

May 25 is National Topical Stamp Collecting Day!

\$5.00

TOPICAL TIME

May-June 2015

Vol. 66, No. 3

Whole Number 391



Donald Wright
named DTP

See Page 36



Feathered Fish! See Page 66



Calendar Cancels
of all types
See Page 40

Zoo Mail?
See Page 76



Journal of Thematic Philately

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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

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TRUE STORY OF THE STAMP TRADE'S BIGGEST PROBLEM

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

Managing Director Andrew McGavin of Universal Philatelic Auctions explains:

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Universal Unique Reducing Estimate lot system was born

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

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

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

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

**If you would like to see Universal Philatelic Auction's next World Auction catalogue FREE OF CHARGE,
please request on line, e-mail, fax, telephone or write to:**

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JACK'S JOURNAL

What do I get out of it?

I'm about to date myself! In the Broadway musical, *Man of La Mancha*, Aldonza asks Sancho, "Why do you follow him? [Don Quixote] ... What do you get out of it?"

Dare I ask: What do you get out of the ATA?

Yes, there are membership benefits, including this magazine, 1,200 checklists, selling via TopicalsOnLine (TOL) and more. But think of what you can do without ATA membership: buy handbooks, DVDs, archived articles, even the *Topical Time* archive – all 64 years worth. You can buy on TOL, visit our website and see thematic exhibits, join as many ATA study units as you like and attend our annual National Topical Stamp Show – all without belonging.

So why remain a member? You've purchased your checklists. And, after all, *Topical Time* doesn't often include anything on your topic. (At least that's the reason some members tell us why they are not renewing.)

Let's go back to *La Mancha*.

Aldonza: "Why do you follow him? ... What do you get out of it?"

Sancho: "What do I get? Plenty! Why, already I've gotten..."

Aldonza: "You've gotten nothing! So why do you do it?"

Sancho (singing): "I like him. I really like him."

"So why do you *do* it?" Why do you remain a member of the ATA? Because you like – you really like – topical collecting! You want to receive updates of those checklists – or maybe a unique customized one on a new topic. You want to be exposed to other topics and get ideas from *Topical Time*. You want to keep up with the topical philatelic scene. You want to be part of something much larger than yourself – the largest thematic group in the world.

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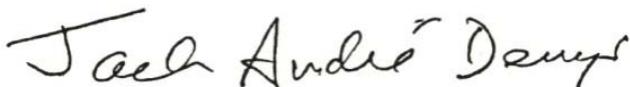


BIRDS - BUTTERFLIES - FLOWERS - AUTHORS - TRAINS - SHIPS - AVIATION - BRIDGES

"So why do you *do* it?" There are also important reasons beyond yourself. You want to help the ATA promote topical collecting as a wonderful branch of philately. You want to invest in the future of the ATA, so it will be around to enrich topicalists in future generations. You want to demonstrate your gratitude for all the enjoyment that topical collecting has given you over the years. Because you belong, you accomplish all this.

"What do I *get* out of the ATA?" This is a valid question. But there is also another question to ask. A nobler one: "What meaning does my membership have – beyond myself?"

I hope you will take the higher road and ask – and answer – that question when it's time to renew your membership. ☺




About ATA

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

New on our Website: www.americantopicalassn.org

All the information you'll want to know about our National Topical Stamp Show in Portland, Ore., July 31-Aug. 2, is posted on the ATA web page: www.americantopicalassn.org/ntss/ntss2015.shtml.

Hotel reservations must be made by June 29 to qualify for the special ATA rate. Be sure to preregister by July 1. The form is on our website and inside front cover of this issue. The show schedule and lists of dealers and exhibits will be updated regularly.

Also New on our Website

- Youth page: **Topical Tidbits.** Beginning this year, Tidbits will be a quarterly publication. The Winter issue was *The Iditarod*. The Spring 2015 issue is *The American Civil War*.
- Press releases: 2015 Distinguished Topical Philatelist Announced.
- Checklist dATABse: Monthly updates posted.
- Membership Directory Form: Easy-to-use form to supply your directory information to ATA.

ATA Membership Directory

This is a "last call" to submit your permission to be included in the ATA 2015-18 directory. Hundreds of members responded during March and April. Privacy laws in the United States allow ATA to include your name only if you have given permission. The final date for response is set for June 1, 2015. Do respond now if you missed doing so earlier.



Checklists

Our new Checklist Coordinator, Tom Stillman, has begun to maintain the master checklist dATABse file. Forms to use for checklist updates/changes as well as for new checklists are on our website: www.americantopicalassn.org/checklists.shtml. Send them directly to Tom: atachecklists@gmail.com or PO Box 210748, San Francisco CA 94121-0748.

TopicalsOnLine

Take a minute and find a stamp for your collection. Our ATA sales site, www.TopicalsOnLine.com is a quick and easy way to shop online. From the first screen, it is easy to see the condition of the stamp – is it hinged or never hinged? The site takes you quickly from selection to check-out. ATA members get a 10% discount; all purchases benefit the ATA.

Appointment

- Facebook Coordinator – Clay Morgan.

Recent Shows and New Members

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

Ambassador: Newt Kulp.

Mar. 7-8. **Knoxpex**, Knoxville, Tenn.

Ambassadors: Vera Felts, Carol Costa. Six new members.

March 8. **Westfield Stamp Show**, Westfield, N.J.

Ambassadors: Allan Fisk, Fred Skvara. One new member.

March 27-29. **St. Louis Stamp Expo**, St. Louis, Mo.

Ambassadors: Sue Bruce, Vera Felts. Eight new members.

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

Ambassadors: Keith Edholm, Carol Edholm.

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

Ambassadors: Allan Fisk, Caroline Scannell, Tony Curiale, Jeff Hayward.

April 24-26. **Westpex**, Burlingame, Calif.

April 25-26. **Plymouth Show**, Westland, Mich.

May 3-4. **Orapex**, Ottawa, Ont., Canada.

Ambassador: Larry Davidson. Four new members.

May 8-10. **Pipex**, Portland, Ore.

Ambassadors: Jack Congrove, Eric Knapp, Orlie Trier. Four new members.

Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at These Upcoming Shows

If you can assist at the ATA table for an hour or two, please contact the ATA Office. Members may save postage by contacting the ATA Office to request that certain items be brought to these shows for them.

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

May 15-17. Rocky Mountain Stamp Show, Denver, Colo.

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

May 22-24. Compex, Arlington Heights, Ill.

May 22-24. Royal-2015-Royale, London, Ont., Canada

May 29-31. Nojex, Secaucus, N.J.

June 7. Fenwick Stamp Show, Renton, Wash.

July 17-19. Minnesota Stamp Show, Crystal, Minn.

July 18-19. Evergreen Stamp Show, Kent, Wash.

Aug. 8. Strait Stamp Show, Sequim, Wash.

WANTED:

Please contact Jack Denys if you can serve: *jdenys@verizon.net*.

- Chapter Coordinator - Communicate with and support ATA chapters, receive chapter newsletters and summarize relevant info for inclusion in *Topical Time*. Job description available.
- Digital Ad Designer/Coordinator – Develop process for displaying ads on ATA website.
- ATA Website Ad Solicitor – resources and support provided.

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!



Editing With Style
Wayne L. Youngblood

The Editor's Job...

If you are an editor of a newsletter or journal of any size, your job is to not only make the material you receive fit, but make it readable as well. Chances are very good that no contributor to your publication is exempt from necessary edits to achieve this goal. Indeed, some need more work than others.

Remember, none of us is an objective judge of our own writing. The best writing occurs when an author writes, edits, rewrites, re-edits and fine tunes his or her thoughts, then submits the work to an editor for a final polish.

As an editor, your primary responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

1. Correct obvious problems in language and grammar.
2. Help the prose read more smoothly, by reworking awkward constructions and rewriting as necessary, without changing the author's intent.
3. Ensure prose conforms to the chosen style of your publication and that its approach is consistent with other pieces in the same journal.
4. Help the author make his or her points more effectively.

In this way, you ensure that everything printed in your publication maintains a coherent style and presents authors' thoughts in a single editorial "voice" that does not distract the reader. ☐

Boldly to the Future!

The American Topical Association promotes topical stamp collecting in many ways and is constantly seeking new opportunities to be a resource to our members. We are continually encouraged by messages from our members:

*"The **Topical Time** archive is an absolutely fantastic resource. I even tried the search functions. Great job to all." – John Macco*

Steve Herling found out about the ATA and inquired about motorcycles on stamps. Vera Felts responded, "We do have a checklist on motorcycles that lists 730 items. ATA can also help you connect with other motorcycle stamp enthusiasts." Steve wrote: "Thanks for the awesome and positive response. You've made my day as now I won't be re-inventing the wheel. I will be joining the ATA on this pending Friday. I am indeed VERY interested in obtaining a list of motorcycle topic enthusiasts and sharing my information. Again – thank you very much. Awesome!"

BTW, Steve was able to find a number of the motorcycle stamps he needed on www.TopicalsonLine.com, ATA's popular online sales site.

Our continued growth in providing such resources is made possible in great part by contributions by members like you to our Boldly To The Future campaign. Your donations add up! Thank you!



2015 BTTF Goal: \$35,000

Given/pledged to date (April 30)

Current and past board members	\$10,460
Given to date – other members	\$3,940
TOTAL:	\$14,400
Still Needed:	\$20,600

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

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

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

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

Together we can advance...

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!



VERA'S VIEWS

A few things...

Membership Directory. A big “thanks” goes out to the hundreds of members who have already submitted *Membership Directory* permissions to the ATA Office. We are on track to have the *Directory* produced by July, and it will certainly be available at NTSS in Portland. If you have not given us your permission, then only your name may be included. By the time you are reading this, it may or may not be too late to give us your information — but why not go to our website or email or mail us today in case you can still be included? All of your fellow members thank you for participating!!

Staying in Touch. By email: Staying connected is an important part of ATA’s service to you. A very important component of that connectivity is being sure we always have your correct email address. I’ve been amazed at how many of us change our email provider from time to time! It will be so helpful to ATA if you remember to let us know when you change your email address. A one-line email from either your old or new email address is all that is needed. Many members notified us of their email address for the very first time when giving permissions for our upcoming *Membership Directory*. We are most appreciative of having this way to stay connected with you. We never release your email address or any other information without your permission, and we do not fill your email box with “junque” or dozens of emails. During most years, you can expect to receive six Because You Belong emails and perhaps a BTTF request, plus a dues reminder if your membership expires during that year. If you have an email address and have not supplied it to ATA, we hope you will share it so we can stay more connected with you.

By mail: The United States Postal Service now has a great service whereby ATA is notified when you change your address. Even if you forget to let us know of your move, the USPS will kindly do so. We no longer have to pay postage due on returned copies of *Topical Time*, or extra postage to mail them on to you; the copies are automatically sent by the postal service from our printer to your new address. This is a new, efficient service offered by our postal people and it saves ATA money and speeds your issues to you. The ATA Office is notified “after the fact” that your *Topical Time* was mailed to your new mailing address. We then contact you by email or by mail to assure ourselves that you should be receiving your issue at the address supplied to us by the USPS. This service is part of the NCOA (National Change Of Address) database maintained by the USPS and subscribed to by our publisher. I just thought you’d like to know of this excellent program – the “service” part of USPS is very strong in this instance.

ATA Society Tables. Throughout the year, you’ll find ATA out and about at close to 30 stamp shows around the United States and Canada. To give you an idea of how we publicize ATA at shows and events, let me tell you about the month of March – an average month of promoting ATA. Our literature appeared on a





From left: Jim Pettway (ATA Representative for Knoxville Philatelic Society), Vera Felts, Tom Broadhead (ATA Member and KnoxPEX Publicity Chair) and Bob Smith (KnoxPEX Chair).

“freebie table” at three shows where we did not have a society table: Springpex in Springfield, Va. (courtesy of Gerry Frazier); Nashville Stamp Show in Tenn. (Janice Erbach and Clay Morgan); and Garfield-Perry in the Cleveland area (Roger Rhoads). We were also represented at the Westfield Stamp Show in New Jersey, conducted by our affiliate chapter, Westfield Stamp Club, and members Allan Fisk and Fred Skvara, where one new member joined ATA.

Also in March, ATA Ambassadors discovered at KnoxPEX in Knoxville, Tenn., that topical collecting is alive and well in that beautiful area. Four more members joined ATA and dozens of checklists were printed for ATA members attending the show. A presentation was given on “Topicals in the State Symbols of Tennessee” which was well attended. Enthusiasm for topical collecting was infectious – and probably as strong as I’ve seen it at a show in the Midwest/Eastern United States. Tom Broadhead and Jim Pettway of our affiliated chapter, Knoxville Philatelic Society, paved the way for our presence there and were wonderful hosts.

ATA ended the month at the St. Louis Stamp Expo, and we welcomed eight more new members into our ranks during that show. Our presence at NTSS in St. Louis last June helped pave the way for a nice presence at this year’s Expo. A new ATA offering at shows is a packet of beginner album pages designed by member Aimée Devine and packaged by volunteer member Andrea Smith with a glassine of topical stamps donated by members Joanne Patterson, Norm Jacobs, Colin Manuele, Chris Loffredo, Henrik Rossell and others. Many adult beginners and a few grandparents looking for a way to introduce their progeny to collecting were happy to find this new offering by ATA. Also during St. Louis Stamp Expo, new member Dan Malan gave a topical presentation on “Doreana”; if you’d like to know what that topic entails, check out his exhibit at this year’s NTSS. Sue Bruce was a full-time Ambassador at the Expo and enthusiastically helped set up and take down the ATA society table each day in addition to sharing topical collecting with dozens of folks. An ATA Roundtable meeting was conducted on Sunday afternoon of the Expo. Members of two ATA-affiliated

chapters, Greater Mound City Stamp Club and Webster Groves Stamp Club, as well as *Topical Time* editor Wayne Youngblood, also boosted ATA's presence at the show.

I share this information not to highlight the individuals and affiliated chapters involved in spreading the word about ATA in a typical month of the year, but to demonstrate that there are many different kinds of ways to participate in shows and events. Put your creativity to work and let ATA know how we can help you in promoting topical collection in your own way at your local event or show. And do let us know the results!

These activities at stamp shows on the part of ATA contribute to our membership growth and our strong standing within our hobby. When you attend a stamp show and see an ATA society table, be sure to stop to thank your ATA Ambassadors for being there. While there, ask them if you can spend an hour or two with them, talking to stamp show attendees about our hobby. Or, better yet, take your turn at the table so the Ambassador who spent time and effort setting up the table can take some time off to enjoy the exhibits or the bourse! ATA now has more than 60 Ambassadors who have volunteered time at stamp shows or events. If you'd like to know more about how you, too, can enjoy this aspect of our hobby, just contact the ATA Office.

Information Specialty Board. One of the very special features of ATA's *Membership Directory* is the Information Specialty Board listings. ATA is all about connecting our members in any way possible, and this listing has been helpful to so many members through the years. When member Donald Smith of Canada (since deceased) called the ATA Office for help in identifying dog breeds on a few of his stamps, he was referred to a dogs-on-stamps specialist from Israel, ATA life member Arie Schwarz, who helped him identify all the breeds in question. Being a member of the Board is free and requires only a modicum of time. But it can pay big dividends by connecting you with others who share your passion. Even if you don't consider yourself an "expert" in your topical area, if you're willing to share some knowledge about your stamps with others, please email, call or write the ATA Office by the end of June to volunteer for the Information Specialty Board.

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WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

A Fowl Idea or pre-hatched concept?

Let's see if we can answer the age-old question: "Which came first, the chicken or the stamp?" All yolking aside, it has long been accepted that one of the more controversial – and silly looking – of all United States stamps is the 3¢ Poultry Industry stamp of 1948. That stamp, one of the large brood of stamps released during the so-called



Figure 1. The 1948 Chicken Stamp, as it is most commonly referred to, was one of a number of politically driven stamps released during the "Flood of '48."

"flood of '48" (referring to the large number of politically motivated issues released during that major election year), features a large hen, with the denomination tablet consisting of an egg. The stamp, Scott 968, is shown in Figure 1.

Ostensibly, the stamp was released to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the poultry industry in America. This isn't exactly true, as chickens have been with Americans since the first settlers stepped off the

boat at Jamestown in 1607 (actually, well before that, if you want to count those that came along for the ride with Columbus or evidence that suggests that Polynesians brought them to South America as early as the 1300s). The organized buying and selling of poultry dates back well into the colonial days, and there are references to a poultry industry as early as 1829.

So why 1948? In reality, 1948 just happened to be the 100th anniversary the Boston Poultry Show (the first one was held in 1849). A mere coincidence?

However, most collectors don't know that 1948 was not the first time the idea of a chicken stamp reared its ugly head. If Roy M. Lynnes – backed by the entire U.S. poultry industry – had had his way, we would have been treated to a series of four stamps (with denominations of 1¢, 2¢, 3¢ and 5¢) to be released in time for the 1939 World's Fair. Lynnes was editor of the *Poultry Supply Dealer*, and had submitted a full 20-page proposal for the series to the U.S. Post Office Department for the Seventh World's Poultry Congress and Exhibition, which was to be held July 28-Aug. 7, 1938, in Cleveland, Ohio. A member's auto windshield decal for that show is pictured in Figure 2, and the proposed designs of the failed stamps are shown in Figure 3. The

stamp essays were featured in the June 18, 1938, issue of *Stamps Magazine*.

The designs (or what you can see of them) are rather interesting and do represent the poultry industry of the day. All four stamps share the uniting design elements of frames similar to the low values of the 1937 Army-Navy series, with postage and denomination tablets at top and bottom, and the inscriptions "Seventh World's Poultry Congress" at top and "July 28th - Aug. 7th, 1939" at bottom.

The central design of the 1¢ stamp shows men unloading crates of chicks from a mail car, and an inset of a single baby chick. This, perhaps, was to symbolize the basis of the poultry industry. At that time about 800 million chicks were hatched each year, of which more than two thirds were mailed!

The design of the 2¢ stamp features a woman feeding grown chickens on the farm, in a henhouse. Slightly more unusual is the 3¢ stamp design, titled "Early American," which features an American Indian working his way through the woods with a turkey carcass slung over his shoulder.



Figure 2. An auto windshield decal created for the Seventh World's Poultry Congress of 1939, showing an apparently well-read rooster.

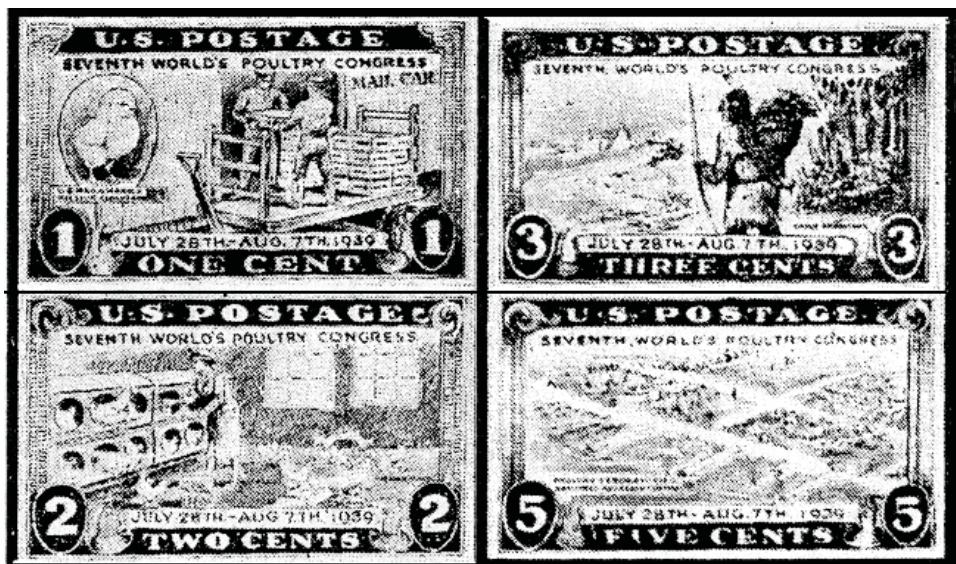


Figure 3. Few collectors are aware that there was a proposal for not one – but a series of four – poultry stamps that were intended to be released in 1939. The proposal ultimately failed, but left these designs behind.

The 5¢ stamp (an airmail rate for a bird that can't fly) shows an aerial view of the poultry laboratories at the National Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, Md., representing the involvement of the federal government in the poultry industry.

Oddly, Lynnes and his committee (also all stamp collectors) made a good argument for the validity of a 1939 Chicken series. At that time the poultry industry accounted for more than \$1 billion per year, exceeded only by corn and dairy products. The expected attendance at the 1939 convention was more than 500,000. But it's unclear whether collectors would have actually wanted to shell out for the stamps.

Although we don't have any way of knowing eggs-actly how seriously Lynnes' proposal was taken in Washington, we do know the series was ultimately rejected, and that another decade would pass before there was finally a poultry stamp available for use – or collector ridicule.

Today, the proposal and all the follow up would be handled by the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, a diverse group that serves (in theory) at the pleasure of the postmaster general. CSAC, as it is referred to, exists not only to sort out the good from the bad and the ugly, but to keep our stamp program free of undue political pressure, although that, too, appears to be changing. The current committee apparently also has no problem exalting American Pop Culture. Would CSAC have the internal fortitude to reject a poultry stamp today? I suppose that depends on how well-hatched the proposal was. ☐

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TOPICAL POSTLINE

Pi-rates?

This is in regards to the fine article in the March-April issue of *Topical Time* ("Topics on Postmarks" column, page 18). It is nice to find someone else with a love of things piratical. Accompanying this letter is a scan of a cover with a fancy cancel from Pirates Cove, Fla., from July 17, 1931.

If I'm reading the table in Appendix 1 of U.S. International

Postal Rates, 1872-1996, by Wawrukiewicz and Beecher, the domestic postage rate was 2¢ and the registry rate was 15¢. So the sender apparently overpaid by a penny.



Van Siegling, Arrrrrrrh!
— via Eeeeemail

Your letter reminds me of the old joke: There are only three letters in the Pirate alphabet, Aaarrrhh, EEeeee and Aiiiii... Anyway...

This cover, from the golden era of 4th-Class post office fancy cancels of the early 20th Century, is a perfect example of one of the types of items that can enhance virtually any topical or thematic collection. Most of these, created by collectors and enterprising postmasters looking to enhance the revenue of tiny post offices, are quite scarce, but are still fairly affordable when found.

You are correct; the cover is overpaid by a penny. The cancel itself is classified as N-626 (20th Century United States Fancy Cancelations Revised, 1987). This example is currently the only recorded example and is the basis for the catalog listing.

— Wayne

How (and why) are stamp images chosen?

I could not wait for my *Topical Time* copy, so I quickly looked at the .pdf copy.

Hope you don't mind me saying, but I did not like the stamp that has been replaced for the Judaica Unit. At first glance you think it is for a Flowers Unit! – I know that this stamp does have some Judaica connections, but first impressions are seen by design, and the first thing you see is a flower.

The original stamp that was replaced was from Denmark, and depicted the Jewish religion perfectly; after all, it depicted the Sabbath Scene, which is carried out in Jewish homes on the Sabbath eve.

I would be grateful if you could pass on my comments to the person concerned for this.

— Gary Goodman
via email

Gary, thank you for your email. The stamp you refer to is, of course, the Czechoslovakian Lidice memorial issue, an extremely fitting stamp for its Judaica connections. However, I do see how – at first glance – the stamp could appear to be more for a flower topical.

My goal in replacing the images was not to be a permanent replacement, but an intent to freshen the appearance of the magazine. Many of the images found on our website for the study units are fine for online use, but too poor in quality to reproduce in print without looking fuzzy (a constant source of frustration to me). But I also felt that changing the images representing the various study groups periodically will keep the listings looking fresher, as well as showing non-members some of the many wonderful stamps that can be found for each topic.

To that end, I intend to keep a file of potential images for each group and rotate them over time. Members of study units are welcome to send me high-quality images that can be used for this purpose. Images (at least 300 dpi) may be sent to wystamps@gmail.com for possible future use.

— Wayne



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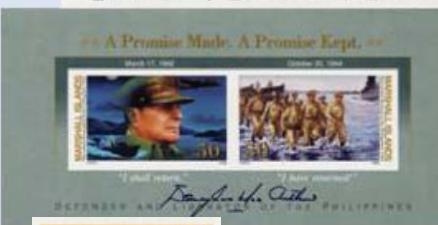
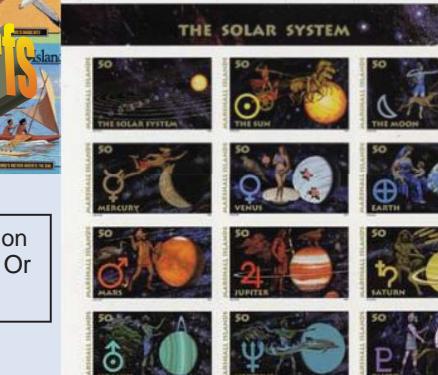
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TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

George DeKornfeld

Just Along for the Ride

I was fortunate enough to have grown up in England, where the Battersea Fun Fair was just a short double-decker bus ride from our flat in Chelsea over the

Thames. The Battersea Fun Fair was an old-time amusement park that was located in the London Borough of Wandsworth. What an amazing place this was for a youngster! Packed with all sorts of rides, foods and attractions, including a breath-robbing roller coaster called The Big Dipper, the park offered a young lad and his mates a way to spend an entire day, right up until that moment when allow-

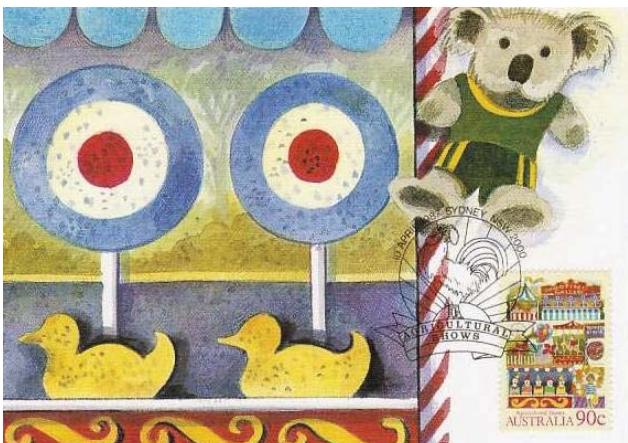


Figure 1 (above).

Figure 2 (below).



ance money that had been saved sadly ran out. There were water chutes, merry-go-rounds, fun houses and even a shooting gallery where one could flail away at all sorts of interactive targets, including the classic moving ducks that would delight each time they were struck and fell over (Figure 1). Having opened in 1951 as part of the “Festival of Britain” (Figure 2), the Fun Fair closed its doors for good in 1974, a year after we moved back home to the States, bringing about the end of an era and something quite honestly I’m glad I didn’t have to witness first hand.

It is with this little bit of nostalgia on my part, along with just a hint of an improvement in the weather here in the Northeast, that I thought for this issue of *Topical Time* we’d take a look at some of the offerings found in amusement parks, many of which will be reopening in a few weeks as the weather finally and mercifully warms up for good.



Figure 4.

on one – sober or not – yet the roller coaster continues to hold the top spot as the crowd-pleaser for those thrill seekers willing to wait in long lines for a chance to have the bejeebers scared out of them. Both Russia and France lay claim to having come up with this popular ride in the late 1700s, but we’ll go to Germany for our first pictorial which can be seen in Figure 3. Showing a couple enjoying a ride in one of the cars on a not-so-steep section of the track, this postmark commemorates the 250th anniversary of the Arolsen flea and agricultural market. Bad Arolsen is a small town located in northern Hesse and this marking was used during a stamp show held there in 1981.

Figure 4 takes us to Duisburg, Germany, with a nice six-sided marking created in 2010 for “Local Hero Week” that depicts an entire roller coaster layout, including a large, scary-looking



Figure 3.



Figure 5.



stone and soil so it is by no accident that this roller coaster was built on top of a huge pile of this byproduct, named the Heinrich-Hildebrand Height in Angerpark. But there's a sneaky catch: What we have here is really a huge sculpture of a roller coaster and not an actual working one, although this still fits easily into this issue's theme. The sculpture is named the *Great Tiger and Turtle - Magic Mountain* and, more in line with my current speed, can be walked along its entire length while taking in the view of surrounding areas (Figure 5).

Our next stop is Hungary and in Figure 6 we find a stylized roller coaster track with a pictorial commemorating Vidam Park in Budapest, an amusement park that opened in May 1950 and ran continually until September 2013, when it was shut down. Reopening as an extension of the Budapest Zoo named Holnemvolt Park in April 2014, the roller coaster and a few other rides were kept open particularly because of their retro appeal.

Our last roller coaster pictorial hails from Switzerland and is a marking used in 1987 that celebrates the Basel Autumn Fair (Figure 7). This fair has run every year since 1471 when Kaiser Friederich III granted permission for the city to hold the

event. Basel's streets get filled for a fortnight with all sorts of rides and booths selling foods and local products and draws visitors and revelers from all of Europe and beyond.

Next, let's look at a more mellow amusement attraction that had its beginnings as a less-than-mellow pastime, the merry-go-round (or carousel or round-about). Today's carousels evolved from a mounted cavalry training exercise used as early as the 12th century, both in Europe and the Middle East. Originally, knights would gallop in a circle while tossing

Figure 6.

vertical loop. Duisburg has the largest inland port in Europe and is well known for its mining industry, an industry that generates a lot of material in excavated

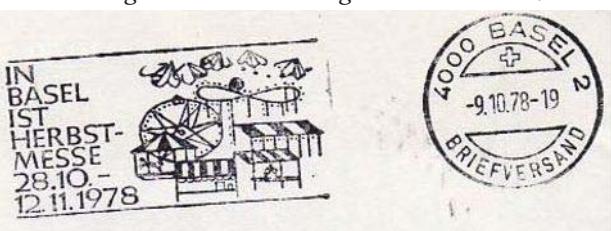


Figure 7.



Figure 8.

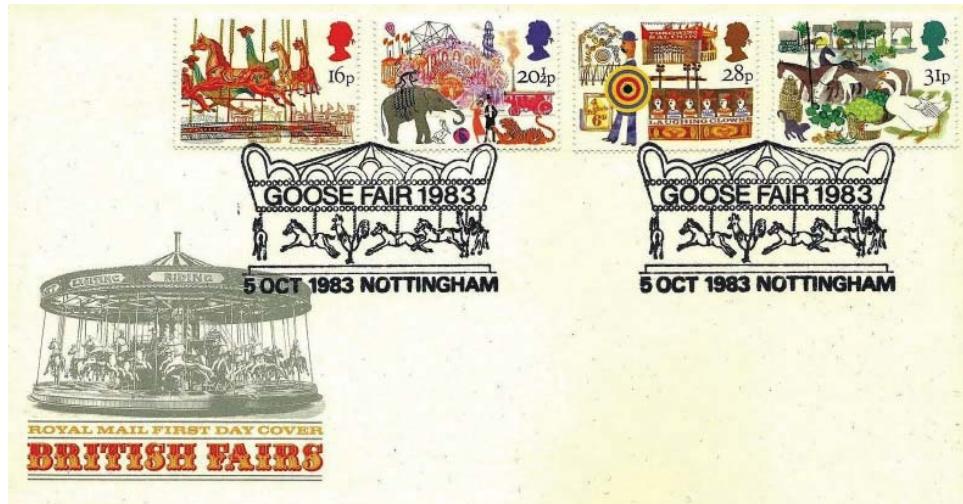


Figure 9.

small balls to one another – not an easy skill to master and one that undoubtedly required intense concentration and agility. In the 17th century the balls were replaced with rings hanging from ropes that the knights had to pluck off with their lances as they galloped in a circle (which explains where grabbing the ring originated).

By the 18th century, the first mechanical, hand-operated merry-go-rounds started to appear at European fairs and, over the years, these kept being improved upon by adding gearing mechanisms that would move the wooden horses up and down to simulate a galloping steed as well as graduating to, at first, steam power and then electric. Let's check out some postmarks:



Figure 10.



Figure 11.

is a picture of this carousel taken during the 1983 fair.

Figure 11: Braunschweig, Germany (1975) commemorating a fair held at City Hall during Delegate's Day.

Figure 12: Los Angeles, Calif. (1988), featuring one of the horses of the merry-go-round at Griffith Park, a park of more than 4,300 acres on the eastern end of the Santa Monica Mountains. This carousel is one of the few left that still uses true pipe organs for playing its music.



Figure 12 (above).

Figure 13 (below).



*Chances are good your topic has a checklist!
What do you collect?*

Figure 8: Great Britain (1983) commemorating the "Still going strong" of Turner's Musical Merry-Go-Round in Northampton. The concordance with the stamp used, the 16p British Fairs issue of 1983, Scott 1031, is a nice plus.

Speaking of concordance, the cover shown in Figure 9 is a fetching example with the full set of the British Fairs issue, a cachet and the pictorial postmark of the 1983 Goose Fair held at Nottingham, a traveling fun-fair in existence since 1285. Figure 10

Figure 13: Myrtle Beach, S.C. (1988), a popular tourist destination loaded with activities and amusement rides.

Another fairly mellow ride, assuming one has no fear of heights, is the Ferris wheel. This easily recognizable attraction is named after George Washington Gale Ferris, Jr., an engineer who designed this amusement for debut at the 1893 World Columbian Exhibition held at Chicago, Ill. Standing 264 feet tall, the Ferris wheel was easily the largest non-building structure appearing at the Columbian Exhibition, but would

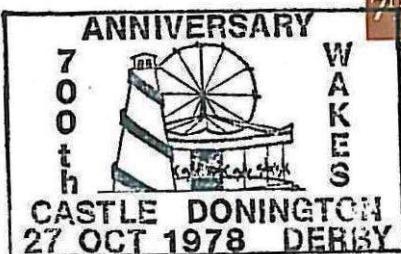


Figure 14.

be dwarfed by some its modern-day counterparts such as the London Eye (443 feet tall) or the current record holder, the High Roller in Las Vegas, Nevada (550 feet). To the markings:

Figure 14: Great Britain. Each year in October a traveling fair, called Donington Wakes, visits Castle Donington in Derby. Our postmark here was used in 1978.

Figure 15: Ludwigsburg, Germany. This marking commemorates the

Figure 15 (above).

Figure 16 (lower right).

yearly fair held in conjunction with a Horse Market, the market opened in 1731!

Figure 16: Used in Bonn, Germany, in 2010, this postmark celebrates the Ferris wheel in the Prater Amusement Park in Vienna, Austria, known as the Wiener Riesenrad (Viennese Giant Wheel), which was built in 1897 and stands 212 feet tall.

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Figure 17 (above).

Figure 18 (right).

Figure 19 (below).

Having ridden this one during my youth, I can testify that 212 feet is way up there, and the views are incredible, especially after dark.

In Figures 17 and 18, neither of these pictorials from Japan mention which Ferris wheels are being illustrated (unless in Japanese characters which – if not found on a sushi menu – I can only wonder about),



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Figure 20 (right).**Figure 21 (below center).****Figure 22 (bottom).**

but they could be the Tempozan Ferris wheel in Osaka and the Daikanransha in Odaiba, respectively.

Figure 19: A Ferris wheel pictorial used in 1979 at Malmö, Sweden's third largest city.

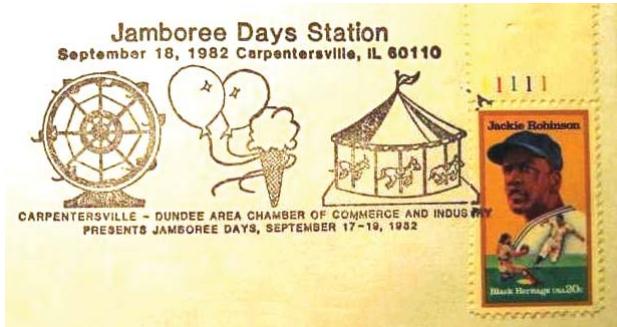
Figures 20 and 21 are 1991 and 1995 United Nations issues, both commemorating the Wiener Riesenrad.

Having already mentioned Vienna's Prater and its Riesenrad twice, we would be remiss in not examining an Austrian example showing the Big Wheel and we do so in Figure 22. Here we see another fine example of concordance between the stamp, a 1.50 Shilling issue commemorating the 200th Anniversary of Emperor Joseph II's opening of the Prater to the public (Scott 759), and its first-day pictorial from 1966.

Figure 23: This pictorial includes a Ferris wheel as part of the fair thrown by the Carpentersville, Ill., Chamber of Commerce in 1982.

Figure 24: After the Columbian Exhibition in Chicago had come to an end, the original Ferris wheel was moved to Saint Louis for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and World's Fair held in 1904. Our marking, from



**Figure 11.**

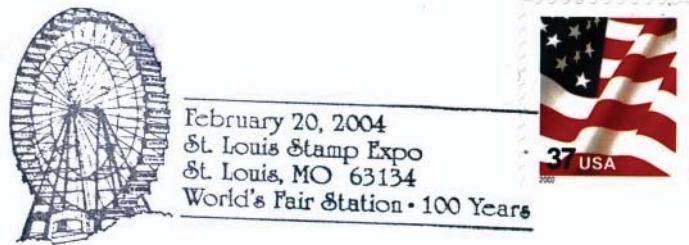
2004, celebrates the centennial anniversary of this Expo. The original Ferris wheel was demolished in 1906 after the end of this fair.

Finally, let's take a brief look at the ride known as the Skydiver, a grouping of seats attached by lines to

a rotating central hub that speeds up while extending itself, sailing the participants ever upwards and outwards. First for this grouping, we'll return to the type of British Fairs cover we looked at a little while ago. This one is canceled with pictorials also used at Nottingham's 1983 Goose Fair.

These pictorials, however, show The Skydiver (Figure 25).

In Figure 26 we return to Ludwigsburg, Germany, for a 1998 pictorial showing

**Figure 24.****Figure 25.**

What's your passion? Consider sharing it as an article in Topical Time!

our ride, along with a Teddy Bear, one of the most sought-after prizes that can be won at a park's many booths where, for a price, one can measure one's strength or skill and possibly even win a stuffed critter for your Sweetie.

Keep the faith! Summer is on the way!

I'll leave you with this:

You are on a horse, galloping at a constant speed. On your right side is sharp drop off, and on your left side is an elephant traveling at the same speed as you. Directly in front of you is a galloping kangaroo and your horse is unable to overtake it. Behind you is a lion running at the same speed as you and the Kangaroo. What must you do to safely get out of this highly dangerous situation?

Get off the merry-go-round!

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



Figure 26.



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METERS BY TOPIC

Wayne L. Youngblood

Advertising is main pictorial meter function

One of the questions I've received over the years about the many different pictorial meters that one can find is: Why do they exist? For a time meters weren't necessarily less expensive nor even more efficient than using postage stamps – at least for smaller companies – and creating pictorial dies was an additional expense.

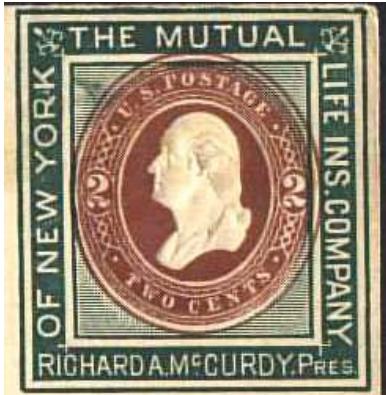


Figure 1. Although relatively short-lived, advertising collars succeeded in placing an advertisement in the live postage area.

Why, then, did companies go to a great deal of trouble to design and create memorable pictorial meters? The use of pictorial meters, during the 1930s and '40s in particular, not only made a company appear the epitome of "modern" (at a time when technology was being worshiped), but it also gave them an identity and a very real way to use the mail system as a form of display advertising.

The importance of the mail system as an advertising medium has never been overlooked, and there have been many schemes (mostly thwarted)



Figure 2. Illustrated advertising covers – in a way – are a forerunner of pictorial meters. While they are not technically "postal," such as being part of the postage area, their function is essentially identical; to use the mail system for advertising.

to capitalize on this vital mode of communication. For decades, postal officials shut down various ideas, such as the advertising collar shown in Figure 1. These were advertisements printed either on a stamped envelope (around the stamp area) or on an envelope in the space where the franking was to be placed (effectively framing the stamp with an ad). Collars, like other advertising schemes, were soon abolished.

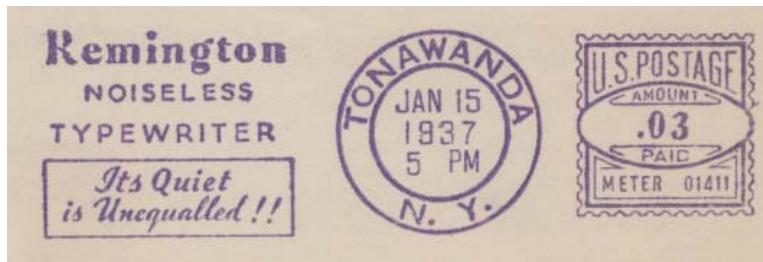


Figure 3. This 1937 meter, from typewriter pioneer Remington, features the “noiseless” typewriter!

One area that the United States Post Office Department really couldn't regulate much, however, is the large amount of real estate on both the front and back of an envelope — a space that was used to its fullest extent by some. We've all seen intricate and ornate advertising covers that utilize much of the front, back or both sides of an envelope.

As a slight digression, these illustrated advertising covers are not considered “postal” for most exhibiting purposes. Pictorial meters, of course, are part of the franking.



Figure 4. Another popular manufacturer of typewriters, Royal, promoted its products in various ways on these meters from 1937-59.



Figure 5. These examples of advertising meters from the Underwood company show different graphic approaches as well as the use of different colors.

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Figure 6. Based on the author's experience, brown is one of the rarest colors used for pictorial meters.

However, the intended purpose of both by the user is identical! It is an effort to maximize the use of a mail piece as an advertising vehicle.

As you may know, one of my own topical specialties is typewriters. Because they did not achieve widespread appeal in the business world until the turn of the 20th century, there are not that many illustrated advertising covers, but there are a number of meters.

Take a look at the 1891 advertising cover shown in Figure 2. The cover, from National Typewriter, features an illustration in the cornercard that mimics the then-current U.S. Special Delivery issue (inset). A slightly less ornate version of this design would have been perfect in a meter design (of course they didn't exist yet).

As one would expect, the vast majority of meters related to typewriters promote a specific brand. The one shown in Figure 3, from 1937, promotes the Remington "noiseless" typewriter! Remington, of course, was one of the pioneers of typewriter technology.

The meters pictured in Figure 4, spanning 1937-59, show different approaches, ranging from basic text on the earlier example to two pictorials, one of them quite detailed.

Figure 5 shows several examples from 1938-57, each promoting Underwood brand typewriters. Again, with several approaches to catch the reader's eye, including the use of several different colors.

Meter color is something we don't often talk about, but it can occasionally be significant or creative. The most common color, of course, is the standard pinkish-red-colored meter, which is still in use. The 1940s and '50s saw a rise in the use of various shades of blue and violet, as well as green (not shown).

But far and above one of the rarest meter colors is brown, of which I've seen only a handful. An example of one of these meters (also promoting Underwood) is shown in Figure 6.

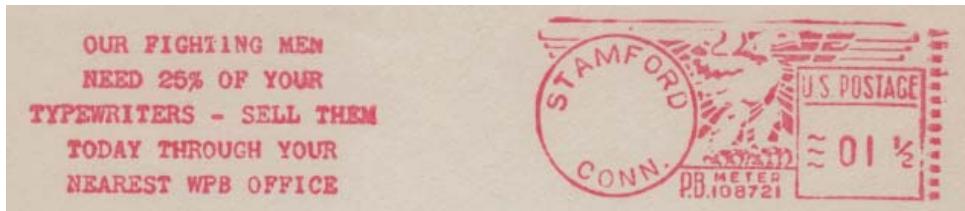


Figure 7. When searching for meters for your topic(s), never underestimate or discount the significance of text-only meters. This WWII-era example demonstrates an important historical/sociological aspect to the base topic.



Figure 8. A rather stylized image of a typewriter appears on this 1962 pictorial meter from Egypt. The sender was a stationery company.

When looking for your topic, however, never underestimate or ignore text-only meters, such as the one shown in Figure 7. That meter, an undated 1½¢ bulk-rate meter, is obviously from the height of World War II, likely 1944. The message is clear. However, I did find it interesting the message is asking typewriter owners to sell, rather than donate, their machines to further the cause.

Admittedly, my meter collecting is United States-centric, as that is the greatest source of pictorial meters for me, but I'm always anxious to add foreign examples to my collection, whenever possible. The Figure 8 example recently turned up in an accumulation. Cropped from a full cover from the Standard Stationery Co., of Cairo, the meter pictures a rather stylized form of typewriter next to the postage area from Egypt. It is the only foreign typewriter meter I've seen to date, but I know there surely are others.

When searching for meters representing your topic(s), remember that many may be found in cheaper accumulations of meter cuts. The fact that they do not all match your topic is fine. You can always swap the others or maybe even sell them on the ATA TopicsOnLine website (www.topicalsonline.com). □

An advertisement for County Stamp Center. The top half features a large butterfly graphic and the text "C O U N T Y STAMP CENTER". Below this is contact information: "P.O. BOX 3373 • ANNAPOLIS, MD 21403 • www.stampcenter.com • email: csc@stampcenter.com • tel/fax: 410-757-5800". The middle section is a collage of numerous postage stamps from various countries, including ones featuring butterflies, animals, and cartoon characters like Snoopy. The bottom left contains the logo for "APS" (American Philatelic Society) and the bottom right contains the logo for "ASA" (American Stamp Association). The bottom of the advertisement has the text "collections bought and sold • appraisals • want lists • new issue service".

My Topic

Carlos Armendariz

Dawn Hamman

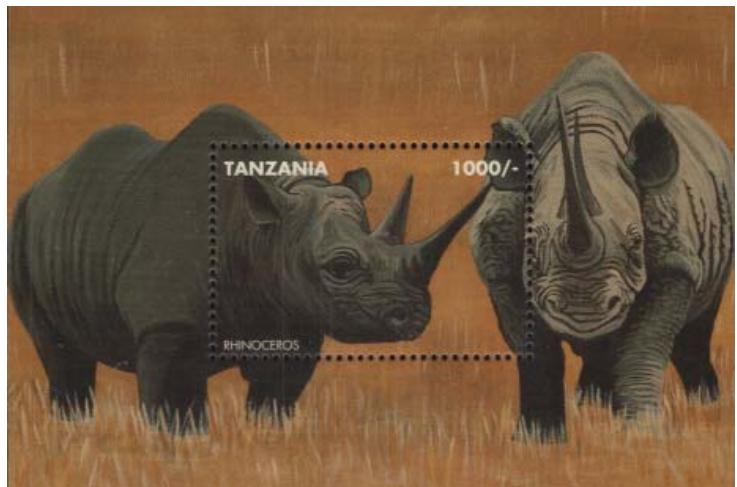
This is the ninth in a series of brief vignettes spotlighting interests of some of our fellow ATA members.

World traveler Carlos Armendariz of Mexico has pursued his stamp collecting hobby for 40 years and enjoys meeting and exchanging philatelic items with people all over the world. That is made easier by his facility with six languages.

"I have visited 54 countries, and many post offices," he laughs, "Stamp collecting has enlarged my world view tremendously." First trained as an entomologist, Carlos then became an accountant, but continues to study insects at home in Juarez, and also on his frequent travels.

His topic? Rhinoceroses on stamps. "I chose that topic because the rhino is a big and fascinating animal. Some live in groups, while others are solitary," he explained. "There is a great need to protect these animals. For example, there are less than 100 Javan rhinoceroses worldwide."

Carlos recently purchased a new ATA checklist. "There are 609 stamps of rhinos. I have my work cut out for me!" He would like to correspond with others who also collect rhinoceros stamps. ■



Donald Wright Selected 2015 ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist

George Griffenhagen

Entomologist Donald P. Wright, Jr., of Pennington, N.J., has been selected as the American Topical Association 2015 Distinguished Topical Philatelist, according to an announcement by DTP Committee chairman, Donald W. Smith. The award will be presented during the National Topical Stamp Show in Portland, Ore., July 31-Aug. 2, 2015.



Since 1956, Don has been a member of the oldest ATA Unit established in 1951 as the Biology Unit. During the 64 years of its existence, Don has served twice as president and three different terms as Unit Vice President. In 1971-1972, Don served as editor of the unit periodical, *Biophilately*, and continues to serve since 1971 as associate editor for the Entomology column (thus far more than 50 columns). In addition, Don has been the author of or contributor to four ATA Handbooks on Invertebrates, Entomology and Insects (released this year).

Don was born in Connecticut in 1928 and lived there until 1961, when he moved to New Jersey. He graduated in 1959 from the University of Connecticut, receiving a B.A. in Zoology-Entomology. Professionally, Don was employed for 39 years by American Cyanamid Company in Princeton, N.J., (now Pfizer Company). He retired in 1991 as Senior Research Entomologist and holds more than 100 U.S. and foreign patents. Don introduced the concept and coined the term "antifeedants" for insect control. He was invited to describe his research in Milan, Italy, at the World Congress of Pest Control.

In the U.S. Army during the Korean War, Don served with a Preventive Medicine Control Detachment, performing insect and rodent control research. As an amateur radio operator, Don has been Examination Director of the Delaware Valley Radio Association since 1972. He is also active in the Herb Society of America, serving as secretary-treasurer and maintaining the herb garden at the Holcombe Jimison Farmstead Museum.

A member of the Pennington Presbyterian Church since his arrival in 1961, Don has served as Deacon and on many committees. He has been married to Ellen for 55 years. They have sons in Tennessee, Wisconsin and New Mexico and have four grown grandchildren.

The ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award was established in 1952 by ATA founder Jerome Husak to recognize notable service in topical philately. This award has been presented in the past 65 years to 129 topical philatelists, including residents of Canada, Great Britain and Italy. The current selection committee, chaired by Donald W. Smith, consists of Donald Beuthel, Jack H. Green, George Griffenhagen, Dorothy C. Smith, Dalene Thomas and Mark H. Winnegrad. □

NTSS is coming very soon; is a trip to Portland in your future?

NTSS 2015 is coming soon! If you haven't yet made your reservations, now is the time to do so. You'll find a full listing of scheduled events, dealers and exhibits in the next issue of *Topical Time*, as well as any last-minute information you'll need.

We'll be gathering July 31-Aug. 2 at the Monarch Hotel and Conference Center in the Portland, Ore., suburb of Clackamas, which is featuring a show room rate of \$99, with amenities aplenty, including free parking, free airport transportation, complimentary Wi-Fi and more. Find out more at www.monarchhotel.cc, or call 503-652-1515. For the \$99 room rate, reservations must be made by June 29.

As always, our bourse will have dealers who carry topical-related material, as well as stamps, covers and other general philatelic items and ephemera for all collectors. We expect to have collectors of all types at the show.

Check our society website, www.americantopicalassn.org/ntss/ntss2015.shtml, for all the latest, including information on both the pre- and post-show tours (sponsored by Orlie Trier and Jack Congrove, respectively), the President's Reception on Friday night, the Saturday awards banquet (sponsored by the ATA Biology Study Unit) and much more.

NTSS is always the highlight of the year for topical and thematic collectors from all over. Save the dates and join us. We're anxious to see you in Portland! ☺



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May 25 is National Topical Stamp Collecting Day

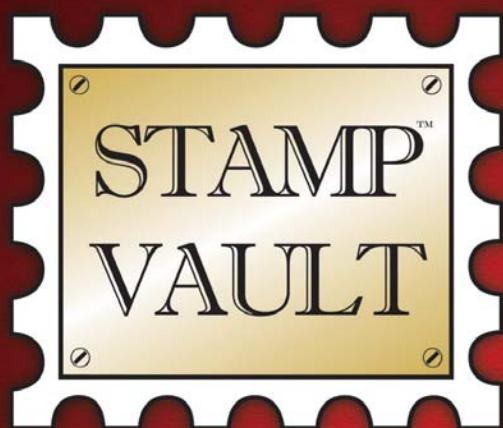
A few years ago, the ATA Board voted to establish National Topical Stamp Collecting Day in honor of ATA's founder, Jerome (Jerry) Husak. May 25, Jerry's birthday, was chosen as the date. Jerry and his wife Sally live in Sun City West, Ariz., and are very pleased that Jerry is being honored in this way.



Image of the first National Topical Stamp Collecting Day cover (2013).

Each year, a cover has been produced to commemorate the date. Limited numbers of covers commemorating the first National Topical Stamp Collecting Day in 2013 are

still available for \$1 plus a stamped, addressed envelope, or \$2 if paying via PayPal (pays for mailing cost and electronic payment). ☐



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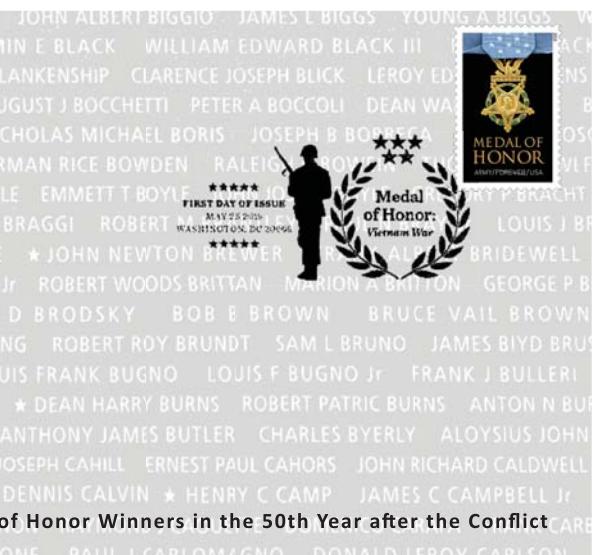
www.stamp-vault.com

This year, May 25 is Memorial Day. Three stamps commemorating the Vietnam Medal of Honor will be released that day, so the National Topical Stamp Collecting Day cover will be a first-day cover. Orders will be filled – hopefully in June – after the covers are returned from the USPS first-day canceling service.

The cost of a 2015 NTSC Day cover with a Vietnam Medal of Honor stamp is \$2.50 if a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed with your check, or \$3.50 by PayPal. Specific requests for the Army, Navy or Air Force Medal of Honor stamp will be honored at no additional cost. A set of three covers with all three medals of honor is \$7 with stamped envelope, or \$8 by PayPal.

If ordering both the original NTSC Day cover and the 2015 cover, enclose a check for \$3.50 and a stamped, addressed envelope, or \$4.50 by PayPal.

The date of May 25 is also National Missing Children Day. The USPS is releasing a stamp on May 18 to call attention to that worthy cause. Cachetmakers, take note: For 2016 National Topical Stamp Collecting Day, ATA will conduct a contest for NTSC Day using the National Missing Children Day theme. Details will be in the Jan-Feb 2016 *Topical Time*. ☐



This year's 2015 National Topical Stamp Collecting Day cover, saluting Vietnam Medal of Honor winners. The cover not only marks the date, but is a first-day cover as well! Ordering instructions are found in the accompanying text.

NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP COLLECTING DAY
Honoring the birthday of Jerry Husak, Founder AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION
MAY 25, 2015

Calendar Dates

By Dale Speirs

The letters columns of many mainstream philatelic publications often publish



Figure 1.

angry missives from collectors who are indignant about the high cost and excessive number of mint stamps being issued by postal administrations worldwide. I always pity these space-filling stamp accumulators, who can't seem to understand that they are not obligated by law to collect one of everything. Nor do they understand that Scott and Gibbons catalogs are lists of stamps, not holy gospel. Topical collectors and

postal historians have more fun because they are not confined by catalogs and collect what they like, according to their own plans.

Among my sideline collections, I have a calendar date collection, that of used stamps or covers with unusual dates on them or even just ordinary dates arranged on a blank calendar. Such stamps are cheap, often found in kiloware, and yet have enough challenge to make it interesting. Unlike mint stamps, you can't subscribe to a post office philatelic service or walk into any stamp dealer and pick up a completed set. The fun of philately, for me, is in the chase.

Need NTSS 2015 info?

Check our website or contact ATA for latest info!

Calendar Dates By The Calendar

The simplest, yet still challenging, method is to collect used stamps with a clear dated postmark on them and arrange them by date. One can print album pages by computer or hand-draw them with a grid of blank cells, seven across and five down, one page for each month of the year. I mount these stamps by the date only, without regard to the year. Figure 1 shows the type of page I use. I keep the template on my computer and print off additional sheets as I need them. No expensive album supplements to buy from dealers! If you want a real lifetime challenge, you can collect dated stamps for each day of each year, say perhaps from your birth date or some particular time range.

I find it difficult enough just to focus on the day and month. When I first started collecting calendar dates, any stamp would do and still does for the first fill-in-the-blank. I get a fair amount of non-philatelic mail from Britain and my correspondents, not being stamp collectors, invariably use Machins. As I find duplicate dates, I am gradually converting my pages over to dated Machins, although many other stamps still sprinkle the album pages.

As an oddity, the post office in Port Dover, Ontario, Canada, produced a Friday the 13th cancel, shown in Figure 2.

Holidays

Another type of calendar collecting is by holiday. The major ones are fairly easy, such as Christmas (Figure 3), Lunar New Year, and Halloween. You can branch out to ethnic festivals, as you like. Most of us are descended from immigrants, so you can have a calendar date collection of the holidays of the Old Country. My mother was Finnish and in our house we celebrated St. Urho's Day on March 16, not that other ethnic group's party the next day (although I do have some St. Patrick's Day covers). Since St. Urho covers are not produced by anyone else – at least that I can find – I create my own by sending to post offices with names connected to Finland.

The cover shown in Figure 4 is one that I prepared with computer graphics and then colored with art pencils.

To find out what post offices have names related to an event, or issue a postmark commemorating that event, you can check the websites of postal administrations. They usually have checklists of post offices, although sometimes those are buried deep inside the site. As an example, www.canadapost.ca, has a front-page tab to



Figure 2.



Figure 3.

St. Urho's Day March 16

Heinäsirkka, heinäsirkka, mene täältä hiiteen!

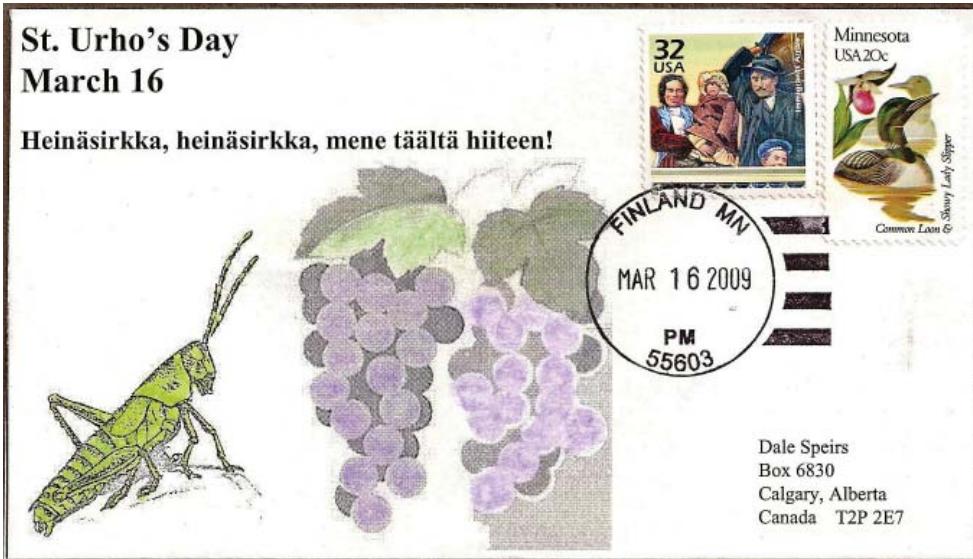


Figure 4.

find an individual post office when you already know the name. If you want to look over a checklist of current Canadian post offices to find something connected with your topic, you have to search for Householder Counts, not an obvious keyword. In creating St. Urho's Day covers, I had to do some drilling to find Canadian post offices with Finnish names (all of which, unfortunately, returned my covers with illegible postmarks, thus the reason none are shown here).

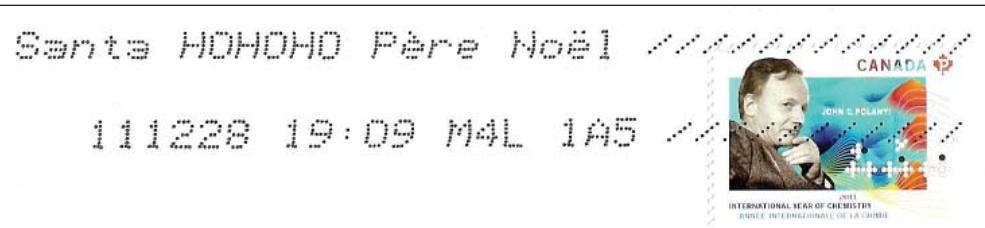


Figure 5.





Figure 6.



Figure 7.

Posties at the sorting plants are not always as diligent as they should be in changing holiday slogans.

It is not too difficult to find Christmas slogans still being used after the fact, such as the one shown in Figure 5, dated Dec. 28. January usages of Christmas slogans are common as well.

Palindromes And Consecutive Numbers

Palindromes are numbers that read the same forward or backward. They also frequently are referred to as "radar numbers." The most recent set were the year-month-day of the first 12 years of the 2000s, where postmarks read 01-01-01, 02-02-02 and so on (Figure 6). The previous century had many such dates. An example of Sept. 9, 1999, is shown in Figure 7.

Depending on what style of postmark a post office uses, it has been possible to get cancels with hours as well as day, month and year, so that one could get



Figure 8.



Figure 9.

a 1-2-3-4-5-6 type postmark, as seen in Figure 8. Many American post offices issue special postmarks when their Zip Code matches the calendar (Figure 9). These cancels can be found listed in the online Postal Bulletin at www.usps.com.

Calendar Changes

The most obvious type of calendar change is Leap Year, and every Feb. 29 I trot down to the local postal station to get such a cancel, as seen in Figure 10. The

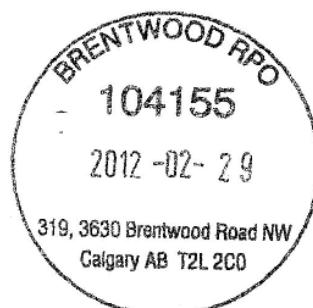


Figure 10.



Figure 11.

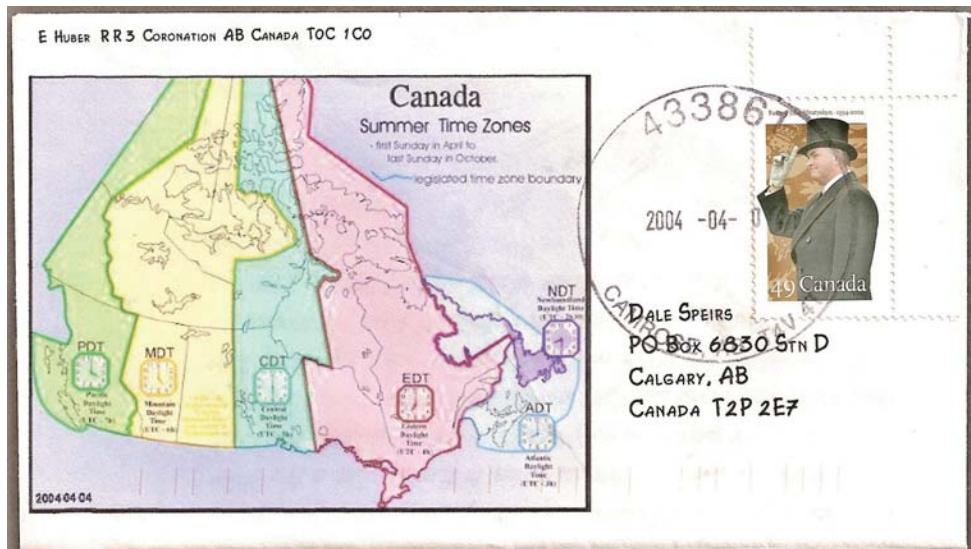
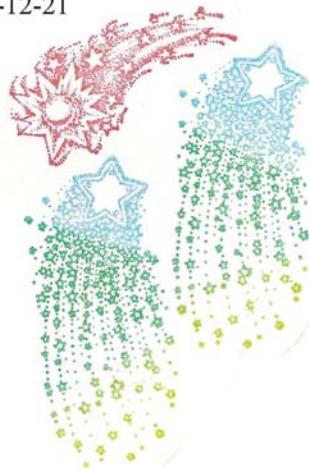


Figure 12.

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

Mayan Long Count = 13.0.0.0.4 Ajaw 3 K'ank'in
 Gregorian Calendar = 2012-12-21

It's the end of the world!



Sorry, postponed until further notice.



Figure 13.

most recent leap year was in 2012. Back in 1952, one collector produced covers noting a rare calendar event, that of five Fridays in a Leap year February, shown in Figure 11. Daylight Savings Time is not a calendar event that one would think of commemorating, but I did receive such a cover from a collector in rural Alberta (Figure 12).

It's The End Of The World As We Know It

The Mayans (who are not extinct as many people believe) have a calendar that rolled over on Dec. 21, 2012. The doomsayers were laughed out of the room long before the actual date, and the Mayan people repeatedly made the point that their calendar was cyclical, not terminal. I had some fun creating dual date covers for the end of the world, shown in Figure 13. It gave the posties a laugh as well when I brought the covers in for hand canceling. This is all part of the fun of calendar collecting. ☐

Dale Spiers is a longtime collector living in Canada who is always interested in finding fun philatelic pursuits. His calendar project has been a longtime effort.

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



CINDERELLA CORNER

Arthur H. Grotel

Lincoln Cinderellas

Sherwood Springer, in the 7th edition of his *Handbook on North American Cinderella Stamps*, page 19, shows four different contemporary

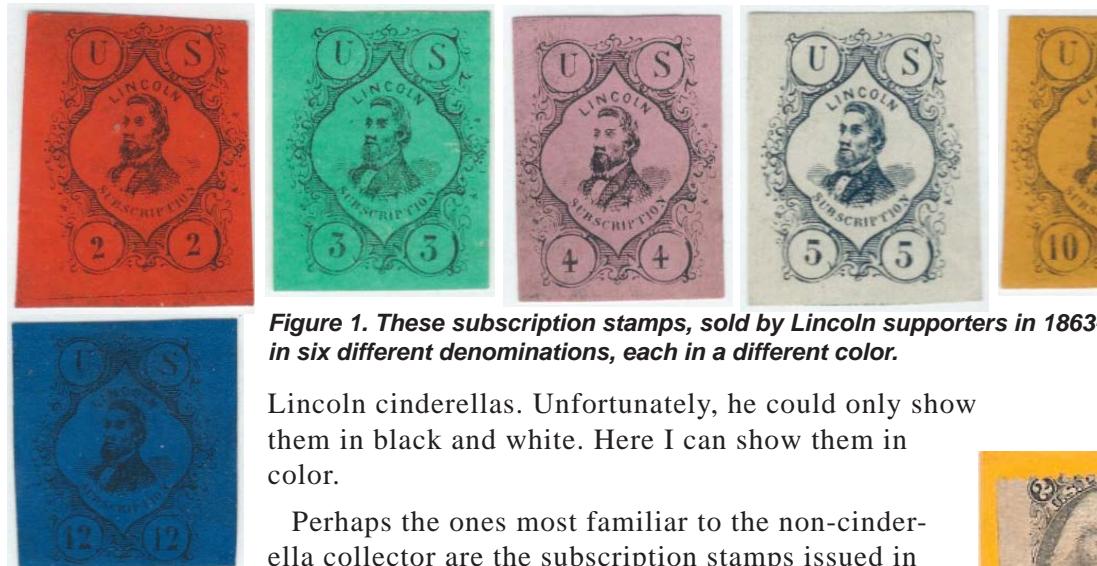


Figure 1. These subscription stamps, sold by Lincoln supporters in 1863-64 in six different denominations, each in a different color.

Lincoln cinderellas. Unfortunately, he could only show them in black and white. Here I can show them in color.

Perhaps the ones most familiar to the non-cinderella collector are the subscription stamps issued in 1863-64, sold by his supporters to raise money for his re-election campaign. They are denominated 2¢, 3¢, 4¢, 5¢, 10¢ and 12¢, each a different color (Figure 1). Ah, for the good old days of donations in pennies!

In 1860, Knox and Lang, die sinkers in Worcester, Mass., created an embossed image of the beardless Lincoln for his first campaign. It was impressed in the upper left cover of an envelope but most have been cut square (Figure 2).



Figure 2 (left), Figure 3 (right).

Another beardless Lincoln was made by Hickey, Mallory & Co. in Cincinnati, Ohio, at about the same time. Springer lists purple and blue; I show orange (Figure 3).

A non-campaign cinderella was produced by J. H. Johnson, a job printer at 7 N. 10th St., Philadelphia, to pay

for his private and free drop letter services. It was printed in both green and orange, in three types, depending on the typeface of "Johnson's."

This is a bearded Lincoln

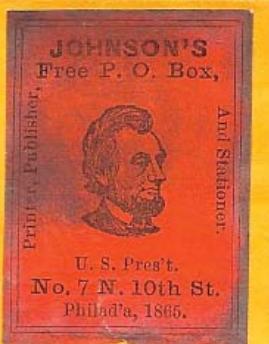
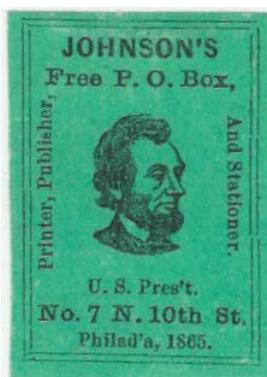
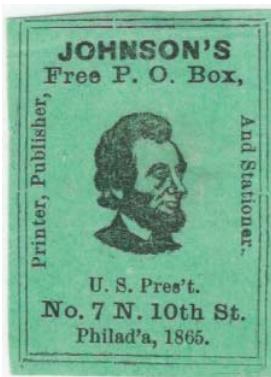
and identified as "U.S. Pres't." (Figure 4) They are found on cover, almost never tied, usually with a 2¢ Black Jack. The proximity of the address to his shop speaks to the validity of its use (Figure 5).

There are other contemporary Union patriotic labels that are another whole field of study. I have written about them in *The American Philatelist*. □



64, came

Figure 4. This Lincoln cinderella was produced in three types in two colors. The three types, described in the text, are shown here. The second color is shown on cover in Figure 5.



William Davis, Esq.
1513 North 7th St.
Philadelphia

Study Unit Spotlight

This month: Gems, Minerals & Jewelry study unit

[Editor's Note: This is the 28th 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 "Jackson County, Oregon's Mineral-Named Post Offices," Philagems International, February 2015, No. 124. To be considered for "Study Unit Spotlight," please select what you feel may be the finest article appearing in your journal during the past year or so (preferably with philatelic content) and submit it to the Topical Time editor (wystamps@gmail.com), or Study Unit Coordinator Jeff Hayward (stamps@jeffhayward.com). We hope you enjoy this fine feature. [Submissions of Spotlight features are earnestly solicited!]

Jackson County, Oregon's Mineral-Named Post Offices

Nancy L. Swan

As members of the Southern Oregon Philatelic Society's "Post Office Study Team," our family began collecting Jackson County postal history in the 1970s. We made field trips to old post office locales. My interest in postal history coincided with that of collecting minerals on stamps and postmarks and membership in the Roxy Anne Gem and Mineral Society.

Minerals found in Jackson County are agate (moss, dendritic, banded blue-grey), chalcedony, chromite, cobalt, copper, crystal-lined geodes, gold, grossularite garnet, jasper, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel, petrified wood, platinum, rhodochrosite, silver, stibnite, tremolite asbestos, tungsten and zinc, plus marine fossils from the Siskiyou mountains, on the county's southern border.

Five of the county's post offices were named after minerals: Agate, Asbestos, Copper, Gold Hill and Soda Springs. The following is a selection from a much larger exhibit of Jackson County postal history.

Jackson County was the cradle of Oregon's mining industry. The landscape and mineral heritage relate to the area's volcanic past, especially the eruption of

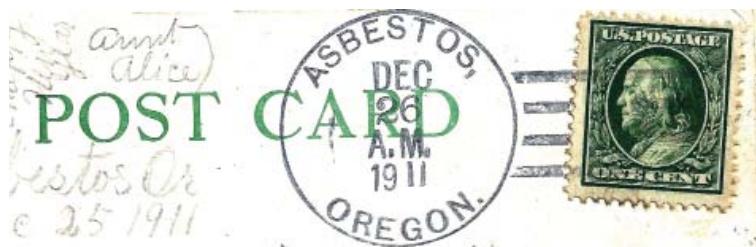


Fragment of a target-canceled card from Agate in 1907, just before the post office closed. Afterwards, residents were served through the Central Point post office.



This misaddressed postcard has three postmarks: Central Point, Oct. 14 (received), Central Point, Oct. 15, 1906 (redirected), and another one, from Agate on Oct. 16.

Mount Mazama (now Crater Lake National Park) in the Cascade chain. Mount McLaughlin, a Fuji-like dormant volcano, looms over the eastern horizon. Gold was first discovered in southern Oregon in 1851 on Jackson Creek (south of the present town of Jacksonville) and along the Applegate River tributaries. This caused a population boom! The Oregon territorial government established Jackson County on Jan. 12, 1852, and the designation of United States post offices began. Prospectors also began discovering gold on all



Alice Welch, wife of the local sawmill owner, was Asbestos' postmistress from June 18, 1906, until the post office was closed. The nearest post office was at Beagle. Both cards bear a Doane Type 3 postmark (with "1" in killer). Dec. 26, 1911 (above) is the latest-known use.

Copper Ore
Raymond R Rooney
Postmaster



Last day of operation of the Copper post office, May 31, 1932.

creeks that fed into the Rogue River. In 1860, a farm hand found a piece of hounds-tooth quartz laced with gold at what is now Gold Hill. A total of \$700,000 (today \$40 million) in gold was taken out in nine months before the pocket played out. A similarly rich deposit was found near Steamboat. Hydraulic mining followed the placers, but ultimately was banned because of its destruction of the land. Drilling and sluicing continued for a while throughout the area. Hundreds of claims are still on file.



Above: Type 2 May 6, 1887, violet target cancel. The lower-left marking is from Boston.

Right: Whitemsey Type 3 postmark and "Wheel of Fortune" cancel (killer not readily visible).

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Doane Type 1 cancels are found on both the postcard (above) and on the cropped cover at right.

Until the 1930s, gold was the predominant mineral produced in Jackson County. During World War II, only mining related to minerals useful in the war effort was allowed. Today, more than 90% of the value of the county's metallic minerals still comes from gold.

Ultimately, it was the county's location on major river and stagecoach roads (later train tracks and the Pacific Interstate highway), its agriculture, timber cutting and growth as the regional commercial and medical center that kept the county growing. Today, miners still pan for gold in the area's streams, while rock hounds gather agates and petrified wood, and tourists enjoy Lithia Park's mineral waters.

Agate

Located in Central County, the Agate post office opened Feb. 13, 1901, and closed April 30, 1907. Jeffery S. Grimsby was the only postmaster. It was named for the agates of this "Agate Desert" area by farmers and agate hunters. Agate is centered at the Antelope and Modoc roads junction, a mile south of the Rogue.

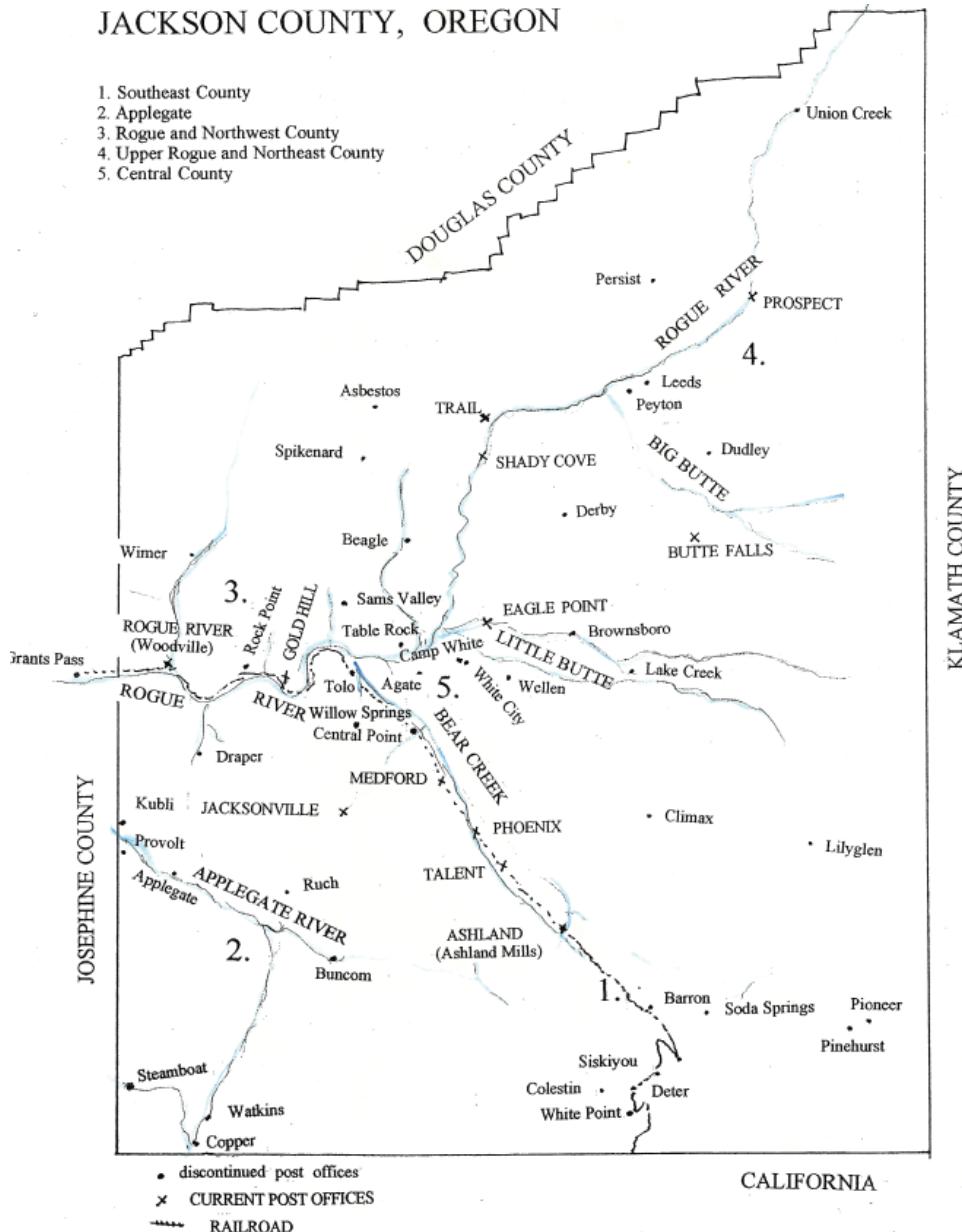
Asbestos

The Asbestos post office opened Aug. 15, 1893, and closed Aug. 31, 1918. It was named for the area's deposits of asbestos-bearing fibrous tremolite. This post office near Evans Creek was six miles north of Beagle. The first postmistress was May Sackett.



JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON

1. Southeast County
2. Applegate
3. Rogue and Northwest County
4. Upper Rogue and Northeast County
5. Central County



A map of Jackson County, Ore., showing the locations of post offices discussed in this feature, as well as other significant locations.

Need NTSS 2015 Info?

For all the latest, check our website or contact ATA!

Information is constantly updated as received...

Copper

The Copper post office opened June 5, 1916, in Siskiyou County, Calif., and closed on May 31, 1932. This post office was opened especially to serve the workers of the Blue Ledge Copper Mine. In 1924, it was moved three miles north, one mile into Oregon. The new post office was in the cabin of postmistress Mamie Winnigham on the Applegate River, near the mouth of Carberry Creek. The post office closed after postmaster R.R. Rooney resigned. Copper now lies under the lake created by the Applegate Dam.

Gold Hill

The Gold Hill post office opened June 2, 1884, with Wm. S. Fitzgerald as postmaster. It was named for a hill on the Rogue's south bank, where gold was discovered. The town was at the rocky narrows of the Rogue, near the site of old toll bridges. Across the river was the important early settlement of Dardanelles. Most of the town was swept away by the flooding Rogue in 1890. It was rebuilt and incorporated in 1895.

Soda Springs

The Soda Springs post office opened Sept. 25, 1886, and was discontinued April 1, 1911. Although several places in Jackson County were known for soda springs, the only post office of that name was on Emigrant Creek, about 11 miles southwest of Ashland on Wagner's land at Wagner Springs. John Marshall held onto the postmaster's job until the post office closed. ☐

Gems, Minerals & Jewelry Study Unit

The Gems, Minerals & Jewelry Study Unit was formed in 1975 by 27 members and was officially chartered by the ATA in 1976. Karl Case was the first president and editor of its quarterly journal, *Philagems*, which has been published continuously since 1976. The study unit is dedicated to the study of rocks and minerals and their uses, as well as the cultural significance of different types of jewelry and gemstones. There are several checklists available for sale to members, including a checklist of mineral specimens with their chemical formulas. Dues in the United States are \$15 and \$20 elsewhere. For more membership information contact Gilberte Proteau, 138 rue Lafontaine, Beloeil, QC J3G 2G7, Canada, email: gilberte.ferland@sympatico.ca.

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Units in Action

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

Americana Unit

Americana Philatelic News

Allan Fisk bids “Farewell Bounty”



to the replica tall ship launched in August of 1960. Pitcairn Islands was the first nation to issue a stamp featuring the *Bounty* on Aug. 5, 1964. On Oct. 29, 2012, *Bounty USA*

was lost at sea off the coast of North Carolina during Hurricane Sandy.

Fred Skvara is stepping down as editor and publisher of the Americana Study Unit's *Americana Philatelic News* and the study unit seeks volunteers to fill the positions. Please contact President Dave Kent at kentdave@aol.com if you are willing to fill a position.

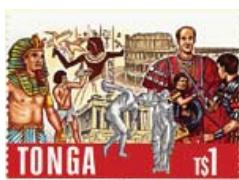
Dues are \$6 in the United States, \$12 elsewhere. Contact Dennis Dengel, 17 Peckham Rd, Poughkeepsie NY 12603-2018.

Email: dennisdengel@verizon.net
Website: www.americanauunit.org

Archaeological (Old World) Study Unit

Old World Archaeologist

Lalibela, Ethiopia, is known for 11 different churches that were commissioned by King Lalibela during the 12th century. These churches were not built of construction material but were carved and chiseled out of solid stone. St. George's Church was created as a memorial to King Lalibela after his death. Workers cut down through 40



feet of stone and shaped the roof into a Greek cross, according to a feature in the *Old World Archaeologist*, January 2015.

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

Email: editor@owasu.org

Website: www.owasu.org

Biology Unit

Biophilately

In *Biophilately*, March 2015, Donald



R. Ager shows the different types of birds Christopher Columbus

encountered in the new world in “Parrots, Macaws and Quetzals.” The article features stamps issued by more than 16 different countries depicting many different species of birds from the Caribbean, Central and South America. Columbus took many birds back to the Old World, trading trinkets and beads for them. One stamp issued by Antigua & Barbuda shows parrots being traded by Native Americans and a member of Columbus’ crew.

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

Email: chris-dahle@fastermac.net
Website: www.biophilately.org

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Books and Printing (Graphics Philately Association)

Philateli-Graphics

Joe Sullivan provides the historical background for each of the “Chinese New Year Woodblock Prints (Nianhua)” stamp sets issued each Lunar New Year by China Post from 2003-11.



Nianhua were a type of Chinese woodblock print using multiple colors and related to the Chinese New Year, from. *Philateli-Graphics*, January 2015.

Dues are \$15 in North America (Patron, \$25) and \$25 elsewhere (Patron, \$35). Contact Larry Rosenblum, GPA Secretary/Treasurer, 1030 E El Camino Real, Sunnyvale CA 94087-3759.

Email: lr@gbstamps.com

Website: www.graphics-stamps.org

Cats on Stamps Study Unit

Cat Mews

Four “All American Breeds,” the only cat breeds native or bred in the United States that have American in their name, are described

along with postage stamps on which they appear. The four breeds are: The American Shorthair, American Curl, American Wirehair and American Bobtail. American Shorthairs were bred

Cats on Stamps Study Unit
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to have pointed ears, a round large broad head, round eyes. Of the four all-American breeds in the article, only the American Shorthair appears on a U.S. postage stamp (issued in 1988), from *Cat Mews*, Spring 2015.

Dues are \$14 in the United States, \$20 elsewhere and \$10 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Bob Jarvis, 2731 Teton LN, Fairfield CA 94533-6503.

Email: bobmarci@aol.com

Website: www.catsonstamps.org

Christmas Philatelic Club

Yule Log

The October-December 2014 issue

of *Yule Log* marked the 100th anniversary of “The Christmas Truce of 1914.” This unofficial truce occurred on Christmas Eve through Christmas Day during World War I on the Western front in 1914. Soldiers from both sides sang carols, exchanged holiday greetings and gifts, as well. Fighting resumed after Christmas Day.

Dues are \$20 in the United States and Canada, \$30 elsewhere. Contact Jim Balog, PO Box 744, Geneva OH 44041-0744.

Email: jpba4stamps@windstream.net

Website: web.295.ca/cpcl

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

Reflections

“Robert Robinson Taylor” recently

appeared on a U.S. stamp – the 38th stamp issued as part of the Black Heritage series. Taylor is the first academically trained architect in the United States and was



possibly the first Black graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Taylor supervised the design and construction of the Tuskegee Institute and also oversaw the school's industrial education and building trades.

Dues are \$25 in the United States and \$35 elsewhere. Contact Manuel Gilyard, PO Box 1757, Lincoln Station, New York NY 10037-1757.

Email: esperstamps@esperstamps.org

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

Email: eshinaultsr@yahoo.com

Website: www.esperstamps.org

Errors, Freaks, and Oddities

Collectors' Club

The EFO Collector

John Hotchner answers questions



posed by a member in a previous issue about some irregularities the member found on some of his stamps.

Hotchner provided answers for seven different stamp issues that were related to color differences, inking problems, miscuts and other production issues.

Hotchner explained for one coloration irregularity that ink composition changed when the EPA and OSHA required the use of lead-free ink. As a result, some stamps appear darker when they were printed using lead-free ink, from *The EFO Collector*, October-



Penguins on Stamps Study Unit

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

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

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

Email: possumember@yahoo.com

December 2014.

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

Email: dhhunt@ptdprolog.net

Website: www.efocc.org

Europa Study Unit

Europa News

Marcel Van Graven explains



the historic importance of "Charles the Great: 'Father of Europe,'" in *Europa News*,

March-April 2015. Charles the Great, also known as Charlemagne, was known for forming a judicial system, educational stimulus and protection of the church and poor after the fall of Rome. His protection of the poor earned him the name "Father of Europe." The Vatican recently issued a set of two stamps to commemorate the 1,200th anniversary of his death.

Dues are \$20 in the United States and Canada, \$25 elsewhere and \$10 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Tonny Van Loij, 3002 S Xanthia St, Denver CO 80231-4237.

Email: tvanloij@gmail.com

Website: www.europastudyunit.org

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Fire Service in Philately

Fire Stamp News

Ed Flory continues his "Foreign



Made Fire Apparatus on Stamps," in *Fire Stamp News*, January-March 2015. One of the stamps shown in the article was issued by the Falkland Islands and pictures the 1938 Coventry Climax

'Godiva' Trailer Pump produced by the Coventry Company. The Coventry Company produced pumps for fire services and armed forces until the 1970s.

Dues are \$15 in the United States. Contact Ed Flory, 149 Sopher St, East Stroudsburg PA 18301-2209.

Email: etflory@ptd.net

Gems, Minerals and Jewelry Study Unit

Philagems International

"Salt and Sodium" continues with Part 5 in *Philagems International*, January-March 2015. Different types of salt collection methods are explained and different stamps in the article depict the various collection methods.



One of the methods shows women on the Island of Mayotte boiling seawater for salt. The method is still used there.

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

Email: gilberte.ferland@sympatico.ca

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

Email: norma.al@sympatico.ca

Journalists, Authors, & Poets

on Stamps (JAPOS)

JAPOS Bulletin

In "The Beginning of Historical



Fiction," by Clete Delvaux, the author ponders the different influences and life experiences of James Fenimore Cooper and their effect on his writing. Living

on the frontier influenced Cooper's *Leatherstocking Tales*, which is composed of six different novels. Cooper appears on only one U.S. stamp but Russia issued a set of five stamps commemorating the 200th anniversary of Cooper's birth in 1989. One stamp in this set is a portrait of James Fenimore Cooper and the other four show various scenes from the *Leatherstocking Tales*.

Dues are \$9 in the United States and \$12 elsewhere. Contact Clete Delvaux, 800 E River Dr Unit B, De Pere WI 54115-4159.

Email: cdelvaux@msn.com

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

Judaica Thematic Society

Judaica News

Jeff Dugdale provides a biography of American entertainer Erik Weisz, better known as Harry Houdini, in "Hou Done it!" in *Judaica News*, April 2015.



Weisz was brought to the United States by his parents, Rabbi Mayer Samuel Weisz and Cecilia Steiner, when he was four years old. He took the

name "Harry Houdini" in tribute to the French illusionist Jean Eugene Robert-Houdin known for his illusions and mind-reading tricks. With many of his tricks being imitated by other magicians, Houdini established a signature trick called "The Chinese Water Torture Cell." This trick required that he escape from a sealed cell filled with water with his legs shackled to the cell top. Houdini would have to hold his breath for three minutes while performing his escape from the cell.

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

Email: judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net

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Lighthouse Stamp Society

The Philatelic Beacon

The Cap Fréhel Lighthouse



recently appeared in the background of one of the stamps issued by France's La Poste, picturing goats from the Bretagne region of France. Three different lighthouses were built in the Cap Fréhel and the first lighthouse,

Tour Vauban, is still there. There is a total of 12 stamps issued in this booklet, *The Philatelic Beacon*, March-April 2015.

Dues are \$12 in the United States, \$15 in Canada and Mexico, \$20 elsewhere; an electronic version of *The Philatelic Beacon* is available for \$10. Contact Dalene Thomas, 1805 S Balsam #106, Lakewood CO 80232-6778.

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

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Masonic Study Unit

Philatelic Freemason

A biography of freemason Neville



Howse, Australia's first Victoria Cross winner, appears in the *Philatelic Freemason*, March-April 2015.

Born and educated in England, Neville Howse returned

to Australia in 1889. While serving during the Second Boer War he rescued a trumpeter, dressed his wounds and got him to safety. His actions resulted

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in being awarded the Victoria Cross.

Howse would later serve as a Lieutenant Colonel and the Principal Medical Officer during World War I.

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

Email: radpm67@gmail.com

or, Gene Fricks

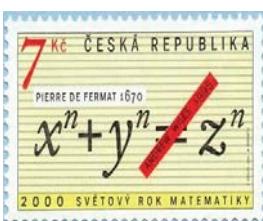
Email: genefricks@comcast.net

Mathematical Study Unit

Philamat

Rachael Braun shows "Growth

Charts on
Stamps"
from Braun's
collection
of statistical
graphics on
postage stamps
in *Philamat*,



January 2015. One of the stamps in the article was issued by Nicaragua in 1973 and shows a growth chart depicting infant weight curves. The reverse side of this stamp was also used to provide nutritional health information.

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

Email: montystrauss@gmail.com

Website: www.mathstamps.org

Motivgruppe Musik (International Philatelic Music Study Group)

Der Musikus

The "Two Double Flute Flutes:



Dvajnice and Dwojanka" are traditional woodwind instruments from the Balkans. Both instruments are made from wood and have double

parallel flutes on each instrument. The difference between the instruments is that the dwojanka has six finger holes on the right bore, while the left bore has one, two or no finger holes.

Dues are €25 (€12.50 for collectors 25 years old or younger.) Young collectors receive one year of *Der Musikus* free. Contact Peter Lang, Rotkamp 14, 13053 Berlin, Germany. Email: motivgruppe.musik@gmx.de Website: www.motivgruppe-musik.de/indexe.html

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and their relation to the topic are detailed in *Campaign*, January-March 2015.

One of the stamps, issued by Ajman in 1972, shows a Charles Stuebens painting of Napoleon's return to France. Napoleon decided to return to France from Elba after learning the allies were going to break their treaty with him.

Dues are \$15 in North America, \$20 elsewhere. Contact Ken Berry, 4117 NW 146th ST, Oklahoma City OK 73134-1746.

Email: krb2@earthlink.net

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

Email: donsmith32@atlanticbb.net

Website: www.nap-stamps.org

Plate Number Collectors Club (PNC³) *Coil Line*

John Himes warns "Use cornstarch to thicken gravy, not stamps" in the April 2015 issue of *Coil Line*.



Himes recommends not using cornstarch to cover up the residual stamp adhesive on self-sticks after going through a collection received by an elderly collector. In the collection, Himes found that the adhesive continued to migrate through the cornstarch causing the stamps to stick together and to the glassine envelopes. The author recommends fully removing the self-adhesive material before adding the stamp to your collection.

Dues are \$32-40 in the United States and Canada, \$45 elsewhere, \$18 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Michael J Conway, 239 Judd Rd, Easton CT 06612-1025.
Email: mjccconway@hotmail.com
Website: www.pnc3.org

Polar Philatelists, American Society of Ice Cap News

Steve Pendleton shares covers and correspondence from the late H.E.J. Evans estate in "A South Georgia Correspondence" in the January 2015 *Ice Cap News*. One interesting cover shown in the article was sent by Tim and Pauline Carr who had been living in South Georgia after sailing there in their yacht.

This commercial cover used their yacht, *Curlew*, as the return address but the yacht was also on the postage stamp used on the cover. South Georgia issued a set of yacht stamps in 1995 and the *Curlew* appeared on one of the stamps in that set.

Dues are \$22 in the United States, \$30 elsewhere. Contact Alan Warren, PO Box 39, Exton PA 19341-0039.

Email: alanwar@comcast.net
Website: www.polarphilatelists.org

Railroad Unit, Casey Jones

The Dispatcher

Harry Winter provides a history



of "A Bizarre Locomotive" after acquiring a mini-sheet from the Grenadines at a local

stamp show. One of the stamps on the mini-sheet is a Fontaine locomotive. Invented by Eugene Fontaine, two of these locomotives were built in 1881 in Paterson, N.J. Inclined cylinders powered a pair of large drive wheels that were above the load-bearing wheels riding on the rails.

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

Email: roymenn@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.uqp.de/cjr

Religion on Stamps, Collectors of (COROS)

The COROS Chronicle

In November 2014, Iceland issued a



booklet of stamps containing three of the drawings from the medieval "Iceland Pattern Book." This "book" is actually

21 non-bound vellum manuscript fragments that have drawings on both sides. The drawings date back to 1330. Denmark returned the book to Iceland in 1991 and it is currently housed on the campus of the University of Iceland. The three drawings reproduced on stamps are: *The Nativity of Jesus*, *The Annunciation* and *The Adoration of the*

Magi, from *The COROS Chronicle*, February 2015.

Dues are \$22 in the United States, \$27 in Canada and Mexico and \$32 elsewhere. Contact James F. Bailey, PO Box 937, Brownwood TX 76804-0937.

Email: corosec@wildblue.net

Website: www.coros-society.org

Rotary on Stamps Fellowship

The ROS Bulletin

In addition to several administrative reports in *The ROS Bulletin*, February 2015 issue, there



is also a report of a new issue for the Rotary theme and the set was issued by Guinea in October 2014.

Dues are \$20.

Contact Gerald FitzSimmons, 105 Calle Ricardo, Victoria TX 77904-1203.

Email: gfitz@suddenlink.net

Website: www.rotaryonstamps.org

Scouts on Stamps Society International

SOSSI Journal

In an effort to raise funds for handicapped scouts, the Boy Scouts International Bureau began a program in 1954 to collect and sell postage stamps, called



the "Stamps for Handicapped Scouts Stamp Scheme." Stamps were collected by scouts around the world and by the end of the first year more than

100,000 stamps had been collected for the program. After the program was reported in *Boy's Life* magazine in 1962, American scout Forrest M. Harrell Jr. had a large rubber handstamp created that he used on covers to promote the program. Harrell sent a cover with the handstamp to the founder of SOSSI, Harry Thorsen Jr., that same year, from *SOSSI Journal*, March-April 2015.

Dues are \$25 in the United States, \$30 in Canada, \$35 in Mexico and \$40 elsewhere. An electronic version is available for \$20 worldwide. Contact Lawrence E. Clay, PO Box 6228, Kennewick WA 99336-6228.

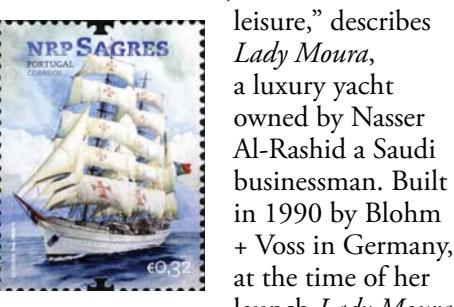
Email: lclay3731@charter.net

Website: www.sossi.org

Ships on Stamps Unit

Watercraft Philately

Featured article, "Yachts - a life of



leisure," describes *Lady Moura*, a luxury yacht owned by Nasser Al-Rashid a Saudi businessman. Built in 1990 by Blohm + Voss in Germany, at the time of her launch *Lady Moura*

was the ninth-largest private yacht. The *Lady Moura* appeared on a stamp issued by Monaco in 2013.

Dues are \$15 in North America, \$22 elsewhere and \$9 for a PDF electronic version worldwide. Contact Myron P. Molnau, 1616 E 32nd Ct, Spokane WA 99203-3918.

Email: hobbies@turbonet.com

Website: www.shipsonstamps.org

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Sports Philatelists International

Journal of Sports Philately

Wilt Chamberlain, also known as the “Big Dipper,” was recently commemorated on two postage stamps issued by the USPS in December 2014. The stamps were created by Kadir Nelson and show Chamberlain in his uniform for the Philadelphia



Warriors and the Los Angeles Lakers. The stamps are almost double the size of a regular commemorative stamp. Chamberlain preferred track-and-field as a young man, but later began playing more basketball when he attended high school, from *Journal of Sports Philately*, Spring 2015.

Dues are \$29 in the United States and Canada and \$39 elsewhere. An electronic version is available for \$15 worldwide. Contact Mark C. Maestrone, 2824 Curie Pl, San Diego CA 92122-4110.

Email: markspi@prodigy.net

Website: www.sportstamps.org

Windmill Study Unit

Windmill Whispers

Eight pages of windmill new discoveries and issues are reported in the January–February 2015 issue of *Windmill Whispers*. One stamp reported was issued by Bahrain in March 2013. The issue shows a view of the Bahrain Trade Center, which has wind turbines in between the two towers.

Dues are \$12 in the United States. Contact Orville Tysseling, 9740



United Kingdom.

Email: fred.atkins@blueyonder.co.uk

Website: www.wsuweb.eu

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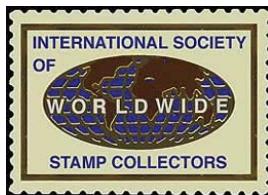
continues in *The Circuit*, March–April 2015, with Allenstein. Originally established by

Teutonic knights in the 14th century, Allenstein was a government region from 1905–95 in East Prussia. After WWI, Germany was forced to give up a large portion of the territory to Poland. There were a total of 28 stamps issued by Allenstein and regular German stamps were used after 1920.

Dues are \$15 worldwide. Contact Joanne Berkowitz, Executive Director, PO Box 19006, Sacramento CA 95819-0006.

Email: joannebe@pacbell.net

Website: www.iswsc.org



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Checklist Notes

In our last column, a checklist contest was announced. The ATA member who first guessed the most requested checklist from the ATA checklist dATABse in 2015 would win a \$10 credit toward purchase of checklists. The contest did not garner many entries and, unfortunately, no one who entered came up with the most popular list. The correct answer was Norman Rockwell. The Rockwell checklist currently has 207 entries, so its cost is \$2.07. The first ATA member to enter the contest was Theresa Friburg. Although her entry was not correct, since no one else came up with a winning entry it seems only fair to award the prize to her. Theresa will receive \$10 credit toward the purchase of checklists of her choice. Congratulations, Theresa!

Tom Stillman, ATA's new Checklist Coordinator, is hard at work learning his volunteer job of entering the new topical stamps listed in *Linn's* each month and making member-suggested corrections and additions to the checklist dATABse developed by Karen Cartier. If you have any kind of checklist suggestion to make, please email Tom at atachecklists@gmail.com, or mail him at PO Box 210748, San Francisco CA 94121-0748.

Checklist orders should be sent to the ATA Office by mail, PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008 USA; email, american topical@msn.com; or by phone (618) 985-5100. ☎



2015-17 Membership Directory Update

Thank you to the hundreds of ATA members who so promptly submitted their *Membership Directory* information/permission forms. More than 300 members submitted their forms electronically the first weekend after the website was provided by email. We are still working on acknowledging receipt of those forms. Another 100 members mailed in the form from the back of the Mar-Apr *Topical Time* — most noting they didn't receive their copy in time to meet the stated deadline. Never fear! All the "early birds" have made the work of our small office staff easier by supplying their permission early. Now's the time for the "night owls" who haven't submitted as yet to do so! Please return the form on the back of this issue by the middle of May, or else go to the ATA website and submit the form online. It's very short! But very important to ATA! Thanks to all for helping. ☎

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Feathered Fish: The Loon

Leon Karanfil

Loons, or “divers,” as they are called in other parts of the world, are a group of migratory aquatic birds found across North America and northern Eurasia. They



Red-throated Loon (on older wildlife sticker), with its triangular chestnut patch on its throat, is the smallest of loons in both size and weight. Because of its small size, the Red-throated Loon needs far less water to land and take off. In fact, it is the only loon that can fly from the ground. It breeds primarily in Arctic regions, and winters in northern coastal waters. It is threatened by oil spills, habitat degradation, pollution and fishing nets. In Alaska there was a 53% Red-throated Loon population decline between 1971-93.

distances, sometimes thousands of miles, to reach their ancestral lakes and ponds that dot the forested northern regions around and above the 50th parallel. Some species go as far north as the Arctic. The loon is a symbol of wilderness and solitude. The mysterious nature of this special bird, not to mention its otherworldly haunting calls and antics, has fascinated mankind for centuries. Today, being in the presence of loons in the wild, watching and hearing them go quietly about their simple yet purposeful lives, is an experience that brings us much joy and wonder, if not a respite from the everyday pressures of a complex world we call our own (paralleled, I hasten to add, with the Hobby). The main activities of the loon include hunting, feeding, resting, preening and parenting.

They comprise the genus *Gavia* and are the only members of the family *Gaviidae* and the order *Gaviiformes*. Adult loons are easily recognized in summer by their striking mostly black-and-white patterned breeding plumage. At the end of summer, before fall migration, the adult birds moult into drab grey-brown colors and look no different than the immature; their bellies and wing linings, however, remain white year-round. These birds have a habit of swimming low in the water, a feature that distinguishes them from other waterfowl such as ducks and geese.

Loons are creatures of the northlands. Indeed, year after year in early spring, driven by an instinctual urge, they gather in flocks to leave their winter habitats in the south and set out for the Great North. They travel long



Figure 2. Canada Scott 1841, The Pacific Loon, breeds in Northern Canada. It resembles the Arctic loon but is usually smaller in size.

There are five living species of loons, each differing from the other in size, plumage and other physical features, as well as the geographic range in which they breed (although with some species, this overlaps). These are: the Red-throated Loon *Gavia stellata* (Figure 1); the Pacific Loon, *Gavia pacifica* (Figure 2); the Arctic Loon, *Gavia arctica* (Figure 3); the Yellow-billed Loon; *Gavia adamsii*; and the Common Loon, *Gavia immer* (Figure 4).

Although the Common loon, due to its breeding range, is the species with which we are most familiar, our knowledge of the birds applies more or less to the other four.



Figure 3. The Arctic Loon breeds in Eurasia and occasionally in western Alaska. It winters at sea, as well as on large lakes over a much wider range. It has a grey head and a black throat.



Figure 4 (left). Iceland Scott 388. The Common Loon, with its characteristic black-and-white checked back, glossy black head and white necklace, is the species best known to us. It breeds in North America, Greenland, Iceland and Scotland. The Yellow-billed Loon closely resembles the Common Loon except that it is slightly larger and has a yellow-white bill (instead of black), the lower part of which angles up. The Yellow-billed Loon breeds in the Arctic and winters mainly at sea along the coasts of the northern Pacific Ocean and north-western Norway.

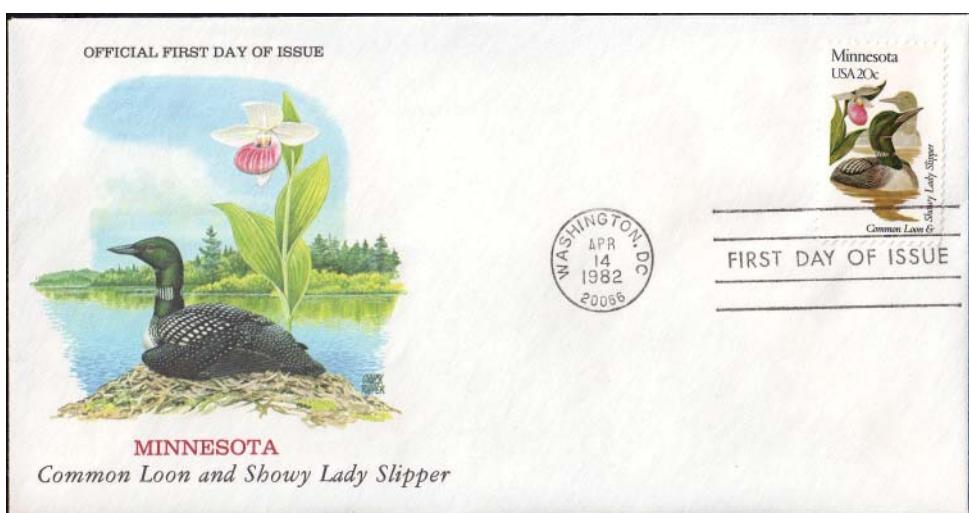


Figure 5. The Common Loon, shown on this 1982 first-day cover, is the official state bird of Minnesota

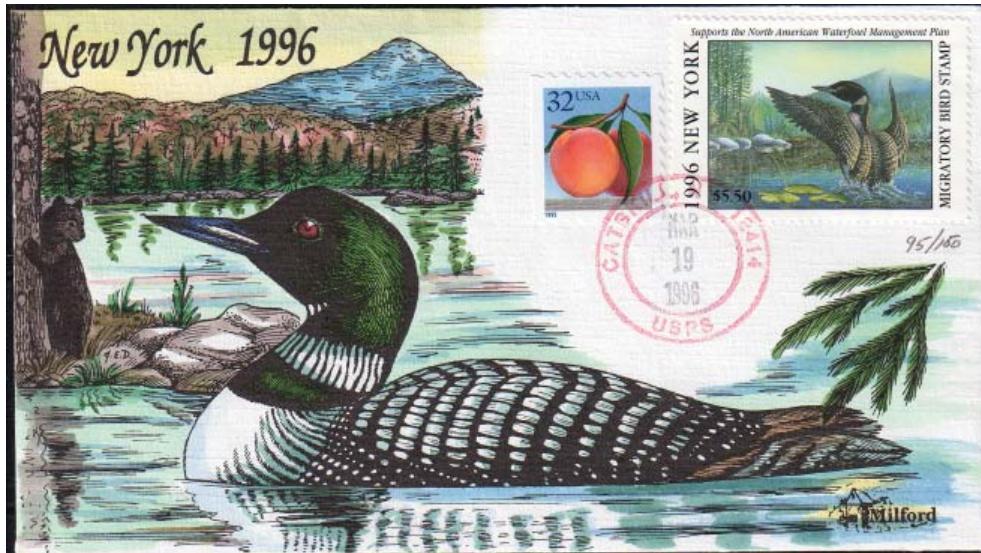


Figure 6. An angry male loon defending its territory is featured on this 1996 first-day cover for the 1996 New York state duck stamp.



Figure 7. A pair of loons in flight are pictured on this 2005 Newfoundland Wildlife Conservation label.

destination, loons may sometimes wait for the ice to thaw completely before they can alight in pairs (they are monogamous birds) and reclaim their treasured northwoods lakes and ponds as their summer home, during which time territorial disputes among male adults may often occur (Figure 6). Once settled within these secluded sites, they can breed, nest and rear their young undisturbed. Before the fall freeze, loons head back south and spend the winter on ice-free coastal waters; some go as far south as Mexico. They never leave the northern hemisphere.

The Common Loon has been recognized as the official state bird of Minnesota since 1961 (Figure 5) and has been the official provincial bird of Ontario since 1994.

The seasonal migration pattern of the loon is determined by the fact that this bird spends most of its life staying afloat, thus seeking open waters that are fresh and adequate in food supply, as well as safe from predators.

Having reached their northern



Figure 8. Russia Scott 4466 (1976), showing a diving loon.

The loon is relatively a large heavy-set bird, an average adult measuring almost a meter (3.3 ft) in length from bill to outstretched feet and weighing between 3.2 to 6.8 kg (7-15 pounds). The wingspan of a loon approaches 153 cm (60 inches). Their wings are rather small for a large body. Males are generally larger than females. The life expectancy of a loon may span from 15-30 years, although the mortality rate of the young is fairly high during their first and second years.

Fish make up the primary part of a loon's diet, with crayfish, snails and dragonfly nymphs as common side favorites. In winter they also feed on crabs.

In flight, loons assume a humpbacked profile with their head and neck held low and feet projecting beyond the tail (Figure 7). They can fly at average speeds of 120 km per hour (75mph) during migration and at altitudes above 450 meters (1,475 feet). Their wings beat at a rate of three to four beats per second. Commonly, however, loons are seen flying low, only 30 cm or 60 cm (foot or two), above water.

The loon is a fine example of streamlining. This long-bodied bird is so well adapted to aquatic life physically that it is often nicknamed "feathered fish." With its large fully webbed feet and strong articulated legs placed far back on the body, a loon makes an excellent swimmer and diver. It moves swiftly above and under water by propelling itself with its feet and uses its wings to turn. The loon can effortlessly dive to depths of 30 meters (100 feet) and can stay submerged for a maximum of three minutes. Most loon dives, however, are shallow, nine meters (30 feet) maximum, and last less than a minute. Unlike many other birds whose bones are mostly hollow by adaptation, many bones of the loon are solid and marrow-filled. The added weight gives the bird a body density almost equal to that of water, resulting in neutral buoyancy, a great aid in the bird's ability to dive or sink (Figure 8). Loons sink by compressing their feathers and forcing air out from their air sacs in their bodies. On the negative side, the loon's heavier weight works against the bird during take-offs: like an overloaded airplane, the bird may have to run long distances above



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Figure 9. Canada Scott 2511 (2012 booklet stamp) shows that the loon has a broad and sturdy bill placed on an equally wide and stout head.

they watch us as we watch them (caution or curiosity?).

The loon's long spearhead-shaped bill, 75mm (3 inches) in length, is surprisingly broad and sturdy and is placed on an equally wide stout head. The bird uses its bill to snap and grasp prey (Figure 9).

The unique plumage of the loon serves as camouflage, both for stealth and safety. Seen from underneath against a light-colored sky, the bird's white belly almost perfectly blends with the surface of the water, deceiving any prey fish and, at the same time, protecting it from predators from below, such as snapping turtles, large carnivorous fish and – on coastal waters – from seals during winter. Threats from above (from eagles in particular), are equally avoided by the dark white-specked backs, nicely mimicking the reflection of shimmering light off the surface of the lake.



Figure 11. Nesting loons, one loon is using its bill to position the egg under its incubation pouch. Item is conservation label designed by Quebec artist Pierre Leduc.

the water's surface into the wind (as far as several hundred meters on a calm day) to pick up enough velocity to become airborne. The striking red-crimson eyes of a loon betray the hunter. Again, differing from many birds with eyes set on the sides of their heads (thereby enjoying a 360 degree - albeit an inaccurate - vision), a loon's gaze is sharply focused and directed only forward, giving the bird a true perspective of depth and distance, a must in chasing and catching fleeing fish. The loon peers underwater by moving its head from side to side to locate prey and, when it does so, it aims and dives instantly in its pursuit. Amusingly, the positioning of their eyes helps loons establish direct eye contact with humans, that is,



Figure 10. Canada Scott 1687 depicts a loon nesting at the water's edge.

dark white-specked backs, nicely mimicking the reflection of shimmering light off the surface of the lake.

The very fact that their feet are positioned so far back on the body makes loons also poorly adapted for walking on land. They waddle helplessly, moving one foot at a time, pushing and shuffling along with their breast to gain ground. No wonder they touch land only at birth, to nest or when sick. Interestingly, the name "loon" is believed to come from the Scandinavian word "lum" meaning "clumsy."

Since they cannot move on land very well, loons nest at the water's edge (Figure

10), typically at the tip of an island or small peninsula, where they can swim to and fro secretly below the water's surface and, when in danger, dive directly from the nest into the deep. Their nests are rather bulky, built from bare earth or matted vegetation with a slight depression in the center to hold the eggs. Whenever possible, the birds tend to seek out their older nests and rebuild it as necessary. Within a few days after mating, the female goes ashore to lay her eggs in May or June, depending on latitude. A clutch usually

consists of two eggs, which are somewhat elongated and dark brown spotted with black (Figure 11). The incubation lasts from 28-31 days and is a task shared by both sexes. Within 12-24 hours of hatching (once their down has dried), chicks leave their nest and take to the water, probably never to touch land again until adulthood. Although they are able to swim right away, chicks spend a couple of weeks riding on their parents' broad backs to keep warm and dry and avoid predators (Figure 12). Loons make extremely attentive parents, constantly keeping an eye on their offspring, caring and feeding them. During their first few weeks of life, chicks are fed exclusively by their parents, eating snails, small fish and aquatic vegetation. They require more protein as they grow and eat more fish. By the time they are 11-12 weeks old, chicks are able to catch food on their own and possibly fly as well.

By this time they have attained close to adult size and

weigh three to 5.5 kg (6.6-12 pounds), nearly the weight of an adult loon. Loons reach adulthood and gain their breeding plumage only when they are 3-4 years old. Until then, they carry drab greyish feathers resembling adult birds in winter plumage (Figure 13).

Loons are famous for their eerie, haunting, calls. Their cries, especially when heard resonating through the night, are sounds never to be forgotten. There are four distinct calls the birds make in a variety of combinations



Figure 12. A family of loons with one of the chicks riding on its parent's back is shown on this 2000 conservation label.



Figure 13. Greenland Scott 186. Immature birds, such as the one seen in the background, carry drab greyish feathers resembling adults in winter plumage.



Figure 14. This 1975 Scott-unlisted stamp shows a loon that is probably yodeling.

to communicate with one another: tremolo, wail, yodel and the hoot. The tremolo, a wavering call with high and low notes, sounds like a crazy “mirthless” laughter used whenever a loon is alarmed or excited. The tremolo may also mean annoyance or a greeting and is the only call that a loon may give in flight. The wail, one of the loveliest of loon calls, is reminiscent of a wolf howl and helps loons to regain contact with other loons, usually a mate or a chick. The yodel, mainly a cry of aggression, is given only by males to defend their territory against intruders (Figure 14). The yodel also serves as part of the mating and bonding ritual. Recordings have proven that each male has its unique “signature” yodel and thus can be identified by researchers. The hoot is a quiet single-note call and is used by family members in private, such as a parent greeting its chick or a ravenous chick begging for food.

Protected by federal laws, loons may not be hunted in the United States and Canada.



Figure 15. A pair of Arctic Loons is shown on this 2000 conservation issue.

Although they are not globally listed as Endangered or Threatened Species, recent studies have shown a growing concern for the breeding success and general well-being of loons, particularly the Common Loon. Since this species nests in populated areas of Canada and the United States, it is more susceptible to the damaging effects of air and water pollution, as well as shoreline development and human disturbance. Increased lake acidity, caused by acid rain, along with elevated methyl mercury concentrations accumulated in the aquatic food chain, pose a major threat to loon population numbers. Also, lead poisoning

from ingestion of loose lead sinkers used in fishing has resulted in a great number of adult loon deaths. As a consequence, loon breeding habitats have been rapidly disappearing in southern Canada and northern parts of the central United States.

Loons, as we know them today, have existed for more than 20 million years (five times longer than humans). While many other species unable to cope with the drastically changing world have disappeared from the face of the earth, loons not only have succeeded in adjusting and adapting to the new global landscapes and environmental conditions but, thanks to their evolutionary design, persisted remarkably unchanged. Today however, loons are facing their perhaps ultimate trial to survive, the challenge of humans. Will these extraordinary birds be able to overcome this monumental challenge yet once more and carry on, or do they face being cast forever into our dusty archives of natural history within a century or so? ■

Leon Karanfil, 59, is an engineer by profession, working as a product manager in a Montreal (Canada) firm that manufactures environmental control systems. He has been a collector since the age of 10. His topical collecting interests include Olympics, birds (in general), Columbus and Christmas. He had an article published in the Nov-Dec 1997 Topical Time about Summer Olympics in Rome 1960.

Chapter Chatter

By James Hogbin

ATA Chapter Coordinator Jim Hogbin died March 18 after a short hospitalization. The following column was written and submitted shortly before his death. Jim assumed the coordinator position in late 2014 and had written the "Chapter Chatter" column in Topical Time for the last two issues prior to this one. He had been an ATA member since 1959 and a life member since 1963. We are grateful for his membership and service. Our sympathies are extended to Jim's wife, Uldarica.

The Chapter Chatter column will resume after a new Chapter Coordinator has been named.

Here are the latest Chapter publications received by your Chapter Coordinator. Does your chapter have topicals in your Newsletter? Why not schedule a topical program for an upcoming meeting?

We welcome our newest chapter, the Baltimore Philatelic Society.

Ann Arbor Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 98) in Ann Arbor, Mich.
Newsletter: *AASC Newsletter*

Editor: Harry Winter, PO Box 2012, Ann Arbor MI 48106.

Email: harwin@umich.edu; **Website:** www.annarborstampclub.org
Newsletter topics: chapter news (Feb 2015)

ATA Chapter 5: in Milwaukee, Wis.

Editor: Robert Mather.

Email: rmulatt@att.net

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Feb 2015)

Greater Mound City Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 115) in St Louis, Mo.

Newsletter: *Perf-Dispatch*

Editor: Alan Barasch, PO Box 411571, St Louis MO 63141

Email: alan@mophil.org; **Website:** www.greatermoundcity.org

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Jan 2015)

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 127) in Mercerville, N.J.

Newsletter: *The Hamilton Hinge*

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

Email: hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org; **Website:** www.hamiltonphilatelic.org
Newsletter topics: chapter news, Mickey Mouse Postcards (March-April 2015)

Knoxville Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 121) in Knoxville, Tenn.

Newsletter: *Knoxville Philatelic Society News*

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

Email: jbpettway@comcast.net; **Website:** www.knoxstamps.com
Newsletter topics: KnoxPEX 2015 features ATA (Feb 2015)

Mid-Cities Stamp Club, (ATA Chapter No. 90) in Plano, Texas

Newsletter: *Stamping Around*

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

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

Newsletter topics: January Arlington meeting, Ray Cartier discussed advantages of becoming an ATA member and showed various ATA publications; chapter news (Feb 2015)

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

Newsletter: *Milwaukee Philatelist*

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

Email: harryncarolschutta@gmail.com

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Feb 2015)

Motor City Stamp & Cover Club (ATA Chapter No. 95) in Detroit, Mich.

Newsletter: *On Cover*

Editor: Bob Quintero

Email: qover@comcast.net; Website: <http://motorcitystampandcover.com>

Newsletter topics: chapter news, Detroit Mail Boat Season Closing Covers, ATA Membership Drive (Jan, Feb 2015)

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (ATA Chapter No. 118)

in Lancaster, Pa.

Newsletter edited by Paul Petersen.

Email: pcpetersen@comcast.net.

Newsletter topics: chapter news, Christmas Cancels, Collecting On A Budget (Dec 2014, Jan, Feb, Mar 2015).

Rochester Philatelic Association (ATA Chapter No. 84) in Rochester, N.Y.

Newsletter: *Hinges & Tongs*

Edited by Fred Haynes

Email: fredmhaynes55@gmail.com; Website: www.rpastamps.org

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Feb-Mar-April 2015)

Stamp Collectors Club Of Toledo (ATA Chapter No. 66) in Toledo, Ohio.

Newsletter: *Frogtown Philatelist*

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

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

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Jan 2015)

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

Editor: Dawn Hamman, 21042 Anclote CT, Venice FL 34293-0351

Email: *Venicesstampclub@gmail.com*

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Feb 2015)

Webster Groves Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 12) in St. Louis, Mo.

Editor: Alan Barasch

Email: *secretary@WebsterGrovesStampClub.org*

Website: *www.webstergrovesstampclub.org*

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Dec, Jan, Feb 2015)

West Suburban Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 44) in Plymouth, Mich.

Newsletter: *Mayflower Minutes*

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

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

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Feb 2015)

Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs (ATA Chapter No. 107)

Newsletter: *Across the Fence Post*

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

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

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Feb 2015)

Australia

Thematics Queensland (ATA Chapter No. 86)

Newsletter: *Thematically Speaking*

Editor: John Crowsley, PO Box 9471, Wynnum Plaza PO, Wynnum West, Queensland 4178, Australia.

Email: *jcrowsley@iprimus.com.au*; **Website:** *www.qpc.asn.au*

Newsletter topics: A Herd Of Goats, The Case for the Selvage, topicals from "Show And Tell Programs," Wayne Pratsch's exhibit on Golf (Feb 2015)

Canada

Calgary Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 91)

Newsletter: *Calgary Philatelist*

Editor: Dale Speirs, Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 216

Website: *www.calgaryphilatelsociety.com*

Newsletter topics: chapter news (Feb 2015)

Greater Toronto Philatelic Alliance (ATA Chapter No. 109)

Newsletter: *PhilaJournal*

Editor: Susan Butler

Email: *sbutler@ilap.com*; **Website:** *www.gtapa.org*

Newsletter topics: chapter news, Military Free Franking, Scouts On Stamps, Remember To Write That Letter Home (Winter 2015)

Jim Hogbin, was an ATA Life Member since 1963, and was a retired USPS employee. Chapter Newsletters should be posted or emailed to our new chapter coordinator once he or she has been named.



YOUTH IN TOPICS

MaryAnn Bowman

Youth Pages from Topical Website

As summer approaches and the heat and humidity set in, pursuing a hobby such as stamp collecting in an air-conditioned room can offer benefits to both adults and children. This would be a good time to introduce neighborhood children, grandchildren, or nieces and nephews, as well as your own children, to philately.

How are you using ATA youth website pages?

The ATA website has numerous activities introduced through the e-publication,

Topical Tidbits. A wide variety of topics are available, free to download and print out. Likewise, there are more than 100 topical album pages ready for use.

With permission, Amy Ferguson sent the accompanying pictures of the stamp albums she made for her darling children as a Valentine gift. They then went to a local stamp show and took their



albums. The lady in charge of the youth area at the show was so enamored of the album pages that she was going to print out the pages and make a similar book to take to all of her school, scout and youth presentations.



This is one example of how the youth material on the ATA website is being used. Have you seen or used any of the youth materials posted to the website? Please send your photos or stories to me at the end of this column.

As a follow-up to my January/February column on the Iditarod, the first 2015 issue of *Topical Tidbits* was created on that topic and is available now for download. The *Topical Tidbits* publications are going quarterly this year, so there will be four issues instead of six.

Vintage Stamp/Philatelic-Related Games

Those who are members of the American Philatelic Society may have recently seen the article in the April 2015 issue of *The American Philatelist*, written by our editor, Wayne Youngblood, in which he describes and illustrates elements of a German-produced child's game, *The Tiny Town Post Office*.

There are many postage stamp games available, but one that recently came to my attention is a British retro game from the 1950s titled "The Zoo Mail," which is actually two games in one. It was a game designed for any number of children to play and has recently been republished. There are eight pillar boxes (British mail boxes) and each box has illustrations of four different animals, with 32 different animals represented. There are also cards that depict 10 each of the 32 different animals, making a total of 320 animals to be posted.

The game can be played indoors or out, but it is recommended that the pillar boxes be placed in different locations, as far apart as possible, and in somewhat inaccessible places so that the "postmen" must hunt hard to find the pillar boxes.

Each player is assigned a number. That number is recorded on the back of one



Vintage "Zoo Mail" party game, which is not only philatelic related, but a great interactive activity game played with youth. The game has recently been republished.

of the animal cards. All players start the game simultaneously and must “post” their card before returning to be given another card to post. Each piece posted must have the number of the postman on the back of the card. When all 320 cards have been posted, the pillar boxes are checked to see if the cards have been posted correctly or if there have been errors in posting. The winner is the person who has correctly posted the largest number of pieces. Three points are subtracted for incorrect placement of cards.

This party game is guaranteed to keep everyone active and racing around while generating laughter and fun. Do you have a favorite board or party game that is stamp or mail related? Have you created one of your own stamp games, perhaps a take-off of another party or board game? I’d love to hear about it and will share responses in a future column.

World Stamp Show New York 2016

As the next international stamp show to be held in the United States approaches, the ATA will need to think through and plan its participation. How do you envision the ATA promoting the hobby and topical collecting for youth at this major exhibition? Please share your ideas with me. ☐

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

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Malaysia 2014, Wernamo 2015

Foreign Thematic Exhibits

Larry E. Davidson

In this column, we will review the thematic exhibits shown at Malaysia 2014 and Wernamo 2015. Only those exhibits with a score of 70 or higher are listed.

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

Malaysia 2014

This international exhibition was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Dec. 1-6, 2014. It was organized by Philatelic Society Malaysia under the patronage of FIAP (Federation of Inter-Asian Philately). Thematic exhibitors could exhibit in one of three categories – Nature, Culture or Technology.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Nature

Jorgen Jorgensen (Denmark)

<i>Fisheries – From Food Gathering to Feeding the World</i>	95, LG
<i>Hunting: Necessity, Sport or Extermination</i>	92, G
<i>Rice</i>	91, G
<i>Water</i>	88, LV
<i>A Look at Birds from the Human Perspective</i>	86, LV
<i>Skirts – The Witness of Human Civilization's Progression</i>	85, LV
<i>Travel by Air</i>	85, LV
<i>Water is Life</i>	85, LV
<i>Gold and Golden</i>	82, V
<i>I'm a Butterfly</i>	82,
<i>Coal</i>	80, V
<i>Ducks</i>	77, LS
<i>The Grey Goose Wings</i>	72, S

Ruth Ordonez Sanz (Spain)

Kok Ying Kei (Hong Kong)

Hongwei Wang (China)

Raudel Busto (Cuba)

Guangda Yu (China)

Zhongwei Zhao (China)

Hey-Kyoung Han (Korea)

Julije Maras (Croatia)

G Sitatag Juari (Indonesia)

V Xingzi Tu (China)

Ross Wood (Australia)

Michael Fock (Slovenia)

Culture

***Charles Bromser** (Australia)

Marcel Sanchez (France)

Mohamad Aktar Sayeed (UAE)

Kiyoshi Emura (Japan)

Christian Gabriel Perez (Arg.)

Ginaldo Bezerra da Silva (Brazil)

Sheng Lin (China)

<i>The Copernicus Revolution: A History of Cosmology</i>	88, LV
<i>The Cathedral: Masterpiece of a City</i>	87, LV
<i>The Evolution and Application of the Universal Postal Union</i>	87, LV
<i>The History of Artists' Portraits – The Transition of Western Art over 600 Years</i>	85, LV
<i>In the Footsteps of "Impeesa" (the wolf) (about Scouting)</i>	85, LV
<i>Water Color of Brazil: Essay of History and Culture (from Origins to 1889)</i>	85, LV
<i>Hats: Wearing or Decoration for the Head</i>	85, LV



Leif W. Rasmussen (Denmark)	<i>Our Roots in Medieval Skills and Occupations</i>	85, LV
Chenghao Xu (China)	<i>Trading Ports</i>	83, V
Roberto Nestor Cravero (Arg.)	<i>Earth Drawings</i>	81, V
Luiz Paulo Rodrigues Cunha (Brazil)	<i>A History of Fish and their Importance to Man</i>	81, V
Igor Cep (Slovenia)	<i>The Olympic Cycle (from the Candidacy to the Closing Ceremony)</i>	81, V
Chang Han Kim (Korea)	<i>Golf Championship with Glory and Pleasure</i>	80, V
Ryoji Murayama (Japan)	<i>Czeslaw Slania: The Story of his Great Work of Engraving Stamps</i>	78, LS
Ummer Farook (UAE)	<i>Mahatma Gandhi</i>	73, S
Lara Plavcek (Slovenia)	<i>Albrecht Dürer's World of Art</i>	70, S

Technology

Bengt-Gören Österdahl (Sweden)	<i>The History of Chemistry</i>	93, G
Fang-Shing Su (Chinese Taipei)	<i>Telecommunications Systems</i>	91, G
Yuichi Enosawa (Japan)	<i>Trams – Their Development and Competitors</i>	90, G
Carlos Dalmoiro Silva Soares (Brazil)	<i>Petroleum: Black Gold</i>	88, LV
Hideo Ohsawa (Japan)	<i>The Blind</i>	86, LV
Roger Tan (Singapore)	<i>I am a Connector (about bridges)</i>	85, LV
Shenlu Wu (China)	<i>Electromagnetic Waves</i>	82, V
Michael Rhodes (Australia)	<i>The Human Mastery of Energy</i>	81, V
Maria Teresa Miralles (Spain)	<i>Nursing to Care, to Teach and to Comfort</i>	81, V
Teguh Chendawan (Indonesia)	<i>Automobiles: Their Development and Contribution in Human Life</i>	80, V
Jingyun Wang (China)	<i>Railways in Development</i>	78, LS
Chang Hwan Kim (Korea)	<i>The Story of Chemistry</i>	78, LS
Yvette Trinidad (Australia)	<i>History of Medicine through Discoveries and Achievements</i>	75, LS
Adam Malek Ishak (Malaysia)	<i>The Fighter</i>	75, LS
*Kenneth Martin (USA)	<i>Blood Donation: The Gift of Life</i>	71, S

Wernamo 2015

This national exhibition was held in Värnamo, Sweden, March 13-15, 2015. The exhibition was sanctioned by the Swedish Philatelic Federation (SFF). Most exhibitors were from Sweden, but exhibitors from Great Britain and Northern Ireland were invited to participate in a bilateral exchange with Sweden.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Andreas Tärnholm	<i>This is Handball</i>	LV, 85
Klas-Erik Klasson	<i>The Holy Year of the Church</i>	V, 83
Sten Wadensjö	<i>Not Just a Sideline (about bees and apiculture)</i>	LS, 77
Giselher Naglitsch	<i>The Diversity of Glass</i>	LS, 75

Open/Display Exhibits

Stephan Pomp	<i>Collecting Slania</i>	LV, 86
Gunnar Dahlvig	<i>The Philatelist – A Strange Phenomenon</i>	V, 83
Mats Söderberg	<i>"Spola Kröken" (Swedish Alcohol Campaign)</i>	V, 83

Lars Strandell	<i>Golf: A Global Sport and a Way of Living</i>	V, 83
Per Bunnstad	<i>Horda (Sweden) – I was Born Here</i>	V, 82
Ronald Fasth	<i>Wrestling – On and Off the Mat</i>	S, 70
Finn Nielsen	<i>In the Meantime – Skåne was Danish</i>	S, 70
Hans Svensson	<i>1911-1913: A Busy Time Before World War I</i>	S, 70

It was incorrectly stated in the results for Baltex 2014 that all of the exhibitors were from Sweden. This is incorrect. Danny Jimmink and Nico Helling are from the Netherlands. Mike Rhodes is from Australia and Leif W. Rasmussen is from Denmark

I wish to thank Koenraad Bracke of Belgium, and Nancy Clark of Massachusetts, for providing the results of Malaysia 2014, and Sten-Anders Smeds of Sweden for exhibit title translations for Wernamo 2015. ☐

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



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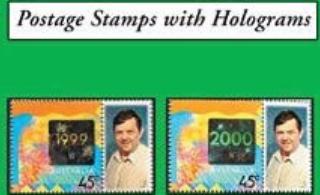
PUBLICATION REVIEWS

George B. Griffenhagen

Holography and Philately

Holography and Philately (Postage Stamps with Holograms), by Hans I. Bjelkhagen, Professor Emeritus, International Imaging Sciences at Glyndwr University, United Kingdom, Xilibris Publishing United Kingdom, 8½ inches by 11 inches, softcover, 360 pages, 2014. Available: Amazon.com, Kindle Edition \$6.99.

Holography is a technique that enables the creation of three-dimensional images (Holograms). It involves the use of a laser, interference, diffraction, light intensity recording and illuminations. The image changes as if the object was still present, thus making the object appear three-dimensional. Holography was invented in 1947 by Dennis Gabor (1900-79), who was awarded the 1971 Nobel Prize in Physics. Holography was convincingly demonstrated after the invention of the laser in 1960. University of Michigan professors Emmett Leith (1927-2005) and Juris Upatniks (b. 1936) developed a transmission hologram with 3D image in 1964. About the same time, Yuri Denusysk of the USSR developed the reflection hologram that was the



Hans I. Bjelkhagen
Hansholo Consulting Ltd
2014

first time the hologram could be viewed using incandescent light. The hologram found its first mass use for credit cards and banknotes, using the procedure developed by MIT Professor Stephen Benton.

Probably the first time that anyone saw philatelic holograms was in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1974. The featured attraction of the international stamp exhibition Stockholmia (Sept. 21-29, 1974) featured a hologram of the Swedish Coronation Crown of Eric XIV (from 1561). This hologram was the highlight of the show and people waited in long lines to see the Swedish Crown. During March 3 and 4, 1986, the European Robotic Spacecraft Giotto Mission encountered Haley's Comet and was photographically captured on a British Hologram. During Ameripex '86, the United States and France jointly issued a hologram on July 4, 1986, recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Statue of Liberty. That item became the cover of the show program. By this time, the philatelic world would know that stamp holograms were hot-stamped on paper,

explaining why they have a reflecting coating. We were told that stamps covered with gold or silver foil are not holograms.

This 360-page book describes and illustrates in full color a variety of holograms. Included are holograms in the form of definitive stamps, souvenir sheets, miniature stamps, postal envelopes, postal cards, full sheets, blocks and booklets. A 10-page chart (pages 349-

358) identifies 120 countries that have issued hologram stamps. The earliest were **1989**, United States; **1990**, Finland; **1991**, Hungary and Poland; **1992**, Canada; **1993**, Mongolia and San Marino; **1994**, Bhutan, Guinea, Guyana, Hong Kong, Isle of Man, New Zealand and Tonga; **1996**, China PRC, Malaysi, and Thailand; **1997**, Aland, St. Helena, Tristan de Cun, and Tuvalu; **1998**, France, Germany, Grenada-Grenadines, Indonesia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Colombia, New Caledonia, St. Vincen, and Turkmenistan; **1999**, Congo, Czech Republic, Ivory Coast, Kyrgyzstan, Macau, Namibia, Switzerland, and Ukraine. The most recent countries to report new philatelic holograms for 2013 include Curacao, Israel, Hungary, Japan Macau, Malaysia, Nigeria, Peru, Singapore and eight different new holograms issued by Czech Republic.

This chart I mentioned does not record the wide variety of different types of philatelic holograms, their colors or types of illustrations appearing on each hologram. The philatelic holograms depicted in full color in this book are grouped below into five classes according to the size of the various types of holograms.

Definitive Stamp Holograms	399
Souvenir Sheet Holograms	87
Postal Card & Envelope Holograms	161
Full or Partial Sheet Holograms	162
Enlarged Philatelic Holograms	26
Total holograms in the Handbook	836

The largest of the special informational tables and the most useful of all is the 14-page chart chronologically listing every official hologram mentioned in the book with details on country and date of issue, denomination, size (in mm) and perforation (many holograms are not perforated). The last column identifies the Scott catalog number, for all holograms regardless of the country of issue.

Frequently, variations exist between the stamp appearing in Scott and the equivalent Hologram image. Scott tells us that the circular green earth seen on Hologram 3413 appears only on Scott 3413, and Scott warns that soaking in water may affect hologram images.

The first holographic stamps issued in Canada appearing Jan. 11, 1992, were a se-tenant pair of Scott 1441-1442, but only the left-hand portion of the se-tenant



pair appears as the hologram. On May 12, 2005, Thailand issued a souvenir sheet with holographic foil for the Bangkok Fashion City, depicting the colorful design of male and female models. Scott 2157 was duplicated as a hologram, matching the Scott illustration; however, Scott used portions of the souvenir sheet art as a strip of four stamps for Scott 2157a. The hologram was a single stamp on an airmail envelope.

Since virtually all stamp catalogs (whether Scott, Minkus, Yvert et Tellier or Michel) include a comprehensive subject index, you will probably expect one. According to the information contained in this book, holography – at least thus

Hologram Stamps (by subject)

Theme	Country	Issue Year	Figure	Page No.
Hans C. Andersen, <i>Ugly Duckling</i>	Jersey	2005	3.18.7	181
Animals by Nauri Kunas	Finland	1995	3-8.4	70
Astronauts (Space Program)	Canada	2003	3-16-17	168
Basketball (James Naismith)	U.S.	1991	3.4.10	36
Baung Fish	Malaysia	2012	3.19.5	190
Butterfly (<i>Aporia Crataega</i>)	Poland	1991	3-4.20	39
Castle (Favorite film)	Australia	2008	3-21.28	217
Crane (Whooping)	China/U.S.	1994	3-7-31	67
Chicago Cubs Baseball	U.S.	1992	3-5.10	44
Dirigible	Mongolia	1993	3-6.10	56
Dinosaurs (Brontosaurus)	U.S.	1990	3-2.5	30
Dinosaurs (Triceratops, Tyrannosaurus)	U.S.	1989	3.10.6	87
Dog (Vizsla Breed)	Hungary	1994	3-7.22	65
Ducks (five different)	Indonesia	1998	3.11.12	95
Eagle, American	U.S.	1984	3-3.5	27
Eagle Scouts, Ft. Hill, Virginia	U.S.	1993	3-6.9	56
Emperor Moth	Malaysia	2007	3.18	202
Escaping Gravity of Earth	U.S.	2000	3.13.32	133
Fashion City, Bangkok	Thailand	2004	1.17.19	177
Fireworks	Taiwan	2011	3-24.3	244
Fox (<i>Vulpes</i>)	Kyrgyzstan	1999	3-12/8	100
Frogs	Australia	1999	3.12.60	118,124
Dennis Gabor, Hologram inventor	U.S.	2010	5.3.3	301
Horses (Wild)	Mongolia	2000	3.13.19	128
Hungarian Saints	Hungary	2013	3-26.15	284
Insects (<i>Fabricius</i> , Saunders, Akiyama)	Thailand	2008	3.18.22	183
International Polar Year	Finland	2007	3.20.9	199
Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)	Czech	2009	3.22.14	222
Mahatma Gandhi	India	2009	3.20/9	227-228
Man Landing on Moon	U.S.	2000	3.13.29	132
Man Landing on Moon	New Zealand	1994	3-7.19	64
Monkey	China P.R.	1992	3-5.2	41
Pedro Paulet Mostajo	Peru	2007	3.20/32	207
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Austria	1991	3-4/5	35
Mozart's Magic Flute	Germany	1991	3.4.7	35
Nobel Prize	G. Britain	2001	3-14-19	149
Nobel Prize Laureates	Hungary	2008	5.3.1	300
Olympic & Paralympic Games	G. Britain	2010	3.23.20	238

Panda Holding Bamboo	China P.R.	1996	3.9.10	77
Peacock	Thailand	2008	3.21.18	215-216
Petronas Twin Towers	Malaysia	1999	3.12.38	97,100
Presley, Elvis	Guyana	1994	3.5.2, 3	59
People of the Sea Statue	Aland	1997	5.10.8	88
Queen Elizabeth II	G. Britain	2012	3.25.13	262
Rainbow Fish	Switzerland	2001	3.14.18	183
Santa Claus	Chile	2007	3.20.24	204
Sun Yat Sen	China Rep.	2011	3.24.24	252
Symphony of Lights	Hong Kong	2007	3.20.14	2000
Statue of Liberty 100 th Ann.	U.S.	1986	2.5	10-11
Snowman, Helen Heureux	Canada	2005	3.18.20	185
Space Shuttle	Canada	1992	3-5.71	49
St. Louis Cardinals Baseball	U.S.	1991	3-4.8	35
TV Satellite	San Marino	1993	3.6.2	53
United Nations, NYC	U.S.	2003	3/16/7	165
Year of the Pig	Canada	2007	3.20.1	197
Year of the Tiger	Grenada-Gren	1998	3.11.3	92
World Cup Soccer	U.S.	1994	3-7.12	61
X-Plane (X-15)	U.S.	2006	19/8	18

far – is based more on the art of design than on the themes and personalities featured. Compare the 1989 airmail panel, C122-C125 (Futuristic Mail Delivery) and 1989 art for the hologram in Fig. 3-2.6 (in the book) produced by Light Impressions shown side-by-side on page 21 of Holography and Philately. Instead of concluding with an index of the style found in the Scott stamp catalog, here is a selection of 58 holograms identified in such a way that readers can locate the information needed to use them thematically. ☺

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

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



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Membership

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57233	BARNETT, Don	Bicentennial, Paleontology, Archaeology, Anthropology
57202-DMBEVIL	Kendal, 2312 11th St, Port Neches TX 77651-4108, kbevil@att.net	
57223	BRAVERMAN, Mark, mbraverman33@msn.com	U.S. Themes
	1056 Epperly Way, West Linn OR 97068-5400	
57228	CAPELLE, James	
57205	CONEY, JEFFREY, jeffrey.coney@coneyfamily.com	Railroad, Space, Masonic, Filigree
57212	COOK, BettyAnn, bettystamps@gmail.com	Birds, Butterflies, Moths, Art, Christianity, Prehistoric, Asian, Plants, Flowers
57222	CORDOVA, Pedro PO Box 9022316, San Juan PR 00902-2316	Summer Olympics 1896-1996, Olympic Mascots, Summer Olympics 2000 and beyond
57217	COUSINS, Tina	
57226	CRIST, Rick	
57192	DAVIS, Ronald	
57226	de OLIVEIRA, Carlos, cndf.deoliveira@sapo.pt	
57208	DINWIDDIE, Ralph, dinwiddierb@yahoo.com	Kennedy, Braille
	4623 Clairson Dr, Knoxville TN 37931-3656	
57197	du BOIS, Pat, patdubois@aol.com	Girl Guides, Girl Scouts
57189	DZIOMBA, Michael	United States, International Christmas
57190	ESCOTT, Nicholas	
57232	FOSTER, Linda	World War II, Marines
57193	FRIDTHORSSON, Steinar	
53852	GERLACH, Steven	Puffins, Chemistry, Medical
57195-FM	GOODENOW, Marie-Jeanne, lonandmarie@gmail.com	France, Butterflies, Dogs, Cats
57199	HACKETT, Joan, joanmischwhitetrot.net	United Nations, Joint Issues, United States
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57207	MORGINSTIN, Sid	
57191	NEAL, Don PO Box 5245, Somerset NJ 08875-5245	Black History, First Day Covers

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57231	NIKIFOROVITCH, Pavel		
57210	ODUM, Richard	U.S. Flags, Liberty Bell, Statue of Liberty, Hot Air Balloons	
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	1905 Hurstgreen Dr, Overland MO 63114-5735		
29722-LM	ROBINSON, William K		
57227	SCULLY, Ruth		
57196	SMITH, Gerald, <i>cps_teacher@yahoo.com</i>	Stamps on Stamps, Ships, Lighthouses, Art, Architecture 6114 N Washington Ave Apt 3, Chicago IL 60659-3184	
57204	SMITH, Kevin, <i>kevin.smith@ddg92.navy.mil</i>		Nautical/Navy, Shipwrecks, Lighthouses, National Parks (U.S. and Foreign)
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57225	WEISLOW, Owen		

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The following ATA members have recruited new members from Jan. 1 to March 31, 2015. Their account in the ATA Bucks Bank will receive \$5 for each new member recruited. We hope your name will appear here soon!

ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green.

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Winnegrad, Mark	2	Skvara, Fred	1
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Letters to the editor, features and short pieces are always welcomed, as long as they are strongly related to topical and thematic stamp collecting and add to the knowledge base of the hobby.

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(28/392)

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

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(Routinely mentioned in *Topical Time*)

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Canadian Stamp News:

P.O. Box 28103, St. Catharines, Ontario, L2N 7P8, Canada

bret@trajan.ca; www.canadianstampnews.ca

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

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

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

Israel Philatelist: Donald A. Chafetz, editor, 1943 Altonzano Dr, El Cajon CA 92020-1002 USA
sipeditor@gmail.com; www.israelstamps.com

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

Linn's Stamp News: Chad Snee, editor, P.O. Box 29, Sidney OH 45365-0029 USA
csnee@amosmedia.com; www.linns.com

Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine: John F. Dunn, editor, 42 Sentry Way, Merrimack NH 03054-4429 USA
www.stampnewsnow.com

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

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www.stampinsider.org

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

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

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

julia.lee@mytimemedia.com
www.stampmagazine.co.uk

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

kevinmorgan2@live.com
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Email: mcoreilly@yahoo.com

Website: www.sepsc.org/huntspex.html

June 12-14, 2015, Ohio. Colopex 2015, sponsored by the Columbus Philatelic Club, Rhodes Center Ohio State Fairgrounds, 717 East 17th Ave., Columbus, Ohio.

Contact: Mark Reasoner (614) 579-6526

Email: reasonerstamps@yahoo.com

Website: www.colopex.com

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

July 17-19, 2015, Minnesota. Minnesota Stamp Expo, sponsored by Twin City Philatelic Society and various local clubs, Crystal Community Center, 4800 Douglas Drive N., Minneapolis, Minn. Contact: Randy A. Smith (952) 431-3273

Email: rasmayr4@frontiernet.net

Website: www.stampsminnesota.com/MN%20Stamp%20Expo.htm

Oct. 17-18, 2015, New Mexico. NewMexPex 2015, sponsored by the Albuquerque Philatelic Society, Rio Rancho Stamp Club and the Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane, SE in Rio Rancho, N.M. Tenth annual stamp show, free admission and parking, 9-5, and 9-4, respectively. Features about 36 frames, 10 dealers, possible USPS substation show cancel.

Contact: Paul Morton (505) 867-9664

Email: p.morton@att.net

Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2015, Michigan. AAPEX 2015, sponsored by Ann Arbor Stamp Club, Morris Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor, Mich. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Features 28 dealers, exhibits, youth table, cachetmakers Saturday, Peninsular State Philatelic Society meeting. Free parking and admission.

Contact: Harry & Dottie Winter (734) 761-5859

Email: harwin@umich.edu

Website: www.annarborstampclub.org

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

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Account #	/	Expiry Date	3-digit Security Code	Signature
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Privacy Level: ATA policy does not allow releasing or selling your information without your permission, nor does it allow your information published by ATA to be used by commercial/marketing interests. It is recommended you maximize your membership connections by allowing ATA to publish your collecting interest(s), and at least one form of contact in the Membership Column of our journal *Topical Time*. Check below the information you wish to share. Please publish my:

Topical interests Email address Mailing address

The above authorization (to publish) requires your signature:

Signature _____

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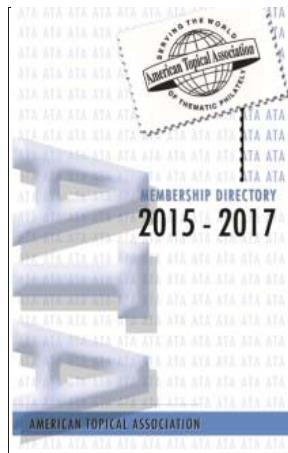
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ATA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY ADVERTISING

Your ad in ATA's 2015-17 Membership Directory will be in place for three years. Members old and new will be acquainted with your offerings throughout that time. Special rates are available if you advertise in *Topical Time*.



2015-17 Membership Directory Black-and-White Ads (ad deadline, June 15)

Prices include a copy of the ATA 2015-17 Directory mailed to you in July.

Full Page	½ Page	¼ Page	1/8 Page	1/16 Page
\$300	\$175	\$105	\$80	\$60

Membership Directory Discount Price, *Topical Time* Advertisers (3-issue minimum)

Full Page	½ Page	¼ Page	1/8 Page	1/16 Page
\$250	\$150	\$90	\$72	\$52

Rates for Full Color *Topical Time* Ads (per issue for 3 issues, Jul-Dec 2015)

Full Page	½ Page	¼ Page	1/8 Page	1/16 Page
\$248	\$130	\$72	\$47	\$33

Reduced *Topical Time* rates available for prepayment.

Full-page color ads available (only one of each!)

Inside Front Cover (\$450.), Inside Back Cover (\$450.), Outside Back Cover (\$550.)

Yes, I wish to advertise in the 2015-17 ATA Membership Directory.

I am most interested in a _____ page ad.

- I would like a stand-alone ad in the 2015-18 ATA Membership Directory.
 I would also like to advertise in *Topical Time*.

Name and phone number: _____

Contact ATA at americantopical@msn.com or call 618-985-5100
if you would like an ad in the Directory or more information. Or mail to
AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION PO Box 8 CARTERVILLE IL 62918-0008 USA

LAST CALL! MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY 2015-2017

The ATA directory is crucial in providing resources to share the immense knowledge about topical collecting within our organization. Thank you for your willingness to share your knowledge with others.

First: Please fill out basic contact information below. ***PLEASE PRINT***

Name: _____ ATA # (on TT label) _____

Email: _____ and/or Phone: _____

Second: Review the topic list found in the Mar-Apr *Topical Time* or on the ATA website. List your collecting interests (please print; use additional page if needed):

Third: Please publish in the Directory... **ATA recommends including contact information to maximize your membership** (mark one):

- Full name and collecting interests
- Full name, postal address, and collecting interests
- Full name, email address, and collecting interests
- Full name, postal address, email address, and collecting interests

I authorize the above to be published in the 2015-2017 ATA Membership Directory.

Signature: _____

Please mail this information to PO Box 8, CARTERVILLE, IL 62918-0008 USA or email the information to ***americantopical@msn.com*** by **the middle of May**, or **only your name** will be listed in the Directory. Thank you!

DIRECTORY DONOR

\$25 WILL NET YOU A NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY MAILED TO YOU IN JULY AND YOUR NAME PUBLISHED IN THE DIRECTORY AS A DONOR (IF YOU ARE AN INTERNATIONAL MEMBER PLEASE DONATE \$35 DUE TO ADDED POSTAGE COSTS). OFFER ENDS JUNE 1.

TOPICAL

ISSN 0040-9332
USPS 633680

TIME

May-June 2015 Vol. 66, No. 3 Whole Number 391

DATED MAGAZINE

POSTMASTER:

Send New Address to:

American Topical Association
P.O. Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008

Web Page: www.americantopicalassn.org

ATA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please renew my ATA membership.

Name:

Member # (on address label):

US Print & Electronic:

 1 yr \$30 2 yrs \$55
 3 yrs \$80 5 yrs \$125

Electronic: 1 yr \$25 2 yrs \$45

 3 yrs \$65 5 yrs \$100

International Print & Electronic:

 1 yr \$40 2 yrs \$75
 3 yrs \$110 5 yrs \$175

\$_____ **Donation to ATA's BTTF
(Boldly to the Future)**

\$_____ See attached order for
Checklists, Handbooks,
Multimedia

Enclosed is my check for \$_____

If paying electronically, please add a
small bonus to help cover charges.

I am making payment by PayPal to
americantopical@msn.com
(no need to return this form)

Charge \$_____ to my Visa
 MasterCard Discover Card

Card #_____

Expires ____/____ CVC ____

Signature:

NTSS 2015 REGISTRATION – PORTLAND (CLACKAMAS), OREGON – JULY 31-AUGUST 2, 2015

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

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

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

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

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ ATA Member? Y/N _____

Adults: _____ # Children: _____ List names of additional attendees:

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Email address:

If a stamp collector, please list collecting interests: _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

Where are you staying while attending this show?

Home Friends Monarch Hotel & Convention Center Another Hotel Other: _____

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

REGISTRATION AND EVENT TICKETS

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

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

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

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

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

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

____ Sending payment by PayPal to american topical@msn.com (best way to pay electronically)

MasterCard, Visa, or Discover; please complete form below.

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

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____