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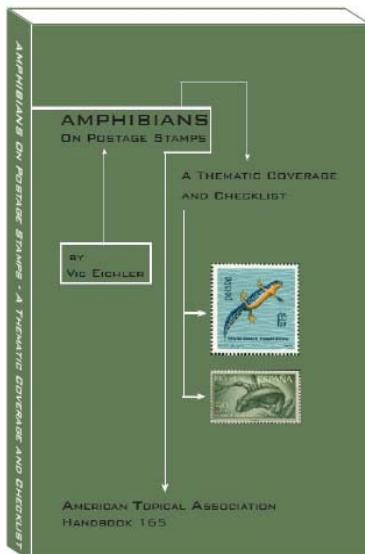
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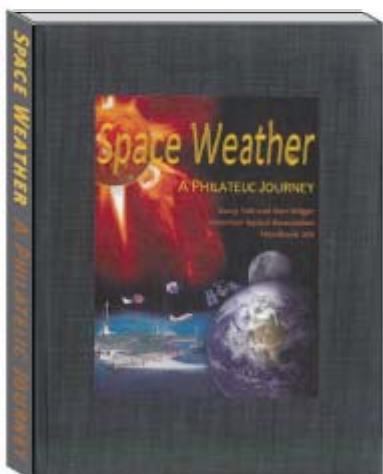
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**Digital** (166-E): \$35 (\$30 for ATA Members) + \$1.50 for shipping within the US/Canada, \$3.50 to other countries

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# 2018 ATA Officers and Board of Directors

## ATA Founder

Jerome D. Husak (1932-2018)

## Elected Officials

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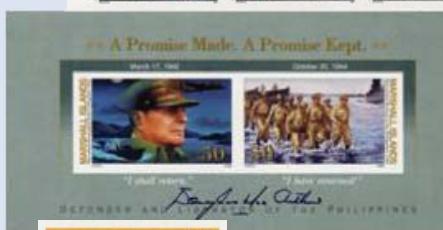
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## DALE'S DIALOGUE

Dale Smith, ATA President

### Annual Meeting & Challenges

Hello ATA members. I am writing this just two weeks before our Board of Directors meeting and your annual meeting at the Stampshow/National Topical Stamp Show. All of this is taking place in Columbus, Ohio, the second week of August. For the first time ever, we have joined forces with the APS and are having what promises to be a very large event – the largest show in this country this year! I understand that we have more than 200 topical members signed up to attend the four-day show. Many more will no doubt show up. With close to 125 dealers, this should be quite a spectacular bourse.

There will be many meetings for organizations, boards of directors, study units and committees. There will be exhibits, awards ceremonies and evening dinners throughout the week. A lot has to get done at meetings like this.

I have just completed the agenda for our board of directors. This meeting takes place before the show on Tuesday evening, continuing Wednesday morning. Your directors have to pay for two additional days in the hotel and parking to conduct ATA business. We will welcome our four newly elected Board members: Carol Costa, Don Neal, Tom Broadhead and John Leszak.

I also am close to finishing the ATA's annual meeting agenda. This is a meeting for all ATA members able to attend. All board meetings are important, but this one is of great significance to ATA. We have to approve new contracts for our Executive Director, Vera Felts, and *Topical Time* editor Wayne Youngblood.

### COVER STOCK ENVELOPES

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We will review our Boldly To The Future campaign that many members have so generously supported this last year. We will review the results of two special fund drives: the Jerry Husak Visionary Fund and the Day of Giving fund drive. We are dependent on those funds to provide ATA services for you; it is one-third of our income. First Vice President Dawn Hamman is the chair of this committee and has continued efforts to personally acknowledge your donations this year. We do not take your generosity for granted. Thank you!

I mentioned earlier that this board meeting is of great significance to ATA. We have to address the vast changes that are happening to philately today. You have heard the talk. We, the collectors for decades, are going away. And very few younger collectors are interested in stamp collecting. And, if they do develop an interest, most are not joining the organizations such as ATA, American Philatelic Society, American First Day Cover Society and others. All organizational memberships are dropping precipitously. All of us are focused on how we can change this.

At this board meeting, your directors will address, once again, what changes need to be made to maintain the viability of the American Topical Association. How can we reverse the loss of membership? We have been successful in recruiting over the past years with our Ambassador Program and assertive members who are great at recruiting at shows. What else have we not tried that might work? If the answer was easy it would already have been done.

When you have a loss of membership you have a loss of revenue. A loss of revenue means you must make that up somewhere else to continue to provide the same level of services to members. I have been president of several boards throughout my career. I have never seen an organization keep costs under such tight control as the ATA. Recently, we decided to eliminate several more budget items to keep our costs to the bare minimum. Where else can we save dollars? What can we do that reduces the cost to run this organization? The directors' goal is to keep providing all of the services we currently have for you.

But we cannot do things as they have been done before. We have to make some difficult decisions and we will. You will see some changes, hopefully for the benefit of ATA and you. And we will keep you informed of these changes.

You've heard me say this before; there is a very bright spot for our organization. If individuals – regardless of age – do become collectors, they most likely will turn to topicals. Almost everyone realizes that topical collecting is the future of philately. That is what drives those of us on the board to find answers.

As I mentioned, I have written this before the board meeting in August for one reason. I realize that most members cannot attend the annual meeting. I want you to be informed about your organization's actions. My message in the next issue will be what decisions were made at the August board meeting and how they will benefit you. ☐

## What's your collecting passion?

Consider sharing it as an article in *Topical Time*!

# About ATA

For information about contacting the ATA Office or our leaders, please see Page 4.

## Four Busy Days!

This issue includes some highlights of the combined APS StampShow and ATA National Topical Stamp Show in Columbus, Ohio. Many thanks to the study units and societies that participated, as well as to our ATA members who gave programs. (and all the volunteers)

## All Aboard!

Our collaboration with APS was so successful that we have agreed to hold a joint show again in 2019, in Omaha, Neb., from Aug. 1-4. Collectors of railroad-related topics won't want to miss this event, which will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the completion of the first Transcontinental Railroad and the driving of the Golden Spike. It extended 1,912 miles to connect the existing eastern U.S. railroad network at Omaha with the Pacific Coast at San Francisco.

## What's First?

ATA's exciting new handbook, *What's First?*, is now available from the ATA office and at shows where ATA has a booth. Written by 40-year ATA member Jack Gray, *What's First?* describes and shows larger-than-life-size scans of the first time a topic



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appeared on a worldwide stamp. More than 800 topics are included. See this issue of *Topical Time* or the ATA website for more information. This book is a great addition to every collector's library.

### A Successful Tribute

On May 25, we celebrated the birthday and legacy of ATA founder Jerry Husak, who died earlier this year. We combined this special tribute with our annual ATA Day of Giving, which we celebrate on Jerry's birthday. More than 60 generous members contributed \$2,931, and donations are still coming in.

### New ATA Chapters Coordinator

Ann Byerly has been named coordinator for ATA chapters. A retired college nursing instructor, Ann is a lifelong stamp collector who has a nearly complete collection of nurses on stamps. She is an active member and newsletter editor of the Crescent City Stamp Club in New Orleans. She enjoys giving programs on topical collecting and is looking forward to working with ATA chapters to facilitate sharing of program ideas. Many thanks to Fred Skavara for his fine work as ATA Chapters Coordinator these past years.

### Just for the Bird Collectors

Beth Scully, assistant checklist coordinator, shared the great news that all of the 80+ ATA birds checklists have been upgraded and scientific and common names included. If you have ordered a birds checklist since May 2014, now would be a good time to ask for your free update. Our checklist workers continue to expand and improve our checklists.

### Volunteers Needed

**Coordinator for Advertising Marketing.** We need an enthusiastic volunteer to contact potential advertisers for *Topical Time* and our website. This important position involves contacting current and potential advertisers to expand our advertising base.

**International Outreach.** ATA has members in 44 countries. We invite our international members to join a committee to develop international relationships and form a council of ambassadors in other countries to help their philatelic organiza-

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tions and attract new members to ATA. Please let us know if you would like more information about becoming involved.

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## Recent Stamp Events and New Members

**June 16-17**, Huntspex '18, Huntsville, Ala. **Ambassador:** Vera Felts. New Members: 4 (update from last issue)

**June 22-24**, Royal 2018 Royale, St. Catharines, Ont., Canada. **Ambassadors:** Larry Davidson, Dawn Hamman, John Hamman. New member: 1

**July 20-22**, Minnesota Stamp Expo, Crystal, Minn. **Ambassador:** Beth Collins. New member: 1

**July 21-22**, Evergreen Stamp Club Summer Exhibition, Kent, Wash. **Ambassador:** Keith Edholm.

**July 28-29**, Charpex, Charlotte, N.C. **Ambassadors:** Barbara Asher, LeA Coe. New members: 3

**Aug. 9-12**, APS StampShow/National Topical StampShow, Columbus, Ohio. **Ambassadors:** Tom Broadhead, Sue Bruce, Ann Byerly, Mike Clark, Beth Collins, Jack Congrove, Carol Costa, Tony Curiale, Chris Dahle, Larry Davidson, Jack André Denys, Mary Anne Denys, Carol Downs, Mike Downs, Igor Grigorian, Dawn Hamman, John Hamman, Adriana Hayward, Jeff Hayward, Bob Jarvis, Marci Jarvis, Jennifer Miller, Don Neal, Aldona Pilus, Laurie Ryan, Lynn Vernon, Amy Wieting, Dorothy Youngblood, Wayne Youngblood. **New members: 55!!**

**Aug. 11**, Strait Stamp Show, Sequim, Wash. **Ambassador:** Keith Edholm.

## Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at These Upcoming Shows

**Sept. 14-16**, Milcopex, Milwaukee, Wis. (see Bob Mather) [www.milwaukeephilatelic.org](http://www.milwaukeephilatelic.org)

**Sept. 14-16**, Seapex, Tukwila, Wash. (see Keith Edholm) [www.seapexshow.org](http://www.seapexshow.org)

**Sept. 15-16**, FSDA Orlando Fall Stamp Show, Orlando, Fla. (see Newt Kulp) [www.floridastampdealers.org/shows.html](http://www.floridastampdealers.org/shows.html)

**Sept. 29**, Waxahachie Chautauqua, Waxahachie, Tex. (see Ray or Karen Cartier) [www.waxahachiechautauqua.org](http://www.waxahachiechautauqua.org)

**Oct. 13-14**, Canpex, London, Ont, Canada (see Larry Davidson) [www.canpex.ca](http://www.canpex.ca)

**Oct. 19-21**, Nojex/ASDA, East Rutherford, N.J. (see Fred Skvara or Allan Fisk) [www.nojex.org](http://www.nojex.org)

## **TRUE STORY OF THE STAMP TRADE'S BIGGEST PROBLEM**

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

**Managing Director Andrew McGavin of Universal Philatelic Auctions explains:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **The Universal Unique Reducing Estimate lot system was born**

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

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

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

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

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**Please contribute to the 2018 ATA Boldly to the Future fund today...  
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# Husak Tribute a Great Success

Thanks to the generosity of ATA members, our ATA Day of Giving and Jerry Husak Tribute funds have raised \$2,931. As we previously announced, a portion of those donations will be used for much-needed computer upgrades in the ATA office.

This year's ATA Day of Giving, held on May 25, Husak's birthday, was a joyous tribute to the man who founded ATA in 1949. His legacy continues in the pleasure that topical collectors around the world derive from their hobby.

Our Boldly to the Future annual gifts continue to provide the support needed for ATA staff and services. Our board and many other members have contributed generously. As you consider making tax-deductible contributions this year, please keep ATA in mind, and help us reach our goal to maintain and improve the services we all enjoy.

## BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!

<b>2018 BTTF Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>
<b>Received as of July 31</b>	<b>\$ 21,405</b>
<b>Pledged, to be received</b>	<b>\$ 5,512</b>
<b>Amount needed to reach BTTF goal</b>	<b>\$ 13,083</b>

**ATA's budget depends on your gifts. Every dollar you give helps to reach our goal! You can send your 2018 gift in any of these ways:**

- **Check** drawn on U.S. bank in U.S.funds (preferable because it saves us fees) payable to "ATA," PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008 USA.
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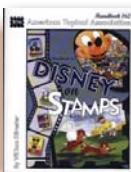


## VERA'S VIEWS

*Vera Felts, ATA Executive Director*

## APRL Donations

I have great news! Our “Adopt A Book for the APRL” project has ended with our wonderful ATA members adopting every single new ATA handbook to be given to the American Philatelic Research Library. As this is being written, bookplates are being prepared for each book with the donor names inscribed. I am very grateful for the following ATA members who each donated one or more books: **Susan Bruce, Beth Collins, Dawn and John Hamman, Wendy Niem, Michael Turrini and Wayne and Dorothy Youngblood.** Your books are being presented to Scott Tiffany, Director of the American Philatelic Research Library, during APS StampShow/ATA National Topical Stamp Show in Columbus.



**Postage Donations:** All through the spring and summer, our members have continued to remember us with postage donations. Some days have been like “Christmas in July.” Thanks go to the following additional members who have contributed mint postage to ATA this year: **Jerry Belber, Bernard Bucholz, Bob Burney, Ed Chaney, Bill Eubanks, Lucy Eyster (two donations), Raymond Havlicek, Robert E. Johnson, David Kulbago, Patricia Mutch, Bob and Pat Quintero, John Reynhart, Dale Smith, Wayne Svoboda, Ronnell Townsend, Jim Uline and Carrie Walkiewicz.** Your ATA thanks you for sharing your extra stamps with us – and other ATA members will be receiving them on their letters and packages from us.

**Two Lovely Ladies:** I was so saddened recently to learn of the deaths of two of our longtime members. One was **Elizabeth C. Wolf**, of Minnesota, who lived more than a century and who had been a member of ATA since 1974. Elizabeth’s daughter, Suzanne Keist, called to let us know of her mother’s passing. Elizabeth had faithfully paid her ATA dues every year for 43 years, and especially loved Christmas stamps and *Topical Time*.

Our other loss was another special lady, **Lina Sharp**, of Nevada. Lina was 98 years young and had been an ATA member for 62 years. She always enclosed a generous donation to BTTF with her annual dues payment. Lina loved to call the ATA Office after reading *Topical Time* to tell us how much she enjoyed the latest issue. After she read Agbenyega Adedze’s feature story on Ghanian stamps in the Jul-Aug 2015 issue of our journal, she sent pillows she had made from Ghanian fabrics acquired when she visited her daughter while serving in the Peace Corps – those pillows were then passed on to Agbenyega. Lina always wanted us to visit her Blue

Eagle Ranch, where she lived by herself for 50 years after her husband died. When her daughter Helene called to tell us of her death, we were so saddened to learn that this wonderful lady, who often shared stamp collecting fun with youths in the Native American school in her area, is no longer with us. But her spirit will always live on in our hearts.

**Ambassadors bring color to shows:** Our ATA Ambassadors bring color to stamp shows everywhere! **Keith and Carol Edholm** set up a bright display wherever they go in the Pacific Northwest. Not many showgoers can resist stopping by to talk with Keith when they see the interesting items on the ATA table. The accompanying photo was snapped by **Jack Congrove**.

ATA is grateful to the many stamp shows around the country – both local and national – that provide society table space to us. Having societies represented brings a richness and depth to stamp shows, and most organizers show appreciation to ATA and its Ambassador volunteers. Recently I attended Huntspex in Alabama, a show sponsored by our newest ATA affiliate, the Huntsville Stamp Club. A bag filled with “goodies,” including a Huntspex mug and local maps/info, was presented to me as the club’s thank you to a national society having a table at the local show, and lunch was also provided each day. Other stamp shows have given appreciation in the form of awards banquet tickets, offers of lodging and free “dealer” lunch, even though ATA is not a dealer that rents a booth. Having societies at shows makes for a good symbiotic relationship!



**Farewell Summer ... and StampShow/NTSS:** More than 200 ATA members preregistered for NTSS this year, and many others registered when they arrived in Columbus. Our annual show – pairing with APS – was a grand experiment that seemed more successful than anyone thought possible! Your support of ATA activities like NTSS is so appreciated, and it was very nice to meet so many old and new members enjoying the largest U.S. stamp show since NY2016. We look forward to seeing all of you – and many more – next August in Omaha, Neb.! ☺



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## WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

*Wayne L. Youngblood, Topical Time Editor*

### ATA's Special Stamp Purchase

When Executive Director Vera Felts purchased 40 panes of the brand-new Dragon stamps on Aug. 9 (the first day) to affix to the official ATA cachets to get serviced, she had no idea that ATA would soon have its own chapter in philatelic error history.

Upon returning to the ATA booth, Vera gave the panes to Jack Congrove and Larry Davidson to begin the process of affixing stamps to covers, Jack noticed he was having difficulties separating the stamps from the backing paper.

It didn't take him long to realize that there were no perforations in the bottom row of stamps!

A bit more sleuthing showed that a number of



*Above: Graham Beck, the philatelic YouTube wonder, caught Jack Congrove on camera as he was leaving the USPS booth sometime during the show.*

*Left: The red arrows indicate where the die-cutting appears on one pane of stamps. This die-cutting shift, approximately 2½ inches upward, leaves a completely imperforate bottom row – a major error.*



### About the Cover

An unidentified collector spends time in the exhibits area at StampShow/NTSS 2018 in Columbus, Ohio. The composition, color and reflections were eye-catching. He was apparently greatly enjoying the philatelic exhibits! ☺

the panes from the center of the pile (14 total) all had die-cutting shifts that rendered the bottom row completely imperforate. Coincidentally, the bottom row forms a complete set of four different imperforate Dragons stamps. The remainder of each pane featured varying degrees of severe misperforations and perforated selvage at top.

Shortly afterward, Vera marched over to the *Linn's Stamp News* booth and reported the error to editor Jay Bigalke, who confirmed their status as major errors. They will be listed in the 2020 Volume I *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, which will be released in April 2019. The panes were given to me to handle on behalf of the ATA.

Vera, Jack and other ATA officials waited with bated breath all weekend for reports of additional error panes to be discovered. Although there were other mis-slit die-cut freaks reported, no other reports of imperforate stamps ever surfaced. So, at least for now, this small group remains the only reported discovery.

ATA is offering these to collectors and dealers at fair market value (if interested, please contact the editor or ATA Office). If no other panes turn up, these likely will increase significantly in value, since they can be collected in complete imperf sets and a small quantity presumably exists. None were applied to first-day covers. The stamps were printed and processed by Banknote Corp. of America.

### ***Topical Time* Receives Large Gold**

Another pleasant surprise at StampShow/NTSS 2018 occurred when the awards were posted for philatelic literature.

Although *Topical Time* has received numerous gold awards during the past several

years, this show marks the first Large Gold received under the new judging criteria. Only two other publications received this high of an honor: *Postal History Journal* (Postal History Society), and *LaPosta: The Journal of American Postal History* (published privately).

I am extremely proud of the journal our members have helped to create and look forward to its continued evolution over time! ☺



*This photo, taken at a slight angle, shows the reflection of just how far off the die-cutting was on this pane of error stamps. Although every pane in the find of 14 contains a completely imperforate bottom row, the extent of miscutting differs from pane to pane. The most minor type is die cut just above the word "Forever."*





## TOPICAL POSTLINE

### *Letters to the Editor*

#### DTP Thank You

I would like to thank Jean Stout and her Distinguished Topical Philatelist selection team for choosing me as the American Topical Association's 2018 Distinguished Topical Philatelist. I really appreciate this prestigious award.

Although I have been a member of the ATA since 1979, all my philatelic energies of the past 20 years have gone into ensuring the survival of one of the ATA's study groups: Journalists, Authors and Poets On Stamps (JAPOS), serving as its president and editing its newsletter *The JAPOS Bulletin*.

And even in this endeavor, I have had valuable help from JAPOS members, including Jeff Dugdale, who writes more than half of the bulletin's content and publishes our internet issue; former secretary-treasurer Sol Baltimore, who publishes our snail mail bulletins; new treasurer Christopher Cook; our vice president, Mark Winnegrad, who feeds me new issues and new members; Jeff Hayward, who has voluntarily scanned all our back issues; Joyce Poole Slack, who has indexed every bulletin since 1990; our best-kept secret, Marianne Gelbert, who can send you a checklist of stamps devoted to any writer or any country's writers; and others. On behalf of them all, I accept this honor."

#### Need ATA info fast?

[www.americantopicalassn.org](http://www.americantopicalassn.org)  
[www.ata-becauseyoubelong.org](http://www.ata-becauseyoubelong.org)

In addition, as I turned 85 at the end of July, I can tell you that the DTP award was the best birthday present I ever received.

— Clete Delvaux  
*Green Bay, Wis.*  
*Via email*

#### Oops!

I really enjoyed your article on selling stamps at auction (*Topical Time*, May-June 2018, Page 16). This should be required reading for any serious collector.

Also I learned that, unless there is a new word in the dictionary, you are human like the rest of us. I don't believe I have ever heard of "An auctioneer's perspective."

You have been doing a great job with *Topical Time*. I hope I speak for many when I say that you are really appreciated.

— Lawrence Clay  
*Via email*

*Lawrence, thank you for your very kind comments. I'm always glad to hear the magazine is being enjoyed. Of course we try to provide as flawless a reading experience for you as possible, but occasional typos are inevitable, as we all know.*

*A house we once owned contained much hand-carved corner block moulding. The former owner pointed out to us that Scandinavian woodworkers intentionally left a flaw in the carving so as not to offend God. That's my story, and I'm sticking to it...*

— Wayne

# SPARKS

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## AUCTIONS

### Jack Gray's Important Topical Collections to be Sold at Auction on September 27th, 2018

Always eager to embrace the obscure and challenging, Jack Gray's ever expanding list of topical collections included Umbrellas, Undersea Cables, and Unicorns under "U". An accomplished professional playwright and author, Jack brought these talents plus an encyclopedic knowledge to enhance his write-up of topical philately and recently his magnum opus on topical collecting "What's First?" was published by ATA.

Sparks Auctions is excited to offer his 300 plus cubic feet of collections with hundreds of topics in our September 26th & 27th, 2018 sale. Please visit [sparks-auctions.com](http://sparks-auctions.com) for information on our upcoming auction.

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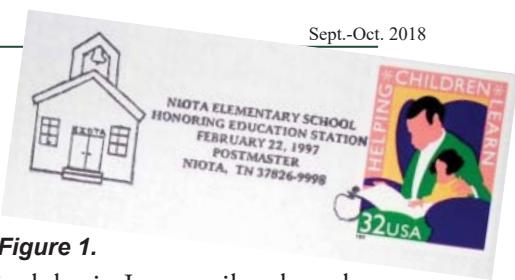


## TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

*George DeKornfeld*

### School House Blues

Figure 1.



Minutes seemed to turn into hours on that final day in June until, at last, that blasted bell rang. The collective sigh heard throughout the building was instantaneously followed by squeals of glee at that newfound freedom happily known as "Summer Vacation." Free at last, free at last ... sleeping late, hanging out, barbeques, swimming, camp ... life was, as it turned out, splendid indeed. Well, as that age-old saying goes: "all good things must come to an end" so, by the time you've got this issue of *Topical Time* in hand, all those smiling faces have turned decidedly equine (you know, a horse walks into a bar and the bartender asks "Why the long face?"). How? How on earth could summer have passed by so quickly? Simple. June is that time of year when, particularly for school-aged folks, the time paradigm actually reverses itself and hours temporarily morph into minutes ... but only until September, when its time to go back to school. And, while we're on the subject of paradigm shifts, note that it's the parents that now, albeit oftentimes secretly, are the ones smiling.

To acknowledge the time of year, this time around let's check out some school-themed pictorial postmarks that, as you'll see, include some pretty nifty markings for various types of institutions of learning, many of whom lend themselves to additional topics.

Let's kick off with a cancellation that takes us back to our humble beginnings here in the United States. Figure 1 provides us with a pictorial of the one-room school house, a marking used at Niota, Tenn., in 1997 for the Niota Elementary School's tribute to education. Today, serving the needs of almost 600 enrolled students from pre-kindergarten to the eighth grade, the Niota School complex has expanded considerably in size, the building illustrated having become, I suspect,

a tad cramped. And, for those of us inclined to be topically fruity, note the teacher's apple at the bottom right of the marking.

Figure 2 presents us with a mix of our school topic, along with that of space ex-

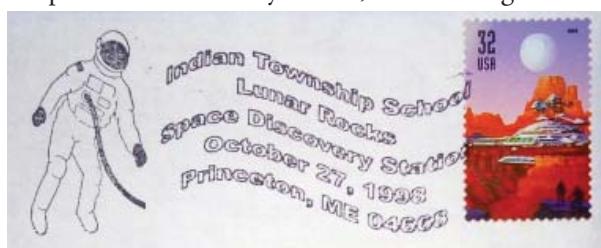


Figure 2.

ploration, with a marking used in Princeton, Maine, in 1998 for the Indian Township School. This public elementary school, located on the Passamaquoddy Indian Township Reservation, closed its doors in 2016, with students ending up at The Princeton Elementary School, just a little more than a mile away. Clearly, some classes had been studying events held north of the Earth's exosphere and, as a result, we are fortunate enough to end up with this nifty pictorial that includes wordplay ("Lunar Rocks") and a terrific concordance with the stamp issue it's used upon. Two days

after this pictorial was used, on Oct. 29, John Glenn, the first American to orbit earth (in 1962), returned to space aboard the space shuttle *Discovery* STS-95 as a payload specialist, becoming the oldest man ever to have flown in space.

Our last American example is one of the so-called digital color post-

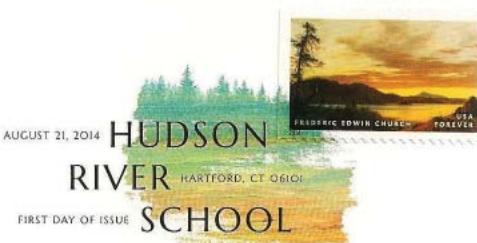
marks. When these non-mailed collectibles were first offered by the U.S. Postal Service, my initial reaction, along with that of many of our peers, was a “meh ... no like,” but I have to admit that, over time, I’ve developed a fondness for these. It’s obviously the fault of that blasted “collecting gene” many of us are blessed (or is it cursed?) with. Most DCPs are well designed and quite attractive, and our example in Figure 3 certainly fits that bill. See how the trees in the pictorial blend almost perfectly into the landscape found on the stamp. Used in 2014 as a first-day marking in Hartford, Conn., our pictorial commemorates The Hudson River School.

Now, it’s not out of the realm of possibility that I *may* have taken a *slight* liberty with our definition of the word “school” here. The Hudson River School isn’t really a school, *per se*, but rather refers to a mid-19th-century landscape art movement of member artists painting scenes of – predominantly – the Hudson River Valley of New York. The stamp in Figure 3 is one such landscape, titled *Sunset*, and was painted by Frederic Edwin Church, one of the founders of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. The largest collection of Hudson River School paintings is held at the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford, explaining why our pictorial was used there.

Returning to schools with an actual physical presence, let’s zip across “The Pond” to enjoy a few United Kingdom pictorials. Our first example, from Scotland, com-

memorates The Royal School of Dunkeld’s 400th anniversary. Loosely run by abbots at a nearby Cathedral beforehand, this grammar school was granted a Royal Charter all the way back in 1567 during King James VI’s reign. The school’s Coat of Arms, seen in our 1967 example, depicts a Bishop’s miter as a reminder of the school’s origins (Figure 4).

Up next is a marking used in 1969 for the 50th anniversary of the Royal Air Force’s Number-1 Flight Training School (Figure 5). Formed in 1919, this school was originally located in Netheravon, Wiltshire, in the southwest of England on



**Figure 3.**



**Figure 4.**



**Figure 5.**

the River Avon. Following five reincarnations, in 1957 it ended up farther north in Linton-on-Ouse, North Yorkshire, where today it provides basic training for pilots and navigators of the RAF and the Royal Navy, as well as those of the British Commonwealth. As an aside, I recall skipping to the post office in Knightsbridge to buy one of the Prince Charles stamps like the one found in our example when it was first issued. Seeing Charles on television today has me thinking how aged this heir-apparent to the English throne looks now compared with how he appears on that stamp that went into my Windsor Album almost 50 years ago. I can't believe how old people my age look...

The Red Maids' school in Westbury-on-Trym (the "W.O.T" in our marking, Figure 6), Bristol, founded in 1634, is the oldest surviving independent



**Figure 6.**

**Figure 7.** a meaningful way. Today, the school serves girls aged from four to 18 years old on its extensive campus. Our 1984 pictorial celebrates the school's 350th anniversary.

Let's quickly check out two final pictorials from Great Britain. Figure 7 is a 2001 first-day marking commemorating The Hope Primary School. This community school serves Hope Valley, a village in Derbyshire, by enrolling both boys and girls aged from four to 11. Judging by the stamps in our example, this must be a pretty fun place!

Figure 8 celebrates the 70th anniversary of the Malet Lambert secondary school for 11 to 18-year-olds, located in



- 5 JUL '84

girls' school in England. Its progenitor, the Red Maids' Hospital, served as an orphanage where girls were taught to read, sew and to get ready to enter society in



**Figure 8.**



Kingston-upon-Hull, East Riding, Yorkshire. Opening in 1932, this school is named after Joseph Malet Lambert (1853-1931) an Anglican churchman who, oddly enough, was directly involved in a rather sordid instance of child abuse involving a girl he and his wife had taken in to train as a servant. The girl, malnourished and beaten, was removed from their home by the local constabulary. Our rather busy pictorial also includes a couple of items, part of the school's crest, for those of us bird-topical-inclined.

While we're in the area, let's zip over to the Isle of Man and a pictorial that celebrates the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Castletown High School for Girls, an independent primary school and junior school of King William's College. After 1975, when our marking was used, this school was renamed the Buchan School after Laura, Lady Buchan, nee Wilks (1797-1888), a major landowner on the isle known both for her philanthropy and her travels to St. Helena, where she met

with Napoleon Bonaparte in 1834. Presumably, the hat featured in the pictorial is – or was – part of the school uniform. In 1991, the Buchan changed to a co-educational preparatory school (Figure 9).

Figure 10 brings us over to the Bailiwick of Jersey where a different (as well as a definitely more risky) type of education can be had. This marking commemo-

**Figure 10.** rates the 40th anniversary of the Royal Air Force's Empire Test Pilots' School, founded in 1943. Originally located at Boscombe Down, this flight school moved to Cranfield and then Farnborough before returning to Boscombe in 1968. The first of its kind, this school's launch was necessitated by the high mortality rate incurred by pilots testing the many new aircraft produced during World War II. Other countries soon took notice and introduced their own test pilot schools such as, for example, the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School located at Edwards Air Force Base that opened in 1944.

Another case where the pictorial blends in perfectly (so well, in fact, one wonders if this wasn't done on purpose) can be found in our "Down Under" example in Figure 11. This 1991 first-day marking celebrates the centennial of Australia's First School of Horticulture, Burnley College, located in the state of Victoria. Built on a site that held



Figure 9.

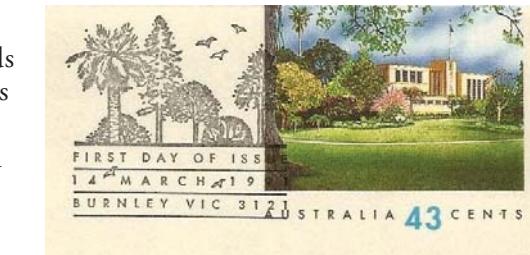
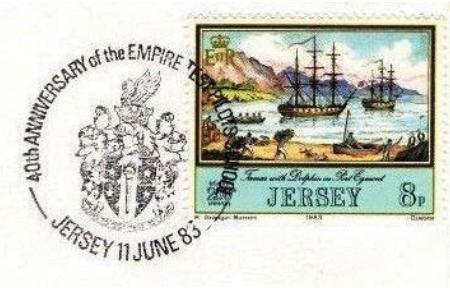


Figure 11.



**Figure 12.** A tory with a brobdingnagian (isn't that a super word?) barrier reef well known to those of us who enjoy the sport of scuba diving. Given the French proclivity towards fine dining, which can only come about by fine cooking, it comes as no large surprise that our islands hold a school, amongst other things, dedicated to the art of gastronomic endeavors. Figure 12 is a first-day pictorial, used in 1999, that commemorates the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Auguste-Escoffier Commercial and Hotel School, located at Pointe de l'Artillerie in the city of Nouméa.

Our second New Caledonia example, also a first-day marking, was used in 1993 to celebrate the General and Technological High School, located in Grand Nouméa, a section of Nouméa City proper.

A boarding school, this funky-looking structure appears more like a sports arena than the boring, rectangular school buildings most of us grew up with (Figure 13).

A (very) quick trip to Europe takes us to a country that, at the time our next pictorial was used, was called Czechoslovakia. This 1969 marking, along with the stamp it's struck upon, commemorates the *storočnica* (centenary) of the opening of a grammar school located in Kláštor pod Znievom, a village in the Žilina district of northwestern Slovakia, and a nexus for the then-Slovak nationalist movement. This was the third grammar school founded by the Slovaks during this tumultuous time, yet all three were shut down in 1874 by the Hungarian government as part of its intended "Magyarization" of the region (Figure 14).



**Figure 14.** During the War of the Pacific between Chile, Peru and Bolivia, when

gardens established by the local Horticultural Society in 1863, the grand opening of these being marked by the planting of a California Redwood (us "Yanks" get around, don't we?), the school itself was opened in 1891. The tree, which still survives, along with the well-maintained gardens, makes for a perfect setting for this institution's purpose.

Moving around 800 miles eastward and into the Pacific Ocean, we next find ourselves visiting New Caledonia, a French terri-



**Figure 13.**

As sailing ships are an ever-popular topic amongst us collectors, Figure 15 brings us to a marking commemorating the 150th anniversary (in 1972) of the Arturo Prat Naval School, found in Valparaíso, Chile. With its motto "Honor and Homeland, Efficiency and Discipline," this school is named after Agustín Arturo Prat Chacón, a naval officer and national hero who was killed in 1879

his wooden corvette, the *Esmeralda*, was destroyed by the Peruvian ironclad flagship, the *Huáscar* (giving credence to the sage old saying, “never bring a knife to a gun fight”).

We'll finish up with a couple of examples used in India. The first of these, a pictorial used in 2002, salutes the Anglo Bengali Inter College (ABIC), located in Allahabad, a city located in northern India; the marking itself having been applied in Mumbai (formerly Bombay), the country's largest city and the capital of the Indian state of Maharashtra. ABIC, a secondary school for boys founded in 1875 and today a World Heritage site, prides itself on its linguistics, teaching in English, Hindi, Sanskrit, Urdu and Bengali (Figure 16).

In keeping with gender equal time, our last pictorial, applied at Kolkata (formerly Calcutta) in 2006, commemorates the Indraprastha Girls School, a Hindu senior secondary (high) school located in Jama Masjid, Delhi. Having been founded in

1904, it took some serious convincing to get parents to send their daughters to this first all-girls school that opened in their capital. Promising to maintain Hindu culture and to minimize western influence, the launch, however, ended up being successful. Today, classes are taught in the English language (Figure 17).

So now, our final bell has jingled, and

hopefully you've enjoyed our brief survey almost as much as you enjoy watching the kids return to school. In the timeless words of American novelist Edgar Watson Howe: *If there were no schools to take the children away from home part of the time, the insane asylums would be filled with mothers.*

I'll leave you with this:

Early one morning, a mother went in to wake up her son.

“Wake up, son. It's time to go to school”

“But why, Mom? I don't want to go.”

“Give me two reasons why you don't want to go.” “Well, the kids hate me for one, and the teachers hate me, too!”

“Oh, that's no reason not to go to school. Come on now and get ready.” “Give me two reasons why I should go to school.”

“Well, for one, you're 52 years old. And for another, you're the Principal!”

Cheers, until next time. ☺



**Figure 15.**



**Figure 16.**



**Figure 17.**

# **2019 ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist**

## **Nominations Are Now Being Accepted**

It is the hope of the DTP Selection Team that individuals, study units and chapters will actively consider nominating an individual for this very prestigious recognition. The Distinguished Topical Philatelist for 2019 will be the highest award ATA presents in Omaha, Neb., during the joint APS StampShow/National Topical Stamp Show, which will be held Aug. 1-4, 2019.

This recognition is bestowed upon a person who has made significant contributions to topical philately – and to the ATA in particular. The letter of nomination should detail the person's contribution, again, particularly to topical philately.

The Distinguished Topical Philatelist award was established in 1952 by the late ATA founder Jerome (Jerry) Husak. Since then, 121 people have received this high honor. Recipients have included residents of the United States, Canada, Great Britain and Italy. You can find a complete listing of past winners on the ATA website: [american topicalassn.org/awardsdtp.shtml](http://american topicalassn.org/awardsdtp.shtml).

The 2018 winner was Cletus Delvaux of Green Bay, Wis. Clete is a prolific writer and editor. A member of ATA for 39 years, he contributes to *Topical Time*, *Linn's Stamp News*, *The American Philatelist* and other publications. He started collecting stamps at age 18.

For the 2019 award, please send nominations to the DTP chair Jean C. Stout, PO Box 98174, Jackson MS 39298-8174. Deadline for nominations is Dec. 31, 2018. □

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# StampShow/NTSS was Fantastic Joint Venture!

*By Dawn Hamman and Wayne Youngblood  
Photos by Igor Grigorian and Wayne Youngblood*



By any measure, the recent joint American Philatelic Society Stamp-Show and ATA National Topical Stamp Show was a huge success.

With high attendance, rows and rows of dealers, and 1,000 frames of exhibits, it was a show to remember.

For ATA members, the highlight was the opportunity to meet and visit with more fellow topical collectors than at any previous show. More than 200 ATA members pre-registered for the show, and many more attended. "What do you collect?" was a phrase often heard as we got to know others at the seemingly ever-bustling ATA booth.

Here are a few highlights of the show:

\***Fifty-five** people, ranging from aspiring topical collectors to accomplished topicalists, became ATA members. We're especially pleased that 12 of the new members are youths. The up-front location of our mega-booth, as well as its attractive arrangement and special Ohio exhibit created by Carol Costa was a crowd magnet.

\*When the show opened, 15 ATA Ambassadors were ready at the booth. They quickly became busy as more than 30 people stopped first to see all we had to offer in the colorfully-decorated mega-booth. The booth hummed with activity all four days of the show.





*Left: Igor Grigorian whips up a little “magic” in a costume borrowed from Van Siegling.*

*Below left: A local television crew interviews APS Executive Director Scott English next to the ATA mega-booth.*

*Above: A standing-room-only crowd filled the area designated for the Dragons first-day ceremony.*

*Above right: Two youngsters work on a project in the youth area.*

*Right and below right: The USPS carried the dragons theme through with its retail setup (Karine Chilingaryan in foreground).*

\*One hundred programs and meetings were held during the four-day show. ATA and its affiliated study units sponsored

46 of those events. ATA keynote speakers informed and entertained large audiences for their programs.





**Above:** Large groups of ATA members and friends invaded nearby restaurants for two different ATA Nights Out events.

**Below:** The ATA booth seemed to be a beehive of activity throughout the four-day show.

\*As always, visitors enjoyed the NTSS exhibits and the stories they told.

\*More than 60 members and guests dined together at local restaurants at two ATA Nights Out. Additionally, the President's Reception at Schmidt's Sausage Haus featured authentic German food and plenty of camaraderie.





\*The Monday tour after the show included a visit to the Columbus Arboretum, which features colorful glass sculptures by internationally known glassblower Dale Chihuly. Participants shopped and had lunch in the quaint German Village, and enjoyed a tour of author James Thurber's childhood home.

Before the show opened Thursday, a Columbus television station was filming the show floor, with a local newscaster interviewing individuals and groups, frequently accompanied by a small band of themed costumed characters (and “Perf” the Magic Dragon). About a half-dozen live spots were aired, which very likely helped to drive traffic to the show. Among those from ATA who

got “screen time” were Verea Felts, Dawn Hamman, Wayne Youngblood and Jean Stout.

**Above: Exhibitors work out the logistics during setup.**

**Top: The buffet line at the President's Reception**

**Above Right: Show chair and ATA member-herder deluxe, John Hamman.**

**Below: President Dale Smith and Scott English share a light moment during the ATA member meeting.**



Throughout the show costumed individuals helped keep the theme “Here be Dragons” alive. This, of course, was also strongly reinforced by the USPS’ retail castle set-up.

When the Dragons stamps were released Thursday, the crowd spilled over the allotted area, creating a huge standing-room-only crowd on the show floor. USPS personnel soon ran out of first-day ceremony programs.

Despite the large number of lectures and special programs taking place throughout the convention center, the show floor remained full of people, with most dealers reporting strong sales throughout.

One particular draw to the ATA booth throughout the show was the display table full of “A Taste of Topicals” kits. These were popular with ATA members and non-members alike. Several individuals even became collectors through these wonderful little hobby ambassadors. Another draw was the Ohio exhibit assembled by Carol Costa. Not only did many people stop and look at the exhibit, but the “home state”



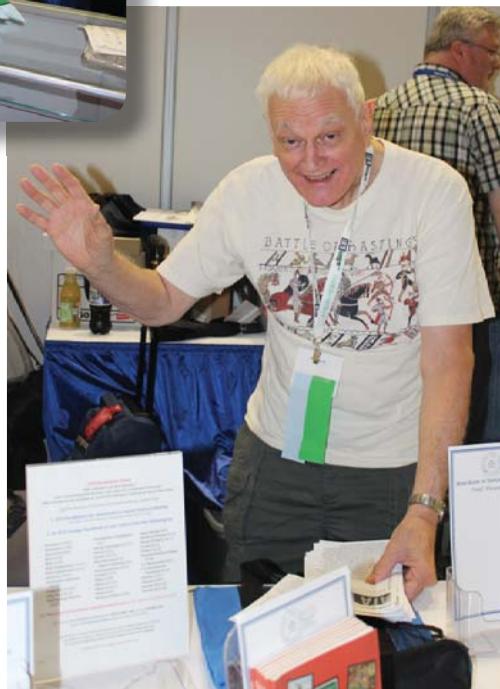
*Left: Among the many who helped set up the ATA booth were (from left) Dorothy Youngblood, Wayne Youngblood, Jeff Hayward, Laurie Ryan and Vera Felts.*

*Below: Jack Denys pauses to smile and wave.*

connection ignited the interests of the television reporter, various passers-by and even one security guard who became so interested he bought a printed copy of the exhibit! Another young woman was disappointed that we didn’t have a topical packet of witches...

### **Let’s Do it Again!**

The first joint show of the two largest U.S.-based philatelic organizations was such a success that the ATA board approved another collaborative event for next year. The joint StampShow/NTSS will be in Omaha, Neb., Aug. 1-4, 2019. The show will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad.





## Congratulations to our Exhibit Winners

On Saturday afternoon the awards ceremony was held, where most of the awards were given to exhibitors. Jack R. Congrove received the NTSS Grand Award for his

**Top: The elaborate penguin fingernails of Jean Stout.**

large gold award winning exhibit, *Alexander Hamilton: Soldier, Financier, Statesman, Founder*. He was awarded a brass Victorian-era stamp box and blotter.

**Top right: one of the inflatable dragon mascots that guarded the ATA booth.**

**Above: New board member John Leszak was sworn in during the board meeting.**

**Above right: New ATA board members (from left) Carol Costa, Tom Broadhead and Don Neal.**



This year's Reserve Grand was awarded to Carl Jennings for *Ancient Egypt: The Time of the Pharoahs*. The Mary Ann Owens Single Frame Grand was won by Fran Adams for his exhibit, *Atlantic Meeting*. Dawn Hamman won the Most Popular award for *Backyard Chickens*. They all received antique stamp boxes.

And, in the literature competition, *Topical Time* won a Large Gold.

On Saturday evening, about 200 folks gathered for the Honors Banquet, where the major and special awards were given for exhibits (as well as the World Series of Philately), and where collectors were honored for their service to the hobby.

Among those honorees were Wayne Youngblood, who was given the Luff Award for service to the APS, and Clete Delvaux, who was awarded the ATA's highest honor: Distinguished Topical Philatelist.



**Top:** An ATA-heavy table at the annual Celebration Banquet.

**Above:** Some of the heavy-duty exhibiting bling (special awards).

**Left:** Dale Smith presents the 2018 DTP award to Clete Delvaux.

**Top of facing page:** A young couple make their selections at a dealer booth during the show.

**Right:** The fully set-up ATA mega-booth at the 2018 StampShow/NTSS.



### The Debut of *What's First?*

On Aug. 9 ATA introduced its newest handbook, No. 167, the most ambitious book project in the organization's 69-year history. Written by Canadian journalist and playwright, Jack Gray, *What's First?* features the first stamp issued for more than 800 topics.

Jack Gray's daughters, Susannah (Su) and Rebecca Gray, signed books at the ATA booth and reminisced about their father, who died in 2017, shortly after he donated his fine manuscript to ATA. Each book pre-ordered or purchased that day included a First Day of Issue certificate.





**Rebecca and Susanna Gray, daughters of Jack Gray, were on hand to sign copies of the new book, What's First?, which turned out to be very popular at the show.**

*"Dad would have been thrilled to see his book so well-received," said Su. "He had a tremendous amount of enjoyment with his stamps. He always said, 'If you aren't having fun, go play golf.' The fun never stopped for him."*

Rebecca recalled that her father's topical collecting began with ships. That is evident in *What's First?*, which explores

numerous firsts for different types of watercraft. *"He had quite an imagination, and one topical interest just morphed into the next.,"* she said.

Jack Gray also collected books, according to Su and Rebecca. He had more than 50,000 books in his three homes. *"As children, we never had to go to the library. We just asked Dad to point out the section we needed,"* laughed Su.

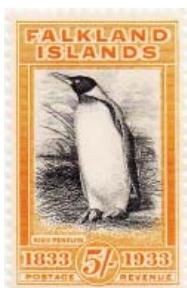
*What's First?* is 335 pages filled with descriptions and pictures of firsts. It was edited by Jack André Denys and John Hamman. Stamp scans were provided by Sannah Gray and Sergio Sangüesa. The printing of *What's First?* was totally funded by donations. 

## **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.

## Units in Action at NTSS 2018, Columbus, Ohio



Participation of ATA study units during APS StampShow/NTSS 2018 was high! There were members of many, many different study units present at the show, but among those that participated officially are the following:



**Penguins on Stamps Study Unit:** Annual meeting and Society booth. **ESPER (Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections)** held its general meeting and was ATA's featured study unit. The **Biology Study Unit** general meeting was held, as was the **Wine on Stamps Study Unit** business meeting and **Medical Subjects Unit** annual meeting. **The Space Unit** had a society booth. **The CartoPhilatelic Society** held a business meeting, the **Europa Study Unit** held an open meeting, as did the **Gastronomy Study Unit** and the **Cats on Stamps Study Unit**. The **Christmas Philatelic Club** also had a society booth.



A big thanks to all who participated and we'll see you next year in Omaha! ☺



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## ***Exploring Stamps with Graham Beck***

He's not on Netflix – yet – but Graham Beck is a rising star with his interesting and entertaining philatelic videos. His YouTube videos, titled *Exploring Stamps*, are fast-paced and fun programs on many aspects of philately.



A new member of ATA, Graham visited our booth in Columbus, and talked about topical collecting. He's already well-versed in topicals, having produced shows on Eiffel Tower stamps, the Lincoln Memorial on stamps, Camel stamps, Black History stamps and many more.

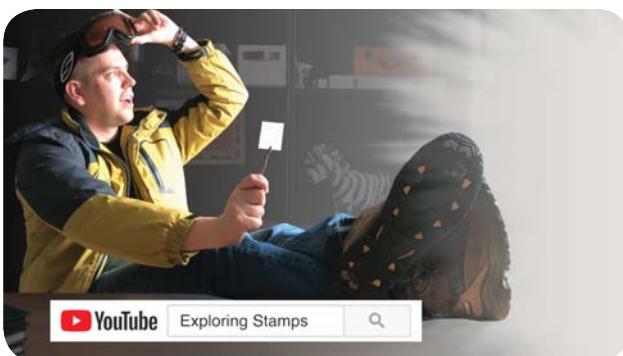
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*“Social media offers many ways to explore philately online,” Beck said. “We have so many opportunities to learn about stamps and get creative with our collections.”* His videos are meant to appeal to collectors and non-collectors alike, and he also hopes to reach young people.



For good entertainment, and to learn about stamps as well, go to [www.Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and type in: “Exploring Stamps.” You will be entertained and will very likely learn something new! ☺

## BASICS AND BEYOND

*Jack André Denys*



## There Were Seven

They were students in the “Topical Collecting 101” course I recently taught at the APS Summer Seminar on Philately (June 24-29).

They were typical because the non-veterans were characteristic of the variety of people interested in topical collecting: folks new to the hobby, traditional collectors who have completed their collections or are seeking something new and different and wives of collectors who decided to join the ranks themselves.

Five of the pupils already had chosen topics. Three were ATA members. A fourth joined after the course.

Students received a binder filled with thematic information and resources. Subjects of the course included the first topical stamp; the history of topical collecting; choosing a topic; the ATA; obtaining, organizing and storing stamps; the difference between topical and thematic; Beyond the Catalog items; research and write-up; exhibiting; thematic and philatelic knowledge; display and free-style exhibits; and the *Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting*. We took a field trip to the American Philatelic Research Library, where librarian Scott Tiffney showed us its thematic section and provided a list of resources.

All the learners were eager and enthusiastic, thirsty to explore our branch of the hobby. Their evaluation comments included:

*Excellent course with a most enjoyable presentation. I would recommend it to others. Jack was great. He cares about his students and their ideas. Had patience for us beginning collectors. The enthusiasm of the instructor made the course very interesting. The instructor was excellent. I felt very comfortable in his class. My course instructor made the event.*

The students also offered good suggestions for improving the course. I hope the APS schedules the seminar again next year. Perhaps *you* would be interested in attending. ☺



**Instructor Jack Denys (front, second from left) and class, during the 2018 APS Summer Seminar on Philately.** Photo courtesy of APS.

## MY TOPIC by Dawn Hamman

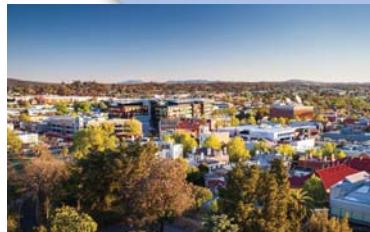
### Rae Bryant

A long journey from Australia to the United States gave travelers Rae and Lawrence Bryant an opportunity to meet stamp collectors and add to their collections.



The topical collector of the couple, Rae, got into stamps by “tagging along” on Laurence’s stamp hunts. “I love lighthouses and bridges, so it was a natural for me,” she said. “I’ve enjoyed so many aspects of the hobby, especially the people I’ve met along the way.”

One of those people is Vera Felts, ATA executive director, whom they met on a cruise a few years ago. Recently, they made Carterville, Ill., the first stop on their U.S. tour, where they shopped a bit from stamps that had been donated to ATA.



*“I would call myself a ‘relaxed’ collector,” Rae laughed, “I am always on the lookout, but I’m not too serious about it. I appreciate that many others also collect lighthouses and bridges. The appeal is universal.”*

After a stop at the ATA office, they went on to tour Alabama and Mississippi, two states they



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had not previously visited. "We call ourselves the gray nomads," is how Rae describes seven years of nearly non-stop travel.

Between travels, they live in Bendigo, Australia, a historic gold-mining town. When they arrived there, they just knew it was the place they wanted to settle down, at least once in a while. Rae explained that the Bendigo Philatelic Society has 60 committed mem-



bers. She especially enjoys the club's "exchange sheets," which are passed around so members can choose stamps they want. "Sometimes there is a real topical find," she said.

For a topical collector, the stamps of Australia are very appealing, Rae noted. *"I'm always after the new issues to see what topics are shown there. I also like the U.K. stamps for the topics they show."*

When Rae and Laurence visited Illinois, their grand U.S. tour was just

beginning. There was much sight-seeing and stamp shopping to be done, as they headed for St. Louis. After Alabama and Mississippi, they planned stops in Charlotte and Montreal, and then a cruise to Boston and a train trip to Los Angeles. By the time Rae gets back to Bendigo, she will have seen numerous lighthouses and bridges, and will have added to her stamp collection on her favorite topics. ☐



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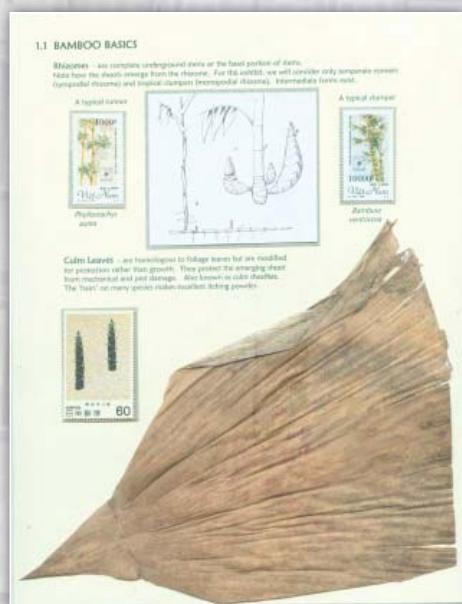
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## EXHIBITING 101: BASIC PRESENTATION

*Robert R. Henak*

My last article discussed considerations in choosing an appropriate subject for your exhibit. This article will begin addressing general issues of presentation, applicable regardless of the type of exhibit or topic chosen.



### 1.

nor the public will want to spend much time trying to discover whatever positive attributes it may have, and that could have a significant impact on the award.

On the other hand, these should be the easiest points to earn. Nearly everyone has a computer today, and word processing programs make putting together a neat, attractive exhibit a cinch. There is little excuse for a sloppy exhibit that looks like it was lettered and mounted by a three-year-old with Elmer's glue, unless, of course, the exhibitor is a three-year-old. (But even then, glue should come nowhere near the exhibit or your philatelic material.)

No matter what category it falls within, a philatelic exhibit physically is made up of three parts: the material (whether philatelic,

Presentation consists of the clarity and overall aesthetic balance or appearance of your exhibit in the frames. Presentation is but one factor considered by judges in assessing an exhibit's medal level. I will address the others – plan, treatment, importance, knowledge, research, condition and rarity – in future articles.

Presentation is not supposed to count for much in assessing the final medal level. Presentation is given greater weight in youth exhibits and in local shows. For instance, it is only supposed to represent 20% of the adult medal level in Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Club shows.

On the national level, however, presentation is supposed to account for even less, a mere 5% of the final award. Still, if the exhibit is unattractive, neither the judges

### CHICAGO

### TYPE 1a - 1924-5

First Re-cutting of Type 1

Distinctive Characteristics:  
This is a re-cutting of Type 1 and all lines  
are darker than Type 1



Chicago, Ill. 16; November 7, 1924



KNOWN OR REPORTED MAILED NUMBER	DATES OF USE
36	November 7, 1924 to March 26, 1925

The International slogan cancellations were on a metal plate, probably silver, and worn out quickly in high volume mail centers like Chicago. This was the earliest re-cutting done to any of the slogan cancellations. Type 1 was re-cut by November 7, 1924, and all lines were made deeper and wider, resulting in a darker cancellation.

### 2.

such as stamps, covers, etc.; or ephemera, such as photographs, newspaper articles, postcards or whatever), the writeup or explanation of the material and the stuff that holds it all together (the paper, mounts and other supplies).

3.



demonstrate the exhibitor's own research and philatelic knowledge. This is an exhibit, not an academic treatise. The emphasis must be on the philatelic material.

If you find that your writeup consistently consumes more space than your material, there is too much writeup. Proper sentences are not necessary and most adjectives should be avoided. As Sgt. Joe Friday used to say on *Dragnet*, "just the facts."

Although it is the writeup – and philatelic material and ephemera – that tell the exhibit's story, do not feel the need to cover every square inch of the exhibit page. White space is necessary to provide your material some breathing room. While exhibitors debate European versus American styles of exhibiting (with European exhibitors tending to fill much more of the page), too much material just creates an unattractive, cluttered look that distracts from your material and story line.

4.

At the same time, too much white space is no good either. Unless it is of extreme importance, mounting a single small-size cover – or worse, a single stamp – on a

Presentation in regards to philatelic material or ephemera concerns how it is mounted on the page, not the appearance of the item itself. Evaluation of the intrinsic appearance of the material falls within a different criteria. Thus, concerns about how well-centered a stamp may be, how blurred the cancel or how ratty the cover are issues for consideration under the condition criteria rather than presentation.

Under presentation, judges are to consider such things as whether the items are mounted straight and whether the page (and the exhibit as a whole) has an attractive balance between philatelic material, writeup and "white space."

The writeup should be the minimum amount necessary to explain the items shown, to move the story along and to



page rarely is justified. Regular No. 6 covers, like modern first-day covers, generally can be mounted two to a page with writeup, although smaller covers sometimes can fit three to a page with no overlap.

If only part of a cover is important to your story, covers or other material can be overlapped or even “windowed,” where the exhibit page is slit and the cover inserted so that only part of the cover shows, with the remainder behind the page. This technique often is used when only the stamp and cancel or the meter strip is necessary to the exhibit. It also works where the rest of the cover is either so ugly or clearly philatelic in origin that the exhibitor would likely lose points by showing the whole thing.

In either event, do not just cut the important parts off of the cover! You occasionally will find “cut squares” of pictorial meters or cancellations or removed from postal stationery that fit your story line. By all means, use them if they fit your exhibit – and if a full cover is not available – but you should not be the one responsible for creating such a philatelic abomination!

Including some overlap, windowing, tripling-up on a page or the occasional No. 10 cover mounted diagonally helps avoid the “railroad track” appearance of multiple pages, each with two covers mounted, one directly above the other. Although some old-time judges object to diagonal mounting of larger covers to fit onto a 8½- by 11-inch page, it is fully acceptable by modern standards and much preferable to mounting them vertically. Of course, better yet is to use double-sized pages so you can mount the oversized covers horizontally and make everyone happy.

Next article, more on presentation. □

Illustrations are from exhibits shared at: [www.stamps.org/online-exhibits](http://www.stamps.org/online-exhibits)

1. *Bamboo*, by Phillip J. Stager, 2009, 48 pages (three frames).
2. *Types and uses of the International “air-mail saves time” slogan cancel 1924 to 1941*, by David Reitsema, 2012, 98 pages.
3. *The Butterfield Overland Route*, by George J. Kramer, 2013, two frames.
4. *Woody Guthrie, His Life and Songs*, by Stephen L. Suffet, 2014, 10 frames.

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## And the Award Winners Are ... by Lynn H. Vernon

Recent shows and APS events produced the following commendations (\*denotes ATA member).

At Colopex 18, held in Columbus, Ohio, \***Van Siegling** garnered yet another ATA First Place award for his exhibit, *The Magical World of Harry Potter*. **Ramona Witte** collected the ATA Second Place award for her presentation of *The Great American Solar Eclipse of 2017*. **Ken Gilbert's** display, *Soccer Made in Germany*, won ATA's Third Place award. **Robert Benninghoff** captured the ATA One-Frame Award for his presentation, *The Provisional Government of Ireland - December 1921 to December 1922*, while **Bruce Aument's** exhibit, *Tupperware Home Parties & Escalating Postcard Postal Rates*, won the Novice Award.

**Stephen De Wit's** exhibit, *Bayonet Baseball*, took the ATA Youth Award at the Willamette Valley Stamp Exhibition's two-day event held in Eugene and Salem, Ore.

Meanwhile, St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada, hosted the Royal 2018 Royale, where \***Jean Wang** took ATA's First Place award for her presentation, *Blood: A Modern Medicine*. Wang, an award-winning exhibitor, was recently appointed to Canada's Stamp Advisory Committee (see July-August 2018 issue of *Topical Time*, Page 52). At the same show, \***Larry Davidson** garnered a Second Place award for his exhibit, *Beavers: Nature's Engineers*. **Marion Ace** exhibited *Heinrich von Stephan - Much more than a Postman*, which won her the Novice Award.

At Okpex 18, the American Topical Association's One-Frame Award was given to \***Fran Adams** for his exhibit, *Dino Indicia*. Fran also garnered the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Creativity Award. The ATA First Award Medal was presented to \***Dawn Hamman** for her *Backyard Chickens at Home - Then and Now* exhibit. Incidentally, her exhibit was also voted the Most Popular by attendees at the show. ☺

### Congratulations to all winners.

**Remember:** ATA offers a variety of exhibit awards to any show with a juried exhibit. A list of available awards and their criteria can be found on the ATA web page, [www.american topical assn.org/awardstopicalexhibitions.shtml](http://www.american topical assn.org/awardstopicalexhibitions.shtml) Be sure and check it out before ordering awards as there have been recent changes.

The awards can be obtained by completing an ATA Awards Order Form (same website as above) and sending it to Lynn H. Vernon at [vscs@embarqmail.com](mailto:vscs@embarqmail.com) or 8430 Iris Rd, Plymouth IN 46563-9055.

Only those shows submitting a report to the Awards Chairman can be acknowledged in *Topical Time* and can receive future awards.

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## CINDERELLA CORNER

*Arthur H. Grotén*

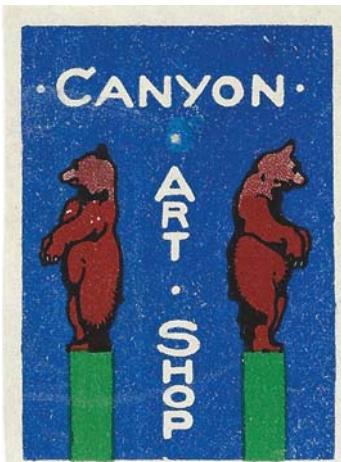
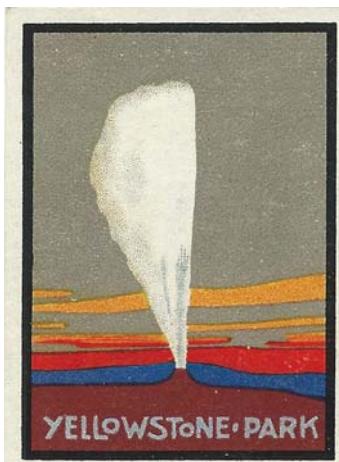
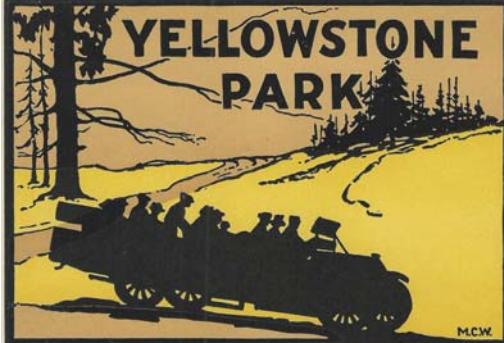
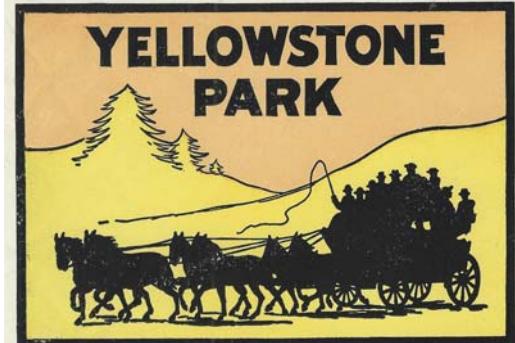
[Editor's note: Special thanks go to Art Grotén for his many years of wonderful contributions to Topical Time. This will be the final Cinderella Corner, as written by him. His changing schedule no longer allows him to write for Topical Time. We will miss his colorful pages and interesting stories in Topical Time and wish him all the best.]

### Yellowstone National Park

Perhaps the first national park in the world, Yellowstone, was created by an act of Congress on March 1, 1872, when President Ulysses S. Grant signed it into law. Most of the park is in Wyoming, with small bits in Idaho and Montana.

Much has been written about Yellowstone, its history, wildlife and spectacular natural scenery. Initially, it was accessible only by foot or horse; later by horse-drawn vehicle. This continued until automobiles were permitted into the park in 1915. Several years later, horse-drawn coaches were forbidden.

Yellowstone surrounds the largest super volcano on the continent. One of its most



Below left  
Figures 1-

Right: Fig

Below right  
Yellowsto  
the early 1  
and Yellow

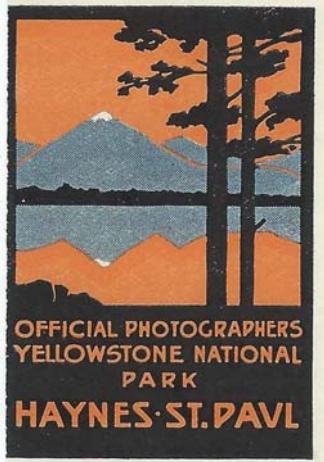
famous manifestations is the geyser "Old Faithful," so called because of the predictability of its spume. The beauty and apparent tranquility of the park belie the anticipated, but unpredictable, explosion of the caldera. Here's something to worry about in the middle of the night: the caldera's eruption is, according to those who study these matters, 40,000-80,000 years overdue.

This park has inspired innumerable images in all media. Old Faithful graces the 5¢ value of the U.S. National Parks issue of 1934 (Scott 744 perf. and Scott 760 imperf.) as well as the 8¢ denomination of the U.S. National Parks Centennial issue of 1972 (Scott 1453). The use of virtually the same image for both stamps speaks to its iconic importance. Ansel Adams' photographs are world-renowned. Early American painters of the mid-1800s were awed by nature's majesty and began the great American tradition of landscape painting on site, expanding from its origins in the Hudson Valley westward with expansion of the nation.

My wish here is to introduce you to some of the most glorious poster stamps ever produced in this country. There are many cinderellas related to the National Parks, but these of Yellowstone are unmatched in graphic power.

Figure 1 shows the early access by horse-drawn vehicle, here a stagecoach. Figure 2, in a similar style, replaces the stage with the automobile. If anyone knows who M.C.W. of Figure 2 is (initials at lower right), please let me know!

The three stamps in Figures 3, 4 and 5 are by Otto Obermeier, from a group of seven, which is clearly not the full set, merely all that have surfaced. And Figure 6 tells us that Haynes of St. Paul is Yellowstone's Official Photographer. The Haynes Company is known to have been in St. Paul, Minn., not North Dakota.



What I find fascinating is that, even though the artists aren't the same, they all used the block color style to produce the stamps with dates ranging from about 1910-30. If it ain't broke, don't fix it! ☺

*Arthur H. Grotten, longtime cinderella enthusiast, welcomes correspondence at PO Box 3366, Poughkeepsie NY 12603-3366 USA, or by email: [agrotten43@icloud.com](mailto:agrotten43@icloud.com).*

## STUDY UNIT SPOTLIGHT

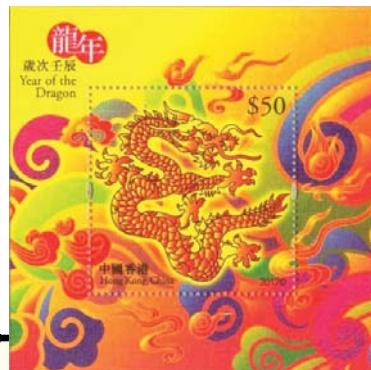
*This month: Armenian Philatelic Association (ArPA)*

**Editor's note:** This is the 44th 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 “Vishap, or The Armenian Dragon,” from the June 2018 issue (No. 84) of *The ArPA Journal*. To be considered for “Study Unit Spotlight,” please select what you feel may be the finest article appearing in your journal recently (preferably with philatelic content) and submit it via email to the *Topical Time* editor ([wystamps@gmail.com](mailto:wystamps@gmail.com)), or to Study Unit Coordinator Jeff Hayward, [jeffhaywardata@gmail.com](mailto:jeffhaywardata@gmail.com). We hope you enjoy this fine feature.

### **Vishap, or The Armenian Dragon.**

By Karine Chilingaryan and Igor Grigorian

Mountains of the Armenian plateau conceal many mysteries. Archeologists consider this area to be an interesting ground for research, while the local inhabitants tell amazing stories of dark caves and formidable rocks.



**Top:** Chinese and Hong Kong Dragons.

**Above:** Japanese dragon.

**Right:** European dragons.





**Historically, Armenian dragons featured combinations of elements of different animals..**

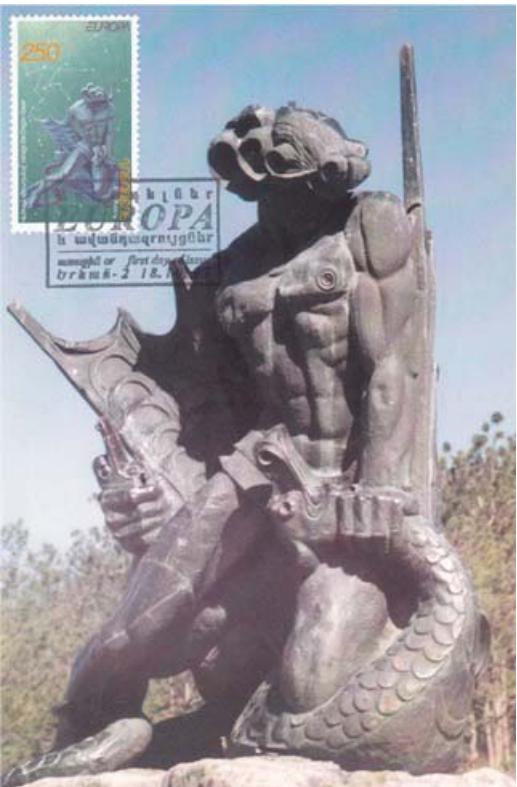
**Right: Vahagn, the Dragon Reaper.**

In the midst of myth fans an unofficial science has developed, one that studies dragons in various cultures; it is called dragonology. It turns out that, depending on the habitat, these monsters vary in specific behavior, appearance and even food ration.

If a Chinese or a Japanese dragon is a kind being, incarnating wisdom and moral perfection, the European congeners differ by being ferocious and having brutal appetites.

The Armenian dragon ruled the water element and lived in lakes, rivers and in the skies – in the dark clouds causing thunderstorms and hurricanes. Even the appearance of the Armenian dragon kept him apart from his intricate Asian and multi-headed European relatives. Historically, he was depicted as a winged snake or with a combination of elements from different animals.

Originally, Vishap was worshiped, especially in a drought; it was believed that the serpent, dragging its long tail on the ground, indicated the place where it was possible to dig canals. Later, the belief changed, and it was he who blocked access to life-giving moisture, and it was possible to get water only by defeating the dragon.



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The main rival of Vishap in Armenia was the god of storm, Vahagn. In an



**Left: Dragon Stones, Armenia.**

unequal battle, the hated serpent was defeated, after which a long-awaited rain fell to the ground. He was called Vishapakagh (Dragon Reaper or Dragon Slayer).

The Armenians believed that during a storm black unbridled dragons would be born in heaven

or arose from the deepest depths of the earth to swallow the sun, cast dark shadows over the earth and block the waterways. When this happened, Vahagn would

attack them and release the sun and the earthly waters. In an unequal battle, the hated snake would be defeated, after which the long-awaited rain fell from above, and the sun again shone on the earth. This is how Vahagn's nickname, Dragon Reaper, came about. A pair of dragons were also depicted on the 1919 50-rouvre banknote of the First Republic of Armenia, the artist highlighting their historical significance and importance.

Old Armenia inhabitants knew numerous stories about the dragons, as they shared the land with them. Not surprisingly, a Vishap city and Vishapadzor (Dragon gorge) monastery used to be located in the vicinity of Lake Van. One of the peaks of Geghama Mountains (near Lake Sevan, present day Armenia) is still called Vishapi Ler (Dragon Mountain). Even today, local inhabitants tell stories about Sevan Monster.

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Known as dragon-stones, slabs from the megalithic period are particularly typical of the Armenian Highlands. Based on the research started in the 19th and 20th centuries, archeologists consider them to be forerunners of the

stone-crosses, as there are strong similarities in their craftsmanship and function.

Customarily, the dragon stones are divided into three types, based on the image on the slab: fish-like (usually depicts catfish, ox-like and fish-ox-like. Fish-ox-like dragon stones would have zigzag lines on the sides symbolizing water (resembling the Zodiac sign for Aquarius).

Fish has a special meaning in the Armenian culture: it symbolizes fertility, while ox symbolizes storm deity. As of today, 150 examples of dragon stones are known, 90 of which are on the territory of modern Armenia. They are made mostly from basalt and have lengths (or height) between 150

and 550 centimeters (5-18 feet). Although most of the



A 1919 50-rouble banknote of the First Republic of Armenia, which sports a pair of historically significant dragons.



The three customary styles of Armenian dragon stones: catfish (above), ox-like (above-right) and fish-ox-like (below-right).



### 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.

dragon stones are found in horizontal positions, they are carved from all sides, besides the tail, which means that originally they were standing on the tail, vertically. It is also known that they were placed at the altitude of 3,000 meters (9,800 feet) above sea level, but the reason is still a mystery.

Today, one can encounter them in the middle of the city of Yerevan, as well as in other locations outside of the city. In our opinion, they should be returned to their original sites, as they are part of our history and culture. ☐



The red dots indicate where dragon stones have been found.



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## Armenian Philatelic Association (ArPA)

In January 1997, the Armenian Philatelic Association (ArPA) was established by a group of dedicated stamp collectors. ArPA's goals are to promote the study of Armenian philately for all those interested in stamp collecting. Among its members are renowned collectors, enthusiasts and beginners. ArPA's monthly meetings have provided a regular forum for the exchange of information, stamps and other materials. *The ArPA Journal* provides the means to disseminate new research and information about Armenian philately. Annual dues are \$35 in the United States, \$45 elsewhere. Contact Igor Grigorian, 2764 Delevan Dr, Los Angeles CA 90065-5134.

**Email:** [armssr@gmail.com](mailto:armssr@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.armenianphilatelic.org](http://www.armenianphilatelic.org)

## About ATA Checklists

ATA's checklists are an important member service. Checklists provide beginning and intermediate collectors with a working list of stamps related to a specific topic. An early checklist was published in the very first issue of *Topical Time* in 1949. Technically, it was a list of topical stamps available from the Pan American Union.

Topic	Country	Subject	Scott No.	Denomination	Price U.S.Cy.*
Agriculture	Argentina	Wheat Sower	496	.25	.03
Agriculture	Argentina	Sugar Cane	439	.40	.05
Agriculture	Argentina	Cotton	504	20.00	2.04
Airplanes	Argentina	Conventionalized Plane	C43	.30	.04
Airplanes	Argentina	Plane	C48	.30	.04
Airplanes	Argentina	Plane	C44	.50	.06

The latest ATA checklists look like this:

Stamp ID	Type	Country	Year <sup>†</sup>	Mon <sup>‡</sup>	Day <sup>§</sup>	Denom.	Scott	Description
28224	ST	Aden-Qualiti State of Shibr	1963	Oct	20	70c	47	Agriculture
29969	ST	Afghanistan	1979	Mar	21	1af	958	Farmers, Flowers
9044	ST	Afghanistan	1981	Mar	20	1af	985	Farmers' Day, Cattle
9054	ST	Afghanistan	1982	Mar	21	4af	1000	Farmers' Day, Piper, Dancing, Drummer
9072	ST	Afghanistan	1983	Mar	21	10af	1025	Farmer's Day

Our current checklist dATABse was compiled by Karen Cartier over a seven-year period to 2014, and now produces 1,289 different checklists, plus customized lists limited only by members' imaginations. ATA checklists, by their nature, are always a work in progress. Checklist Coordinators Dominic Sgro and Beth Scully spend dozens of hours each week on updates and refinements. Each month, all the topical stamps from Linn's new issue listings are added to the ATA Checklist dATABse, to make it as current as possible. Orders for checklists and free updates are handled through the ATA Office – by email, telephone or submit an order form found at <http://american topicalassn.org/checklists.shtml>.



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# ATA Checklists: A Member-to-Member Service

## Topical Listings for Aug.-Sept. 2018 (An alphabetical listing is also available.)

**New checklists:** NATURE: Caracaras (bird of prey); CULTURE: *Game of Thrones*; Gifts, Birthday; Washington (state)

Current checklist listings (1,294 different lists) at [www.americantopicalassn.org/checklists.shtml](http://www.americantopicalassn.org/checklists.shtml) or are available by sending an addressed, stamped envelope to ATA, and are available in our *Publication Guide* at ATA tables at stamp shows.

**Policy for checklist use:** All American Topical Association (ATA) checklists are the property of the ATA, intended for use by members and to promote topical collecting. These checklists are copyrighted and are not to be copied except by the ATA for distribution to its members. Portions of a checklist may be used as part of a philatelic article or column if credit is given to the American Topical Association. While every effort is made to provide accurate and timely checklists, the ATA cannot guarantee that these checklists are complete or error free. Questions on the use of a checklist should be directed to the ATA Office. Members finding errors or omissions are encouraged to send amending information to [atachecklists@gmail.com](mailto:atachecklists@gmail.com) to improve upon this members-only service. Please use the Stamp ID number in the first column of each list to reference suggested changes.

Checklist titles are shown according to three general topics: **NATURE**, **CULTURE** and **TECHNOLOGY**. Each is then subdivided within the topic. The number in parentheses after the checklist title is the number of stamp issues that appears in the checklist. The items contained in the checklists described as "misc/other" are not repeated in the related lists that follow. For instance, the Animals (misc/other) list contains stamp items not listed in the other Animals listings. The following information is included for each issue: *Type of philatelic issue, Country, Issue date (year, month, day) Denomination, Scott catalog number, Description, Non-Scott numbered souvenir or mini sheet?*

Checklists marked with an asterisk(\*) contain Beyond the Catalog (BTC) items; that is, basic types of common philatelic items issued by governments but not usually listed in the *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, such as booklet covers, meter stamps, postal cards, postal stationery and postmarks.

### Costs for the checklists are:

**Emailed** (Excel file, or .pdf file, if requested): 2¢ per stamp issue. Thus, a checklist with 200 items costs \$4. Mini-topics (checklists with fewer than 150 items) cost \$3. Maxi-topics (checklists with more than 3,750 items) cost \$75.

**Mailed:** Add 10¢ per page for printing (~50 items per page), plus actual postage to mail. Please contact the ATA Office for assistance.

**Checklist Updates:** ATA members who purchase checklists from the new dATABse (since May 1, 2014) are entitled to free updates once/year as long as ATA membership is maintained. Please contact the ATA Office for your update(s).

# NATURE

## ANIMALS-LAND

- Animals (misc/other) (270)
- Endangered Species (7536)
- Wildlife Conservation (339)
- World Wildlife Fund (929)
- Zoos/Zoology (384)

## Amphibians/Reptiles

- Reptiles (misc/other) (40)
- Frogs/Toads (758)
- Crocodiles/Alligators (456)
- Dinosaurs/Fossils (3775)
- Lizards/Geckos (1156)
- Snakes (1219)
- Turtles/Tortoises (812)

## Domesticated Animals

- Cats, Domestic (2361)
- Cattle/Oxen/Bovine/
  - Cows (1630)
- Dogs (3831)
- Donkeys (931)
- Goats (371)
- Horses (4060)
- Pigs/Hogs/Boars (587)
- Rabbits/Hares (687)
- Sheep, incl. Shepherds (1383)

## Mammals

- Mammals (misc/other) (316)
- Anteaters/Pangolins/
  - Sloths (221)
- Antelopes (251)
- Badgers (85)
- Bats (461)
- Bearcats/Civets/Genets (68)
- Bears (440)
  - Bears, Polar (185)
- Beavers (96)
- Bison/Buffalo (432)
- Camels/Dromedaries (769)
- Cats, Wild (742)
- Deer/Related (1928)
- Dogs, Wild (216)
- Elephants (1100)
- Foxes (351)
- Giraffes (307)
- Hedgehogs (92)
- Hippopotamuses (244)
- Hyenas (125)
- Jaguars (animal) (125)

Kangaroos/Wallabies (193)

- Koalas (85)
- Leopards/Ocelots (611)
- Lions (1071)
- Lynxes (145)
- Marsupials (251)
- Mice/Rats/Rodents (721)
- Moose (45)
  - Pandas (260)
- Porcupines (74)
- Primates (1875)
- Raccoons (46)
- Rhinoceros (390)
- Squirrels (219)
- Tamarins (45)
- Tapirs (63)
- Tigers (590)
  - Tigers, Sabre Tooth (26)
- Weasel Family (*Mustelidae*) (401)
- Wolves (240)
- Zebras (266)

## ANIMALS-AIR

### Birds

- Birds (misc/other) (4008)
- Albatrosses (181)
- Anhinga/Darters (37)
- Avosets/Stilts (73)
- Bananaquits (67)
- Barbets/Toucans/
  - Woodpeckers (555)
- Bee-eaters (259)
- Birds of Paradise (bird) (139)
- Bishops/Widowbirds (64)
- Blackbirds/Ravens (93)
- Boobies/Gannets (255)
- Buntings (110)
- Bustards/Korhaans (141)
- Canaries (37)
- Capercaillie/Grouse/
  - Ptarmigan (150)
- Cardinals/Grosbeaks/
  - Tanagers (282)
- Chats/Nightingales (92)
- Chickadees/Titmice/Tits (139)
- Cormorants/Shags (141)
- Cranes (421)
- Crossbill/Finches/
  - Weavers (571)
- Cuckoos/Roadrunners/
  - Turacos (211)
- Curlews/Whimbrels (76)
- Dollarbirds/Rollers (142)
- Doves (1696)
- Ducks/Geese (3013)
- Fantails/Wagtails (99)
- Flamingoes (275)
- Flycatchers/Kingbirds/
  - Wheatears (240)
- Francolins (33)
- Frigatebirds (194)
- Gallinules/Swampheens/
  - Moorhens/Rails (212)
- Grebes (92)
- Guinea Fowl (59)
- Gulls/Kittiwakes (333)
- Herons/Egrets/Bitterns (724)
- Hoopoes (156)
- Hornbills (205)
- Hummingbirds (530)
- Ibis/Spoonbills (285)
- Jacanas (58)
- Jays/Magpies/Crows (225)
- Kingfishers/Kookaburras/
  - Motmots (571)
- Larks (83)
- Loons (47)
- Martins/Swallows (182)
- Mockingbirds/Thrashers (64)
- Mynas/Starlings (171)
- Meadowlarks/Orioles/
  - Blackbirds (196)
- Oystercatchers (51)
- Parrots/Cockatoos/Lories (1629)
- Partridges/Quail/
  - Pheasant/Tragopans (403)
- Peacocks (125)
- Pelicans (295)
- Petrels/Shearwaters (266)
- Pigeons (513)
- Pipers (54)
- Plovers/Dotterels/
  - Killdeers/Lapwings (266)
- Puffins (83)
- Quetzals/Trogons (156)
- Redstarts/Warbblers (288)
  - Robins (127)
- Roosters/Chickens (809)
- Shrikes (175)
- Skua/Jaegers (50)
- Snipes (40)

Sparrows (145)  
 Storks (379)  
 Sunbirds (240)  
 Swans (210)  
 Swifts (35)  
 Terns/Noddies (473)  
 Thrushes (226)  
 Tropicbirds (168)  
 Turkeys (75)  
 Waxwings (56)  
 White/Eyes (64)  
 Whydahs (49)  
 Wrens (79)

## Birds of Prey

Birds of Prey (misc/other) (41)  
 Caracaras (32)  
 Condors (91)  
 Eagles (1512)  
 Falcons/Kestrels (533)  
 Hawks (325)  
 Ospreys (117)  
 Owls (1071)  
 Secretary Birds (64)  
 Vultures (392)

## Flightless Birds

Ostriches/Emus (157)  
 Penguins (available  
     from Study Unit,  
     [penguinstamps.org](http://penguinstamps.org))

## Insects/Butterflies

Insects (misc/other) (300)  
 Ants/Termites (137)  
 Bees/Beekeeping (805)  
 Beetles (1162)  
 Butterflies/Moths (9481)  
 Cockroaches (16)  
 Crickets (87)  
 Dragonflies (419)  
 Flies (165)  
 Grasshoppers/Cicada/  
     Locusts/Katydid (245)  
 Ladybugs (183)  
 Mites/Ticks (12)  
 Mosquitoes (191)  
 Praying Mantis (108)  
 Scorpions/Centipedes (43)  
 Spiders/Arachnids (196)

Wasps/Hornets (125)

## ANIMALS-WATER

Marine Life (misc/other) (631)  
 Anemones (animal) (122)  
 Corals (1141)  
 Crabs (669)  
 Dolphins/Porpoises (981)  
 Eels /Moray (74)  
 Fish/Fishing (8893)  
 Jellyfish (126)  
 Lobsters (221)  
 Manatees/Dugongs/Sea  
     Cows (174)  
 Marine Gastropods/  
     Nudibranchs (118)  
 Narwhals (23)  
 Octopus/Squid (227)  
 Pearls (68)  
 Sea Horses (223)  
 Sea Shells (2978)  
 Sea Stars (267)

## Sea Turtles

Green Sea Turtles (289)  
 Hawksbill Sea Turtles (231)  
 Leatherback Sea Turtles (112)  
 Loggerhead Sea Turtles (111)  
 Ridley Sea Turtles (71)  
 Sea Urchins (61)  
 Seals /Walrus/Sea Lions (585)  
 Sharks (658)  
 Shrimp/Prawns (144)  
 Snails/Mollusks (201)  
 Sponges (Marine) (62)  
 Starfish (267)  
 Sting Rays/Manta Rays (309)  
 Whales (1214)

## MINERALS/EARTH

Beaches/Coastlines (940)  
 Bodies of Water (1597)  
 Conservation/Ecology (498)  
 Diamonds (125)  
 Earthquakes (59)  
 Gems (247)  
 Glaciers/Icebergs (218)  
 Grand Canyon (USA) (26)  
 Harbors (406)

Hurricanes/Cyclones/  
 Tornadoes (168)  
 Minerals (1075)  
 Mountains (2550)  
 Mount Everest (Nepal) (54)  
 Mount Fuji (Japan) (126)  
 Ports (15)  
 Rainbows (395)  
 Snow/Snowmen (590)  
 Volcanoes (407)  
 Waterfalls/Cascades (1279)  
 Niagara Falls (USA/  
     Canada) (24)  
 Victoria Falls (Zambia) (48)

## PLANTS

Agriculture/Horticulture (524)  
 Botanical Gardens (502)

## Flowers

Flowers (misc/other) (6170)  
 Anemones (103)  
 Anthurium (57)  
 Asters (74)  
 Begonias (49)  
 Bellflowers (135)  
 Birds of Paradise (110)  
 Black-eyed Susans (50)  
 Bougainvillea (119)  
 Buttercups/Clematis (91)  
 Camelias (108)  
 Carnations/Pinks/Jonquils (174)  
 Columbines (63)  
 Cornflowers (38)  
 Crocus (87)  
 Chrysanthemums (133)  
 Cyclamens (46)  
 Dahlias (86)  
 Daisies (257)  
 Dandelions (46)  
 Edelweiss (41)  
 Forget-me-nots (26)  
 Frangipani (181)  
 Freesias (25)  
 Fuchsia (52)  
 Gardenias (64)  
 Gentians (117)  
 Geraniums (81)  
 Gesneriads (30)

Hyacinths (65)  
 Hydrangeas (47)  
 Impatiens (25)  
 Iris (321)  
 Jasmine (89)  
 Lantanas (27)  
 Lilacs (32)  
 Lilies (993)  
 Lotus (183)  
 Magnolias (88)  
 Marigolds (87)  
 Morning Glories (164)  
 Narcissus, Daffodils,  
   Amaryllis (210)  
 Oleanders (94)  
 Orchids (4992)  
 Pansies (59)  
 Pasqueflowers (35)  
 Passion Flowers (84)  
 Peacock Flowers (19)  
 Pea Plants (57)  
 Peonies (219)  
 Periwinkles (60)  
 Plumbagos (27)  
 Poincianas (34)  
 Poinsettias (169)  
 Poppies (293)  
 Primroses (76)  
 Protea/Sugarbushes (62)  
 Rhododendron/Azaleas (223)  
 Roses (1722)  
 Snowdrops (30)  
 Sunflowers (218)  
 Thistles (107)  
 Trumpet Plants (136)  
 Tulips (303)  
 Violets (159)  
 Zinnias (33)

## **Other Plants/Fungi**

Bamboo (155)  
 Bonsai (88)  
 Cactus/Succulents (798)  
 Caper Bushes (14)  
 Carnivorous Plants/Fungi (169)  
 Clover (61)  
 Cotton (239)  
 Ferns (150)

Ginger (130)  
 Grasses (86)  
 Holly (68)  
 Mushrooms/Fungi (3700)  
 Weeds (120)

## **Trees**

Trees/Forestry (5392)  
 Flamboyant Tree (60)  
 Palm Trees (1083)  
 Rubber Trees/Industry (42)

## **CULTURE**

### **ART**

Art (misc/other) (11,346)

### **Artists**

Artists (misc/other) (928)  
 Audubon, John James (426)  
 Bellini, Giovanni (161)  
 Botticelli, Sandro (279)  
 Brueghel Family (83)  
 Caravaggio (105)  
 Cezanne, Paul (145)  
 Chagall, Marc (209)  
 Correggio, Antonio da (166)  
 Cranach Family (112)  
 da Goya, Francisco (166)  
 Da Vinci, Leonardo (268)  
 Dali, Salvador (75)  
 David, Jacques-Louis (87)  
 Degas, Edgar (158)  
 Delacroix, Eugene (161)  
 Dürer, Albrecht (686)  
 El Greco (145)  
 Fra. Angelico (130)  
 Fra. Filippo Lippi (115)  
 Gauguin, Paul (193)  
 Ghirlandaio, Domenico (39)  
 Giorgione [da Castelfranco] (41)  
 Giotto [di Bondone] (118)  
 Hiroshige, Uttagawa (338)  
 Hokusai, Katsushika (330z)  
 Homer, Winslow\* (15)  
 Hopper, Edward\* (15)  
 Hundertwasser,  
   Friedensreich (30)  
 Klimt, Gustav (56)  
 Manet, Edouard (95)

Matisse, Henri (90)  
 Memling, Hans (85)  
 Michelangelo [Buonarrotti] (302)  
 Miro, Joan (87)  
 Monet, Claude (151 )  
 Murillo, Bartolome (187)  
 Picasso, Pablo (625)  
 Raphael (748)  
 Rembrandt (584)  
 Remington, Frederic (12)  
 Renoir, Pierre Auguste (212)  
 Rockwell, Norman (225)  
 Rubens, Peter Paul (1000)  
 Tiepolo Family (Artists) (64)  
 Tintoretto, Jacopo (62)  
 Titian (395)  
 Toulouse-Lautrec, Henri (150)  
 van der Weyden, Rogier (85)  
 Van Dyck, Anthony (343)  
 Van Eyck, Jan (55)  
 Van Gogh, Vincent (468)  
 Velazquez, Diego (164)  
 Vermeer, Jan (78)  
 Wyeth Family\*(33)

### **Decorative Arts**

Antiques (51)  
 Bas-Relief Art (59)  
 Ceramics/Pottery (1233)  
 Classic Grecian Pottery (130)  
 Clay Cylinders of Cyrus the  
   Great (14)  
 Glass (138)  
 Handicrafts (misc/other) (770)  
 Hats/Helmets/  
   Headdresses (1273)  
 Hummel Figurines (109)  
 Jewelry (489)  
 Masks/Face Painting (1018)  
 Mosaics/Tiles (478)  
 Sculpture/Statues (5510)  
 Tattoos/Body Art (44)  
 Umbrellas (265)  
 Woodcarvings (647)

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    Study Unit, [chessonstamps.org](http://chessonstamps.org))  
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        (add'l info from Study Unit,  
            [disnemation.wixsite.com/dloss](http://disnemation.wixsite.com/dloss))  
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    Hitchcock, Alfred\*(30)  
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        Unit, [wine-on-stamps.org](http://wine-on-stamps.org))  
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    Study Unit,  
        [europastudyunit.org](http://europastudyunit.org))  
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    Study Unit,  
        [mapsonstamps.com](http://mapsonstamps.com))  
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(also from Study Unit,  
[sportstamps.org](http://sportstamps.org))

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 Military Bomber Planes (578)  
 Military Cargo Planes (540)  
 Military Fighter Planes (1350)  
 Military Surveillance Planes (115)  
 Military Tanks (311)  
 Military Uniforms (688)  
 Navy/Coast Guard/Marines (344)  
     Basilone, John\* (8)  
     Naval Battles (32)  
     Navy Admirals (360)  
     Warships/Related (689)  
 Refugees/World Refugee Year (301)  
 Swastikas (23)  
 Warriors (60)  
 War/Revolutions (misc/other)  
     (2258)  
         American Revolutionary  
             War (218)  
         American Civil War (311)  
         October Revolution  
             (Russia) (170)  
         World War I (429)  
         World War II (misc/other)  
             (1655)  
                 Enigma Code\* (25)  
                 Battle of the Bulge (12)  
                 Pearl Harbor (48)  
                 WWII - People (2385)  
                 WWII - Transp. - Air,  
                     Land, Water (1393)

## Weapons

Weapons (misc/other) (159)  
 Bows/Arrows (excl.  
     Archery) (326)  
 Cannon/Artillery (160)  
 Firearms/Handguns/Pistols/  
     Rifles (436)  
 Harpoons/Lances/Spears (77)  
 Swords/Knives (346)

## SCIENCE

Scientists/Sciences (misc/other)  
     (601)

## Applied Science

Abacus (28)  
 Communications (1307)  
 Computers (373)  
 Electricity/Energy (484)  
 Electronic Devices (34)  
 Engineering (398)  
 Information Society/  
     Internet (112)  
 Inventors/Inventions  
     (misc/other) (1233)  
     Bell, Alexander Graham (109)  
     Edison, Thomas Alva (40)  
     Tesla, Nikola (22)  
 Mathematics/Mathematicians  
     (2308) (add'l info from  
         Study Unit, [mathstamps.org](http://mathstamps.org))  
     Newton, Sir Isaac (73)  
 Metric System (210)  
 Numbers/Numerals (680)  
 Phonographs/Record  
     Players (45)  
 Printing/Printing Presses (285)  
 Radio (722)  
 Robots/Robotics (94)  
 Scales/Measuring/Weights (298)  
 Scientific Glassware (506)  
 Telegraphs (260)  
 Telephones/Cell Phones (682)  
 Television (560)  
 Typewriters (35)

## Atmospheric/Earth Science

Balloons, Weather (116)  
 Caves/Speleology (225)  
 Climate Change (202)  
 Geology/Geologists (86)  
 Intl. Geophysical Year (74)  
 Intl. Year of the Quiet Sun (47)  
 Meteorology/Meteorologists  
     (538)  
 Weather Instruments (300)  
 Weather Van es (224)

## Natural Science

Anthropology/Early Man (152)

Archaeology/Underwater  
 Archaeology (1473)

Aztecs/Meso-American  
 Archaeology (21)

Atomic Energy/Atomsics (373)

Biologists (2626)

    Darwin, Charles (256)

Chemistry/Chemists (2908)

    Phosphates (36)

Microbiology (33)

Microscopes (302)

Nuclear Power (1142)

Physics/Physicists (595)

    Einstein, Albert (197)

    Quantum Mechanics (30)

## SPACE

### Astronomy

(add'l info from Study Unit,  
[astronomystudyunit.net](http://astronomystudyunit.net))

Astronomy/Astronomers  
 (other) (1985)

    Brahe, Tycho (13)

    Copernicus, Nicolaus (179)

    Galilei, Galileo (104)

    Kepler, Johannes (50)

Comets (373)

Constellations/Stars (1866)

Lunar/Planetary (1213)

Mars (planet) (376)

Observatories (268)

Solar System (556)

Sun/Moon (1260)

Telescopes (282)

Zodiac (160)

### Space Technology

Space (misc/other) (252)

Astronauts/Cosmonauts  
 (other) (603)

    Aldrin, Jr, Edwin 'Buzz' (190)

    Armstrong, Neil (231)

    Glenn, John (123)

Space-Foreign Cosmonauts  
     (531)

    Gagarin, Yuri (284)

    Tereshkova, Valentina (113)

Foreign Manned Space

    Flights (1233)

Ground Space Facilities (352)

Rockets/Missiles (900)

Satellites (1857)

Space People (not Astro-/  
Cosmonauts, etc.) (175)

Space Shuttles (393)

Space Stations (Skylab, ISS,  
etc.) (234)

U.S. Manned Space Flights  
(1889)

Apollo 11 (578)

Gemini Flights (75)

## TRANSPORTATION

Transportation (misc/  
other) (344)

Coaches/Carriages (450)

Motorcycles (839)

Stagecoaches (134)

Traffic Safety (293)

## Automotive

Automotive (misc/other) (3296)

Alfa Romeos (27)

Audis (29)

Auto Racing (918)

Cadillacs (105)

Chevrolets (excl. Corvette) (37)

Corvettes (77)

Ferraris/Enzo Ferrari (369)

Fiats (66)

Fords/Henry Ford (346)

Jaguars (car) (51)

Mercedes/Benz/

Mercedes-Benz (373)

Peugeots (41)

Porsches (38)

Renaults/Louis Renault (92)

Rolls Royce (52)

Trucks/Buses (889)

Volkswagens (50)

## Aviation

Airplanes (misc/other) (3398)

Aviation/Aviators (649)

Airlines (756)

Airports (748)

Airships/Zeppelins (1009)

Autogiros (21)

Bi-Planes/Tri-Planes (1076)

Commercial Planes (2467)

Concorde Airplane (375)

Earhart, Amelia (31)

Gliders/Hang Gliders (195)

Helicopters (919)

Hot Air Balloons -  
Montgolfier Bros. (78)

Lindbergh, Charles - *Spirit  
of St. Louis* (146)

Private Planes (235)

Seaplanes (716)

Trainer Aircraft (195)

Wright Brothers/ *Wright  
Flyer* (219)

X-Planes/Experimental (216)

## Rail Transportation

Trains (misc/other) (2808)

Locomotives (2361)

Railroads (244)

Steam Engines (270)

Street Cars (73)

Subways (169)

Russian Subway Stations (45)

Trams/Trolleys (160)

## Watercraft

(add'l info from Study Unit,

[shipsonstamps.org](http://shipsonstamps.org))

Ships/Watercraft (misc/  
other) (3298)

Bligh, William/HMS *Bounty*  
(30)

Cable Ships (67)

Cruise/Liner Ships (480)

*Titanic* (84)

Dhows (71)

Ferry Boats (129)

Freighters/Cargo Ships (449)

Galleons (75)

Maritime Disasters (364)

Navigational Tools/  
Compass Rose (410)

Nuclear Ice Breakers (65)

Pirates (96)

Research Ships (92)

Row Boats/Galleys (225)

Speed or Rescue Boats (117)

Steamships (504)

Submarines (340)

Submarines, Research (68)

Tanker Ships (81)

Towboats/Tug Boats/  
Barges (175)

Sailing Vessels (misc/other)  
(3662)

Brigantines (34)

Caravels/Carrack Ships (75)

Frigates (76)

Schooners (110)

Sloops (38)

Tall Ships (89)

Whaleboats (49)

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# Handbook of Disney on Stamps – Update

By William Silvester

Catalogs and handbooks are wonderful tools. They provide a plethora of information about whatever interests one may have.

Philatelic handbooks give background information on your stamps and other details that would not always be easily found. They provide a concise listing of the stamps you may require for completing your collection. Often, they illustrate the stamps so you know exactly what to look for.

When ATA Handbook No. 162, *Handbook of Disney On Stamps*, was first written, it was intended to include all Disney philately, whether authorized or unauthorized, including postal stationery, personalized stamps, meters and cancels. As work on the book progressed, it was discovered that there was too much material on hand to include everything, so only stamps authorized by the Disney Corporation and some postal stationery was included. As it was,

the *Handbook of Disney on Stamps* had to be printed in two parts and came to more than 300 pages.

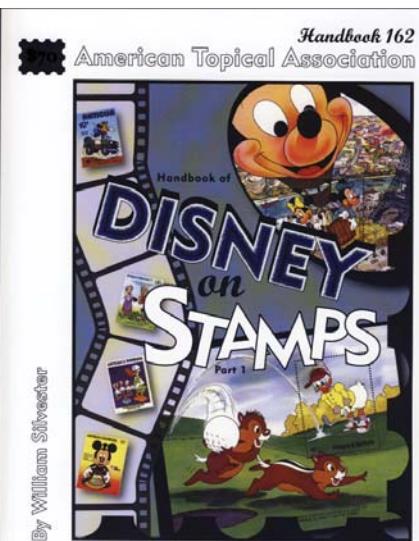
However, the unfortunate thing about catalogs and handbooks is that they are out of date the moment they are published. *Handbook of Disney on Stamps* is complete only up to 2012, now six years out of date. What to do?

In response to those who want to update their handbook, I have put together *Handbook of Disney on Stamps – Update*. This supplement includes all the stamps and postal stationery issued since 2012, as well as the so-called unauthorized stamps. The term unauthorized refers only to the fact that they were issued without the express permission of The Disney Corporation, but they are otherwise legitimate postage stamps. The postal stationery section (1997-2018) also includes all the items in the original handbook as well as everything issued since, covering more than 20 pages. The new issues of stamps are illustrated on 14 pages (2012-18) and the unauthorized stamps take up more than 30 pages (1972-2018).

Originally offered to Disneyana on Stamps Society members only, the update is now available to anyone who wants to update their *Handbook of Disney on Stamps*. The price for this impressive tome is only \$6 U.S., paid by PayPal to [wgsilvester@shaw.ca](mailto:wgsilvester@shaw.ca) and will be delivered by email in .pdf format.

For more information about Disneyana on Stamps Society and the other handbooks available, visit <https://disnemation.wixsite.com/doss> or stop in and “like” us on Facebook at Disney on Stamps.

By William Silvester



# Truly Royal Butterflies

Vladimir Kachan, Belarus

The beautiful queen butterfly, with the scientific name *Danaus gilippus*, adorns our gardens with its lovely orange wings (Figure 1). This butterfly has a geographical range from the tropics to temperate areas of Central and South America, North America and certain parts of Asia and Africa. Although ranging from Brazil all the way to the United States, the queen butterfly does not make dramatic migrations like the monarch, but during dry seasons it will migrate from lowlands to high elevations. It can be seen from a distance in large quantities during the rainy season and is likely the most common species found in the area where larval food sources are available. This is usually close to agricultural areas because milkweed grows readily along irrigated channels and drainage ditches. These butterflies often roost in groups on the underside of leaves in the late evening, upside-down with their wings closed. Roosting in communities such as this is probably for the purpose of giving added protection



Figure 1. Queen butterfly, Grenada Grenadines, 1975 (Scott 76).

from predators. In the adult stage, the *Danaus gilippus* develops acrid secretions. This is responsible for the butterfly being distasteful to predators such as birds and insects. The secretion is due to the diet that the caterpillars consume, which is poisonous or rank to higher organisms. Queen butterflies with a wingspan of 70-88 mm (2.8-3½ inches) drink from many different species of flowering plants (Figure 2). "Queen" is simply the common name of this species of butterfly. However, there are real queens among butterflies.



Figure 2. The queen butterfly is shown on the cover of this 2005 booklet from the Cayman Islands (Scott 945-947).



Figure 3. Queen Victoria, Great Britain 2011 (Scott 2945).

Victoria (Alexandrina Victoria; May 24, 1819-Jan. 22, 1901) was queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from June 20, 1837, until her death in 1901 (Figure 3). She equipped a special surveying expedition to the Pacific Ocean in 1852-54 on the Her Majesty's ship *Herald*. The naval officers and naturalists attached to the Royal Navy ship led the way in the biological discoveries in the Western Pacific. John MacGillivray was attached to the survey ship HMS *Herald* as a naturalist and is credited with capturing the first specimen of the large female birdwing butterfly at Wanderer Bay on Guadalcanal, Solo-

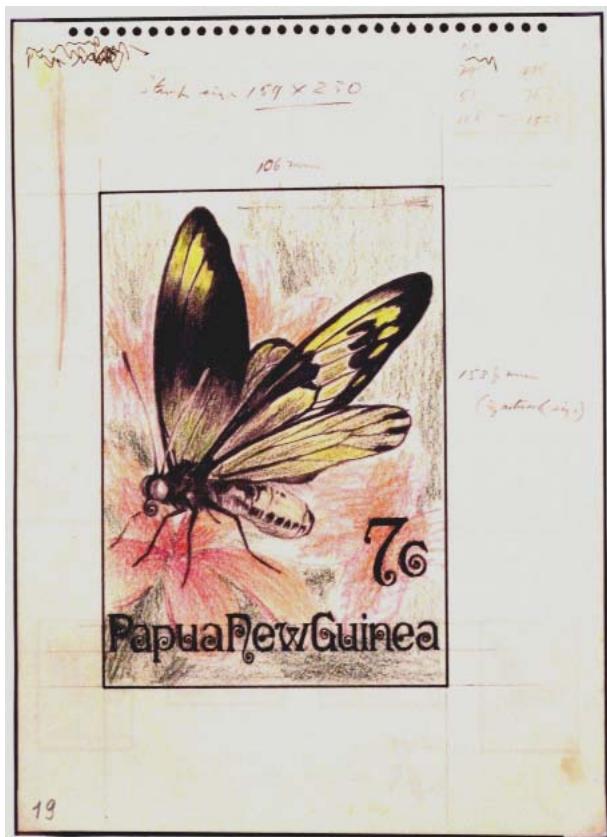
Victoria (Alexandrina Victoria; May 24, 1819-Jan. 22, 1901) was queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from June 20, 1837, until her death in 1901 (Figure 3). She equipped a special surveying expedition to the Pacific Ocean in 1852-54 on the Her Majesty's ship *Herald*. The naval officers and naturalists attached to the Royal Navy ship led the way in the biological discoveries in the Western Pacific. John MacGillivray was attached to the survey ship HMS *Herald* as a naturalist and is credited with capturing the first specimen of the large female birdwing butterfly at Wanderer Bay on Guadalcanal, Solo-



**Figure 4.** Proof of Solomon Islands set of stamps 1987 with butterfly *Ornithoptera victoriae*, Scott 606a-d.

wing butterfly was described in 1856 by English zoologist George Robert Gray. Both the scientific and vernacular names were in honor of Queen Victoria. So one of the most majestic butterflies of the world was named after the monarch – Queen Victoria's birdwing or *Ornithoptera victoriae* (Figure 4). Males are less common; the first was caught in 1887. This *ornithoptera* is one of the most majestic and wonderful butterflies in the world. The wings of females reach 18 cm (7 inches) in span and are painted black with yellow spots. Coloring the narrow leaf-shaped wings of the male, shining with red-gold and bright green on a velvety black background, makes an indelible impression (Figure 5). Wide wings of the female (with a span of 130-210 mm, 5-8 inches) look more modest than the male, but the combination in the pattern of

mon Islands. The commonly reported story of the capture is that MacGillivray could not catch the butterfly in a net because it was flying so high that he had to shoot it down from the top of the tree and consequently this holotype female specimen is peppered with holes. This bird-



**Figure 5.** Original artwork for 1975 Papua New Guinea male *Ornithoptera victoriae* (Scott 416), what became the 10t stamp.

silky-black, cream and yellow flowers is very effective and harmonious. Butterflies of this species are widely distributed in the Solomon Islands and the islands east of New Guinea.

Alexandra of Denmark (Alexandra Caroline Marie Charlotte Louise Julia; Dec. 1, 1844-Nov. 20, 1925) was queen of the United Kingdom and British Dominions and Empress of India (Figure 6) as the wife of King Edward VII. The Queen Alexandra's birdwing was discovered by English naturalist and wildlife collector Albert Stewart Meek in 1906 in Papua New Guinea. Working for a rich collector, Meek collected the first specimen by shooting it. It says much about the butterfly's size that there was anything left

to collect! The butterfly was described and named in 1907

by Sir Walter Rothschild after Edward VII's wife, Alexandra of Denmark (Edward VII was King of England at the time of the butterfly's discovery). The Queen Alexandra's birdwing lives in a small area of lowland tropical rainforest in the Oro Province, southeast Papua New Guinea. The area in which the butterfly is found may be as small as 1,200 square km/463 square miles. It is one of the largest butterflies on the planet (Figures 7 and 8); the wingspan of females is 31 cm (12 inches) and weight is 25 grams (nearly one ounce). Males are smaller than females, but their wings shine with blue and green colors of various shades. These majestic butterflies fly at an altitude of 30 meters and lay their eggs on the leaves of the high tropical liana of the area.

Their caterpillars are toxic, owing to the plants they consume, and are not commonly eaten in their natural habitat. Again, the butterflies retain this toxicity

through adulthood. The birdwing butterfly *Ornithoptera alexandrae* is considered the rarest butterfly in the world, with reference to its immense size and rarity in real life. Native to Papua, New Guinea, these beauties are speedy, thanks to their nearly footlong wingspan. Sadly, as demand for palm oil, coffee and cocoa increase in the region, their natural rainforest habitats are being destroyed, leaving the Queen Alexandra birdwing critically endangered.

Tamar the Great (1166-1213) reigned as the queen of Georgia from 1184-1213, presiding over the apex of the



Figure 6. Queen Alexandra, Newfoundland Scott 112 (1911).



Figure 7. Female *Ornithoptera alexandrae* 1988 Papua New Guinea (Scott 697-698).



Figure 8. Male *Ornithoptera alexandrae* 1988 Papua New Guinea (Scott 699-700).



**Figure 9.** Queen Tamar, Georgia Scott 14 (1920).

Georgian Golden Age (Figure 9). Butterfly *Zygaena tamara* is a polymorphic species with alternate, contrasting coloration of red or yellow on the fore- and hindwings and wingspan 27–30 mm (-1 inch). This species was first described by German and Russian entomologist Christoph in 1889 from the specimen found in the mountains of Armenia and was named in honor of Georgian Queen Tamar. Butterfly *Zygaena tamara* is an extremely rare species, endemic to Transcaucasia. The butterfly habitat is only in the mountains of the Zangezur ridge within the Nakhichevan Autonomous District of Azerbaijan and Armenia. This butterfly is included in the *Red Book of Azerbaijan* as an endangered species (Figure 10).

Isabella II de Borbón (Oct. 10, 1830–April 9, 1904) was queen of Spain from 1833–68 (Figure 11). Spanish botanist and zoologist Mariano de la Paz Graëlls described, in 1849, the moth of unusual beauty first caught in the mountains of Sierra de Guadarrama near Madrid. Its name was given to the butterfly in honor of the Spanish Queen Isabella. The *Graellsia isabellae* or *Saturnia isabellae* is a moth of the silkworm family Saturniidae, also known as the Spanish moon moth (Figure 12). *Graellsia isabellae*, also known as the stained glass moth, is a moon moth species endemic to France and Spain, and is often considered to be the most beautiful moth species found in Europe. It is one of the few moth species that enjoys a protected status. *Graellsia isabellae* is a species that inhabits mountains at altitudes between 1,000 and 1,800



**Figure 10.** Miniature sheet from Azerbaijan (1995, Scott 473a) with butterfly *Zygaena tamara* in printed selvage (arrow).

meters ( $\sim 1\frac{1}{2}$ -1 mile); in fact, it is found only high in the Alps and Pyrenees, where the larvae feed exclusively on pine trees. The wings are a light yellowish or bluish-green, with one russet eyespot on each and a strongly marked brown venation. The wingspan is 65-90 mm (2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches), both on the males and the females. The male and female are slightly different. The most salient feature is that the males have extremely long tails (Figure 13). It

flies in the middle of the night. This species prefers to rest near the forest floor on the stems of saplings and on small branches that – particularly in the male – it “clasps” with its wings. In this position it is remarkably well camouflaged. *Graellsia isabellae* is one of the largest and most attractive moths in Europe. ☐



Figure 12. Stamp of Spain from 2009 with female *Graellsia isabellae*

Figure 13 (right). Maximum card from France (1980) with

*The Author is ready to help philatelists in creating philatelic exhibits on butterflies and moths. His address is Vladimir Kachan, street Kulibina 9-49, Minsk-52, BY-220052, Republic of Belarus. He may be reached by email at vladimirkachan@mail.ru.*



Figure 11. Queen Isabella II on stamp of Spain, Scott 2129 (1978).



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## Lugano 2018, Paris-Philex 2018, Nordia 2018

# Foreign Thematic Exhibits

*Larry E. Davidson*

In this column, we will review the thematic exhibits shown at Lugano 2018, Paris-Philex 2018 and Nordia 2018. Only those exhibits with a score of 70 or higher are listed. \* indicates ATA member. Legend: **LG** – large gold, **G** – gold, **LV** – large vermeil, **V** – vermeil, **LS** – large silver, **S** – silver.

## Lugano 2018

This national exhibition, held every six years, was held in Lugano, Switzerland, May 17-20, 2018. It was organized by the Philatelic Club of Lugano and held under the patronage of the Federation of Swiss Philatelic Societies, with the support of the Federation for the Promotion of Philately.

**Hans Weber-Jürg**

*Our Drinking Water*

90, LG

**Heinz Bürki**

*The Lively Diversity of a Forest*

88, G

**Marcel Tschumi**

*Bridges: Wonders of Technology from Four Perspectives*

87, G

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<b>Urs Beck</b>	<i>Birds of Prey, Owls and Hawks</i>	86, G
<b>Hans Scheibler</b>	<i>All Scrap or What?</i>	85, G
<b>Marcel Jaques</b>	<i>Woman, I Love You...</i>	83, LV
<b>Kurt Müller</b>	<i>By Train to the Orient</i>	83, LV
<b>Roger Fridez</b>	<i>Meeting with the Horse</i>	82, LV
<b>Martin Geser</b>	<i>The Trees... and the Damounais</i>	81, LV
<b>Esther Pfister</b>	<i>The Dove: Symbol and Messenger Bird</i>	78, V
<b>Roger Fridez</b>	<i>Tennis</i>	75, V
<b>Michel Bommottet</b>	<i>The Olympic Games of the Modern Era</i>	73, LS
<b>Mostefa Bouzegaou</b>	<i>The Postman: Messenger of All Time</i>	72, LS
<b>Eva Maria Eme</b>	<i>Nicolaus Copernicus</i>	71, LS
<b>Stefan Philipp</b>	<i>State Names through the Ages</i>	70, LS

## Paris-Philex 2018

The French Championship, a national exhibition held every two years, was held in Paris, France, June 7-10, 2018. The exhibition was organized by the French Federation of Philatelic Associations (FFAP) in partnership with Philaposte (the French National Service for Stamps and Philately) and the French Association of Dealers and Experts in Philately (CNEP).

### Multi-frame Exhibits

<b>Paulo Jorge Ferreira de Sousa</b>	<i>A Look into a Sustainable Future</i>	93, G
<b>Jean-Marie Sauvaitre</b>	<i>My Trip to Masonry</i>	90, G
<b>Jacqueline Villa</b>	<i>Once upon a Time... Woman</i>	87, LV
<b>Jean-Claude Barrandon</b>	<i>The Vikings</i>	85, LV
<b>Marie-Françoise du Fayet de la Tour</b>	<i>Raminagrobis Cat...so!</i>	85, LV
<b>Phillippe Ikeo</b>	<i>Impressionism and its Time</i>	85, LV
<b>Françoise Allegranza Hugot</b>	<i>Insects: A Sect?</i>	83, V
<b>Jacqueline Ricardon</b>	<i>These Flowers that Enchant Me</i>	82, V
<b>Alain Richard</b>	<i>Sailing</i>	80, V
<b>Francis Docher</b>	<i>Brussels: A Heart for Europe</i>	80, V
<b>Jacques Raimondeau</b>	<i>Submarines</i>	78, LS
<b>Claude Delli</b>	<i>Peaceful Nuclear Energy from Yesterday and Today</i>	77, LS
<b>Dominique Reviglio</b>	<i>Tennis</i>	77, LS
<b>Henri Aronis</b>	<i>The Pharmacy</i>	76, LS
<b>Christine Parisseaux</b>	<i>From Smilidion to Salon Cat</i>	73, S
<b>Gilles Grellier</b>	<i>The Space Odyssey</i>	71, S
<b>Claude Hulot</b>	<i>The Fall of the French Monarchy</i>	70, S

### Open/Display Exhibits

<b>Marie-Francoise Du Fayet de la Tour</b>	<i>The Universe of Fire</i>	87, LV
<b>Gérard Gangloff</b>	<i>Orchids and Man</i>	87, LV

<b>Daniel Herrmann</b>	<i>Olympism: The Perpetual Battle of the Renovators</i>	86, LV
<b>Gérard Barrat</b>	<i>The Hand of Massages</i>	84, V
<b>Colette Collet</b>	<i>Discovering Dahlias</i>	82, V
<b>Marie-Francoise Du Fayet de la Tour</b>	<i>Cats: Stars of Art</i>	81, V
<b>Bernard Nortier</b>	<i>Roosters</i>	78, LS
<b>Jacqueline Ricardon</b>	<i>Blue</i>	78, LS
<b>Marie-Chantal Serre</b>	<i>How Nice an Owl...!</i>	77, LS
<b>Michel Assier</b>	<i>Ballooning with Time</i>	76, LS
<b>Thierry Frenet</b>	<i>Chimay Railway Company</i>	75, LS
<b>Bruno Bonnet</b>	<i>Auguste Escoffier: Cook of the Kings, King of the Cooks</i>	72, S
<b>Michel Assier</b>	<i>The Ephemeral Passage of Airships</i>	71, S

## Nordia 2018

This multinational exhibition was held in Garðabær, Iceland, June 8-10, 2018. The countries participating were Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The Scandinavian Collectors Club in the United States was also invited to attend. The exhibition was organized by the Icelandic Philatelic Federation. There were 700 frames of exhibits.

### Multi-frame Exhibits

<b>Leif W. Rasmussen (Denmark)</b>	<i>Animals Subjected to Man</i>	92, G
<b>Leif W. Rasmussen (Denmark)</b>	<i>An Evolving Society</i>	88, LV
<b>Leif W. Rasmussen (Denmark)</b>	<i>Nature's Wildlife Exploited by Man</i>	88, LV
<b>Olli Viljanen (Finland)</b>	<i>The Worlds Meet (Helsinki Olympic Games, 1952)</i>	80, V
<b>Bjørn Gunnar Solass (Norway)</b>	<i>World Festivals for Youth and Students 1951 – Gigantomani among Berlin Ruins</i>	76, LS
<b>Line Hellum Fomenko (Norway)</b>	<i>In the World of Butterflies</i>	73, S
<b>Bjørn Gunnar Solass (Norway)</b>	<i>Giotto to Picasso</i>	70, S

### Open/Display Exhibits

<b>Heikki Virtanen (Finland)</b>	<i>The Presidents of Finland</i>	91, G
<b>*Michael Schumacher (USA)</b>	<i>Icelandic Saga: The 1972 "Match of the Century"</i>	83, V
<b>Klaus Juvas (Finland)</b>	<i>The Life and Impact of Jean Sibelius</i>	80, V
<b>*Michael Schumacher (USA)</b>	<i>The Saga of the Icelandic Horse</i>	76, LS
<b>Markku Heinonen (Finland)</b>	<i>Uusikirkko, my Mom's Home Parish in Karelia</i>	76, LS
<b>Liv Marion Strømnes (Norway)</b>	<i>Alf Drøysen's "Blueberries"</i>	73, S

*Larry E. Davidson is a retired university mathematics lecturer. He has been collecting stamps for 60 years and exhibiting for 32 years. His display/therapeutic exhibit, Beavers: Nature's Engineers, received the Grand Award at NTSS 2015. His mailing address is 30 Front St, Apt 307, Stratford, Ontario N5A 7S3, Canada. His email address is [lawrence.davidson@gmail.com](mailto:lawrence.davidson@gmail.com).*

## CHAPTER CHATTER

*By Frederick C. Skvara, ATA Chapter Coordinator*

This is my last column as the ATA Chapter Coordinator. I have enjoyed reviewing the newsletters of the ATA chapters and am amazed at the wide variety of interests and activities of the chapters and their members. But I want to devote more time to some other interests. I want to thank the chapters – especially the editors – for their continuing support of this column by keeping me informed of their chapter activities.

Fortunately, Ann Byerly has stepped forward and volunteered to assume the position of ATA Chapter Coordinator. All newsletters and chapter information should now be forwarded to her. Her contact information is: Ann Byerly, 4525 Laurel St, New Orleans LA 70115-1538. Email: [atachapters2018@gmail.com](mailto:atachapters2018@gmail.com).

### Ann Arbor Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 98), Ann Arbor, Mich.

**Website:** [annarborstampclub.org](http://annarborstampclub.org)

**Newsletter:** AASC Newsletter; Harry Winter, editor.

**Email:** [harwin@umich.edu](mailto:harwin@umich.edu)

**Newsletter topics:** (May-July) At the June meeting Frank Donahue's presentation "Stamps in Murder-Mystery Motion Pictures – *Coyote Waits*" discusses the role played by stamps in the motive for a murder. *Coyote Waits* was written by Tony Hillerman (1925-2008) in 1990 and adapted for television by PBS in 2003. It is one of Hillerman's Navajo tribal police novels and involves murder, deception, the Navajo culture and Butch Cassidy, the American robber.



Navajo blanket, U.S.  
1986 (Scott 2236).

### ATA Chapter No. 5, Milwaukee, Wis.

**Website:** [wfscstamps.org/clubs/atachap5.shtml](http://wfscstamps.org/clubs/atachap5.shtml)

**Newsletter editor:** Robert Mather, email: [burrobob@wi.rr.com](mailto:burrobob@wi.rr.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (June) Don Birschel's presentation "Joint Issues – Peace Thru Philately" at the June meeting was followed by a "Show & Tell" on joint issues. A joint-issue souvenir folder commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Lapland Expedition was donated by MaryAnn Bowman to be given to the person who identified the joint issue countries and the year of issue. The Lapland Expedition in 1736 proved the earth's poles were flat and in 1986 France and Finland released a joint issue commemorating the expedition. Rob Henak's exhibit, *Spuds: Potatoes in the United States at the Turn of Last*

*Century*, won the Husak Topical Award at Wiscopex '18.

An article included in this newsletter, "A Brief History

of Airmail," included a number of images of early U.S.

airmail issues. (July) At the July meeting Bob Ulatt told

about the topical collecting course at the APS Summer Seminar. One of the articles included in this issue was about the "The Peace Rose," a rose that originated in 1935 when the French rose breeder Francis Meilland selected a seedling that was then developed over the next four years. When Hitler invaded France the rose was sent to America in a diplomatic bag. On April 29, 1945,

Pierre-Louis Moreau de  
Maupertuis (1698–1759), 250th  
Anniversary of Lapland Expedition,  
Finland 1986 (Scott 741).



the rose was released in Pasadena, Calif. It was named “Peace” because on its release date, Berlin fell and a truce was declared. “Peace” has been used in breeding programs around the world and is the ancestor of hundreds of varieties in a wide variety of colors.

### Baltimore Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 128), Baltimore, Md.

**Website:** [www.balpex.org](http://www.balpex.org)

**Newsletter:** *Baltimore Philatelist*, Charles Morgan, editor.

**Email:** [balpex@verizon.net](mailto:balpex@verizon.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (January-March) Steven Wampler, a music teacher at the Elkridge Elementary School invited Aldona Pilus, vice-president and Carroll Browne, co-chairman of Balpex 2018, to speak to third- and fourth-graders about coin and stamp collecting. Each student received a “goody bag” containing hinges, tongs, glassines, lots of stamps, pages from the American Topical Association and more. Among the things they were shown was how to hold tongs and mount stamps on the ATA pages. Carroll showed part of his topical collection on firefighters and Aldona showed the grape part of her wine collection. “It was a good, frenzied search of topics and countries,” as the children looked through piles of stamps. This society’s outreach to children exposing them to stamp collecting, especially topical collecting, is to be commended. At the Feb. 28 meeting, members were asked to bring their favorite booklets, either of a country or a topic.



Pinot Noir  
grapes U.S. 2017  
(Scott 5177).

### Buffalo Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 131), Buffalo, N.Y.

**Newsletter editor:** Alfred Carroccia

**Email:** [fuzzy9600@verizon.net](mailto:fuzzy9600@verizon.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (June) Two new members were welcomed to the club: Tom Costelloe, who collects soccer, and Michael Thomas, who collects international airmail and Disney. The stamp shown here depicts Goofy (Dingo) cleaning the teeth of a hippopotamus. Goofy is called Dingo in Disney comics produced in France. The stamp is part of a set of nine stamps commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Disney character Pluto. The stamps show Disney characters and animals from the Fazao-Malfakassa National Park in Togo.



Dingo (Goofy) cleaning  
teeth of a hippopotamus,  
Togo 1980 (Scott 1065).

### Evergreen Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 130), Kent, Wash.

**Website:** [www.stamps.org/Evergreen-Stamp-Club](http://www.stamps.org/Evergreen-Stamp-Club)

**Newsletter editor:** Tim Greene, email: [gt45@msn.com](mailto:gt45@msn.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (June) At the June meeting Bill Geijsbeek presented a talk on first-day covers, describing his experiences in obtaining a number of first-day cancels, including the 1972 postal card issued by the USPS for “Tourism Year of the Americas” and the 1988 postal card showing an American Buffalo and a prairie. He also told the story of how he contacted local artists and printers to design a cachet for the 4.1¢ Tandem bicycle stamp that was released Oct. 26, 1988, in Redmond, Wash. He spent three days at the post office affixing stamps to be canceled. The covers were sold out within one hour.



24.1¢ Tandem  
bicycle, U.S. 1988  
(Scott 2266).

**Greater Mound City Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 115), St. Louis, Mo.****Website:** [www.greatermoundcity.org](http://www.greatermoundcity.org)**Newsletter:** *Perf-Dispatch*, Phil Schorr, editor, email: [pschorr@att.net](mailto:pschorr@att.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (May) Editor Philip Schorr gave a program on "roses" at the May meeting using rose stamps and covers, as well as rose blooms to teach the members about roses and rose philately. One of the blooms he brought was the "dog rose" (*Rosa Canina*) and also passed around a stamp showing that rose. (June) At the June meeting Tom Minor presented "The Pilgrimage of St. Jake," describing with stamps and photographs the 500-mile pilgrimage across northern Spain to the cathedral in which are located the remains of St. James. (July) Nathan Esbeck gave a program on the "Byrd Antarctic Expedition."

Dog rose (*Rosa canina*),  
Yugoslavia 1955 (Scott 430).

**Huntsville Philatelic Club (ATA Chapter No. 133), Huntsville, Ala.****Newsletter editor:** Arthur Cole, email: [artcole@att.net](mailto:artcole@att.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (July) "Insects of Stamps," by Bob Baker, was the program at the July meeting. At Huntspex 2018 Madeline Seibert's exhibit "Philatelic Vexillology" (study of flags) received a youth vermeil medal and the ATA Youth Award. The youth silver award was given to Boman Seibert for "Trains As Seen on Stamps."

*Sun Yat-sen, Abraham Lincoln with flags of the U.S. and Republic of China, 1959 (Scott 1249).*

**Knoxville Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 121), Knoxville, Tenn.****Website:** [www.knoxstamps.com](http://www.knoxstamps.com)**Newsletter:** *Knoxville Philatelic Society News*, Tom Broadhead, editor.**Email:** [tomwb50@aol.com](mailto:tomwb50@aol.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (June) This month's "Stamp of the Month" is a stamp from Poland (Scott N70) issued when the Germans occupied Poland during World War II. It shows St. Mary's Church in Cracow, Poland. Wes Hayes gave the stamp to the club. The envelope that was used to mail the May newsletter was franked with the recent "Stem" stamp and had a related cachet designed by Ralph Dinwiddie. In the June newsletter he describes how he developed

the cachet.

At the June

meeting

Nick Stone

presented

"Those

Magnificent

Men in

their Flying

Machines."

(July)



Love by Robert Indiana,  
U.S. 1973 (Scott 1475).

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The “Stamp of the Month” was a New Zealand stamp issued in 1946 (Scott 254) commemorating peace at the end of World War II. It shows the coat of arms of New Zealand. The stamp was a gift from Dick Jackson. Editor Tom Broadhead’s article looks at “Robert Indiana and United States Love Stamps.” Robert Indiana (1928-2018) designed the “Love” motif used on the 1973 United States stamp.

### **Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (ATA Chapter No. 118), Lancaster, Pa.**

**Website:** [www.lcps-stamps.org](http://www.lcps-stamps.org)

**Newsletter editor:** Paul Petersen, email: [pcpetersen@comcast.net](mailto:pcpetersen@comcast.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (July-August) At the July meeting Aaron

Heckler, a historian and author, gave an illustrated program on the Schuylkill Navigation (Schuylkill Canal) in southeastern Pennsylvania. In the “Musings” column, editor Paul Petersen shows a hand-painted cover that was sent to his wife by a penpal in the postcard exchange organization, PostCrossing. The cover was franked with the United States 44¢ (Scott B4) “Save Vanishing Species” stamp, which shows an Amur tiger cub, a species found in far eastern Russia.



*Amur tiger cub, U.S.  
2011 (Scott B4).*

### **Mid-Cities Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 90), Arlington, Irving and Granbury, Texas**

**Website:** [www.mid-citiesstampsclub.com](http://www.mid-citiesstampsclub.com)

**Newsletter:** *Stamping Around*, Peter Elias, editor.

**Email:** [editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com](mailto:editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (June) Editor Peter Elias, in “Topic of the Month: National Something Day,” muses on creating a philatelic calendar for “National Something Day.” He mentions a website that has more than 1,500 “Something Days” (such as May 4 – “National Orange Juice Day”; Jan. 11 – “National Step in A Puddle and Splash Your Friends Day” and so on). Ray Cartier describes “Liechtenstein – The Richest Country in the World” in a “Been There, Done That” column. Only two castles are still standing in the principality: Vaduz Castle and Gutenberg Castle. The title refers to the average per capita value of \$140,000. Bob and Pat Weidman describe a recent trip to the Balkans where they visited a Franciscan monastery and pharmacy in “Old Dubrovnik,” the old walled section of Dubrovnik, Croatia. It has been in existence since 1391. Peter Elias – in a sidebar – mentions that the Löwen Apothecary in Trier, Germany, was first mentioned in 1241 and, though remodeled, is still in operation. (July) The Wiedmans’ trip to the Balkans resulted in several other “Been There, Done That” columns. One looks at Split, Croatia, on the Adriatic Sea, whose main attraction is the palace built in the 4th century by the Roman Emperor Diocletian (245-313), who reigned from 284 until 305, when he abdicated. Columns are also included about their travels to the Plitvice Lakes National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in eastern Croatia and the old walled town of Kotor, Montenegro. Continuing his look at “National Something Days,” Peter Elias mentions “National Ice Cream Day” (July 9) and



*Vaduz castle,  
Liechtenstein 1920  
(Scott 25).*

“Forklift Truck Safety Day.” “Meghdoot Postal Cards of India,” by Ray Cartier, describes those advertising postal cards issued with a wide variety of advertisements [I have a number of these cards with medical themes].

### Midwest Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 129), Kansas City, Mo.

**Website:** [www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com](http://www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com).

**Newsletter:** *The Messenger*, Armen Hovsepian, editor.

**Newsletter topics:** (June) At the June meeting, president and editor Jim McKinzie gave a talk titled “It Glows” describing the United States stamp tagging program. In “Philatelic Ramblings” the editor gives several suggestions for new collections including U.S. plate blocks, U.S. joint issues and “gimmick stamps” (such as Bhutan’s 3-D stamps, Tonga’s unusually-shaped self-adhesive stamps and others). Stamps from Bhutan and Tonga are illustrated in Jim’s article. (July) Dale Smith, president of ATA, gave the program at the July meeting: “The Other Things I Collect.” The editor shows and discusses a number of United States stamps in his column “How Patriotic is the United States Stamp Program?” He mentions that it

wasn’t until 1957 that the U.S. flag itself was specifically honored on a stamp, “Old Glory” (48-star flag), Scott 1094. The mystery stamp in the June newsletter is identified in the July newsletter as the 1958 Colombian stamp showing a coffee picker from the west-central department of Caldas, Scott 684.



Coffee picker in  
Caldas Dept.,  
Colombia 1958  
(Scott 684).

### Milwaukee Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 112), Milwaukee, Wis.

**Website:** [milwaukeephilatelic.org](http://milwaukeephilatelic.org)

**Newsletter:** *Milwaukee Philatelist*, Jonathan Kumbera, editor.

**Newsletter topics:** (June) The June newsletter leads off with an article on the USPS “Frozen Treats” stamps issued June 20. It notes that the frozen pop can be traced back to 1905 and Frank Epperson (1894-1983) who, as an 11-year-old, accidentally left a cup of soda with a stirring stick outside on a very cold night. Next morning: soda on a stick! At the June meeting Jean Davidson (a Harley-Davidson family

member) presented a program on “All Things Harley.” Members were asked to bring motorcycle stamps for a “Show & Tell.” (July) In this issue there is an article on the July 22 USPS stamp release “World War I –Turning the Tide.” In Jan. 1917, Arthur Zimmermann (1864-1940), the German Foreign Minister, sent a telegram to Heinrich von Eckhardt (1861-1944), the German Minister to Mexico, proposing that Mexico join with Germany in the event the United States entered the war. The telegram was intercepted by British Intelligence and was a factor in the decision by the United States to enter the



Harley-Davidson motorcycle,  
U.S. 2006 (Scott 4088).

war. With the troops and weapons from the United States, the balance of power was changed and the war was over by November 1918.

## Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo (ATA Chapter No. 66), Toledo, Ohio

**Website:** [www.toledostampclub.org](http://www.toledostampclub.org)

**Newsletter:** *Frogtown Philatelist*, John Mann, editor, email: [john6125@earthlink.net](mailto:john6125@earthlink.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (June) The highlighted June dates are June 7, 1898, the birth-date of Eugène Henri Paul Gauguin, the French painter who spent most of his later years in Tahiti, French Polynesia. He was a post-impressionist whose work was greatly influenced by primitive art. Gauguin died in 1903. The other date, June 7, 1654, relates to the crowning of Louis XIV as King of France. He became king as a child in 1643, but Queen Anne became Regent until Louis' coronation. The column "Where in the World is..." looks at Rattlesnake Island in Lake Erie, part of Put-In-Bay Township in Ottawa County, Ohio. During the War of 1812, Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry and William Henry Harrison established an American naval base at Put-In-Bay. Today, the island is in private hands and is accessible only to the membership of the Rattlesnake Island Club which operated the only USPS-sanctioned local post in the U.S., but the local post was closed in 2013. Several of the island's local post stamps are illustrated in the article.



*Arearea (1892) by Paul Gauguin, France 1968  
(Scott 1205).*

## Venice Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 122), Venice, Fla.

**Website:** [www.stamps.org/venice-stamp-club](http://www.stamps.org/venice-stamp-club)

**Newsletter editor:** Lance Grandone.

**Email:** [venicestampclub@gmail.com](mailto:venicestampclub@gmail.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (June) There is a short note on "Composite Stamps" in which the design is spread over several stamps. The article mentions they were first used in 1957 when Poland issued two stamps for the World Youth Fencing Championships in Warsaw (Scott 766-768a). (July-August) At the August meeting Mike Vagnetti gave the program "Cigars on Stamps." Dawn Hamman's article "Topical Collecting – The Bright Future of Philately" promotes the ATA and how the organization can help one pursue collecting topical stamps.



*Soyez & Salyt 6 docking in space  
(example of composite stamps),  
Russia 1978 (Scott 667).*

## Australia

### Thematics Queensland (ATA Chapter No. 86), Queensland, Australia

**Newsletter:** *Thematically Speaking*, John Crowley, editor.

**Email:** [jcrowley@primus.com.au](mailto:jcrowley@primus.com.au)

**Newsletter topics:** (June) The article "Crossing the Divide – Bridges" describes various types of bridges and is illustrated with stamps from a number of different countries. Joan Orr continues the series "Appropriate Philatelic Material," this time looking at postal-philatelic material.



The newsletter concludes with several illustrated pages of items from a recent "Show & Tell." Accompanying the newsletter were photocopies of an exhibit *Wood'n IT* that looks at the role of the tree in "the development of the game of golf and the equipment used to play the game." The exhibit notes that a number of different woods have been used to form the shaft of golf clubs, including wood from apple, ash, hawthorn and other trees.

## Canada

### Calgary Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 91), Calgary, Alberta, Canada

**Newsletter:** *Calgary Philatelist*, Dale Speirs, editor.

**Email:** [opuntia57@yahoo.ca](mailto:opuntia57@yahoo.ca)

**Newsletter topics:** (July) Dale Speirs' article, "Katherine Stinson & Calgary," tells the story of the first airmail flown in Alberta, Canada, and the first airmail in Canada flown by a female pilot. On July 9, 1918, Stinson carried about 250 pieces of mail from Calgary to Edmonton. The plane she flew was a customized Jenny biplane. Canada Post recently issued a booklet of 12 stamps showing Katherine Stinson and a portion of her biplane.



Untamed, by Walter Petrigo,  
100th anniv. of founding  
of Calgary, Canada 1975  
(Scott 667).

## Great Britain

### British Thematic Association (ATA Chapter No. 100), Ware, England

**Website:** [www.britishtematic.org.uk](http://www.britishtematic.org.uk)

**Newsletter:** *Themescene*, Wendy Buckle, editor.

**Newsletter topics:** (June) Neil Pearce has a short article, "Lunar New Year," illustrated with stamps from a number of different countries for 2001 (Year of the Snake); 2003 (Year of the Ram); 2004 (Year of the Monkey); 2010 (Year of the Tiger) and 2018 (Year of the Dog). A related article by Russ Walker "Teaching Old Dogs New Tricks: Chinese New Year and Encouraging Stamp Collecting," describes the Caledonian Philatelic Society's participation in a celebration of Chinese customs and New Year celebrations at the Glasgow Museum. They had displays of dog stamps and activities for children, even providing starter packs for the children. Their efforts were well received. In "How I Started," Ray Brown describes his introduction to stamp collecting while he was on doctor's orders to rest his foot after minor foot surgery. To keep him occupied and off his feet, his father obtained an old stamp collection from a friend that piqued Ray's curiosity. As his interest in stamps grew, it rubbed off on his father, who started a thematic collection of birds. A mixed lot purchased at a local stamp club meeting contained a first-day cover for Norway's 1966 set of stamps commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Bank of Norway and, as Ray was employed in the banking field, he began a topical collection on banking and finance. By 1969 he had enough material to put together an exhibit and entered it in a thematic stamp exhibition. ☐



150th anniversary of  
Bank of Norway, Nor-  
way 1966 (Scott 493).



## YOUTH IN TOPICS

MaryAnn Bowman

### Stamp Camps and Puzzles

Fall is in the air and the stamp collecting season is about to get into full swing. Are you prepared with new ideas and activities to motivate and inspire young collectors?

Frequently new clubs get bogged down after just a few meetings. Things usually start out with the basics of the hobby – something that many adult collectors feel comfortable sharing with young hobbyists. But then what? Adults have good intentions when starting a youth group, but it takes a lot of time and energy to adequately prepare for those meetings and to have activities that challenge as well as keep the interest of fledgling collectors. So where do the ideas come from?

Take a tip from teachers – use themes that relate to months, seasons, holidays, birthdays and anniversaries. Or choose a topic with kid appeal, such as penguins, trains, space or any one of a myriad of collecting themes. Follow any interests that are expressed by members of the group.

Philatelists have many sources of program ideas at their fingertips if they would just stop to realize the resources available to them. Google searches will result in options available and I have frequently referenced the youth activities found on the websites of the American Topical Association and the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs.

Interesting programs for youth as well as adults can be created from information found in the *Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting*, now in its second edition. Originally edited by Rodney Juell and Steven Rod, this book was written with the beginning collector in mind. It covers the full scope of U.S. collecting areas from stampless covers to back-of-the-book material. It assumes no prior experience with collecting and thus makes a good reference for the important ideas and concepts to use when talking about a particular area of philately. The book, written in 2006 and updated in 2016, is readily available online. Either book should be in the library of adults working with youth or beginner collectors. If your club has a philatelic library, this should be one of the books in its collection as well.

### A Year in the Making

Last summer (2017), the Sheboygan Stamp Club (Wisconsin) invited me to come to one of its meetings and to discuss possible ideas for a summer stamp collecting camp that the club wanted to hold for youth.

I am happy to say that it came to fruition this summer with the club's first successful stamp camp, held on June 27. The program was planned with the assistance of the Cascade post office and Kaye Kielbasa. It was held at the Lima Town Hall in neighboring Sheboygan Falls.

Eight youth were involved in a day of learning about stamp collecting. Members of the stamp club assisted Kaye Kielbasa in showing them what stamps

are, how to soak them off paper (for the older stamps) and how to store them or mount them in books.

The kids designed stamps that were hung in the post office window. They played some games that made the kids look at the various stamp albums that the club members brought along to show them. They learned about some of the U.S. presidents from first-day cover collections. They also told stories by mounting stamps on a story page. They had to hunt through piles of stamps about persons, places, things, animals and flowers to make the story.

As an incentive, Stamp Bucks were earned for various things such as doing a "good" job of asking and answering questions, finishing projects, helping with clean up or paying attention. These stamp bucks



*Northwoods Stamp Camp –  
another successful endeavor.*

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then could be used by the kids at the “store table” to buy items club members had donated for purchase. A light lunch was served and a good time was had by all those who were there.

The SSC President, Jan Brock, reports that the adult volunteers really had a good time with the kids and they hope to do it again.

### **Stamp Camp Background**

Cheryl Edgcomb was the driving force behind the Stamp Camp concept and pioneered the original program. Aimed at the eight- to 14-year age group, it was a collaborative educational program that tapped community resources such as Scouts, 4-H, Head-Start, the YMCA and YWCA programs, public libraries and home school networks.

Campers learned stamp collecting basics, including the proper care of a stamp collection and the use of cool stamp tools. Popular hands-on activities followed, with an emphasis on creative story-telling, through individual and team projects. The camp schedule was flexible, ranging anywhere from an hour, to a day to a week.

Cheryl is a retired postmaster and lifelong stamp collector. She started working with children as a Benjamin Franklin Stamp Club coordinator within her ZIP Code area. During that time, she also established the Tri-Code Ben Franklin Stamp Fairs for children complete with youth exhibits and youth-friendly dealers.

What is the status of stamp camps today? The Rocky Mountain Stamp Show has been hosting a Stamp Camp for a number of years. Are there other individuals or groups holding Stamp Camps? If so, I would love to hear from you!

### **Challenge - Stamp Puzzles**

I have written about stamp jigsaw picture puzzles in the past and am always thrilled to find a new one to add to my collection. My latest find would make a fine gift for an adult to give a young person and then work together during the upcoming holiday season to complete the puzzle together.

Ravensburger has a new Stamps Challenge Series puzzle of 500 pieces. It is a very colorful puzzle with most of the stamps being U.S. commemoratives of recent vintage. Denominations on those stamps are mostly 20¢, 22¢, 25¢, 29¢ and 32¢. There are some older issues and a handful of foreign stamps as well. The challenge will be that most of the stamps depicted are actually shown in multiples and blocks, not just singles. The finished size is approximately 19 inches by 14 inches.

The stamp designs themselves are likely to generate exclamations from children who are not aware of the great diversity of images found on our country's stamps.

So how have I used stamp puzzles? One year, I found the dollar store had stamp puzzles and that year each of the kids in my stamp club got one of those puzzles as



a Christmas gift. Another year, I put together one of the Disney stamp puzzles and, using puzzle glue to hold the pieces in place, I framed the puzzle and used it at the entrance to the youth/beginner area with the caption: Puzzled? Stamp Collecting Questions Answered Here.

I have another jigsaw puzzle that I have similarly displayed that features the Greetings from America stamp series but one state is missing from the puzzle. Visitors are challenged to name the missing state. Last year at NTSS, an unfinished Disney puzzle was set up in the youth area. By the end of the show, it was completed.

I like to use a USPS dinosaur puzzle – it has about 100 pieces and its colorful nature invites one to complete it. I have also made my own puzzles from stamp posters adhered to foam and/or cardboard and cut into pieces with an electric knife. Unfortunately, it is not as easy to get stamp posters from the post office as it once was.

### Hoping to Hear from You

The relevance of this column relies on you, the readership. I would like to hear from you! What are your success stories? What pitfalls did you encounter? Were there any successful activities that you have used and can share? Do you have a new twist on a popular game? Have you found an interesting website with kid-friendly information? There are many ways that you can keep this column alive and relevant as it serves as a motivational tool for those “out there in the field” promoting the hobby. Please share your input today!

You can contact me through writing to PO Box 1451, Waukesha WI 53187-1451 or by email at [maryann15b@mac.com](mailto:maryann15b@mac.com). I look forward to hearing from you! 

*MaryAnn Bowman is a youth activist, director of ATA Youth Activities, was named as the 2005 ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist and previously served on the Smithsonian's Council of Philatelists.*



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## 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. This list includes new membership numbers 58006-58042 and recent reinstatements (membership through July 31, 2018).

58021	APPLETON, John	Birds
58027	BARTELS, Liz	
58018	BELL, Thomas	Music (especially Rock Music, Elvis, Beatles), Maps
58036	BREZNIAK, Victor	Flowers, Birds, Insects, Air and Space
57321	BYLSMA, Nelene	Moose
12518	CARPENTER, Keith S., <i>kbcarp@sbcglobal.net</i>	Christmas, Olympic Games, Biblical
58037	DE DONDER, Roeland, <i>jan.de.donder@telenet.be</i>	Music, Belgian History
	Kardinaal Mercierlaan 31 B 0402, Heverlee, B 3001, Belgium	
58026	HEIM, Wayne, 1845 Windsong Ln, Lancaster PA 17602-7002	Nicolaus Copernicus
56209	HELM, Jack	
58039	HITT, Tom	Pony Express, Christmas/Holiday
58032	HOY, Bill, <i>bill_boy@baylor.edu</i>	Medical/Health Care; U.S. Presidents on international stamps
	PO Box 306, Crawford TX 76638-0306	
58012	HUNT, Roger, <i>rhunt@thegegeneral.com</i>	Space, Trains, Planes
	2947 Churchill Ln, Thompsons Station TN 37179-5255	
58024	HYLAND, Alex	
56818	JANUSZ, Edward	Music, Writers
58010	KAISER, Peter	Mail Carriers, Post Offices, Mail Boxes, Mail Transport, Trains
	401 24th St, Columbus IN 47201-4103	
57456	KAKAD, Anand	Birds of the Pheasant Family
58008	KAPLAN, Keith, <i>keithjkaplanmd@gmail.com</i>	Medical, Health, Physicians/Doctors
	PO Box 4116, Wheaton IL 60189-4116	
58015	KUMBERA, Richard	Red Cross
56378	LOUNGEWAY, Gloria, 664 Devon Rd, Grovetown GA 30813-5277	Birds, Disney
58006	MICHAELS, Reid, <i>reidmichaels2951@yahoo.com</i>	Olympics, U.S. Civil War, Architecture, Archaeology
58042	NADINE, Chloe	
58007	OPPENHEIM, Charles, <i>c oppenheim@btinternet.com</i>	Chess, Patents, Inventions
58020	PAVALESKY, Katherine, <i>kpava@winfirst.com</i>	Disney, Princess Diana
58033	PELTON, Richard, <i>unstamper@hotmail.com</i>	Joint Issues with U.S., Founding of the U.N.
58028	PINNELL, Richard, <i>rpinnell909@gmail.com</i>	U.S. Trains, U.S. Airmail/Special Delivery

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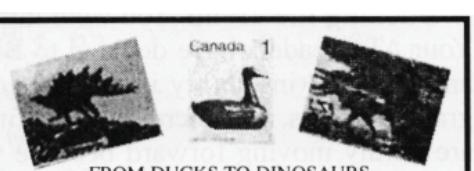
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58016	QUICK, Ardis, <i>ardisquick@gmail.com</i>	Cats, Statue of Liberty, Abraham Lincoln
58013	SHAW, Mary L.	
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58019	SHUBLAK, Mark, <i>mshublak@hotmail.com</i>	
58030	SLOTTERBACK, Floyd	Music, Music related
425 E Crescent St Apt 3, Marquette MI 49855-3659		
58023	SMITH, Michael E., 23 Tiger Dr, Wentzville MO 63385-3306	Soccer, Sports
58022	SMITH, Nathan	
58029	STEWART, Charles, <i>billstewart1943@earthlink.net</i>	Dragons
58009	SUTHERLAND, Anthony, <i>anthony@sutherland96@yahoo.com</i>	Military, Stamps on Stamps, Trains
58041	THOMPSON, Don A.	
55331	TOMPSETT, David, <i>tompsett1234@yahoo.com</i>	Interpol, UPU
58031	VILLA, Mauricio	Dragons, Olympics, Ears
58014	WALL, Nicki	
58011	WEBER, Elza, <i>elzawbr45@gmail.com</i>	Cattle, Elephants
58025	WHITE, Ralph, <i>rwhitecpa@comcast.net</i>	
58038	WILHELM, Michael, <i>wilhelmmi@gmail.com</i>	
91 Bee Mountain Rd, Oxford CT 06478-1612		
56096	WROBEL, Peter	Stamps on Stamps, Winston Churchill, Postal History, Cartography

### Deceased

8648-LM	Richard Dick (Fla.)
22140	Maurice Forget (Quebec, Canada)
51250	Manuel Gilyard (N.Y.)
4210	Lina Sharp (Nev.)
30442	Elizabeth C Wolf (Minn.)

## ATA Membership Recruiters

The following ATA members have recruited a total of 46 new members up to July 31 of this year. Individual members receive \$5 in ATA Bucks credit for each new member recruited. We hope your name will appear here soon! Please notify the ATA Office if you would like recruiting materials

**ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green.**

**2018 Recruiters: ATA Dealer Members shown in red.**

Hamman, Dawn & John	5	Haynes, Fred	1
Davidson, Larry	4	Homel, Mike	1
Smith, Dale	4	Knapp, Eric	1
Asher, Barbara	2	Pettway, Jim	1
Bruce, Sue	2	Ward, Scott	1
Coe, LeA	2	Wilderness, Robin	1
Congrove, Jack	2		
Edholm, Keith & Carol	2		
Stanton, Loraine	2		
Winnegrad, Mark	2	American Philatelic Society	2
Cartier, Karen	1	Chemistry & Physics Study Unit	1
Chun, Steve	1	ESPER	2
Colasanti, John	1	Mekeel's & Stamps	1
Fisk, Allan	1	Salem Stamp Society	1
		Thematics Queensland	1

### Group recruiters

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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](mailto:wystamps@gmail.com).

## 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.**

### Editorial Content

All editorial inquiries or comment for *Topical Time* should be directed to Editor Wayne L. Youngblood. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of ATA, its officers or staff. Neither the ATA nor its officers assume responsibility for individual dealings with or between members.

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. The *2015-17 ATA Membership Directory* is available from the ATA Office for \$5, plus postage (\$3 U.S., \$6 Canada and \$13 international).

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(Routinely mentioned in *Topical Time*)

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 American Philatelic Society  
 100 Match Factory Pl  
 Bellefonte PA 16823-1367 USA  
[www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org)

*American Stamp Dealer & Collector*:  
 Wayne Youngblood, editor  
 ASDA, PO Box 692, Leesport PA 19533-0692 USA  
[editor@americanstampdealer.com](mailto:editor@americanstampdealer.com)

*Atout Timbres*: Aude Ben-Moha, editor, 37 rue des Jacobins, F-80036, Amiens, Cedex 1, France.  
[www.yvert-et-tellier.fr/](http://www.yvert-et-tellier.fr/)

*Canadian Stamp News*:  
 PO Box 28103, St. Catharines, Ontario, L2N 7P8, Canada  
[bret@trajan.ca](mailto:bret@trajan.ca); [www.canadianstampnews.ca](http://www.canadianstampnews.ca)

*Filacap*: José Maurício do Prado, editor,  
 Caixa Postal 06, Cachoeira Paulista SP,  
 12630-970, Brazil  
[ac.filacap@uol.com.br](mailto:ac.filacap@uol.com.br); [www.filacap.com.br](http://www.filacap.com.br)

*Gibbons Stamp Monthly*: Dean Shepherd, editor, 5 Parkside, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH, United Kingdom  
[www.stanleygibbons.com](http://www.stanleygibbons.com)

*Israel Philatelist*: Donald A. Chafetz, editor, 1943 Altozano Dr, El Cajon CA 92020-1002 USA  
[sipeditor@gmail.com](mailto:sipeditor@gmail.com); [www.israelstamps.com](http://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](http://www.echo-de-la-timbrologie.com)

*Linn's Stamp News*: Jay Bigalke, editor-in-chief, PO Box 29, Sidney OH 45365-0029 USA  
[jaybigalke@amosmedia.com](mailto:jaybigalke@amosmedia.com); [www.linns.com](http://www.linns.com)

*Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine*: John F. Dunn, editor, 42 Sentry Way, Merrimack NH 03054-4429 USA  
[www.stampnewsnow.com](http://www.stampnewsnow.com)

*Philatelic Exporter*: Graham Phillips, editor, 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 35H, United Kingdom  
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*Philatelic Exhibitor*: Randy L. Neil, editor, PO Box 8512, Shawnee Mission KS 66208-8512 USA  
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*Setempe*: Suzie Khumalo, editor, Private Bag X505, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa

*South African Philatelist*: Chris Mobsby, editor, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504, South Africa  
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*Stamp Insider*: Albert W. Starkweather, editor, 5668 Tranquility Oaks Dr Unit 208, Tampa FL 33624-5849 USA  
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[www.stampmagazine.co.uk](http://www.stampmagazine.co.uk)

*Stamp News Australasia*: Kevin Morgan, editor, PO Box 1290, Upwey, Victoria, 3158, Australia  
[kevinmorgan2@live.com](mailto:kevinmorgan2@live.com)  
[www.stampnews.com.au](http://www.stampnews.com.au)

*U.S. Stamp News*: John Hotchner, editor, PO Box 1125, Falls Church VA 22041-0125 USA  
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## SHOW CALENDAR

**Sept. 14-16, 2018, Milwaukee, Wis.** Milcopex '18, sponsored by Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 South 13th St. Contact Donna Fagan (262) 251-0617.

Email: [maryann15b@mac.com](mailto:maryann15b@mac.com)

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

**Sept. 21-23, 2018, Houston, Texas.** Greater Houston Stamp Show, sponsored by the Houston Philatelic Society, Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy., Humble, Texas. Contact Ron Strawser (832) 264-4185.

Email: [ghss2017@earthlink.net](mailto:ghss2017@earthlink.net)

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

**Oct. 5-7, 2018, Indianapolis, Ind.** Indypex '18, sponsored by the Indiana Stamp club, Hamilton County Fairground & Exhibition Center, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville, Ind. Contact Bob Ziegler (317) 844-5200.

Email: [rzeigler@zcklaw.com](mailto:rzeigler@zcklaw.com)

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

**Nov. 3-4, 2018, Ann Arbor, Mich.** Aapex 2018, sponsored by Ann Arbor Stamp Club, Morris Lawrence Bldg, Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr, Ann Arbor, Mich. Exhibits, 29 dealers, cachet makers Saturday, ATA and youth tables, USPS and U.N. Postal Administration, free parking and admission. 10-5 Saturday, 10-3 Sunday. Contact Harry and Dottie Winter (734) 761-5859.

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

Email: [harwin@umich.edu](mailto:harwin@umich.edu)

**Nov. 9-10, 2018, Grapevine, Texas.** 31st Annual Mid-Cities Stamp Club Expo, sponsored by the Mid-Cities Stamp Club, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 South Main Street, Grapevine, Texas. Contact Ralph Poore (817) 235-8472.

Email: [rspoore@ralph-s-poore.com](mailto:rspoore@ralph-s-poore.com)

Website: [www.mid-citiesstampclub.com/stamp-show.htm](http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com/stamp-show.htm)

**Nov. 16-18, 2018, Itasca, Ill.** Chicagopex '18, sponsored by the Chicago Philatelic Society, Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd., Itasca, Illinois 60143. Philatelic and literature exhibition, dealer bourse (more than 75 dealers), show hours 10-6 Friday and Saturday, 10-4 Sunday. Contact Charles Berg (773) 775-2100.

Email: [stampkingchicago@hotmail.com](mailto:stampkingchicago@hotmail.com)

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

**Nov. 30-Dec. 2, 2018, Kissimmee, Fla.** Florex-The Florida State Stamp Show, sponsored by FSDA & Central Florida Stamp Club, Osceola Heritage Park, Events Center, Hall B, 1901 Chief Osceola Trail, Kissimmee, Fla. Contact Francis Ferguson (407) 493-0956.

Email: [show@florexstampshow.com](mailto:show@florexstampshow.com)

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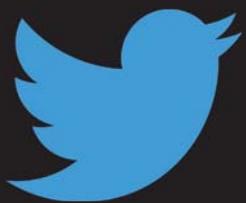
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# TIME

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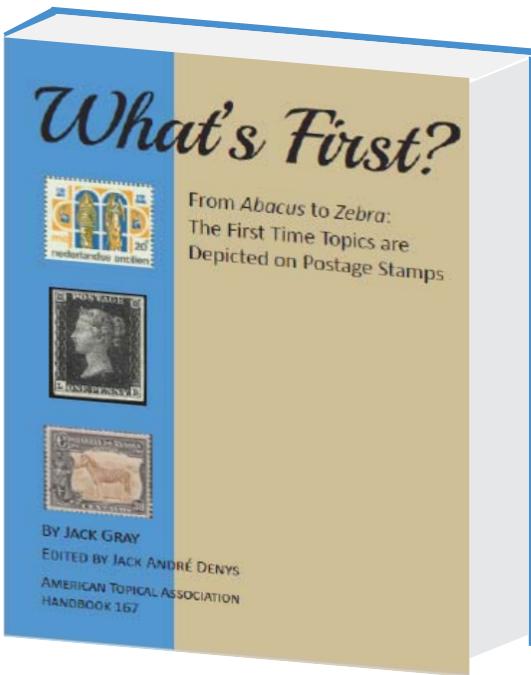
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