

**ATA FOUNDER, JERRY HUSAK, 1932-2018**

MARCH • APRIL 2018

# TOPICAL TIME



**ATA ANNUAL APPRECIATION ISSUE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!**

JOURNAL OF THEMATIC PHILATELY | AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION | \$5.00

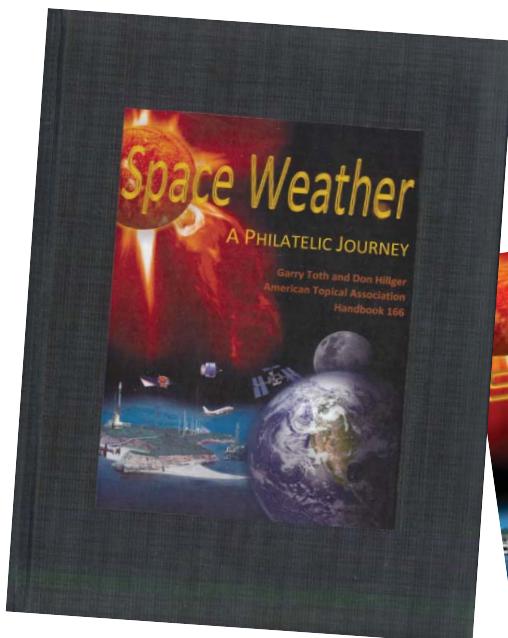
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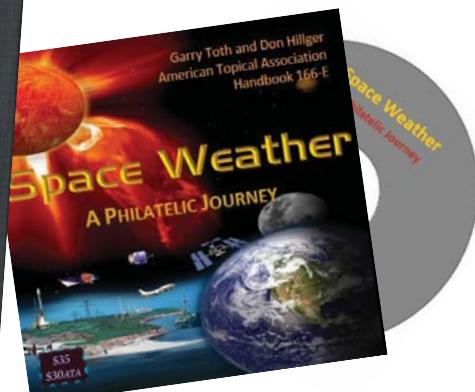
Space Weather is the study of the environmental conditions that occur in the various layers of the atmosphere; the understanding of those interactions and their impacts on people and technology.

### WHAT IS *SPACE WEATHER – A PHILATELIC JOURNEY*?

This beautifully written book\* authored by meteorologists Garry Toth and Don Hillger and published by the *American Topical Association* discusses in detail the relationship between solar events and their impact on space and earth through text, postage stamp and cover images, and documented with a checklist of stamps and covers.



\*Also available in  
digital format!  
(See pricing below)



Topical interests covered in this handbook include (but are not limited to): Astronomy, Cosmology, Meteorology, Astrophysics, Chemistry, Human Spacecraft, Oceanography, Earth Sciences, Hydrology, Volcanology, etc.

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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FREE "Stamp Tips of the Trade": Please visit [www.UPAstampauctions.co.uk](http://www.UPAstampauctions.co.uk)**

**Please contribute to the 2018 ATA Boldly to the Future fund today...  
Your name will appear in good company  
in next year's listing of donors!**



# DALE'S DIALOGUE

**Dale Smith, ATA President**

## When it's time to sell your stamp collection: A dealer's perspective

*[Editor's Note: This is part I of a planned series of articles from several different perspectives on selling your stamp collection.]*

Perhaps you have grown tired of working on your current topic, new material is hard to find and you want to sell to get the money to collect a new topic; or you have inherited a collection that you want to sell; or maybe that spouse who has tolerated the growing volume of philatelic treasures is demanding that you reduce the clutter; the years have passed too fast and you have lost interest in stamp collecting. Or, perhaps, like many of us collectors, our ability to see or physically work on our collections is not what it used to be.

What are the steps to take to make sure you get fair value for your collection? What is a fair value? What are the different ways to dispose of your collection? I will try to answer from a stamp dealer's perspective. Dealers must always add new inventory to keep customers coming to their table. I am aware of possible mistrust of a dealer's offer. Is it fair, or would another dealer offer you more? Who should I go to?

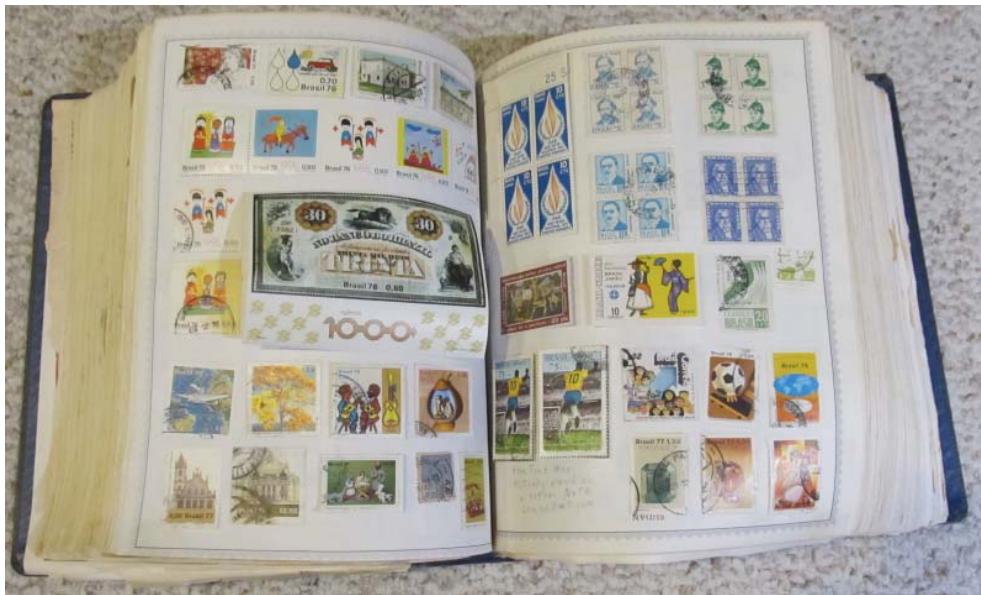
The answer is fairly simple. Get at least two to three appraisals from different dealers so you can determine approximately what your collection is worth. Let each dealer know that you are going to get several appraisals. If a dealer really wants your collection, he or she will make an aggressive offer. A dealer's offer depends on their need for your material. If you have a topical collection, you should probably focus on a topical dealer. If you have a cover collection you should approach a dealer that specializes in covers and postal history. U.S. or worldwide collections go to the dealers who focus on that material.

**Collections with strong material will always be in more demand by dealers than those composed of common stamps.**

What will dealers offer you? Sales of collections go in cycles and we currently are seeing a large volume of material coming to the market. Dealers have seen an increase in collectors wanting to sell. Auction

houses are seeing so much material that some have enough for the next two or three auctions. This means that unless your collection has rare and high-dollar items





**Even large collections with strong topical appeal can have value to a dealer, but the value of more common material is not based on a percentage of catalog value.**

you will likely be offered less than perhaps just a few years ago. Dealers, as a rule of thumb, will offer 20%-40% of current catalog value (excluding common stamps), depending on condition and their need for your material. Some dealers are offering 5-10% because they already have so much inventory on hand. That is why you must have more than one dealer appraise your collection.

A problem arises when you don't have a variety of dealers to go to. You should approach the dealers who advertise in *Topical Time* because they support ATA and probably are looking for topical material. You also could call the American Philatelic Society for the name of dealers in your area. Or attend a stamp bourse and take your collection to the "Stamps in Your Attic" table if the show has one. You could receive a quick survey and learn a rough estimate of what to expect from a dealer.

The other problem is when the volume of your collection is many albums, boxes and a potpourri of collectible stamps; too large to ship at a reasonable price and too costly to send back should the dealer not be interested in your material. Sometimes a dealer will pay the shipping costs if he or she buys your collection. It does not hurt to ask. There are dealers who advertise in *Linn's*, *Topical Time* and other philatelic publications that will travel to your location to appraise your stamps if the value in your collection warrants the travel costs. You will probably have to wait until one of their representatives is in your area. You should have a comparison value from a local dealer to make sure you are being offered a fair amount for your collection.

Here is a rule of thumb in determining the value of what you have invested in your collection: If you have used inexpensive stamps bought from the many mail-order vendors, canceled-to-order stamps or you realize that you did not spend much money over the years to acquire your collection, it probably will have little value to a dealer. Most of this will be common material that every dealer has. If you purchased higher-value material or expensive stamps and philatelic material, that usually retains and grows in value over time.

Different philatelic collectibles can vacillate in popularity over the years. I always see a lot of first-day covers in collections. Artistic hand-drawn and painted covers of very limited quantity can bring decent prices. Non-cacheted first-day covers before the 1930s can be pricey. But if you – like most of us – collected the wonderfully engraved covers of Arcraft, Artmaster, Cachet Craft or the colorful Colorano first days that were made in the thousands, you will find your collection is not as desirable today. Even auction houses turn these covers away, for the most part. Unless they are special in some way, dealers frequently can't even get 10¢ each for such covers.

Your collection has to be kept in a clean, dry environment, away from extremes in temperature, moisture, bugs and vermin that can inhabit a basement, garage, attic or a storage shed. The condition of your stamps must be good. I have seen stamps Scotch-taped into an album. Front or back. This leaves a terrible yellow-brown oily stain on the stamp. Hinged stamps will always be in your collections and can be desirable, but less so when heavily hinged. These stamps are even less desirable when the gum on the back is pristine, but the hinge was placed on the front of the stamp and folded back! I have seen this more than once.

Mint never-hinged are generally the most desirable stamps. If they are hinged, that could reduce the value by as much as 30% – perhaps more – depending on the scarcity of the stamp and how heavy the hinge mark is. Most dealers want complete sets of stamps. Many topical collectors will separate out the stamp they want and throw the remainders into a shoebox. You should keep them together somehow for that day when you (or your loved ones) may sell your collection.

I have seen some wonderful albums with pages designed by a collector: very beautiful pieces of artwork. Or very expensive albums that are getting harder to resell. Dealers need the stamps and covers for their inventory. Unless they sell stamps by the album, those wonderful pages are usually recycled or trashed.

It takes a tremendous amount of work and time for a dealer to break down a collection. It takes time to identify and place the stamps in cards or on pages and then file them into the inventory. If the stamps are identified with a Scott or other catalog number this speeds up the time a dealer takes to work up your collection. They usually will pay a premium for stamps that are identified and in good condition. Time is money.

I will close with one last bit of advice. Don't sell just the higher-value material and be left with the less expensive. Sell it all. You will have difficulty selling the lower-valued items once the better material is gone. Let the dealer move the more common material. Also, be wary of accepting part of your payment now and the rest later. Yes, most dealers are honest and trustworthy, but I have heard more than one story of a collector having great difficulty getting the promised later payments. If a dealer wants your collection, he or she will find the money to pay you outright.

I hope you found this article useful. Upcoming issues will have further information on disposing of your collection. Wayne Youngblood, our editor of *Topical Time*, will use his experience in stamp auction firms to explain the best way to sell your stamp collection that way. Also, our executive director, Vera Felts, will explain how you can donate your collection to a non-profit organization and perhaps get a tax deduction for doing so. Remember, collect stamps for the joy it brings you, not as an investment. ☐



# About ATA

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

## New Publication

We are excited to report that ATA has received a \$1,770 contribution from the Midwest Philatelic Society to print 1,000 copies of a colorful Disney booklet by Aimee Devine. It will delight young philatelists and Disney collectors of all ages. It is expected to be available in March. Watch the ATA website for ordering details.

## It's a Busy Stamp Show Season

One look at the schedule of shows where ATA will be present will convince you that we are in the midst of a busy time. It's a perfect opportunity to purchase a new checklist and take advantage of dealer stock at a show. Our checklist dATABse is always growing, thanks to the hard work of our checklist coordinators, Dominic Sgro and Beth Scully. When members find topical stamps not included in the dATABse, they share that information so that stamps can be added. A form for additions and corrections to ATA topical listings is on the website. To order a checklist, contact the ATA office by email or phone. Have fun at the show!

## You are Needed

ATA wants you to help fill these volunteer positions. We will provide assistance learning the job, and support in fulfilling each position. If you are interested in having a more active role, please contact Dale Smith at (816) 734-4536.

**Checklist Helpers.** If you have access to a set of Scott catalogs (even older ones), you have the “tools” needed to give our checklist coordinators a hand. There is a lot of checking and proofreading that comes with the territory. If you have a computer with the Excel program installed, that’s even better. A few hours of your time each month would be wonderfully helpful!

**Coordinator for Advertising Marketing.** We need an enthusiastic volunteer to contact potential advertisers for *Topical Time* and our website. This position involves contacting current and potential advertisers to expand our advertising base. Please contact president Dale Smith at (816) 734-4536. ATA very much needs someone to help in this area.

**State Compilers.** If you collect stamps related to your state, please become involved in our project to develop a checklist for every state. We still need compilers for many states! ATA member Mike Vagnetti is coordinating this project. Contact Mike at [atastatechecklistproject@gmail.com](mailto:atastatechecklistproject@gmail.com) or Vera at the ATA Office.

**International Outreach.** ATA has members in 44 countries. We invite our international members to join a committee to develop international relationships and form a council of ambassadors in other countries to help their philatelic organizations and to attract new members to ATA. Please let us know if you would

like more information about becoming involved. Please contact president Dale Smith. His contact information is on Page 4 of this issue.

## Recent Shows and New Members

**Feb. 2-4. Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, Sarasota, Fla.** Ambassadors: Dawn Hamman, John Hamman, Dale Smith, Andrea Smith, Mike Vagnetti, Clem Reiss. New members: 4

**Feb. 23-25. APS AmeriStamp Expo, Birmingham, Ala.** Ambassadors: Steve Chun, Vera Felts, Dawn Hamman, John Hamman. New members: 6

## Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at These Upcoming Shows

Checklist printing is available at the shows shown in blue. If you can assist at the ATA table for an hour or two, please contact the ATA Office.

**March 11. Sno-King Stamp Show, Everett, Wash.** (see Keith or Carol Edholm) [www.nwfedstamps.org/shows.html](http://www.nwfedstamps.org/shows.html)

**March 16-18, 2018. St. Louis Stamp Expo, St. Louis, Mo.** (see Vera Felts) [www.stlstampexpo.org](http://www.stlstampexpo.org)

**March 22-24, 2018. Garfield-Perry March Party, Cleveland, Ohio** (see Dawn or John Hamman) [www.garfieldperry.org](http://www.garfieldperry.org)

**April 21-22. Plymouth Show, Westland, Mich.** (see Loraine Stanton or Sandy Strzalkowski) [www.thewssc.com/plymouth-show/](http://www.thewssc.com/plymouth-show/)

**April 21-22. Evergreen Stamp Show, Everett, Wash.** (see Keith or Carol Edholm) [www.nwfedstamps.org/shows.html](http://www.nwfedstamps.org/shows.html)

**April 28. Stamp Out Cancer Auction, Moline, Ill.** (see Dick Perrin) [www.qcstampclub.com/CancerAuction.htm](http://www.qcstampclub.com/CancerAuction.htm)

**May 13-18. Pipex, Portland, Ore.** (see Jack Congrove) [www.pipexshow.org](http://www.pipexshow.org)

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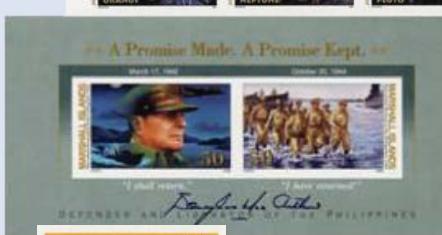
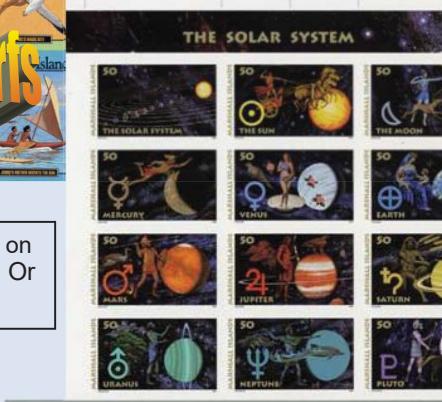
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- Enormous stock Butterflies, Bees, Insects & Birds, Mint
- Covers and Postal History

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

## Little things mean a lot...

You know the expression, “Little things mean a lot.” It reminds us that a small kindness or friendly gesture adds joy to life.

At ATA, where we operate frugally on a tight budget, members often do “little things” that add up to a great deal. Here are some examples:

- \*“Round-up” a payment for a check-list or other purchase by adding an additional amount.

- \*Add a few dollars when paying with PayPal to cover the fee that ATA must pay.

- \*Donate mint U.S. postage. We save quite a bit on mailing costs by using postage our members generously donate.

- \*Add a contribution when renewing a membership.

- \*Purchase a gift membership to get a friend started in a great hobby.

- \*When shopping on Amazon, go instead to [www.smileamazon.com](http://www.smileamazon.com). Specify ATA to receive .05% of your purchase. ATA benefits, at no cost to you.

Donations of any amount help ATA maintain its services. Thank you for your membership and your support, as we face financial challenges and move



## BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!

<b>2018 BTTF Goal:</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
<b>Received (2/28/18):</b>	<b>\$1,092</b>
<b>Still needed:</b>	<b>\$38,908</b>

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

- **Check** drawn on U.S. bank in U.S. funds (preferable because it saves us fees) payable to “ATA,” PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008 USA.
- **PayPal** - to [americantopical@msn.com](mailto:americantopical@msn.com) - preferable if you pay electronically.
- **Debit/credit card** – At [PayPal.com](https://PayPal.com) – send money safely and securely to [americantopical@msn.com](mailto:americantopical@msn.com). One can also donate on the website even without a PayPal account.

If you do not use the internet, you may supply your credit card information to ATA. ATA is a 501(c)(3) organization. Each donation is tax deductible for U.S. tax-payers and is acknowledged with a “tax letter” acceptable to the IRS.



# VERA'S VIEWS

Vera Felts, ATA Executive Director

## Unexpected Rewards

One of the distinctive pleasures of serving as your executive director is the occasional opportunity that comes my way to share in the beauty of a member's stamp collection. I so appreciate the times I am able to learn about the ways you collect and the beautiful ways various collections are stored. I remember lovely handmade wooden album cases and gorgeous and creative pages so artistically made. Each of us demonstrates in so many small ways how we "value" our stamps.

My vacation last month was highlighted with a visit with of one of our longest-term members, Erwin Rugendorff. Erwin's ATA membership number is 724 and he has continuously paid his membership dues every year since 1950! After the passing of our founder Jerry Husak, only life member Beverly Ridgely, ATA 315, is recorded in our membership database as being a member longer than him. Erwin, a retired urologist, was born in Romania and lived in Germany, then retired to the United States some 20 years ago.

Erwin and his vivacious wife Karin shared time with me in their lovely home; I really appreciated getting to know them and being able to thank him in person for his many years of supporting ATA – beginning long before he moved to the United States. Erwin and I are both members of the Medical Subjects Unit and share an interest in some topical areas, such as anti-substance abuse and AIDS awareness. What a nice visit we had! My personal thanks to Erwin and Karin – and to all ATA members who have shared information about their collections with me through the years.

**Mint U.S. Postage.** So many of our members responded to my plea for mint postage donations in the last issue of this journal! Among them were Jerry Belber, Bernard Bucholz, Ed Chaney, Lucy Eyster, Ray Havlicek, Robert E. Johnson, Bob and Pat Quintero, John Renyhart, Wayne Svoboda, Jim Uline and Carrie Walk-



*Executive Director Vera Felts and longtime ATA member Erwin Rugendorff.*

iewicz. Together they donated more than \$200 in stamps during the last few weeks. Donations are very helpful to our ATA's budget! When you come across spare or excess stamps in your collection, do consider mailing them to ATA or dropping them off at an ATA society table at a stamp show. And, when you have to purchase 20 stamps to obtain only a few for your collection, you know who would very much appreciate the remainder! When you make multiple cash or in-kind donations to ATA, you will receive a "tax letter" at year's end with the total amount of your donations listed.

**New ATA *Space Weather* and *Amphibians* Handbooks.** It's still not too late to add your name to our list of folks who are interested in a print copy of ATA's new digital handbook on *Space Weather*. Authors are Garry Toth and Don Hillger. Email or call the ATA Office for details. We also have the new *Amphibians* handbook available. Please see ad on inside front cover.

**ATA Membership Up for Renewal?** If you are one of the majority of ATA members whose membership comes due in May, you'll be receiving your first membership reminder by email or postcard this month (March). Be among the first to take advantage of our offer of a reduction in your membership cost! When it's time to renew your membership, simply mail a U.S. check or money order to the ATA Office so we receive it before your expiration date – and take \$2 off your membership renewal cost.



You'll find your membership expiration date on the top line of the mailing label of *Topical Time*. If you are continuing your print membership, mail a check to the ATA Office to arrive any time before the date, and subtract \$2 from your renewal price. You'll save ATA the time and expense of multiple membership reminders – and save yourself a couple of bucks.

This offer does not apply to paying electronically (PayPal and electronic cards are certainly convenient but have considerable added costs – if you can add a dollar when you renew by PayPal, that would just about cover the added cost to ATA). ☐



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# WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

Wayne L. Youngblood, *Topical Time* Editor

## Thank you Jerry!

As this issue of *Topical Time* was nearing completion, we were informed that ATA founder Jerry Husak died Feb. 22 in Arizona (please see obituary on Page 18).

While Jerry's death is certainly a huge symbolic loss to the society, it does give us a moment to reflect both on his countless contributions to the ATA – and philately in general – as well as to celebrate what he was able to accomplish by simply seeking out others with similar interests. Think about it: When Jerry first envisioned ATA in 1949, he was hoping to connect with *as many as* 200 other collectors. This number nearly tripled in less than five months!

Now, almost 70 years later, the organization is the largest topical or thematic group in the entire world, with about 2,500 active members. Thank you Jerry!

Society business aside, Jerry was one of the most modest, kind and unassuming collectors I've ever met and, while I regret I didn't have the opportunity to get to know him better than I did, I'm grateful to have been able to make his acquaintance. The last time I visited with Jerry was in 2011, when he and Sally (also a delightful individual) came back to Wisconsin to celebrate and participate in that year's NTSS. As he was eating his ice cream cone at Culver's (a Wisconsin frozen custard phenomenon), I made a point to thank him and Sally for all they've done. It was an awkward moment, as the self-effacing Husak couple simply smiled, as if to say "What else *would* we have done?" But it is a huge accomplishment – and one that wasn't easy. Despite the fact that many people collected by topic during the 19th century, by the time Jerry and Sally began working on building the ATA as a modern organization, a new generation of collectors had to be convinced that there was a valid place for topical and thematic collecting. Indeed, many organizations, collectors and exhibitors all looked down on topical collecting as if it was something only children should pursue. And yet, here we are, one of the very few philatelic organizations not actively shrinking and with members as exhibitors who win large international gold medals in competition.

We are joining with the APS this year for the first-ever joint show held between these two major philatelic organizations. Make no mistake; we are not being swallowed by APS, we are helping each other thrive.

As we move forward, it's important to remember that topical collecting – and the ATA – are among brightest spots in our entire hobby – an area that currently draws more new collectors in than any other specialty. That's something worth celebrating.

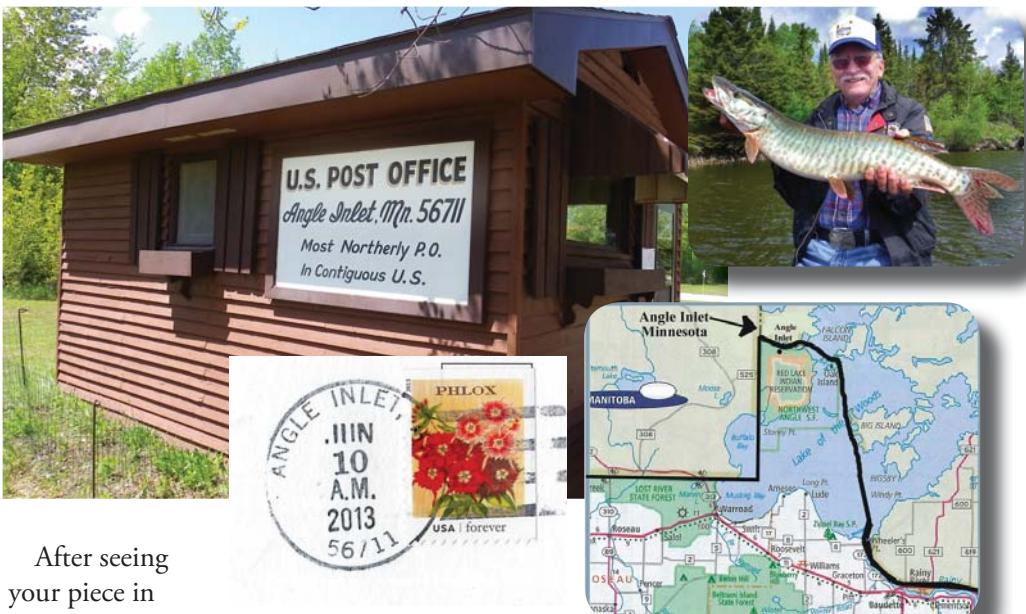
Thank you Jerry! We'll miss you. ☺



# TOPICAL POSTLINE

## Letters to the Editor

### *Minnesota is Further North...*



After seeing your piece in *Topical Time* on the post office in Wisconsin, I thought that I'd send you the accompanying photos. In looking at a map of Minnesota, there is one portion at the top, close to the western side of the state, that juts up into Canada. The very tiny town of Angle Inlet at the tip of this part of the state is so remote that one can get there only by boat, or by going through a section of Manitoba, Canada. It is located on the huge "Lake of the Woods" and the fishing there is great!

— Ray Cartier  
via email

*Ray, the fish is nice, but we all know you went up there for the post office, right?*

— Wayne

As a native of Auburn, N.Y., I was very interested in John Renhart's article on Harriet Tubman in the January–February issue. She is still very famous in Auburn, and we were taught all about Tubman's achievements in school. We also learned about Auburn resident William H. Seward, the Secretary of State who negotiated the purchase of Alaska in 1867.

Renyhart notes that the 49-star flag stamp of 1959 was issued in Auburn and comments that it was unusual that the U.S. Post Office Department chose a national holiday (July 4) for the ceremony. As president of the ATA Americana Unit (and probably the only ATA member who attended that ceremony), I can tell

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

JULY 4, 1959



SEWARD HOME

*Alaska* STATEHOOD  
CELEBRATION

AUBURN, NEW YORK

HOME OF

*William H. Seward*

PURCHASER OF ALASKA

49 - STAR FLAG STAMP



UNITED STATES POSTAGE



you that the choice of that date was not a casual decision. The 49-star design recognized the admission of Alaska as a state, for when a new state joins the Union another star is added to the flag.

However, the official date for the new flag design isn't the date the state joins the Union, but rather the following Fourth of July. Thus the "first-day" ceremony was not just for the stamp, but for the new flag design as well. That's why the issue date is part of the stamp design.

History is so much fun

— David A. Kent (ATA #6015)

New Britain, Conn.

*Thank you, Dave. This is indeed an interesting stamp issue from several different standpoints. I believe, since Hawaii was admitted to the Union about 1½ months after this stamp was released (Aug. 21, 1959), that this is the only depiction of the 49-star flag on a U.S. stamp (or anywhere?). Thus the release of the 50-star flag issue on July 4, 1960, also dated, and shown nearby.*

— Wayne

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



Dickens Festival  
Station  
Riverside CA 92501  
February 3, 2001



# Jerry Husak: 1932-2018 ATA Founder

*By Jack André Denys*

Jerome D. Husak, founder of the American Topical Association (ATA), the second largest philatelic organization in the United States, died Feb. 22. He was 86.



Jerry was a teenager in Milwaukee in 1949 when he conceived of the idea of a society for topical collectors. He later wrote, “*There must be others like myself,*” he mused, “*who are looking for guidance in forming a topical collection. Why don’t we get together and share our information through a united body of topical collectors?*” Thus, the ATA was born, literally, in Jerry’s bedroom, which became its first office. “*Who knows,*” he thought, “*perhaps through the formation of the ATA, as many as 200 topical collectors might come together for mutual aid and exchange of information, ideas and stamps.*” Within five months of its founding, the ATA had 408 members. In its 68 years, it has had almost 60,000 members from nearly 100 countries. The ATA is the largest topical/thematic association in the world.

In his history of the ATA, Jerry wrote “*The early days were not easy. Many people had to be convinced that topicals deserve a place in philately.*” When the ATA affiliated with the American Philatelic Society in 1987, it became its largest affiliate. The Thematic Award at the APS StampShow is named for Jerry.

Jerry was ATA member No. 1 and the first recipient of the ATA’s Distinguished Topical Philatelist award for service to topical philately in general and to the American Topical Association in particular. He collected the topics of Americana, Universal Postal Union and stamps-on-stamps.

Jerry earned both Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Business Administration. He worked full time for the ATA, as editor of its journal, *Topical Time*, until 1977, and as executive secretary until 1984. When Jerry retired from the association’s board of directors in 2008, he was given the honorary title of director emeritus. In 2012 the ATA board designated May 25 as an “annual National Topical Stamp Collecting Day, promoting topical stamp collecting as a vital dimension of the future of philately and honoring topical philately visionary and ATA founder Jerry Husak on his birthday.”

Jerry died in Sun City West, Ariz., where he lived since moving there from Milwaukee in 1984. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Sally, who was a tremendous support in his ATA endeavors. Despite failing health, Jerry and Sally attended the ATA National Topical Stamp Show in Milwaukee in 2011, the last one visited. Up until then, they had only missed two of the organization’s 61 annual shows.

At my first board meeting in 1986, Jerry gave me a large poster, depicting the complex development of Great Britain’s 1966 Battle of Hastings stamps, the first ever to be printed in nine colors. I didn’t even think he knew me. But he even knew my primary topical interest. That poster now hangs above the computer in my stamp den.

Donations in Jerry’s memory are being accepted by the ATA. ☐



# TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

## *George DeKornfeld*

### The Old Fogey's Stogies

A few weeks back on the American Topical Society's Facebook page, ATA member Mike Vagnetti and I struck up a "conversation" concerning our mutual regard of enjoying the occasional imported cigar, his preference leaning towards the products created in the Dominican Republic by Arturo Fuente, and mine favoring Don Tomas Internationals, made in Honduras. In front of the fireplace, around a camp fire, at hunting camp or during a poker game, there are few things more satisfying than puffing away on one of these rolled marvels of long-leaf tobacco, a tradition that goes all the way back to the ancient Mayans of Guatemala.

Before we dive in and, as a bit of a disclaimer, it's understood that stogies aren't for everybody, nor are they a healthy alternative to things such as ... you know ... fresh air, but used in moderation I'm hoping that, at least in my case, they won't cause me any tsuris. Also, the readers' tolerance is begged as pictorial postmarks on this topic are somewhat difficult to come by, so this issue's article will have meters and machine cancellations thrown in to add what every cigar should also possess; some body.

Let's start (where else?) with a first-day marking used in Cuba, a producer of



Figure 1.

possibly the most highly favored cigars on the planet. Although not yet directly available for sale in the United States, importing them in any quantity for personal consumption became legal in 2016, thereby eliminating any temptation of trying to sneak a few in when returning from holiday in countries where they could be legally obtained, such as any of the Caribbean islands – not that I would ever have considered trying anything like that, heaven forbid! Ahem!

To add a little perspective to the lore of these cigars, back in 1962, right before President John F. Kennedy signed the Cuban embargo into law, he had his secretary, Pierre Salinger, shop throughout the Washington, D.C., area to buy up all the Cuban cigars he could scarf up. Reportedly JFK ended up with around 1,200 cigars to add to his stockpile!

Our marking, used in 2014, celebrates the 95th anniversary of one Cuban cigar-maker, Alejandro Robaina Pereda, producer of the Vegas Robaina line of cigars (Figure 1).



**Figure 3.**

led Britain through the horror of World War II, remembered in part for his “V” for victory hand signal, a stylized version of which, holding a cigar, is found in our marking. Churchill smoked an average 20 cigars a day and even has a particular style of cigar named after him (seven-inches in length with a ring gauge of 47, ring gauge being a measure of a cigar’s circumference, Figure 3). An interesting footnote here is that the Axis leaders, Hitler and Mussolini, were both dedicated



**Figure 4 (above right).**

**Figure 5 (right).**



**Figure 2.**

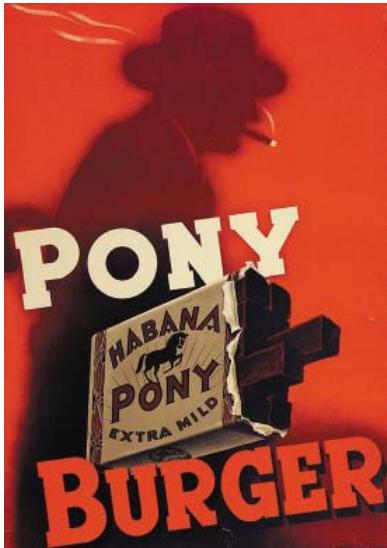


Figure 6.

non-smokers, while the “Big Three” of the Allied Powers: Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin, were all avid smokers. Smoke cigars – win the war. Okay, so that’s a stretch...

For our next stop we cross the English Channel to visit Germany, where we’ll also examine our first pair of meter stamps. Figure 4’s example was used in Dortmund in 1938 and includes a cigar suspended within a ring used to identify the name of the tobacco wholesaler, Handelsring, a company that was still in business in the 1990s. The meter in Figure 5 was used by Hörner, Bürger & Company, a cigar manufacturer in the city of Bruchsal that has been around since 1864. Today, the company is a market leader selling various styles and sizes of cigars in Germany, Switzerland and Austria (Figure 6).

We’ll exit Germany with a bona fide pictorial cancel, one used in Munich in 1998 that celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Federal Republic’s currency. This postmark, featuring a 1-Mark coin and a gent sporting a monocle, puffing away on a cigar, was issued by the International Munich Collectors Service. And, for our numismatist brethren, commemorative silver coins were minted for this anniversary (at five different mints in Germany: Munich, Berlin, Stuttgart, Karlsruhe and Hamburg). A 10-Mark example of these silver beauties can be found in Figure 7. This nifty and versatile cancellation could easily fit into several different topical collections (Figure 8).



Figure 7.



Figure 8.

During World War II, cigar smokers in Great Britain found their favorite Cuban cigars difficult to come by, especially since there was a patriotic need to keep monies circulating within the British Commonwealth. Currency was hard to come by, and sending it overseas wasn’t a fiscally responsible move under the circumstances. Add

in the fact that most shipping and trading routes were blocked off, the availability of these cigars dropped to near-nil. Feeling the pinch – and yet realizing there was money to be made – many Cuban tobacco growers and cigar

makers shifted their operations over to the nearby British colony of Jamaica. By using Cuban seeds and cigar-making techniques, it didn't take long for the Jamaican market to bloom. Jamaican cigars weren't exactly equal to Cuban cigars, but they were mighty close. In Figure 9, we can see a Jamaican slogan machine cancel used at the capital, Kingston, in 1950 that pushes the use of their smokes, although by then, the Cuban market had started to re-open. Nevertheless, Jamaica made a name for itself in the cigar world during this era that still stands strong.

Our next stop is the town of Bladel in the Netherlands, where in Figure 10 we find a 1966 meter that advertises Derk de Vries cigars. There's not much to be said about these basic, mass-produced Dutch cigars, but they do afford me the opportunity to go off on a personal tangent, with your permission. When I was growing up in London, England, back in the late 1960s and early 1970s, I cut my philatelic teeth with a stamp dealer named John Lawson, who ran a small shop on Sloane Street in Chelsea. His shop consisted of a small counter just inside the door of his business, with three or four tall chairs for his customers to sit upon. On the other side of the counter, behind John, were dozens of shelves packed with albums and stockbooks out of which he would sell his wares. Every free moment found me hanging out there, shopping and probably being a bit of a pest. He was the type of dealer that we need more of today ... highly tolerant of kids who are beginning collectors, starting them off to later mature in the hobby. I can't remember a time in his shop when he wasn't puffing on a Schimmelpenninck Vada (Figure 11), a small Dutch cigar that came in metal tins. One Christmas, I used part of my allowance to gift him a tin of these and he, in turn, gifted me my first Penny Black, a stamp that still holds a place of honor in my Stanley Gibbons Windsor GB album, nearly 50 years later. Thank you Mr. Lawson!

Thanks to what's been called the "collecting gene," something we all apparently possess, each time I try a new brand of cigar,



**Figure 9.**



**Figure 10.**



Figure 11.

its band gets religiously dropped into a large glass bottle that is kept in my stamp den, feeding what could be called an accumulation of these colorful mementos. As it turns out, collecting cigar bands has a fairly large, worldwide following. In Figure 12 we can see a pictorial postmark that was used at Matosinhos, Portugal, that celebrates a cigar band collectors' show held there in October 1975. The "CTT" in the marking stands for "Correios, Telégrafos e Telefones" (Mail, Telegraph & Telephone), Portuguese Post's former name. I suppose this means that

some day I'll need to turn this accumulation into an official collection – just something else to add to my endless collecting to-do list ... sigh.

We'll finish this issue's postmark journey with an absolutely stunning item, a 1970 first-day cover from Cuba that honors its tobacco industry. The concordance between the adhesives, the postmark and the cachet makes for some serious philatelic eye candy (Figure 13).

And, in closing, United States, Russia and Japan are sending up a two-year shuttle mission with one astronaut from each country.

Since it's going to be two years up there, each may take any form of entertainment weighing 150 pounds or less.



Figure 12.



**Figure 13.**

The American approaches the NASA board and asks to take his 125 lb wife. They approve.

The Japanese astronaut says, "I've always wanted to learn Greek. I want 150 lbs of books to learn Greek with." The NASA board approves.

The Russian astronaut thinks for a second and says, "It's gonna be two years up there. I want 150 pounds of the best Cuban cigars ever made." Again, NASA okays it.

Two years later, the shuttle lands and everyone is gathered outside the shuttle to see what each astronaut got out of his personal entertainment.

Well, it's obvious what the Americans have been up to, he and his wife are each holding an infant. The crowd cheers.

The Japanese astronaut steps out and makes a 10-minute speech in absolutely perfect Greek. The crowd doesn't understand a word of it, but they're impressed and they cheer.

The Russian astronaut stomps out, clenches the podium until his knuckles turn white, glares at the first row, waving a chewed-up cigar at them and says: "Anybody got a match?"

Oh, and one more thing: All members with internet access are really missing out if they're not visiting the ATA's Facebook page. It's a great place to interact with kindred spirits, show off some of your items and participate in the weekly "Topical Tuesday" contest, where the most interesting topical item wins a prize. The page can be found at [www.facebook.com/groups/american topical classn](http://www.facebook.com/groups/american topical classn).

Wishing all members a happy and healthy New Year...until next time! ☺

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looking for!

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# Coming this summer: Two Shows in One



From **Aug. 9-12**, stamp collectors will have the opportunity to attend a unique event – a joint show held by the American Philatelic Society and the American Topical Association, the two largest philatelic organizations in the country. This is a combined APS StampShow and National Topical Stamp Show, creating a great opportunity to introduce attendees to the hobby of topical collecting!

The show will include a large bourse in the spacious Greater Columbus Convention Center, 10,000 pages of exhibits and 35 literature exhibits. That's just the beginning!

What else is on the schedule?

\*Programs, seminars and meetings galore.

\*Social events, including an awards banquet you can attend free if you volunteer for 8 hours with APS supervised activities. Volunteer form is at [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org). The Distinguished Topical Philatelist award will be presented at the banquet.

\*ATA Annual Meeting and President's Reception on Friday.



\*USPS First-day ceremony for a topical stamp (not yet announced).

\*ATA Mega-Booth and booths of many ATA-affiliated study units.

\*Perhaps the largest number of thematic exhibits ever shown at a WSP show. Exhibits treated thematically or topically will be placed in the NTSS portion of the show.

The show hotel is the conveniently located Crowne Plaza. Downtown Columbus features 33

acres of lush parkland, with walking trails and free concerts. Other top attractions include the Columbus Zoo with Jack Hanna's Africa exhibit, Franklin Park Botanical Garden with large display of glass by Dale Chihuly and the top-rated COSI Science Center.

## What to do now:

\*Make your travel plans. Reserve your hotel room, via a link on the ATA or APS website, or call the hotel. Be sure to mention APS to get the show rate.

\*Join in the fun by volunteering to help with various activities, outlined on the APS website.



\*Volunteer at the ATA Mega-Booth and at a study unit booth. This is an ideal way to visit with topical friends and make new ones.

\*Enter your exhibits. Prospectus and entry form are on the APS website.

\*Check back on the ATA website for more show news:

[www.americantopicalassn.org](http://www.americantopicalassn.org)

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# APS StampShow/NTSS 2018

## ATA Participation

The main incentive for the ATA choosing to partner with the American Philatelic Society (APS) for this year's convention is to expose more people to topical collecting. This will be the largest stamp show to occur in the United States this year and provides a golden opportunity to showcase all aspects of the stamp collecting hobby we enjoy. We encourage each study unit and all individuals to participate in this endeavor in whatever manner they find practical.

APS is handling all arrangements for participation in the show except for the ATA President's Reception, the ATA after-show tour and volunteers to work at the ATA booth. You will need to submit forms and pay any associated fees to APS. Information is available at [www.stamps.org/stampshow-ss](http://www.stamps.org/stampshow-ss) and also will be available in the future on the ATA website: [www.americantopicalassn.org](http://www.americantopicalassn.org).

### Show Registration

Pre-registration for the show needs to be completed through the APS. The form is not yet available on either website. When you do register, be sure to indicate that you are an ATA member.

### Study unit booth deadline is April 30, 2018.

Society/study unit booths are expected to be staffed for the entire duration of the show. Two or more study units are welcome to share booth space to help ensure full-time staffing. If a study unit simply wants to display information and cannot commit to near full-time staffing, there will be table(s) for literature (although they may be crowded). Most spaces will be center or straight booths, with corners generally reserved for shared booths.

Booths for study units can be reserved by submitting the form on the APS website: [www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/society-participation.pdf](http://www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/society-participation.pdf)

Booths are nominally 10- by 10-foot and will have two eight-foot tables (front and rear). If desired, one exhibition frame and a six-foot table may be substituted for one of the eight-foot tables. Or, if desired, two frames can replace one eight-foot table. If you want either substitution, please note it on your form. The booths will have a tall curtain at the rear and table height curtains on one or two sides. No chairs, signage, frames, easels or anything else should protrude into the aisle space. There is a charge for a society or study unit booth, but it may be waived under certain conditions.

### Meeting/seminar(s) deadline is April 30, 2018.

There is no charge for hosting a meeting/seminar, or for use of the audio-visual equipment mentioned on the form.

Complete the appropriate form, found at this location on the APS website: [www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/society-participation.pdf](http://www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/society-participation.pdf) or, if you are presenting a talk or meeting as an individual, the website address is [www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/seminar-form.pdf](http://www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/seminar-form.pdf).

If you are planning more than one event, additional forms should be submitted.

Please review the tentative show schedule when requesting your day and time to

avoid conflicts, if possible, with major ATA, APS, show or exhibitor events that our members might wish to attend. ATA will review the schedule with APS and attempt to avoid conflicting study unit meetings.

The preferred times are:

Thursday 9:00-11:00 a.m., and 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00-1:00 a.m., and 2:30-6:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:30-1:00

Sunday 9:00-4:00

## Volunteers

**1. Show:** Volunteers are needed for APS supervised activities. Everyone is encouraged to volunteer at least two hours sometime during the show by submitting the form found on the APS website.

**[www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/volunteer-form.pdf](http://www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/volunteer-form.pdf)**

If you volunteer for eight or more hours with APS supervised activities, you are entitled to a free ticket to the awards banquet on Saturday evening, where the most prestigious exhibit and society awards (including the Distinguished Topical Philatelist), will be presented.

**2. ATA Booth:** Volunteers are needed throughout the show in the ATA Mega-Booth. Please contact Vera Felts at the ATA office to volunteer.

**3. Study Unit Booth:** Volunteer to help at your unit's booth if possible.

**Philatelic Exhibits deadline is May 15**, although early submission is recommended, as space is not guaranteed to remain available.

Individuals may submit up to two multi-frame (up to 10 frames) and two one-frame exhibits to the overall show competitions. All thematic and topical exhibits will be in the NTTS competition. See prospectus and entry form on the APS Website: [www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/Exhibit-Prospectus.pdf](http://www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/Exhibit-Prospectus.pdf) and [www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/Exhibit-EntryForm.pdf](http://www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/Exhibit-EntryForm.pdf).

Study units may apply for up to two free frames for the promotion of their groups or specialties. (This is not in addition to any frames requested in their booths.) Requests for more than two frames will be treated as non-competitive exhibits with a \$5 per frame charge. The total number of study unit frames may be limited on an earliest-requested basis.

A limited number of non-competitive one- or two-frame exhibits entered as "Free Style" (guidelines to be available on the ATA website) may also be accepted without fees.

## Literature Competition **deadline is May 1.**

This year's show will also have a judged literature competition. ATA will be providing additional awards for the best study unit entries. Please see the entry form, important information and prospectus on the following APS Website addresses: [www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/Literature-Entry.pdf](http://www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/Literature-Entry.pdf) and [www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/Literature-Prospectus.pdf](http://www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/shows/stampshow/Literature-Prospectus.pdf).

## Dealer booths **deadline is April 6.**

All dealer registrations and fees are to be submitted to the APS:

**[www.stamps.org/SS-Dealers](http://www.stamps.org/SS-Dealers).** 

# **APS StampShow/NTSS 2018 Tentative Schedule**

## **Tuesday, Aug. 7**

1-6 p.m.: Show set-up, various activities

5-10 p.m.: ATA Board of Directors Meeting, Crowne Plaza Muirfield A

## **Wednesday, Aug. 8**

7:00 a.m. to noon: ATA Board of Directors meeting, Crowne Plaza Muirfield A

8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.: Show set-up, various activities

5:00 p.m. - ? APS Tiffany Talk and Reception, TBD (ticket required)

**Elliot Gruber** - National Postal Museum, guest speaker

## **Thursday, Aug. 9**

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.: Show Open, Exhibit Hall B

TBD: USPS first-day ceremony, Showroom Stage

Evening (TBD) : APRL Columbus Stamp Soiree, Ohio Statehouse

“Shelving the Debt”

## **Friday, Aug. 10**

10:00AM - 6:00PM: Show Open, Exhibit Hall B

1-2:30 p.m.: ATA Annual Meeting, Exhibit Hall Conference Room

6:30 p.m. (tentative): ATA President's Reception (dinner) TBD (ticket required)

## **Saturday, Aug. 11**

9-10:30 a.m.: APS General Membership and Town Hall Meeting

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.: Show Open, Exhibit Hall B

1-2 p.m.: Open Forum on Exhibiting

2-4 p.m.: Exhibit Feedback Forum

4:30-6 p.m.: Awarding of exhibiting medals

6:15-7 p.m.: Awards Reception, cash bar

7-9 p.m.: The Hobby Honors (Awards Banquet, ticket required)

Major Show and Annual Awards Presented

## **Sunday, Aug. 12**

10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Show Open, Exhibit Hall B

4:00 p.m. - ? Show take-down

## **Monday, Aug. 13**

TBD: ATA Board of Directors after-show meeting.

TBD: ATA Tour (ticket required)

# Award Winners

The ATA offers a variety of exhibit awards to any show with a juried exhibition. A list of available awards and their criteria are available on the ATA webpage. The awards can be obtained by contacting Awards Chair Dalene Thomas. Her contact information appears at the end of this column.

**Remember:** Only those shows submitting a report to the Awards Chair will be acknowledged here. \*Denotes ATA member.

## First, Second and Third Awards

\***Evan Siegling** received the ATA First Award at Indypex for his exhibit, *Harry Potter*.

Midcities Stamp Expo awarded \***Ray Cartier** the ATA First Award for *Flights: Types of Craft that Have Flown Covers* and **John Hotchner** received the ATA One-Frame Award for his exhibit, *U.S. Flag Patriotic Covers of the Spanish American War*.

\***Robert R. Henak** received the ATA First Award at Chicagopex for *Spuds: Potatoes in the US at the turn of the Last Century*, while the exhibit *Walt Disney's First Superstar: Mickey Mouse*, by \***Edward Bergen**, was awarded the

ATA Second Award. \***Susan Jones** got the ATA Third Award for her exhibit, *Gombessa: The African Coelacanth Latimria Chalumnae*, and \***Jean Stout's Honoring Old Glory: How to Respect, Care For and Display our Nation's Flag** received the ATA One-Frame award.

Penpex presented the ATA First Award to \***Nancy Swan** for her exhibit, *Birthstones*, and the ATA One-Frame Award went to **Nigel Moriarty** for *Kauai Surf Hotel: Twenty-five Years of Change 1960-1985*. ☐

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Dalene Thomas is a past president of ATA and president of the Lighthouse Stamp Society. She may be contacted at [dalene@lighthousestampsociety.org](mailto:dalene@lighthousestampsociety.org) or 1805 S Balsam St Apt 106, Lakewood CO 80232-6778.

# Beekeeping

*Barry N. Floyd.*

*"Honey is the saliva of the gods." — Pliny the Elder.*

Bees are small flying insects that play a vital role in the pollination of plants while gathering nectar. Honeybees – wild and domestic – perform about 80 percent of all pollination worldwide. They help produce three-quarters or more of the world's most important food crops and account for roughly one in every three mouthfuls of food we consume. In addition, valuable quantities of honey are obtained and accompanying beeswax is useful for candles, cosmetics and polishes.

There are more than 19,500 known species of bees and they are found on every continent where there are habitats containing insect-pollinated flowering plants. There are bumble bees, carpenter bees, leaf-cutting bees, mason bees, mining bees, orchid bees, stingless bees and numerous others. Some species live socially

in colonies, with a queen and workers – thus lending themselves to human care through the skills of beekeeping, or apiculture. A strong hive may hold as many as 50,000 individual worker bees, all sisters who do not breed but devote



themselves to looking after their mother, the queen. She can produce up to several thousand eggs per day, the offspring requiring feeding with honey. A single bee colony can pollinate as many as 300 million flowers a day.

Unfortunately, bees are under threat at present. Known causes of their numerical decline include changes in land use, modern farming practices that leave fewer flowers, pollution, diseases and pesticides. The use of a nicotine-like pesticide – Imidacloprid – has been particularly controversial.

Thus life has become tough for bees. There is urgent need to reverse damage to the environment and to protect bees as key players in the world's ecosystems. Pollination strategies should be adopted globally to ensure that our basic food plants continue to be nurtured through the beneficial touch of these remarkable creatures.

Numerous countries have opted to feature bees in their stamp issues. For this article we have selected two sets from the Channel Islands: Alderney (2009) and Jersey (2017).



### Alderney

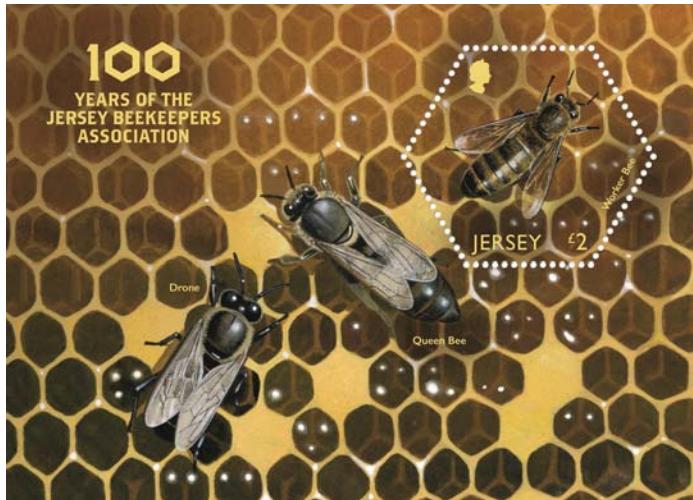
The low-value 36p stamp shows a tawny mining bee gathering nectar atop a yellow daisy; the 43p stamp depicts an early bumblebee; the 51p stamp illustrates a bug mining bee, while the 54p stamp shows a clearly striped cuckoo bee. The 56p stamp depicts a solitary bee foraging in clover against a castle background and the high-value 77p stamps show a honeybee seeking nectar in a coastal location. The honeybee is native to Europe, but is found widely in Africa and the Middle East, making it among the most widespread organisms on earth – apart, of course, from mankind.

### Jersey

The Jersey stamps were issued to mark the creation of the Jersey Beekeepers Association. Founded in October 1917 during World War I, the Societe Jersiaise aimed to promote the craft of beekeeping on the island and this goal remains active. In the inter-war years, beekeeping grew as a local pastime but, with the German occupation of the island during World War II, the importance of beekeeping became apparent. With shortages of sugar, most people took up the keeping of bees. Unfortunately, many colonies were looted by German troops or lost to thieves. Beekeepers attempted to protect their hives by camouflaging, keeping them on roofs and even in their homes. Later in the war, as medical supplies became scarce, honey became the only medical item in the hospital, while bee venom therapy could help in the treatment of a variety of medical conditions in humans, including arthritis.

The low-value 49p stamp shows a honey bee on a flower, collecting nectar and, as a by-product, pollinating the plant. The 63p stamp illustrates two worker bees storing nectar in cells containing larvae; the queen bee is overseeing the operation. The 73p stamp depicts a stainless steel smoking apparatus; this is used to blow cedar smoke into a hive to pacify the bees. The 79p stamp shows a beekeeper dressed in protective clothing, carefully removing a brood frame containing raw honeycomb from the hive. The 90p stamp illustrates a blade used to scrape the beeswax seal from the brood frame to extract the honeycomb. The high-value £1.07 stamp shows the end product: a jar of homemade, locally produced honey and a honey dipper.

The 110- by 80-mm miniature sheet shows two drones at work filling cells with nectar on the honeycomb. In the top right hand corner of the illustration is a



hexagonal £2 stamp bearing the queen bee at its center.

### **Summary.**

There can be little doubt about the enduring value of bees in their vital role as nectar and pollen collectors in nature. With their numerical decline due to aggressive exploitation of farmed landscapes and the use of fungicides and

herbicides, our concern must certainly be over the future of these fascinating insects. The fate of bees must not be overlooked. Sensible practical measures need to be taken to ensure the survival of bees and their prolonged welfare in the years ahead. We may claim that topical collectors of bee stamps have a role to play in promoting the well-being of these benign creatures. ■

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**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](mailto:bnfloyd@hotmail.com).**

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# Midwest Philatelic Donation to ATA

The immediate past president of greater Kansas City stamp club Midwest Philatelic Society recently contacted Executive Director Vera Felts to see if there was a worthwhile youth stamp program the club could help support. MPS is a 501c3 non-profit organization that wanted to donate some of its funds to support youth activities.

For the 2017 NTSS youth area, Aimée Devine, assisted by MaryAnn Bowman, created a wonderful Disney-themed 24-page booklet. The National Stamp Dealers Association sponsored the booklet at the show. There was a definite need for professionally printed copies, as booklets printed on the ATA office printer for the show were not of high quality. The proposition to professionally print the books was brought forward at a recent meeting of MPS. Club members were very impressed with the book and several commented that it would be great for new adult collectors also. The MPS board of directors unanimously approved making an appropriate donation once the group was presented with the cost. Then it was discovered that not quite 500 copies could be printed for the original amount agreed upon. Individual members of MPS then volunteered to match the money and the club raised the amount to ensure sure 1,000 copies would be delivered to ATA.

At a small event attended by club members, a check for \$1,770 was presented to ATA President Dale Smith, who is also a member of the club. About 10 of the club's 65 members are also members of ATA. This kind of generosity is welcomed in support of the many missions of your organization.

An image of the presentation is shown below. ☐



*What's your collecting passion?*

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

# Your Support Keeps ATA Vital!

You have done it again! Your giving to ATA's Boldly To The Future fund in 2017 made it possible for ATA to prosper. For many large philatelic organizations, donations are the largest source of income. For ATA, membership dues are our largest income source, with donations coming in second. Still, if it was not for your generous and constant support, ATA would have to cut back on its membership services or – worse – even close shop. Adding a \$5 or \$15 or \$50 overage to your membership dues renewal is so helpful to our organization. Responding as generously as you can to our BTTF fund-raising requests is vital to ATA. Even just adding a dollar or two extra when you pay for dues or checklists or handbooks by PayPal helps to cover the electronic fees ATA incurs.

In 2017, our leadership established a goal of receiving \$35,000 for our Boldly To The Future fund, and you responded very generously, helping us exceed our goal and raise a total of \$42,268.07. This was in addition to other donations, such as sponsorships, NTSS program donations and mailing mint postage to the ATA Office. Thanks are due to all of our members, study units, chapters and others listed below who contributed to BTTF in 2017:

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These ATA members made in-kind donations to ATA in 2017: Larry Boyle, Frank Corley, Carol Costa, Dennis Dengel, Jack André Denys, Dan Dixon, Keith & Carol Edholm, Vera Felts, Allan Fisk, David Giles, Dawn & John Hamman, Jeff & Adriana Hayward, John Hughey, Frank Kos, Donald Lewis, Robert Mather, Jasper Pa.ngton, Laurie Ryan, Richard Schaefer, Dale & Andrea Smith, Donald W. Smith and Jean Stout.

The following individuals made philatelic donations to ATA last year: Barbara Asher, Loretta Castaldi, Richard Chaklos, Carol Costa, Dan Dickson, Deborah Friedman, Matthew Furjanic, Gary Jenkins, Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (Pa.), Rosanne Locke, Gary & Peggy Montgomery, Paul Petersen, Marilyn Ream, Henrik Rossell, Jeanne Shull, Ron Tabbert, James Uline and Gordon Von Qualen.

ATA's National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) was made possible by financial contributions and by the time contributions of many volunteers. NTSS Sponsorships were generously donated by the Biology Unit, Jack Congrove, Larry Davidson, Dawn & John Hamman, Jeff & Adriana Hayward, Kim Kellerman of Rasdale Stamp Co., the National Stamp Dealers Association, Laurie Ryan, Mike Shefler of France International and Dale & Andrea Smith of Stamp Smith. In addition, 40 ATA members contributed to make possible the printing and free distribution of the NTSS show program.

Dozens of ATA members have contributed their time and energy to our programs and activities. Notable volunteers who each gave hundreds of hours in 2017 include:

Barbara Asher (Taste of Topicals)

Susan Bruce (Taste of Topicals)

John Hamman (NTSS)

Jeff Hayward (Study Units/Social Media)

Robert E. Lamb (TopicalsOnLine)

Amanda Morgenstern (Social Media)

Beth Scully (Checklists)

Dominic Sgro (Checklists)

Fred Skvara (Chapters)

Myron Wambold (TopicalsOnLine)

We would be remiss without mentioning the importance of members of The 1949 Society to the future of ATA. Membership in the society is open to individuals who bequeath their philatelic estates to ATA, or have made a provision in their will in support of the American Topical Association. Charter Members are Dennis M. Dengel, Jack André Denys, Victor B. Eichler, Roland Essig, Vera Felts, Ingeburg L. Fisher, Dawn R. Hamman, Jerry & Sally Husak, Bruce L. Johnson, Robert E. Lamb, Barbara E. Miller, Richard A. Roman, Edwin H. Shane, Frederick C. Skvara, Dale & Andrea Smith, Donald W. Smith and Michael S. Turrini. Please consider notifying the ATA Office that you would like your name to be included as a member of The 1949 Society.

The ATA board has established a goal of \$40,000 for the Boldly To The Future fund for 2018. We can reach this goal with the help of every single ATA member! Thank you for your past and future contributions! ☺



*Please use stamps on mail  
whenever possible...  
...We're all collectors!*

# My Topic

## Sue Spidle

Dawn Hamman

Sue Spidle and I became stamp collectors for the very same reason. We tagged along

with our husbands to stamp shows and, after browsing many times, became hooked on collecting.

In her case,

it was a Japanese stamp picturing a little boy. "He had such a sweet smile that I couldn't resist!" she said. Let's see how she got interested in her topic: waterfalls on stamps.

**Q.** Have you been a topical collector from the start?

*A. "I first started collecting Japan, then I started collecting Niagara Falls postcards, even though I had never been there! With my interest in Niagara Falls, I began collecting stamps with that image. Soon, I joined the Earth's Physical Features Study Unit and now collect worldwide waterfall stamps."*

**Q.** What do you enjoy about topical collecting and your topic?

*A. Meeting and interacting with other collectors. It is fun to see and hear others' passion for and knowledge of what they collect.*

Sue and her husband Duane can often be found visiting with fellow collectors



at stamp and postcard shows. Sue will have a majestic waterfall stamp to show off, while Duane might have a newly acquired pre-cancel or a postcard.

Sue has also made thoughtful gifts for family members who have special interests. She put together an attractive framed display of philatelic material featuring swans for her mother-in-law, while her father-in-law received one with fire department related items.

**Q.** How do you display your waterfall stamps?

*A. It's a work in progress! Ultimately, I will mount them, but I'm not sure how. I have them now on stock pages by country. I think it would be fun to mount them alphabetically by the name of the falls.*

**Q.** Do you have plans to try other topics?

*A. We have recently moved to Florida after spending the last 45 years in Colorado. Because we live near the ocean, I can see some beach or nautical topic emerging! Since moving to Florida, I enjoy beachcombing and looking for prehistoric shark's teeth.*

**Q.** I just have to ask if you ever made it to Niagara Falls.

*A. Yes! I finally got a chance to visit Niagara Falls on a trip to Pittsburgh for the National Precancel Stamp Society convention. The experience was even better than I expected. ☺*

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# Basics and Beyond

## Jack André Denys

*[Editor's Note: Talk about oldies but goodies! This is the fourth time the following article has been published by the ATA! It first appeared in this journal as a "Helpline" column written by Donald Beuthel many years ago. In 2005 it was included in a compilation of those columns in ATA handbook No. 153, Topical Helpline: Collecting and Exhibiting Tips. (That book is still available from the ATA Office for \$5 plus postage (\$1.75 U.S./\$3 Canada/\$5.25 worldwide.) Then, in 2009, it was reincarnated in a "Back to Basics" series in Topical Time. And here it is again – especially but not only – for newer members and newer collectors. Although somewhat edited for style and content, parts of it are dated. (Does anyone use "index cards" any more?) But the piece remains a helpful resource.*

*For additional info about the ideas in this column from previous issues of Topical Time: Albums, storage and write-ups: Nov-Dec 2012 "Jack's Journal"; Nov-Dec 2016 "Back to Basics"; and March-April 2017 "Back to Basics."*

*Additional types of material: Three columns about "Beyond the Catalog" items (postal stationery, postal cards, postmarks, meter stamps and booklet covers), July-Aug 2012 "Jack's Journal"; March-April 2016 "Jack's Journal"; and Jan-Feb 2017 "Back to Basics."]*

## Organizing Your Stamps

*Donald Beuthel*

It is not wise to start making pages for your chosen collection too early in the game. All too often you will have to go back and remake those pages as additional acquisitions suggest they belong on the pages you just made. If you have developed a very sound, hard and fast plan for your collection and have acquired most of the stamps in a section, you could start to develop your page style on a few pages, but generally it is better to wait until you have secured a good percentage of the stamps you want before doing anything of a permanent nature. Most of us, as we secure these stamps, put them in a shoe box, or a cigar box until we feel that we have enough with which to work. This might not be the best method of organized storage because frequently we forget what we have and make that purchase again.

One method that I have used has proven to me to be very workable. I use an index card and put all of the information about the stamp on it for each stamp that I want to purchase. When I acquire the stamp, I put it in a small glassine envelope and attach this to the index card. At the beginning, these cards could be arranged alphabetically by country and as I get closer to putting them on pages, they can be arranged by chapters of the plan. The cards without stamps attached should let you know which issues you still need to find and purchase. The cards can be sorted and resorted easily into many arrangements and you should be able to find an individual

item easily. As you put the stamps on pages the remaining card can serve as your inventory.

When I get closer to arranging pages in my collection, I transfer these individual stamps to

8½- by 11-inch stock pages. I can move the stamps around on the stock page, trying various arrangements. I can type related write-up on a sheet of paper and insert this at the location where it might appear on the finished page. All of this allows for organized flexibility without permanency. Finally, when I am satisfied that I like what I have, I make a more permanent page.

Just because I have put something on a page does not mean that it is final. I have found that pages will be changed many times as new materials appear. Remember, any collection should be a working collection. Once it becomes the final effort, it becomes stale and you lose interest. Keep looking for new material and keep making changes.



**Fancy cancels or even commemorative pictorial postmarks add depth.**



**Errors and freaks, if affordable, can add greatly to your collection.**

include perforation and paper varieties. Errors and oddities are nice but can become quite expensive. When you are able to pick them up at a reasonable cost, consider including

them. Don't forget that frequently your topic might appear on different types of stamps such as airmails and postage due stamps. All of these, other than the normal definitives and commemoratives, add greatly to the variety and interest of your collection.

Until now I have talked only about stamps and I want to emphasize that you

should consider including philatelic material other than stamps in your collection. There are many types of philatelic material that will add greatly to the collection and provide a depth and variety of philatelic information not available with only stamps.

This is one of those decisions that only you can make and some people do use only stamps in their collection and have very fine collections. It is my feeling that those who make the "stamps only" decision are merely scratching the surface of the topic.



**Unusual revenues that feature your topic are among those "philatelic elements" that will enhance most any collection.**



*Philatelic or commercial covers that feature – or even depict – your topic add visual interest and philatelic depth to your collection.*

I encourage you to take that extra step and look at the additional material.

At this point, I'm sure that you are asking, "What additional types of material are you talking about?" A partial list, which would add the variety I'm suggesting, includes postally used covers, souvenir sheets, designer drawings, proofs, postal stationery, special commemorative cancellations and maximum cards. All of these additional items are called philatelic elements. For those who are interested in a more complete listing of philatelic elements to include in your collection, see an article on "Philatelic Elements" on the ATA website.

Some might be saying that it sounds as if I am preparing you to exhibit your collection. In some ways yes, but not really. I feel that a nicely organized and well-prepared collection follows exhibit preparation to a point at which the individual makes the decision to stop and

not go that further step by considering the exhibiting rules. Up to that point the process is the same.

### **Pages for Your Collection**

By now, I'm sure that you are getting anxious to get some pages made for your collection. There are several publishers who will sell you pages that they have developed for some of the more popular topics. For a very few popular topics, album pages have been developed. Included on these pages are items that the publisher feels should be included in that particular topical collection. You are back to filling in album pages and have lost your own personal touch in developing your collection. While these might be good as a start, I would hope that you go beyond this and let your own knowledge, interests and ingenuity prevail.

Other dealers have designed pages for some of the more popular topicals. Basically they are only pages with a "topically

arty design" at the top of each page. To me they are expensive and have the same colorful artwork that takes up the top fifth of each page. Some collectors like these and it is an easy way to get pages for your collection. If this pleases you, go for it. Personally, I feel that the colorful artwork at the top of each page detracts the viewer's attention from the really important items on the page – the philatelic material. If I were starting from the beginning I would not use these commercially prepared pages. I would develop my own.

Now, I'm sure that you are going to say that you are not artistic enough to make your own pages. Yes, you are! I would suggest to you that you do not want to have the fancy designs on the pages for your collection. Let the stamps and other philatelic material be the major focus on the page. Keep the page appearance symmetrical in design and balanced. Don't attempt to spell out something or make fancy designs using the stamps. Do attempt to make the pages pleasant to the eye. Do not try to crowd too much on the page nor put too little on a page. This is a matter of personal preference. What is pleasing to one might be crowded to another. Make the page appear as if all that was meant to be on that page is there. Be sure to leave margins on all sides of the page. This helps to "frame the page."

Try to avoid the somewhat stereotyped page arrangement where you have a row or two of stamps across the top with a cover on the bottom of each and every page. Vary the appearance of the pages, but try not to vary the amount on the pages because this makes them appear inconsistent.

It is wise to make titles at the top of pages where each of the chapters of your plan begin. Some collectors like to put a small heading at the top of each page so that the plan can be followed easily. Avoid the temptation to put a large title of the collection on each page. It is not necessary. It uses space that could be used to better advantage, and such repetition distracts the attention from the material on the page.

I have talked about how the page designs should appear, but at this point I'm sure that you are asking the question, "What kind of paper should I use?" At first I would use a rather inexpensive paper because you might want to redo a page many times before it meets your approval. Generally, the paper that you use should be white or a very, very light pastel. Each of us has our personal preferences but the stamps and other philatelic items seem to show up best on a very light background. Most collectors use paper that is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by 11 inches.

The paper should be heavier than regular typing paper so that the page will hold the material well. I use a 90 lb. white index card stock. It is heavy enough to hold up well, but light enough to go through most computer printers. Also, it is inexpensive enough that I don't fret when I ruin a page. Believe me, you will ruin a few in the process of putting your collection on pages.

We have all read about the "acid free" paper that we should be using. It is worthwhile because it does protect the stamps and covers that are placed on it. Fortunately, acid-free is no longer prohibitively expensive and can be obtained through



*Unlike a few years ago, acid-free paper is now readily available – and affordable – for using as safe album pages that showcase your collection.*

most office supply stores. But even if you choose to use standard office papers, they still are relatively low in acid content.

Whatever paper you choose for your final effort, be sure to get a supply in your original purchase which is at least twice as much as you think you will ever need. Batches of paper tend to differ slightly in appearance even though they are supposed to be the same. Remember that paper “ages,” so that the paper you purchase today might not look the same as that which you purchased several years ago. If you run out of your original paper, you probably would have to make all of your original pages over again using the new paper because the differences will show.

Many collectors use mounts for their stamps and other philatelic elements. A mount is a piece of protective material that will adhere to the page onto which the stamp or other philatelic material is placed. Mounts come in all sizes, which can be a problem. For proper appearance you want to use the size that is meant for an item and that means purchasing many different sizes. My suggestion is that if you choose to

use mounts, use the clear mounts rather than those with black backing. It is extremely difficult to get the stamps placed properly in a black mount so that there is

the same amount of black showing on each side. Should you choose to use black, please make the borders that show very narrow, because a large black border makes it look like the item is in mourning. What is even worse is to have a wide border showing on one stamp and a narrow border showing on the one next to it. Always use a mount cutter to avoid cuts that go off at a slant. All of these little disturbances take your attention away from the philatelic material which is the most important part of your page.

Some collectors continue to use the “old fashioned” method to affix stamps to the pages using hinges. To some collectors, that is almost a swear word. Personally, I prefer not to pay the premium for “never hinged,” because I am not showing the backs of stamps and I don’t buy stamps as an investment, so I use hinges.

To place covers or large souvenir sheets on collection pages, I use clear adhesive corner mounts that are available through the many philatelic supply dealers. ☐

# Space Weather Handbook Available

The ATA has just published handbook No. 166E: *Space Weather*. It is now available in print or DVD formats from the ATA Office and at many stamp shows.

Written by meteorologists Garry Toth and Don Hillger, it includes descriptive text, stamp and cover images and an extensive and up-to-date checklist.

On Sept. 1, 1859, two British astronomers observed a large explosion on the Sun. A short time later, unusual phenomena occurred on Earth: brilliant auroras over large areas, wild magnetic variations and the failure of telegraph systems. What kind of Sun-Earth connection might explain what had happened?

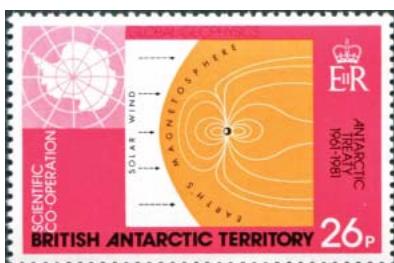
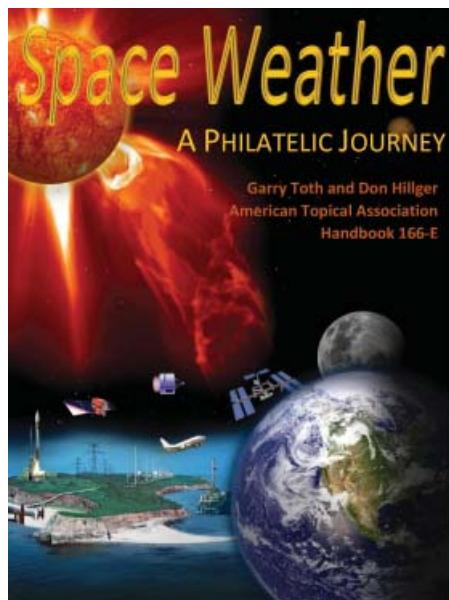
Scientific investigations found that some solar events could augment a stream of energetic particles known as the solar wind, which in turn could interact with Earth's magnetic field to produce the effects observed in 1859.

It was also found that those events could affect biological life and modern technology, such as satellites and communications systems. Space weather is the study of those phenomena and their impacts. The handbook presents the science and history of space weather in a philatelic context.

Garry Toth, MSc, was an operational meteorologist with the Meteorological Service of Canada. After collecting stamps of Canada and Newfoundland, in the 1990s he became interested in the topics of weather, climate, space weather and planetary weather.

Don Hillger, PhD, is a satellite meteorologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and holds a cooperative position at Colorado State University. Since the 1980s he has been interested in unmanned scientific satellites and weather and climate on stamps.

The printed 8½ by 11-inch book is \$65, or \$60 for ATA members, plus \$4 postage to United States, \$16 to Canada, \$24 elsewhere. The DVD is \$35, or \$30 for ATA members, plus \$1.50 postage to U.S./ Canada, \$3 postage elsewhere. Order from American Topical Association, PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008, or [americantopical@msn.com](mailto:americantopical@msn.com).





# CINDERELLA CORNER

## *Arthur H. Grotin*

## Verified Reception Stamps

The principles of radio transmission had been known and used for decades, but it wasn't until the 1920s that the general population could obtain a practical receiving unit.

To enthusiasts, the drive was to see just how distant a station they could receive. It

was not a competition among enthusiasts but rather with themselves, to see how they could improve their receiver to extend its reach. The listener would contact the station and tell them what he or she heard and when – and if – the station agreed it would send the listener a QSL card with its call numbers as verification.

Once this fad became estab-

**Figure 1 (above left).**

**Figure 2 (above right).**

lished, entrepreneurs saw a way to capitalize on it. And thus, the idea of "verified reception stamps" was born.

Jim Drummond has recently published a 635-page catalog of these stamps. In this compilation he gives a brief history of almost 1,400 early radio stations, their locations, owners and more. A comprehensive 80-page introduction discusses the history of the companies that issued the stamps, as well as the philately of the stamps themselves. (Contact stamp dealer Eric Jackson for further details.) Drummond estimates that there are 1,385 possible Ekko stamps, of which 947 have been found so far. Adding the other non-Ekko stamps, the total for a complete collection would approach 2,400.

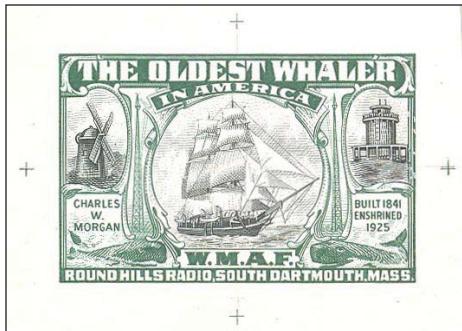
**Figure 3.**



**Figure 4.**

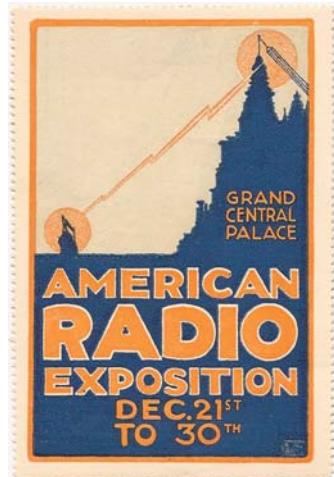
Two major companies, Ekko and Bryant, made verification stamps, as did a number of stations themselves. Ekko was by far the largest producer.

Towner K. Webster, Jr. of Chicago founded Ekko in 1922. By 1925, collecting of these stamps was so popular

**Figure 5.**

(Figure 1 is a scarce Specimen, while Figure 2 is for a Canadian station.) All were printed by the American Bank Note Co.

that *Radio News* had a front-page story about it. There are a number of designs as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

**Figure 6.**

Bryant Co, of Chicago produced verification stamps sometime after the Ekko Co., probably in early 1925. They were made for all known stations in existence between 1920 and 1926 (Figure 3).

Figures 4 and 5 depict two privately produced verification stamps for CKCL (Toronto, Canada) and WMAF (New Bedford, Mass.). The latter is a rather uncommon proof.

Radio, being a symbol for modernity, often inspired some striking images on poster stamps. Figure 1 shows an example from the Second American Radio Exposition in New York City in 1923. The artist was R.M. Bell (Figure 6).

So, anyone who is looking to start a new collection, look no further and good luck! ☺



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*Arthur H. Grotens, longtime cinderella enthusiast, welcomes correspondence at PO Box 3366, Poughkeepsie NY 12603-3366 USA, or by email: [agrotens43@icloud.com](mailto:agrotens43@icloud.com).*

# The 1949 Society

Membership in The 1949 Society is open to individuals who bequeath their philatelic estates to ATA, or have made a provision in their will in support of the American Topical Association.

## Charter Members

Dennis M. Dengel

Jack André Denys

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Donald W. Smith

Frederick C. Skvara

Michael S. Turrini

These individuals are Charter Members of The 1949 Society.  
Please notify the ATA Office if you qualify for Society membership.



# Time to Vote for ATA Board of Directors

It's time to vote for our ATA leaders! A list of current board members appears on Page 4. Dennis Dengel and Jack André Denys have both served the maximum number of consecutive years (12) on the board. Others who are not returning are Dick Roman, term expired; and Amanda Morgenstern, resigned. The four nominees are therefore all new to the board. Since there were no nominations made by our chapters, study units or general membership, these candidates have been chosen by the board's Nominating Team. Though this election is not contested, it is important for you to vote and show your support for our ATA and its leadership.

The ballot is found on the inside back wrapper of this issue. It must be received by May 30, 2018. If you have an email address on file with ATA, you may vote at [www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org](http://www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org). Or, simply mail your vote to the address given at the bottom of the ballot (using a commemorative stamp, if possible). Results will be announced by July 1 on the ATA website and Facebook page, in the July-August BYB newsletter, and in *Topical Time*. Those elected will be installed at the ATA annual meeting during the joint ATA/APS StampShow/NTSS in Columbus, Ohio, on Aug. 9.

## Philatelic biographies of the nominees for three-year terms

### Directors

**Tom Broadhead** of Knoxville, Tenn.

- ATA member 5 years
- Celebrated 60th year as stamp collector and 30th year as member of Knoxville Philatelic Society, serving as newsletter editor for 12 years
- Vice president of Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs, director of France & Colonies Philatelic Society
- Most of his stamp music videos are topical in nature
- Member APS and American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE)
- University of Tennessee: Knoxville, Professor of Paleontology and Biostratigraphy in Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences
- YouTube channel: **tomwb50**

**Carol Costa** of Kettering, Ohio

- ATA member 33 years
- Lifelong collector
- Member APS and AAPE
- Strong advocate of "free style" exhibiting; recently appointed as its ATA coordinator for NTSS 2018
- Topics: special interest in WWI, "fun stuff," such as Peanuts and Disney. Exhibits Mark Twain.
- Retired (mostly) ER physician

**John L. Leszak** of Buffalo, N.Y.

- ATA member 20 years, Bourse chairman of NTSS 2000
- Has had "a love affair with philately since he was 7 years old"

- Began stamp dealing at age 10, started shows in 1973, opened first store in 1981 as "The Cover Connection." Today he conducts mail auctions and has opened new store in West Seneca, N.Y.
- Editor of *Stamps Magazine* and later **Mekeel's & Stamps** for several decades
- American First Day Cover Society: Life member, serves on board of directors, helped Americover shows for several years
- Member: American Stamp Dealers Association (ASDA), APS, Universal Ship Cancellation Society (USCS), International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors (ISWSC), stamp clubs in Buffalo (board of directors; conducts its auctions), Omaha, Erie, Johnstown, Warren and Wilkinsburg

**Donald E. Neal** of Somerset, N.J.

- ATA member three years
- Officer of Ebony Society of Events and Reflections (ESPER), ATA Study Unit on Black Heritage worldwide
- Editor of *Reflections* (ESPER publication) for 14 years
- Maker of 6° cacheted covers (based on the idea of six degrees of separation) for 10 years
- Topical interests: literature and literary figures, astronauts and space, cars and rams
- Retired educator

Again, please remember to vote! Ballot is found on inside back wrapper. 



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# Octophilately...

## The Amazing Octopus on Stamps

*By Terry Raymond and Dawn Hamman*

The octopus is a mysterious and unique member of the animal world. It is a master of disguise that can change its skin color and texture, squeeze through tiny cracks and camouflage an escape with an expulsion of ink.

The soft-bodied animal is of the order *Octopoda*; 300 species have been discovered and there are likely still more to be found. They vary in size from one inch and .035 oz. to more than 200 pounds with a 13-foot arm span!

A large brain and complex nervous system make the octopus the most intelligent of all invertebrates. It can remember and learn.

Because this exotic creature has eight arms, let's find eight ways it is shown on stamps.

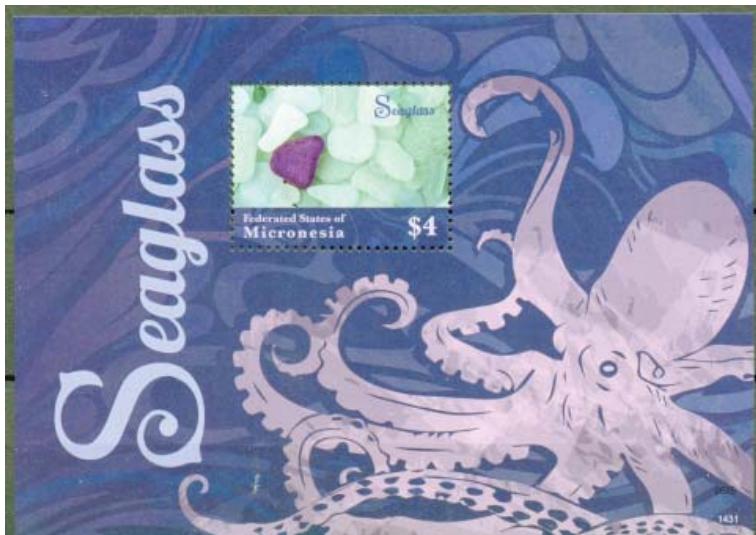
### Stamps Showing the Octopus

This stamp clearly shows the animal's bulbous head (which contains the mouth and brain). The arms trail behind as the octopus swims. Those fish may be in danger, as an octopus will eat small fish, as well as clams, worms and mollusks.

To many, the octopus's appearance is alarming. An octopus has two large eyes on the top of its head and a parrot-like beak. Its arms can each have as many as 200-300 circular, adhesive suckers, which can be individually controlled and allow the animal to anchor itself and manipulate objects. They are visible here.



Uruguay, Scott C335, 1968 (top), and with color error, missing dark blue, so fish are not seen (above).



Micronesia, Scott 1099, 2014 souvenir sheet, which shows several notable features of the octopus' anatomy.

## The Octopus in Mythology

The octopus appears in mythology – as a sea monster in Kraken of Norway, and in battle in Victor Hugo's *Toilers of the Sea*.

A popular myth still told by Tongan sailors is called *Maka Feke*. As the story goes, a rat was traveling by canoe, when a storm came up and the canoe began to break apart. As the rat looked for something to cling to, it spotted an octopus and asked for a ride to land, promising to pay the octopus when they landed. The rat rode atop the octopus' head. As they approached land, the rat jumped off and did not pay the octopus.

The octopus got revenge by fashioning a *Maka Feke*, or evil symbol, in the shape of a rat, with rope tail and palm leaves for legs. If someone dangles one in front of

**New Caledonia, Scott C184, 1982, a trial color proof that shows the three ink colors on the left, and the combinations on the right. Artist notations in pencil.**

**Left: Maka Feke.** you, you must decide whether to be tempted by evil.

### The Octopus on Coins

Eritrea was among the first cities in Greece to strike its own silver coins. This beautiful coin, from 500-465 B.C., features a horse on one side, and an octopus on the other. It is a Didrachma, or two-Drachma coin.

In 1976, Tuvalu pictured newly issued coins on a series of



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Above: Mali, Scott 247, 1975, perf and imperf. Below: Didrachma, Greece, 500-465 B.C.

stamps. The octopus is featured on the lowest denomination. Snorkeling and diving are popular off the coast of these South Pacific islands, but octopuses are so elusive that few people have seen them.

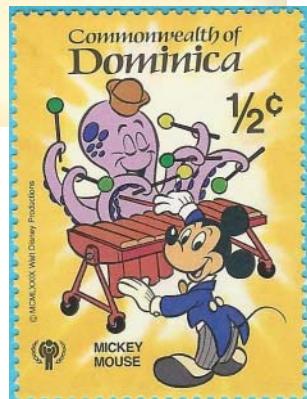


Official First Day Cover

Tuvalu, Scott 19-22, 1976, first day cover.

### The Octopus with Disney Characters

A fanciful pink or purple octopus frequently appears in Disney productions. There is one in *The Little Mermaid*, and one in *Finding Dory*. They show up in *Pirates of the Caribbean*, as well. The advantages of having eight arms are clearly evident in this stamp from Dominica, celebrating Goofy's 60th anniversary.



Dominica, Scott 1502, 1992.

## Diving with the Octopus

Few of us has ever seen an octopus in the wild. Snorkelers and divers sometimes have the opportunity, but the rest of us must visit an aquarium.



**Haiti, Scott 427,  
1958.**

Haiti Scott 427, released in 1958 for the anniversary of International Geophysical Year, is the very first regular postage stamp to show an octopus. It is on the bottom, between the legs of the deep sea diving vehicle (inset).

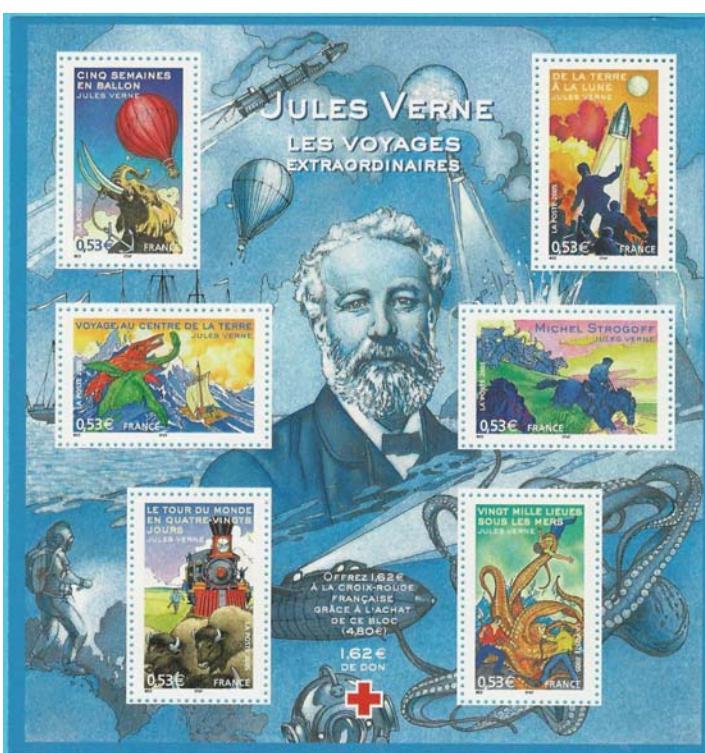


## The Octopus in Literature

The octopus makes a prominent appearance in the work of the father of science fiction literature, Jules Verne. The French author created a wondrous underwater world in *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*. Captain Nemo takes a group on an adventure in a

**Right: France, Scott 3125, Centenary of the death of Jules Verne, 2005, souvenir sheet, single stamp below.**

**Facing page: Movie poster, 1954.**

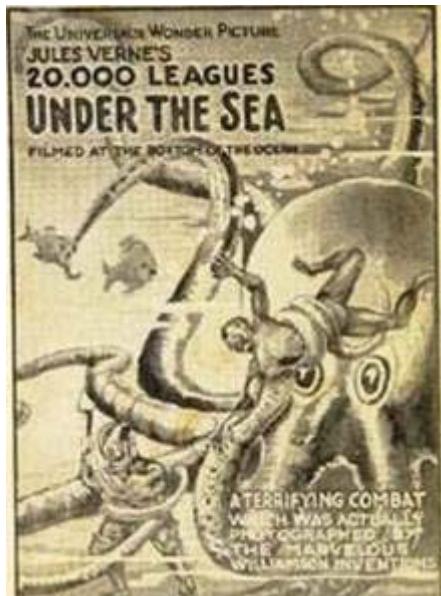


submarine, and several octopuses attack; also a giant squid. It was one thing after another.

### The Octopus as Food

The octopus is eaten in many cultures. In Japan it is eaten in sushi and in Takoyaki, a ball-shaped snack made with flour and minced octopus. In Singapore it is steamed with a sauce made of pork, pepper and flour.

Octopus is popular in Portugal and the Azores, where it is roasted with potatoes. This booklet of stamps from the Azores features a recipe for octopus stew. Yummy?



Azores, Scott 482, booklet (above) and souvenir sheet (right), 2005.



Below: Tonga, Scott 667, 1987.  
Central vertical gutter at left showed color progressions.



### The Octopus at Christmas

We've come to the eighth arm on the octopus, which finds him celebrating Christmas in

Tonga. It even looks as though he's made peace with the rat. Not a Maka Feke in sight! ☺

[Author's note: Terry Raymond was a prolific collector of shells on stamps. He was also an active paleontologist. Sadly, he died on Dec. 28, 2017.]



# Funtastic Filately

## Jack André Denys

*This is a new occasional column celebrating the fun and the fantastic in topical philately. Members are encouraged to send appropriate stories. Examples include a strange stamp, the thrill of a search, a personal connection to a stamp, an interesting choice, a neat experience and so much more. Please send entries to Jack: [jdenys@verizon.net](mailto:jdenys@verizon.net).*

### The news and a new page

It isn't every day that my esoteric primary topic – the 11th-century Bayeux Tapestry (BT) – makes page three of the *New York Times*! But it did on Jan. 19 this year. The BT has been on display in the town of Bayeux in Normandy for most of the last 541 years, if not longer. Now, French President Emmanuel Macron announced that it would be loaned to Britain during the renovation of its museum in 2022. A prime candidate for its English venue is the British Museum (BM). The idea for the loan came from Michael Lewis, Head of Portable Antiquities & Treasure at the BM, who I met at a BT conference there in 2008. The conference was titled "BT@ BM," as if it was a premonition. Neat!

The news article also reported that a pro-Brexit London newspaper published a parody titled *BYE-EU Tapestry*. These events sounded like a natural addition to my exhibit. So, by the end of the next day I had created an entire new page. Oh, the joy of being retired!

I had quickly consulted my go-to resources – Google and eBay – for information and purchase. (How did we ever function without them?) There it was – the full-page parody. And would you believe that one nation has already issued stamps for Brexit, showing the major people involved? Too bad it is the Central African Republic – one of the countries that routinely pour out literally hundreds of topical issues for collectors to buy and fill the government coffers. But when there is no other choice, even those stamps will suffice.

Yet there was a problem. The exhibit already was 128 pages, filling eight frames. I needed to omit one of those pages if I were ever to show that exhibit again. (I probably won't. It has gone as far as it can go, with a national Large Gold, 11 Golds, NTSS Reserve Grand and Grand and three international Vermeils. How greedy can I get?!)

Still, I wanted to maintain the 128 pages. What to do? Then I remembered

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that there were two pages each with two covers about the Tapestry during World War I. Surely they could be combined. Easier said than done. All four contributed to the thematic story. All four provided a significant element for philatelic knowledge. But somehow I managed to show the most important parts of all four on a single new page. The magic number of 128 was preserved. All in a day's play.

Now it is Jan.

21, two days later. It never ceases to amaze and amuse me how much fun we fanatical philatelists have. And with such little pieces of paper! ☺

### 3.5 HISTORY - PROTECTED

2018 – French President Emmanuel Macron: Tapestry WILL come home to England! British Museum's Michael Lewis suggested it host Tapestry during Tapestry museum 2022 restoration.

BM director Hartwig Fischer:  
"Honored and delighted"

Other places have been suggested for Tapestry's display: Battle Abbey, Colchester Castle, Ely Cathedral, Winchester's Great Hall



Tapestry Museum's Audio Narration: "VISITE TÉLÉGUIDEE"



2nd version: 1978-current. This postmark: inverted datestamp



Will UK in return loan  
Rosetta Stone to Louvre?



From prestige booklet

Not all were thrilled, calling the loan "a bribe," "a mockery." *The Sun*, London paper, promoted its pro-Brexit (British exiting European Union) position printing parody "BYE-EU Tapestry:"

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DAVID CAMERON  
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A BRITISH REFERENDUM  
FOR JUNE 23,  
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CAMERON AND  
SYDNEY GEORGES  
L'OSBOURNE,  
FOR THEY ART MEAN,  
SCARETH THE POPULATE  
WITH PROJECTE FEAR



BORIS,  
HE WITH MOP OF  
BLOND,  
LAUNCHETH YE £350M  
NHS  
BATTLE BUS  
Later: VICTORIE!  
BORIS DE MOP  
CELEBRATE



ELIZABETH THE  
SECOND  
BY THE GRACE OF GOD  
OF THE UNITED  
KINGDOM AND HER  
OTHER REALMS AND  
TERRITORIES QUEEN,  
DEFENDER OF THE  
FAITH,  
IS NOT AMUSED



FAIRE THERESA,  
LAST WOMANE STANDING  
ASTRIDE SNORTING  
CHARGERS,  
STORMETH THE DETESTABLE  
TOWER OF BRUXELLES

FAIRE THERESA  
VICTORIOUS  
(Standing over decapitated  
corpses of European foes)



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- ☒ Holding or participating in philatelic exhibitions.
- ☒ Assisting members to acquire and dispose of collections.

# Study Unit Spotlight

## This Month: Graphics Philately Unit

[Editor's Note: This is the 41st installment of a regular feature intended to – indeed – spotlight one of our study units and the fine work done in its journal. This month we feature "Stamp Printing Processes," from the January 2018 *Philateli-Graphics*. To be considered for "Study Unit Spotlight," please select what you feel may be the finest article appearing in your journal during the past year or so (preferably with philatelic content) and submit it via email to the Topical Time editor ([wystamps@gmail.com](mailto:wystamps@gmail.com)), or Study Unit Coordinator Jeff Hayward ([stamps@jeffhayward.com](mailto:stamps@jeffhayward.com)). We hope you enjoy this fine feature. [Submissions of Spotlight features are earnestly solicited!]

## Stamp Printing Processes

*Glenn H. Morgan*

For a publication relating to “the collection and study of all philatelic material that pertains to the topic of graphic communications,” it is perhaps surprising that more space has not been given in *Philateli-Graphics* through the years to the printing processes that are used during stamp production.

I therefore provide a brief description of the various methods likely to be encountered, which will hopefully be useful to those members who are less familiar with the terminology and means of differentiation. (Other principal names used for the same process are given in parentheses after the most philatelically accurate name for the printing method.)

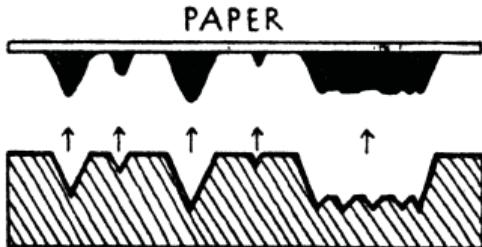
**Intaglio** (recess, line-engraving, copperplate, steel engraving, photo-engraving, etching or siderography)

The stamp design is incised by the engraver with a burin (a sharp, pointed hand-held tool) into the original die to varying depths, widths and shapes below the surface, often with the aid of a microscope to assist with engraving the finer details. Printing plates are then created from the original die, which are then used to print the stamps.

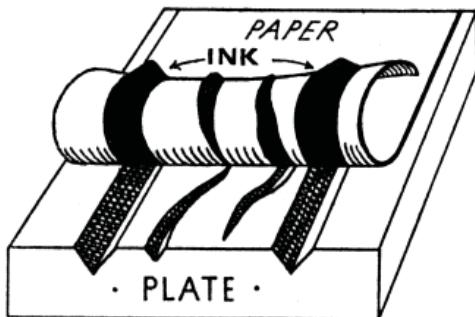


Ink is applied to the plate (filling the recesses); the excess is wiped off with a cloth and the paper is pressed under great

**Engraving with a burin.** Above left, Denmark, 1983 (Scott 737); far left, France, 1966 (Scott B400); left, Monaco, 1996 (Scott 2020).



**Transferring ink from the incised plate, resulting in a raised image on the paper.**



**Sheets of Penny Blacks were reprinted on a Victorian intaglio press at the London 2000 Stamp Show.**

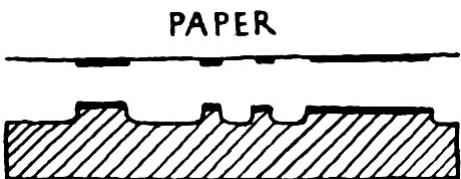
pressure against the plate, actually squeezing into the inked grooves, extracting the ink and transferring the design to the substrate.

An intaglio-printed stamp has a distinct raised feel and has been the “process of choice” for the philatelist since its first use by the British firm of Perkins, Bacon & Petch on the Penny Black stamp design of 1840.

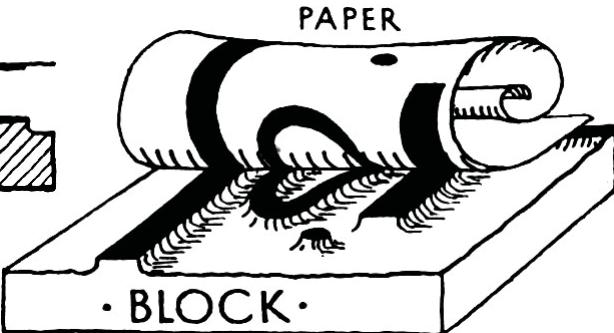
#### **Letterpress (relief-printing, surface-printing or typography)**

The stamp design was once transferred onto a metal plate using a greasy ink, with the rest of the plate being etched away, leaving just the raised design to print from (think of inked rubber stamps used in offices).

These older letterpress stamps could frequently be best identified from the reverse side because the design often felt raised to the touch due to the use of the metal plates and the heavy pressure used.



**Letterpress has the non-image area incised into the plate, with its printing area (the design) raised above the surface.**



**Left, The “raised reverse” effect of a letterpress overprint. Above, the “hard” (dark) edge to the lettering with its paler inked interior is typical of letterpress.**

The face of the stamp also tended to have a “hard” edge to the inked design, best explained in the accompanying image. These days, plastic plates or rubber plates (see flexography) are used for this printing process and so tend not to leave the raised surface on the reverse.

Letterpress is currently undergoing something of a renaissance with small print shops and hobbyists, but appears not to have been used to print postage stamps

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for many years. Towards the end of the “philatelic” life of letterpress, it tended to be used only for locally produced overprints and surcharges to existing stamps.

### [Photo]Gravure (*gravure, rotary printing, rotogravure or Rotaglio*)

An intaglio-based (recessed, below the surface) printing system typically running at very high speeds, it is best suited to producing large print runs owing to the expensive set-up costs and uses either plates or cylinders.



**Left, Bavaria, 1914 (Scott 114), the first use of photogravure for a postage stamp. Above right, United States, 1967 (Scott 1335), the first American photogravure stamp.**

Rotogravure is a commercial process used when producing magazines (think Sunday newspaper color supplements), but it is a term only infrequently applied to the production of postage stamps. Rotogravure (a merging of parts of the words “rotary” and “photogravure”) by definition always uses a revolving press and cylinders, while Rotaglio was a commercial brand.

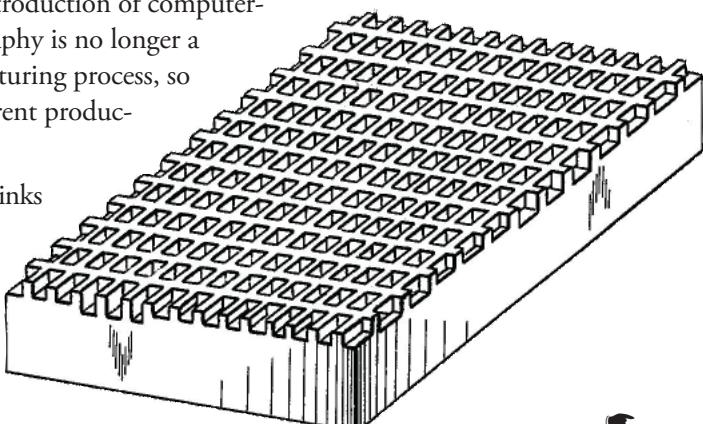
The photogravure process was first used for stamp production by German printer F.A. Bruckmann of Munich during 1914 on an issue for Bavaria that to this day is regarded as an excellent use of the method.

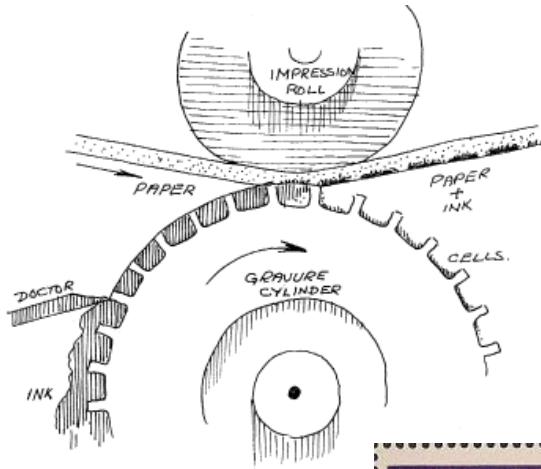
The Bavarian stamps were clearly seen as an important development, and it was not long before Mexico (1917), Great Britain (Waterlow 1918 War Tax stamps, Harrison 1921 6d National Savings stamps), Czechoslovakia (1919), Bulgaria and Württemberg (1920) had each followed Bavaria’s lead, with many more countries being late adopters in taking the photogravure route, such as the United States (1967).

Until relatively recently, collectors would have only encountered stamps that employed a photographic process in manufacturing the gravure cylinders (hence photogravure). Following the introduction of computer-engraved cylinders, photography is no longer a part of the cylinder manufacturing process, so “gravure” is the term for current production by this method.

Gravure printing uses fluid inks applied to the cylinder and held there in small cells

***The magnified ink cells of a gravure printing plate.***





**Right: A Harrison & Sons dummy promotional stamp illustrates manually making amendments to a photogravure stamp cylinder.**



**A view of printing stamps by gravure, taken from a Harrison & Sons philatelic wall chart.**

recessed into the plate/cylinder. Excess ink is removed with a doctor blade (think of a scraper), and the required ink is transferred from the cells onto the substrate.

Gravure is now very much on the decline, with fewer countries than ever using this process, in part due to cost, but also owing to the much smaller print runs produced for a stamp issue. The Universal Postal Union has stated that 90% of stamps

are currently produced by offset lithography, so the remaining 10% of production is shared between all other print options, including gravure.

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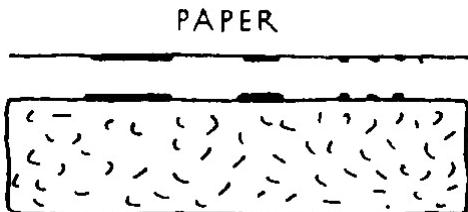
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**Lithography, using a stone and direct inking and printing.**

**Lithography (litho, planography or planographic printing)**

The original deployment of lithography for stamps was without an “offset” element. In other words, the paper came in direct contact with the lithographic stone that contained the inked imagery. It was based on the principle that grease and water repel each other.

The design was first drawn onto a calcareous stone (usually fine-grain limestone) with a greasy ink that was then treated with a chemical solution (acid and gum arabic) that caused the artwork to be “fixed” to the stone. This was then moistened all over, with the highly porous stone retaining the water in the non-image areas only.

Ink was applied to an inking roller that was rolled across the stone, only applying ink to the design area and leaving the non-design area uninked (repelled by the moisture). A sheet of paper was then pressed on to the inked stone resulting in a single printed image.

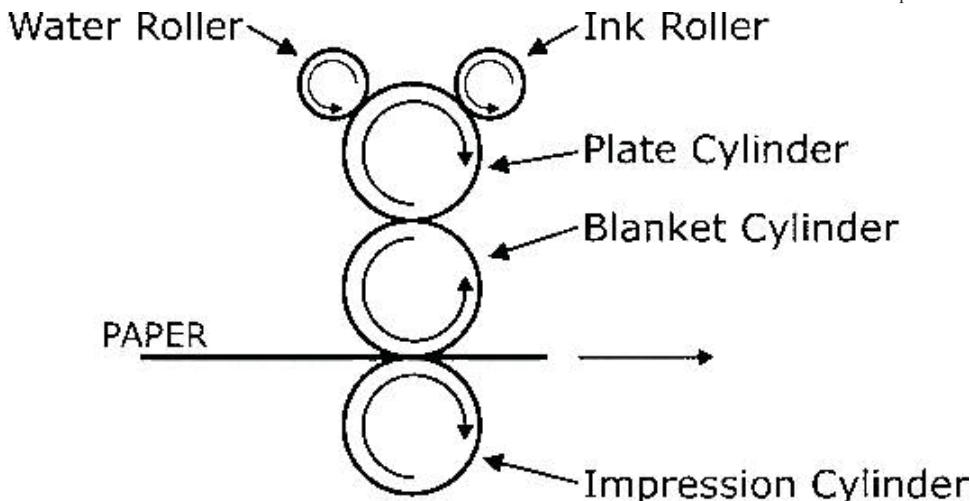
**Offset Lithography (photo-litho, offset-litho, offset, indirect)**

In broad respects similar to the original lithographic method, “offset lithography” (generally now just called “offset” in the print industry) transfers photographed artwork of the stamp image to a disposable polymer-coated flexible printing plate that is usually made of zinc or aluminum and is then bent around a plate cylinder.



**Austria, 1998 (Scott 1749), inking the litho stone with a roller. Stamp marks the 200th anniversary of lithographic printing invented by Alois Senefelder (1771-1834). Senefelder's portrait appears on the litho stone.**

**Due to circumstances beyond our control we are unable to present “Units in Action” in this issue. We hope to resume publication of Units in Action with the May-June issue of *Topical Time*.**



*The process of printing by offset lithography.*



*Left: The blue ink on a white background is the inked offset plate, reading normally. The blue ink on red area is the design, offset on the rubber blanket in reverse. It will be applied to the paper with a positive, or forward-reading, appearance.*

Rollers apply viscous ink and water to the oleophilic (grease-loving) plates and, as you have already read, since oil and water do not mix, the oil-based ink fails to adhere to the non-image areas. The inked image is then offset to a flexible rubber blanket cylinder, which transfers the image to the paper (as a normal, forward-reading image) as it passes between it and an impression cylinder positioned beneath the paper.

The flexibility of this technique allows for the use of several ink colors to the point where it is rare to find a single-colored offset postage stamp, such is the current obsession with multicolored – some say gaudy – modern stamps.



**Penguins on Stamps Study Unit**

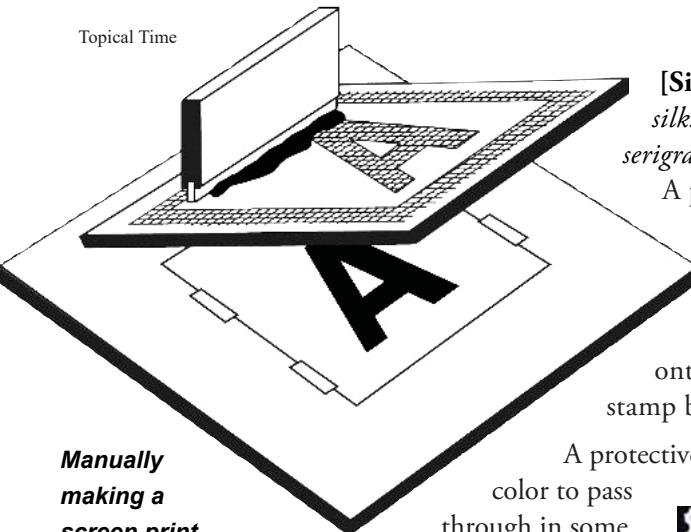
To promote the study of philatelic material pertaining to Spheniscidae (penguins); quarterly *The Rookery Report*; U.S. \$15, elsewhere \$20, electronic \$10.

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

Lynn Vernon  
8430 Iris Rd.  
Plymouth IN 46563-9055

Email: [gento0172@yahoo.com](mailto:gento0172@yahoo.com)

This is currently the most readily accessible and affordable form of commercial printing available worldwide, with comparatively low set-up costs and suitability for runs up to around 10 million stamps per cylinder or sleeve. It is increasingly difficult to differentiate between gravure and offset lithography.



**Manually  
making a  
screen print.**

color to pass  
through in some  
places (the image areas

where the mesh remains visible), but not others (the non-image areas where the mesh has been concealed). When printing stamps, the printer simply employs a scaled-up version of the manual screening process often used today for personalizing t-shirts.

The screen process is best suited when heavy ink coverage is required and is a comparative newcomer in the field of stamp printing. A typical philatelic example would be the application of latex to conceal words or images underneath, as later revealed by the customer when scratching off the latex with the edge of a coin.

**[Silk] Screen** (*screen printing, silkscreen printing, screen process, serigraph printing or serigraphy*)

A printing process in which the ink is forced via a giant squeegee through a fine screen (once made of silk, hence its original name) onto the paper surface of the stamp below.

A protective coating on the screen allows



*Hong Kong, 1999 (Scott 834), stamp  
with a gold scratch-off screen-printed  
area. When removed, the scratch off  
area reveals a Chinese greeting.*

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## Flexography (*flexo*)

Flexography utilizes flexible relief plates that can be fixed on to a printing cylinder. It is essentially an updated version of letterpress. That said, it is much more versatile than that, as it can be used for printing on virtually any type of substrate, including plastics and metallic films, as well as on paper.

It is widely used on non-porous substrates required for food packaging, and, as with silk-screen, it is well suited for printing large areas of solid color. Flexo is used occasionally on modern stamps, but not to the extent that letterpress once was ... at least not yet. Personally, I can see a future for this process, as it is increasingly becoming mainstream in the rest of the print industry.

These days it is increasingly difficult to differentiate flexo from offset, as the appearance of both is rapidly becoming identical to the layman as flexo's quality continues to improve.

## Digital (*alternative terms have yet to be used*)

The "new kid on the block" is digital printing, and it will surely not be too long before this process has a far greater impact on the world of stamp production following Australia's ground-breaking fast-tracked printing of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games stamp sheets.

This process scarcely presents an opportunity to make each stamp printed quite literally unique, perhaps individually numbered, tariff coded or with hidden security features.

The idea of a truly unique stamp sounded somewhat far-fetched just a few years back, but then security printer Joh. Enschedé recently printed booklets of 10 stamps for the Finnish post office in a run of 60,000 with every single stamp that came off the press being different, thanks to the use of variable data and sophisticated software. That's 600,000 totally different stamps issued in just one day – a current world record.

**An early U.S. digital dummy stamp souvenir from the Pacific '97 stamp show. Quality was good, but not great.**



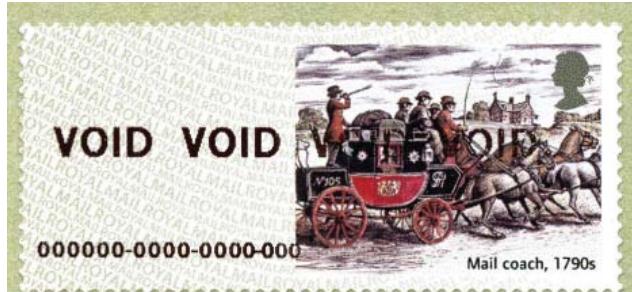
**Above: Australia, 2011 (Scott B1-5), a flexo-printed sheet for flood relief appeal that features two each of five different stamps (single inset).**

In the early days when digital printing was being considered for stamps, the quality of output, while respectable, was not anywhere nearly as good as that encountered by traditional printing methods. However, in just a short time period, those discrepancies have all but gone, to the point where today an average collector is unlikely to detect the difference between a digital and an offset lithography stamp.

Some digital stamps at present tend to have a highly glossy inked area and vibrant colors in comparison with their offset or gravure equivalents, which can now appear quite “flat.”

Digital printing has already been used by Britain’s International Security Printers on Post and Go vending stamps for Royal Mail, Gibraltar, Guernsey, Jersey, Netherlands, Qatar and Spain, while New Zealand Post, Oriental Press and others have also started to use this process. You can expect to see the word “digital” much more frequently in coming years in the “new issue” pages of stamp magazines.

The following three entries are considered by some stamp collectors to be actual printing processes. They are not, but are, nonetheless, considered appropriate for inclusion here...



**A British digitally printed “Post and Go” vending stamp with a “VOID” impression.**



**Finland, 2017 (Scott 1539), one of 60,000 different “Finland 100 - Finland Faces” stamp booklets.**

## Embossing

A technique performed after printing that leaves stamps with either a raised (embossed) or a depressed (debossed) image into the surface of the paper, often using engraved metal dies and extreme pressure. This process can also be used in



conjunction with metallic foils (by the additional use of heat) and can be applied to unprinted or printed areas of a stamp design.

### Combination Printing

“Combination printing” is the term used for stamp production where more than one printing process is employed on the same postage stamp. It is not a process in its own right. The most commonly encountered example is where a single colored background “wash,” or perhaps a mono-, bi- or multicolored design is first applied by offset or, far less frequently today, gravure, with intaglio line-work applied on top to give a tactile feel to key elements of the complete design.

Also encountered are offset or gravure stamps with a [silk] screen application of latex that in part covers some of the design. This is later removed by the recipient to reveal a hidden message or image (think of a lottery scratch-card).

### Thermography

Thermography is a finishing technique whereby slow-drying ink is applied to the paper and, while the ink is still wet, is lightly dusted with a resinous powder. The stamp sheet passes through a heat chamber where the powder melts and fuses with the ink to produce a raised surface, giving the pseudo-effect of intaglio printing. It is most frequently encountered by the public on invitations and business cards.

## Conclusion

We have seen that there have been seven key printing processes used to print stamps since 1840. Some readers will no doubt be familiar with other methods that have also been employed, such as the use of typewriters, stencils, embroidery, woodblocks, mimeographs, xerographic machines, laser printers or others. The list goes on and on. However, none of these methods for getting words and images onto a substrate were ever destined to become mainstream, so really did not warrant special mention here.

It is hoped that you will now have a better understanding of how artwork gets translated onto a substrate, and that you may perhaps see your stamps in a different light from now on. ☐

## Graphics Philately Unit

A printer in California and a librarian in New York decided they wanted to reactivate the old book printing study unit. They decided to broaden the scope of the new study unit to include all philatelic material related to graphic communications and also techniques and processes used in the production of stamps and postal stationery. In 1975 the Graphics Philately Association was founded with 55 members and then chartered by the ATA in 1976. GPA dues are \$15 in North America and \$25 elsewhere. For more information, contact Larry Rosenblum, GPA Secretary/Treasurer, 1030 East El Camino Real, Sunnyvale CA 94087-3759, or via email [lr@gbstamps.com](mailto:lr@gbstamps.com). The Graphics Philately website can be found at [www.graphics-stamps.org](http://www.graphics-stamps.org).

# Chapter Chatter

*By Frederick C. Skvara, ATA Chapter Coordinator*

Please send all chapter ATA publications to Frederick C. Skvara, 617 Country Club Rd, Bridgewater NJ 08807, or by email to: [feskvara@optonline.net](mailto:feskvara@optonline.net).

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

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

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (January) At Aapex, Harry Winter was awarded a vermeil for his single-frame exhibit, *Orchids of Reichenbachia*, and Dottie Winter received a silver for *Mighty Mac*.



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

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

**Newsletter editor:** Robert Mather

**Email:** [burrobob@wi.rr.com](mailto:burrobob@wi.rr.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (December) The article "How the First Christmas Stamp Came

To Be" tells the story of Canada's 1898 Mercator map stamp, which has the words "Xmas 1898" on the bottom of the design. Also mentioned are Austria's 1937 Christmas stamps and the Christmas stamps from several other countries. In "You're In God's Hands Now," Bob Mather relates the story about an encounter between the pilot of a badly damaged American B-17 bomber trying to make it back to its base and the pilot of a German Messerschmitt fighter over Germany, five days before Christmas in 1943.

As Bob noted, the story is not philatelic, but he (and I) think it was a nice addition to the chapter's Christmas newsletter. (January) At the January meeting Jim Meverden presented "A Glimpse of Milwaukee through Its Advertising Covers." The talk covered the period between the 1850s and the 1920s. I am sure there were a number of covers of topical interest.



**Map of British Empire, Canada 1898 (Scott 86).**

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

**Newsletter editor:** Alfred Carroccia, **Email:** [fuzzy9600@verizon.net](mailto:fuzzy9600@verizon.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (December) The theme for the Buffalo Stamp Club's annual show, Bufpex 2018, held March 3 and 4, is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Apollo 8. The newsletter contains an article "Christmas Seals" that is illustrated with a 1910 cover canceled Christmas Eve and having the 1910 Christmas Seal affixed next to the stamp. (January) All Canadian stamps issued in 2017 contained a hidden image "Canada 150," a reference to the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of Canada's Confederation. A number of these stamps and enlargements of the hidden image are illustrated



**U.S. 1910 Christmas Seal, (Scott WX6)**

in the newsletter. A note “Precancel Stamps” briefly describes the reasons for their use and the two major types – local and bureau.

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

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (January) At the January meeting, Art van Uchelen gave a talk on the stamps of Switzerland while, in February, there was a program on the

United States Transportation coils, which were issued in four groups between 1981 and 1995. At the holiday party there was a presentation by Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs Chairman Larry Crain, “Making Stamp Collecting Fun,” in which he showed collections on “Shapes,” Feb. 13 “Cancels,” “Stamp Spoofs,” “Around the World in 80 Covers” and more. It was described as “quite entertaining and shows a new light on stamp collecting.” The Evergreen Stamp Club is entering a single-frame exhibit, *Washington, The Evergreen State*, in Pipex 2018 that is being held May 11-13. Members were asked to submit pages with anything related to the name of “Washington.”



**Buckboard  
1880s, U.S.  
1985 (Scott  
2124).**

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

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

**Newsletter:** *Perf Dispatch*, Phil Schorr, editor.

**Email:** [pschorr@att.net](mailto:pschorr@att.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (January) At the January meeting Alan Barasch presented the program “Conspiracy Against E.G. Lewis,” who was an American magazine publisher and land development promoter. There is an interesting little “Did You Know” tidbit concerning Mexico’s 1895-99 mail transportation issues. They are nicknamed “Mulitas (Little Mules)” because several of the stamps depict little mules.



**Mail coach  
with little  
mules, Mexico  
1898 (Scott  
284).**

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

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

**Newsletter:** *The Hamilton Hinge*, Tony Zingale, editor.

**Newsletter topics:** (September/October) At the November meeting, President

Dennis Kennedy gave the program “The History of American Coils.” This issue contains a summary of John Graper’s September meeting talk, “The Beginnings of Postal Automation.” A number of methods to increase the speed and accuracy of sorting and canceling the mail are described and illustrated in the article, including graphite-containing ink that was applied as black lines on the back of stamps from Great Britain. Also shown are examples of phosphorescent inks, luminescent materials and prephosphored paper, upon which many newer issues are now printed.



**Queen Elizabeth, Great  
Britain 1957 (Scott 317c with  
graphite lines on back).**

## **Johnstown Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 4), Johnstown, Pa.**

**Newsletter:** *Philatelic Chatter*, Don Smith, editor.

**Email:** [donsmith32@atlanticbb.net](mailto:donsmith32@atlanticbb.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (January/February) Shown at the February meeting was the slide program, *Nursing: A Distinguished History on Postage Stamps*. Editor Don Smith describes his time at UNExpo17 that was held at the American Philatelic Society headquarters in Bellefonte, Pa. The newsletter also notes the new ATA study unit, Gastronomy. The By Topic column in this issue was "Castles," the theme of the 2017 Europa issues.

The article gives some background on Windsor Castle, which was depicted on Great Britain's 2017 Europa stamp. A number of castles from other Europa countries are also illustrated, including the one shown here from Liechtenstein depicting Gutenberg Castle, which dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century.



**Gutenberg Castle, Liechtenstein 2017 (Scott 1709).**

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

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

**Newsletter:** *Knoxville Philatelic Society News*, Tom Broadhead, editor.

**Email:** [tomwb50@aol.com](mailto:tomwb50@aol.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (December) Steve Snow presented "Pick Your Poison, the Poisonous Parts of the Periodic Table, A Philatelic Perspective" at the November meeting. The stamp of the month, donated by Pat Goebel, was the 2¢ carmine-rose 1898 United States revenue stamp (Scott R164). Issued to help pay for the cost of the Spanish-American War, the stamp depicts a battleship.



**Battleship,  
U.S. 1898  
(Scott R164).**

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

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (December) The book *The Ugly Duckling: Hans Christian*

*Andersen and Danish Stamps*, by Niels H. Bundgaard (in 2005) was reviewed by Editor Paul Petersen, with illustrations of several of the stamps. Denmark's first philatelic tribute to Hans Christian Andersen occurred in 1935 with the release of a set of six stamps – four showing the author's portrait, one showing *The Ugly Duckling* and one depicting *The Little Mermaid*, two of his fairy tales. Over the years Denmark has issued several more postal tributes and, in 2005, along with a number of other countries, celebrated Andersen's birth bicentenary. At the 2017 Open House and Exhibits, several topical one-page exhibits



**Hans Christian  
Andersen, Denmark  
2005 (Scott 1323).**



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were shown, including *The Lions Club* (Dennis Bouchard), *500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation* (Joy Bouchard) and *Thermographic Stamps on Cover* (Lucy Eyster).

**Mid-Cities Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 90), Arlington, Irving & Granbury, Texas**  
**Website:** [www.mid-citiesstampsclub.com](http://www.mid-citiesstampsclub.com)

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (December) The “Been There, Done That” columns are a regular feature of the *Stamping Around* newsletter and each issue usually contains several



**Announcing to the Shepherds, Hungary 1943 (Scott 617).**

examples. The column gives members the opportunity to write short articles about past trips and show a relevant stamp or two. Two from Bob and Pat Weidman in this issue include “Hoover Dam,” where they show the 1935 United States stamp showing Boulder Dam, which was renamed Hoover Dam in 1947 in honor of President Herbert C. Hoover, and a ride on *The Orient Express* train between Montreux and Interlaken, Switzerland, in a 1989 trip to Switzerland. The 2016 Great Britain stamp (Scott 3546) shows the train with the caption *Murder on the Orient Express*, the famous mystery novel by Agatha Christie. Peter Elias describes “Porta Nigra (Black Gate)”

in Trier, Germany, and shows two stamps that illustrate the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Constructed as a city gate beginning in 186 A.D., it is now a popular tourist attraction. At the 2017 MCSC Expo, John Hotchner received a vermeil and the ATA ribbon for the Best Single Frame Topical Exhibit, *The Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century Start of Perforating in Great Britain and the United States*. Ray Cartier’s *Flight: Types of Craft That Have Flown Covers* was awarded a silver, as well as the ATA First Award for Best Topical Exhibit. (January) Ken Willis describes a trip that he and his wife took to the Isle of Man and shows the stamp from the Isle depicting Port Erin, the location of a B&B where they stayed. Ken Aldridge, in “Merry Christmas Everyone,” shows several Christmas stamps, including one from a three-stamp set from Hungary issued in 1943. Some Christmas collectors recognize this set as the first stamps issued specifically to be used as Christmas postage.

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

**Newsletter:** *The Messenger*, Scott Couch, editor, **email:** [tigercollect@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tigercollect@sbcglobal.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (January) At the club’s annual exhibition Barbara Crompton won the ATA one-frame award and the Most Popular award for her exhibit, *What’s Under Your Feet*. She showed actual minerals and the stamps that depict them.

## Add Fun to Every Tuesday!

Tuesday is Topical Tuesday on the ATA Facebook page. Win prizes by uploading a scan of a favorite stamp or other philatelic item, along with a brief description. Just log onto Facebook and search for American Topical Association.





**Amethyst, U.S.**  
1974 (Scott 1540).

Other exhibits whose titles suggest a topical theme were *Those Daring Men and Their Flying Machines* (Bob Baltzell) and *We've got to Have More Ships* (Scott Couch).

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

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (December) Robert Henak's *Spuds: Potatoes in the United States at the Turn of the Last Century* was voted the most popular exhibit at Milcopex. (January) At the February meeting Ann Clark gave a presentation on "Smokey Bear."



**Smokey Bear,**  
U.S. 1984  
(Scott 2096).

### Salem Stamp Society (ATA Chapter No. 114), Salem, Ore.

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

**Newsletter:** *Willamette Stamp & Tongs*, Lucien Klein, editor.

**Newsletter topics:** (January) There is a nice short article mentioning the ever-expanding *Topical Tidbit* pages that are available as free downloads from the ATA website. The pages, designed as an aid to the "Stamps Teach" program from the American Philatelic Society, are used "as teaching modules in classrooms, for stamp club activities and as at-home fun for all ages."

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

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

**Newsletter:** *Frogtown Philatelist*, John Mann, editor.

**Email:** [john6125@earthlink.net](mailto:john6125@earthlink.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (December) Appropriately for this issue, the "Where In the World is..." column visits Christmas Island and shows several stamps released by the island for Christmas. Two dates were highlighted in this issue: Dec. 7, 1941, the date of the attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese where four United States battleships were sunk. All but the USS *Arizona* were eventually raised. The other date is Dec. 21, 1120, the birth date of Thomas Becket, who was made Archbishop



**USS Arizona Memorial,**  
Hawaii, U.S. 2014  
(Scott 4873).

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of the Church of England by Henry II. (January) This issue looks at the British Indian Ocean Territory in the Indian Ocean. One of the two dates noted is Jan. 4, 1913, when Alfred Graf von Schlieffen died. He was a German field marshal and Chief of the Imperial German General Staff from 1891-1906. The other date, Jan. 18, 1782, is for the birth of Daniel Webster, an American politician who served in the House of Representatives, the United States Senate and was Secretary of State under three presidents: William Henry Harrison, John Tyler and Millard Fillmore.

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

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

**Newsletter:** Lance Grandone, editor, email: [venicestampclub@gmail.com](mailto:venicestampclub@gmail.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (January) At the January meeting Dawn Hamman gave the program "How Old is My Postcard?"

### **Westfield Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 112), Westfield, N.J.**

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

**Newsletter:** *The Westfield Philatelist*, Frederick C. Skvara, editor, email: [fcskvvara@optonline.net](mailto:fcskvvara@optonline.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (January/February) The February program, "Chess on Stamps," was given by Jon Edwards, editor of *Chesstamp Review*, the quarterly journal of the Chess on Stamps Study Unit of the ATA. The theme for the Westfield Annual Stamp Show, held on March 3, was the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Guadalcanal campaign in World War II. There is an accompanying article by the editor, "The Guadalcanal Campaign in World War II," with a number of illustrations related to that campaign. The newsletter also contains a philatelic quiz and the answers to the previous quiz.



**Approach of U.S. forces to Guadalcanal, Aug. 7, 1942, Solomon Islands 1976 (Scott 336).**

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

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

**Newsletter:** *Across the Fence Post*, Ray Perry, editor, email: [fiveperrys@athenet.net](mailto:fiveperrys@athenet.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (December) Carol and Milt Wirth's (Northwoods Philatelic Society) article, "O Come, All Ye Faithful 1937 Christmas Seals" describes the many ways one can form a collection around this United States Christmas Seal. The seal shows a town crier ringing a bell and holding a lantern. Besides the seal itself, the article also shows other related items depicting the seal, including a milk bottle collar, milk bottle cap, a transit ticket and more. Another article appropriate for the December newsletter is "A Dickens of A Christmas Carol" by Clete Delvaux (Green Bay Philatelic Society). The author gives the background behind the famous story and shows a number of stamps that depict scenes from Dickens' tale. (January) The "100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of United States Airmail Service," by Greg Schmidt (Oshkosh Philatelic Society), describes some of the periods and modes of transport of United States airmail service. That service began on May 18, 1918, when the "world's first regularly scheduled air mail route was inaugurated between New York City and Washington, D.C." Another related article, "Airmail Allegories" by Mark Pleyte (Northwoods Philatelic Society), shows a



**1937 U.S. Christmas seal and label (Scott WX88).**

number of early stamps from around the world that depict allegorical symbols used to represent airmail service. "Wisconsin Ties: Frank Lloyd Wright," by Alex Gill (Kettle Moraine Coin and Stamp Club), presents some background on Frank Lloyd Wright (1867–1959), the famous architect who was born in Richland Center, Wis. Illustrated are the 1966 2¢ stamp with Wright's portrait and several showing his works.

## Great Britain

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

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (December) In "Fictional Detectives: The Arrival of the Media," Steven Cross describes a number of fictional detectives and shows stamps depicting them. The article covers the globe mentioning in the United States' Philip Marlowe in *The Big Sleep*, Sam Spade in *The Maltese Falcon*, the *Colombo* television

series and others.

Fictional detectives from Great



*John Thaw as Inspector Morse, Great Britain 2005 (Scott 2308).*

Britain include the *Inspector Morse* television shows and, of course, Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, about whom a number of films were produced. From Scandinavia he mentions, among others, the Kurt Wallander television detective series. [Note: My wife and I are avid mystery fans and have read and/or watched all of the detectives noted by Steve in this article. In fact, over the years we have named our pets after some of these fictional detectives: Quincy (medical examiner in a television series), Tuppy for Tuppence Beresford, Agatha and Miss Marple (Agatha Christie) and Watson for Dr. Watson (Sherlock Holmes series by Arthur Conan Doyle). Our current pet, a beagle, is named Bunter for Mr. Bunter, the manservant of Lord Peter Wimsey, created by Dorothy L. Sayers, and who has appeared in a number of television movies.] "A stroll to the Bank: A Marriage of Philately and Notaphily," by David Roseveare, tells the story of the French designer

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Pierrette Lambert. Born in 1928 she has designed more than 1,300 stamps and more than 30 banknotes for France and other countries. A number of illustrations of stamps and banknotes accompany the article. In the article “Capability” Brown: 300 Years of Landscape Gardens,” editor Wendy Buckle gives some background on a landscape architect whose 300<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary was commemorated by Great Britain with the release of eight stamps on Landscapes in 2016. “Capability” Brown (c. 1716-83) was responsible for planning more than 250 gardens in Britain, including those surrounding Highclere Castel, the setting for the fictional *Downton Abbey* television series. Lise Whittle’s always interesting “just4Kids” column in this issue explores stamps showing sea creatures. The column’s title is “Under the Sea! Let’s Go for A Swim under the Sea!”

## South Africa

**Thematics Southern Africa (ATA Chapter No. 103), South Africa.**

**Website:** [www.thematicsa.co.za](http://www.thematicsa.co.za)

**Newsletters:** 1) *Thematics*, Robbie Harm, editor, email: [robertharm9@gmail.com](mailto:robertharm9@gmail.com)

2) *ThemNews*, Wobbe Vegter, acting editor, email: [wobbe.vegter@gmail.com](mailto:wobbe.vegter@gmail.com)

**Newsletter topics:** *ThemNews* (November) In the second part of “Bach and Associates,” Huber van Werkhoven presents a number of composers who have incorporated a Bach motif in their music. Some of the composers mentioned, all with accompanying stamps portraying them, included Franz Liszt, Johannes Brahms, Antonin Dvořák (a direct descendent of J.S. Bach) and others. Saji Kumar’s article, “Leprosy...the Disfiguring Disease,” traces the history of the disease, including some of the individuals involved with treating its victims and identifying its etiology. Some of the individuals portrayed include the catholic saints St. Basil, St. George, St. Francis of Assisi and others. Gerhard Hansen (1841-1912), who identified the bacterium responsible for leprosy, and Father

Damien (1840-99), the Belgian priest who cared for lepers in a colony on Molokai in Hawaii (eventually dying of the disease), are also mentioned. The article also covers Raoul Follereau (1903-77), the French journalist and philosopher who founded the First World Leprosy Day in 1954 that is commemorated on the last Sunday in January. “A Natural History of the Southern Ground Hornbill,” by Kate Carstens, describes the characteristics of this large, endangered bird. Besides loss of habitat, the birds are persecuted for their habit of breaking glass windows as they view their reflection in the window as a trespassing hornbill. Other threats are poisoning from feeding on poisoned carcasses set out to kill predators of small cattle, their capture for the illegal wildlife trade and their use in some traditional medicine practices. Dr. Fritz Baumgardt’s article “500 Years Reinheitsgebot (German Beer Purity Law)” gives the history of beer through the ages and the technology of beer production. The German Beer Purity Law is the “oldest” food law and was created by Duke Albrecht IV of Bavaria-Munich in 1487, as the “Munich Purity Law.” The law stated that only barley, hops and malt were permitted in the brewing of beer. ☐



**Father Damien  
comforting  
leper, Belgium 1946  
(Scott B419).**

describes the characteristics of this large, endangered bird. Besides loss of habitat, the birds are persecuted for their habit of breaking glass windows as they view their reflection in the window as a trespassing hornbill. Other threats are poisoning from feeding on poisoned carcasses set out to kill predators of small cattle, their capture for the illegal wildlife trade and their use in some traditional medicine practices. Dr. Fritz Baumgardt’s article “500 Years Reinheitsgebot (German Beer Purity Law)” gives the history of beer through the ages and the technology of beer production. The German Beer Purity Law is the “oldest” food law and was created by Duke Albrecht IV of Bavaria-Munich in 1487, as the “Munich Purity Law.” The law stated that only barley, hops and malt were permitted in the brewing of beer. ☐



# YOUTH IN TOPICS

## *MaryAnn Bowman*

As I write this, February is approaching and it is a time rich with ideas that can be used to complement items with philatelic interest. There are so many topics and themes to choose from: Presidents' Day, Valentine's Day, Groundhog's Day, Black History Month and more – and this year, the Winter Olympics!

I have always loved sharing my interest in the Winter Olympics and look forward to it every four years. As a teacher, it became one of my favorite units to share with my students. This year I used the Winter Olympics to impart some basic concepts about the event with the less-than-eight-year-old set.

I started off with showing an Olympic flag and discussing the reasons for the colors as well as the number of rings on the flag. This, in turn, led to showing a world map and identifying the five major continents. There were discussions about the opening ceremony and the lighting of the Olympic torch. All of these do have representation on stamps and covers.

Most of the discussion focused on the three main categories of winter sports: skating, skiing and sledding. (Curling is in a category by itself.) We talked about

the various events within each category. A mixture of Winter Olympic sports stamps was then placed on the table, as well as a black stock card for each participant. Initially, the stamps were sorted into three piles – a pile each for skating, skiing and sledding.

Then, taking one pile at a time, the stamps were further sorted into the various events, with each of the events occupying a separate row on the stock card (a row for figure skating, a row for speed skating and so on). The categorization of each of the three piles continued until all of the stamps were placed in their own special row.

I used only foreign stamps in this activity but the United States has issued stamps for the Winter Olympics and one could add those to the mixture as well.

Sorting by category is a great activity for the younger collectors. Although it



may be too late for you to use the Winter Olympics idea, there are any numbers of topics that lend themselves well to sorting activities. For example, animals can be categorized by the number of legs they have, the continent they are found on or by class (think mammals and reptiles).

Classification is an important skill. It is organizing and sorting things into groups. Stamps are a wonderful way to practice that skill.

### **Working with Grandchildren**

In my last column, I mentioned that I would like to spotlight those individuals who have worked with their own children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and/or neighborhood children. I would also like to hear from those who have a youth stamp club or offer programming at schools and create youth areas at stamp shows.

I am wondering how you got them interested. What activities you have done with them? What advice would you give to other adults seeking to interest children in the hobby? What are the success stories? What problems or concerns have you encountered along the way?

My first guest is Frank Kos. These are his thoughts in his own words.

*"I have 5 grandchildren, ages five to 19, and introduced them all to stamp collecting the same way, with varying degrees of success.*

*"I start by letting them watch me work on my collection as early as they are able to talk and show interest in things going on around them. I answer any questions they may have without applying any pressure on them to become more interested.*

*"Usually, by the time they are three, I introduce them to 'soaking stamps' by asking them if they would like to help me. The answer has always been 'yes.' I can still get my teenagers to help me from time to time, especially if the little ones are also involved.*

*"I try to be careful in my selection of stamps to be soaked, as they are always impatient to get the stamps off the paper, and frequently try to remove the stamp before it is ready. With patient guidance, they get better as time goes along, but never quite totally conquer the temptation (in fact, neither have I).*

*"I solve this by not including any stamps that I want to survive undamaged in the mixture, rather than becoming upset or scolding them. As part of the soaking projects, they start to ask additional questions about stamps, and I begin to introduce them to simple stamp terminology; i.e. what is a duplicate, an airmail, a coil, a U.S. stamp versus a foreign stamp, what are the various subjects shown on stamps and more.*

*"I try to remember the terms I have used from one session to the next, and quiz them to see if they remember. Eventually they do remember from session to session. This process continues for one to two years with each kid, eventually including a conversation about would they like to start a collection of their own. At that age, again the answer has always been 'yes.'*

*"Many years ago I acquired a supply of My Stamp Album, published by the American Stamp Dealers Association. Each kid has had his or her own album. I show it to them before I am actually ready to start working with them on a collection with the promise that we will start their collection when they are able to print their name in the space provided on the cover of the album. It has typically been an exciting day when they are ready to show me that they can print their name.*

*"By the time they are ready to start working on their album, they are aware of the fact that stamps have different subjects on them, and they know what many of the subjects*

are that are common. The album is well suited for collecting by topic as many pages are clearly designed to support a single topic, such as trains, wild animals, sports, flowers and others.

'About one-fourth of the pages do not clearly apply to a topic, and I let them choose a topic they would like for those pages. I try to work with the kids one at a time, as they tend to want to get involved in what the other one is doing, causing distractions. I empty out a packet of stamps for them to sort through, hoping they will find stamps for their albums without my help. I do sometimes 'help' them find a stamp that I think they would want for a topic had they seen it, but I do not pick out the stamps for them. While I try very hard to adhere to the philosophy that it is their collection, so they can choose what they want to do, I also try to provide guidance so that there is some logic to what they do, that their work is not sloppy, that they will actually be able to find stamps for the subject they select.'

'An example of guidance: each page has rectangles of various sizes, for mounting the stamps. They typically start out wanting to mount stamps randomly without regard to size of the stamp. I work hard at trying to get them to select the proper space for the stamp, without actually telling them the space they have to use.'

'An example of letting them choose what they want to do: my youngest picked out a stamp that he really liked and wanted to mount it, but it did not fit into any of the topics in his album. I told him that since it didn't fit into any of the subjects in his album, he couldn't mount it. At the time, he still had a couple of the unspecified topic pages unused in his album. He said, 'Why can't I have an Everything page in my album that I can put whatever I want on?' I started to tell him no, and then realized what a brilliant idea he had, and let him do it.'

'With the introduction of the album came additional basic stamp collection tools: hinges, tongs, magnifying glass, glassine envelopes and instructions for their proper use. The use of hinges was always difficult, with retraining required frequently. I would start by doing a couple of stamps myself, to demonstrate the correct process, but they were always anxious to 'do it themselves.'

'I would then let them lick the small part of the hinge and I would lick the other part and mount the stamp. I would let them lick both parts, trying to monitor their licking amount, and I would mount the stamp. Eventually I let them do the entire process. I had to start the training process from the beginning several times and always have to monitor to make sure they don't get careless.'

'I also provide each of them with their own three-ring binder in which they can keep items that won't fit in their topical album, such as entire pages of mounted stamps, first day covers or other covers.'

'If they continue to show interest, after a couple of years I start taking them to stamp shows with me for a few hours at a time. On those occasions, when I have a non-competitive one- or four-page exhibit, I take them to see it first, before they get too tired to enjoy it. They are always excited when they find out it is mine, and that is the first thing they tell their parents when they see them.'

'Next we visit the kid's room or table where I let them search for stamps that interest them. They do a pretty good job remembering the topics from their album pages and are on the lookout for those stamps. In addition, there is almost always a very helpful, knowledgeable, patient and enthusiastic volunteer available to assist them in making

*their selections, provide them with gifts and, just as importantly, help them increase their philatelic knowledge.*

*"So far, only one of the kids has reached the point where they have enough interest to begin purchasing stamps. My current 14-year-old decided several years ago that he would like to have a collection of 'hunting' stamps. I got the ATA topical list for hunting and started to let him buy stamps at stamp shows that he needed. I started by having him watch me use the list, select the proper box or book at a dealers table, find the stamps he needed and make the purchase.*

*"I then let him start taking part in the process, eventually working to the point where he was doing it himself, with me monitoring his work. By the time he was 12, he was capable of properly working at a dealers table by himself, allowing me to spend a little time by myself. He and I still work on this collection.*

*"To this point, none of them have shown any interest in collecting a country, or worldwide. Only time will tell what will happen with him and the two little ones, but in the meantime I will continue to work with them as long as they are interested, enjoying the time it allows me to spend with them, and believing that they are more knowledgeable about the world as a result."*

Thank you, Frank! Now it is your turn. Do you or someone you know work with youth and stamp collecting in a meaningful way?

It is my hope that by including this type of information, we will motivate more adults to get involved by sharing how others have succeeded in getting children involved in the stamp collecting hobby.

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

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



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## Autumn Stampex 2017, Nordia 2017, gsiBRIA 2017

# Foreign Thematic Exhibits

*Larry E. Davidson*

In this column, we will review the thematic exhibits shown at Autumn Stampex 2017, Nordia 2017, and gsiBRIA 2017. Only those exhibits with a score of 70 or higher are listed. \* indicates ATA member. Legend: **LG** – large gold, **G** – gold, **LV** – large vermeil, **V** – vermeil, **LS** – large silver, **S** – silver.

## Autumn Stampex 2017

This national exhibition was held in London, U.K., Sept. 13-16, 2017, and was organized by Stamp World Exhibitions on behalf of The Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS). It was open to all exhibitors in the United Kingdom and also to exhibitors from other countries affiliated with the International Federation of Philately (FIP) and the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA).

### Multi-frame Exhibits

<b>*Roger Van Laere</b>	<i>Prehistoric Peru</i>	90, LG
<b>Grace Davies</b>	<i>The Dove and Olive Branch as Symbols of Hope and Peace</i>	86, G
<b>Peter Weir</b>	<i>The Wounded Soldier in the Great War</i>	79, V

### Open/Display Exhibits

<b>Peter Wood</b>	<i>The Road to Independence – Ireland from Act of Union to Irish Free State</i>	91, LG
<b>John Davis</b>	<i>The Story of Niuaf'o'u and its Tin Can (Canoe) Mail Service</i>	90, LG
<b>Christine Earle</b>	<i>They Also Served</i>	85, G
<b>Peter Cockburn</b>	<i>Blades, East and Blades – Reluctant Stamp Printers</i>	83, LV
<b>Daphne McMillan</b>	<i>King George VI – His Life and Reign</i>	83, LV
<b>Dr John Higgins</b>	<i>The Railway in North Borneo and Sabah</i>	74, LS
<b>Terry Wagg</b>	<i>The Life's Work of Czeslaw Slania</i>	70, LS

## Nordia 2017

This multinational exhibition was held in Vejle, Denmark, Oct. 27-29, 2017. The countries participating were Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The Scandinavian Collectors' Associations in the United States, U.K., Germany and Hol-

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**THANK YOU, PETER MORVILLE**



land were also invited to participate. The Nordia exhibitions are organized in rotation among the Nordic Philatelic Federations. The exhibition was presented by Stamp Collectors Club Vejle and the Danish Philatelic Federation and was held under the patronage of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA).

## Master Class

**Leif W. Rasmussen**

*Animals Subjected to Man*

LG

## Multi-frame Exhibits

<b>Tommy Samuelson</b>	<i>Allied Fighter Aircraft Operations 1939-1945</i>	88, LV
<b>Leif W. Rasmussen</b>	<i>An Evolving Society</i>	88, LV
<b>Leif W. Rasmussen</b>	<i>Human Exploitation of Nature's Wild Life</i>	85, LV
<b>Knud Rask Overgaard</b>	<i>Homo Sapiens: Life and Death in the Asphalt Jungle</i>	83, V
<b>Inge Johansen</b>	<i>The Story of the Non-Polluting Two-Wheeler</i>	83, V
<b>Knud Rask Overgaard</b>	<i>Chess: War on 64 Squares</i>	83, V

## Open/Display Exhibits

<b>Heikki Virtanen</b>	<i>The Presidents of Finland</i>	88, LV
<b>John Guldborg Hansen</b>	<i>The Birth of a Nation</i>	83, V
<b>Finn Malm</b>	<i>The World Bleeds with the Red Cross</i>	82, V

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<b>Hans Schønning</b>	<i>The La Cour Family's Earliest History</i>	80, V
<b>Philip Rasmussen</b>	<i>Wagner: His Life, His Work, His Legacy</i>	80, V
<b>Erik Christensen</b>	<i>The End of Denmark's United Monarchy</i>	80, V
<b>Jan Drejer</b>	<i>Soldiers in Germany, the Danish Brigade and the Danish Command 1947-1958</i>	76, LS
<b>Gunnar Dahlvig</b>	<i>The Philatelist: A Strange Phenomenon</i>	73, S
<b>Liv Marion Strømnes</b>	<i>Alf Prøysens "Blåbærturin"</i>	72, S
<b>Per Gustavsson</b>	<i>We are Returning to Turku</i>	70, S

## gsiBRIA2017

This national stamp exhibition with international participation was held in Lustenau, Austria, Nov. 10-12, 2017. It was an all-thematic show. It was initiated by the Montfort Philatelic Club in collaboration with the Lustenau Stamp Collecting Association. There was also support from Austria Post. Most of the exhibits were from Austria, with a few from Germany and Switzerland.

### Multi-frame Exhibits

<b>Eva Zehenter</b>	<i>Rediscovering the World with Leonardo DaVinci's Eyes</i>	90, LG
<b>Rudolf Spieler</b>	<i>A Day at the Racetrack – Grandprix of ...</i>	88, G
<b>Dr Georg Friebe</b>	<i>Majesty, Force of Nature and Cuddly Monster – the Fall and Return of the Dragon</i>	87, G
<b>Eva Zehenter</b>	<i>Traces of Life – Stories as Live Images</i>	86, G
<b>Wilfried Fuchs</b>	<i>The Success Story of Wine – from Vine to Enjoyment</i>	85, G
<b>Susanne Streichsbier</b>	<i>Dogs with Jobs</i>	82, LV
<b>Dr Georg Friebe</b>	<i>Naked – yes, please!</i>	81, LV
<b>Hanns Mich. Kennerknecht</b>	<i>Fire Department – Without Us it Gets Tough</i>	80, LV
<b>Robert Wightman</b>	<i>In the Wake of Odysseus – Echoes of Homer's Odyssey</i>	79, V
<b>Harald Staffler</b>	<i>A Formula Changes the World</i>	76, V
<b>Reinhard Wagner</b>	<i>Little Red Riding Hood – A Few Guesses and Too Much Confidentiality</i>	75, V
<b>Peter Riedl</b>	<i>Franz Joseph Habsburg-Lothringen</i>	75, V
<b>Erika Schmidt</b>	<i>Naked, No Thanks</i>	74, LS
<b>Richard Winkler</b>	<i>What Moves the World... Roller Bearings</i>	72, LS
<b>Peter Batka</b>	<i>Einstein Meets Picasso and They Invent the Modern Age</i>	70, LS

I would like to thank Barry Stagg of England for providing the results of Autumn Stampex 2017 and Koenraad Bracke of Belgium for providing the results of gsiBRIA 2017.

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

# Membership

## New Members and Reinstatements

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Connections between ATA members, especially among those with similar collecting interests, are encouraged. The contents of the ATA Membership Listing are the property of the American Topical Association, Inc. Any commercial use, including use for mailing lists or for any other commercial purpose, is prohibited. **This list includes new membership numbers 57898-57940 and recent reinstatements (membership through Feb. 12, 2018).**

57936	BENNETT, Jenny	
57900	BROWN, Peter, Unit 61307, APO, AE 09803-1307	Birds, U.S. History, Saudi Arabia
57929	BRAVENER, Sean, <i>sbravener@gmail.com</i>	Disneyana, Star Trek, Star Wars, Fire Trucks, Misc. Fantasy
55369	BURCHETT, Sharon	Birds, Tropical Fish
57901	CARPENTER, Barbara, <i>barbcarpenter@sbcglobal.net</i>	World War II, Mathematics
57925	CHAMBERLAIN, April	
57928	CHASANOFF, Allan	
57915	CLAUGHTON, Victoria	
57931	COCHRAN, David	U.S., Nubian monuments, Military themes, American Bicentennial, French colonials
	2014 Sturbridge Dr, Jamison PA 18929-1548	
57939	COOP, Phillip, 4350 Tuckahoe Rd, Memphis TN 38117-3010	Maps
57818	CROMPTON, Barbara, <i>rockyrode2014@gmail.com</i>	Gems, Minerals
	9511 Moody Park Cir, Overland Park KS 66212-5128	
57933	DAVIES, Douglas Henry, <i>nudavies@gmail.com</i>	U.S., Methodism, Joint/twin issues
	1304 Shadetree Ln, Sheridan IN 46069-1193	
57913	DEAN, Jerry	
57932	DONALLY, Keith	Airmails, Turtles, Tanks-Military
	604 Morning Meadows Dr, Rio Rancho NM 87144-0545	
57899	DOSCH, Richard	
57926	DURFEE, Gary, <i>gdurfee@sbcglobal.net</i>	Penguins
	2329 Golfway, Saint Charles MO 63301-1038	
57920	EDWARDS, Mary Lynn	
57930	ENDICOTT, Steve, <i>perfins@gmail.com</i>	Perfins
	20 Greensburgh Ln, San Anselmo CA 94960-1000	



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57914	FAISON, Walter Lee, <i>walterlfaison@gmail.com</i>	Martin Luther King, Black Heritage Series, African Americans
22 Southampton Pl, Durham NC 27705-1857		Boy Scouts
53647	FILLAK, Drew A., 855 Cherry St, Manteno IL 60950-1829	Rabbits, Christmas, Woodpeckers
54894	FOLLETT, Karen, <i>kfollett@su.edu</i>	Space program, American history/Bicentennial, Tropical islands
57923	GORDON, Scott	Dogs
57927	HAMILTON, Fraser, <i>frasermhamilton@gmail.com</i>	Hockey (world), Baseball & Football (Canada & U.S)
55695	HARRISON, Michael, <i>mike.harrison@tc.tc</i>	Christmas, Scouts, Dogs, Education, Basketball, Aviation
55937	HILL, Richard, <i>rhill10727@cox.net</i>	Explorers
57934	HILL, Tony	Eggs, Carousels, Navajo
57919	LOW, George, <i>lairdlow@mac.com</i>	Classic Cars, Animals, Butterflies
57904	McCONAGHY, Lee J., <i>leemcc44@yahoo.com</i>	John F. Kennedy, Black History, Florida Postal History
57912	MEEGAN, Mary A	Canada 1845-1950, Statistics, Medicine, Mammals, Birds, Polar
57922	MELANSON, Wanda, <i>wanda.melanson@novascotia.ca</i>	Flowers
57910	MILLER, Martin	Space, Astronomy, Aviation
55694	MILLIKEN, John	Air Mail, Disney
57905	MORHARD, Robert	Science, Mathematics, World War II
57898	NOVAK, Albert	WWII, TWA, Aircraft
57906	OLSON, David	United Nations, Lions Club International, Lighthouses
57907	PALACIO, Daniel	Geology, Astronomy, Ronald Reagan, Cicadas
57908	PATRICK, Arthur Steven, <i>spatrick3@cfl.rr.com</i>	Deceased
2729 Cloudcroft Dr, Apopka FL 32703-7719		56582
57940	PLOTKIN, Gennady	ROBINSON, Don
55974	REYNOLDS, Penny, <i>psreynolds201@gmail.com</i>	SCHAEFER, Marc, <i>elise.schaefer@numericable.fr</i>
		SHELTON, Cameron
		SPENCER, Donald, <i>dspencer28@cfl.rr.com</i>
		14 Twin River Dr, Ormond Beach FL 32174-4838
57911	STEVENS, Mark	THOMAS, Michael
57903	THOMAS, Michael	THOMPSON, Mary
57938	VANCE, Zeb	TROUTMAN, Brent, <i>troutmanbrent21@gmail.com</i>
57909	WEBB, Linda, <i>stampcollector1961@cox.net</i>	ZOGHBI, Charles, <i>cazoghbi68@gmail.com</i>
57924	3204 Jason Ryan Cir, Moore OK 73160-7530	3204 Jason Ryan Cir, Moore OK 73160-7530
57917	3204 Jason Ryan Cir, Moore OK 73160-7530	3204 Jason Ryan Cir, Moore OK 73160-7530
57916	4313 Cardinal Dr, Sherman TX 75092-4211	4313 Cardinal Dr, Sherman TX 75092-4211

### Deceased

08876-LM HAYES, Lt Col Alvin L (Texas)	55612-DM LEVASSEUR, Thomas (Maine)
55956 HIRCHERT, Chuck (Mich.)	50646 RAYMOND, Torrance (Terry) (Fla.)
00001-LM HUSAK, Jerry (Ariz.)	

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The following ATA members have recruited these new members from Jan. 1 through Feb. 12, 2018. Individual members receive \$5 in ATA Bucks credit for each new member recruited. We hope your name will appear here soon!

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**ATA Dealer Members shown in red.**

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Chun, Steve	1
Homel, Mike	1
Smith, Dale	1

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

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

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

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

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For ATA membership information, change of address, ATA publication orders, back issues of *Topical Time* or ATA handbooks, contact the ATA Office. The *2015-17 ATA Membership Directory* is available from the ATA Office for \$5, plus postage (\$3 U.S., \$6 Canada and \$13 international).

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(Routinely mentioned in *Topical Time*)

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 American Philatelic Society  
 100 Match Factory Pl  
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[www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org)

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

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

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

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

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

*Israel Philatelist*: Donald A. Chafetz, editor, 1943 Altozano Dr, El Cajon CA 92020-1002 USA  
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*Meekel's & Stamps Magazine*: John F. Dunn, editor, 42 Sentry Way, Merrimack NH 03054-4429 USA  
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# Show Calendar

**March 17, 2018, Canada.** Oxpex/Otex 2018, John Knox Christian School, 800 Julianna Dr., Woodstock, Ontario. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., free admission, exhibits, 15 dealers, youth gift bags, prizes, draws, refreshments, free parking. Contact: Russell Smith.

Email: [viking17@rogers.com](mailto:viking17@rogers.com)  
 Website: [www.oxfordphilsoc.com](http://www.oxfordphilsoc.com)

**March 24-25, 2018, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.** 2018 Spring National Stamp Show, sponsored by the Edmonton Stamp Club, Central Lion's Recreational Centre, 113 St & 111 Ave., Edmonton. Stamp dealers, circuit books, door prizes, WSP-level exhibits, youth table, free admission, 10-5 Saturday, 10-4 Sunday. Contact: Ed Dykstra.

Exhibits email: [liuszmoser@gmail.com](mailto:liuszmoser@gmail.com)  
 Email: [eddykstra@shaw.ca](mailto:eddykstra@shaw.ca)  
 Website: [www.edmontonstampclub.com](http://www.edmontonstampclub.com)

**April 8, 2018, Madison, Wis.** Danepex 2018, sponsored by the Badger Stamp Club, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave., Madison, Wis. Contact Bob Voss (608) 838-1033.

Email: [lestamps@charter.net](mailto:lestamps@charter.net)  
 Website: [www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger](http://www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger)

**April 14-15, 2018, Indiana.** Spring Stamp Fair, sponsored by the Indiana Stamp Club, Lawrence Community Center, 5301 N. Franklin Rd., Lawrence, Ind. Bourse with 16 dealers. Show hours: Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-3. Free admission and ample free parking.

Email: [info@indianastampclub.org](mailto:info@indianastampclub.org)  
 Website: [www.indianastampclub.org](http://www.indianastampclub.org)

**May 4-5, 2018, Highland, Ind.** Calupex 2018, sponsored by the Calumet Stamp Club, Saint James Parish Hall, 9640 Kennedy Ave., Highland, Ind.. Hours: 10 am to 4 pm, Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, free admission, exhibits, 16 dealers, food concession, free parking. Information: (219) 662-1296.

**May 5-6, 2018, Reedsburg, Wis.** Wiscopex 2018, sponsored by the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, Voyageur Inn & Convention Center, 200 Viking Dr., Reedsburg, Wis. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, free admission, exhibits, 12 dealers, special cancel, free parking. Contact Bob Jobe (608) 356-2431.

Email: [rjobe@centurytel.net](mailto:rjobe@centurytel.net)  
 Website: [www.wfscstamps.org](http://www.wfscstamps.org)

To receive a listing in this column, send details to Wayne L. Youngblood, 705 Forest Glen Cir, Prairie du Sac WI 53578-1077, or by email to: [wystamps@gmail.com](mailto:wystamps@gmail.com). Please submit show dates at least four months prior to the show if at all possible.

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# TIME

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## DATED MAGAZINE

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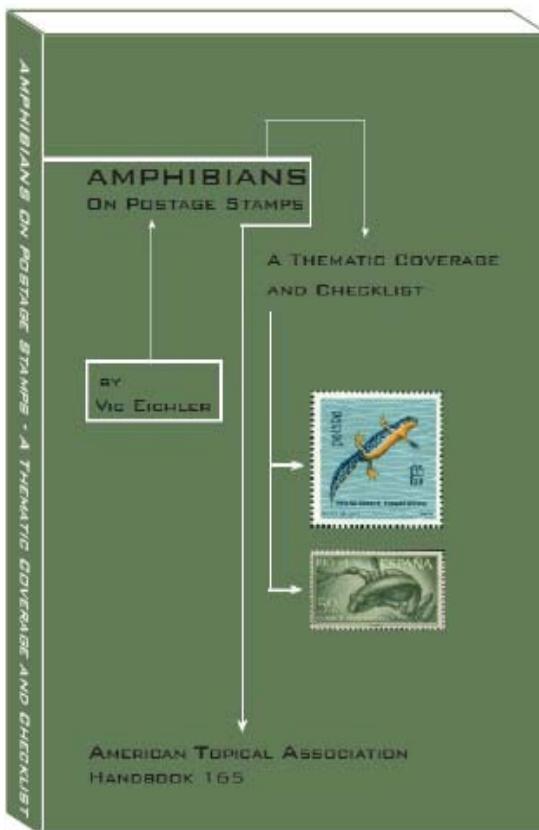
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Please complete and mail ballot to:

Robert Ulatt  
1700 Chestnut Lane  
Waukesha WI 53189

Mark each box next to the candidate's name for whom you wish to vote. Blanks are for write-in candidates. Deadline for receipt of ballots is May 31, 2018. Use of commemoratives would be appreciated.

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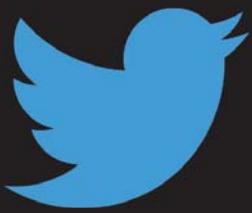
- Tom Broadhead, Knoxville, Tenn.
- Carol Costa, Kettering, Ohio.
- John L. Leszak, Buffalo, N.Y.
- Donald E. Neal, Somerset, N.J..

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### ATA Mission Statement

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

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



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