental Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day. But, it wasn't until August 1949, that National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

The school in Waubeka has been restored, and a bust of Cigrand can be found at the National Flag Day Americanism Center, which is also in Waubeka.

The United State's flag has gone through many changes over the years as new states were added. Use the information on the stamp to put the flags in order from 1-6.



Free flag work sheet discussed in accompanying text.

American Flag. Within the booklet pages are five different colorful 37¢ stamps (20 stamps total) depicting folk art representations of Uncle Sam riding a high-wheel bicycle, the 1888 presidential campaign badge of Benjamin Harrison, a souvenir bookmark from the 1893 World Columbian Exposition, a modern Stars and Stripes folding fan and a 19th-century hand-painted carving of a woman holding a sword and a U.S. Flag.

The booklet consists of two panes containing 10 stamps each. The remaining pages of the booklet are filled with images of flag-related ephemera, many from the collection of Richard D. Sheaff, who wrote and designed the flag booklet.

“Prestige booklet” is not the only philatelic term that can be learned and reinforced through flag stamps. Consider mini-lessons on coil, sheet and booklet formats. Or have youth separate their flag scavenger hunt findings into two piles: definitive and commemorative stamps.

There are also varieties on flag stamps. So what is a variety when talking about stamp collecting? A variety is a stamp or other philatelic item that differs

This might also be a good time to review the story behind the U.S. Flag, its history, significance of the colors of the flag, number of stars and stripes, proper flag etiquette and handling of the flag. One cannot assume that all children have had access to this information. At the least, it would be a good review.

Introduce a new philatelic collecting term: the prestige booklet. On April 3, 2003, the United States issued its second prestige booklet in New York – the subject: Old Glory. A prestige booklet is a stamp booklet that has oversized panes of stamps with descriptive and informative pages that commemorate a specific topic, usually sold at a premium above face value.

The U.S. Postal Service issued a 28-page Old Glory booklet that tells the history of the

from the normally issued version of that stamp or philatelic item. For example, there are two types/varieties of the 1976 Christmas stamp. Can you tell the difference? They have different catalog numbers and there are two spaces in your album for these stamps.

Another example is the 32¢ Flag over Porch stamps. Due to a change in U.S. definitive stamp production methods and printers, there are many varieties to collect. Each one has a date in the bottom margin – either small or large in size and either red or blue in color. They were produced with gum (water-activated) and as self-adhesives. They were also produced in sheet, booklet and coil formats.

Finding and collecting varieties on stamps is a challenge and often a magnifying glass, along with a good pair of eyes, is needed to spot the differences. A stamp catalog will be helpful in trying to identify those stamps that have varieties. Often, it is the very common definitives that have the most varieties and, as they are generally easy to find on mail, you can enjoy the thrill of the hunt for those varieties. You might even make an important discovery on your own!



U.S. Flag Prestige Booklet pane from 2003.



The U.S. Flag appears as a small patch on the astronaut's arm.

Did you know that the U.S. Flag appears on more than 100 different U.S. stamps? On some issues the flag is so small that you need a magnifying glass to see it. Youth can start their own collection of U.S. Flag stamps. Provide album pages for mounting and hinging their finds. Both the ATA and the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs have free downloadable album pages for flag stamps. Still another option is to find

flag-themed 8½- by 11-inch computer stationery at office supply stores.

Let me know about projects and activities that you do with your youth groups. I would be happy to report them here and give your club credit and publicity. Write to me at PO Box 1451, Waukesha WI 53187. □

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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Kaitlynn Tant

Dawn Hamman

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

It all started when Kaitlynn Tant, age nine, discovered that she likes to sort stamps. "My Dad has tons of stamps for me to sort, so it's his fault that I became a stamp collector," she jokes.

A lifelong stamp collector, Steve is delighted to share stamps with his precocious daughter. "I have five books for my topics: Disney, dogs, horses, Olympics and critters – but no snakes," she explains. "It's so cool to see what beautiful stamps I can find."

Kaitlynn especially enjoys encouraging friends to adopt the hobby. She has given programs for her Girl Scout troop on dogs and Italy stamps. Members of the Rocky Mountain Stamp Club donated stamps for her to share at her programs.

The Tant family lives in Hayesville, N.C. Kaitlynn is the youngest of eight children, but reports that just one sibling collects stamps. Kaitlynn finds time for tending her pets, which include a dog, several cats, birds and fish. The busy fourth grader also rides horses, plays soccer and competes in gymnastics.

Asked if she expects to continue with her topics as she gets older, she answers quickly, "Yes, I'm hooked!" ☐



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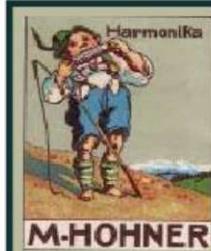
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Cinderella Corner

Arthur H. Grotel

The DC-3

Awhile back, I wrote in a general way about topical images to be found on airmail etiquettes. This time I want to look only at those with images of the famous DC-3, the workhorse of early commercial aviation. I remember taking one across the Straits of Juan de Fuca in the



Figure 1 (top), Figure 2 (above).

were using many different means to promote themselves. Airmail etiquettes specifying the airline carrying a particular letter were very popular. Many showed the planes in their fleet that were as recognizable to the public as were Fords or Buicks.

The U.S. airlines that used DC-3s and created airmail etiquettes include American, Braniff, Chicago & Southern, Eastern, Mid-Continent, Northeast, Northwest, TWA, United and Wyoming. Some of the etiquettes are known in variants of color or design. Let's look at a few.

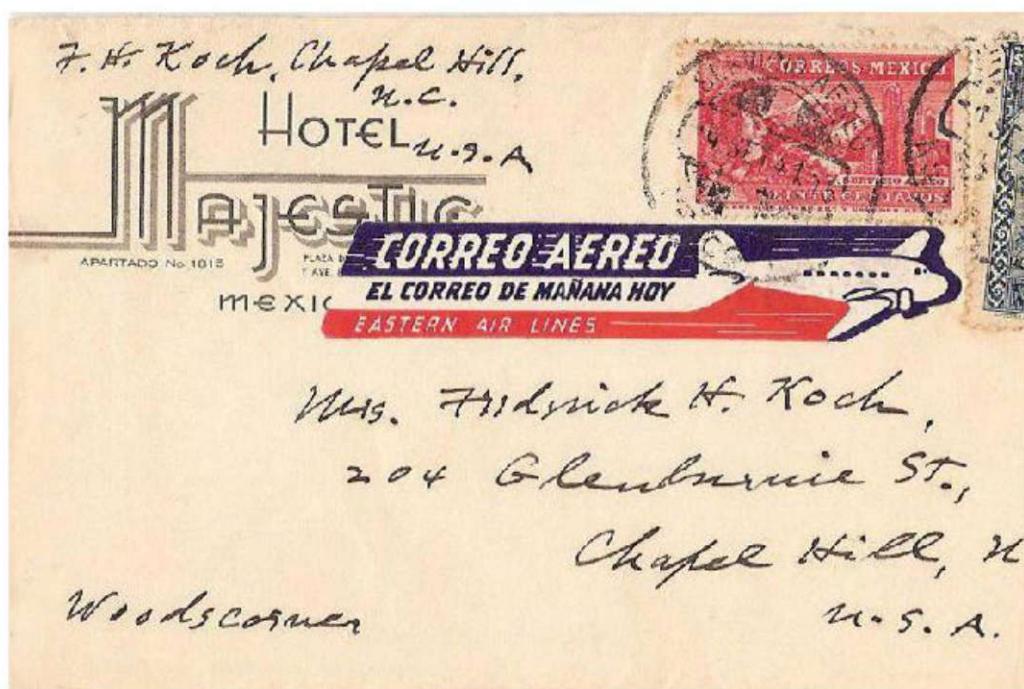
Between 1937-44, American Airlines cre-

Figure 3 (top right),
Figure 4 (right).

I want to look only at those with images of the famous DC-3, the workhorse of early commercial aviation. I remember taking one across the Straits of Juan de Fuca in the

late 1950s. To this day I remember it as one of the most thrilling flights I ever took. Unlike today's behemoths, you really knew you were flying!

Many airlines used DC-3s both before and after WWII. This was at the time the airlines



ated five etiquettes with a view of the aircraft from above. Two had slightly different lettering; two were in Spanish; one was

Figure 5 (right), Figure 6 (below).



cover used from Mexico to the United States, Figure 4).

Northwest Airlines, between 1938-44, issued three labels with the DC-3, but a large "Air Mail" mostly obscures the plane on the first two. I show the last one from 1944 with the best view of the plane (Figure 5).

One of the loveliest DC-3 etiquettes, produced by United, is the 1940 example seen here on cover from New York to Brazil (Figure 6).

Interestingly, the earliest etiquette to show a DC-3 is that of Wyoming Air Service issued in 1936 (Figure 7).

Despite the fact the DC-3s continued to be used for many years, later etiquettes that pictured planes tended to show the newer, more modern ones, so that DC-3s are not often seen on airmail etiquettes after 1950. ☐

smaller. The one in Figure 1 is the earliest.

Braniff's three early labels, those with the DC-3, had "Branigram" on them; later ones did not. Figure 2 shows the earliest, from 1938.

Eastern's earliest labels, 1937-40, with a striking parallelogram shape, were available in English (Figure 3) and Spanish (shown on



Figure 7 (above).



JAPOS Study Unit

[Editor's Note: This is the 23rd 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 “The United States Dante Commemorative Postage Stamp of 1965,” reprinted with permission from: (JAPOS Journal, 4th quarter 2013). 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!]

The United States Dante Commemorative Postage Stamp of 1965

Christopher D. Cook



**United States Dante
Commemorative
Stamp of 1965.**

The United States Dante commemorative stamp of 1965 (Scott 1268) has an interesting history, worth exploring in depth.

In 1965, 10 countries (Argentina, East Germany, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Romania, Russia, San Marino, United States and Vatican City) celebrated the 700th anniversary of the Italian poet Dante Alighieri’s birth, while five more (Ecuador, Monaco, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay) followed in 1966. Given Dante’s prominent place in the pantheon of great Western poets, this number of stamp issues is not surprising. The United States would have been absent from this list of countries if it were not for the efforts of the Dante Society of America.

The Dante Society of America Lobbies Congress

By its own account, the Dante Society of America (DSA) was “[f]ounded in 1881 by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, James Russell Lowell and Charles Eliot Norton (the Society’s first three presidents) and others,” and is “the second oldest officially constituted organization in the world (after the Deutsche Dante-Gesellschaft, founded in 1865) dedicated to the furtherance of the study of the works of Dante Alighieri.”¹ For the 1965 Dante anniversary, the DSA lobbied members of the United States Congress to provide for the issuance of an official commemorative postage stamp celebrating Dante’s literary and political achievements. Congressman Robert N. Giaimo of Connecticut offered a bill to that effect on July 23, 1964, and Senator Paul H. Douglas of Illinois introduced a joint resolution on July 27.^{2,3} The Postmaster General’s decision to issue a Dante stamp followed in December of that year.⁴

Design and Production

The 5¢ Dante commemorative stamp was designed by American artist, illustrator and author Douglas W. Gorsline (1913-85). By 1965, Gorsline had illustrated a number of children's books, Thomas Wolfe's *Look Homeward, Angel* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1947), Izaak Walton's *The Compleat Angler* (New York: Limited Editions Club, 1948) and written and illustrated *What People Wore: A Visual History of Dress from Ancient Times to Twentieth-century America* (New York: Viking, 1952) among many other works. Gorsline's philatelic work before the Dante stamp included the 1958 4¢ Fort Duquesne commemorative stamp (Scott 1123), designed with William H. Buckley, and the 1964 5¢ Shakespeare commemorative stamp (Scott 1250).

Gorsline modeled his Dante stamp on an anonymous Florentine painting from the late 16th century, now held by the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., known simply as *Allegorical Portrait of Dante*.^{5,6}

According to the *Postal Bulletin*, the "design simulates the style of early Florentine allegorical paintings. Dante is shown wearing a laurel wreath, symbolic of poetry, against a background related to the poem *The Divine Comedy*." In the lower-left corner of the painting are flames representing hell; Dante's native city of Florence, with its iconic Duomo, is shown just



The United States 4¢ Fort Duquesne and 5¢ Shakespeare commemoratives also were designed by Gorsline.

above the flames. Mount Purgatory is depicted in the background on the right. Gorsline repeated the flames, the city, the book and the laurel wreath in his stamp design.

Gorsline's design was engraved by A. W. Dintaman and lettered by William R. Burnell.⁸ Printing was done by the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, D.C., on Cottrell intaglio presses (line engraving)

Allegorical Portrait of Dante, 16th century, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.



using electric-eye plates of 200 subjects. The stamps were printed in maroon ink on tan paper, line perforated (10½ by 11) and sold in panes of 50 (10 by 5 stamps). Marginal markings on the panes include plate block numbers (28108, 28109, 28110 or 28119), registration lines and the “USE ZIP CODE” Mr. ZIP graphic. The initial authorized printing was 112 million, but 115,340,000 eventually were issued.¹⁰

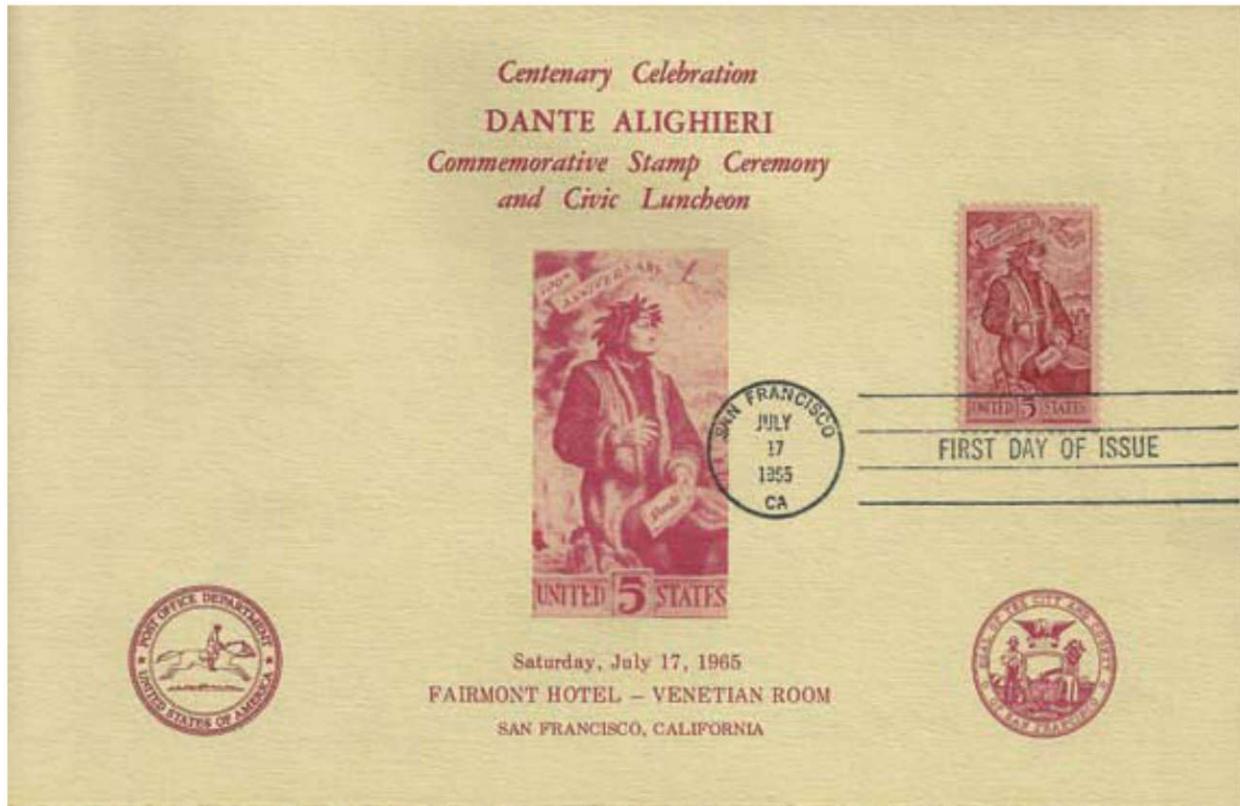


Complete pane of 50 stamps, showing marginal markings and plate number (upper-right position from printing sheet of 200).

First Day of Issue

The Dante commemorative stamp was released Saturday, July 17, 1965, in San Francisco, Calif. The stamp went on sale in post offices nationwide on Monday, July 19, 1965, and was available through philatelic sales units until the close of business on Friday, Dec. 2, 1966.¹¹

The first day of issue was marked by a ceremony and “civic luncheon” held in the Venetian Room of San Francisco’s Fairmont Hotel. The ceremony program lists distinguished guests and presenters including, for example: John A. Ertola, Supervisor of the City and County of San Francisco; Edward D. Re, Chairman of the Dante Alighieri Commemorative Stamp National Committee and later prominent federal judge; and Ralph Nicholson, Assistant Postmaster General.



United States Dante Commemorative Stamp first-day ceremony program, 1965.

The first-day ceremony was thoroughly described on the floor of the United States House of Representatives on July 22, 1965, by New York congressman John J. Rooney. The full text of Rooney's speech may be found in the *Congressional Register*¹² and De Vito's article in *Dante Studies*, but a selection is reprinted here:

“... Sponsored by the Dante Alighieri Commemorative Stamp National Committee, [the ceremony] was a moving and deserving tribute attended by many notable persons from all walks of life. Several of our distinguished colleagues served on the honorary committee, of which the senior Senator from Rhode Island, [John O. Pastore], was chairman. Dr. Edward D. Re, Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, who served at the request of Postmaster General Gronouski as national chairman of the committee, read the message of President Johnson in honor of the occasion....”

The significance of the stamp was explained in an address by Assistant Postmaster General Ralph Nicholson representing the Postmaster General. Nicholson also made several presentations of Dante commemorative stamp albums.

Rooney also included in his speech the full text of Re's statement given at the first-day ceremony. A selection of Re's remarks serves to illustrate the spirit of the Dante commemorative stamp:

“On this centenary celebration, therefore, we pay tribute to a man who also belongs to all ages. That he still lives in the hearts and minds of men everywhere is eloquently expressed by your presence at these ceremonies. It is particularly appropriate that all Americans, and not merely Americans of Italian heritage, should honor Dante by this commemoration. For the genius of Dante honors not only the land that gave him birth but honors all humanity as well.”

"It is also fitting that this tribute should be in the form of a commemorative stamp which may be shared by all peoples and all nations everywhere. What better memorial, therefore, could serve to remind all humanity of the contributions of this great poet to the world's literary masterpieces?"

Besides the stamp itself, perhaps the greatest achievement of the efforts of all those involved in securing official government recognition of the Dante anniversary was the message from President Lyndon B. Johnson read to the assembly at the first-day ceremony by Edward D. Re:

"[Released July 17, 1965; dated July 15, 1965.]

"Dear Chairman Re:

"It gives me pleasure to join the millions of our citizens paying tribute to the immortal memory of Dante Alighieri on the 700th anniversary of his birth. A commemorative stamp in honor of this great Son of Italy is a fitting tribute to the universal contributions of an illustrious man who belongs to every age and to people of all ages.

"Through his genius and creative achievement, Dante became forever a citizen of the world. Poet, philosopher, musician, political scientist and psychologist, Dante's renowned accomplishments are a lasting testament to his fully and richly rewarding life.

"Dante's immortal Divine Comedy, with its sublime message of faith and hope, is his best known and most widely respected work. But for those who are charged with administering their nation's affairs, his provocative political ideas, expressed in his other literary masterpieces, have enduring meaning and significance.

"I am both proud and happy to express at this time my congratulations to our entire Italian American community for sustaining in their new home the revered ideals and traditions of the old. You have my personal good wishes on this memorable occasion.

"Sincerely,

"Lyndon B. Johnson"¹³

Finally, there is a curious statement in De Vito's article about a later ceremony: *"On the 27th August, Postmaster General John S. [i.e., A.] Gronouski held a ceremony in Washington, D.C., during which he made presentations of Dante albums to members of the Dante commemorative stamp committee. On that occasion the Postmaster General and President Lyndon Johnson paid tribute to the genius of Dante and to the contributions of Italians to America."*¹⁴

De Vito then cites the *Congressional Record* for July 22, 1965, to support this claim. The tribute by the Postmaster General is a letter¹⁵ dated July 14 that was read by Edmund D. Re at the first-day ceremony in San Francisco along with President Johnson's letter dated July 15. Clearly, these tributes took place before August.

First Day Covers and Other Memorabilia

The Dante Society of America reportedly sent a first-day cover to all members.¹⁶ However, as of this writing, I have not been able to identify an

FDC displaying direct evidence of its association with the society. Mellone lists 28 different cachets (and one maximum card) for the Dante issue but numerous others exist.¹⁷ Of course, the number of hand-painted and add-on FDCs is unknowable. According to Post Office Department statistics, 424,893 covers were serviced on the first day (and 652,458 stamps were sold).¹⁸

As previously noted, the Assistant Postmaster General "made several presentations of Dante commemorative stamp albums" at the first-day ceremony, as did the Postmaster General at the later ceremony in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 27, 1965. Again, I have not seen an example of these albums.

Similar to other issues of the period, the United States Post Office Department circulated stamp posters to local post offices for display that announced the upcoming Dante issue. True to form, the Dante stamp poster, printed by the U.S. Government Printing Office (1965 OF—772–879), features an enlarged, black-and-white reproduction of the stamp, background information on the topic and design and instructions to collectors on how to order first-day cancellations.

The poster often can be found stamped and first-day canceled.

Future Dante Stamps?

The year 2015 marks the 750th anniversary of Dante's birth and there will undoubtedly be foreign commemorative stamp issues that year celebrating the poet. As of this writing, the United States Postal Service has not released information on upcoming 2015 issues but the anniversary would be an ideal opportunity to celebrate one of the world's great poets and literary figures and pay tribute to the Italian culture that is so much a part of American history. □



**United States Post Office Department Stamp Poster for
Dante commemorative, 1965.**

References

1. Dante Society of America, "Our Mission," accessed Oct. 27, 2013, www.dantesociety.org/mission.html.
2. 110 Cong. Res. 16882–16883 (1964).
3. 110 Cong. Res. 16996 (1964).
4. De Vito, Anthony J., *The First Hundred Years of the Dante Society*, *Dante Studies* 100 (1982): 110.
5. "'Hell' to Be on New U.S. Stamp." *COROS Chronicle* 101 (April 1965): 26.
6. National Gallery of Art, *Allegorical Portrait of Dante*, accessed Oct. 27, 2013, www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb/Collection/art-object-page.46156.html.
7. "5-Cent Dante Alighieri Commemorative Postage Stamp," *Postal Bulletin* 86, no. 20478 (June 17, 1965): 1.
8. United States Post Office Department, *Postage Stamps of the United States: An Illustrated Description of All United States Postage and Special Service Stamps Issued By the Post Office Department from July 1, 1847 to December 31, 1967* (Washington: United States Government Printing Office, 1968), p. 265.
9. United States Post Office Department, *Postage Stamps of the United States* (1968), p. 250.
10. United States Post Office Department, *Postage Stamps of the United States* (1968), p. 231.
11. "Postage Stamps Removed from Sale," *Postal Bulletin* 87, no. 20566 (Dec. 8, 1966): 1.
12. 111 Cong. Rec. 17998–17999 (1965).
13. "Letter Concerning the Issuance of a Commemorative Stamp Marking the 700th Anniversary of the Birth of Dante Alighieri," in *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson* (Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1966), 1965:367.
14. De Vito, "First Hundred Years," 110.
15. 111 Cong. Rec. 17999 (1965).
16. De Vito, "First Hundred Years," 110.
17. Michael Mellone, Monte Eiserman and Edwin Zorn, *Mellone's Specialized Catalog of First Day Covers of the 1960s* (Stewartsville, N.J.: FDC Publishing Co., 1985), p. 226–227.
18. United States Post Office Department, *Postage Stamps of the United States* (1968), p. 265.

Journalists, Authors & Poets on Stamps

Organized in January 1954, Journalists, Authors and Poets On Stamps (JAPOS) celebrates its 40th birthday in 2014. On July 16, 1974, JAPOS became a Study Unit of the American Topical Association. The first issue of the quarterly *Japos Bulletin* was published in July 1974.

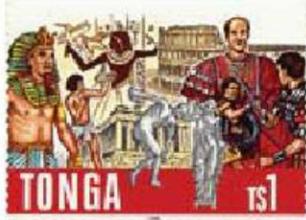
The original editor of the *Japos Bulletin* was Gustav Detjen, Jr. When he died, finding an editor became a problem. After a series of editors attempted to resurrect and maintain the *Bulletin*, current president Clete Delvaux took over the reins of editorship. Delvaux has served as JAPOS President since 1993.

JAPOS dues are \$9 for U.S. and Canadian addresses and \$12 for foreign addresses. The organization invites anyone interested in writers and literature to join. Contact Sol Baltimore at 28742 Blackstone Dr, Lathrup Village MI 48076, or by email at spbaltimore@yahoo.com, or Clete Delvaux at 800B East River Dr, De Pere WI 54115, cdelvaux@msn.com by email. Delvaux can email sample copies of the *JAPOS Bulletin*.

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

Archaeological (Old World) Study Unit

Jerry Davis tells of the settlement and



some of the history of Rapa Nui (Easter Island) by Polynesians in "The Navel of the World." New issue

information as well as some of the latest news in archaeology appear in the *Old World Archaeologist* April 2014 issue.

Dues are \$15 in the United States, \$23 elsewhere. Contact Caroline Scannell, 14 Dawn Dr, Smithtown NY 11787-1761.

Email: editor@owasu.org

Website: www.owasu.org

Armenian Philatelic Association (ArPA)

"Armenian Earthquake on Postal Stamps" explores stamps issued that are related to or commemorate the 1988 earthquake,



which was the largest natural disaster in the modern period of Armenia.

Dues are \$35 in the United States, \$45 elsewhere. Contact Igor Grigorian, 526 Glenwood Rd, Glendale CA 91202-1592.

Email: igorgrig@pacbell.net

Website: www.armenianphilatelic.org

Bicycle Stamps Club

Additional postmarks and stamps is-



sued for the Berlin Warsaw Prague Peace Race, along with several pages of illustrated bi-

cycle-related new issues appear in the March 2014 issue of *Bicycle Stamps*.

Dues are \$19 in the United States. Contact Bill Eubanks, 21304 2nd Ave SE, Bothell WA 98021-7550.

Email: bpeubanks@frontier.com

or, £12.50 in the United Kingdom. Contact Brian Sole, 49 Westcar Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames KT12 5ER, United Kingdom.

Email: brian.sole@btinternet.com

Website: <http://bicyclestamps.tripod.com>

Biology Unit

In addition to an extensive list of new



issues, Patrick Mauney gives us a glimpse of "Darwin the

Botanist" in *Biophilately* June 2014. Approximately one-third of Darwin's books were devoted to botany and this article illustrates plants that he researched and studied.

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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

While not interested in the different kinds of seaweed he encountered, Captain Cook references seaweed in his journal and how its presence influenced navigation. Detailed journal entries describing the sightings of seaweed appear in "The Seaweeds of Cook's First Voyage" in *Cook's Log* April-June 2014.

Dues in the United States are \$28, \$14 for the electronic version. Contact Jerry Yucht, 8427 Leale Ave, Stockton CA 95212-1913.

Email: us@captaincooksociety.com
 or, £14, £7 for the electronic version in the United Kingdom. Contact Alwyn Peel, Secretary CCS, 13 Cowdry Close, Thornhill, Dewsbury, W. York WF12 0LW. United Kingdom.

Email: Secretary@captaincooksociety.com

or, Aus\$48 in Australia. Contact Len Harrow, 48 Tomasetti Crescent, Narre Warren, Victoria 3805, Australia



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Email: canada@captaincooksociety.com.com

or, NZ\$40 in New Zealand. Contact Brian Wyeth, 4 Bush Point Rd, Cable Bay 0420, New Zealand

Email: nz@captaincooksociety.com
Website: www.captaincooksociety.com

Cats on Stamps Study Unit

The Bohemian Lion is the symbol of Czechoslovakia and appears on many coins and stamps. Valerie Kean Kramer shows and describes their use on revenues in "Cats on Czech Revenues" in *Cat Mews* Summer 2014.

Dues are \$14 in the United States, \$20 elsewhere and \$10 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Mary Ann Brown, 3006 Wade Rd, Durham NC 27705-5627.

Email: mabrown@nc.rr.com
Website: www.catsonstamps.org

Christopher Columbus Philatelic Society

Leslie Seff explores "Columbus and the Judaic Connections" in *Discovery* April 2014. One of the connections is the expulsion of Spain's Jewish citizens, which provided the Spanish Crown with enough revenue to help finance Columbus' first two voyages.

Dues are \$15 in the United States and \$20 elsewhere. Contact Leslie Seff,



3750 Hudson Manor, Ter E, Bronx NY 10463-1126.

Email: mr.columbus1492@gmail.com

Website: <http://ccps.maphist.nl>

Disneyana on Stamps Society

Virginia Sylvester wrote about the



many Disney "Myths, Legends and Hero Tales" issued on postage stamps in the May 2014 *Disnemation*. The series of "Disney Films on Stamps" continues

with stamps depicting Disney films of 1946.

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

Fire Service in Philately

Ed Flory provided illustrations and



a short history of "American-Made Fire Apparatus on Stamps" in *Fire Stamp News* April-June

2014. One of the apparatuses used was a Willys Jeep chassis converted into fire apparatus by several American companies.

Dues are \$15 in the United States.

Contact Ed Flory, 149 Sopher St, East Stroudsburg PA 18301-2209.

Email: etflory@ptd.net

Gems, Minerals and Jewelry Study Unit

Part three of "Salt and Sodium" con-



tinues in the April-June 2014 *Philagems International*. Stamps showing various seas, lakes and springs appear in the article and the author explains the different salt concentrations each possess.

Dues are \$15 in North America and \$20 elsewhere. Contact Gilberte Proteau, 138 Rue Lafontaine, Beloeil, Quebec, J3G 2G7, Canada.

Email: gilberte.ferland@sympatico.ca

or, Alan Dean, Pres., 108 Newton Sq, Pointe-Claire, Dorval, Quebec H9R 1H8, Canada.

Email: norma.al@sympatico.ca

Judaica Thematic Society

Stamps issued by the Norfolk Island



Post Office commemorate Jews that relocated to the island. Hilton Israelsohn provides biographies for the four individuals on these stamps in "Jews in a Remote Corner of the World Commemorated" in the May 2014 *Judaica News*.



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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

“Faroes New 2014 Lighthouse Issue” is featured in *The Philatelic Beacon* May-June 2014 issue. There are three different lighthouses in the set. The three lighthouses are Akraberg light, built in 1909; Stóra Dimun light, built in 2000; and Toftir light, built in 1893. All three lighthouses are still in use.

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*
Website: *www.lighthousestampsociety.org*

Malaria Philatelists International

Covers sent by “Captain John G. Franclemont and the 21st Malaria Survey Unit” are shown in *Miasma* April 2014. These survey units were used to help control mosquitos and other insects that spread disease. They were also used to help identify other diseases such as typhus.

Dues are not required; the publication *Miasma* is available free in electronic format only. Contact Larry Fillion at the following email address.

Email: *mariastamps@yahoo.com*
Website: *www.mariastamps.com/mpi/*

Masonic Study Unit



A biography of Mason Samuel Dexter is one of several that appear in the May-June 2014 *Philatelic Freemason*. Born in Boston

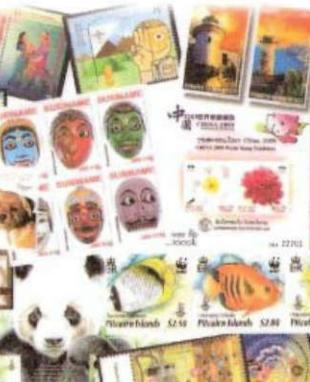


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Mass., he later graduated from Harvard University, studied law and then started his practice. Dexter served in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, in the U.S. Senate and was appointed Secretary of War.

Dues are \$10 in the United States, \$12 in Canada and Mexico and \$16 elsewhere. Contact: Robert A. Domingue, 59 Greenwood Rd, Andover MA 01810-3311.

Email: radpm67@gmail.com

or, Gene Fricks

Email: genefricks@comcast.net

Medical Subjects Unit

Frederick C. Skvara tells the story of how Alexander Graham Bell tried to save the life of President Garfield by using a metal detector that both he and Simon Newcomb invented, in "Alexander Graham Bell & President James Garfield," in the January-March 2014 issue of *Scalpel & Tongs*.

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

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

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

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

Email: possumember@yahoo.com

Napoléonic Age Philatelists

Campaign for April-June 2014 leads with the "First Abdication of Napoleon." Napoleon abdicated the throne April 4, 1814, after forces made up of the Austrian, British, Portuguese, Prussian, Spanish and Russian armies attacked Paris and French defenders surrendered on March 31, 1814.



Dues are \$15 in North America, \$20 elsewhere. Contact Ken Berry, 7513 Clayton Dr, Oklahoma City OK 73132-5636

Email: krb2@earthlink.net

or, Donald W. Smith, PO Box 576, Johnstown, PA 15907-0576.

Email: donsmith32@atlanticbb.net

Website: www.nap-stamps.org

Penguins on Stamps Study Unit

The Rockhopper penguin is the featured penguin in *The Rookery Report* Spring 2014 issue. There are two species of Rockhopper penguin, the Northern Rockhopper and the Southern Rockhopper. Both are easily recognized by their distinctive yellow plumes on their heads.

Dues are \$15 in the United States, \$20 elsewhere and \$10 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Sandra Lingler, 239 Whitman Blvd, Elyria Ohio 44035-1750.

Email: possumember@yahoo.com

Website: [www.penguinstamps.org](http://http.penguinstamps.org)

Plate Number Collectors Club (PNC³)

Examples of



"Ink Starvation on Precanceled 5.2¢ Sleigh" are shown in the June 2014 *Coil Line*. Ink starvation occurs when the ink supply does not reach the printing surface.

This usually occurs when the ink trough is not kept full by the press operator.

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

Email: mjcconway@hotmail.com

Website: www.pnc3.org

Railroad Unit, Casey Jones

New stamps commemorate the



Swiss-Japanese Treaty of Amity and Commerce.

Three stamps in the sheet

have railway themes, as discussed in the March-April 2014 *The Dispatcher*. Two of the stamps show the Rhatosche Railway and the Yungfrau Railway. The third stamp shows railroad tracks on the North shore of Lake Leman in Switzerland.

Dues are \$15 in the United States, \$17 in Canada and Mexico and \$20 elsewhere. Junior (21 years old or less, U.S. only) memberships are \$10. Contact Roy W. Menninger, Treasurer and Membership Secretary, CJRU-ATA, PO Box 5511, Topeka KS 66605-5511.

Email: roymenn@cox.net

Website: www.uqp.de/cjr

Ships on Stamps Unit

The "North by the Sea – Nordic Issue"



in the March-April 2014 *Watercraft Philately* details the history of the ships that have

sailed under the name *Norönna* and provides a description of the new ferry depicted on the Faroes Islands sheet.

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: hobbies@turbonet.com

Website: www.shipsonstamps.org

Stamps on Stamps Collectors Club

Lou Guadagno describes the stamps,



meters and covers that were used and issued for the centenary of the Penny

Black in "Revisiting the 1940 Stamp Centenary Stamp on Stamp Issues" in the final 2013 issue of *SOS Signal*.

SOS Signal is available as a PDF delivered by email. Additionally, once a year, a printed edition will be sent out by mail. Dues are \$15, or \$16.50 via PayPal. Contact Michael Merritt, 73 Mountainside Rd, Mendham NJ 07945-2014.

Email: mischu@research.att.com

Website: www.stampsonstamps.org

United Nations Philatelists

In the April 2014 *Journal of United*



Nations Philatelists, "The United Nations Scenic Committee on the Effects of Atomic

Radiation," or UNSCEAR, was commissioned by the General Assembly in December 1953. UNSCEAR was created to address the effects of radiation on the environment and the health of humans. It was originally composed of 15 U.N. member states.

Dues are \$24 in the United States, \$26 in Canada and \$40 elsewhere. Contact Blanton Clement, Jr., PO Box 146, Morrisville PA 19067-0146.

Email: bclemjr@yahoo.com

or, Larry Fillion, 18 Arlington St, Acton MA 01720-2602

Email: malariastairs@ yahoo.com

Website: www.unpi.com

Wine on Stamps Study Unit

Thomas Pinney writes of giant clusters of grapes and their religious



meaning in "The Grapes of Eshcol," in *Enophilatelica* May 2014. Images of two men

carrying giant clusters of grapes have different meanings for both Jews and Christians. Jews feel the image symbolizes God's love and the Promised Land. Christians feel the image symbolizes wine and Christ's blood.

Dues are \$15 in North America, \$20 elsewhere and \$12 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Paul J. Parham, 1768 Aurora Avenue N #303, Seattle WA 98109-2758.

Email: pauljparham@msn.com

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The new Checklist dATABse developed by Karen Cartier has been well received by our members. More than 300 checklists have been requested since May 1 when the database became available. The response has been most positive, and members are finding the checklists easy to use and quite helpful to their collecting.

The ATA Board of Directors voted in late June to bestow an Honorary Membership on Karen Cartier for her devotion to and development of the database. It is believed that Karen is the first person to receive the honor.

When Karen first started working on the dATABse, her intent was to import all of the ~600 checklists ATA had at that time. However, it has been discovered that not all the related items in the old checklists are appearing in the new lists—and Karen does not have a way to check which lists were actually imported. We have started asking ATA members who are purchasing checklists to compare old lists (supplied free by our office) with the corresponding new lists. Many of you have graciously been notifying us of items in the old lists that are missing in the new lists, and we are then supplying a newly integrated list free of charge.

If you would like to help in this process of integrating old and new checklists, just notify the ATA Office. We welcome your assistance in helping to improve this member service.

Karen continues to devote considerable time and energy to the checklist dATABse. Currently, she is working to enter the large quantity of checklist information that was submitted by ATA members during the past five years when she was busy constructing the dATABse. She added more than 11,000 checklist items in the last month alone! There are currently 594,169 items in the ATA checklist dATABse.

After new Scott-numbered stamps are published in *Linn's* each month and Karen has incorporated those into the dATABse, she transmits the newly revised copy of the dATABse to the ATA Office. Using the updated listings, the number of checklist items is revised. Sometime during the last third of each month, the new listing numbers are posted on the ATA website. A note is added to the Checklist page there pointing out the most important updates. For instance, this month there was one new list added, titled Biologists (2,551 items). The most expanded list this month is Jesuits/Franciscans (4,848 items).

ATA's checklist dATABse will be only as good as our members make it! If you have a stamp list on any topic that you use for your collecting, you are invited to submit it to the ATA Office for inclusion of its information in the dATABse. ☐

New ATA Checklists—Culture Categories

This listing includes all of the culture-related checklists in the new ATA offerings. The checklists are divided into categories, then listed alphabetically. The number shown after each checklist title is the number of stamps or other philatelic items in the list. Cost of the checklist is a penny per item; lists of less than 50 items cost 50 cents; list of more than 5,000 items cost \$50.

Note: If a checklist title includes the wording “misc/other,” that list includes items that are not included in the other checklists in the category. For instance, the Artists (misc/other) list contains only items not related to the individual artists in the category.

ART

- Art (misc/other) (10,625)
- Artists (misc/other) (170)**
 - Audubon, John James (426)
 - Bellini, Giovanni (150)
 - Botticelli, Sandro (239)
 - Brueghel Family (79)
 - Caravaggio (94)
 - Cezanne, Paul (90)
 - Chagall, Marc (203)
 - Correggio, Antonio da (155)
 - Cranach Family (102)
 - da Goya, Francisco (157)
 - Da Vinci, Leonardo (245)
 - Dali, Salvador (51)
 - David, Jacques-Louis (85)
 - Degas, Edgar (117)
 - Delacroix, Eugene (150)
 - Dürer, Albrecht (668)
 - El Greco (131)
 - Fra. Angelico (121)
 - Fra. Filippo Lippi (109)
 - Gauguin, Paul (141)
 - Ghirlandaio, Domenico (38)
 - Giorgione [da Castelfranco] (38)
 - Giotto [di Bondone] (110)
 - Hiroshige, Utagawa (318)
 - Hokusai, Katsushika (330)
 - Hundertwasser, Friedensreich (19)
 - Klimt, Gustav (46)
 - Manet, Edouard (83)
 - Matisse, Henri (70)
 - Memling, Hans (84)
 - Michelangelo [Buonarotti] (255)
 - Miro, Joan (81)
 - Monet, Claude (126)
 - Murillo, Bartolome (172)
 - Picasso, Pablo (603)
 - Raphael (688)
 - Rembrandt (564)
 - Remington, Frederic (12)
 - Renoir, Pierre Auguste (177)
 - Rockwell, Norman (206)
 - Rubens, Peter Paul (941)
 - Tiepolo Family (Artists) (62)
 - Tintoretto, Jacopo (59)
 - Titian (377)
 - Toulouse-Lautrec, Henri (107)
 - van der Weyden, Rogier (80)
 - Van Dyck, Anthony (336)
 - Van Eyck, Jan (49)
 - Van Gogh, Vincent (393)
 - Velazquez, Diego (153)
 - Vermeer, Jan (70)
- Decorative Arts**
 - Antiques (31)
 - Bas-Relief Art (43)
 - Candles (400)
 - Ceramics / Pottery (1053)
 - Classic Grecian Pottery (129)
 - Clay Cylinders of Cyrus the Great (14)
 - Clocks / Timepieces (615)
 - Fans (236)
 - Furniture (188)
 - Glass (103)
 - Handicrafts (misc/other) (690)
 - Hats / Helmets / Headdresses (374)
 - Hummel Figurines (109)
 - Jewelry (363)
 - Keys (72)
 - Lanterns (131)
 - Masks / Face Painting (923)

Mosaics / Tiles (410)
 Sculpture / Statues (4857)
 Tattoos / Body Art (28)
 Umbrellas (218)
 Woodcarvings (596)

Performing Arts

Dance (misc/other) (504)
 Ballet (331)
 Folk Dance (1205)
 Social / Modern Dance (76)
 Theater / Playwrights (1083)

Textiles/Crafts

Basketry / Fiber Art (206)
 Clothing / Fashion (217)
 Costumes (misc/other) (1386)
 Costumes, Folk (635)
 Embroidery / Stitchery / Sewing (234)
 Spinning Wheels (31)
 Tapestries (204)
 Bayeux Tapestry (10)
 Textiles / Lace (290)
 Uniforms (not Military) (47)
 Weaving (173)

Visual Arts

Cameras / Photography (538)
 Children's Drawings (1145)
 Chinese Painters / Art (663)
 Comics / Cartoons (1441)
 Graphic Art (46)
 Illusions / Optical Illusions (23)
 Japanese Artists (1033)
 Landscapes / Seascapes (1019)
 Mona Lisa (34)
 Monuments / Memorials (2141)
 Murals / Frescos (260)
 Nudes (1859)
 Petroglyphs / Wall Paintings (330)
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Actors / Actresses (misc/other) (2199)
 Chaplin, Charles (62)
 Monroe, Marilyn (137)
 Balloons, Toy (139)
 Cards / Gambling / Lottery (127)

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- Carnivals / Festivals (2045)
- Chess (436)
- Circus (387)
- Clowns (274)
- Dolls (201)
- Fireworks (196)
- Hairstyles (64)
- Kites, Toy (160)
- Love (217)
- Magic - Magicians - Ventriloquism (77)
- Marbles (27)
- Movie Industry (2414)
 - Disney, Walt and Characters (1085) (also from Study Unit, www.disnemation.8m.com/home.htm)
 - Puppets (223)
 - Teddy Bears (157)
 - Toys, Games / Puzzles (920)

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- Food / Beverage (misc/other) (833)
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- Coconuts (342)
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- Letters / Postal / Post Offices (3832)
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- Coats of Arms / Heraldry (4757)
- Europa (2,467) (also from Study Unit, www.europastudyunit.org)
- Flags (4811)
 - Flags and Sports (311)
 - UN/NATO Flags (643)
- Hawaii (76)
- Languages / Esperanto (186)
- Maps (5,200) (also from Study Unit, www.mapsonstamps.com)
- Globes (1,356)
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- Nubian Monument / Egyptology (214)
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(also from Study Unit, www.sportstamps.org)

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 Sepak Takraw (5)
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If you collect stamps in the Culture category, please keep this list nearby. You may want to refer to it when submitting your topical collecting interests for the *ATA Membership Directory* later this year. 

Costs for checklists from the new dATABase are:

Emailed (Excel 2007 file format; PDF or Excel 1997-2003 format supplied if requested): A penny per stamp issue. Thus, a checklist with 193 stamp listings costs \$1.93.

Mini-topics (fewer than 50 items) cost 50¢.

Maxi-topics (more than 5,000 items) cost \$50 total.

Mailed: To the emailed price, add \$2 for printing/postage for every 500 listings. The checklist listings will be updated regularly on the ATA website. Prices are good for one year from the date of printing in *Topical Time* or *ATA Publication Guide*, even though the number of listings may increase during that year. Information on obtaining updates to checklists will be forthcoming.

Checklists may be ordered by writing, emailing, calling or faxing the ATA Office. Payment may be made by check, PayPal or credit card (if paying electronically, a small overage to help pay electronic fees is appreciated).

Unless otherwise requested, checklists will be emailed in Excel 2007 file format if the ATA Office has your email address on file. However, we will gladly accommodate other forms of delivery, such as:

- Mailing of a paper copy of your checklist(s) (\$2 printing/postage cost for every 500 items).
- Emailing in PDF file format.
- Emailing in Excel 1997-2003 file format.

If one of these forms of delivery is needed, please request it when ordering checklists. 

Chapter Chatter

By Tonny van Loij

Ann Arbor Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 98)) in Ann Arbor, Mich.: According to editor Harry Winter, the February meeting had to be canceled due to white-out conditions. The program by Gene Stutzenstein, "Stamp Papers," was rescheduled for the July 21 meeting. Dave Plunkett's program, "What's in a Cover," will be moved to a later date. The March program was an always-popular topic, "An Easy Way to Remove Those Impossible-to-Remove Self-Adhesive Stamps," by Doug Bain. The *AASC Newsletter* ended with an overview of upcoming major stamp shows in Michigan. The April edition of *AASC* gave an overview of upcoming meetings and dates to remember, club auctions and programs.

ATA Chapter No. 5 in Wisconsin: The March meeting was highlighted by editor Bob Mather, who showed his other hobby, "Soils From Around The World – Sentimental and Significant."

Members had the chance to provide a Show and Tell about their collections, interests or topics. Bob also reminded members about the upcoming WiscopeX 2014 and about a special exhibiting category; a Club Team Exhibit category where clubs are challenged to fill a 16-page frame made up of four, four-page exhibits from members of the club.

The topic for the February youth meeting was Winter Olympics. The newsletter contained two very interesting articles – one about Guard Don-

keys, an experiment by the University of Rhode Island, Peckham Farm, about safeguarding prized sheep flocks from being attacked by wild dogs, and the other about the Chinese Zodiac, how animals were chosen to be in the Chinese Zodiac cycle.

The program for the April meeting related to the letter "S." Bob Mather spoke about the Wright Brothers' First Flight and Post Office Seals. The April newsletter ended with a tasty article about "How Milwaukee got labeled as a BEER Town."

Battle Creek Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 117) in Battle Creek, Mich.: Editor Steve Sherman opened the March BCSC newsletter with "March Lions and Lambs," and a note that with warmer weather on the way to look out for large auctions and sales at the meetings. Steve also commented on the fact that with retirement, the family had to move closer to the 21st century (this jeopardizes our Amish status) and connect to the internet. This should make it easier for members to submit articles for the newsletter.

The plan to expand on Lee Nelson's article about the Canal Zone cover is still in the works. Steve reported on an interesting moment after weeks of cleaning up for the move, about rediscovering a cover (late 1920s), with enclosed letter, about a young man who was recently sent off to college – Purdue University, according to a seal on

the back flap. The letter was sent to his folks and communicated about life away from home. Nostalgic!

Editor Steve Sherman trumpeted in the April issue of *BCSC News* about a great March gathering, 25 members present, he also reported on Kalamazoo Stamp Club show in March.

Greater Mound City Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 115) in Saint Louis, Mo.: The March *Perf-Dispatch* gave an overview of the 2014 schedule, the March meeting speaker was newly elected vice-president Katrina Whittaker, who spoke on French Colonies and the upcoming breakfast club meeting. The March meeting was scheduled at the St. Louis Stamp Expo (in conjunction with the Webster Groves Stamp Club), with the speaker to be Steve McGill, president of the Great Britain Collectors Club, presenting "How the Machins Got Their (Phosphor) Stripes." As a side note, being a fellow club member with Steve, I find this to be a most educational, interesting program.

Johnstown Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 4) in Johnstown, Pa.: Editor Don Smith started *Philatelic Chatter* by announcing the March meeting speaker, Mary Ann Bell, who gave a presentation on "New Zealand Lighthouse Stamps." The April meeting was a silent auction. Don mentioned the great February turnout (23), after having to cancel the January meeting due to bad weather. This was also the cause for the cancellation of the officers' meeting.

The newsletter gave reminders for upcoming events, shows and new issues. It seems that the important news these days in philatelic circles was the

upcoming sale of the famous British Guiana 1¢ magenta. This stamp was owned by the infamous du Pont heir, John E. du Pont, who was arrested for murder in 1996.

The newsletter ended with various reports of the finding of the 100 intentionally produced sheets of the non-inverted "Jenny Invert."

Kalamazoo Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 116) in Kalamazoo, Mich.: The first quarter edition of the Kalamazoo Stamp Club newsletter started with articles by editor Steve Sherman about upcoming meetings. Members were reminded to attend so as to not miss out on door prizes and other good stuff. The January meeting attracted more than 30 members who enjoyed a fantastic presentation by Jim Smith on weather cancels. He showed some examples of weather-related cancellations on the back of incoming mail.

Kazoopex 2014 was very successful. One of the highlights was Van Siegling's eight-frame exhibit of Harry Potter, now a national award-winning exhibit.

Club president Mike Dennany has been following up on the ribbon awards for the club exhibit at Chicagopex. Each member who entered will receive an award ribbon. A big thank you was extended to all club members who spent time at the front table and taking down exhibits.

Knoxville Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 121) in Knoxville, Tenn.: Tom Broadhead started the newsletter with a summary of stamp shows he attended during the wintertime. President Tom Ringenbach, in his column, wrote

about his concern regarding the future of “Our Nation’s Stamp Club” (the American Philatelic Society). Jim Pettway gave an overview of the 2014 Southeastern Stamp Expo with some photos. Upcoming events will be Knopex 2014 and the March meeting, “What I found at Knopex” show and tell.

A great article by Tom Broadhead was in the newsletter, “A Commemorative that became a Definitive” (Louis Pasteur).

The newsletter ended with the announcement for Knopex 2014 cachets, changes in KPS Stamp Inventory and needed volunteers for the upcoming show.

Knoxville Philatelic Society News for April started with the President’s Column, reporting on a successful Knopex show. Many pictures showed a well-attended show. Thanks went out to all volunteers, especially the small army that took care of the clean-up.

Mid Cities Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 90) in Arlington, Texas: *Stamping Around* started off with a great article by editor Peter Elias, “Bip Bip Hooray! Bippies Are Back!” This refers to the recent postage increase: If using Photo stamps or **stamps.com**, the increase was 3¢, but if using USPS-issued stamps, the increase was only 2¢. What has this all to do with the term “bippies?” It seems a **stamps.com** internal term for the 2¢ stamps is “bippies.”

Benedict A. Termini wrote in his article about Heligoland, an island in the North Sea that has been occupied since prehistoric times by Denmark, Great Britain and during both world wars was used by Germany as a naval base.

President Mike Smith, in his monthly letter, touched on the upcoming Texpex 2014, stamp of the month “Alexander Graham Bell, and more.

Peter Elias ended the newsletter with a look at part of his collecting interest “ATA stamps.”

Milwaukee Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 112) in Wisconsin: Carol Schutta, editor, reminded members of the upcoming major Spring auction. She also notified the membership that the election ballot is null and void, due to misunderstandings. New ballots were to be sent out in April.

The February meeting was the 2,064th meeting of the organization and 27 members were present.

Carol touched on the new issue of USPS stamps, “Winter Flowers.” Many more short articles by Dona Fagan, Robert Mather and Carol Schutta followed. The newsletter ended with a long list of items for the MPS Major Spring Auction. The editor started the April *Milwaukee Philatelist* with a history of The War of 1812, which is the background for the issuing of the new Star-Spangled Banner flag. Carol also announced that it was time for a change of guard. After 15 years she felt it was time to step down as secretary and have new blood take over.

Motor City Stamp and Cover Club (ATA Chapter No. 95) in Detroit, Mich.: *On Cover* started with a message from the President, “The Last time was February 2003.” That was the last time the meeting had to be canceled due to bad weather. A list was given of upcoming club activities and benefits, meeting programs and stamp shows.

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (ATA Chapter No. 118) in Lancaster, Pa.: The April newsletter opened with the customary letter from president Len Kasper. Paul Petersen (acting secretary) and Lou DiFelice posted the meetings of the previous meeting. Editor Paul Petersen wrote about “The 75th Anniversary of the 1939 New York World’s Fair” and went on to publish upcoming meetings and events for 2014. The newsletter ended with the continuation of “More on Japanese postmark dating...” This article was started the previous month.

Robert C. Graebner Chapter No. 17 of AFDCS (ATA Chapter No. 93) in Washington, D.C.: *The Graebner Gazette* began by showing some cachets that would be available at Springpex 2014, “Defense of Fort McHenry” and “Battle of Petersburg.” The February meeting featured Joe Coulbourne giving a program on “Perfin First Day Covers.” Rick Gibson was featured with his award-winning exhibit, *Forest Conservation*.

The second half of the newsletter carried an announcement from the Smithsonian National Postal Museum dated Feb. 18, 2014. It was about the retirement of Cheryl R. Ganz, chief curator of philately at the National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. Smithsonian

Secretary Wayne Clough recognized Ganz with the title Curator of Philately Emerita. She is the first National Postal Museum employee to receive this honor. The remainder of the newsletter was filled with news about new and upcoming issues.

St. Petersburg Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 119) in St. Petersburg, Fla.: Editor Ray Murphy reported on upcoming meetings and events. “On the Cover,” by Mark Issacs, discussed reduced postal rates and showed an example of a Belgian cover with Scott 365, a 10% reduction in postal rates. Issacs touched on another subject of reduced postage. Showing a cover from Spanish Andorra, he mentioned that Andorra consists of two regions, French and Spanish. Both post offices operate throughout the country, however, mail within Andorra is free to its citizens. Maybe this could be implemented in the United States, too.

Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo (ATA Chapter No. 66) in Toledo, Ohio: The February *Frogtown Philatelist* reported on upcoming meetings and a successful 2014 90th Stamp Show. The March 6 meeting was (finally) the first meeting with hardly any snow on the ground. The result was 30-plus members in attendance. The second meeting in March was less well-attended, probably due to the NCAA basketball games.

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April featured the annual election of club officers. The *Frogtown Philatelist* ended with several announcements of upcoming events.

Topical Philatelists in Colorado (ATA Chapter No. 78) in Denver, Colo.: Editor Dalene Thomas reported in *TOPIC* that it was decided at the February meeting to again enter the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show One-Frame Club Exhibit Competition. Each member, or as many as possible, should participate by contributing one or two pages that show off his or her topic. The newsletter also contained a lengthy article about "Traditional Nursing" (Nursing on Stamps). The March meeting, as many all over the country, was canceled due to a snow storm.

Again, editor Thomas had a nice article about "Red Cross Nurses" in the April issue of *TOPIC*. The newsletter ended with an overview of new U.S. issues and a press release about ATA's TopicalsOnline website.

Venice Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 122) in Venice Fla.: The Venice newsletter started with an article by John Hamman about "Prexie Post." He reminded all members about the upcoming auction with 160 lots from the United States and 38 other countries. One of the highlights is Great Britain No. 1 (Penny Black) and a U.S. No. 11.

Mention was made of a new meeting place, Venice Presbyterian Church, 111 Firenze Ave. E.

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President Hamman opened a shortened March meeting, due to the club auction. John continued his "Prexie Post" in the April newsletter. It ended with a summation of upcoming meetings and events.

Westfield Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 113) in Westfield, N. J.: *The Westfield Philatelist*, March/April, began with an homage to Richard Nazar for winning the 2013 Hopkinson Memorial Literature Award. The four articles for which the award was won were listed with a little synopsis of each. This followed with a calendar of upcoming events and answers of the Jan/Feb philatelic quiz. The quiz was mainly about "Who was Otto Lilienthal and why were Orville and Wilbur Wright interested in his work?" The newsletter ended with the returning page, "Collecting the World," Alexander Graham Bell and President James Garfield.

West Suburban Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 44) in Plymouth, Mich.: Show chairman, Tim Strzalkowski, reminded members about the upcoming 2014 Plymouth show. He mentioned all the people involved with the different aspects of the show and events. "What's The Name" by Andrew Mazzara discussed a letter mailed in 1896 to a William H. Pettee – professor, that is, of Ann Arbor, who contributed greatly to the history of the marching band and music school. The April issue of *Mayflower Minutes* continued about the 2014 Plymouth Show.

Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs (ATA Chapter No. 107) in Wisconsin: *Across the Fence Post* started with the customary president's message with "Music to my ears," comment-

ing on a Peanuts first-day cover, which brought to mind the theme song for the Charlie Brown series. Lots of information about upcoming events and meetings filled the next pages. The featured article for this month, by MaryAnn Bowman, was about March, "Music in our Schools" month. Many music stamps are used in the article, especially a first-day cover for George Gershwin, autographed by Fred Astaire and Gene Kelly. MaryAnn continued with a mini-study: 8.4¢ Steinway Grand Piano, of the Americana issue. The newsletter ended with a sad story, the passing of long time collector Earl G. Buehler.

The April edition of *Across the Fence Post* began with the president's message, "Call for Convention 2014." Ann Selzer was the author of a great featured article, "Mourning Stamps and Covers." Mention was made of the appointment of Cheryl Ganz to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee.

Canada

Calgary Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 91) in Calgary: The April edition of *Calgary Philatelist* started with Part 2 of "A Philatelist's Journey in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan," by Donald Wilson. The informative piece showed several great items from the author's collection as well as childhood photos from the area.

Peter Fleck commented on "Canada Post and the Surprise of December 11." For those who did not hear about it, Canada Post pulled a fast one by recalling all the "Permanent Rate" stamps and then announcing a rate increase. Dale Speirs commented on the creation of the Calgary Philatelic Society and

on an article by James M. Moir, "Connections to our Past: Part 1." Dale also reminded people to look for modern postal history. Canada Post recently allowed bulk-mail permit users to make them pictorial. Several of the designs that are to be found in the junk mail were shown.

The newsletter ended with a report about the February meeting and the wonderful program that was presented by Jon Noad, "Dinosaurs on Stamps," and Sandy Freeman with her March program on her experiences with Brasiliana 2013, where she won a vermeil for her Bolivian airmails exhibit.

Great Britain

British Thematic Association (ATA Chapter No. 100) in Great Britain: The March edition of *Themescene* began with an editorial by editor Wendy Buckle followed by the President's Page by John Hayward. Simon Moorcroft used his Chairman's Page to report on Spring Stampex and labeled the show as truly excellent.

Secretary Peter Denly gave an account of membership (as of Feb. 14, 2014). Wendy Buckle listed the exhibits by 25 BTA members at Stampex,

with several members who had multiple exhibits.

A featured article in *Themescene* was by Raymond Ireson, "The Royal Grand Commonwealth Tour 1953-1954," a look back to the start of a reign. Brian Sole looked back at "The Early Years of the British Thematic Association." BTA News lists several upcoming meetings and events: This year the British Postal Museum and Archive has a touring exhibition from April to December 2014, "Last Post: Remembering the First World War."

Barry Floyd wrote about how he started, combining career and collecting. Lisa Whittle had a request to adult members titled, "JUST4KIDS." She displayed several worldwide stamps and asked members to copy the pages and hand them out to youngsters who may be interested in stamps. As a topic, she showed stamps with the number 30 on them, for the British Thematic Association is celebrating its 30th Birthday!

Themescene finishes with a list of committee members, British Thematic Association 2014 Competitions and some of the BTA displays at Stampex.

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India

Indian Thematic Society (ATA Chapter No. 102) in India: The Jan/Mar 2014 edition of *ITS Stamp News* begins with an article, “The Indian Museum – Kolkata.” Editor Suraj Jaitly expressed his apologies for the delay of the newsletter, due to personal circumstances. Several upcoming exhibitions in India are listed.

Dr. Avinash B. Jagtap wrote about “A Philatelic Tribute to Indian Womanhood,” showing several stamps issued by India Post, as well as cancellations for this topic. He mentioned prominent people who were behind this movement, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, his wife, Kamala Nehru, as well as a long chain of political leaders. He went on about the many organizations: Women as Social Workers, Women in Sports, Women in the Field of Literature, Indian Girls & Ladies as subjects of Paintings and more.

Dr. Satyendra Kumar Agrawal wrote about Jean de Sperati: “Rubens of Philately & King of Counterfeits,” and other forgers, including Rainer Blum, Sigmund Friedl and Francois Fournier, to mention a few. Pradeep Kumar Malik wrote about “Saint Sofia’s Cathedral

in Kiev (Ukraine),” and used several stamps to highlight the article.

Other items included were a list of covers and cancellations released during the first months of the year in India; New Philatelic Bureau of the Philatelic Division, India Posts; obituary for Shri G. Madan Mohan Das, a veteran philatelist and past president of South India Philatelists’ Association; new books available and a long list of auction materials.

South Africa

Thematics Southern Africa (ATA Chapter No. 103) in South Africa: The front page of the 2014 issue of *ThemNews* had a great display of topical stamps from all over the world. It began with the President’s View, by Robert Harm, an article and message from the Vice President/Acting Editor Wobbe Vegter, and a list of Letters to the Editor.

Member Dr. Saji Kumar J, India, contributed his “Part 2: Giving Blood Saves Lives” with a great display of stamps about this subject. Henk Geertsema had an article about “*Lepidopterous* philately: Butterflies and moths of South Africa and its former homelands,” with a wonderful display of materials.

Hans Stronkhorst wrote about “The Dutch Royal Family 1813-2013.” Marna de Klerk had an article about “Guiseppe Verdi – National Hero Through Opera.” Errol van Greunen closed *ThemNews* with an article about the Victoria Cross. All these writers used a great variety of materials to complement their articles. ☐

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Tonny van Loij, retired, is ATA Chapter Coordinator, president of the Aurora Stamp Club, executive secretary of the Europa Study Unit and secretary of Rompex. His mailing address is 3002 S. Xanthia St, Denver CO 80231. His email address is tvanloij@gmail.com.



Publication Reviews

George B. Griffenhagen

Miniature Paintings

History of Indian Miniature Paintings Through Philately, Santyendra Kumar Agrawal, author, email: rosephila@hotmail.com, Philagold Publications, US\$25, 6 by 8½ inches, hardcover, 80 pages, 2013.

If one of your passions is delving into the history of art, this handbook is for you. In India, as in other parts of the

world, the earliest paintings are found on rocks, such as the one pictured on a 1971 India stamp (Scott 546). Painters then produced large works called murals, executed on solid structures or walls. This handbook pictures a 13th-century mural pictured on a strip of five 1985 Nepal stamps (Scott 433a-d). The large-scale production of wall paintings led to the advent of miniature paintings, the main subject of this handbook. Initially these paintings were rendered on the dried leaves of palm trees until paper was developed. Humans, shown only with a side profile, big eyes and pointed noses, are featured in these early miniatures. With the creation of the Mughal Empire (1556-1857), the art of miniature painting became a unique blend of Indian, Islamic and Persian art. From the 15th-18th century, dozens of special schools were established in various areas of India to train artists to create miniature paintings.

More than 100 full-color illustrations of miniature paintings are described in detail in this handbook. More than half of the illustrations are postage stamps, with unusual themes such as Camel Riding, a Chained Elephant and Wrestling. The stamps shown include India (Scott 577-580, 993 and 1556-1559); Japan (Scott 2990 a-j); DDR (Scott 2006-2008); Zambia (Scott 727-728); non-Scott stamps of Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mozambique, Tasmania, Yemen and more than a dozen U.S. Provisionals, for which the

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author legitimately produced original miniature paintings. The remainder of the illustrations include envelopes and greeting cards picturing artifacts in the National Museum in New Delhi. Postal cards with postmarks confirming that the depicted painting is preserved in facilities such as the State Museum in Lucknow; the Dogra Art Museum in Jammu; or in private collections. The author is a painter and philatelist who resides in India. He developed an interest in "Indian Miniature Paintings" in 1973 and, in 1993, he developed an exhibit that received an award at Inpex. He continued his research until his article on "Jewel of Miniatures" was published in the September-October 2009 *Topical Time*. Further research led to identification of the date of origin and the School where the miniature painting was created. The end result is this handbook that should be in the philatelic library of every thematic collector interested in developing a new theme.

Foreign Thematic Periodicals Finland

Aihefilatelisti, Finnish Society for Thematic Philately, No. 1, 2014, Jari Marander, editor, 7 Tammmittie, F1-00331 Helsinki, Finland, email: jari.majander@gmail.com, 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches, saddle stitched, 32 pages.

This Finnish-language periodical features the centennial of the birth of Tove Marika Jansson (1914-2001), Swedish artist and Finnish novelist, and author of popular children's publications. Tove worked as a cartoonist for Swedish-language comic strips from 1930-53. One of her WWII strips drew international fame by picturing Adolph Hitler as a crying

baby in diapers surrounded by Neville Chamberlain and other great European leaders who tried to calm the baby by feeding it slices of cake. Jansson is creator of the Moomins, weird creatures derived from the authors' family. Beginning with *Moomins and the Great Flood* in 1945, more than 15 million Moomin books have been sold, around the world. The series ended in 1970 when she turned her attention to adult novels.

For her contributions as a childrens' writer she received the Hans Christian Andersen Gold Medal in 1966. In March 2004 Finland issued a set of postage stamps picturing three Moomins and several photographs of Tove Jansson at various stages of her career.

An interesting, but shorter, article describes a Flying Buffalo. On June 18, 1877, Samuel King (1828-1914) ascended from Nashville, Tenn., in his balloon called *Buffalo*, bearing mail franked with a blue 5¢ privately produced stamp for the flight. Although unofficial, the stamp is listed by Scott as an airmail semi-official issue. Thus it represents the world's first adhesive for airmail use.

Netherlands

Thema, Society for Thematic Philately, February 2014, Henk van Zutphen, editor, 16 Elsendweg, 6617 A.W. Bergharen, The Netherlands, email: henk.vanzutphen@inter.nl@net, 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ by 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches, saddle stitched, 48 pages.

This issue of the Dutch-language periodical features an article on Nelson Mandela (1919-2013), who spent 27 years in prison for his efforts to

end apartheid in South Africa. The article illustrates 14 worldwide stamps depicting Mandela's time in prison, as president of South Africa and two Netherlands stamps memorializing his death on Dec. 5, 2013. Other articles picture the cultivation of fruit and vegetables plus the insects and larva that attack them; attractive large finches (*Coccothraustes*) shown on stamps of eight different countries; the often-told story of Owney, the unofficial U.S. postal mascot dog; and a 1,237-lot member postal auction organized thematically (Architecture, Art, Fauna, Flora, Music, Religion, Ships, Sports), some which Michel catalogs at more than 100 Euros.

Norway

Motiv-Samlaren, Norwegian Thematic Society, No. 1/14, April 2014, Ingolf Kapelrud, editor, 1 Gjorakveien, 4070 Randaberg, Norway, email: ingolf.kapelrud@online.no, 6 by 8½ inches, saddle stitched, 16 pages.

This issue of the Norwegian-language periodical features a history of Rotary International, which was organized Feb. 23, 1905, by Chicago attorney Paul Percy Harris (1868-1947)

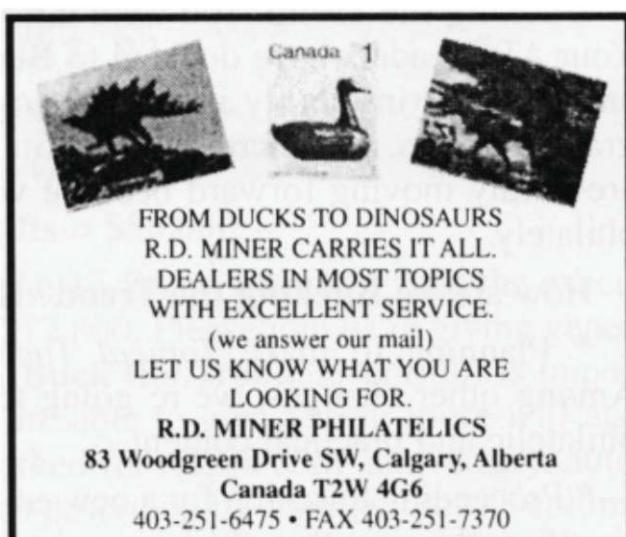
as the Rotary Club of Chicago. The club established as its motto "Service Above Self." Within 16 years after its founding, Rotary had clubs on six continents and today has more than 1.2 million members. The Norwegian article pictures 10 stamps celebrating the (2005) centennial of the founding of Rotary International. Two of the stamps emphasize the "Eradicate Polio" program, which Rotary launched in 1979. A Rotary on Stamps organization was established in 1955 by the American Topical Association, which published a *Bulletin of Rotary-on-Stamps* until 1962. The Unit was reactivated in 1968 under the name of Rotary on Stamps Fellowship which still publishes the bimonthly *ROS Bulletin*. Anyone who wants to join should contact Gerald FitzSimmons by email: gfitz@suddenlink.net.

Periodicals by Theme

Medical

Medi-Theme, Medical Philately Journal, Vol. 33, February 2014, S. W. Stuart Menzies, editor, 32 King Edward Road, Tnemouth, Tyne & Wear, NE30 2RP, England, email: stuart@sbsm.co.uk, 5½ by 8¼ inches, saddle stitched, 42 pages.

This issue of the *Medical Philately Journal* provides biographical information on Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine. St. Apollonia, the Patron Saint of Dentists, is usually shown as a beautiful woman holding dental tongs. Veterinarian Raphael Elize (1891-1945) was elected as the first black mayor of metropolitan France; but because of his involvement in the French resistance, the Nazis sent him to Buchenwald, where he died. Two veterinarians have served as astronauts; Martin Fettman (born 1956) and Richard Linnehan



(born 1957). Physicians include Cuban revolutionary leader Ernesto "Che" Guevara (1938-67); the first female physician in Canada, Jennie Kidd Trout (1841-1921); and Russian neurophysiologist Ezras Astratovich Asratyan (1903-81).

Ships

U.S.C.S. Log, Universal Ship Cancellation Society, Vol. 81, No. 2 and No. 3, February 2014 and March 2014, Richard D. Jones, editor, 137 Putnam Ave, Ormond Beach FL 32174, email: mbcmjones@yahoo.com, 8½ by 11 inches, saddle stitched, 32 pages each.

Two of the world's fastest passenger ships, described in the February 2014 issue of the *USCS Log*, suffered similar fates during the start of World War II. The French *SS Normandy* was docked at Pier 88 in New York City when France was occupied by the Germans. In December 1941 the U.S. government seized the *SS Normandy* under the policy that a belligerent may seize, use or destroy the property of a neutral, provided full compensation is made. The U.S. Navy renamed the ship as the *USS Lafayette*, but in February 1942 the ship caught fire in the New York Harbor and slowly capsized. The other liner was the *SS Columbia*, the largest and fastest ship in the German fleet. She was on a Caribbean cruise when WWII broke out in September 1939. On Dec. 14, 1939, the *SS Columbia* decided to return home. But four days later the *USS Tuscalosa* spotted the German ship and fired two shots across the liner's bow. Rather than surrender, the crew decided to scuttle the liner and she sank 320 miles off the U.S. eastern coast in the vicinity of Cape May.

Space

Orbit, Journal of the Astro Space Stamp Society, No. 101, March 2014, Jeff Dugdale, editor, Glebe Cottage, Speymouth, Fochabers, Moray, Scotland IV32 7LE, email: jefforbited@aol.com, 8½ by 11½ inches, saddle stitched, 40 pages.

Was Baron Munchhausen the world's first astronaut? According to a story in this issue from the Astro Space Stamp Society, this is possible if we believe the exaggerated claims of Carl Friedrich von Munchhausen (1720-92), a German baron who claimed that he piloted a cannon ball to the moon. This event is pictured on a 1970 stamp of Czechoslovakia (Scott 1692). Munchhausen served in the Russian Army during the Russo-Turkish War before he retired in 1760 to his manor in Bodenwerder, where he became notorious for making exaggerated claims about his achievements. A 2005 Latvia souvenir sheet (Scott 615) depicts an event that reportedly took place when the baron was taken prisoner by the Turks. The Baron claimed he was humiliated by being forced daily "to drive the Sultan's bees every morning to their pasture and each night drive them back to their hives." An assortment of these fantastic tales was first published in Germany in 1781. Four years later German librarian Rudolph Erich Raspe (1730-94) translated into English the text of a larger number of tales and published them under the title, *The Surprising Adventures of Baron Munchhausen*. However, it is most likely that many of Raspe's tales are not derived from Baron's original stories. The real Baron Munchhausen was said

to be deeply annoyed that his name had been dragged into other publications. Since then, many short films about the Baron have been produced in France and Germany. Then, in 1988 Terry Gilliam directed a British fantasy film starring John Neville based on the exploits of Baron Munchhausen.

Topics in Print

The 1959-1960 World Refugee Year is described by James C. Hamilton in the Second Quarter 2014 issue of *Vatican Notes*, the Journal of the Vatican Philatelic Society. The author describes the major refugee problems that developed after the end of World War II: (1) Displaced persons living in camps of Austria and Germany; (2) Palestinian refugees who left Israel in 1948 for Jordan, Lebanon and the Gaza Strip; (3) Chinese refugees living in crowded settlements in Hong Kong who fled the 1949 creation of the (Communist) Peoples Republic of China; and (4) elderly Russian refugees in China who fled the 1917 Russian Revolution and who were forgotten by the rest of the world.

The General Assembly of the United Nations approved a resolution on Dec. 5, 1958, that led to the creation of 1959-60 World Refugee Year (WRY). The objectives were (1) to focus interest in and financial resources for the refugee problem and (2) to create a

refugee permanent solution. Some 50 nations agreed to participate. But the Communist bloc (Russia, their allies in Western Europe, and China) opposed the U.N. Resolution. Many other countries paid little attention to the problem for their own political or historical reasons. Countries that issued stamps to promote WRY did so in a variety of ways. Some used a special emblem designed by Olav Mathiessen of Denmark. The design was an uprooted oak tree, but the U.N. stamps (Scott 75-76) carried the logo of the U.N. Relief Agency. Other countries used art associated with biblical events such as the Holy Family flight into Egypt. Then there were countries that promoted traditional humanitarianism. Great Britain used only a slogan cancel for WYR. The United States issued a WRY stamp (Scott 1149) described as "Refugee Family Walking Toward New Life." But the author of this review claimed that collectors placed all the World Refugee stamps into a blank album and did not consider filing them in thematic order. ☐

Readers of Topical Time who know of other topical articles published in less well-known periodicals are urged to send photocopies or tear sheets of the article to George Griffenhagen, 12226 Cathedral Dr, Woodbridge VA 22192-2232, or via email: gbgriffenhagen@gmail.com, for mention in future "Publication Reviews" columns.

George Griffenhagen was longtime ATA board member and former editor of Topical Time. You may reach him at the previously given address.

**Please make it a goal to recruit
at least one new member this year...
*Help us continue to "Buck the Trend!"***

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 56987-57030 and recent reinstatements.** This reflects membership through June 15, 2014. Dealer Members are denoted with "DM" and Family Members "FM" after their membership numbers. "EM" denotes Electronic Member.

57018	ALEXANDER, David, <i>dbalexander@2@comcast.net</i>	Carnivorous Plants
57012	BALQUIEDRA, Anna	Tennis, Butterflies
57030	BILSE, Robert	
57016	BLOG, David, <i>davidblognj@gmail.com</i>	Space, Autographs
57017	BOURGEOIS, Hugues, <i>harley.frog@live.ca</i>	Motorcycles, Automobiles, Elvis Presley, Ships
56991	BREW, Robert	Trees
57014	BROWN, Gary, <i>garyjohn951@optusnet.com.au</i>	Cricket Game
56998	CARSTENSEN JR., Robert, <i>rcarsten@att.net</i>	Elvis Presley, Maritime Disasters, Titanic, Horses
	1740 Gose Pike, Danville KY 40422-8453	
56989	DALIESE, Charles	
57020	DAVIDSON, Charles	Birds, Animals, Musical Instruments, Stamps on Stamps
	3310 Nostrand Ave Apt 607, Brooklyn NY 11229-3272	
57032	DAVIS, Sidney	
57004	DOMBROSKI, Deborah	World War I, World War II
56987	DURKIN, Michael, <i>michaeldurkin@earthlink.net</i>	Medicine
	2329 Hutchison Rd, Flossmoor IL 60422-1326	
56988	FARBER, Martin	
52490	FLASHBERG, Dale L, <i>quiltingclown@gvtc.com</i>	Clowns, Penguins, Handicapped, Judaica
	452 English Oaks Cir, Boerne TX 78006-1744	
57031	FLEURY, Alfred	
57023	GARCIA, Robert, 229 Charlemagne Way, Modesto CA 95350-1401	John F. Kennedy, Space
57029	GORDON, Monika	Horses, Christmas, Food
	709 S Washington St, Kimball NE 69145-1644	
57015	GREENSTEIN, Michael, <i>greeniad@verizon.net</i>	Keys
	72 Lefurgy Ave, Dobbs Ferry NY 10522-1206	
57025	GRIFFIN, Gary	
57010	HAVEN, Don, <i>don.haven@roadrunner.com</i>	US Air Mails
56996	HOFFMANN, Tom	
57005	HORST, Ian, <i>ishorst@aol.com</i>	Revolutions, Modern Conflicts, Palestine, Anti-American Propaganda
57000	JONES, Vicki	
56990-DM	KELLERMANN, Kim, <i>kim@rasdalestamps.com</i>	Space, Trains
	35 Chestnut Ave, Westmont IL 60559-1127	
56995	LARSON, Sherrie, <i>twofeatherssher@aol.com</i> , 8031 SE Lambert St, Portland OR 97206-8556	
32942	LONG, Richard	
44285	MARLOWE, Jim	
57008	MASON, Steve	Sherlock Holmes
57021	McCOOL, John E., PO Box 202, Youngsville PA 16371-0202	
57022	MILLER, Darrell, <i>rigrunner77@gmail.com</i>	Birds, Animals, World War I, World War II
	1760 Reeton School Rd, Mamou, LA 70554-4081	



57001	MUCKENHAUPT, Frank, <i>paco1700@yahoo.com</i>	Lighthouses, Stamps on Stamps, Soccer, Baseball, Jazz
57028	NASSRE, Behruz. <i>behruz@gmail.com</i>	British Omnibus
57002	NONNWEILER, Norman	Mushrooms, Mountain Climbing
56993	NORDSTROM, David, <i>clim4phun@yahoo.com</i>	
55816	PACL, Lawrence	
56992-DM	PHILLIPS, Larry, <i>larry@4stampsales.com</i> PO Box 7233, Wilmington DE 19803-0233	Elvis Presley, John F. Kennedy, Marilyn Monroe, Nobel Prize Winners
57011	REIBER Jr., Robert	
56999	ROBB, Frank, <i>stamps4us@windstream.net</i> 5380 NE 56th St, High Springs FL 32643-6132	Butterflies
57007	ROSENTHAL, Ronald 12171 Topper Rd, Madera CA 93636-8508	Birds, Fish, Reptiles, Ships
49386	ROYLE, ROBERT	
57027	SGRO, Dominic, <i>disgro@ruralwave.ca</i>	Horses, Disney, Dinosaurs, Paintings, Watercraft, Space, Astronomy
57003	SHOEMAKER, Charles, <i>kenjico@tds.net</i>	Circus, Ice Hockey, Volleyball, Rowing, Orchids
56997	STUMMAN, Byron	Cars
57013	THIEL, James, 24 Endean Dr, East Walpole MA 02032-1042, <i>jamesthiel24@comcast.net</i>	
56994	VIGNOLA, Mary Lou, <i>mlvignola@comcast.net</i> 2238 Greiner St., Eugene OR 97405-1368	Rhinocerus
55130	WALDECK, Nancy 5541 Westwood Northern Blvd Apt 5, Cincinnati OH 45248-2346	Ducks, Birds, Animals, Bonsai
57024	WENTZ, Rob	

Change of Address

56805 LEE, Richard E., 610 Fickel Hill Rd, Gardners PA 17324-9761

Verna Shackleton

Verna Shackleton, secretary of COROS (Collectors of Religion on Stamps) ATA study unit for 31 years, died June 15. A resident of Appleton, Wis., Verna joined the ATA in 1982. Her exhibit, *The Grand Tour-Churches in Middle Europe*, won numerous awards in national competition. She prepared checklists of churches on stamps and wrote many articles for the *COROS Chronicle*. She also wrote a "Topically Yours" column for the Outagamie Philatelic Society newsletter and was an OPS officer since 1979.

Roland Essig

Roland Essig of West Bend, Wis., a retired printer, died May 10. An ATA member since 1978, Roland was a prolific exhibitor. His chief exhibit *Man Beneath the Sea*, won many Gold awards and the Grand at NTSS in 2004. Roland also won Gold awards with *Great Lakes Steamers of Old – Travel in Days Gone By*. His other exhibits included *Michael, Gabriel & Associates, A Study of the S&H Green Trading Stamps*, *Old Four Legs - It's a Coelacanth and Under the Big Top*.

Roland's memberships included the American Philatelic Society, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, Collectors of Religion on Stamps, Meter Stamp Society and, locally, ATA Chapter #5 and the Kettle Moraine Coin and Stamp Club.

Wayne Youngblood, *Topical Time* editor, called Roland "one of the primary faces of the ATA in Wisconsin for many years."

Roland chose to donate his entire collection to benefit the ATA. ☐

Unknown Address

If you are in touch with either of the following ATA members, please supply (or ask them to supply) their contact information to the ATA Office.

54581 MONTELLO, Larry (Ore.)
49364 MARX, Herbert (Ariz.)

Deceased Members

56960	BERUBE, Jeff (Mass.)	52396	JESTER, Richard (Ark.)
28503	CARSE, Stewart (Ga.)	40768	KENNEY, James E. (Pa.)
54777	DION, Robert (N.H.)	56531	PHILLIPS, David (N.J.)
56415	GIBSON, Robert E., Sr (Md.)	23430	SHOEMAKE, Ann (N.M.)

ATA Membership Recruiters 2014

The following ATA members have recruited new members during the first half of 2014. Their accounts in the ATA Bucks Bank will receive \$5 for each new member recruited. We hope your name will appear here soon!

ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green.

ATA Dealer Members shown in red.

New Members

Dawn Hamman (Fla.)	10	Roger Grider (Mo.)	1
Frederick Skvara (N.J.)	3	Robert E Juceam (N.Y.)	1
Jack Congrove (Wash.)	2	Jack Ott (Md.)	1
Janice and David Erbach (Ky.)	2	Patricia Prevey (Alberta, Canada)	1
Allan Fisk (N.Y.)	2	Marion Rollings (N.J.)	1
Bruce Johnson (Calif.)	2	Robert Sazama (Fl.)	1
Jean Stout (Miss.)	2	Caroline Scannell (N.Y.)	1
Gertrude Bernstein (Fla.)	1	Jack Swafford (Kan.)	1
Charles Brown (Mo.)	1	Bill Vance (Tenn.)	1
Louise Chouinard (Ga.)	1	Wayne Youngblood (Mo.)	1
Stephen Chun (Ala.)	1		
LeA Coe (Ga.)	1		
Tony Curiale (N.J.)	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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For ATA membership information, change of address, ATA publication orders, back issues of *Topical Time* or ATA handbooks, contact the ATA Office. All copies of the *2011-13 ATA Membership Directory* have been sold; the *2014-16 ATA Membership Directory* should be published later this year and available from the ATA Office.

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WANTED: Features and articles that highlight the philatelic side of topicals and thematics. This includes archival, production and postal history aspects in particular. Wayne Youngblood, wystamps@gmail.com.

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Electronic membership (access *Topical Time* online): one year \$25; two years \$45; three years \$65; five years \$100. **Domestic (U.S.) membership** (print and electronic *Topical Time*): one year \$30; two years \$55; three years \$80; five years \$125. **International membership:** (print and electronic *Topical Time*): one year \$40; two years \$75; three years \$110; five years \$175. **Life membership** (print and electronic): \$1,000.

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Philatelic Journals

(Routinely mentioned in *Topical Time*)

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www.yvert-et-tellier.fr/

Canadian Stamp News: Bret Evans, editor, P.O. Box 28103, St. Catharines, Ontario, L2N 7P8, Canada

bret@trajan.ca; www.canadianstampnews.ca

Filacap: José Maurício do Prado, editor, Caixa Postal 06, Cachoeira Paulista SP, 12630-970, Brazil

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

Gibbons Stamp Monthly: Hugh Jeffries, editor, 5 Parkside, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH, United Kingdom

www.stanleygibbons.com

Israel Philatelist: Donald A. Chafetz, editor, 1943 Altonzano Dr, El Cajon CA 92020-1002 USA

sipeditor@gmail.com; www.israelstamps.com

L'Echo de la Timbrologie: editor, 37 rue des Jacobins, F-80036, Amiens, Cedex 1, France

www.echo-de-la-timbrologie.com

Linn's Stamp News: Michael Baadke, editor, P.O. Box 29, Sidney OH 45365-0029 USA

mbaadke@amospress.com; www.linns.com

Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine: John L. Leszak, editor, 42 Sentry Way, Merrimack NH 03054-4429 USA

www.stampnewsnow.com

Philatelic Exporter: Graham Phillips, editor, 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 35H, United Kingdom

www.stanleygibbons.com

Philatelic Exhibitor: Randy L. Neil, editor, P.O. Box 8512, Shawnee Mission KS 66208-8512 USA

randyneil1941@gmail.com

philatelica.ro: Dan Dobrescu, editor, Sos. Stefan CelMare Nr 4, B114 Sc B, Ap47, Bucuresti 63, 011737

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South African Philatelist: Chris Mobsby, editor, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504, South Africa

saphilatelist@africa.com.

www.philatelysa.co.za

Stamp Insider: Albert W. Starkweather, editor, 5520 Gunn Hwy. #1406, Tampa FL 33624-2847 USA.

astarkweather@nystampclubs.org

www.stampinsider.org

Stamp Lover: Michael M. Goodman, editor, The National Philatelic Society, c/o The British Museum & Archive, Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL, United Kingdom

stamplover@ukphilately.org.uk.

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.

julia.lee@mytimemedia.com

www.stampmagazine.co.uk

Stamp News Australasia: Kevin Morgan, editor, P.O. Box 1290, Upwey, Victoria, 3158, Australia

kevinnmorgan2@live.com

www.stampnews.com.au/

U.S. Stamp News: John Hotchner, editor, P.O. Box 1125, Falls Church VA 22041-0125 USA.

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Email: berndfr@cox.net

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Email: stampshow@stamps.org

Website: www.stamps.org/stampshow-ss

Sept. 12-13, 2014, Kansas. Kansas City Stamp Show, Friday and Saturday, Sept. 12-13, 2014, 9:30 am to 5 pm, Gladstone Community Center, 6901 N Holmes St., Gladstone, Mo. Free admission and parking, free appraisals and giveaways every hour. Contact: Dale Smith (816) 734-4536.

Email: smidale@umkc.edu

Oct. 25-26, 2014, Ohio. Cuy-LorPex 2014, 56th annual show and bourse sponsored by the Cuy-Lor stamp club, featuring USPS Battle of Fort McHenry Stamp, Rocky River Civic Center's Memorial Hall, 21016 Hiflardi Boulevard, Rocky River, Ohio. Free parking, no admission charge, more than 30 frames of exhibits, 15 dealers, USPS substation and "New Collectors," special show postmarks. Contact: Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, P.O. Box 161064, Rocky River OH 44116.

Email: caylorstampclub@hotmail.com

Nov. 1-2, 2014, Michigan. AAPEx 2014, Ann Arbor Stamp Club show. Morris Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron Drive, Ann Arbor, Mich. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4, 29 dealers from 10 states; exhibits; youth table; cachetmakers Saturday; Peninsular State Philatelic Society Sat 2pm. Free parking and admission. Contact Harry & Dottie Winter (734) 761-5859.

Email: harwin@umich.edu

Website: www.wichitastampclub.org

To receive a listing in this column, send details to Wayne L. Youngblood, 4615 Lindell Blvd Apt 1102, Saint Louis MO 63108-3720, or by email to: wystamps@gmail.com. Please submit show dates at least four months prior to the show.

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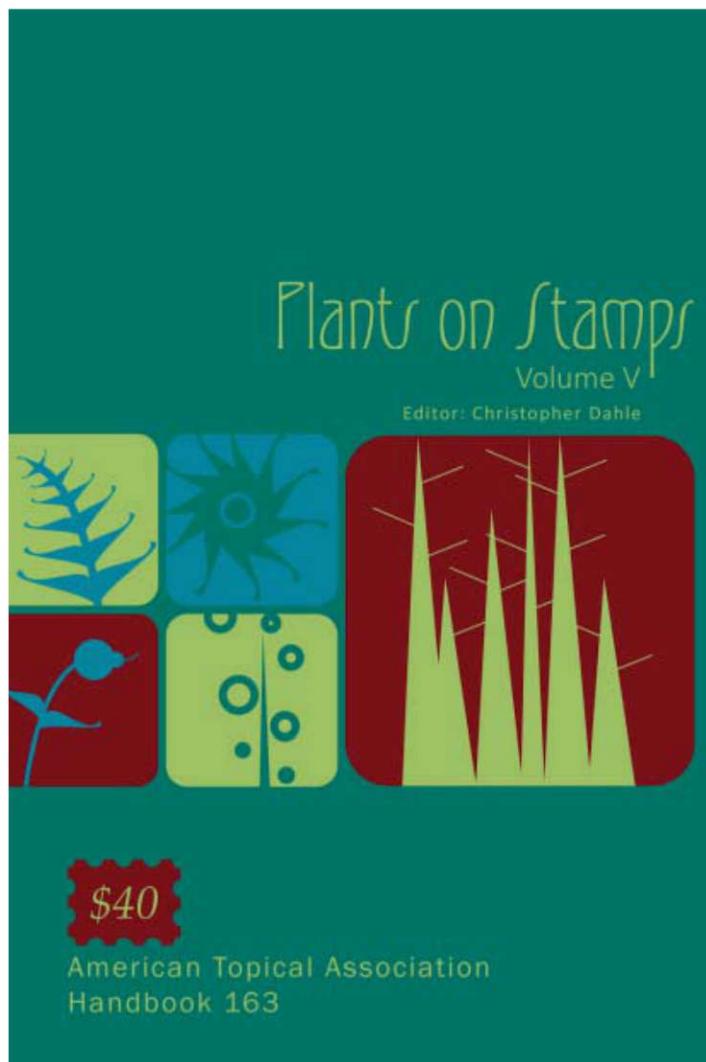
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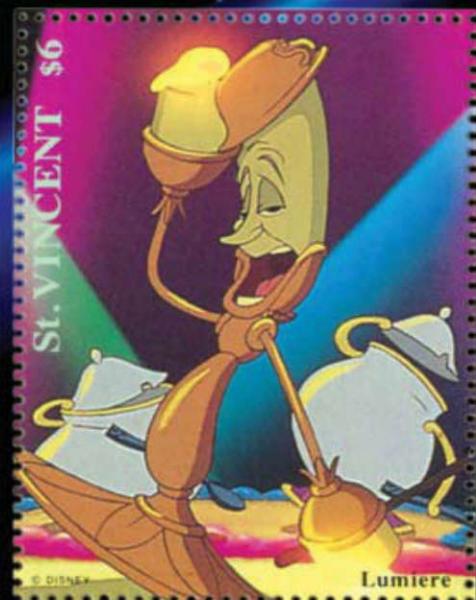
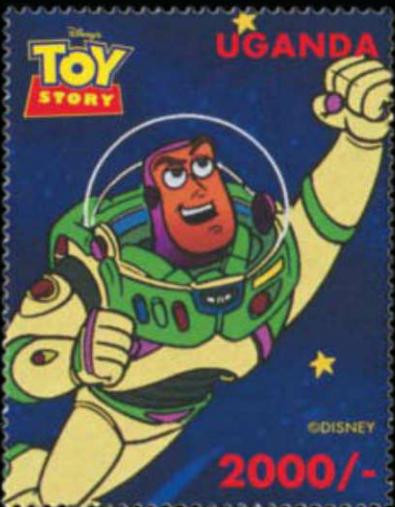
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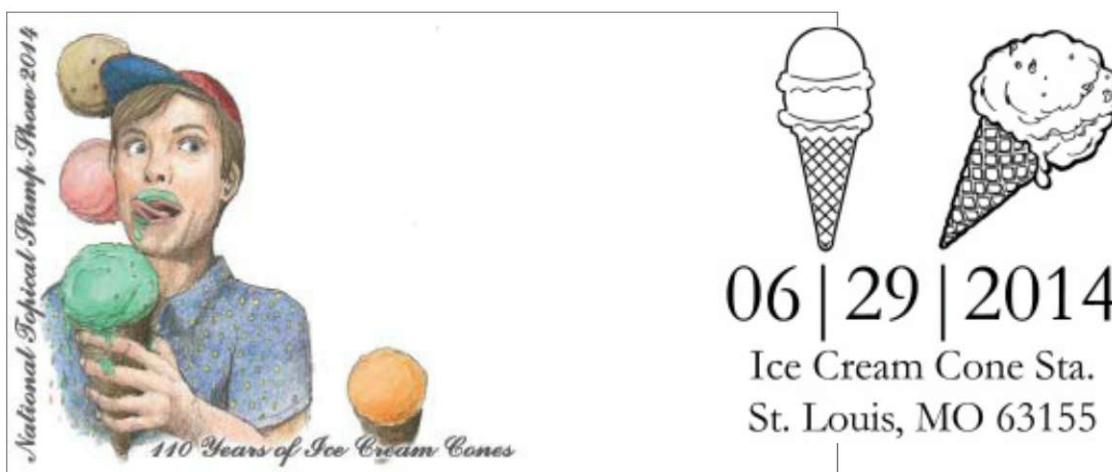
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NTSS 2014 CACHETS

The NTSS 2014 cachet artist was Thomas Minor. Tom designs the cachets for his local WSP show, the St. Louis Stamp Expo, and has a loyal following. Cancellations are by Chris Lazaroff, cachetmaker and former president of AFDCS. Thanks to Tom and Chris, who are both long-time members of ATA. See p. 34 for more information.

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NTSS 2014

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John Colasanti produced 25 numbered Limited Edition Cachets for ATA, and donated all the costs for production. John's work is much in demand among first day cover collectors. He won ATA's cachet contest in 2011 and is a past member of the Board of Directors of the American First Day Cover Society and current President of the Cachet Makers Association. A few complete sets are still available (three cachets, all with same number). If you want a matched set, do order soon! See p. 34 of this issue.



06 | 27 | 2014

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06 | 28 | 2014

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