

TOPICAL TIME

May-June 2013

Vol. 64, No. 3

\$5.00

Whole Number 379



Topics on Postmarks Returns! (Page 19)

Ropex/NTSS 2013 Wrapup (see Page 22)

New ATA TopicalsOnline Site (Page 28)

Literary Characters of Charles Dickens

(see Page 29)

and MUCH more!



Journal of Thematic Philately

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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

TOPICAL

ISSN 0040-9332
USPS 633680

TIME

May-June 2013 Vol. 64, No. 3 Whole Number 379

DATED MAGAZINE

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C.G.

TOPICAL TIME (ISSN 0040-9332) (USPS 633680) is published bi-monthly by the American Topical Association, Inc., 100 North Division Street, Carterville IL 62918-1247. Periodicals postage paid at Carterville, Ill., and at additional mailing addresses. Copyright 2013. American Topical Association, Inc. Library of Congress catalog number 56-47317. Printing by Johnson Press of America (JPA), Pontiac, Ill. Subscription rates are included as part of the membership dues.
Postmaster: Send address changes to ATA, P.O. Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008.

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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?

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Jack's Journal

An Appraisal of our Recent Joint Show

Our ATA held its first joint National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) May 17-19 in Rochester, N.Y. Our partner was Ropex (Rochester Philatelic Exhibition), the annual show of the Rochester Philatelic Society, which – like NTSS – is a World Series of Philately (WSP) national-level show. This appraisal was written with input from the ATA Board of Directors.

Our request for permission from CANEJ (Committee for the Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges) to do a joint show had five objectives:

- 1. To make a bigger, more attractive show with increased attendance, exhibits, dealers, meetings/events.**

Score: B

The show was bigger, though attendance by both ATA and non-ATA members was considerably lower than expected.

Exhibits - Each association had 125-130 competitive frames of exhibits (NTSS last year had 141).

Dealers - After several last-minute withdrawals, there were 43 dealers, 15 of them were recruited by ATA (last year's NTSS had 27 dealers). Since many topical collectors also have other stamp collecting interests, the presence of many non-topical dealers was a plus.

Additional non-NTSS Events (sponsored by RPA) - ACE (Art Cover Exchange), Empire State Postal History Society, Youth "Design-A-Stamp," Stamp Camp.

- 2. To reach out to general and topical collectors who would not go out of their way to attend NTSS.**

Score: D

From "Jack's Journal," *Topical Time*, Sept-Oct 2012:

"This opportunity is probably the greatest reason for us to have a joint show. Many attendees who normally come to Ropex, or who will be attracted to the joint show, will not be topical collectors. We have experienced that the ATA often gains a significant number of new members at WSP shows where it maintains a table and a presence. Some of...[the attendees at Ropex] might have never attended a solo "specialized" NTSS.... [At the joint show] they will be exposed to topical philately as never before – by dealers, exhibits, meetings, study units, the informative ATA table and the friendly ATA members. We believe that many traditional collectors have some interest in a topic or two, maybe even without realizing it. We expect to nurture that interest and help collectors become more in touch with the latent topicalist within them.... This show will also enable those collectors to see how ATA membership can benefit them. This opportunity to reach out is the most important response to the question "Why are we doing this?"

This objective appears to have been minimally met because of the low non-ATA attendance and the low number of new members. We had anticipated at least 20, but had

only 12 (the average number joining at an NTSS is 15). Of course, it is impossible to measure the exposure that general collectors had to topical stamps and thematic exhibits.

3. To lessen the great amount of work that goes into NTSS. Score: A

There was definitely a sharing of responsibility. In addition to their joint tasks, the associations had the following individual responsibilities:

RPA: venue, floor layout, dealers' contract, security, publicity, banquet, youth, first-day ceremony program design, U.S. Postal Service arrangements.

ATA: obtaining first-day of issue, show program design, joint banquet program design and printing, first-day ceremony program printing, dealer name tags.

4. To bolster WSP Shows.

Score: A

The ATA bolstered Ropex with increased attendance, dealers, exhibits and meetings/events.

The APS chose to schedule an “On the Road” course before the show, in part because of expected increased show attendance.

5. To avoid significant financial losses.

Score: A

Significant losses were avoided. Final figures are not yet in, but the ATA netted more than \$2,000.

Conclusion:

Although three of our five objectives scored “A,” the two greatest reasons for having a joint show received the lowest scores. The low attendance and fewer than expected new ATA members were definitely disappointments.

Among our learnings from this experience

- Communication – The “letter of agreement” worked very well in spelling out the arrangements. Additional details were decided via email. Advance communication was excellent. Responsibilities at the show also need to be spelled out in advance.
- Responsibility – With decreased responsibility comes decreased control.
- Recruiting dealers – The two shows were in competition for dealers. This could be avoided by agreeing in advance the percentage of dealer fees to go to each show and by having a single bourse chair.
- Recruiting volunteers – Many ATA members in the Rochester area were already committed to Ropex, leaving a very small pool of local volunteers left for ATA. This may be avoided by communication far in advance to ATA members in the show area and by publicizing the need for ATA volunteers from beyond the area of the show.
- Unique opportunity – Three of the NTSS judges exhibited in Ropex.
- Before committing to another specific joint show, the ATA needs to take the time to study that show very carefully (such as date, local demographics, venue, size, attendance, “personality”) to make sure the partnership is a good fit and that ATA will likely benefit from the joint show as much as the other show will.

Where do we go from here?

One board member wrote “I still believe that ATA is strong enough to stand [alone] and that we should not consider joint shows. Wonderful shows in Dayton, Milwaukee and Lancaster show we don’t need others. This ‘joint’ show certainly did not help us.”



Other Board members concluded that they would like ATA to request permission for another joint show and that our experience and learnings from this year will help that future show be more successful. It was suggested not to plan that show for 2015 because the location for the 2015 show needs to be decided very soon – and we need to spend time doing much research before choosing our next joint show partner. In 2016 NTSS will be part of the World Stamp Show in New York. Therefore it was suggested that 2017 be the earliest year for consideration of a future joint show, if we are able to find an appropriate partner. Seven WSP shows have expressed interest. The ATA Board will formally consider whether or not to apply for joint show approval in the near future. ☎

About ATA

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

New on our Website: www.americantropicalclassn.org

- Youth page: May-June “Topical Tidbits” on The Circus. July-August will be Patriotic Symbols.

- National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS)
Palmares (exhibit results)

Selected pages from several of this year's top award-winning exhibits:

<i>Tennis: From Game of Kings to King of Games</i> , Norman F. Jacobs	Grand Award
<i>The Olive: Olea Europaea</i> , Vincent De Luca	Reserve Grand Award
<i>How to Grow Tomatoes</i> , Dawn Hamman	Mary Ann Owens One-Frame Grand Award
<i>Alexander Hamilton: Soldier, Financier, Statesman, Founder</i> , Jack Congrove	Best Display Division Award

Recognition of Members' Anniversaries at ATA Annual Meeting

25 Years: Virginia Wall Charles, David E. Nye, Gary Hendren, Norm Jacobs

50 Years or More: Graydon Loomis

Philatelic Hat Trick – NTSS Show Program Wins Third APS Gold

Once again Fred Skvara created and produced a winner! Last year's NTSS show program won a Gold Award in the American Philatelic Society's Chapter Activities Committee Show Program Competition. This is the third consecutive Gold for the NTSS and Fred.

More Gold!

First our show program. Then our website. And now our journal! Our editor, Wayne Youngblood, and *Topical Time* received a Gold award in the Philatelic Literature Exhibition at Napex May 31-June 2 for Volume #63 (2012). Congratulations, Wayne!

Appointments

Dawn Hamman has volunteered to be Publicity Chair.

Mike Shefler, who does business as France International, has agreed to be Ad Solicitor for a term of one year. Mike is a regular advertiser in *Topical Time*.

Recent Stamp Shows and New Members

April 11-14 ASDA Spring Stamp Show - New York, N.Y. - **4 new members**

Ambassadors: **Allan Fisk, Fred Skvara, Caroline Scannell, Mike Lubrano**

April 20-21 Evergreen Stamp Show - Kent, Wash. - **3 new members**

Ambassadors: **Keith Edholm, Carol Edholm**

- April 20-21 Plymouth Show - Westland, Mich. - **3 new members**
 Ambassadors: **Sandra Lingler, Andy Lingler**
- April 26-28 Westpex - Burlingame, Calif. - **6 new members**
 Ambassadors: **Bruce Johnson, Richard Shenberger**
- April 27-28 Gulfpex - Biloxi, Mississippi - **3 new members**
 Ambassador: **Jean Stout**
- May 4-5 Orapex - Ottawa, Ontario, Canada - **1 new member**
 Ambassador: **Larry Davidson**
- May 17-19 NTSS - Rochester, N.Y. - **12 new members, New Ambassadors in Training: 3**
 Ambassadors: **Don Bailey-Francois, Michael Clark, Jack Congrove, Larry Davidson, Jack Denys, Dawn Hamman, John Hamman, Fred Haynes, Norm Jacobs, Bob Mather, Clem Reiss, Laurie Ryan, Richard Shenberger, Van Siegling, Fred Skvara, Jean Stout**
- May 24-26 Nojex - Secaucus, N.J.
 Ambassadors: **Allan Fisk, Fred Skvara, Tony Curiale**
- May 24-26 Pipex - Portland, Ore. - **5 new members**
 Ambassadors: **Orlie Trier, Jack Congrove, Eric Knapp**
- June 9 Fenwick Stamp Show - Renton, Wash. - **3 new members**
 Ambassadors: **Keith Edholm, Carol Edholm**
- June 21-23 Royal*2013*Royale - Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada **1 new member**
 Ambassadors: **Bernie Smith, Patricia Prevey, Benoit Carrier**

ATA at Upcoming Stamp Shows

Members may save postage by contacting the ATA Office to request that certain items (handbooks, membership directories, checklists, DVDs) be brought to these shows for them.

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| July 19-21 | Minnesota Stamp Expo - Crystal, Minn. |
| July 20-21 | Evergreen Stamp Show - Kent, Wash. |
| July 27-28 | Charpex - Charlotte, N.C. |
| Aug. 8-11 | APS StampShow - Milwaukee, Wis. |

ATA Executive Director **Vera Felts** will be at StampShow. If you would like to be an Ambassador-in-Training – learning how to help staff ATA tables at stamp shows and events, promoting ATA and recruiting new members – please contact the ATA Office.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Aug. 30-Sept. 1 | Balpex - Baltimore, Maryland |
|-----------------|------------------------------|

June 27 - 29, 2014

65th Annual ATA National Topical Stamp Show
 Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel
 9801 Natural Bridge Rd
 St. Louis, Mo. 63134



BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!

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BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!

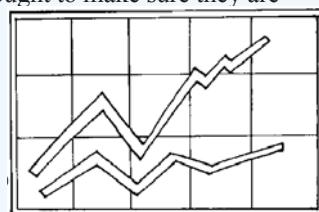
You probably received a request at the end of April for a contribution to the Boldly To The Future campaign. If you have already responded, thank you. If you put it aside for later, please consider making a donation now. As I am sure you have heard, the ATA especially needs your help at this time.



This year ATA is going through a financial restructuring. Three donors, who generously subsidized the ATA for years, found that age and declining health have taken their toll. Those subsidies have come to an end. While the ATA has been preparing for this eventuality for several years, it is not an easy transition, nor one that can be accomplished overnight.

The Board decided that in meeting this challenge, the ATA should maintain its position of leadership in the world of topical philately and that member benefits should be protected. But all of the ATA programs are being rethought to make sure they are efficient and useful. This has been very helpful for the organization and has resulted in improved programming.

We hope you can see the good things that are happening in the ATA. *Topical Time* is a brighter, perkier publication, chock full of good information for topical collectors. Our membership is up. We are adding check lists. If you were in Rochester in mid-May for the combined NTSS and Ropex – you know the success of the Two Shows in One concept. Ropex showed a truly welcoming hospitality to the ATA and topical collectors, making this a great show.



New services are in the mill to benefit the members and to generate money for the Association. Rochester saw the launching of www.TopicalsOnLine.com, a brand new Internet sales site just for topical collectors. Check it out and let us know what you think. The stamps are all listed by ATA members, especially for topical collectors.

You can help the ATA maintain this forward motion through your gifts to the Boldly To The Future campaign.

2013 GOALS:	\$25,000
Additional 2013 Boost Goal	\$15,000
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2013 Goal	\$40,000
Total Pledged or Received as of June 30	540 Donors
	\$23,787
<hr/>	<hr/>
Numbers Needed to Reach Goals	186
	354
<hr/>	<hr/>

These are the ways you can send your BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE gift for 2013:

- Check drawn on U.S. bank in U.S. funds - *preferable since it saves us fees* – payable to “American Topical Association,” P.O. Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008, USA
- PayPal: to americantopical@msn.com
- Visa, Mastercard, Discover card – send card info to address above, or phone or FAX it to ATA Office @ 618-985-5100. Thank you for helping!

NO TOPICAL COLLECTION CAN BE COMPLETE WITHOUT GREAT CACHET ART!

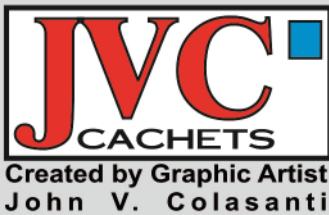
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Your ATA Board at its 2013 Meeting...

- Reviewed ATA mission statement.
- Heard plans for National Topical Stamp Collecting Day: May 25 (cacheted covers available) [see page 69](#).
- Established an annual ATA study unit publication competition/recognition at NTSS annually starting next year.
- Authorized use of Reserve Funds to balance 2014 and 2015 budgets.
- Noted that the Board will evaluate NTSS 2013 and decide whether to apply for approval for another joint show.
- Heard Show Manager Gary Hendren share preliminary plans for next NTSS in St. Louis, Mo., June 27-29, 2014, a “solo” (not joint) show.
- Decided to charge admission fee (\$5 total for three days) at NTSS 2014.
- Celebrated the launch of ATA’s new Internet stamp sales service:
www.topicalsonline.org [see pages 27-28](#).
- Reviewed “Vision 2012” progress report in depth, especially noting that
 - Approximately 1,000 checklists (400 more than now) are expected to be generated early next year from the extensive database created by Karen Cartier.
 - *Topical Time* digital archive – all 63 years – is expected to be available in a few months.
 - Initial phoning of new members has been well received.
 - Regular features about maximum cards and older U.S. postmarks will begin soon in *Topical Time*.

The Vision 2012 Progress Report will be emailed or mailed to any member who contacts the ATA office to request it.

- Approved new membership dues structure (shown below), effective Jan. 1, 2014, assuming that the ATA electronic edition of *Topical Time* is available by then. ☐

New Membership Dues Structure

Current					TT Delivery	
	1 year	2 years	3 years	5 years	Print	On-line
Domestic members	\$25	\$45	\$65	\$100	x	-
Int'l members	\$33	\$60	\$82	\$125	x	-
Effective Jan 1, 2014						
				Print	On-line	
Online membership – domestic and int'l	\$25	\$45	\$65	\$100	-	x
Domestic print membership	\$30	\$55	\$80	\$125	x	x
Int'l print membership	\$40	\$75	\$110	\$175	x	x

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

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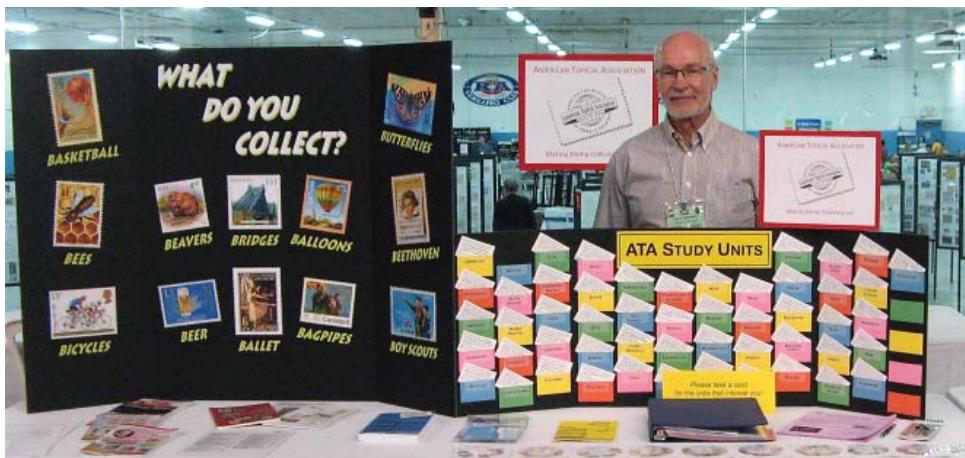
Connecting. The ATA Board voted many years ago to not release contact information of members without an individual member's specific consent. Income could be derived by selling labels with member addresses, but it was felt that ATA members value their privacy.

However, ATA wants to do everything possible to facilitate communication between/among our members. Many email and mailing addresses are listed in our *Membership Directory* and many new members choose to list their email address in the *Topical Time* membership column. About 70% of our members have supplied their email addresses to the ATA Office. When an address is not listed, we are happy to forward emails from members free of charge if we have an email address for the member(s) you wish to contact. If you would like to connect by email with other ATA members who share your collecting interests, do let us know.



We are also quite willing to forward mailed letters to ATA members for whom we do not have email addresses (~30% of our members) and who have chosen not to list their contact information in the *Membership Directory*. To have us forward a communication for you, send a sealed, stamped letter to us with the name of the member to be contacted on the outside of the envelope; we add the mailing address and mail the letter for you.

The ATA *Membership Directory* is a wonderful tool for connecting with others. If you do not have a copy, we'd be happy to mail you one for the bargain price of \$3 (plus \$5 postage to the United States or Canada, \$11 to other countries). Or, pick one up at an ATA table at a stamp show and save postage costs.



ATA Ambassador Larry Davidson at Orapex in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, in May.

ATA Ambassadors Carol and Keith Edholm at Sno-King Stamp Club Show in Everett, Wash., in February.

Postage. You probably know that ATA uses “real stamps” on all of its outgoing mail. Many times a year, the ATA Office receives donations of mixed mint postage from our members, which we use specifically for that purpose. We are grateful to those members who send us their extras! In late April, we received a lovely anonymous donation of three panes of recently issued U.S. stamps. Double thanks to you if you are the one who sent them! At NTSS three other members donated mint postage.



ATA saves money by purchasing “discount postage” from members and stamp dealers. If you have postage for sale, please let us know. We are in the market for all denominations and mixed postage lots. We’ll even count it for you if you wish! We know that our members like to receive real stamps on their mail, so we hope to continue buying discount postage and receiving donations of stamps. Do let us know if you have postage to sell or just send us any you’d like to donate. We provide acknowledgment of donations for tax purposes, since ATA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

ATA Ambassadors. Watch for ATA Ambassadors at your local, regional and national shows. The ATA Ambassador Corps now numbers 42, hailing from 22 different states and provinces. It is through our Ambassadors that ATA is growing.

ATA has a page at www.pinterest.com for posting your favorite stamp images. If you have a computer and access to a scanner or scanned images of stamps, we hope you'll



post for all the world to enjoy. ATA is establishing a Pinterest pinning board for each of its 52 Study Units and an Eclectic Stamps board for the many stamps unrelated to the study units. Anyone can

“pin” a stamp. Just go to the Pinterest web page, search for ATA, and pin away.

ATA member Will Cochrane, from Australia, has more than 7,200 stamp images on the Topical/Thematic Stamps board of his Pinterest page. Go to www.Pinterest.com; search for Will Cochrane and click on his Topical/Thematic stamps board. He's created an enjoyable stamp museum there.

Are you on Pinterest? If so, follow us on Pinterest and together we'll spread the word – and images – of topical stamps. If you're not yet on Pinterest, do check it out. It's a great website for gaining ideas and sharing your favorite stamps. Go to the ATA page, and enjoy!

ATA Office. We have been short staffed due to a personnel change. But we have just hired a new part-time office worker, Angie. Thank you for your patience, as sometimes our response time has been slower than usual. Now that NTSS has occurred, we should be back up to speed soon. ☺



Topical Postline

Letters to the editor

Inverted “Holey” Stamps

I note with interest “There are many types of inverts on postage stamps” (*Topical Time*, Jan-Feb 2013, page 46), which nicely covered 11 types. In particular, the inverted perforated initials, or perfin, chosen as illustration was created by a New Zealand company on a stamp from the State of Queensland (Australia)! The “N.Z./I.C.” perfin shown (page 47) was from the New Zealand Insurance Co. Ltd., used at its office in Maryborough, Queensland, and likely also in Sydney (1889-1934). The NZ Insurance Co. was established in Auckland, N.Z., in 1859, where it used a different punch to perforate New Zealand stamps – the company subsequently expanded its fire and marine insurance business into several Australian states, there being at least eight different punches used to create patterns on both postage and revenue stamps (R.D. Samuel, 2010, *New Zealand Stamps with Perforated Initials*, 2nd ed., www.perfins.com.au/articles/nzic.html).

New Zealand perfin collections show many inverts (two examples figured) – most companies had a single-die perforator, the task was usually relegated to a junior employee, and thus a single row of stamps torn off a sheet could easily be turned around or reversed and incorrectly fed into the perforating device “upside-down” – resulting in a series of inverted perfins (alternatively, if the employee were wishing to save time, he or she may have taken a pair of rows, folded one row on top of the other, and then fed the double thickness into the punch – one row would be correctly punched upright while

the other would be upside-down and punched from the reverse-side, i.e., inverted and reversed; should the folded double rows be turned over and then punched, the



Perfin used by E.W. Mills & Co. Ltd., metal merchants at Wellington (1903-16), inverted on NZ 1902 ½d Mt Cook (SG 302; Scott 107).



Perfin used (1904-21) by Ross & Glendining Ltd., retail / import drapers at Wellington, inverted on NZ 1902 ½d Mt Cook (SG 302; Scott 107).

result would be one row inverted, one reversed). Each perfin pattern can be punched in eight different orientations on the stamp and their collection, cataloging and study is the focus of philatelists worldwide. For more information on this holey topic see, for example, the American group at www.perfins.org. A perfin would be a great addition to your topical collection. Happy hunting.

— Alastair Watson
Oklahoma

Editing With “Style”

Pursuant to your March-April *Topical Time* editor’s column (page 14), a column on tips and techniques on writing would be a great idea. Maybe not of interest to all, but to some of us.

Retirement has given me time to write a

few articles for the *Canadian Philatelist*, and for 20 years I've written a stamp column for our local paper. (Some were edited for the *Calgary Philatelist* as well.) As an English major (and author of 40 years of Sunday messages, which some call sermons), I like to think I know grammar and syntax, but am finding "contemporary" standards vary.

Thanks for your articles.

— Ron Tabbert
Golden, BC, Canada

Ron, thank you very much for your comments. Please read on. There were other letters as well...

— Wayne

More on Style

My March-April *Topical Time* arrived today. I was most interested in your comments on patience and style. For the former, I'll try. The latter, about a style column, is great! (I love *Eats Shoots and Leaves*.)

I agree with the need to standardize things such as how you abbreviate states. I happen to prefer the "Oxford comma" and use it in all articles.

Question: What about contributors who are British and prefer that their punctuation be outside the quotation marks? What about their spelling of words such as color/colour, favor/favour and others? Do we, as editors, need to Americanize their articles? Thanks.

— Marci Jarvis,
California

In a word, yes – to all.

Seriously, though, many people do not realize that there is little regarding editorial style that is either right or wrong. However, most of the same folks (including many editors) seriously underestimate the very real need for internal consistency in virtually any publication. It's this consistency that forms the proverbial editorial glue that holds a publication together.

The best editing is nearly invisible, allow-

ing the writer to feel he or she has done the job well and the reader to navigate through your publication with pleasure and ease.

As an editor, whether it is Topical Time, a chapter or study unit newsletter, or even a local stamp club bulletin, it is important to choose an editorial style and remain consistent with it. Internal consistency removes the roadblocks to enjoyment of your publication.

It's also important to know when to break the rules if the context requires one to do so.

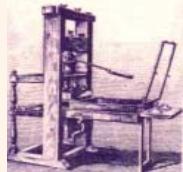
For example, I choose to eliminate "Oxford commas," in everything I edit, as I feel they are redundant and don't follow the editorial bible I grew up with; the Associated Press Style Book. An "Oxford comma," for those not familiar with it, is most commonly encountered at the end of a listing, before the word "and" or "or." I chose to use one in the paragraph near the top of this page where I discussed various types of newsletters. I feel it helps separate the list better. You likely won't find another one in this issue.

As for Americanizing British authors, we, as American editors, absolutely must! While punctuation outside quotations, rumours and colours may be appropriate in a British publication, their very visual departure is jarring and distracts a reader from the writer's intent. When I write for British publications I fully expect to have my prose turned into British.

More than anything, I guess, it is important to have a consistent style and voice throughout your publication, whether it's the way you write addresses, express dates or handle many types of punctuation. Your writers should not be required to know everything about the style you choose as long as you do and you stick with it.

Beginning next issue, we'll officially launch "Editing With Style," an occasional column geared towards helping newsletter editors. If you have specific areas you'd like to see covered, please let me know.

— Wayne



Wayne's Impressions

Sorry, sorry, sorry...

What gives? This is the May-June issue of *Topical Time*, which you are receiving in late July. After making up some significant time with the March-April issue, we headed into this issue, thinking we'd get nearly caught up. That, however, was not the case.

As you may know, in addition to *Topical Time*, I have my “day job” as vice president of Regency Superior Auctions. In addition to busier-than-normal times there, I suffered what I call “serious, but non-fatal” computer problems during May and June, placing us in this difficult position. With the help of our president, board and Vera, the magazine should be back on time within the next several issues. I appreciate your continued patience.

New(?) column debuts

You'll note that on the facing page is “Topics on Postmarks,” the return of an old friend – kind of. The column, as it appeared for several years, originally featured columns of illustrations of pictorial postmarks, where they were used and when.

In its new iteration, this great column will now be penned by George DeKornfeld. As it stands, each column will feature one topic in particular and then will go into some detail about the postmarks and what's behind them. George's first – or audition – column is presented here (thus his references to cold weather that's currently a thing of the past).

For a little background, George is a 56-year-old soon-to-be retired dentist who has been a stamp collector since he was 8 years old (with the “usual break taken for college, women, family, etc.” as he says). Some of his collecting interests include New York State postal history (especially Columbia County, for which he is a gold-level WSP exhibitor); United States; Hunting & Fishing revenues; Great Britain; Hungary; Germany; China; worldwide classic-era Mint; worldwide pre-1900 socked-on-the-nose cancels; and, most recently, topical and thematic collecting – currently hunting and fishing related (some of his pursuits outside of the stamp den).

George currently belongs to the ATA, APS, Empire State Postal History Society (Treasurer), Rochester Philatelic Association, Virtual Stamp Club and others. He has authored articles and been a regular contributor for *Excelsior!* (Empire State Postal History Society) and *U.S. Stamp News*. Although he currently lives in Ancramdale, Columbia County, N.Y., George will be moving to the Big Island of Hawaii within the next 12 months (once he is fully retired). In addition to stamps, George enjoys dogs, gourmet cooking, antiques, gardening and scuba diving.

George has committed to writing a column for every issue, with an allowance for his big move and the occasional break for spending “at least one week up to his neck in his pool, pina colada in hand and his Lab paddling around.”

We hope you'll enjoy the “new” column! ☐



Topics on Postmarks

George DeKornfeld

Fish found in many forms

Today feels like we're being blessed with a heat wave. It's in the low 40s, which is pretty comfy for a late-January day here in the mid-Hudson Valley of New York, but since the last several mornings found me awakening to – on average – 10 degrees below zero, this is a welcome change, albeit merely a temporary one.

This may only be a temperature tease, yet the days are enjoying ever so slight but noticeable periods of longer daylight, and sitting here in my stamp den I can't help but begin the process of day-dreaming about soon-to-be-enjoyed warmer weather pursuits. Spring isn't really that far off, now is it?

For many of us, these pursuits include the time-honored tradition of grabbing one's pole, some tackle and some bait, and heading out to match wits with our finned friends, either for fun or for the table. And, in the spirit of this, here we will take a look at some pictorial cancellations that illustrate various topics on the pastime of fishing.

Around here, the arrival of April 1 brings the official yearly opening of trout season, which finds many streams mobbed with anglers hoping to bring either a brown, brook or a rainbow "square tail" to their creels. Arguably one of the most famous trout areas near here is the town of Roscoe in Sullivan County, which sits by the famous Beaver Kill and Willowemoc Rivers, a catch-and-release only fly-fishing mecca at the edge of the Catskill Mountains. Nearby, the East and West Branches of the Delaware River provide some of the best big-water trout angling in the East. Given all this opportunity, it comes as no large surprise that Roscoe calls itself "Trout Town USA," as illustrated by the Figure 1 item.



Figure 1. Trout Town USA Station, Roscoe, N.Y.

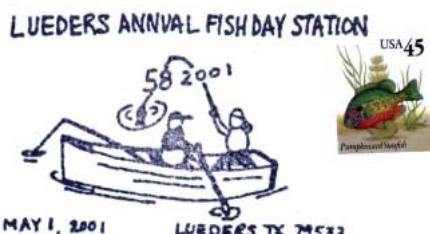


Figure 2. Fish Day Station, Lueders, Texas.

By the time May arrives, fishing as an activity is in full swing in most parts of the country. Since 1958, Lueders, Texas, has held an annual Fish Day, the memory of which is celebrated with the use of a different pictorial postmark each year. Figure 2 shows the 2001 version.

Onalaska, Wis., calls itself the Sunfish Capital of the World and, although many other locales may be equally fitting of hold-



Figure 3. Onalaska, Wis., Sunfish Capital of the World.

that included The Rotary, Lions, American Legion, amongst others, willing to take charge of the event. In Figure 3 we see the 1999 handstamp used.

Our next pictorial handstamp, shown in Figure 4, originates from Fanning Springs, Fla., and shows a super illustration of the Red Belly, a panfish from the Breem family conveniently found in the nearby Suwannee River.



Figure 4. Fanning Springs, Fla., attractive pictorial red-belly panfish cancel.

depicting a fish, a sailboat cruising along on what is called their “Fishing Pond” provides some sense of summer-time fun and warmth.

Similar is an item struck on a 1984 French postal card from Chalon-sur-Saône which commemorates “The National Exhibition of Amateur Fishing Days” and competition. That marking is shown in Figure 6.

Figure 7 takes us over to Luxembourg, where this cancel celebrates the 1977 World Champ-

Figure 6. A 1984 French postal card celebrating the Amateur Fishing Days celebration.

ing that honor, Onalaska is actually well known for its rather hefty-sized Bluegills and Pumpkinseed, both members of groupings known as Sunfish or Panfish. Both of these sweet-meat fish can be caught locally on either the Black or Mississippi rivers, or in Lake Onalaska. Held over Memorial Day weekend as an annual event since 1977, the last “Sunfish Days” event, as they were called, was held in 2009, discontinued due to the lack of anyone of the various sponsors



Figure 5. This 1958 cancel shows a sailboat skimming across the "Fishing Pond."

Next, lets take a look at some international fishing-related postmarks. In Figure 5 we see one from Meulan, France, struck in 1958. Although not depicting a fish, a sailboat cruising along on what is called their “Fishing Pond” provides some sense of summer-time fun and warmth.

Similar is an item struck on a 1984 French postal card from Chalon-sur-Saône which commemorates “The National Exhibition of Amateur Fishing Days” and competition. That marking is shown in Figure 6.

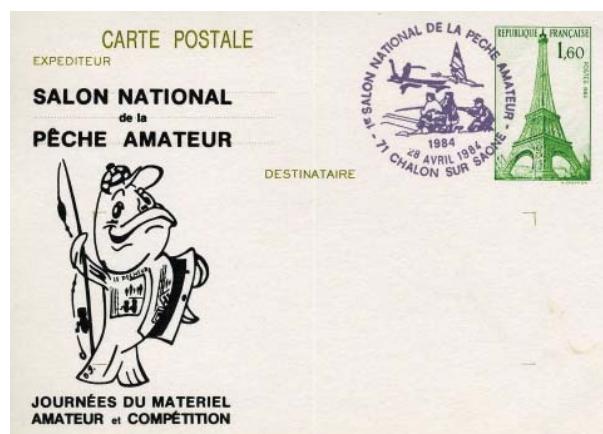




Figure 7. Luxembourg Fishing Championship cancel from 1977.

ionship of Fishing, held each year in September. It appears we're getting close to returning to the cooler weather of our present situation.

Moving westward and crossing the English Channel, we next arrive at the Outer

Hebrides of the Scottish Highlands and the Town of Stornoway. With its own port, Stornoway is a popular northern fishing destination as our pictorial cancel from 1988 illustrates with a picture of a fish as well as one of the tools of the trade, a treble hook.

A nice additional touch in this instance is the use of the Great Britain 18-pence issue of 1981, Hauling a Trawl Net, for the franking. That item is found in Figure 8.

Next, we cross over to the northeast coast of Great Britain and the river Tyne,



Figure 8. A fish and treble hook are shown on this 1981 postmark.

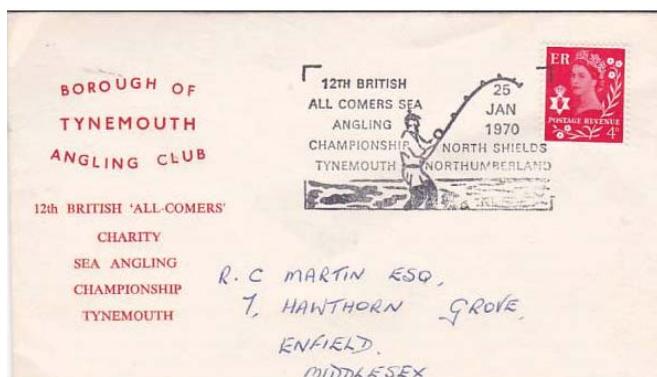


Figure 9. A January fishing tournament is celebrated on this 1970 cancel.

For this time of year, perhaps our friends in North Carolina have the right idea. Figure 10 shows a December 1997 pictorial cancel that depicts what appears to be Santa Claus wrestling with a nice largemouth bass, itself wrapped in a bow, at High Rock Lake in Southmont. Nope, too cold out there for me, so I'll keep hiding in my stamp den until the weather gets warmer. Happy Fishing! ☺

where lies the historic town of Tynemouth. Run by the local angling club, a surf-casting charity tournament has been held there since 1958. The 1970 version of that pictorial postmark is shown in Figure 9 and, yes, this tournament is held in January and I'm suddenly beginning to feel a little chilly again.

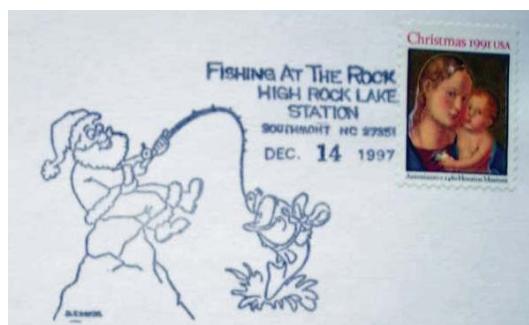


Figure 10. Even Santa Claus shows up on this 1997 fish-related cancel.



Ropex/NTSS 2013, Rochester, NY

Bruce L. Johnson, ATA Director of Study Units

The 64th Annual ATA National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS), which this year was a joint show with the Rochester Philatelic Association's Ropex 2013, was held May 17-19 in Rochester, N.Y. Although the ATA's official hotel was the Quality Inn Rochester, most meetings, 43 dealers and 255 frames in the competitive exhibitions occupied the main floor at Rochester's Main Street Armory on East Main Street, about 10 miles away.

The pre-show tour was a half-day excursion to the George Eastman and Susan B. Anthony houses. Built by the founder of Eastman Kodak Company, the George Eastman House is the world's oldest museum dedicated to photography and one of the world's oldest film archives, opened to the public in 1949. World-renowned for its photograph and motion picture archives, the museum is also a leader in film preservation and photograph conservation. The Susan B. Anthony House, declared a National Historic Landmark in 1965, was

home of that national figure in the women's rights movement; Anthony was arrested in her front parlor after attempting to vote in the 1872 Presidential Election. She resided there until her death in 1906.

The traditional Friday evening President's Reception was held at Zeppa Bistro, in the historic German House; built in 1905 as the



The entrance to Ropex/NTSS at the Main Street Armory.

Photo courtesy Whitney McMahon



Exhibition frames, Ropex/NTSS 2013. Photo courtesy Whitney McMahon

parish hall of St. Boniface Church, the structure was a meeting place for German immigrants in Rochester's South Wedge district. "Zeppa" means "wedge" in Italian.

The ATA Annual Meeting on Friday afternoon, with President Jack André Denys presiding, included reports by representatives from ATA's Claims Service, the DTP Selection Committee, Judges Accreditation, Youth Activities and the Executive Director's Report by Vera Felts. Attendees heard a progress report on "Vision 2012 — BTTF [Boldly to the Future]" and a series of recognitions — of 25- and 50-year member anniversaries, ATA Chapters, new ATA Study Units, ATA Ambassadors and Special Awards given to the ATA. Gary Hendren, show manager for NTSS 2014, which will be held in St. Louis, Mo., also gave a preview of that event. The final item on the agenda was an ATA Forum — a look at TopicalsOnLine, the ATA's new Internet Sales System.

The prime attraction of the weekend in Main Street Armory was stamp dealers from around the country displaying their philatelic treasures, plus a United States Postal Service table, a wide array of exhibitions mounted by both the ATA and the Rochester Philatelic



There's little question what this NTSS dealer carried!
Photo courtesy Whitney McMahon



Our ATA booth at Ropex/NTSS 2013. Photo courtesy Whitney McMahon



Above: David Nye receives his certificate as 25-year member. **Above right:** Graydon Loomis, 50-year member. **Below:** Robert Lamb finds out "What's in Your Attic." **Bottom:** The head table at the Saturday evening Awards banquet.

Photos (above, above right and bottom) courtesy Bruce Johnson. Photo (right) courtesy Whitney McMahon.





Top: President Jack André Denys presents this year's Distinguished Topical Philatelist, Jean Stout. **Above left:** Grand award winner Norman F. Jacobs. **Above right:** Dawn Hamman accepts the Mary Ann Owens One Frame Grand Award from Larry Davidson. Awards Chair Douglas Clark looks on.

Top and upper right photos courtesy Whitney McMahon; above left photo courtesy Bruce Johnson

Association, a youth area and several seminars that were held in adjacent meeting rooms.

The first order of business at the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, a self-serve buffet held at Rick's Prime Rib House, was recognizing this year's ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist, Jean C. Stout of Jackson, Miss. Stout joined ATA in 2004, and began serving as a member of the ATA Board of Directors in 2012. She is co-founder and vice president of the ATA Penguins on Stamps Study Unit, organized in June 2007. She also participates in the ATA Ambassador program, maintains the Penguins on Stamps Study Unit checklist and has prepared Penguin displays at three different local libraries. She is a member of

**Florence Wright staffs
the Casey Jones Study
Unit booth during Ropex/
NTSS 2013.**

Photo courtesy Whitney McMahon.

the American Philatelic Society and the American Society of Polar Philatelists. Her other topical interests include Roosters/Chickens, Sherlock Holmes and Halloween/Horror.

The Grand Award that evening was given to Norman F. Jacobs for *Tennis: From Game of Kings to King of Games*; the Reserve Grand Award to Vincent De Luca for *The Olive—Olea Europaea*; the Mary Ann Owens One-Frame Grand Award to Dawn R. Hamman for *How to Grow Tomatoes*; the Best Display Division Award to Jack R. Congrove for *Alexander Hamilton: Soldier, Financier, Statesman, Founder*; and the Youth Grand Award to Alex Fillion for *What a Princess Wants*. A complete Palmares is available on the ATA website (accessible from this page: american topical assn.org/ntss/ntss2014.shtml).

Monday's bus tour following the show's closing was to New York's Finger Lakes Wine District. Located on the Seneca Lake Wine Trail, the two wineries (among 34 on the Trail) visited were Wagner Vineyards and Seneca Shore Wine Cellars. ☺



Sarah Noble asks a question during the Monday post-NTSS winery tour.

Photo courtesy Bruce Johnson.

My First Visit to TopicalsOnLine

Dawn R. Hamman

It was a steamy 90-degree day in south Florida, and I decided to stay in the air conditioning and try the new ATA TopicalsOnLine website. I keyed in www.TopicalsOnLine.com and proceeded to have a wonderful exploration of a great new way to buy topicals.

First thing I noticed was the colorful graphics and simple format; great for techies and non-techies alike.

You don't have to, but I registered with a user name and password. Next, I got a screen that offered numerous ways to search for stamps. Just experimenting, I put in several of my topics: manatees, tomatoes, chickens. Stamps came up for all of them, and the prices were low. I put them in my shopping cart, and I was on my way to using TopicalsOnLine.

Next, I got out my checklists, and started entering country names with Scott numbers. I found a couple of things I didn't have, and those went in my basket.

My visit had been very successful, so it was time to play. I reviewed the list of topics and explored some things I might want to collect in the future. So many topics, so little time...

When I was ready to check-out, that part was easy, too. I paid with PayPal.

Finally, I went to the sales page. We all buy sets for just one stamp, and someone can use those other topics. I read the easy-to-follow instructions, and am on my way to selling some of my stash. ATA gets 10% – a very low amount – and who wouldn't want to support ATA?

Please visit this great new website, and tell your friends. 



ATA TopicalsOnLine

American Topical Association

[HOME](#) [SELL STAMPS](#) [MY STAMPS](#) [CONTACT US](#)

[My account](#) [Log out](#)

[Home](#)

NAVIGATION

- [Search Stamps](#)
- [Deposit Account](#)
- [Shopping cart](#)
- [For Buyers](#)
- [For Sellers](#)
- [Country List \(PDF\)](#)
- [List of Topicals \(PDF\)](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Join ATA

Search for Stamps

Description/Keyword

Countries United States
Abu Dhabi
Aden
Aden, Kathiri State of Seiyun
Aden, Mahrta State
Aden, Quaiti State of Shibr and Mukalla
Afars & Issas
Afghanistan
Agouera

Topics Actors/Actresses
Advertising/Graphic Art
Agriculture/Horticulture
AIDS
Airports
Albatross
Alcohol/Temperance
Ambulances
American Presidents

Catalog Number

Country * Catalog Number *

Account Status (Dawnhamman)
Your ATA membership allows you to purchase stamps at the discounted ATA member price.

Stamp Search Results

Country/Scott #	Material	Image	Description	Reg. Price / Member Price
Cameroon C52	Single		1964 Kennedy Issue	\$1.50 \$1.35

[Add to cart](#)

A New Website Designed with Topical Collectors in Mind

Dawn R. Hamman

Topical stamp collectors have a new website that makes it easier than ever to find stamps by topic. The ATA has now launched TopicalsOnLine, which enables collectors to buy stamps for their specific topics. The site may be found at: www.topicalsonline.com.

As topical collectors, we are frequently frustrated by sites that list stamps by country and Scott number. When we can find topicals listed, we often have to buy an entire set to get one stamp for our topic. Now there's a better way!

Go to the ATA website and click on "buy stamps," or go directly to www.topicalsonline.com. There you will find an easy-to-use menu that offers several ways to search for stamps: by topic (700 are listed), by keyword, by topic cross-referenced to a country or by country with Scott number. Browse a topic, or search for specific stamps from your checklist.

According to ATA board member Bob Lamb, who spearheaded the project, the website has been in the planning stages for about two years, and in development for 18 months. "The board felt there was a need for low-priced topical stamps, in sets, partial sets and individual stamps," Bob said. "Another plus is that it will be an income source to help fund ATA programs."

A software firm with experience in philately was hired to develop the site. It has been in the trial phase, and now has several thousand items for sale. That number is growing every day. Anyone can make purchases, but only ATA members can sell there. ATA members get a 10% discount on purchases, and 10% of sales goes to the ATA.

"The site is proving to be a good membership tool, as prospective sellers want to get involved," Bob noted. "We feel it is important to be a member to sell, as ATA members agree to abide by a code of ethics. Everything has been working well, but if a problem ever does arise, there is a system in place to handle it."

When you want to sell items, a simple process enables you to type in a description and add a scan of the stamp, cover or other items. There are default shipping prices, which you have an option to change. Click the "for sellers" tab for directions.

ATA members are encouraged to try the site and tell friends. You see a nice color image, so you know exactly what you are buying. Payment is made by PayPal, which offers security, but there is the option to contact a seller and ask to provide a check or other payment.

"If you have a problem when using the site, we encourage you to use the 'contact us' button," Bob explained. "ATA members have also been making suggestions for improvements. If something on the site is not intuitive for you, let us know."

TopicalsOnLine is one of the most exciting things to happen at the ATA. Whatever your topic – from airplanes to zebras – this website is designed to help you with your collection. Enjoy! ☺

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

Literary Characters of Charles Dickens

Barry Floyd



Charles John Huffam Dickens is widely regarded as the greatest novelist of the Victorian period in England. His novels and short stories include some of the world's most memorable fictional characters, six of whom appear in the stamps under review. The set was released June 19, 2012, to mark the bicentennial of Dickens' birth year.

He was born in Portsmouth on Feb. 7, 1812, into unpropitious circumstances: Britain was at war with France and it was a time of hardship and poverty for many across the country. His father worked as a payroll clerk for the navy but spent most of his life in debt. Relocated to London, he eventually landed up in a debtor's prison. Charles' schooling was interrupted at the age of 12 and he went to work for meager wages at a factory making liquid boot polish.

He lived in a bleak lodging house in the meanest part of London, and memories of the

dismal scenes around him were later to appear in his fiction and journalism. Charles' first proper job was as a legal clerk, which, again, he did not enjoy. He turned then to freelance court reporting while nursing a dream to pursue a theatrical career. However, he began now to gain recognition by writing a series of sketches under the pen name of 'Boz' and this was to set him upon the path of literary success.

Charles was to publish more than a dozen major novels in addition to hundreds of short stories and non-fiction articles. He also edited a weekly journal for 20 years, was an indefatigable letter writer (like his contemporary, Charles Darwin) and, through his writings and lectures, campaigned strongly for social reforms, including the rights of children and educational changes. He thus became an international celebrity, noted for humorous and satirical observations on character and society.

Samuel Pickwick Esq.

Dicken's fame was to be established in his mid-twenties through the monthly publication in 1836 of *The Pickwick Papers* or, to give it its full title: *The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club*. The magazine articles were later reprinted in standard book formats. The serial essays featured a sequence of loosely-related adventures undertaken by mem-



bers of the club. The main character is Samuel Pickwick Esq. himself, a kind and wealthy old gentleman and founder and lifetime president of the association. The illustrator for many of Dickens's characters was 'Phiz': the pseudonym for Hablot Knight Browne, a skilled artist who worked in collaboration with Dickens for some 23 years.

The main literary appeal of *The Pickwick Papers* lies in its several amusing personalities. Memorable Pickwickians in the prolonged story included Mr. August Snodgrass, Alfred Jingle, Sam Weller and Nathaniel Winkle. Together they undertook extensive research into 'the quaint and curious phenomena of life,' traveling through the English countryside by coach and visiting many inns en route. On their return to London, the travelers regale other members of the Pickwick Club with tales of their sanguine observations.

In the same year (1836) that he was writing his monthly contributions to *The Pickwick Papers*, Charles married Catherine Thomson Hogarth, the daughter of his newspaper editor. The marriage was a happy one in its earlier years. They were to raise a family of 10 children: seven sons and three daughters. Sadly, their relationship suffered after Charles – in 1857 – met and fell in love with a young actress, Ellen Ternan; she was to remain his unlawful companion for the rest of his life. The now famous writer separated from Catherine and she was obliged to leave the family home.

Mr. Bumble

Between 1837-39 a second great novel appeared as a monthly serial in *Bentley's Miscellany Magazine: The Adventures of Oliver Twist*.



The story's protagonist is a young orphan boy who is raised in a grim London workhouse. Dickens uses the situation to criticize public policy towards the poor in the 1830s. Despite the cruel conditions and abuse faced by Oliver in his early life he remains a good natured and lovable child and, after regrettable involvement with a gang of pickpocketing thieves, he is fortunate enough to draw the attention of several wealthy benefactors.

A principal character in the workhouse phase of Oliver's upbringing is Mr. Bumble, a pompous and self-important beadle and a minor church official in charge of the paupers under his care. Mr. Bumble may preach Christian morality but in reality behaves without any compassion towards Oliver.

Charles satirizes the beadle for his self-righteousness, greed and hypocrisy.

Among other intriguing characters in *The Adventures of Oliver Twist* are Fagin, a conning career criminal who meets a dramatic ending, the Artful Dodger (Jack Dawkins), the cleverest of Fagin's pickpockets and Nancy, a young prostitute trained to steal under Fagin's guidance, who befriends Oliver but loses her life in a violent attack. Charles' writing style in portraying these and related characters has been described as marked by 'a profuse linguistic creativity' with 'a keen practical sense of the ludicrous side of life.'

The Marchioness

The Old Curiosity Shop appeared in book form in 1841. The fortunes and fate of a lovely young orphan girl Nell and her grandfather, living in the shop when the story opens, are featured in a lengthy account filled with numerous characters: some benign, others malicious and evil. In their employ is a young lad, Kit, befriended by Nell, who helps to sell the

shop's bric-a-brac. Sadly, the grandpa, in an effort to ensure an inheritance for Nell, gets involved in gambling and falls into the clutches of a wretched moneylender, Daniel Quilp, described as a grotesque and hunch-backed figure. Eventually all is lost, the shop is acquired by Quilp, the residents are evicted and grandpa suffers a breakdown, losing his mind. Nell is fearful that he might have to be taken into an asylum for imbeciles which, at the time of Charles' writing in Victorian England, were notoriously harsh places with patients often whipped and chained to walls.

To escape the madhouse, Nell leaves London with her grandpa for the Midlands where, moving from place to place, they become beggars and endure a life of poverty. Several people are then involved in searching for the escapees, some with good intent, others less so, particularly the evil Quilp. Surprisingly the moneylender has a lawyer whose daughter, Miss Sally Brass, has a maid-servant, Sophronia Sphynx, otherwise curiously nicknamed The Marchioness. 'Phiz' portrays her as a trim young lass. It is she who is able to defend Kit from a charge of theft by Quilp and risk of deportation. Quilp is later killed by pursuers after he joins in the search for Nell.

The arduous journey – and the task of avoiding villainous pursuers while seeking help from more kindly folk – leads to serious deterioration in Nell's health and she, too, dies. The grandfather, after visiting her grave daily, dies a few months later. Needless to say, the sad ending to the story caused consternation among readers on both sides of the Atlantic. In Ireland, the leader Daniel O'Connell famously burst into tears at the finale and is reputed to have flung the book out of the window of the train in which he was traveling.

In 1842 Charles and Catherine made their first visit to the United States and Canada. His books were popular reading in the New World and Charles lectured widely about their themes. While in New York he raised the question of neglect of international copyright laws but the general sentiment was that he should be grateful for his popularity and that it was mercenary to complain about his books being pirated.

While traveling around the United States, Charles had an opportunity to view the wretched condition of negro slaves on plantations and, on return home, published his reactions within a broad travelogue, *American Notes for General Circulation*. His powerful condemnation of slavery reflected his equal concern for the poor in England, as declared in a forthcoming work, *Martin Chuzzlewit*, but, needless to say, his polemic was not well received in some parts of the States.

At home, while continuing to write winning novels, Dickens' earlier interest in acting flourished. He appeared in a number of professional theatre productions and, with his large and growing family, he had a ready and willing troupe of amateur actors ready to join in often-extravagant home theatricals.

In 1843 Dickens created his famous seasonal story, *A Christmas Carol*, which, promoting the joys of Christmas, continues to be a favorite. The gist of the story was inspired by a visit to the industrial city of Manchester where he witnessed the stressful conditions of its residents, reinforcing his observations of the shameful lives of poor Londoners. A stamp featuring characters from *A Christmas Carol* (such as Scrooge or Tiny Tim) was not included in the present commemorative set, since the tale was featured in an earlier British Christmas issue (1993).



Between 1843-44, *The Life and Adventures of Martin Chuzzlewit* appeared in installments. This is another typically Dickensian tale with numerous carefully described participants, mostly self-centered, though with personalities ranging from kindly to quite devious. Charles himself considered this tale to be among his best, although it proved to be one of his least popular novels. In an effort to boost monthly sales, the title character is sent to the States, a surprising move considering the reactions to Charles' visit and subsequent publication of *American Notes*... Equally surprising is his damning attack on America, portraying it as "a near wilderness with pockets of civilization and filled with deceptive and self-promoting hucksters." In his defense, Charles claimed that he was writing satirically, in the same way he had attacked the people and institutions of England in *Oliver Twist*.

Mrs. Gamp

Among the characters featured in *Martin Chuzzlewit* are several who could have been selected to adorn the 87p stamp, such as the villainous architect Seth Pecksniff; Jonas

Chuzzlewit, miserly and mean-spirited; Tom Pinch, an honest, kind-hearted soul; or the cheerful, good-humored Mark Tapley. Instead, the selection committee chose to feature the well-endowed Mrs. Gamp (Sarah or Sairey Gamp), a nurse and mid-wife who, more often than not, is the worse for wear due to drink. Alcoholism pervades her life, whether engaged in her nursing activities or enjoying domestic hospitality. The happy grin on her face in the 'Phiz'-reproduced illustration suggests that she has recently been enjoying her tipple. When out and about Mrs. Gamp invariably carries a battered old blue umbrella and this became a popular accessory with Victorian readers, to the point where the word Gamp became a slang word for umbrellas; it is found even in the vocabulary of some elderly Englishmen today!



The next publication to review appeared between 1846-48, in monthly installments, as usual: *Dombey and Son*, or to give its full title, *Dealings with the Firm of Dombey and Son: Wholesale, Retail and for Exportation*. Remarkably, deadlines were met while



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Charles was engaged in numerous other activities: visiting Switzerland and France, travelling around England with an amateur dramatic company, undertaking a variety of public engagements and still enjoying family festivities.

As with earlier novels, *Dombey and Son* deals with a number of socially significant themes evident in Victorian times, some of which persist. Among them are arranged marriages, child abuse and the break-down of family relationships.

The story tells of the rise and fall of Paul Dombey, the wealthy owner of the shipping company of the book's title. It features an extraordinarily complex plot, with subplots involving more than 40 different characters. Action takes place in London, elsewhere in England, such as Brighton and Leamington Spa, Barbados in the Caribbean and in France. Charles himself confessed that the start of the novel promised more than its progress fulfilled, acknowledging that the narrative of the latter part was perhaps ill-constructed, sometimes incredible and often wearisome. Plausible intrigues were difficult to develop and improbabilities were transparent. Nevertheless, *Dombey and Son* achieved good sales and received critical appreciation from fellow writers.

Captain Cuttle

The character selected philatelically to represent the book *Dombey and Son* is a retired sea captain, Edward (Ned) Cuttle, friend of Uncle Sol Gills who is a ship's instrument maker and owner of a store known as 'the Wooden Midshipman.' Captain Cuttle helps out in the shop and is painted as a loveable old salt, filled with good humor. Among other good deeds, he befriends Florence, the abused daughter of Paul Dombey, and tries to nurse her back to health. Perceptive viewers will note that, like other battle-scarred seamen, the veteran captain has a metal hook replacing his right hand.

The last Dickens' oeuvre to be discussed in this review is the memorable tale of *David Copperfield* or, in its more cumbersome title, *The Personal History, Adventures, Experience and Observation of David Copperfield the Younger of Blunderstone Rookery (Which He Never Meant to Publish on Any Account!)*. It was Dickens' eighth novel, appearing complete in 1850 when the author was 38 years old and, in his estimation, was quite the best of all his works. The likely reason for this assessment is that, while the lengthy tale may not be openly autobiographical, it does feature events in the fictional life of David Copperfield that are distinctly reminiscent of Charles' earlier life. And, as more than one critic has noted, D.C. is C.D. in reverse.

The novel traces the life of David from childhood to maturity. He is maltreated by his stepfather and sent to a boarding school where the headmaster is a tyrant. His mother dies and, formal education over, David is sent to work in a factory in London, where the harsh working conditions echo those faced by Dickens himself when employed at a boot polish factory in the capital. David has lodgings near his workplace where his sympathetic landlord, Mr. Wilkins Micawber, goes bankrupt and has to enter a debtor's prison – just as Charles' own father did.

Unhappy with his lot, David escapes from London to walk all the way to Dover, where a kind aunt, Betsy Trotwood, agrees to care for him. The story develops as he grows to adult-



hood with numerous characters entering his life, among them Peggotty, his late mother's faithful housekeeper; a devious and fraudulent clerk, Uriah Heep; and a Miss Agnes Wickfield, who becomes David's second wife after his first spouse, Dora Spendlow, dies from a miscarriage.

Mr. Micawber

With a number of characters to choose from, Copperfield's London landlord was chosen

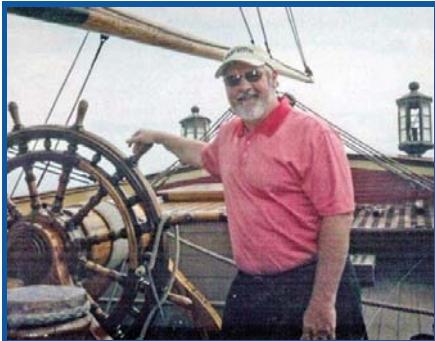
for the high-value stamp in the set. He appears as a dapper gentleman, almost a dandy. Charles' descriptions of his nature are supportive, although he deplores the former landlord's financial ineptitude; a reflection again of his father's mishandling of funds.

Alongside all his writing projects, Charles' desire to act remained unabated. In 1858 he launched upon a new and successful aspect of his career: public readings. He traveled all over England and to countries abroad, performing extracts from his books. The tours were a phenomenal success and added greatly to his stature as an outstanding literary figure of the day.

Dickens undertook a second tour of America in 1867-68. This turned out to be an exhausting six months, offering a total of 76 readings and keeping a social schedule that would have challenged someone considerably younger. During his travels he saw significant changes in the people and cir-



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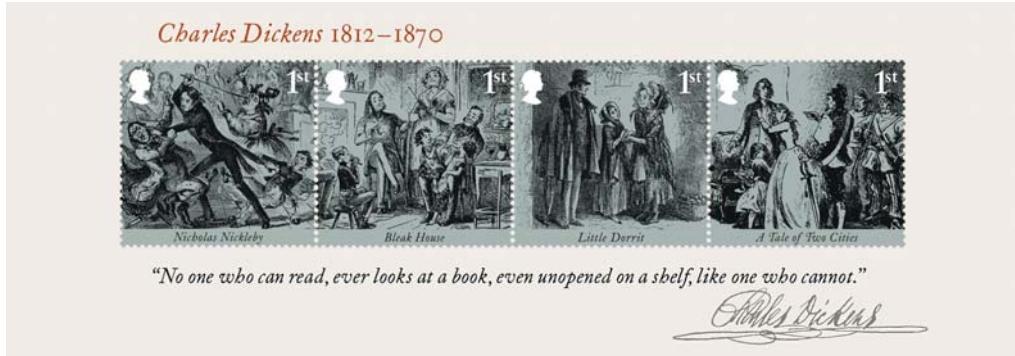
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cumstances of the United States. At a final banquet held by the American press in his honor he promised never to denounce America again! Upon Charles' return to England, he was persuaded to give up public readings. In 1870, a stroke brought about his premature death at the age of 58. He is interred in Westminister Abbey.

Miniature Sheet

In addition to the six commemorative stamps described here, a miniature sheet featuring four 1st class monochrome stamps was issued. These depict scenes from novels in addition to those already described: *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Bleak House*, *Little Dorrit* and *A Tale of Two Cities*. Beneath the stamps there is a somewhat enigmatic quotation from Dickens and a facsimile of the author's signature.

We trust this brief review of the life and writings of Charles Dickens, as encapsulated in the six commemorative stamps featured in this essay, will encourage collectors to pursue literary themes and to identify other issues – from Great Britain and around the world – celebrating the works of distinguished authors. ■

Recommended Reading

Dickens, Peter Ackroyd, (Mandarin Paperbacks, London, 1994)

Dickens: A Life, Claire Tomalin, (Waterstones, London, 2011)

Barry Floyd is a longtime ATA member, collector and writer who lives in Great Britain. He has contributed extensively to Topical Time over the years, writing on subjects as diverse as African Art and Charles Darwin (one of his favorite subjects). He continues to submit features as time allows. He may be contacted by email at: bnfloyd@hotmail.com.

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GPS Equipment and Satellites

Don Hillger and Garry Toth

The **Global Positioning System (GPS)** is an integral part of our modern world. GPS receivers are ubiquitous and relatively inexpensive, but they rely on a complex network of satellites. The first of the GPS satellites was launched in 1978, but the system was not declared fully operational until the mid-1990s. Equipment for GPS includes receivers and display units, both of which are often combined into a handheld GPS unit.

The Transit Satellites and the Beginnings of GPS

Satellite-based navigation began with the **Transit** satellites in the early 1960s. This series consisted of several types of spacecraft designed to test various functions of a satellite navigational system. Early Transit navigation systems used the Doppler effect to determine positions on Earth relative to the satellites. Later Transits tested other satellite navigation techniques.

In total, at least 30 Transits were launched through the mid-1980s. Much of the later

Transit technology found its way into the GPS system; in particular, the use of two broadcast frequencies to compensate for delays in the received signals due to atmospheric effects.

Transit satellites can be found on many stamps or in the margins or selvage of some stamp sheets. A particularly good image of Transit-2A is found on a stamp from Panama (Scott 457A) issued in 1964.



Transit-2A satellite (Panama Scott 457A, 1964).

Following the Transit series, two **TIMATION (TIME navigATION)** satellites were launched to test the use of precise atomic clocks in orbit. Such clocks are a necessary component of GPS systems. However, neither of those satellites is known to be shown on any postal items other than launch covers.

The U.S. GPS System

The U.S. GPS system relies on **NAVigation System using Timing And Ranging (NAVSTAR)** satellites. More than 60 NAVSTAR satellites have been launched to date, and there are currently 24-32 operational satellites in the U.S. GPS / NAVSTAR constellation (including extra satellites in case of failures).

GPS satellites carry very precise clocks and send down time signals on at least two frequencies in the 1.1-1.5 GHz range. GPS receiving units can compute their location after receiving the timing signals from four satellites. In fact, three satellites are sufficient to provide a location (one can think of this as a sort of “triangulation” in three dimensions); the fourth satellite allows a much higher degree of precision in the location, as there can be large errors associated with the calculations involving



Probable NTS-2 satellite (Comoro Islands, Michel 428, 1978).

extremely small timing differences when only three satellites are used.

GPS satellites orbit in what is called a Medium Earth Orbit (MEO), at an altitude of 20,200 km, a level between the much lower orbits occupied by most polar-orbiting weather and Earth resources satellites and the much higher orbits of geostationary weather and communications satellites. The GPS satellites occupy six high-inclination orbital planes, with each satellite orbiting Earth twice each day.

GPS/NAVSTAR satellites can be found on several postal items. A close likeness to NTS-2 (Navigation Technology Satellite), an early/prototype version of NAVSTAR, is seen on a stamp issued by Comoro Islands (Michel 428) in 1978. Much later, a stamp issued by Angola (Scott 1110e) in 1999 shows the NTS-1 satellite, but with “NAVSTAR” in the text on the stamp. Both NTS satellites were precursors to the GPS/NAVSTAR spacecraft.



NTS-1 satellite (Angola, Scott 1110e, 1999).



GPS/NAVSTAR satellite (Ciskei, Scott 192 and 194a, 1992).



NAVSTAR satellite (Dominica, Scott 804, 1983).



NAVSTAR-2R satellite (Madagascar, Scott 1416a, 1999).

A first-generation NAVSTAR is seen on a stamp and souvenir sheet issued by Ciskei (Scott 192 and 194a) in 1992, as well as on a souvenir sheet issued by Dominica (Scott 804) in 1983.

One of the later versions, NAVSTAR-2R, is found on a stamp issued by Malagasy (Scott 1416a) in 1999, as part of a sheet of nine stamps showing animals and satellites.

GPS receivers and equipment

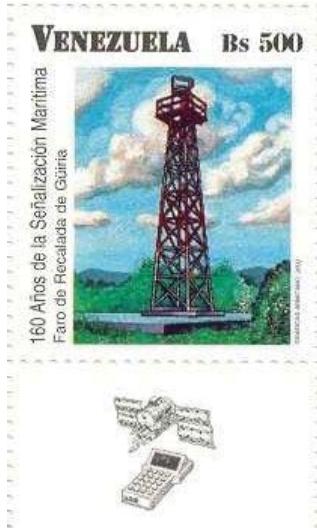
Although GPS was designed and is operated by the Department of Defense to send precise signals for military uses, less-precise signals intended for civilian use are also broadcast. However, the military-grade signals have been available to everyone since 1983, partly as a result of the shooting down of a civilian Korean airliner after it drifted into Russian prohibited airspace.

The major use of GPS is for navigation. Through technological advances, the size of GPS receiving equipment has been greatly reduced over time, while the capabilities have greatly increased. As an example, a hand-held GPS receiver is found in the selvage of a lighthouse stamp issued by Venezuela (Scott 1626j) in 2002. The entire sheet of 10 lighthouse stamps has a navigation theme along the selvage. Also shown in the selvage next to the receiver is a first-generation GPS/NAVSTAR satellite.

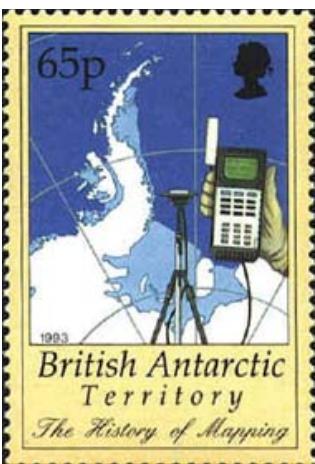
The use of GPS has greatly increased the speed and accuracy of surveying and mapping, which can be an arduous task in difficult terrain. A good example of a surveyor using GPS signals to assist with transit readings is found on a stamp issued by Thailand (Scott 1383) in 1991.

GPS-assisted surveying and mapping is a particular boon in the world's most remote areas, where landmarks are nonexistent or few and far between. Two examples of the use of GPS in the Antarctic are found on postal items from the appropriate postal authorities. A stamp issued by the British Antarctic Territory (Scott 257) in 1998 shows a handheld GPS unit, along with a tripod-mounted GPS receiver. Similarly, a stamp issued by Australian Antarctic Territory (Scott L104) in 1997 show a different style of tripod-mounted receiver along with other equipment used for scientific surveying.

Although GPS is not the sole source of navigation data



GPS receiver and first-generation NAVSTAR satellite on selvage of lighthouse stamp (Venezuela, Scott 1626j, 2002).



Handheld GPS unit and receiver on tripod used for mapping (British Antarctic Territory, Scott 257, 1998).



GPS-assisted surveying as implied by the waves emanating from the tripod-mounted antenna in the background (Thailand, Scott 1383, 1991).

for aircraft, it is becoming increasingly useful to supplement other navigation systems that are not as accurate or as reliable. An example is seen on a stamp issued by Fiji (Scott 781) in 1996, in which a constellation of four navigation satellites assists with aircraft navigation. Similarly, ships at sea can use GPS for precise navigation.

Modern in-car navigation systems are typically accompanied by electronic road maps that continuously update the map with movement of the GPS unit, to present a map centered on the driver's location. The direction of motion is given by the heading calculated by the unit. Such systems can assist drivers with directions and routing. In fact, the well-known in-car On-



GPS receiver mounted on a tripod, used for surveying (Australian Antarctic Territory, Scott L104, 1997).



Four GPS satellites and another satellite assisting with airplane navigation (Fiji, Scott 781, 1996).

Star system in North American automobiles can provide GPS-guided navigation for road travel, even without an in-car display.

Similarly, hand-held GPS units for walking or hiking can provide detailed information that is updated continuously, sometimes with detailed topographic maps. However, despite the fact that more than a billion such GPS units are in use, their appearance on postal items is still relatively rare.

Some of the other uses of GPS are for target tracking, reconnaissance, missile and projectile guidance, and search and rescue. GPS satellites also carry nuclear detonation

detectors which are designed to act as an early warning system for treaty verification. GPS signals can also be used to measure atmospheric water vapor at high spatial and temporal resolutions, providing information to meteorologists that was not previously available.

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GPS Coordinates

GPS coordinates, in terms of latitude and longitude, are now much more common than a decade or two ago when such coordinates meant little to the average person. Any location on Earth can be specified with such coordinates. As an example, a series of five (water and wind) mill stamps issued by South Africa in 2007, one of which is shown (Scott 1375b), contain latitude and longitude coordinates, given in degrees, minutes and seconds, for each of the mills featured.



GPS coordinates (degrees, minutes and seconds) in vertical text to the left of the mill, rotated and magnified (South Africa, Scott 1375b, 2007).

Navigation systems and equipment on cancels

GPS-related cancels can also be found. An Austrian cancel from 1994 shows a constellation of 18 navigation satellites orbiting the earth. The text in the upper-right translates to “Surveying in the upwind,” or more appropriate in English might be “Surveying on the upsurge.” Austria seemed to like the satellite navigation theme, as it was similarly used on the reverse of a commemorative bi-metal coin issued in 2006.

In addition, a cancel from the World Stamp Expo in 2000 shows a handheld GPS unit; such devices were just starting to become a popular consumer item at that time.



Constellation of 18 navigation satellites (Austrian cancel, 1994).



Constellation of 8 European navigation satellites (Austria coin, Krause and Mishler 3135, 2006).

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Other satellite navigation systems

Other emerging or planned navigation constellations, which go by the generic name of “**global navigation satellite system** (GNSS)” include:

- Russia’s **GLONASS** (GLObalnaya NAVigationnaya Sputnikovaya Sistema) / also named **Uragan**.
- Europe’s **Galileo** positioning system.
- China’s **Compass** / **Beidou** global / regional navigation system covering Asia and the west Pacific Ocean.
- India’s **IRNSS** (Indian Regional Navigational Satellite System) covering India and the northern Indian Ocean.
- Japan’s **QZSS** (Quasi-Zenith Satellite System) regional system covering Asia and Oceania.

The Russian **GLONASS** / **Uragan** system, although started in the 1980s, was incomplete

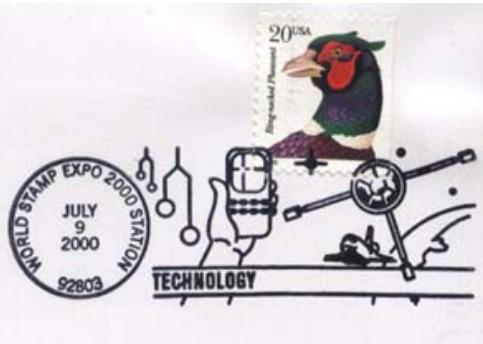
when the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991, and suffered decline through the 1990s. The system was given new life by Russia in the 2000s and is now near full capability, being given an increased priority in funding and number of launches.

The other systems already mentioned are still in very early stages of development, some with their first satellites in orbit. Of all of these, however, only the **Galileo** system is known to be shown on postal items.

The European Space Agency (ESA) Galileo constellation was designed as an independent commercial satellite navigation system that would not suffer from possible outages of GPS or GLONASS during times of war or conflict. Plagued by the recent worldwide economic downturn, only two experimental satellites called **GIOVE** (Galileo In-Orbit Validation Element) have been launched. The first operational Galileo satellites were expected to follow in late 2011.

Two levels of Galileo service are expected, both low- and high-accuracy signals, with the former to be free and the latter to be available at extra cost. Another feature of Galileo that is not found on GPS or GLONASS, are Search and Rescue transponders, which up to this point have only been placed on operational weather satellites from several countries.

Galileo constellation satellites are found



Handheld GPS unit (United States World Stamp Expo cancel, 2000).

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A single ESA Galileo satellite in margin/selvage of this Aristotle stamp (Chad, unlisted, 2009).

on at least three stamps. A Galileo satellite is found in the margin or selvage of a stamp released by Chad (unlisted) in 2009, part of a sheet of nine stamps. A St. Thomas and Prince stamp (unlisted) from 2006, part of a souvenir sheet of three stamps, shows at least two Galileo satellites.

Finally, a French stamp (Scott 3500) issued in 2009,



Two ESA Galileo constellation satellites (St. Thomas, unlisted, 2006).



Nine ESA Galileo constellation satellites, 2007 (France, Scott 3500, 2009).

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ESA Galileo ground station inauguration, 2007 (French Guiana, cachet on cover, 2009).

part of a souvenir sheet of four stamps, shows nine Galileo satellites.

Launch covers for many of these satellites exist, but are not shown here. However, a cover that is particularly interesting was issued by French Guiana in 2009 for the inauguration of a Galileo ground station, presumably for the command and control functions for the Galileo system.

Additional online information

A checklist of postal items identified as showing GPS satellites and receivers (rammb.cira.colostate.edu/dev/hillger/GPS.htm) is available as part of a Website developed by the authors for philatelic items related to many different unmanned satellites (rammb.cira.colostate.edu/dev/hillger/satellites.htm). Users of the website are asked to provide missing or additional information or images that they may have related to GPS on postal items. The online information about GPS will be updated whenever new details are provided to the authors.

Previous satellite navigation-related publications

Hillger, D.W., and G. Toth, 2007: "Saving lives with satellites," *Topical Time*, 58(3) (May/June), 41-43.

Hillger, D., and G. Toth, 2009: "Un-manned satellites on postage stamps 34: The Nadezhda series," *Astrophile*, 54(1) (January/April), 92-93. [Reprinted: *Orbit*, (86), 2010 (June), 16-17.]

Biographical notes

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

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

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



Cinderella Corner

Arthur H. Grotel

College and School Stamps

College and School stamps were used extensively in the 19th and early 20th centuries as tools for students of business schools. Jim Drummond published a book about them in 2007, *College and School Stamps*, giving a history of their use and listing about 60 different users.

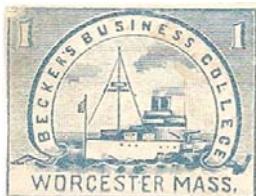


Figure 1. College stamp based on the design of the 1898 Battleship Revenues of the United States.

The vast majority of these items, as we know them, are either purely typographic or have images of either George Washington or the operator of the school or generic motifs. I can show three that are more topical in nature and would make excellent additions to any such collection.



Figure 2. Similar stamps are known on different colors of paper.



Figure 3. Surcharges with denominations up to \$1 also are known.

Becker's Business College of Worcester, Mass., created a 1¢ blue stamp in about 1898, based on the U.S. battleship documentary revenue (Figure 1).

A similar design was used extensively in a number of business colleges. The 2¢ blue on white paper value is the most common. It also comes on a variety of paper colors (Figure 2) and may be found overprinted with various denominations up to \$1 all of which are somewhat scarce (Figure 3). Of the college stamps found on teaching documents, these are the most common, along

with those of the Eastman National Business College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. (Figure 4).



Figure 4. College stamps on teaching documents are scarce. This one is from the Eastman National Business College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.



Figure 5. This variety, from Hannum's Business college of Cincinnati, Ohio, pictures the image of a beehive and is unlisted.

The image of a beehive is found on the 2¢ red stamp Hannum's Hartford Business College in Connecticut. It, however, is unlisted in Drummond (Figure 5).

Finally, Type 1 of Nelson's Business College in Cincinnati, Ohio, used a 2¢ stamp with Shakespeare's bust. It comes in seven varieties of typography and color. They are relatively scarce as singles (Figure 6) and rare on document (Figure 7).

As others surface, I will report them. ■

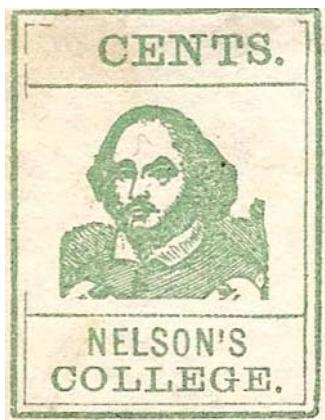


Figure 6. The image of William Shakespeare is found on this item from Nelson's Business College.



Figure 7. Nelson's Business college of Cincinnati, Ohio, created a Cinderella with the image of Shakespeare. These items are rare on training documents.

Arthur H. Grotten, cinderella enthusiast, welcomes correspondence at P.O. Box 30, Fishkill NY 12524 USA.



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Study Unit Spotlight

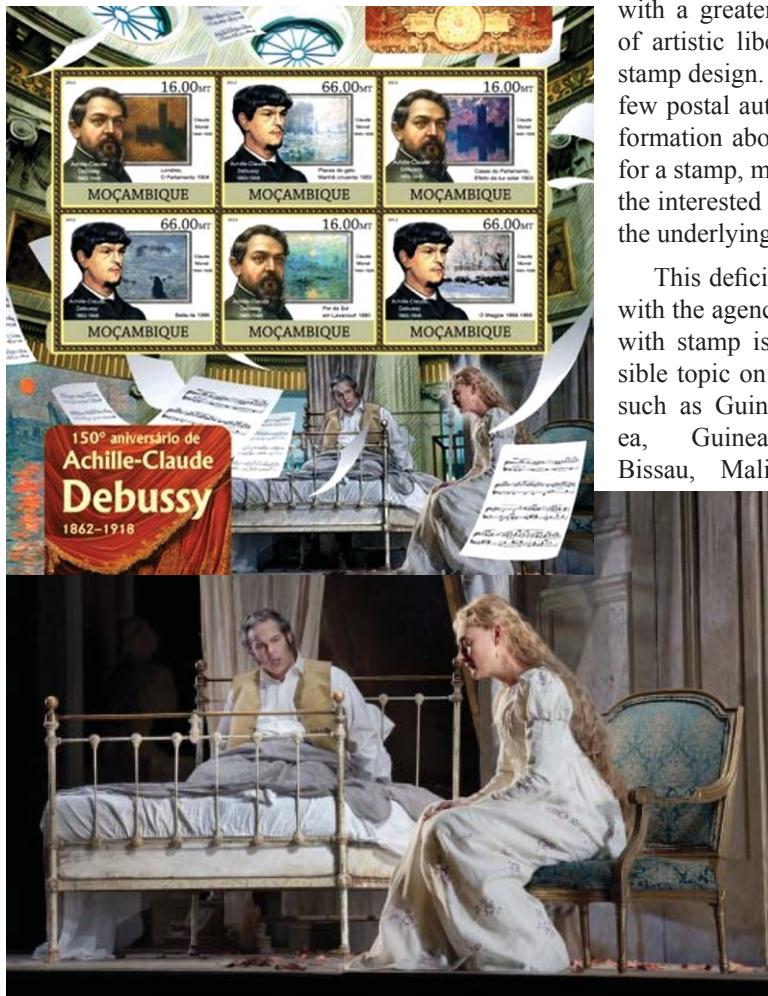
This month: Motivgruppe Musik

[Editor's Note: This is the 16th installment of a regular feature intended to – indeed – spotlight one of our study units and the fine work done in its journal. This feature, by Chuichi Maeda, Kin Ichi Imaizumi and Peter Lang, was originally published in *Der Musikus* (No. 112, January 2013), and is reproduced with its and the authors' kind permission. To be considered for "Study Unit Spotlight," please select what you feel may be the finest article appearing in your journal during the past year or so and submit it to the Topical Time editor (wystamps@gmail.com), or Study Unit Director Bruce L. Johnson (indybruce1@yahoo.com). We hope you enjoy this fine feature. [Submissions of Spotlight features are earnestly solicited!]]

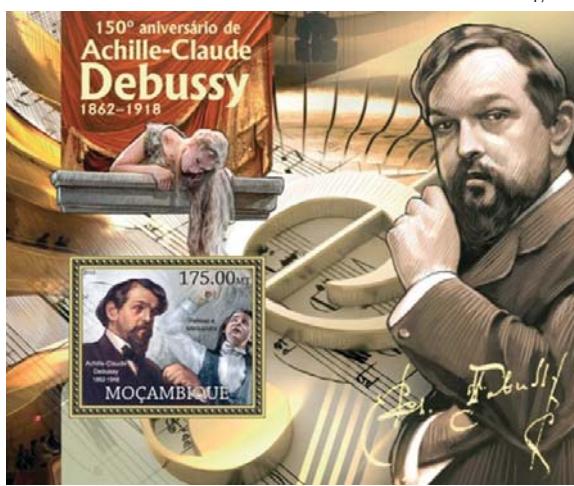
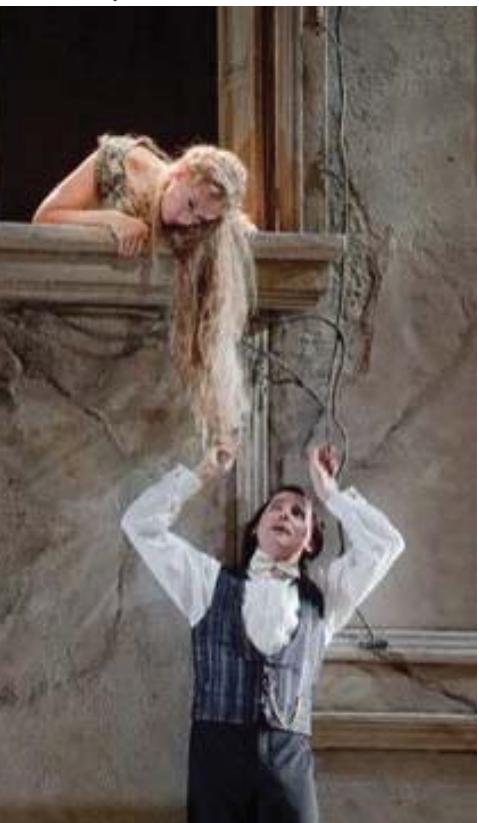
A Philatelic DeBussy Puzzle

Chuichi Maeda, Kin Ichi Imaizumi and Peter Lang

The design of a stamp is often based upon a model that the designer then transforms with a greater or lesser measure of artistic liberty into a finished stamp design. Unfortunately, very few postal authorities provide information about the sources used for a stamp, making it difficult for the interested collector to identify the underlying original.



44 La dame de Puck



Togo, Ivory Coast or the Central African Republic. To produce such a mass of stamps an agency would have to employ a veritable army of graphic artists, but this necessity would severely reduce their profit margin. That's when the Internet comes into play: a bit of cut-and-paste, a little retouching and presto: A new stamp issue has been designed! If you want to look at this procedure positively, you could say that the agencies have a heart for the inquisitive collector, for with a few appropriate queries and a bit of patience, he, too, might find the design original sources on the Web.



A timely example is the Debussy issue of June 30, 2012, from Mozambique, which uses two portraits of Claude Debussy (one of them reversed) plus, as backdrop, an impressionist painting resulting in a six-stamp set. The central element of the sheet margin is a photograph from the new Metropolitan Opera production of *Pelléas et Mélisande* with Magdalena Kožená (*May 26, 1973) as Mélisande and Gerald Finley (*Jan. 30, 1960) as Golaud (see newyorkarts.net/2011/04/22/pelleas-et-melisande-met/#.UIvE2oYbH3A). The sheet also features some pages with notation from Debussy's *Clair de Lune*, which can also be found on the internet (www.sheetmusicplus.com/look_inside/3665594/image/187183).

The photo used for the souvenir sheet comes from the same Met production; it shows Kožená and Stéphane Dégout (*June 9, 1975) as Pelléas. This image, too, can also be found on the web (www.theepochtimes.com/n2/arts-entertainment/debussys-symbolism-at-the-met-48479.html).

And so it is hardly surprising to find that the notes appearing in the souvenir sheet margin were also downloaded from the web. The source for those can be found at www.clipartof.com/portfolio/mopic/illustration/3d-clef-symbol-resting-on-claude-debussy-danse-sheet-music-85754.html. On the souvenir sheet the internet image is reversed. All that remains for the inquisitive collector is to decipher the notes. This, too, is relatively simple: The file name of the image downloaded from the internet already indicates that a dance is involved, and a web search leads to *La danse de Puck* (Preludes, Book I, No. 11) where a similar note cluster can be recognized. Closer analysis reveals that the Mozambique souvenir sheet offers a puzzle of four excerpts from this piano piece. ☐

Motivgruppe Musik

In its most basic definition, music is an art form that mixes sound and silence. In practical terms, it includes variations in pitch, rhythm and the interplay of various forms of sounds in both discordance and harmony. The earliest-known musical instruments date back more than 40,000 years and the creation and performance of music in myriad styles is enjoyed worldwide, making depictions of musical works, composers and performances natural subjects for graphic arts as seen on stamps. The International Philatelic Music Study Group, or Motivgruppe Musik, became one of the newest study units to affiliate with the ATA in 2012, although the group itself was formed in the mid-20th century. It publishes the quarterly *Der Musikus* in German, with English and French abstracts; Peter Lang is the editor. Motivgruppe Musik, based in Germany, has more than 300 members from 28 countries, whose philatelic interests include composers, instruments and singers as well as musical notes, dance, opera and all other music-related topics shown on stamps, postmarks and postal stationery. Members can also enjoy music-related philatelic exchanges, help in creating or dissolving a collection, help in creating a philatelic exhibit related to music and even a music postmark service for some countries. All of this and more is detailed at the group's website, www.motivgruppe-musik.de, which is translated in both German and English. Dues are €25 (€12.50 for collectors 25 years old or younger); €5 additional for airmail delivery of *Der Musikus*. Contact Peter Lang, Rotkamp 14, 13053 Berlin, Germany. Email: motivgruppe.musik@gmx.de.

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Units in Action

Bruce L. Johnson (indybruce1@yahoo.com)

Americana Unit

The January-March 2013 issue of *Americana Philatelic News* (Vol. 43;



Whole No. 219) describes several new issues in "Notes from the President's Desk,"

including a set from Romania issued in 2012 "for the 14th International Congress of Pressing Irons Collectors... held every three years... And there are those who think stamp collecting is a weird hobby!" An article by Paul Schumacher, originally published in the *MSC [Merchantville (N.J.) Stamp Club] Monthly Bulletin* traces the history of stamps issued to commemorate "Dwight David Eisenhower – Our 34th President." In "Remember the Ladies — Women's Suffrage," Joan Newcomb takes a philatelic look at the "long and arduous road to the right to vote," followed by the conclusion of Allan Fisk's study of "'Old Ironsides'—The Frigate *U.S.S. Constitution*." The article concludes with a useful "*USS Constitution Checklist*." Recalling an earlier piece about J.M. Barry, the creator of *Peter Pan*, Frederick C. Skvara and Niko Courtelis offer a quick glimpse at "a miniature sheet of four \$3 stamps and a souvenir sheet containing one \$6 stamp," designed for Nevis by Courtelis, a new member of the Unit. Melvin Morris then continues his series on "Collecting the Presidents" by taking a look at the "Washington, D.C., Cherry Blossom Festival." Finally, Dawn Hamman delves into the life of Isaac Merrit Singer (1811-75) in "Stitching Wars: The Tumultuous Invention of the Sewing Machine." Singer made important

improvements in the design of the sewing machine and was the founder of the Singer Sewing Machine Company.

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

Email: dennisdengel@verizon.net

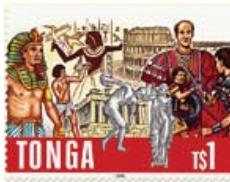
Website: americanaunit.org

Archaeological (Old World) Study Unit

The April 2013 issue of *The Old World Archaeologist* (Vol. 28, No. 2; Whole No.

108) contains two articles covering archaeology that are philatelically illustrated. In a six-page article titled "The Vikings," filled with color illustrations, Vincent Benkovitz considers Viking sites in Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Active from the 8th to the 11th centuries, "the Vikings as such were not of one nationality, but were different tribes of different origins living in Scandinavia; ... their influence [reached] as far south as North Africa." "The Normans of 1066 fame descended from Danish-Norse Vikings... [They] started out as raiders, became explorers, and finally settlers."

Caroline Scannell then takes a close look at "Venus von Willendorff," now known in academia as the "Woman of Willendorf," an 11cm high statuette of a corpulent female figure estimated to have been made between 24,000 and 22,000 B.C.E. For the centennial of her discovery in 1908, Austria released a 3-D stamp. The "New Digs" section highlights 22 new stamp and souvenir sheet issues depicting archaeological items from countries



ranging from Algeria to Vatican City; and the “Archaeology Today” section includes six different news items about what is being discovered today around the world, and what is being done to conserve archaeological sites.

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

Email: editor@owasu.org

Website:owasu.org

Bicycle Stamps Club

The March 2013 issue of *Bicycle Stamps* (Whole No. 75)



begins with an extensive “New Issues Update,”

including Personalized Stamps and Local

Stamps, accompanied by many pages of useful stamp illustrations. “Bude Penny Farthing Post” examines a local post operation that began “on 1 April 2012 around the Bude area of North Cornwall... Letters were picked up from shops, stores, and pubs in the area and each one was charged 25p for delivery,” which “was half the price of a Royal Mail 2nd class stamp.” The service stopped after two weeks, however, “a victim of its own success in terms of volume... it became too much for one man and no assistant had been found.” Jordi Quintana Compte’s illustrated list of bicycle cancellations from Spain provides 26 examples collected during the past decade, and an anonymous author examines the role of Walsall Security Printers in producing “instant stamps” in connection with the Olympic Games in London in 2012. In a related article, and based upon Glenn Morgan’s internet



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news sheet, *Dummy Stamps*, the editor reproduces several pages to help “describe Royal Mail’s preparations to issue a stamp depicting each G[reat] B[ritain] Olympic Gold Medal winner within 24 hours.” Another anonymous author summarizes the research challenges encountered while gathering information about Théodore Champion (1873-1954), a stamp dealer and Swiss cyclist, who was also the joint publisher of the Yvert and Tellier stamp catalog.

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

Email: bpeubanks@frontier.com

or, £12.50 in the United Kingdom.

Contact Brian Sole, 49 Westcar Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames KT12 5ER, United Kingdom.

Email: brian.sole@btinternet.com

Website: bicyclestamps.tripod.com

Books and Printing (Graphics Philately Association)

The April 2013 issue of *Philateli- Graphics* (Vol. 35, No. 2; Whole No. 139) continues a series about “Stamps Designed by AIGA Medalists” with a consideration of Saul Bass, who won the prestigious medal in 1981 and designed the science and industry stamp (Scott 3031) for the United States in 1983. Bass was perhaps best known, however, for creating more than 50 title sequences for motion pictures, including *Around the World in 80 Days* (1956), *Psycho* (1960) and *West Side Story* (1961). “A Collection Snapshot” examines Margaret Challenger’s contention that “the strangely drawn animals that [have] been used for many years as designs on Ireland’s definitives... ultimately represent the saints Mark, Luke and John,” or at least



the emblems associated with those saints, a lion, a calf and an eagle. Challenger discusses possible design links with the *Lindisfarne Gospels* (ca. 700 C.E.), the *Book of Durrow* (ca. 650-700 C.E.) and the *Book of Armagh* (ca. 800 C.E.). Part 12 of a “Postal History of the Graphic Arts,” based upon the collection of Dave Celani, considers covers representing window and indoor sign printers: Binger Signs (New York, N.Y.), the Great Western Printing Company (St. Louis, Mo.), Calhoun Show Print Co. (Hartford, Conn.) and the Ithaca Sign Works (Ithaca, N.Y.).

Dues are \$15 in North America

(Patron, \$25), and \$25 elsewhere (Patron, \$35). Contact Bruce L. Johnson, 2101 Ronda Granada, Unit B, Laguna Woods CA 92637-2491.

Email: indybruce1@yahoo.com

Website: graphics-stamps.org

Canadiana Study Unit

John Peebles writes about the “Images of Canada”



in the March 2013 issue of *The Canadian Connection* (Vol. 27,

No. 1; Whole No. 105). Images can be official — flags and coats of arms, for two examples — or unofficial, such as the maple leaf or the industrious beaver, which many people associate with Canada. Peebles then describes and philatelically illustrates the Maple Leaf Flag, the Canadian Red Ensign, various Coats of Arms and Provincial Banners of “Canada’s 10 provinces and three territories,” all of which have their own flags and coats of arms. The second installment of Albert Pelsser’s “The ICAO Corner” discusses “Indonesia: From the Seulawah to Garuda Indonesian Airways.” Formed in 1945, the ICAO stands for the International Civil Aviation Organization, a Montreal-based United Nations organization that develops and suggests airline safety standards and

practices. Pelsser focuses his piece “on the Indonesian history of the first aircraft named *Seulawah*, [a DC-3] which is the forerunner of the commercial airline, Garuda Indonesian Airways... The stamp serving as the basis of this story was issued [by Indonesia] in 1994... to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ICAO...” In the next installment of his “Perceptions” series, Eric Gibson writes “Of Canola and Walkie-Talkies,” two Canadian inventions. Credit for inventing the walkie-talkie, “a handheld, portable, two-way radio transceiver,” has been given to two Canadians, Donald L. Hings and Alfred J. Gross. Canola, which is short for “Canadian oil, low acid,” “is a form of rapeseed that was developed in Canada to provide improved nutritional qualities in both the oil and meal content.” The remainder of this issue is given over to “Recent Canadiana.”

Dues are C\$15 in Canada, US\$18 in the United States, \$25 elsewhere. Contact

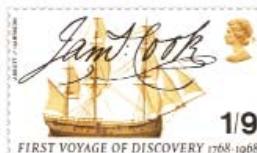
John G. Peebles, Box 3262, Station A, London, Ontario N6A 4K3 Canada.
Email:john.peebles@sympatico.ca

Captain Cook Society

Cook's Log for April-June 2013 (Vol. 36, No. 2) is another fascinating 48-page issue that contains numerous articles about

many aspects of the life of Captain James Cook and those associated with him,

and several philatelic pieces, including “125th Anniversary of [the] First Cook Postage Stamp,” which happened in 1888 in New South Wales (Scott 77-84); Ian Boreham’s look at “U.S. 1978 Cancels,” in which he begins to clarify several variations in philatelic language between the United States and the United Kingdom; and a page of “Norfolk Island Proofs” featuring imperforate stamps from Alwyn



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Peel, who queries why the presentation cards for the issue feature imperforated stamps. Boreham also presents "New and Recent Issues," featuring a stamp booklet of six from French Polynesia. Biographical pieces include those on "John Davall Burr (~1746-83), Gregory Bentham (1743-94), Philip Woodfield (1758-1815), James Trevenen (1760-90) and several others. Additional Cook-related articles (not necessarily philatelic) include Sophie Forgan's "Oceans Apart! Canoes of the Pacific," "Richard Rollett's Compass," by John Coles, Cliff Thornton on "Endeavour's Lightning Strike," Part 3 of Thornton's "Heraldry of Cook's Voyages," and Part 109 of "Cook Books." As I've noted before in this column, for anyone interested in Captain James Cook, including the philatelic aspect of this topic, *Cook's Log* is undoubtedly a prime source of information. As far as the forthcoming 250th anniversary of Cook's Pacific voyages is concerned, the Captain Cook Society has "acted promptly and purchased the domain name *CaptainCook250.com* as the first step in establishing the Society's new website." Best wishes for this new endeavor!

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

Email:us@CaptainCookSociety.com

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

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Email:canada@CaptainCookSociety.com

or, \$NZ40 in New Zealand. Contact Brian Wyeth, 4 Bush Point Rd, Cable Bay 0420, New Zealand

Email:nz@CaptainCookSociety.com

Website:*CaptainCookSociety.com*

Carto-Philatelic Society

David Wolfersberger takes a close look at "French Southern and Antarctic Territories" in the April 2013 issue of *The New Carto-Philatelist* (Whole No. 41). Abbreviated TAAF, the Territories have "issued many beautiful and detailed maps stamps, many of which are handsomely engraved."

Pierre Moïse next discusses "the Portuguese Hemisphere" in "From Lisbon to Nagasaki," based upon a map in the *Miller Atlas*. Known also as the *Lopo Homem-Reineis Atlas*, the book is a richly illustrated Portuguese atlas made in 1519 that "describes the whole known world at the beginning of the 16th century"; it is the joint work of cartographers Lopo Homem, Pedro Reinel and Jorge Reinel, illustrated by miniaturist António de Holanda. Numerous stamps depicting maps that include parts of "the Portuguese Hemisphere" constitute the balance of the article. Miklos Pinther presents Part 2, "Fancy Cancels," of his "Notes on Map Cancellations," "a brief exposé of early pictorial cancels that incorporate a map..." An extensive essay constituting "CartoPhilatelic Society News," by retiring president David Wolfersberger

completes the issue. [Don't go too far, David! The topical collecting world still needs you! –Ed].

Dues are \$18 in North America, \$20 elsewhere. Electronic membership is \$15 worldwide. Contact: David E Wolfersberger, 768 Chain Ridge Rd, Saint Louis MO 63122-3259.

Email:dewolf2@swbell.net

Website:mapsonstamps.com

Chess on Stamps Study Unit

Joram R. Lubianiker begins the Jan-Mar 2013 issue of *Chessstamp Review* (Vol. 35, No. 1; Whole No. 149) with an examination of “the first chess related new issue for 2013... from the Isle of Man,” an island “in the Irish Sea, somewhere between Northern Ireland and England... The local philatelic service issued a set of six stamps to commemorate an exhibit held at the local Manx museum.” Using



as background the manuscript of the *Chronicles of the Kings of Man and the Isles*, the stamps each depict one of the Lewis Chessmen, carved about 1200 C.E. from walrus tusk and whale teeth and discovered in 1831; “A total of 78 pieces were found.” Manfred Roesler’s “More Wonderland Chess Cinderellas” recalls an earlier article about Gerald M. King’s Wonderland fantasy labels, postmarks and covers with a chess theme, then describes “another set of Wonderland cinderellas... based on Tenniel’s illustrations,” produced in South Korea, and available in early 2013. Jon Edwards then summarizes “The 24th Chess Olympiad: Malta, 1980,”



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including a wide range of philatelic items related to that event. Malta issued a set of stamps to commemorate the Olympiad, one of which had a “significant variety of the 30f value, blue green rather than gray.” Edwards furnishes a list of the 25 post offices that serviced Olympiad mail on Malta and closely examines the registered covers that resulted, many from the efforts of Herbert Roeder and Hans Ulfstrommer. A short piece about “Two Lovely Covers” with a chess theme rounds out this issue.

Dues are \$17 in North America and \$24 elsewhere. Contact James E. McDevitt, 3561 Country Court North, Mobile AL 36619-5335.

Email:cwouscg@aol.com

Website:www.chessonstamps.org

Christmas Philatelic Club

The October/November/December issue of *Yule Log* (Vol. 44, No. 4) conveys information about Christina Stitt’s

resignation as president, and that Jon C. Miller will be the new editor of *Yule Log* beginning with Vol. 45. Christine C. Sanders then discusses “Auxiliary Markings on Christmas Covers,” in which she “share[s] three of [her]

Christmas Day cancel covers that have seals and auxiliary markings.” Richard L. Beecher writes about the “Christmas Postal Tax Stamp of Costa Rica,” whose use, “like semi-postals, ... suggests a form of fee, tax, or contribution in excess of actual postage paid, the proceeds of which are usually earmarked for charitable purposes.” Beecher concludes that “Costa



Rica postal tax stamps are still being issued in sets of four, and multi-color designs are much more the norm.” In “Merry Christmas from Antarctica” in the January-February issue of *Topical Time*, John Young wrote about Christmas cards sent “from the frozen continent,” the first of which came from the Byrd Expedition of 1928-30. He continues his series in this issue with additional “naval covers that were serviced on Christmas Day.” Finally, John Cummins presents Christmas stamps from “Ireland, 1971-1975,” with illustrations of each on cover.

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

Email:jp4stamps@windstream.net

Website:<http://web.295.ca/cpc/>

Christopher Columbus Philatelic Society

The April 12, 2013, issue of *Discovery* (Vol. 31, No. 2; Whole No. 122) begins with a continuation of Kenneth C. Wakasch’s

“Ramblings from the Fair [the World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893],” this installment titled “The Orcutt Co. & Anonymous Publisher Souvenir Cards.” The popularity of the Goldsmith cards, considered in earlier installments in this series, inspired other companies to develop their own designs. “The W.B. Orcutt Company... was one of the most successful Chicago lithographic firms that specialized in calendars, trade cards, and posters... In May 1893, they



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decided to offer their two souvenir designs for sale to the general public." Anonymous publishers produced other designs that did "not measure up to the quality of the Goldsmith sets, there is little doubt as to their rarity." Overton T. Harris then offers his insights into "John Wanamaker and the 1893 Columbians." Wanamaker, founder of the department store in Philadelphia that bore his name, was the Postmaster General of the United States at the time of the World's Columbian Exposition. It was Wanamaker who "proposed the beautiful set of Columbian stamps to commemorate the [Fair, and]... assigned staff to research art works worldwide in order to find appropriate Columbus-related works that could be incorporated into the designs." The American Banknote Company printed about 2 billion stamps of the 2¢ value alone, plus "specimens" intended for stamp collectors. Donald R. Ager next writes about "Bhutan and Columbus," describing stamps issued in 1987 and 1992 that commemorate Columbus and the 500th anniversary of his voyage of discovery. Finally, after a "Salute to Donald R. Ager, Editor of the Christopher Columbus Philatelic Society," by David Nye, the Society offers two more of its publications, "New from the Antipodes, as Reported by Peter Martyr d'Anghiera," assembled by Overton T. Harris, and a philatelic report of "Christopher Columbus' Cathedral, Havana, Cuba," by Marcos A. Iglesias.

Both are well-produced and heavily illustrated.

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

Email:nr.columbus1492@gmail.com

Website:ccps.maphist.nl

Disneyana on Stamps Society

After reporting news about the publication of Part 4 of the *Handbook of Disney on Stamps* and discussing a question about "Redonda: Stamps or Labels?," the May 2013 issue of *Disnemation* (Vol. 15, No. 3; Whole No. 59) continues its



chronological look at "Disney Films on Stamps," this time covering the year 1938. The editor then begins the first of a series on "Thematic Disney." After defining the terms "Topic" and "Theme," based upon an article in *Topical Time*, several "True Life Adventures" are discussed — Seal Island, Beaver Valley, Nature's Half Acre, The Olympic Elk and others. Ralf Dunford assists other Disney collectors by discussing "My Approach to Disney Stamp Collecting and How To Do It." Not content with a mere written discussion of how he achieved his album-page layouts, however, Dunford "decided

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to make a video instead,” actually, four videos! He includes internet links to the first three videos and urges readers to view them. The balance of the issue concerns new issues, including a set from the People’s Republic of China.

Membership is at no charge. Members receive *Disnemation* online six times a year; site access is password controlled.

Email: disnemation@yahoo.ca

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

Errors, Freaks, and Oddities Collectors’ Club

“An Interesting Auction” opens October-December 2012 issue of *The EFO Collector* (Vol. 41, No. 2; Whole No. 169); it relates the story of a variety of U.S. Scott 1039 being auctioned recently by Sam Houston Philatelics, Inc. The stamp had “wild perfs” and the opening bid was \$25. It finally sold for \$525, and therein hangs the tale, which is neatly summarized

by David Hunt, Bob Dumaine and Cemil Betanov. David Hunt’s “A Page from My Album” considers several variants of



Great Britain’s 1973 Christmas issue; and John M. Hotchner examines “Collecting Printer’s Waste — Unethical or a Concession to Reality?” In the latter piece, Hotchner helps to clarify what constitutes an error, and whether printer’s waste can fall into that category; he says yes — “what has been identified as waste is precisely errors in production — imperfs, missing colors, etc., that has been identified as such and must be destroyed.” He goes on to summarize characteristics of both “errors” and “waste” and provides illustrative examples. How to treat waste and whether to include it in your collection is another question. “It is your call!” Finally, a well-illustrated two-column piece summarizes “a wide variety of 1925 surcharge freaks... just like the 1920 surcharge freaks...” The

balance of this issue is given over to an auction of items of interest to the EFOCC.

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

Email: dhhunt@ptdprolog.net

Website: www.efocc.org

Europa Study Unit

The March-April 2013 issue of *Europa News* (Whole No. 414) begins with a consideration of a joint issue by France and Germany to commemorate the “50th Anniversary of the Élysée Treaty,” “also known as the Treaty of Friendship, [which] was concluded by Charles de Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer in 1963.” Updates to Europa 2012; Visit... Europa 2013; The Postal Van; and Sepac 2013 follow. Then

Tonny VanLoij, after noting the proliferation of issues in a surfeit of formats, acknowledges that “many of us have stopped trying to collect every annual issue from every country,” and offers his thoughts on “Collecting

Beyond the Annual Issues.” He describes several “mini-collection” possibilities with three pages of examples. VanLoij also acknowledges the existence of several “‘rogue’ countries, especially the former Soviet Republics that are now so-called provinces or regions” that produce stamps, most of which “are printed by a company in Lithuania (or maybe New Jersey) and never see a post office or have postal value.” “The PBW [Prague—Berlin—Warsaw] Peace Cycle Race,” by Dana Roper, takes a philatelic look at the event that “started as an amateur event in 1948 between Prague and Warsaw... with the intent of relieving some of the tension between Central European countries following World War II... By 1954 the Peace Race had been extended to include Berlin, and the period from 1954–68 is



considered to be the race's Golden Age." Scans of pages from Roper's collection and a complete checklist of issues on the topic complete the article.

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.

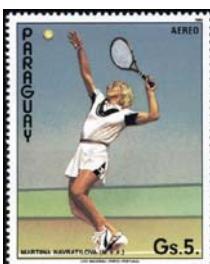
Email:tvanloij@gmail.com

Website:europastudyunit.org

Gay & Lesbian History on Stamps Club

The lead article in the December 2012 issue of *Lambda Philatelic Journal* (Vol. 31, No. 3; Whole No. 119) concerns a stamp/cinderella that features a portrait

of Sir Ian McKellen; it's to be issued by the Principality of Lichtenberg and will "benefit Step Forward, a charity in London which helps disadvantaged young people." Next, an article from *Wikipedia*



summarizes the life and career of Agenor Miranda Araújo Neto (1958-90), better known as Cazuza, "a Brazilian composer and singer... considered one of the best exponents of Brazilian rock music." Cazuza was honored on a Brazil stamp issued in 1991 (Scott 2298). Loris Fogli considers "The AIDS Stamp Issues 2011," and provides illustrations of each. Elizabeth Bishop (1911-79) is the subject of the next piece, which includes a biographical sketch of "one of the most important and distinguished American poets of the 20th century... Bishop had two long-term relationships with women... Brazilian socialite and architect, Lota de Macedo Soares, [and]... Alice Methfessel [who] became Bishop's partner and, after her death, her literary executor." Finally, "Alan Turing, Gay Father of Computer Science" summarizes recent efforts to "redeem Turing's image," after his "outing" as a gay man in 1952, his very public trial and conviction and his chemical castration for "gross indecency." Turing killed himself two years later. In 2009, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown issued an official apology for Turing's treatment. News about recent stamps featuring LGBT people concludes this issue.

Dues are \$10 in the United States/Canada/Mexico, \$15 elsewhere. Contact Joe Petronie, P.O. Box 190842, Dallas TX 75219-0842.

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Golf Society, International Philatelic

Jim Gray offers “A Philatelic Tribute to Severiano Ballesteros” in the March 2013 issue of *Tee Time* (Vol. 19, No. 1, Whole No. 103). Severiano “Seve” Ballesteros Sota (1957-2011) was a Spanish professional golfer, who was one of the sport’s leading figures from the mid-1970s to the mid-1990s. He won more than 90 international tournaments, including five



major championships between 1979-88, including the U.S. Open Championship three times and the Masters Tournament twice. He played a leading role in the re-

emergence of European golf, helping the European Ryder Cup team to five wins both as a player and captain. He won the World Match Play Championship a record-tieing five times. Ballesteros, who died of brain cancer in 2011, is generally regarded as the greatest Continental European golfer of all time. Later in this issue John La Porta reports on the “Latest New Issues,” commemoratives from Mozambique honoring Byron Nelson, and two souvenir sheets from the Central African Republic commemorating “Golf Champions,” Gary Player, Phil Mickelson, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods.

Dues are \$15 in the United States and Canada, \$18 elsewhere. Contact Ron Spiers, 8025 Saddle Run, Powell OH 43065-9543.

Email:ipgsonline@gmail.com

Website:www.ipgsonline.org

Graphics Philately Association See: Books & Printing on Stamps

Journalists, Authors, & Poets on Stamps (JAPOS)

The Winter 2013 issue of the *JAPOS Bulletin* (Whole No. 148) has a lead article, “Twentieth Century American Poets,”

by Corey Ericson, which “makes brief comments about [poets included in a pane of 10 Forever stamps issued by the United States in 2012]... with selected excerpts from their poetry.” Included are Joseph

Brodsky (1940-96), Denise Levertov (1923-97), Elizabeth Bishop (1911-79), Gwendolyn Brooks (1917-2000), Robert Hayden (1913-80), Sylvia Plath (1932-63), Edward Estlin Cummings (1894-1962), Wallace Stevens (1879-1955), William Carlos Williams (1883-1963) and Theodore Roethke (1908-63).

Jeff Dugdale then offers three additional contributions, the first of a series on “Dante’s *Divine Comedy*,” which is well illustrated philatelically; “Travelling Better Than Arriving??,” which summarizes Dugdale’s adventures in thematic collecting. He notes that the extensive captions in his topical albums contrasted with the “conventions of philatelic presentation,” where “a page would have only short captions alongside philatelic media.” Viva la difference! What a contrast a topical collection has to country collections, where one views “page after page of stamps, with year after passing year being the only rationale. How relatively unchallenging compared with what I wanted to do as a thematic presenter... creating an encyclopaedia of French literature, illustrated by stamps instead of drawings or photos.” Finally, Dugdale provides some background information about “The Poem on the Plinth” of the Statue of Liberty. Emma Lazarus (1849-87) wrote the poem, a sonnet called “The New Colossus,” as a donation to an auction of art and literary works conducted by the Art Loan Fund Exhibition in Aid of the Bartholdi Pedestal Fund for the Statue of Liberty to raise money for the pedestal’s construction.



Dues are \$9.00 in the United States and \$12 elsewhere. Contact Clete Delvaux, 800 E. River Drive, Unit B, De Pere WI 54115-4159.

Email: cdelvaux@msn.com

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

Judaica Thematic Society

After announcing “Three Joint Issues by Israel in 2013” — with Australia,



Greenland and Uruguay — the March 2013 issue (No. 88) of the *Judaica Thematic Society Newsletter*

presents a well-illustrated article on “Moses Maimonides—The Great Eagle,” by Jeff Dugdale; “the canon of his work is regarded as fundamental to Jewish scholarship.” A useful checklist of stamps accompanies the article. The April 2013 issue (No. 89) includes editor Gary Goodman’s query: “Did You Spot the Judaica Connection?” in Great Britain’s six-stamp set commemorating the Thunderbirds. Turns out that both men responsible for the series and the stamp set, Lew Grade and Gerry Anderson, were Jewish. The set was popular and “was the first time that Great Britain had ever issued 3-dimensional stamps [“Motion Stamps,” according to Royal Mail].” Goodman

also notes that a living person appeared on the Canadian Wallenberg issue; Judith Kopstein’s Schutz-Pass and photograph appeared not only on the Canada issue, but also “last year’s Raoul Wallenberg’s stamp issue from Sweden...” The May 2013 issue (No. 90) of the *Newsletter* begins with a piece about the “Re-Opening of the Synagogues in Radauti (Romania),” by Roberto Brzostowski; a two-stamp set commemorates the occasion. Finally, Jeff Dugdale offers a philatelic study of “Baruch Spinoza (1632-77),” a Jewish-Dutch philosopher. By laying the groundwork for the 18th-Century Enlightenment and modern biblical criticism, including modern conceptions of the self and, arguably, the universe, Spinoza came to be considered one of the great rationalists of 17th-Century philosophy.

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

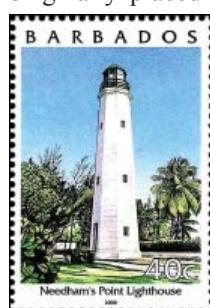
Email: judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net

Lighthouse Stamp Society

The *Philatelic Beacon* for March/April 2013 (Vol. 21, No. 2; Whole No. 123) begins with a look at a new issue from Estonia featuring the Kiipsaare Lighthouse. Originally placed 25 meters inland from

the coastline, the lighthouse is now fully in the sea, several meters from the beach due to a shifting coastline. Recent issues from Monaco, Alderney, Canada and Netherlands

are then described. The Mamallapuram and Alleppey lighthouses are featured in “Lighthouses of India,” and both are well illustrated. The Santa Luzia Lighthouse in Victoria, Brazil, is philatelically highlighted, followed by information



about a new series of lighthouse Forever stamps to be issued by the United States sometime this summer. Finally, the editor presents a lighthouse obituary for the Old Orchard Shoal Light, built in 1893 in New York's outer harbor off Staten Island near Great Kills Beach, the structure "was swept away, a victim of historic Hurricane Sandy, as the tempest roared across Staten Island on Oct. 30, 2012."

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

Email:dalene@lighthousestampsociety.org

Website:www.lighthousestampsociety.org

Maps See: Carto-Philatelic Society

Masonic Study Unit

After congratulating De Getande Rand, "The Masonic Philatelic Club of



The Netherlands for the publication of the 100th issue of its newsletter, *De Verlichte Loep*, in March 2013," the May-June 2013 issue of *The Philatelic*

Freemason (Vol. 38, No. 1; Whole No. 215) briefly considers "Masonic Philatelic Activities in Italy," including displays, cancellations and covers for the Grand Orient Session. Other entries in this issue include information on Malcolm Campbell (1885-1948), an English racing motorist and motoring journalist who set the world speed record on land and on water at various times during the 1920s and 1930s using vehicles called *Blue Bird*; Joseph James Cheeseman (1843-96), the 12th president of Liberia; Karel Čapek (1890-1938), a Czech writer of the early

20th century best known for his science fiction, including his novel *War with the Newts* and the play *R.U.R* that introduced the word robot; Otto Klemperer (1895-1973), a German conductor and composer who is widely regarded as one of the leading conductors of the 20th Century; and Venustiano Carranza (1859-1920), one of the leaders of the Mexican Revolution. He ultimately became President of Mexico following the overthrow of the dictatorial Huerta regime in the summer of 1914.

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

Email:radpm67@gmail.com

or, Gene Fricks

Email:genefricks@comcast.net

Medical Subjects Unit

The January-March 2013 issue of *Scalpel & Tongs* (Vol. 57, No. 1) begins



with a quick look at a new se-tenant pair of stamps from Slovakia commemorating the "2012 Summer Olympics & Paralympics," by the editor. A brief summary of "Journals Received" is followed

by Marcus Iglesias's look at "Alois Alzheimer, M.D.," who is credited with identifying the first published case of "presenile dementia," which his colleague Emil Kraepelin would later identify as Alzheimer's disease; followed by "Raphaël Elize (1891-1945)," French politician and veterinarian, by Jean-Louis Meunier; Marilyn Ann Gendek's philatelic study of Mary Seacole (1805-81), a Jamaican-born woman of Scottish and Creole descent who set up a "British Hotel" behind the lines during the Crimean War; and a study by J.V. Pai-Dhungat of Sidney Lanier (1842-81) in the series "Tuberculous

& Prominent People.” Lanier was an American musician and poet who contracted tuberculosis (generally known as “consumption” at the time) during the Civil War and suffered greatly from this disease – then incurable and usually fatal – for the rest of his life, which was short. Much of the remainder of the issue is given over to reports on new issues, including “Australian Nobel Prize Winners”; “Victor Babes,” a Romanian physician, biologist, and one of the earliest bacteriologists; “The Old Pharmacy in Klaksvik (Faroe Islands),” “Oskaras Minkovskis (Oscar Minkowski),” “Commercial & Medicinal Plants of South Africa” and “Recent Nursing Issues,” by Frederick C. Skvara. Finally, an article is reprinted from the February 1986 issue of *Scalpel & Tongs*, “The Death of Henrietta-Anne of England [1644-70] and The Affair of the Poisons,” by A.J. Collet. The Chevalier de Lorraine and the Marquis d’Effiat were rumored by many to be accomplices in poisoning Henrietta in 1670. Seventeen French and two English physicians, the British ambassador and roughly 100 other onlookers observed the autopsy, and though the official report stated “death from cholera morbus (gastroenteritis) caused by heated bile,” many observers disagreed. The death of Henrietta-Anne at age 26 “was only the prelude of a drama that shook the reign of Louis XIV and the Old Regime — the Affair of the Poisons,” which is described in detail in the balance of the article.

Dues are \$15 in the United States and \$18 elsewhere. Contact Frederick C. Skvara, P.O. Box 6228, Bridgewater NJ 08807-6228. Email:fcskvara@optonline.net

Motivgruppe Musik (International Philatelic Music Study Group)

The March 2013 issue of *Der Musikus* (Whole No. 113) has the “Stage Sets of the



Munich Wagner Festivals,” as the “Our Topic” feature article; it focuses on “a series of ‘official postcards of the royal Bavarian

court theatre and court music’ [issued by Munich publisher A. Böttner], picturing stage sets for the Wagner operas in the Prinzregententheater... [which were] sold only in the theatre.” The rarity of the postcards today is suggested by the fact that “a few were recently offered by a well-known German auction house for 2,000 Euro [more than \$2,600] each.” In “My Collection,” Wagner enthusiast, Karl-Heinz Büdding, describes his Wagner 84-page exhibition, which has “been awarded 6 Vermeils and 5 Golds.” Three pages from the exhibition are reproduced. Brief biographies with philatelic illustrations are considered in the “Composers” section of this issue, as are three “Performers.” Peter Lang then describes Leonardo da Vinci’s design for a “Viola Organista,” or Piano Viola, which can be “found in the *Codex Atlanticus*, a collection of 1,119 sheets of da Vinci’s papers ... in Milan’s Biblioteca Ambrosiana.” “The instrument was tied around the waist and played while walking... A group of American students assembled one following da Vinci’s drawing and presented it on December 2009 at a concert of the ‘Piffaro Renaissance Band.’” Besides an extensive list of new issues, this issue also includes sections describing and illustrating stamps on the topics of “Dance,” “Music Venues,” “Musical Works,” “Music in General,” “Stationery,” “Private Post,” “Personalized Stamps” and “Literature/Press Review.”

Franz Zehenter also presents “Stamps and Their Variants,” Part 1 of a series about “Collectable Material in Philately.” By focusing on philatelic material, he hopes “to create a basis to make our collections and displays more ‘philatelic’ and more varied.” He will focus on the production process in the next issue.

Dues are €25 (€12.50 for collectors 25 years old or younger); €5 additional for airmail delivery of *Der Musikus*. Contact Peter Lang, Rotkamp 14, 13053 Berlin, Germany.

Email:motivgruppe.musik@gmx.de

Website:motivgruppe-musik.de/indexe.html

Napoléonic Age Philatelists

Campaign for April-June 2013 (Vol. 30, No. 4) begins with a philatelic look at the “Battle of Lützen, 2 May 1813,”



where Napoléon halted the advances of the Sixth Coalition after his devastating losses in Russia. The Russian commander, Prince Peter Wittgenstein, attempting to undo Napoleon's capture of Leipzig, attacked

Napoleon's advance column near Lützen, Germany. After a day of heavy fighting, the combined Prussian and Russian forces retreated, but without cavalry the French were unable to follow their defeated enemy.

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The extensive section on “New Issues and Discoveries” includes an analysis of stamps and souvenir sheets released by Mozambique (two sheets commemorating the Battle of Borodino, Sept. 7, 1812); Russia (Moscow Coat of Arms); Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali and Guinea (issues commemorating Ludwig van Beethoven [1770-1827], who “admired Napoléon and dedicated a symphony to him”); Togo (issues commemorating Franz Joseph Haydn [1732-1809], often called the “Father of the Symphony” and “Father of the String Quartet” because of his important contributions to these forms); Israel (an issue featuring Jaffa, a town captured by Napoléon); France (two souvenir sheets that include views of “the Church of St. Louis of the Hôtel des Invalides... the final resting place of Napoléon”); and Ecuador (a souvenir sheet that includes a statue of José de San Martín (1778-1850), “Military Antagonist of Napoléon”).

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

Email:krb2@earthlink.net

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

Email:donsmith32@atlanticbb.net

Website:www.nap-stamps.org

Pitcairn Islands Study Group

The April-June 2013 issue of *Pitcairn Log* (Vol. 40, No. 2; Whole No. 159) begins with “First Definitive Series Plate Block News,” by Mark A. Butterline, wherein he concludes that “recent sales involving plate blocks... appear to indicate a rather robust market for such material.” He offers details from several recent auctions to support his contention. Wilfred Bloom’s “Thank Goodness for the Royal Family: Another Look at Past and Future Pitcairn Stamp Issues” examines the themes commemorated by Pitcairn stamps. Since “selling stamps and first day covers...



[brings in] much needed revenue for the benefit of Pitcairners,” the 27 “Royalty” stamps issued since 1971 have been a boon. After a piece addressing the “Lingering

Questions [that] Remain Over the ‘Inverted 2’ Datestamp,” Barbara Kuchau discusses the “Stamp Issues [that] Came from [a] U.S. Photographer,” namely James Allert from Knife River, Minn., who observed: “I think that it’s really amazing that a picture of the *Bounty* taken on Lake Superior would be used for a stamp by the descendants of the mutineers...” Editor Everett Parker then asks the question: “Is It Really That Difficult to Deliver Mail to Pitcairn?” and concludes, “apparently so.” After four unsuccessful attempts to send a copy of *Pitcairn Log* to Pitcairn Island—all were returned to the sender for various reasons—Parker threw in the towel; Royal Warren on Pitcairn Island “won’t get the January 2012 issue of the *Log* because you can’t get it there from here!”

Dues are \$20 in the United States and Canada, and \$25 elsewhere for regular

members, \$30 or more for contributing members, \$18 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Ed Morgan, 25 St. Julian Ct., Pawleys Island SC 29585-6309 Email:eanddfof@gmail.com Website:www.pisg.net

Polar Philatelists, American Society of

Ice Cap News for April 2013 (Vol. 58, No. 2; Whole No. 289)



begins as usual with Hal Vogel’s regular column “...B.U.T.! (Back Up Tidbits),” which discusses and illustrates “four remarkable mass long distance flights beginning in 1928” made by “General sizable air crews with dozens of planes...” Steven McLachlan and Scott Smith then examine several “New Postmarks at American Antarctic Bases, and 11 covers are depicted in the subsequent “Covers Gallery.” In “Ronne Reconsidered,” Steve Pendleton discusses Finn Ronne (1899-1980), a Norwegian-born U.S. Antarctic explorer, and the Ronne Expedition of 1947-48, which “discovered

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- ☒ Assisting members to acquire and dispose of collections.

some of the last great unknown territory in the world," yet "does not have a lot of representation for stamp collectors... due to the deliberate exclusion of collector mail, even though the expedition did have an official post office." "Coldest Antarctic Traverse" discusses an expedition being led by Sir Ranulph Fiennes (1944-), a British adventurer, prolific writer and the holder of several endurance records. Fiennes "and five companions [are attempting] the coldest crossing of Antarctica," a winter traverse that began in March 2013. The article "2013 Ellesmere Island Traverse Expedition" takes a quick look at "two traversers [American John Huston and Norwegian Toby Thiorleifsson][who] will attempt to duplicate Otto Sverdrup's 1898-1902 journeys in Arctic Canada." [By adopting Inuit methods, Sverdrup and his crew were able to chart a total of 260,000 square kilometers, more than any other polar exploration. -Ed.] John Young's "Polar Icepicks" presents Part I of "Deep Freeze '80," which "saw the deployment of three classes of Coast Guard icebreakers and the first visit of a Coast Guard Commandant, Adm. John B. Hayes... All three Coast Guard icebreakers had post offices aboard during DF '80," and the balance of the article discusses and illustrates the resulting cachets. Rounding out this issue are David E. Crotty's study of "The Role of Frama Machines in Antarctica," Alan Warren's look at "A Greenland Parcel Card with a Polar Connection" and a quick look at "Polar

Philately Here and There."

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

Email:alanwar@comcast.net

Website:polarphilatelists.org

Railroad Unit, Casey Jones

The cover story of the March-April 2013 issue of *The Dispatcher* (Vol. 60,



No. 13-2), "Swiss Post Announces Stamp and Maximum Card to Celebrate

Railway Centenary," discusses "an efficient transport link through Lötschberg... a pioneering achievement that laid the foundation 100 years ago for the Lötschberg Railway's success story." In "Fairlies and Fell [Locomotives] in New Zealand," Russ Quimby takes a quick look at a few of the "strange and unique locomotives, rolling stock and railways" he discovered while exploring down under. Harry Winter then discusses "Articulated Locomotives — Power with Flexibility," in an attempt "to add some information and correct a few minor errors" in an earlier article. Double Fairlie type locomotives are the philatelic focus; they were "designed for power and speed for pulling heavy trains over tracks with reasonably sharp curves and/or steep gradients... One of the first articulated designs, patented by Robert Fairlie in 1864, [looks] like two locomotives stuck

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

back to back.” Florence Wright’s “New Issues List (Etc.)” rounds out this colorful issue.

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

Email:roymenn@sbcglobal.net

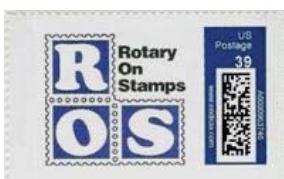
Website:uqp.de/cjr

Rotary on Stamps Fellowship

Much of the April 2013 issue of *The ROS Bulletin*

(W h o l e
No. 259) is
given over to
remembrances
of two recently
d e c e a s e d

members, Don Fiery, “known as ‘Mr. RoS’ for many years,” and John Van Bochove, a member from Belgium. John Evans reports that the 2013 Convention will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, but that “the expected Portuguese Convention stamps have unfortunately not progressed to the 2013 program of the Portuguese Postal Authority.” Jerry FitzSimmons again neatly summarizes “Notes and New Issues” in his regular column and Richard J. “Dick” Dickson reports that the *RoS Encyclopedia* “now has 1,262 pages, with more sure to be added as we continue to see new issues appear. There are already 10 new and/or revised pages for the *RoS Stamp Album*, which brings it to a total of



410 pages.”

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

Email:gfitz@suddenlink.net

Website:www.rotaryonstamps.org

Ships on Stamps Unit

The March-April 2013 issue of *Watercraft Philately* (Vol. 59, No. 5)



announces the reprint publication of ATA Handbook 156, *Watercraft on Stamps*, by Kathy Kirk. The book covers issues through 1999; “the next edition of the handbook is currently being edited and will be a supplement to HB 156.” The handbook is also available on a fully searchable DVD as PDF copies. The Special Features in this issue include a brief look at “Aruban Shipwrecks,” four shipwrecks depicted on a set released by Aruba in 2012. “Operation Pedestal,” continued from a previous issue, comprises the bulk of the remainder of this issue (pages 76-79) and, besides a “New Issues” list (“Travelling Near and Far”), other new listings appear under “Explorers and Their Ships” and “Harvesters of the Sea.”

Dues are \$15 in North America, \$22 elsewhere and \$9 for a PDF electronic version worldwide. Contact Myron P. Molnau, 2117 E. 6th Street, Moscow ID 83843-9709.

Email:hobbies@turbanet.com

Website:www.shipsonstamps.org

Stamps on Stamps Collectors Club

Publication of the *SOS Signal* is on

hiatus until a new editor is located.

In the meantime,

however, new

issues are

available through

the “Gallery” section of the club website: www.stampsonstamps.org.



Penguins on Stamps Study Unit

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

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

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

Email: possumember@yahoo.com



Anyone with an interest in stamps on stamps is also urged to visit Rammy Molcho's website, which can be accessed at: <http://stampsonstamps.brinkster.net/>

For further information, contact Michael Merritt, 73 Mountainside Road, Mendham NJ 07945-2014.

Email:mischu@research.att.com

Textiles Study Unit

The Textiles Study Unit has been on hiatus for several years. There is good news, however, in that Agbenyega "Tony" Adedze, an associate professor in the Department of History at Illinois State University, has tentatively volunteered to assist reviving the publication. His email is adedze@ilstu.edu.

Anyone interested in assisting with this effort is urged to contact Professor Adedze.

Website:www.caratexstamps.com



United Nations Philatelists, Inc. (UNPI)

The United Nations Philatelists, Inc. announces the on-line publication of a 636-page *United Nations Conference Catalog*, which covers the United Nations, its agencies and predecessors. The catalog is available on the UNPI website, www.unpi.com. It attempts to be comprehensive, listing stamps and postal stationery issued by host countries, conference postmarks, meters, registry and insured labels, cachets, receiving marks, corner cards, mailing labels and tags, official picture postcards, IRCs canceled at the conference and cinderellas. Many conference service covers are illustrated, as well as auxillary material, such as delegate IDs, phone cards and commercial postcards. Most of the material is shown in color. Catalog values are listed. More detailed information will be found in the introduction. The catalog is written by Blanton Clement, Jr., who has collected, studied and written about this material for more than 30 years. Many collectors from the United States, Canada and Europe have contributed to the catalog. Two collectors, Anton van Deutekom of the Netherlands, and Albert Pelsser of Canada, have collaborated with the author on the League of Nations and ICAO chapters, respectively. As new information became available, or corrections were needed, changes were made and a revision date given in the bottom header of the page. Such revisions continue almost weekly. Readers are encouraged to provide information and images that might improve the catalog and make it more complete.

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



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Worldwide Stamp Collectors, International Society of

Igor Malcevski is “Trying to Make Sense of Machins” in *The Circuit* for January/February 2013 (Vol. 31, No.



1), in a detailed examination of how he tried to organize “a large quantity of Great Britain Machin series (MH) stamps” and “determine what catalog number to assign them to.” Richard Barnes, the “Whatzit? Coordinator” for the ISWSC, then writes about “Lemnos” in his regular “Whatzit?” column. Lemnos, an island of Greece in the northern part of the Aegean Sea, “has been a primary naval base all through history... to the present day.” Barnes traces the work of the Military Postal authority, which used “transitional” stamps in the “New Territories,” with the exception of Lemnos, by overprinting Greek stamps with two lines reading “Hellenic Administration.”

“These stamps underwent 16 printings, with black, red and crimson overprints.” “Lemnos had such significance to the expansion of the Kingdom of Greece, [however], that it had a special one-line horizontal overprint reading ‘Lemnos’... Lemnos was the only location to have a specifically overprinted stamp issued for it.” Barnes has several other similar stories to relate in this column. Finally, Sandy Stover contributes Part 24 of his important and fascinating “Ventures in Printing” series, “adapted from a larger work on classic multicolored postage stamps,” this one being Part 2 of “The Soviet All-Union Agricultural Fair Stamps of 1940.” Part 1 “reviewed technical innovation and complication underlying the... Fair stamps of 1940 (Scott No. 794-810), and this sequel considers “The Event” itself and its “Context.” “The Fair occupied 340 acres on the outskirts of Moscow. The total number of buildings was 250, of which 52 were ‘pavilions,’ including the 17 pavilions seen on the 1940 Fair stamps.”

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

Email:joannebe@pacbell.net

Website:www.iswsc.org

Please Note My New Address: If anyone needs to contact me or send copies of newsletters for review, please note that I have a new address: Bruce L. Johnson; ATA Director of Study Units; 2101 Ronda Granada Unit B; Laguna Woods CA 92637-2491. Telephone: (949) 587-9011. My email address remains: indybruce1@yahoo.com. If you are responsible for sending review copies, please make this change, or see to it that the change is made if you’re not responsible for the mailing list! The USPS is no longer forwarding non-First Class mail to me. Many thanks for your help! — BLJ

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Year of the Cover at ATA

In the formative years of ATA, dozens of cacheted covers were produced each year — not only for the organization's annual show, but for flower shows and other events. Our archives are replete with hundreds of examples of various covers. Members who have volunteered at the ATA Office, including Carol Costa and Sue Bruce, have discovered many delightful covers as they've worked diligently on organizing ATA Archives. We hope to have portions of the Archives at NTSS for your viewing pleasure at next year.

Now we come to 2013, when it seems we have rather accidentally contributed to the plethora of ATA covers! Original planning was executed for three NTSS 2013 covers, one for each day of ATA's annual show. Then, our NTSS cover designer, John Colasanti, produced and donated 25

Limited Edition Covers for each of the show's daily themes. Washington Press, makers of Artcraft Covers, donated 100 specially designed covers that because First Day Covers for the "Flags of All Seasons" stamps issued at NTSS. And, yes, we designed and produced a First Day Ceremony Program for those stamps. It is signed by all the participants in the ceremony.



**Arcraft Flag of All Seasons Cachet, \$2.50.
Signed First Day Ceremony Program, \$4.00**

Last year, the ATA Board voted to honor our Founder, Jerry Husak, by designating May 25, Jerry's birthday, as National Topical Stamp Collecting Day. Of course, a commemorative cover was in order! It was designed by Amanda Morgenstern using ATA vintage seals. Those covers are available as blanks (add your own stamps) or postmarked on May 25 in Carterville, Ill., location of our current ATA Office. ☐



National Topical Stamp Collecting Day Cover, \$1.00 postmarked; 50¢ for "blank" (add your own stamp).

To order any 2013 ATA cover, mail a self-addressed stamped envelope to ATA along with your check and a description of the item(s) you want. Or use the list below. If paying by PayPal, please add \$1 for postage (no SASE needed)

- \$2.50 – May 17 NTSS Cover, War of 1812
- \$2.50 – May 18 NTSS Cover, I Have A Dream
- \$2.50 – May 19 NTSS Cover, Battle of Vicksburg
- \$7.00 – Set of three NTSS Covers
- \$10.00 – May 17 Limited Edition Cover, War of 1812
- \$10.00 – May 18 Limited Edition Cover, I Have A Dream
- \$10.00 – May 23 Limited Edition FDC, Battle of Vicksburg

- \$25.00 – Set of three Limited Edition Covers
- \$2.50 – May 17 Flag for All Seasons **Arcraft** FDC
- \$4.00 – May 17 First Day Ceremony Signed Program
- \$1.00 – May 25 National Topical Stamp Collecting Day cover
- \$0.50 – Blank cover, National Topical Stamp Collecting Day

→ Chapter Chatter

By Tonny E. Van Loij

Ann Arbor Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 98) in Ann Arbor, Mich.: Secretary Harry Winter gave an overview of the January meeting. The February meeting featured a program by Charles Wood: "Michigan Stamp Clubs and Their History." In addition to the program, artifacts and documents about the club going back to 1930s were on display. A mini auction and sales circuit also were featured.

ATA Chapter No. 5 in Wisconsin: Robert Mather reported that the first meeting of the year was a joint meeting with the Milwaukee Philatelic Society. The meeting was sparsely attended, probably due to the early January date. The February meeting was all "Valentine" featuring show-and-tell and goodies were handed out.

Two short stories appeared: "What is a Donkey?" and "Poisoned Postage Stamps," which appeared in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* of the United Kingdom in 1872. A Doctor Chesley of Nottingham, N.H., received a letter from a person with whom he was acquainted. Two stamps were enclosed with the letter that needed a fast reply. The doctor replied immediately and used one of the stamps. He immediately started to have problems and realized he had poisoned himself. He alarmed his wife telling her about everything. She did not believe her husband. He told her to lick the second stamp and she also immediately started having problems.

Thinking about what could help, he took

a pinch of tobacco under his lip and symptoms got better. He directly gave some to his wife; she had always blamed him for that vulgar habit, but now both their lives were saved.

The stamps were sent to Boston to be analyzed.

Club member Rob Henak closed off the January meeting with material from his exhibit on Milwaukee Circus Parade Covers as part of the Youth program.

Battle Creek Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 117) in Battle Creek, Mich.: Steve Sherman started the *BCSC News* by applauding club member Dan Boone, who recently had a very nice article published in the *Battle Creek Enquirer* newspaper, remembering the Four Immortal Chaplains, commemorated on the 1948 stamp, Scott

956.

The publisher also touched on a new subject in last month's newsletter,

"Labels, New York and the World from 1939." That year is a possible new avenue for thematic collecting; New York World's Fair, the Golden Gate International Exposition in San Francisco, Centennial of Baseball and more. This can become a real study with a small investment and research.

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



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February *Society News* started off with congratulations and thanks to KPS member Bruce Roberts. He was honored as the recipient of the Rowland Hill award, given by the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs. The award recognizes a lifetime of contributions to the philatelic community. President Tom Ringenbach joined the accolades for Bruce, for his work as founder of the Expo City Stamp Club in 1980 and for his more than 30 years influencing hundreds of collectors throughout the Southeast. The newsletter was adorned with a block of four 2¢ U.S. National Parks, Scott 1448-1452, for the stamp-of-the-month corner. Tom finished the newsletter with an article about The Emancipation Proclamation recently remembered with a stamp issue.

Motor City Stamp and Cover Club (ATA Chapter No. 95) in Detroit, Mich.: The club scheduled its annual Stamp Scrabble. There are eight potential winning items buried in a pile of stamps in the scrabble. Each winning stamp is marked either on the envelope or the selvage of the stamp with the winning amount. A list was published with the dates and programs for the 2013 club meetings. Motopex 2013 will be held Oct. 19-20.

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (ATA Chapter No. 118) in Lancaster, Pa.: President Robert Noble started off with one of his experiences, "Free album pages you can buy." Bob needed and found some pages for his collection on eBay. After buying and receiving them, he found out that the pages can be downloaded free! A long list of club activities and programs was published. A biography of club member David York, member since the early 1980s, appeared in the newsletter.

St. Petersburg Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 119) in St. Petersburg, Fla.: According to the club newsletter, February 10, 2013, was the 90th birthday of the club. There is a petition drive underway to honor the accomplishment of Tony Jannus on a

new stamp. In the first commercial airline flight in 1914, Mr. Jannus carried the mail from St. Petersburg to Tampa in a speedy 23 minutes. It seemed logical to start this because the club started, in part, as a chapter of the American Airmail Society. To sign the petition go to www.tonyjannus.org.

A large part of the March newsletter was dedicated to the passing of longtime member Al Underberg 1933-2013. He joined during the 1960s and was Second Vice-President at the time of his death.

Salem Stamp Society (ATA Chapter No. 114) in Salem, Ore.: A little archive trivia was presented by Lisa Janz: Most people remember what they were doing on May 18, 1980, they day Mt. St. Helens erupted. In 1981, the Spellman Philatelic Museum had an exhibit of *Volcanoes on Stamps*, compiled by Dr. Ritchie Lowry.

The Salem Stamp Society chose Mt. Saint Helens as the theme for Stampex 1981. Another article from the past was featured, "Philately and 1933: Boom Times in Marion County." It seems that Marion County residents discovered the hobby of stamp collecting during the 1930s. The founder of the Salem Stamp Society was Carl S. Douglas.

Collectors Club of Toledo (ATA Chapter No. 66) in Ohio: According to the *Frogtown Philatelist*, the January meetings were



attended by an average of 30 club members. Congratulations. The usual topic. "Where in the World is..." was Ecuador. These short synopses of countries are very interesting and bring up possible topics for future collecting. John Mann went on with the short history of the RCMP (Royal Canadian Mounted Police). The RCMP provides policing services to all of Canada at a federal level, and also on a contract basis to the three ter-

ritories, eight of Canada's provinces (the RCMP does not provide services to either Toronto or Quebec), more than 190 municipalities, 184 aboriginal communities and three international airports. The newsletter closed with a profile of club member, George Drewyor. He started collecting in 1934, the 1¢ green National Parks issue. By 2005, after 60 years of collecting, he had a virtually complete collection of U.S. stamps. The March issue of the newsletter contained a great article by Steve Swain, about Tennessee postal history gems. The interesting part about this is that Tennessee seceded from the Union June 8, 1861, but was not admitted into the Confederacy until July 2, 1861. This meant that Union postage stamps were unavailable in Tennessee for one month. To cope with this, Nashville Postmaster W.D. McNish reinstated the old system of hand-stamping "paid" on envelopes. Some very nice examples were shown with the article.

Topical Philatelists in Colorado (ATA Chapter No. 78) in Denver, Colo.: Editor Van Jennings reminded everyone to head to Loveland, Colo., for the annual special Valentine cancellation and poem. That Valentine Day ceremony is really something to see. A huge team of volunteers, 90% of them retired people, apply cancels and cachets to letters for all over the world.

Sherri Soraci commented on the new "Emancipation" issue. Sherri is an accomplished and well-known Lincoln collector of stamps and memorabilia. The Emancipation Proclamation was issued Jan. 1, 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln. Unfortunately, it was merely a political move on the part of the President, in reality freeing no one. It would not be until 1865 and the adoption of the 13th Amendment to the *Constitution* that African-Americans who had been held in slavery since the founding of our country would be set free for all time.



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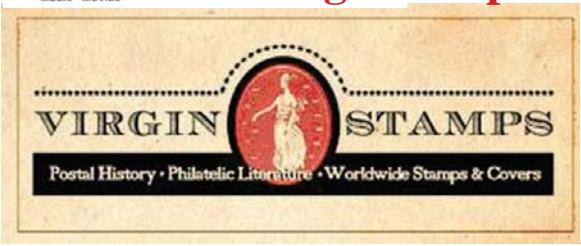






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Westfield Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 113) in N.J.: The *Westfield Philatelist* had several articles by editor Frederick C. Skvara, about Sir Sandford Fleming (1827-1915), an engineer, writer, scientist, artist and public figure. He was born in Scotland and moved to Canada. He was primarily a railroad builder. Because he missed a train on one of his travels, due to variations in times at other destinations, he devised the idea of standardized time zones. It took 10 years for his plan to be accepted worldwide, but in 1884, 24 time zones were established with the observatory in Greenwich, England, as the base line and International Date Line drawn in the Pacific Ocean.

In the next article he writes about the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863. He gives a short overview and time table of the battle with the help of souvenir sheets that show the generals involved on both sides.

Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs (ATA Chapter No. 107) in Wisconsin: *Across the Fence Post* announced that Wiscopex will not be held in 2013. New ideas were considered for club meetings

to get members more involved. Alex Gill had a feature article about "President Harding and Philately." His popularity did not last due to his involvement in many

scandals, including the Teapot Dome. In an effort to escape his troubles, Harding and his wife went on a trip to Alaska. The trip proved a disaster for the President as he lost consciousness several times and eventually died in San Francisco. One of the rarest varieties in the issued stamps is Scott No. 613, a rotary press-printed type with gauge 11 perforations. Only 43 examples are known to exist and there is very little production information. Alex Gill is a member of the



Kettle Moraine Coin and Stamp Club. He is a graduate of the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship and worked on the research/author track. He is currently a college freshman.

Great Britain

British Thematic Association (ATA Chapter No. 100) in Great Britain: The Chairman of the British Thematic Association reported in *Themescene* about the demise of the Friends of Thematica. The Friends were established in the late 1990s to run Thematica, the annual thematic fair and exhibition in London. Unfortunately, due to rising costs and declining health of Maurice Gale, Thematica came to an end.

Chris Wheeler told the story of Terence Cuneo and philately. Terence Cuneo was a highly talented artist, painting amazing canvases on a wide range of topics. He was a great train enthusiast and stamp designer. Cuneo's paintings have been used as backgrounds for souvenir and business sheets on a couple of occasions, without his own stamps being featured. However, some of his stamps have been issued in Great Britain and the British Isles.

Jeff Dugdale commented on Great American Movie Directors, from D.W. Griffith, Alfred Hitchcock and Walt Disney to Cecile B. DeMille and, as food for thought, who should be honored with a stamp, Quentin Tarantino, maybe!

A list of upcoming events, shows, exhibits and the BTA cup were listed.

Owen R. Green looked back on "The Norfolk and Norwich Society Centenary 1911-2011" in his article "A Tour of the County."

Australia

Thematics Queensland (ATA Chapter No. 86) in Queensland, Australia: Editor John Crowsley reported in *Thematically Speaking* about the fact that in 2013, Queensland will host a one-frame national



exhibit in Brisbane. The rules and special regulations for the One Frame Exhibit are laid out.

Joan Orr had an article with pictures of stamps, printing proofs and more in "The Evolution of a Philatelic Item." Examples are shown in the newsletter about the last Show-and-Tell program with wonderful items on a great variety of topics through stamps, souvenir sheets, maxicards and other paraphernalia.

Canada

Lakeshore Stamp Club Inc. (ATA Chapter No. 99) in Pointe-Claire/Dorval, Quebec, Canada: Exhibition Committee Chairman Gary Misener reminded all club members that the Lakeshore Stamp Club will hold its 50th stamp show "Lakeshore 2013." He thanks all the members that have helped and volunteered over the years to make this event successful.

Editor Raymond W. Ireson had two interesting articles; one about "The Ill-Fated West Indies Federation." The 10 islands that make up the Federation are Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Christopher, Nevis, Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Trinidad & Tobago. It was created by the United Kingdom on Jan. 3, 1958.

His second article was "Cartagena de Indias – The Heroic City." Mr. Ireson was stationed in Cuba during the 1950s as an employee of the Royal Bank of Canada. Worthy of mention is that Cartagena today is the host city for Columbia's National Beauty Queen annual pageant.

Last but not least, Mark H. Winnegrad writes about Malta. Malta, which includes

sister islands Gozo and Comino, is situated in the Mediterranean Sea, 60 miles south of Sicily. For those who would be interested in collecting Malta, write to Malta Post p.l.c., 30 ntriq Hal Qormi, Marsa MTP 1001: Malta.

South Africa

Thematics Southern Africa (ATA Chapter No. 103) in Wierdapark South Africa: Vice President Wobbe Vegter thanked and wished well Rev. Cassie Carstens, who will retire. Vegter touched on the many years of service to thematic philately and the progress of *ThemNews*. Rev. Carstens will still be around but will spend more time on his exhibit on *Proteaceae*.

WEO Marasas and HM Marasas had talked (in part 15 of "Philatelic Botany") about Strelitziaeae (Bird of Paradise family.) This includes Heleconia and Ravinala. One of the characteristics is that all these flowers grow on banana-like trees with true stems. Most of the flowers are bisexual and are closely related to the *Musaceae* and Banana family. Many good articles followed from "Continental Drift" (Gondwanaland), by Colin Whittle; "Aids - The Tragedy of Our Times" (part two), by Dr. Saji Kumar.J, from India; and "Cyber Heroes of the Past –Thomas John Watson, Jr.," by Wobbe Vegter. All are great topical subjects that would keep your interest.

Amazingly, the club has four octogenarians with birthdays in January and February, Willem Lubbe, 88; Hein Fribus, 83; Martin Hermanson, 83; and Geoff Thompson (in Canada) will be 83. Congratulations to all. ☐

Tonny E Van Loij, retired, is a member of ATA. In addition to being ATA Director of Chapters, he is president of the Aurora Stamp Club, executive secretary of the Europa Study Unit and secretary of Rompex. His mailing address is 3002 S. Xanthia Street, Denver CO 80231. His email address is tvanloij@gmail.com.

Exfime 2012, Thémafrance 2012, Sharjah 2012

Foreign Thematic Exhibits

Larry E. Davidson

In this column, we will review the thematic exhibits shown in three exhibitions: Exfime 2012, Thémafrance 2012 and Sharjah 2012. Only those exhibits with a score of 70 (silver) or higher are listed.

Legend: **LG** – large gold, **G** – gold, **LV** – large vermeil, **V** – vermeil, **LS** – large silver, **S** – silver, **B** – bronze.

Exfime 2012

This national philatelic exhibition was held in Medellin, Colombia, Oct. 31 – Nov. 15, 2012. It was organized by the Philatelic Club of Medellin with the sponsorship of the Colombian Philatelic Federation. All exhibitors were from Colombia.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Victor Baena	<i>Music through Time</i>	LV
Miguel Roldan	<i>The Hands of the World</i>	V
Geraldo López	<i>The Orchid: A Wonderful Creation of Nature</i>	V
Manual Cantero	<i>Santa Fe: Home of Hispanic Heritage</i>	V
Augusto Peinado Simon	<i>Bolivar: The Glory and Frustration of an Ideal</i>	V
Rocio Ospina	<i>We are the Queens of the Sky</i>	LS
Armando Calcedo	<i>Precolumbians</i>	S

One-frame Exhibits

Carlos Alberto González	<i>Simon Bolivar and the Emancipation</i>	V
Gene Fernando Visbal	<i>Beijing Olympics 2008</i>	S
Juan Manuel Moreno Murillo	<i>Caves and Underground Systems</i>	S

Thémafrance 2012

Thémafrance 2012, held in Belfort, France, Nov. 2-4, 2012, was an all-thematic adult stamp exhibition and was part of Timbres Passion 2012. The exhibition was held with the patronage of the French Federation of Philatelic Associations (FFAP). All exhibitors were from France.

Note: The exhibit titled *Natural Silk*, in French, which was awarded the Grand Award, can be viewed online at ffap.net/Collections/CadreBdD.php?idc=922&nof=1.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Alain Audejean	<i>Natural Silk</i>	94, G
Françoise Cohen	<i>The Fabulous Destiny of a Pretty Foal</i>	91, G
Géraldine Forestier	<i>Bees and Man</i>	91, G
Jean-François Duranceau	<i>The Hole</i>	90, G
Michel Frick	<i>The Right to Vote</i>	87, LV
Daniel Herrmann	<i>The Olympic Movement: The Continuing Battle of the Reformers</i>	87, LV
Martial Beckrich	<i>Around the Olive Tree</i>	86, LV
Jacques Chocois	<i>The Turtle: an Unusual Creature</i>	86, LV
Emmanuel Even	<i>Mathematics, my Thematic</i>	86, LV



Gabriel Frick	<i>The Criminal Sciences</i>	86, LV
Cédric Rémy	<i>Time</i>	86, LV
Jacques Cordier	<i>Beer</i>	85, LV
Jean-Paul Uettwiller	<i>7: a Figure</i>	85, LV
Alain Auriau	<i>Dinosaurs</i>	83, V
Jacques Rothenburg	<i>I, the Eagle</i>	83, V
André Gasser	<i>Hairstyles and Head Ornaments</i>	82, V
Christian Riobe	<i>The Body Needs Plants</i>	82, V
Robert Boussard	<i>The Bicycle</i>	80, V
Jean-Paul Delmas	<i>(Men + Horses) + Hairstyles = ...</i>	80, V
Marc Fouquet	<i>Man in the Far North</i>	80, V
Marie-Ghislaine Porte	<i>Yarn Needles</i>	80, V
Bernadette Rouch	<i>Forests</i>	80, V
Anne-Marie Schneider	<i>Extreme Lands: the Polar Regions</i>	80, V
Claude Vernette	<i>Christmas: A Night of Hope</i>	80, V
Françoise Reviglio	<i>Salt</i>	78, LS
Pierre Riedweg	<i>Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1756-1791</i>	78, LS
André Gasser	<i>Windmills</i>	78, LS
Louisette Meslard	<i>Raptors</i>	78, LS
Jacques Capel	<i>The Eagle: The Story of a Symbol that came from Mesopotamia</i>	77, LS
Jean Gautier	<i>Fish and Man</i>	77, LS
Marc Chiari	<i>Wood</i>	76, LS
Hubert Kubler	<i>Dogs</i>	76, LS
Christophe George	<i>White Hearts of the Earth, from Conquest to Life at the Poles</i>	75, LS
Bernard Santraine	<i>Cement, from its Origins to its Applications</i>	75, LS

✓ Checklist Notes

Vera Felts

Just in time for the summer season, David Wolfersberger (Wine on Stamps Study Unit) has greatly expanded the information in ATA's Beer checklist. Note that it asterisked below, as it contains some BTC/Beyond the Catalog items (postal stationery, for instance). It has progressed from the mini-list category (single page) to a full-fledged checklist, now four pages long. Another major new offering is an updated Lighthouses list. The list was formerly offered by the Lighthouse Study Unit, which donated it to ATA for updating and distribution.

New Checklists

Beer* 4p Mar13 (updated from mini-list) Lighthouses 56p May13

New Mini-Lists

Hopper, Edward* Jun13	Homer, Winslow* Jun13
Irving, Washington* Feb13	Mantle, Mickey* Nov12
Williamsburg, Va.* May13	

Mini-lists are free to all ATA members. Just ask! Or, send a self-addressed stamped envelope if you don't have email.

Karen Cartier reports that completion of the new checklist database is on track for completion soon. She feels that the new checklist format produced from the database should be ready for distribution by early next year. Stay tuned.... ☺

Topical Time		77
Claude Troboë	<i>Routes and Signage</i>	75, LS
Henri Aronis	<i>The Tooth in its Environment</i>	74, S
Jacques Favre	<i>Birds of the Sixth Continent</i>	73, S
Gilles Prouteau	<i>Offshore Fisheries</i>	73, S
René Charlier	<i>Owls</i>	72, S
François Leteur	<i>Water: Blue Gold in the Service of Man</i>	72, S
Bernard Marie	<i>The Lion: a Symbol</i>	72, S
Maurice Vitel	<i>World Heritage of Humanity</i>	72, S
Guy Hélias	<i>Without it, no Life</i>	70, S

Sharjah 2012

This 28th Asian international stamp exhibition was held in Sharjah, UAE, Nov. 20-25, 2012, under the patronage of FIAP (Federation of Inter-Asian Philately). It was organized by the Emirates Philatelic Association.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Chen Changfeng (China)	<i>From War to Peace: A Chronicle of the United Nations</i>	88, LV
Luo Daoguang (China)	<i>Beer</i>	87, LV
Douglas South New Zealand)	<i>Our Feathered Friends</i>	87, LV
Mohamad Aktar Sayeed (UAE)	<i>The Evolution and Application of the Universal Postal Union</i>	85, LV
Zhu Kuangyi (China)	<i>Hello, Lion</i>	84, V
Liu Yong (China)	<i>Agriculture: The Heritage of Land Claimers</i>	82, V
Sitataq Juari (Indonesia)	<i>I am a Butterfly: The Beautiful Wings in Various Habitats</i>	81, V
Xu Changqiu (China)	<i>Textiles</i>	80, V
Nasreen Fatima (UAE)	<i>Automobiles</i>	80, V
Ling Jianhua (China)	<i>The Shadow</i>	77, LS
Sugianto Sudhana (Indonesia)	<i>The Feathered Family</i>	77, LS
Teguh Chendawan (Indonesia)	<i>The ABC's of Automobiles</i>	77, LS
Bathileg Binderya (Mongolia)	<i>Horses</i>	77, LS
Hyeong Ki Min (Korea)	<i>Western Classical Music</i>	75, LS
Johnson Sau Chee Min (Malaysia)	<i>Opposites: A Contradicting Norm</i>	73, S
Hatim Al Attar (UAE)	<i>Arabian Traditional Costumes</i>	70, S

One-frame Exhibits

Dave Markland (India)	<i>The Great Quetta Earthquake – 1935</i>	76, LS
Ismail Amer-El-Khedoud (UAE)	<i>Jewellery in the Arab World</i>	70, S

Larry E. Davidson, a current member of the ATA Board of Directors, is a retired University mathematics lecturer. He has been collecting stamps for 53 years and exhibiting for 27 years. His gold-award-winning display/thematic exhibit, Beavers: Nature's Engineers, was voted "most popular exhibit" at the 2007 and 2008 NTSS shows. His mailing address is P.O. Box 154, 86 Big Tub Road, Tobermory, Ontario N0H 2R0, Canada. His e-mail address is lawrencedavidson@gmail.com.

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Youth in Topics

MaryAnn Bowman

Has spring finally arrived in your part of the country? As I write this, parts of the Midwest are experiencing a late winter storm. It has been an unusual winter in many areas. I hope that the warmer temperatures of spring and summer will soon arrive at your doorstep.

April Showers Bring May Flowers

The United States Postal Service has issued some beautiful flower stamps the past few months, notably the La Florida block of four and the Vintage Seed Packets, with their 10 different colorful annuals.

The people at www.uspsconnection.com have put together a lesson plan featuring

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April 2013 | Seeds and Stanza
LESSON PLAN

CLASS DISCUSSION

Having the longest month of Spring, April is a month to celebrate poetry, flowers, and art. Not only is April National Poetry Month here in America, but it also marks the beginning both Earth Day and Arbor Day – holidays that call us to keep and honor our environment.

Since no one could pick a parrot – or even a parrot knew how to fly – the ancients had to invent the laws of nature through their words. The ancient Greek poet Thucydides wrote his *On Nature* as an ode to rural life. Hundreds of years ago, the Japanese created *Ao no Uta* solely to celebrate their peaceful surroundings. British poet Robert William Motteau wrote a poem about the flower he found most amorous associated in France City. American essayist Henry David Thoreau started off as a poet, seeking solace at Walden Pond, thinking modern society for the isolation of nature. That's why we should take the time of writing more original responses.

Whether forms of artistic media, they last without – and especially flowers – are captured in their full glory in paintings, photographs, and sketches. In the 1900s, private collectors began to collect them in albums or mounted books, giving rise to large stamp collecting companies. This emergence revolutionized the industry when they distributed the seeds in small, paper packets, decorated in all forms of intricate fairytale illustrations. This year, the US Postal Service honors the tradition of floral stickers with *Vintage Seed Packet*.

For support with this lesson plan, please direct to the Community Connection tab of USPSConnection.com, where an associate will personally respond to your specific needs.

the Vintage Seed Packet stamps. The lesson, titled “Seeds and Stanza,” is from the April 2013 posting. April is also National Poetry Month! Using the Postal Service’s brand new 2013 Vintage Seed Packet Stamps as inspiration, the activity sheet contains 10 poems that describe the various flowers. The object is to match the poem describing the flower to the design illustrated on the seed packet. This is a rather challenging activity for lower elementary-aged students but would work well with older students and even as an adult activity or a filler for a club newsletter.

Another activity related to the Vintage Seed Packet stamp issue can be found on the Youth Resources Pages of the website of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, under the Fun &

Games tab. The worksheet, “A Philatelic Flower Garden,” offers young collectors the opportunity to practice their alphabetization skills and then find each of the 10 flower names in a word search activity.

A second activity is found under the Club Leader Resources tab (of the Youth Resources Pages) and provides a creative experience for youth to design their own “stamp” seed flower

For clubs to use:

B

Sow Stamp Seeds

© The Perfected Press

Directions: Cut out the packet following the heavy black lines. Fold on the dotted lines. Glue flaps "A" and "B" to the back panel. Write the child's name or your club name on the blank at the bottom. Fill with stamps.

How To Take Care of Your Stamps:

1. Always wash your hands before touching your stamps.
2. Keep stamps away from food and drinks.
3. Keep stamps out of bright sunlight.
4. Keep them in a dry place.
5. Always put your stamps away when you are finished working with them.
6. Don't write on the back of your stamps.

For more information on stamp collecting, visit:
www.usps.com/stamps
www.americanscalkin.org
www.ctams.org

packet. On the back of this cut-and-paste seed packet activity are directions for the care of the stamps. This activity is meant for use by children. However, the site also contains another seed packet activity for clubs to use. This seed packet design was created with the thought that clubs could cut and paste the already-designed seed packet and fill it with stamps and use as a giveaway to kids or with other outreach programs.

Both of these activities are the creation of Aimee Devine, whose ideas have filled the pages of the youth-oriented *Topical Tidbits* online publication.

Step Right Up to the Philatelic Circus!

The May-June 2013 issue of *Topical Tidbits* is now online and what a colorful edition it is! Circus is the theme of the issue, which starts out with a brief history of the circus. That is followed by a mini-lesson on what constitutes a “set” of stamps, with the page illustrated lavishly with a set of circus stamps from Monaco and colorful cachets of the U.S. set of circus stamps. There is a page of circus cached first-day covers and an opportunity to design a cachet for the 5¢ Circus Clown stamp from 1966. The circus theme continues with an entire page illustrating various circus-related cancels. No circus would be complete without animals and a parade of wagons. This two-pager is actually an opportunity to practice putting words into alphabetical order. The issue concludes with an album page specifically created for youth to display their circus-related stamps and covers.



Reinforcing Philatelic Terms & Stamp Identification

Learning to use the correct and appropriate philatelic terminology is important for proper communication with other collectors and dealers. There are many ways to accomplish this goal while working with kids.

When the USPS sponsored the Ben Franklin Stamp Club program, it produced a colorful Stamp Bingo game that kids loved to play. Although that game is no longer available, one could create his/her own philatelic version with stamp collecting terminology. It would serve as a good review. Winners would have to not only prove that they had correctly covered the right squares, but could also be asked to provide a brief description or definition of the word.

What I liked about the Ben Franklin bingo cards was that they actually illustrated the terms as well as displaying the word. That might be a little more difficult if you are creating your own game.

Unsure about how to create the randomness of the words in a bingo game? For those into computer technology, there are websites that allow you to create bingo cards. Some even have features that would permit the use of illustrations. Google “free bingo cards”

to explore the options and learn more about the process.

Another option to help you create the randomness could be to purchase an inexpensive bingo game at a dollar store or thrift shop. Use their numbering pattern as an example of how to create your word or stamp-illustrated bingo cards.

Why stop with just one bingo-type game?

Once you have figured out how to create the first one using philatelic terminology, try your hand at creating one for foreign stamp identification. Either game would be fun for both adults and youth and make an interesting club meeting or program idea.

Scavenger hunts also provide an opportunity to demonstrate knowledge of philatelic terms. The activity sheet you create will depend upon the stamp mixture and materials you have to work with. You can usually be safe with words such as commemorative, definitive, precancel, perfins, straight edge, coil, sheet stamp, overprint, surcharge, booklet stamp and others.

Scavenger hunts to aid in the identification of foreign stamps can also be created. Label squares with the English names of foreign stamps and have participants comb through a mixture of stamps looking for the appropriate stamps to fill each square.

Philatelic Hangman has become another kid-favorite. Choose terms for which you have the actual items or examples. Then, after the term is guessed correctly, display the item and award it as the prize. This game works especially well with some of the larger items, such as souvenir sheet, plate block, first-day cover, stamp mixture or stamp packet, set of stamps, foreign album, glassine envelopes or magnifying glass. Variations of this game also can be played using the names of foreign countries or even the names of specific sets or series of stamps such as Machins, Liberty series, Transportation coils, Overrun Countries, Famous Americans and others. Again, give the item as the prize for guessing correctly.

What strategies do you use to introduce and educate youth about correct philatelic terminology and stamp identification? I'd love to hear from you! 

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 P.O. Box 1451, Waukesha WI 53187 USA.





Publication Reviews

George B. Griffenhagen

Thematic Collecting

An Introduction to Thematic Collecting, by Margaret Morris. CD-ROM published by the British Thematic Association, 32 pages, 2012, \$7 from Mrs. Wendy Buckle, 87 Victoria Road, Bournemouth, BH1 4RS, UK, wendybuckle@btinternet.com.

This CD-ROM by Margaret Morris of Glasgow, Scotland, a 1997 ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist, is written for the collector rather than the exhibitor, and provides the essentials of thematic collecting. The document is profusely illustrated in full color with 70 stamps representing almost as many different

themes. But another 50 illustrations depict other philatelic elements, such as backprints, covers, errors, odd-shaped stamps, postal stationery, meters, perfins, postcards, postmarks, stamp booklets, stamps with sound, surcharges and watermarks. Each philatelic element includes a detailed explanation as to how it can be used in a thematic collection. Margaret explains how to choose a theme, how to obtain both information and philatelic material and how to organize the collection. ATA Handbook No. 133, *Adventures in Topical Stamp Collecting*, heads Margaret's list of suggestions "For Further Reading." If

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you are thinking about starting a thematic collection, this CD-ROM will give you many ideas and provide maximum guidance.

Argentina

REVISTA F.A.E.F. Revista de la Federacion Argentina de Entidades Filatelicas, No. 136, June 2012. Casilla de Correos 3888, C1000WBM, Buenos Aires, Argentina, www.filatelia.org.ar, 5½ x 9½ inches, saddle stitched, 48 pages.

This Spanish-language journal features an English-language article on "Thematic Philately," by Manfred Bergman who explains that this type of stamp collecting had its origin in the June 1863 issue of *British Stamp Collector's Magazine*. Not mentioned by Bergman is the fact that it was George Guzzio and Mary Ann Owens who discovered the

article by Henry Higgins who proposed a collection of stamps depicting the "Heads of State." However, according to Bergman it wasn't until the 1930s that notable philatelists began to collect thematically. One of the major events to popularize thematic philately came in 1975 when Fran de Troyer (1914-77) of Belgium organized the first FIP international exhibition called **Themabelga** held in his own country. Philately moved to its present level of acceptance through the 1975-99 efforts of Giancarlo Morolli of Italy who was named by ATA in 1997 as a Distinguished Topical Philatelist.

Brazil

FILACAP. Associacao Cultural Filacap, No. 173, September 2012, Jose Mauricio do Prado, editor, Caixa Postal 06, Cachoeira Paulista SP, 12630-970, Brazil,

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ac.filacap@uol.co.br, 8½ x 11½ inches, saddle stitched, stapled, 24 pages.

This Portuguese-language periodical describes a wide variety of collectible items, including maximum cards, numismatics, Brazilian lottery tickets, World War II airgraphs of Great Britain and new issues from Åland, Alderney, Croatia, Ecuador, Guernsey, Hungary, Jersey and Slovenia.

Finland

AIHEFILATELISTI. Finnish Society for Thematic Philately, No. 4, 2012, Jari Majander, editor, 7 Tammitie, FI-00330 Helsinki, Finland, jari.majander@gmail.com, 5¾ x 8¼ inches, saddle stitched, 32 pages.

An English-language summary included in the Finnish-language journal has articles on the icebreaker *Urgo*, pictured on stamps of Finland and North Korea; lifetime memories of traveling by train inspired by the 150th anniversary of the Finnish passenger railways; and part three of an article explaining how a wide range of postal-philatelic material can improve a thematic exhibit. The 32-page CD-ROM by Margaret Morris is also reviewed. See the ATA review of this *Introduction to Thematic Collecting* at the beginning of this column.

Netherlands

THEMA. Society for Thematic Philately, Vol. 25, November 2012, Henk van Zutphen, editor, 16 Elsendweg, 6617 AW, Bergharen, The Netherlands, henk.vanzutphen@inter.nl.net, 8¼ x 11¾ inches, saddle stitched, 56 pages.

A wide variety of articles appears in this Dutch-language periodical, including a nine-page history of farming and the evolution of the plow. Other articles include the life of Willibrord, the Apostle of the Frisians; water mills; the origin of Santa Claus; the role of Fritz Schilgen (1906–2005), the German long-distance runner

in the 1936 Summer Olympics; the 2012 Yehudi Menuhin Trophy; a brief history of space achievements; the Gloxina botanical; the English Little Egret; and a review of philatelic elements for a thematic exhibit.

Periodicals by Theme

Medicine

MEDITHEME. Medical Philately Study Group, Vol. 31, November 2012, Dr. S. W. Stuart Menzies, editor, 32 King Edward Road, Tynemouth, Tyne & Wear, NE30 2RP, Great Britain, stuart@sbsm.co.uk, 5¾ x 8¼ inches, saddle stitched, 42 pages.

This quarterly British journal includes a unique article on tin cans, described as one of the most significant inventions in the history of food and drink. In 1795 the French military offered a cash prize of 12,000 francs for a new method to preserve food for Napoleon's Army. A Parisian confectioner, Nicolas Appert (1749-1841), won the prize in 1810 by submitting his patented invention of preserving food using glass bottles closed with cork and sealing wax. The same year (1810), British merchant Peter Durand received a patent for producing tin cans. In 1812 Durand sold his patent rights to Englishmen Bryan Donkin and John Hall, who established a commercial canning factory and, by 1813, were producing canned goods for the British Army and the Royal Navy. Since glass containers were breakable, Appert changed to Durand's metal tins. However, tin can mass production was not common until after the invention of the can opener by an Englishman named Yates in 1855. Soon the Americans adopted canning and became the world leaders in both the automated canning process and total can production. Nicolas Appert, the "Father of Canning," is honored on both a 1955 French stamp (Scott 759) and a 2010 Monaco stamp (Scott 2601). Since 1942, the Chicago Section of Food Technologists



annually presents the Nicolas Appert Award recognizing lifetime achievements in food technology.

Meters

AICAM NEWS. Associazione Italiana Collezionisti di Affrancature Meccanich, No. 65, January 2013, Nino Barbaris, editor, 24 Viale Famagosta, I-20142, Milan, Italy, info@cam.org, 6 x 8½ inches, saddle stitched, 68 pages.

A wide variety of pictorial cancels is described in this Italian language periodical. This issue also illustrates meters for automobiles (Ducati, FIAT and Suzuki), aviation (Air France, Pan American and TWA), banks, cargo trucks, chicken and egg, cinema, Coca Cola, hotels, Italian food, motor scooter, newspapers, Olympics, petroleum (Sinclair motor oil), pharmaceuticals, Pitney Bowes, shawls, tramway, turtles, universities, vaccines and a zoological museum in Denmark.

Ships

U.S.C.S. LOG. Universal Ship Cancellation Society, Vol. 79, No. 1, January 2013, Richard D. Jones, editor, 137 Putnam Avenue, Ormond Beach FL 32174, mbcmjones@yahoo.com, 8½ x 11 inches, saddle stitched, 32 pages.

The World War II Battle of Midway was a major victory for the U.S. Navy, but the reporting of it was a misfortune because of the leak of sensitive intelligence. The publication of the results of code breaking by the U.S. Navy threatened one of the most valuable secrets that allowed the Allies to defeat Japan. According to the *U.S.C.S. Log*, Captain Morton T. Seligman, executive officer of the *USS Lexington* until it sank at the Battle of Coral Sea on May 8, 1942, provided *Chicago Tribune* reporter Stanley Johnston with access to highly classified information. Johnston drafted the story that was published in the *Chicago Tribune* on June 7, 1942, the last day of the Battle of Midway. The headlines read, "U.S. Knew All About JAP Fleet. Guessed There Would Be a Feint At One Base. Really Attack At Another." It became obvious that the Japanese naval code had been broken.

Space

ORBIT. Astro Space Stamp Society, No. 96, January 2013, Jeff Dugdale, editor, Glebe Cottage, Spreymouth, Mosstoldloch, Moray, Scotland 1V32 7LE, United Kingdom, jefforbited@aol.com, 8½ x 11½ inches, 40 pages.

This issue of the British Astro Space Society journal pays tribute to Neil

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Armstrong (1930-2012), who died Aug. 25, 2012. This reluctant, modest hero inspired two generations with “one small step,” and his image appears on more than 500 worldwide stamps. Another article in this issue describes the most important instrument used by astronomers for a thousand years. It is the Astrolabe, used to measure the positions and movements of heavenly bodies, such as the sun, moon and stars. A full page pictures 18 stamps of different types of astrolabes that are preserved in many different museums around the world.

Topics in Print

Overprints can create a new philatelic element, while **surcharges** seldom offer a new topical since they only change the denomination of the stamp. A classic example is a 1928 U.S. overprint, Molly Pitcher, a Revolutionary War heroine, on a 1926 George Washington stamp (Scott 634) as a new philatelic element (Scott 646). William H. Waggoner's 2003 reprint in the February 2013 issue of *U.S. Stamp News* provides many examples of U.S. overprints and surcharges. Because of the shortage of revenue stamps during the 1898 Spanish American War, the United States overprinted the Franklin and Washington postage stamps (Scott 246-252) with “I.R.,” making them Internal Revenue Documentary Stamps (Scott R153-R155). Most U.S. surcharges were applied on postal stationery. Examples include Scott U540, U561 and U586 to accommodate increases in First Class Surface mail rates. However, the vast majority of U.S. overprints were applied to Documentary Tax stamps described with example illustrations.

The Wizard of Oz, by Lyman Frank Baum (1856-1919) is considered the

pivotal work in the history of American fantasy. Clete Delvaux, president of the ATA Journalists, Authors and Poets on Stamps study unit, describes the evolution of this fairy tale in the January 2013 issue of the *American Philatelist*. First Clete tells us that author Frank Baum was a philatelist, who in 1872-73 published his own stamp collecting magazine called *The Stamp Collector*. But Baum's greatest love was telling his children fairy tales. His mother-in-law suggested he write them down and, in 1897, he published *Mother Goose in Prose*. Then, in 1898, the Alice in Lewis Carroll's (1832-98) *Adventures in Wonderland* became Dorothy in Baum's 1900 *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, along with the Scarecrow, Cowardly Lion and Tin Man, who were seeking the Wizard to give them a brain, a heart and courage, respectively. By the centennial of Baum's birth (1956), more than three million copies of the book were in print. Montserrat celebrated the 50th anniversary of the 1939 *Wizard of Oz* movie (Scott 725) featuring Ray Bolger (1904-87) as the Scarecrow, Bert Lahr (1895-1967) as the Cowardly Lion and Jack Haley (1899-1979) as the Tin Man. In 1990 the USPS issued a stamp (Scott 2445) depicting Judy Garland (1922-69) as Dorothy, with little dog, Toto. The centennial of the publication of *The Wizard of Oz* was remembered by Gambia in 2000 (Scott 2305).

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 at gbgriffenhagen@gmail.com, for mention in future “Publication Reviews” columns. ■

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



Membership

New Members and Reinstatements

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56712 FLICKER, George (g.flicker@verizon.net) Christmas, Halloween
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56735 FRIBURG, Theresa Christmas, Olympics, Music, Orchids, Princess Diana
 17572 Twin Oak Dr, Jamestown CA 9527-9260

56721 GARRETT, Rick (rickg91@tpg.com.au) Prehistoric Dinosaurs, Giraffes, Golf
 HOISINGTON, Nan (hoisingn44@yahoo.com) Penguins, Native Americans, Hawaii

56731 JEZIERSKI, John (movdpc@gmail.com) Coats of Arms, Butterflies, Beetles, Insects,
 1230 NW 12th Ave Apt106, Portland OR 97209-3454 Stamps on Stamps, Maps

56726 MAKAREWICZ, Michael (mikeymakaz@yahoo.com) Orchids, Casctus, Roses, Birds,
 155 Windermere Ave Unit 1508, Ellington CT 06029-5800 Marine organisms

56725 MENON, Rammohan (rammohan.menon2011@gmail.com) Christmas, Albert Einstein
 277 Cottonwood Ave, Riverside CA 92506-6161

56719 METZ, Carol (metzcats@roadrunner.com) Cats, Animals
 9719 Olde Eight Rd, Northfield OH 44067-1421

56709 MININNI, Gianni (gianni@coachgianni.com) Soccer
 2650 Green St, San Francisco CA 94123-4607

56724 MOFFETT, Pat (dmoffett@olympen.com) Trains, Stamps-on-stamps, Minerals
 NASS, Henry ([postmasterbensurvey@gmail.com](mailto:postmasterbenssurvey@gmail.com)) Below face value
 11 Riverside Dr 17-EE, New York NY 10023-1434

56746	NELMS, R. Gordon (<i>rgnelms@gmail.com</i>) 2413 Heritage Dr, Gautier MS 39553-4419	
56727	PIAZZA, Daniel (<i>dpiaza3@verizon.net</i>)	Illuminated manuscripts
56739	PEKALA, Stanislaus (<i>stanwarren@aol.com</i>) PO Box 364, Hazel Park MI 48030-0364	
56708	PEROTTA, Gerardo 2027 Bellglade Terr, Cincinnati OH 45238-1809	Italian Themes on U.S. Stamps
56743	PESANTES, V. Vincent (<i>vvincentp@comcast.net</i>) 415 3rd St NE, Puyallup WA 98372-3042	Penguins, Perfins
42769	RESNICK, IAN (<i>avian@nyc.rr.com</i>) 22055 46th Ave 6D, Bayside NY 11361-3601	Birds
56713	ROWE, Tom (<i>trowe108@gmail.com</i>), Oklahoma	
56717	STIBIL, Chaz (<i>chazstibil@gmail.com</i>) 90 W Main St, Norwalk OH 44857-1444	Birds, Butterflies, Mushrooms, Trains, Wine
56714	WARD, Laura (<i>lward@williamwoods.edu</i>) 204 W 7th St, Fulton MO 65251-2606	Pre 1930, Horses, Dalmatian Dogs, Badgers, Animal Welfare, Animal Rights
56728-FM	WARD, Gregory Scott (address as above), <i>gscottward@sbcglobal.net</i>	
37425	WEIDMANN, Jerome (<i>weidmannb@aol.com</i>)	
56742	VOHS, Richard	
53322	YOUNT, Eugene (<i>eugeneyount@aol.com</i>) 103 Wilmington St., Rochester NY 14620-1931	Lighthouses, Trains

Address Changes

22140	FORGET, Maurice, 3055 Sherbrooke St West Apt 32, Montreal, Quebec H3Z 1A2 CANADA
54002	HACKNEY, Edwin, 28-B Richmond Ave, Lexington KY 40502-1400
30526	MCGUINNESS, Rob, 816-235 Keith Rd, West Vancouver, BC V7T 1L5 CANADA
54757	SIEGLING, Van, 243 Landover Rd Gahanna OH 43230-3175
36792	STANSFIELD, William, 245 Unquowa Rd Apt 9, Fairfield CT 06824-5020

Deceased Members

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SMITH, R. Donald (52866) ON, CANADA

Editorial Content

For editorial content of *Topical Time*, write to Wayne L. Youngblood, editor. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of ATA, its officers or staff. Neither the ATA nor its officers assume responsibility for individual dealings with or between members.

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

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International membership: one year \$33; two years \$60; three years \$82; five years \$125, Life membership: \$1,000.

All memberships begin in the month of the current issue of *Topical Time*, and include six issues of *Topical Time*. Subscription rates are included as part of ATA membership dues.

Subscription rate to organizations is \$30. Single copy, \$5 plus postage (\$2 U.S., \$4 international).

Advertising

All advertising is subject to approval of the American Topical Association, which reserves the right to reject or suspend advertising privileges for such periods of time as ATA sees fit.

For a rate card and other data on display advertisements, contact the ATA Office. Adlets are available for 30c per word with a \$6 minimum.

ATA Membership Recruiters 2013

The following ATA members have recruited new members during the first five months of 2013. They will receive \$5 credit for each new member recruited. We hope your name will appear here soon!

ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green. ATA Dealer Members shown in red.

New Members		
Hamman, Dawn (Fla.)	11	Levasseur, Thomas (Me.)
Lingler, Sandra and Andy	8	Nieuwlandt, Dan (Colo.)
Johnson, Bruce L (Calif.)	4	Osborne, Cathleen (Wash.)
Stout, Jean (Miss.)	4	Pettway, Jim (Tenn.)
Edholm, Keith & Carol (Wash.)	3	Ryan, Laurie (Ohio)
Coe, LeA (Ga.)	2	Schneider, Jean (Fla.)
Fisk, Allan (N.Y.)	2	Sazama, Robert (Fla.)
Jacobs, Norman (Ga.)	2	Wawrukiewicz, Tony (Ore.)
Scannell, Caroline (N.Y.)	2	
Shenberger, Richard (Nev.)	2	
Asher, Barbara (Ga.)	1	Also:
Bruce, Susan (Ill.)	1	British Thematic Society
Chun, Stephen (Ala.)	1	Christmas Philatelic Club
Davidson, Larry E (Canada)	1	Ships on Stamps Study Unit
		Virtual Stamp Club

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COLUMBUS TOPICAL: Stamps and first-day covers of Christopher Columbus and discovery of America... plus other explorers of the New World. Country by country listing at www.MrColumbus1492.com
(23/380)

FREE worldwide pricelist. Find out why most collectors place orders when they receive our lists. Martin Winter, 9026 E Nacoma Dr, Chandler, AZ 85248.
(24/381)

HUGE inventory, all with pictures. Worldwide and U.S. Continuously updated. Lots of positive feedback. Visit us at: www.bidstart.foothillsstamps.com
(18/384)

SELLING World-Wide Topical Collections, Israel, U.S. Free lists. TRADING: My U.N. FDCs for your "any others." Since 1955 -- Bick, Box 854ata, Van Nuys, CA 91408. 818-997-6496. iibick@sbcglobal.net
(25/383)

SINCE 1979 - TOPICAL MATERIAL. 1,000s of covers, stationery, red meter marks, letters, etc. Your individual approvals prepared and offered by mail! Helmuth Linden, Lt.Col.(Ret.). Postbox 250206, D-50518 Cologne, Germany. hlmtlin@aol.com. Send us your Want List; we will send you Scans.
(40/382)

TOPICAL COLLECTIONS FOR SALE: BEES/BEEKEEPING: 348 stamps, souvenir sheets, FDCs; plus 212 BEE-EATER stamps, souvenir sheets, FDCs. Estimated Scott Catalog Value \$3,900. Price \$1,287. BATS: 445 stamps, souvenir sheets, FDCs. Estimated SCV \$3,200. Price \$1,050. Most items mint and mounted with Showgard mounts on professionally produced album pages. Complete listings available in XLS format. Richard Shenberger, 7240 Polaris Ave, Las Vegas NV 89118 (702) 361-2903 (H), (702) 525-8121 (C), RWStamper@aol.com (67/379)

VISIT THE WORLD'S #1 Philatelic Website. Topical articles, online crosswords, historic maps, videos. Philatelic writers--share your research with our thousands of readers. www.philatelicedatabase.com (24/380)

WANTED: PICTURE POSTCARDS of state views, countries and topicals. I will travel for \$20,000+ cards. Paying cash. Write first or call. Herzog, PO Box 545, Vauxhall, NJ 07088-0545. (973) 399-7717 or (908) 468-9413/cell. APS & ATA Life Member. (24/384)

www.stampconnections.com The World at a click of your mouse. Countries (US-Mint & Used) ~ Topicals ~ New Issues (19/381)



Philatelic Journals

(Routinely mentioned in *Topical Time*)

Atout Timbres: Aude Ben-Moha, editor, 37 rue des Jacobins, F-80036, Amiens, Cedex 1, France.

www.yvert-et-tellier.fr/

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

bret@trajan.ca; www.canadianstampnews.ca

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

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

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

www.stanleygibbons.com

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

sipeditor@gmail.com; www.israelstamps.com

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

www.echo-de-la-timbrologie.com

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

mbaadke@amospress.com; www.linns.com

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

www.stampnewsnow.com

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

www.stanleygibbons.com

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

randyneil1941@gmail.com

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

Romania. dndobrescu_dannd@yahoo.com
www.philatelica.ro

Philatelie Quebec: Guy Desrosiers, editor, 275 Rue Bryant, Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1J 3E6, Canada.

editions_ddr@videotron.ca
www.philateliequebec.com

Setempe: Suzie Khumalo, editor, Private Bag X505, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa.

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

saphilatelist@iafrica.com.
www.philatelysa.co.za

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

astarkweather@nystampclubs.org
www.stampinsider.org

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

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

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

kevinmorgan2@live.com
www.stampnews.com.au/

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

www.stampnewsnow.com

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



Show Calendar

2013

Aug. 17-18, Nevada. Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show, sponsored by the Nevada Stamp Study Society. Inside the International Bowling Museum & Hall of Fame at the National Bowling Stadium, 300 North Center St., Reno, Nev. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Free admission and parking. Bourse feature 12 dealers and the USPS, as well as 40 frames of exhibits. Show cover and special cancel available.

Contact: Harvey Edwards (775) 246-4769.

Email: show@renostamp.org

Sept. 20-22, Texas. Greater Houston Stamp Show, Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway, Humble TX 77338. Exhibits/Dealers/Meetings//Auction/USPS, Free Entry and parking. Fri-Sat: 10-6, Sun: 10-4. More details at:

Website: www.houstonstampclub.org

Oct. 12-13, Washington. Annual Tri-Cities Stamp Show, Knights of Columbus Hall, 2500 Chester,Richland, Wash. 99354, 10 dealers, exhibits, postal cancellation/cachet. Admission free. Hours: 10 am to 5 pm Sat. & 10 am to 4 pm Sun.

Contact: Lawrence Clay, PO Box 6228, Kennewick WA 99336 (509) 735-3731

Email: lclay3731@charter.net



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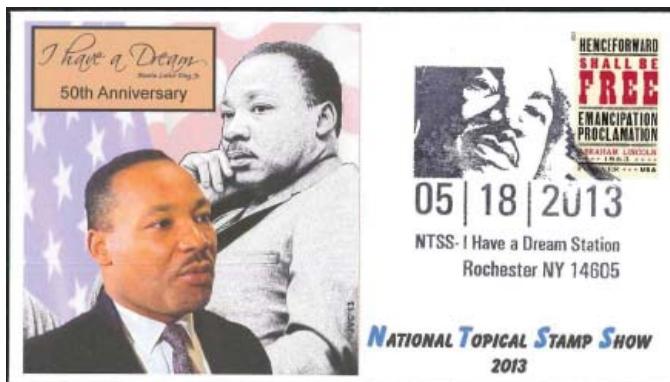
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To receive a listing in this column, send details to Wayne L. Youngblood, 4615 Lindell Blvd. Apt 1102, Saint Louis MO 63108-4601, or by email to: wystamps@gmail.com. Please submit show dates at least four months prior to the show.

NTSS 2013 Cachets

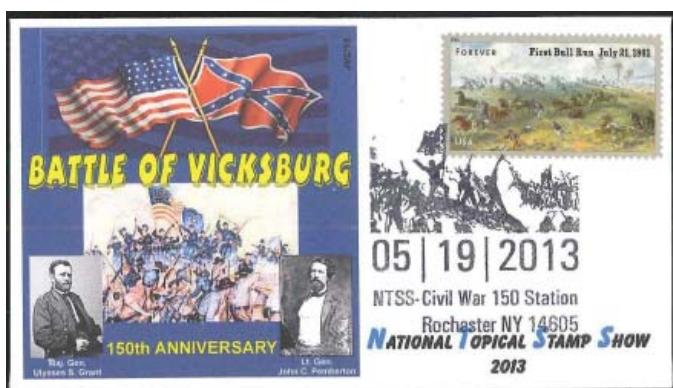
The NTSS 2013 cachet artist was John Colasanti. John won ATA's cachet contest in 2011 and is a member of the Board of Directors of the American First Day Cover Society and President of the Cachetmakers Association. Cancellations are by Chris Lazaroff, cachetmaker and former president of AFDCS. Thanks to both John and Chris, who are members of ATA. See p.69 for more information.

May 17, 2013
 →
**NTSS—War of
1812 Station,
Battle for Lake
Ontario,
200th Anniversary**



May 18, 2013
 ←
**NTSS—I Have A
Dream Station,
50th Anniversary**

May 23, 2013
 →
**NTSS—Civil War
150 Station,
Battle of Vicksburg**



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NTSS 2013 Limited Edition Cachets

John Colasanti produced these numbered Limited Edition Cachets for ATA, and donated all the costs for production. Only 25 of each cachet were produced. The Vicksburg cachet will have a First Day of Issue postmark and the Battle of Vickburg stamp. John's work is much in demand among first day cover collectors. If you desire a Limited Edition Cachet, order soon to receive the lowest number possible, or a matched set. Ordering info is on p.69 of this issue.

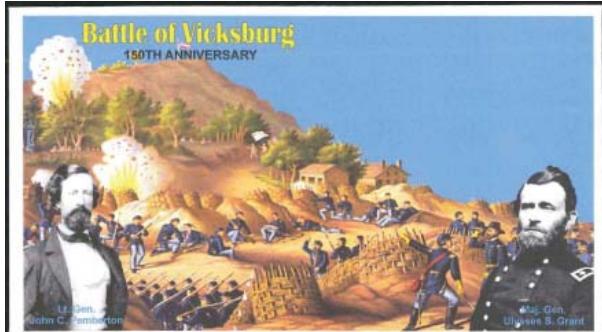
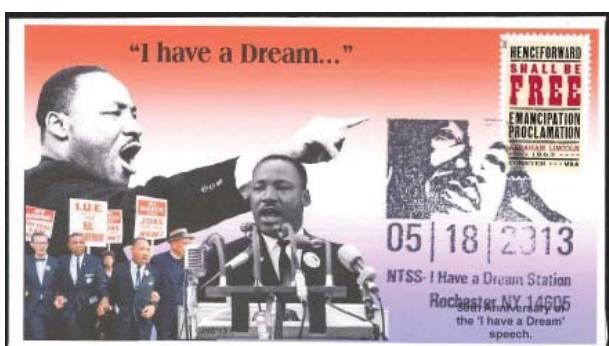


May 17, 2013

←
NTSS War of
1812 Station,
Battle for Lake
Ontario,
200th Anniversary

May 18, 2013

→
NTSS I Have A
Dream Station,
50th Anniversary



May 23, 2013

←
Battle of Vicksburg,
150th Anniversary,
First Day of Issue

ATA NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail to PO Box 8 – CARTERVILLE IL 62918-0008 – USA

**When you join, you'll receive information about two free handbooks!
And you'll receive one free checklist up to 50 pages long if you join by Dec. 31, 2013.**

Printed Name:

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Country:

Email Address(if you have one):

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Phone:

Topical collecting interests:

I agree to abide by the Philatelic Code of Ethics (<http://americantopicalassn.org/codeofethics.shtml>)

Yes No

Check if : New Member Reinstatement (former membership # if known:)

Membership dues if payment is made by Dec. 31, 2013:

	<u>One Year</u>	<u>Two Years</u>	<u>Three Years</u>	<u>Five Years</u>
US Addresses	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$65.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00
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I would like a copy of the ATA 2011-13 *Membership Directory*, \$3 (sale price while supplies last) (free shipping if ordered with membership application).

Enclosed is US \$_____ for dues and/or \$_____ for ATA publications (checklists, articles, handbooks, DVDs, directory). **Total enclosed: \$**

Payment accepted by: Postal money order

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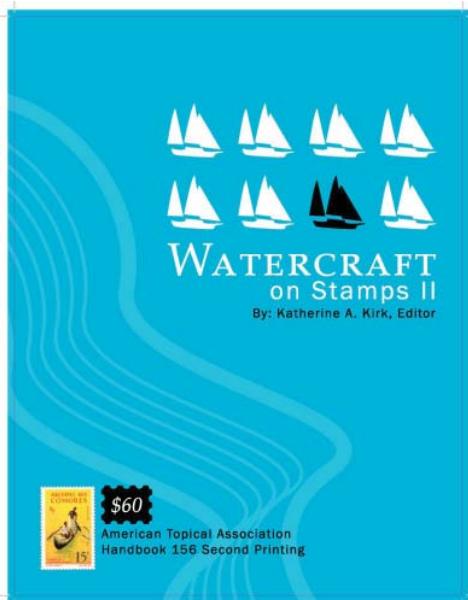
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ATA's Newest Handbook



Edited by Katherine A. Kirk

A project of
ATA's Ships on Stamps Unit

Contributions from Bjoern Moritz
and Myron Molnau

Majority of text is a checklist of all
watercraft on stamps to 1999
(incorporates HB 117).
A sequel is in the planning stages.

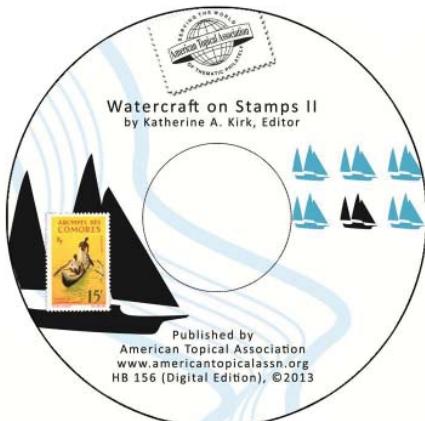
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