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Postmaster: Send address changes to ATA, PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008.

Are you on Facebook?

If so, get ready for Topical Tuesday — every Tuesday!

Here's how to get your "topical on": Every Tuesday, on the ATA Facebook page only, upload your best topical with story/explanation of why it's special and WIN ATA goods! Winners will be chosen by webmaster Amanda Morgenstern. Each winner will receive the prize of the week and a place in the "2017 Best of Topicals" publication at the end of the year. Visit the ATA webpage for more:

www.americantopicalassn.org/home.shtml

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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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DALE'S DIALOGUE

Dale Smith, ATA President

Organizational Cooperation is Vital

As you will read in this issue, the National Topical Stamp Show 2017 was a resounding success. It was held in Milwaukee, Wis., where ATA was founded nearly 70 years ago. All of the hard work of the NTSS show committee, ATA board members and the contribution of efforts by the philatelic clubs in Milwaukee paid off in what I feel was one of the busiest NTSS shows in years. More than 400 attendees were registered over the three days.

But a significant event occurred during our Annual Meeting with members on Friday, June 23. The leaders of the American Philatelic Society and the American



APS Executive Director Scott English and ATA President Dale Smith shake hands after inking an agreement for a joint APS-ATA show to be held next August in Columbus, Ohio. The show will feature elements of both the APS Stampshow and ATA's NTSS.

We can maintain our organizations' autonomy, yet combine our efforts to expand our hobby's reach. All of us need to increase members in our organizations and make stamp shows more attractive to larger groups of collectors of all kinds. Many classic and country stamp collectors also collect topicals. And the reverse is true where many topical collectors also may collect a country or a large variety of exhibition materials. A show like this could appeal to a broader population of collectors.

This is an effort to combine resources, lower show costs and bring together a larger group of volunteers that make these events happen. Our two organizations

Topical Association announced that they will co-host next summer's large national philatelic show scheduled in Columbus, Ohio. This event will be held Aug. 9-12, 2018.

The time has come for philatelic organizations to start working together to reduce duplicated expenses, enhance strengths and grow the hobby.

comprise the largest philatelic membership in the world. A joint show such as this has never before been done.

The ATA show chair and his committee will be working closely with APS leaders to make this a great stamp show. I predict that in the future we will see many such efforts. We already see Stamp and Coin shows. Perhaps there will be postcard, paper ephemera, first-day cover collectors and some of the larger shows around the United States through combined efforts.

Now I want to list the various actions that your board of directors decided at its meeting in Milwaukee. Your board:

- Recognized the value of the ATA judges' accreditation process in the past, but declared it to be no longer necessary.
- Voted to support CANEJ (the APS Committee on Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges) and to participate in its thematic/topical education for judges and exhibitors.
- Authorized special fund drives for specific purposes in the future.
- Discussed the comments made on last year's membership survey and began plans to act on many of them.
- Recognized the tremendous contribution by Robert Lamb in implementing, running and financing TopicalsOnLine website (our internet sales service), but also recognized that it has not been financially successful, so other options will be explored.
- Decided to implement priorities of the Revenue Planning Committee, including an increase in the cost of checklists to match the office expense in providing them to our members.
- Called for committees to do the following: 1. Develop international relationships. 2. Plan Boldly To The Future fundraising efforts. 3. Promote sponsorships of ATA programs. 4. Do background work for publication of handbooks. 5. Choose site, dates and format for NTSS 2019.

In closing, I want to mention that I appreciate hearing from our members. My contact information is found on page 4 of this journal. ☐

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Your Enthusiasm is Showing

At this time of year, when the leaves are ready to flaunt their bright colors, we are aware of nature's bounty: trees in the orchard laden with crisp apples and pumpkins stacked and ready for jack-o'-lanterns – and pies.

At ATA we are reminded each and every day of the enthusiasm and support of our members for our hobby and for the mission of ATA. This encourages all of us to work together to keep our member services going, but also to dream, innovate and take on new projects.



One thing we know for sure: Enthusiasm for topical collecting is growing! We read about it in philatelic publications and hear about it at shows. Our checklists have encouraged many people to take on a topic, even if they have scores of country albums on their shelves. People are discovering what we've known since ATA was founded in 1949 – topical collecting is fun, and anyone can do it!

Gifts to our **BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE** campaign keep the ATA office humming and also support publications, checklist services and more. Please consider making your donation today. It's easy to mail a check or add a bit extra to your membership renewal or order for checklists or other items. We also welcome your ideas and suggestions as we work together for a better ATA.

2017 BTTF Goal:	\$35,000
Received (to Aug 29):	\$16,006
Pledges to be received	<u>\$8,240</u>
Total received and pledged	\$29,237
Still needed to meet goal	\$5,763

ATA's budget depends on your gifts. Every dollar you give helps to reach our goal! You can send your 2017 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 american topical@msn.com - preferable if you pay electronically.
- Debit/credit card – At PayPal.com – send money safely and securely to american topical@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. taxpayers and is acknowledged with a "tax letter" acceptable to the IRS.

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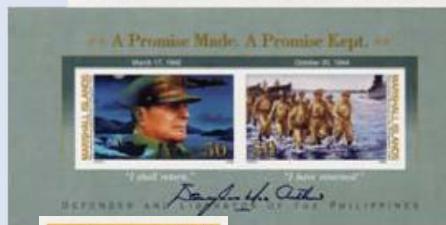
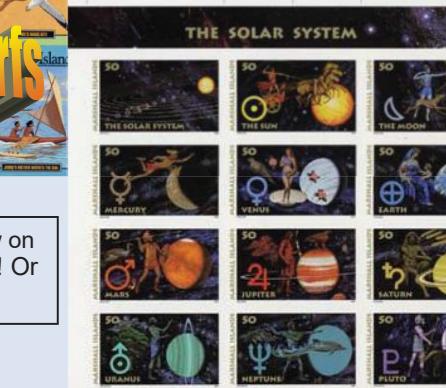
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WWII collectors:
For the 50th Anniversary of WWII, 100 sets were issued depicting events and battles. The stamps were available as singles or with an attached bottom inscription tab. Available perf & Imperf and gutter pairs!



About ATA

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

A Winning Publication

Congratulations to *Topical Time* editor Wayne Youngblood. *Topical Time* received a Gold award in the APS StampShow 2016 Literature Competition, and a Vermeil in the Chicagopex 2016 competition. This fine publication, and its talented editor, have won many awards over the past 68 years.

Bigger and Better All the Time

The ATA checklist dATAbase continues to grow, thanks to the hard work of Dominic Sgro and Beth Scully, our checklist coordinators. In July, updates and new items totaled 6,944! In this issue of *Topical Time*, you'll find the annual publication of our complete checklist listings. Check out your topics to see how they've grown! If you don't find your topic listed, ATA can customize a checklist for you. As an example, if the large butterfly list is more than your budget allows, we can supply a list of only Monarch butterflies. Contact the ATA office, americantopical@msn.com for information.

Now on the ATA Website

The ATA now offers website advertising, as well as an advertising package that includes *Topical Time* and the website. This is a great way to publicize your stamp show, study unit or other philatelic event. Dealers will also find this an ideal way to reach collectors. When shopping for stamps, check out the dealer ads by clicking on the box marked, "Our Online Advertisers."

Positions Open

ATA has an opening for the position of Webmaster, as Amanda Morgenstern is pursuing other opportunities after nine years with our organization. Occasional graphic design work will also be needed. These positions can be combined or held by two different individuals. Call ATA President Dale Smith at (816) 734-4536 if interested.

Volunteers Needed

ATA needs your help in filling these volunteer positions. We will provide assistance learning the job, and support in fulfilling this position. If interested, please contact Dale Smith at (816) 734-4536.

Coordinator for Advertising Marketing. We need someone with experience to contact potential advertisers for *Topical Time* and our website. Volunteer needs to spend time contacting current and potential customers to expand our advertiser base.

Facebook Coordinator: Access ATA's Facebook page every day or so; post ATA info as available and monitor the page for misuse and errant postings.

State compilers. Do you collect your state? We are working toward establishing a topical checklist for every state in the United States. We need an individual from each state who is willing to compile a checklist of their state. You will be given some direction

from a project coordinator and copies of research from a member of the Americana Unit. If you already collect philatelic items from your state you would have a head start.

International Outreach. This notice goes to our many international members: We need your support and advice. We are forming a committee within ATA to develop international relationships, and form a council of ambassadors in other countries to help them grow their organizations and hopefully add members to the American Topical Association. If you would like to be part of this effort please contact us.

Recent Shows and New Members

June 23-25: NTSS, Milwaukee, Wis. **Ambassadors:** Sue Bruce, Beth Collins, Jack Congrove, Larry Davidson, Jack André Denys, Dawn Hamman, Jeff Hayward, Sue Jones, Frank Kos, Laurie Ryan, Amy Wieting, Vera Felts. New members: 8

July 15-16: Evergreen Stamp Show, Kent, Wash. **Ambassadors:** Keith Edholm, Carol Edholm

July 21-23: Minnesota Stamp Expo, Crystal, Minn. **Ambassador:** Beth Collins

July 29-30: Charpex, Charlotte, N.C. **Ambassadors:** Barbara Asher, LeA Coe

Aug. 3-6: APS StampShow, Richmond, Va. **Ambassadors:** Gerry Frazier, Dawn Hamman, John Hamman, Jeff Hayward, Karen Rowe, Jean Stout, Bill Thomas, Amy Wieting, Vera Felts. New Members: 15

Aug. 11-13: Americover, Independence, Ohio. **Ambassadors:** Jeff Hayward, Andy Lingler, Sandra Lingler, Lee Neal, Jim Uline, Vera Felts. New Members: 8

Aug. 19: Greater Mound City Stampfest, St. Louis, Mo. **Ambassadors:** Sue Bruce, Vera Felts.

Aug. 19-20: Columbia Stamp & Postcard Show, Columbia, S.C. **Ambassador:** Barbara Asher.

Aug. 21: Solar Eclipse Event, Columbia, S.C. **Ambassadors:** Barbara Asher, John Owen

Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at These Upcoming Shows

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

Sept. 1-3: Balpex, Hunt Valley, Md. (see Joe Sullivan) www.balpex.org

Sept. 8-10: Seapex, Tukwila, Wash. (see Keith Edholm or Jack Congrove)
www.seapexshow.org

Sept. 8-10: Nojex, Secaucus, N.J. (see Allan Fisk) www.nojexshow.org

Sept. 15-17: Milcopesx, Milwaukee, Wis. (see Bob Mather)
www.milwaukeephilatelic.org/Milcopesx/Milcopesx.html

Oct. 5-7: ASDA National Stamp Show, New York, N.Y. (see Allan Fisk)
www.americanstampdealer.com

Oct. 14-15: Canpex, London, Ontario, Canada (see Larry Davidson) www.canpex.ca

Oct. 21: Cupepx, Urbana, Ill. <http://custampclub.org/cupepx.shtml>

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!



VERA'S VIEWS

Vera Felts, ATA Executive Director

State Checklists on Tap

New State Checklist Project. Thanks to new ATA member **Mike Vagnetti**, (you'll remember the article about his family project related to Michigan philately in the last issue of *Topical Time*, Page 57) ATA is embarking on a checklist project that was originally designated for a few years from now. To date, our checklist dATAbase has listed stamps for only a couple of U.S. states. Those lists were incomplete and hadn't been expanded for a while. Our new state checklist initiative is underway – and we are depending on you to help!

You can contribute your knowledge of stamps related to your state. If you have assembled a small – or large – collection of state-related stamps, you may have their Scott numbers and/or other information in a handwritten or computerized list. Or maybe you would enjoy putting such a list together to contribute to the upcoming new ATA checklist for your state. You can send it in any format you have, but it would be helpful to use the Excel or Word format provided on the main page of our website at www.americantopicalassn.org. Send any available info to: atastatechecklistproject@gmail.com.

Mike Vagnetti has volunteered to monitor this new email account and organize the information we receive according to individual states. We are seeking volunteers to coordinate and combine the information submitted for each state into that state's checklist. If you would like to be a checklist coordinator for your state (or any other), please volunteer by emailing the previously given address or by contacting the ATA Office. The ATA will forward to you all of the accumulated material for your chosen state, along with a blank database template to use. You'll receive a fancy "title" and lots of thanks – and the knowledge you have helped ATA and other topical collectors by helping construct a state checklist. And you'll receive "OJT" (on-the-job training/help) with what is needed.

One of ATA's active life members (for 59 years, now!), **Clarence Wagner**, is already contributing greatly to our state checklist project. Clarence paid the grand sum of \$50 in 1958 to be a Life Member of ATA, and we are grateful that he continues to "pay it forward" by actively contributing to BTTF and now to our state checklists. Clarence has been a longtime member of our Americana Unit and enjoys finding international stamps with connections to American states. He has agreed to contribute each of his 50 spreadsheets with information about stamps for that topic, and much of his information will be incorporated into the new ATA state checklists. What a wonderful gift to ATA!

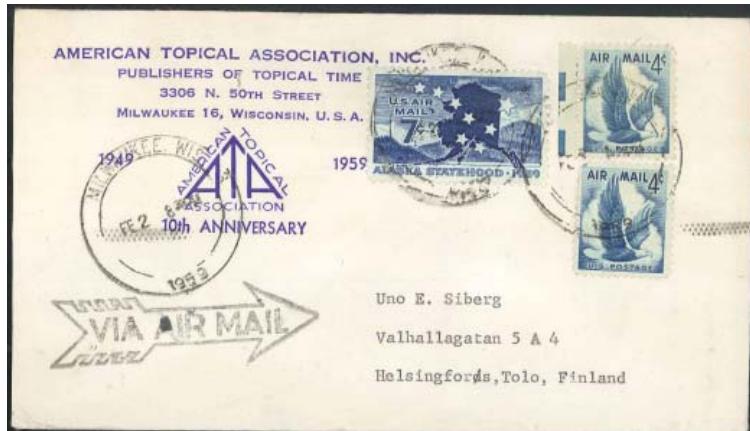
Recently, noted philatelist **John Hotchner** mentioned in a *Linn's Stamp News* column that there has been a lapse in the production of books about postage stamps and U.S. states. With the assistance of ATA members, our

checklists can help fill the void of information available to those interested in topical philately as it relates to their state.

A Historical Cover. Thanks to ATA member **Greg Ciesielski** for his recent donation to our organization's archives of an early ATA cover. The cover commemorates the 10th Anniversary of ATA and is postmarked on Feb. 2, 1959, and was mailed to Finland. There is a receiving backstamp from Helsinki dated Feb. 6, 1959. A search has not turned up any early ATA members with the name Uno Siberg of Finland. Perhaps the cover contained information sent by the ATA Office in answer to an inquiry about the organization. Or maybe Mr. Siberg was considering advertising in *Topical Time* – there were more than 70 advertisers in each issue in the late 1950s! Our thanks to Greg for the donation of this interesting relic from ATA's history!

NTSS 2017 – A Fine Memory! “Thank you” does not seem enough to write to the dozens of volunteers who helped produce our excellent show in Milwaukee. All of us in ATA owe our show chair **John Hamman** a huge debt of gratitude for his organizational skills. It goes without saying that John is a “detail man” of the first degree; his engineering training, when applied to NTSS, turned a good idea into the finest of memories. John’s “unpaid” show secretary, Dawn, was with him during each step of the multi-year process of producing “Brewing Up Topicals.” We are grateful to them, and to each person who contributed time, energy and money to the show. Thanks for helping make ATA the fine organization that it is!

I also want to thank the dozens of ATA members who wrote letters and emails, and who called our office with congratulations upon my selection as Distinguished Topical Philatelist. There have undoubtedly been more deserving recipients, but never has anyone been more grateful than me for the nice recognition of my work for you. Thanks to you for being a part of ATA and helping to make such an award possible. ☺



An attractive early ATA cover, mailed to Finland.



WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

Wayne L. Youngblood, *Topical Time* Editor

Copyright Law & Digital Image Use for Authors and Editors

[Author's note: This article is being published in several more-or-less non-overlapping publications as a service to authors, editors and website owners and developers. It is not a comprehensive piece on copyright law, but does address one area that arguably raises the most questions.]

As a professional philatelic author and editor for more than 30 years, I have been fairly deeply involved with copyright law in different aspects, having dealt repeatedly with various types of problems related to the reproduction of philatelic images. While I am not a lawyer, and this is not intended as legal advice (and should therefore not be used as your bottom line), this article should provide you with some general guidelines and focuses on what you can reasonably expect and what is reasonably expected of you when dealing with digital art. If you have any questions regarding a particular situation, however, you should always consult an attorney with experience in copyright law.

Please note that the following addresses only the situation of a philatelic author in its broadest sense to include bloggers as well as authors of philatelic articles or books. The reproduction of copyrighted images for sale or to make first-day cachets for sale, for example, raises other issues not addressed here, as does reproduction of items for financial gain.

It has always been my preference to illustrate columns, articles and features with material I own. However, recognizing that to tell a specific story that's not always possible, it is necessary to occasionally use other sources of illustrative material. There are many sources, including friends; research sites, such as the Library of Congress and others; eBay; and numerous other online resources. Regardless of source, your first responsibility is to assess whether the image you've found online is of a high-enough quality for print reproduction (if print is your goal). Many are not.

But how do you deal with a situation when the only available philatelic image is subject to a copyright, whether owned by a postal authority or a private party, or if a copyright or some form of "licensing" is claimed by a website owner?

First and foremost: The vast majority of stamps – and all covers – are in the public domain. Most stamps are produced by government entities with public funds, so copyright is frequently not an issue. As for covers, these are artifacts of postal processing. As such, they cannot be copyrighted unless, for example, they utilize original artwork. Those stamp designs that are copyrighted (such as modern United States postage stamps since 1980) are generally covered by "fair use" if you are using them to illustrate an article. Under Section 107 of the Copyright Act, the fair use doctrine provides that the reproduction of copy-

righted material “*for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright.*” All other issues aside, most philatelic writing would fall under this category.

As for rare stamps and covers (even unique ones, such as the Penny Magenta British Guiana), simply owning a postal artifact does not entitle one to either ownership or control of all images or depictions of an item. This was attempted by one well-known collector/lawyer in the late 1980s and early 1990s, and it failed miserably by virtually any legal litmus test.

Thus, for philatelic purposes, unless there is some form of original work involved, such as a montage of images or an artist’s original artwork, we are generally free to write about and depict most any item we wish -- from virtually any source – regardless of boilerplate warnings and other scarecrows found on websites. Specific permission for publishing reproductions of scanned stamps or covers is not a legal requirement.

That having been said, however, this does not give us free license to ride roughshod over the hard work others have expended in scanning and posting material. Anyone knowingly using material from either private or commercial websites without acknowledging their origin is doing themselves and the hobby a disservice. **Those who scan and post material online have expended a great deal of time and effort, and they deserve both the acknowledgment for that effort and whatever publicity comes with it.**

If an individual posting simple scans of covers or stamps online truly wishes to “protect” the images they use (that is, prevent reuse by others), it is fully their responsibility to either watermark those images or otherwise deface them to discourage use by others. Again, ownership of a philatelic artifact does not entitle one to ownership of all depictions of it. **The most important fact to remember, whether dealing with your own or others’ work, is that copyright rewards originality, not effort.**

As mentioned previously, stamp images themselves cannot be copyrighted by anyone other than by the issuing authority. In the case of stamps created utilizing any public funds (as is certainly the case with duck, waterfowl and other similar government-issued stamps), they are -- quite simply -- forever in the public domain. Even when images can, in theory, be copyrighted, such as U.S. postage stamps released from 1971-80 (1980 is when the “new” USPS, which doesn’t use public funds, began copyrighting stamp designs), a retroactive copyright cannot be claimed – even by the rightful owner.



Despite the highly identifiable nature of this plate number single, neither the design nor the image are copyrightable, nor subject to licensing. It is a simple, non-derivative scan. Image courtesy USPhila.com.



The stamps shown here are not copyrightable, nor are images of them. However, this mini-mail tableau shows enough originality that it could – possibly – be protected under the U.S. Copyright Act.

Now, let's deal with reproduction (mechanical, electronic or any other media) as it relates to philatelic artifacts: Most items offered on websites, or those appearing on research sites, are simple scans; that is, true reproductions of the original artifact. They are not "derivative" works (an important word we'll cover shortly).

While there is little question that those who created these images have invested considerable time and effort (the so-called "sweat of the brow" argument), these scans are – in fact – not copyrightable. The "sweat of the brow" concept has long-since been rejected repeatedly by the U.S. Supreme Court (ref. *Feist Publications v Rural Telephone Service Company*, 1991). The same issue has been visited by other court cases, such as *Bridgeman v. Corel* (1999) and several others – **virtually all of which argue that faithful copies of public domain works do not warrant their own copyrights, regardless of whether they are text or image based.** Virtually every legal case that has ensued since has not become more liberal towards the copyrighting of scans. Again, copyright rewards originality, not effort.

Essentially, simple scans do not involve any form of original authorship, which would perhaps subject them to protection. Thus, if you were to set up a still life, for example, of a rare duck stamp, a decoy and a potted plant, you would be demonstrating, or "creating," a form of original work from a non-copyrightable image (the duck stamp). This is otherwise known as a "derivative work," and it would probably be subject to copyright, although not necessarily. In essence, you have added to, or modified, the item significantly enough to create an "original" work, rather than a simple reproduction.

A scan, on the other hand (regardless of how good), does not reflect any original work related to a non-copyrighted design and is therefore not entitled to any legal protection.

Now, despite this seemingly green light, it is my feeling that it would be ethically (although not legally) wrong for anyone to knowingly garner the fruits of another's efforts without attribution.

If you are contemplating utilizing a scan or other non-original image from a website, it is always a good idea to attribute their work. This is both common sense and an important courtesy. You may even wish to contact the site's owner to let them know of your intent, although you may meet resistance with this approach from some. While you may technically be "in the right," some website owners or managers are very touchy about reproduction, or may be misguided about protection to which they feel entitled. You may or may not wish to push this issue too far.

On the other hand, it has been my experience that many website owners and developers are quite cooperative and will even send high-quality images if requested and assured that full attribution will be given.

As an editor, I cannot and will not attempt to police images used in contributors' articles. I am neither ethically nor legally responsible for enforcing a common or professional courtesy. Ultimately you need to decide what is necessary to provide as illustrations, as well as how fully you extend your personal and professional courtesy in obtaining necessary images.

1. It is always best to use either material you own or that is clearly intended for restriction-free reproduction.
2. Many online images do not contain enough raw information to be suitable for print publication (low resolution).
3. Many websites either claim a copyright or some form of "licensing." While copyright protection does apply to a site as an overall creative work, it does not apply to simple scans of stamps or covers found on that site.
4. The vast majority of stamp designs are not copyrighted – or copyrightable, and virtually all covers are in the public domain. Copyright rewards originality, not effort.
5. If an owner or author of a website truly wishes to "protect" the images found on it, then it is his or her responsibility to visibly "watermark" or otherwise deface them to discourage reuse.
6. Even if an image is copyrighted, you may be entitled to reproduction in philatelic writing under the "fair use" doctrine of the Copyright Act.
7. It is never appropriate to "borrow" an image from a website without proper attribution. While not a legal requirement it is a vital and important personal and professional courtesy.
8. In many cases, the owner of a website may be willing to provide a high-quality image for reproduction if requested and assured that attribution will be given.

I hope this not-so-short refresher course can help all involved with philatelic publishing achieve a simpler and more rewarding experience in providing interesting content to the hobby. ☺

Non-Philatelic Collectors Club Learns About Philately in Fort Worth

The Fort Worth, Texas, Collector's Club, founded in 1969, is composed of about 25-30 individuals who each has an interest in collecting, but none of whom listed stamp collecting as one of their subjects of interest. The current officers could not recall ever having had someone speak to their group about stamp collecting. One of the group had heard Ray Cartier speak on his collection of aircraft stamps and covers to another group at the B-36 (Bomber) "Peacemaker" Museum and suggested that the club invite him to speak to the group.

In response, Ray agreed, but told them that his wife, Karen, would share the presentation, introducing club members to topical stamp collecting. The joint talk went over very well, with 10 of the members picking up information on joining the ATA, along with obtaining information about collecting stamps that tied into their own varied collecting interests. Eight members picked up flyers announcing the upcoming Mid-Cities Stamp Club Expo. They were promised free admission and parking, as well as a chance to see exhibits and meet with stamp dealers to find stamps tying into their collecting interests, which include

trains, ceramics, dolls, dragons and others. Copies of *Linn's Stamp News* and other philatelic material were also brought along and made available to those interested. Single-page humorous exhibits were passed around for helping listeners better understand how stamps and covers can be used to convey information.

Ray's interest in aviation and space resulted in several conversations with collectors,

About the Cover

This attractive philatelically themed postcard was printed by A. Vivian Mansell & Co., Fine Art Printers of London, and reproduces an original design by Linda Edgerton (1890-1983). Edgerton was a popular illustrator during the early 20th century who specialized in chil-

dren, child development and play. In addition to creating dozens of postcard designs, she also illustrated several children's books (and wrote a couple), as well as designing nursery chinaware. This is the only philatelic card of hers we've been able to document. It dates from around 1920, when Edgerton created most of her card designs. □





Karen Cartier speaks to members of the Fort Worth (General) Collector's Club.

following the presentation, who were interested in those topics. Rather than using an overhead projector for a smaller group, Ray showed color enlargements of significant space and aviation-related covers and allowed members to pass them around as well. He gave the club a space cover canceled at Cape Canaveral on the

date of the Apollo 11 launch (July 20, 1969) as a door prize. The winner was very happy with this unexpected gift.

Is there a general collectors group in your area? Why not locate a group, go to one of its meetings and tell members a little bit about topical collecting? If you are up to speaking to a small group, offer to give a short presentation about your topical collection. You'll probably find a very receptive audience and possibly help add to the ATA membership at the same time. ☐

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TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

George DeKornfeld

Flowers on Postmarks

[Editor's Note: We are quite happy to report that George DeKornfeld is back with us, after recovering from a serious illness.]

Two major surgeries, two less-than-major procedures, two hospitals and a medical center, a nursing home (twice), rehabilitation, physical therapy and – after nine months of hell – I'm finally home. What is hell? Aside from the obvious (as mentioned), hell includes being separated from the confines of one's stamp den and beloved stamps and covers. Hell is missing the stamp shows normally attended each year and the camaraderie that goes with them. And no internet for weeks on end ... so it was a long, difficult ride and there's a long road of rehab ahead, but hallelujah, I'm back amongst the things that keep me going.

Of the few things that helped keep me from losing my mind during this past nine months, two tend to stand out. One was the hobby periodicals, such as *Topical Time*, that seemed to appear just when I really needed something to take my mind off of my situation. The other was the cards and flowers I received from relatives and dear friends. Not at all hard to look at and carrying a pleasant aroma, the flowers that showed up in my various rooms in hell always cheered me up and lifted my spirits. It is with this in mind that I thought



Figure 1.



Figure 2.

that in this issue we should take a look at some pictorial cancels that portray flowers and blooms. (I bet you thought the topic was going to be "hell." Nope ... I've had more than enough of that for now, but maybe some other time.)

Figure 1 starts us off with an example from Australia, a 1998 first-day pictorial used to cancel a pretty stamp depicting a raft of Champagne Roses with the marking nicely mimicking the blooms found in the stamp. Here "champagne" refers to the color of the roses which, according to the American Rose Society's website, denotes effervescence, vitality and devotion.

One year later, Australia issued a colorful set of four stamps depicting some of its breathtaking Coastal Flowers. Here our first-day pictorial, applied at the Batemans Bay post office in the southern end of New South Wales, emphasizes where these blooms can be found by including a couple of seashells along with a flower that seem to mimic the third

Figure 4.

stamp from the left, an *Ipomoea pes-caprae*, aka (and appropriately named) the Beach Morning Glory (Figure 2).

A quick stop in Canada brings us to Figure 3, where we find a handsomely simple marking, another first-day postmark, used in Ottawa in 2004. Although I'm not normally a huge fan of stylized pictorials, this one grabs me as it matches the subtle, yet eye-catching, clean lines of the flowers in the stamps.

A nice example of concordance between a stamp and its



Figure 3.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.

pictorial cancel appears as Figure 4, yet another first-day (“esimene”) marking (which seems to be trending here), this one from Estonia in 2006.

Rarely seen as a country of interest in these columns are the Faroe Islands, but not so this time. Let’s look at a couple of pictorials from this Danish archipelago in the North Atlantic. Figure 5 is a marking used in the capital,



Tórshavn, in 1988. This pictorial is of a simple and basic design but serves its purpose well enough. Figure 6’s example is a tad more intricate. Also used in the capital, this time in 1999, this pictorial was used to cancel a pair of Bible story stamps, the lily commonly representing the purity of Jesus Christ within Christianity.

Old Blighty is our next stop and, as is normally the case for Great Britain, we have some pretty stamps and pictorials to view. Since we’ll be looking at four examples, to save space let’s go to a list format:

Figure 7: A first-day marking used in 1979.

Figure 8: Another pictorial from 1979, this one depicting a rose and commemorating the “Floral City Exhibition” in Bath.

Figure 9: This marking from 1987 was used in London and com-



Figure 6 (above)

Figure 7 (left).

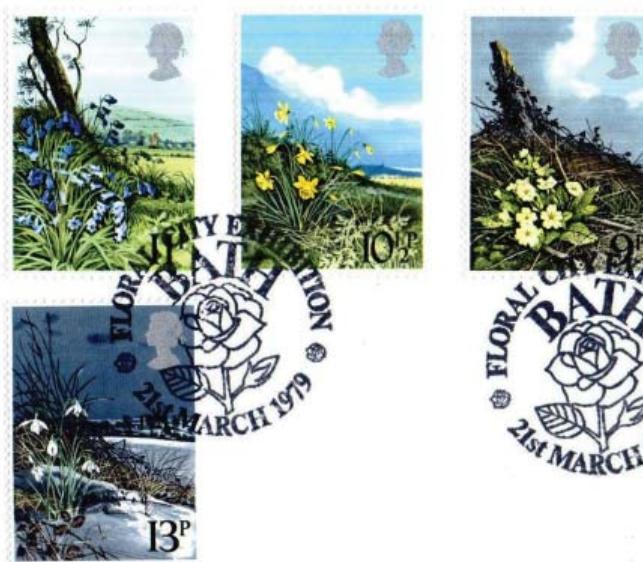


Figure 8.



Figure 10 (below).

memorates the “KEB Horticultural Society.”

Figure 10: We would be remiss if, in this category of pictorials and the country we’re visiting, we didn’t include a Tudor rose!

Figure 11 takes us to Bonn for a wildflower or meadow flower pictorial used in 1977. Typical of many German markings, this one has plenty of detail and is another first day of issue hand-stamp.

Figure 9 (below).



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

Figure 11 (right).**Figure 12 (below).****Figure 13 (below right).**

Clearly, flower pictorials are a cinch to find, as loads of different countries issue them. This should come as no surprise since few of us turn our noses up at this attractive topic. In the spirit of including as many examples as possible, let's finish up again with a list format.

Figure 12:
New Delhi,
India, 1984.
Note the
terrific
concor-
dance!

Figure 13:
Chandigarh,
India, 1985.
Chandigarh,

**Figure 14 (left).****Figure 15 (above).**



Figure 16.

the capital of the northern Indian states of Punjab and Haryana, hosted Chandipex, a regional stamp show and exhibition.

Figure 14: Japan, 1961. Struck in the red color typical for Japan, this pictorial has a little something for several topics from a lighthouse and a ship, to flowers.

Figure 15: Japan, 1978. Note the tiny dove at lower right for those of us that collect our winged brethren.

Figure 16: The Bailiwick of Jersey, 1974. This marking provides a change from the norm, showing a young lass wading through a field of flowers, basketful of fragrant treasures in hand.



Figure 17 (above).

Figure 18 (left).

Figure 17: Russia, 1986.

Figure 18: Durban, South Africa, 1981. The World Orchid Conference is held annually in this country but in different cities. Overseen by the South African Orchid Society, the conference





Figure 19.

used this pictorial to commemorate the 10th event.

Figure 19: Another South African marking, here the flowers depicted in the stamp and the pictorial both scream of an almost electric vibrancy (2008).

Figure 20: United States, Chicago, 2005. Spring Flowers issue first-day cancellation.

Figure 21: United States, St. Louis, 2017. Another first-day marking, this one represents just one of the pleasant uses of our blooming brethren, that of a boutonnière.

Figure 22: United States. Always a sucker for a pretty illustrated advertising Bank Note cover, I couldn't help but include this 1887 example here, as it jives with our topic and it's just so darned easy to look at.

So, that's it for this issue. It's great to be back ... great to be able to be back! My heartfelt thanks to Wayne who filled in during my absence (like he doesn't already have enough to do)!

And, as usual, let's close with an on-topic smile:

Two old ladies were sitting on a park bench outside the local town hall where a flower show was taking place. The thin one leaned over and said, "We never have any fun any more. For \$5, I'd take my

Figure 21.



Figure 20.



**Figure 22.**

clothes off and streak through that stupid flower show!"

"You're on!" said the other old lady, holding up a \$5 bill. The first little old lady slowly fumbled her way out of her clothes. Completely naked, she streaked (as fast as an old lady can) through the front door of the flower show.

Waiting outside, her friend soon heard a huge commotion inside the hall, followed by loud applause and shrill whistling. The smiling, naked old lady came through the exit door surrounded by a cheering crowd.

"What happened?" asked her waiting friend. "I won 1st prize as Best Dried Arrangement." ☺

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.



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My Topic

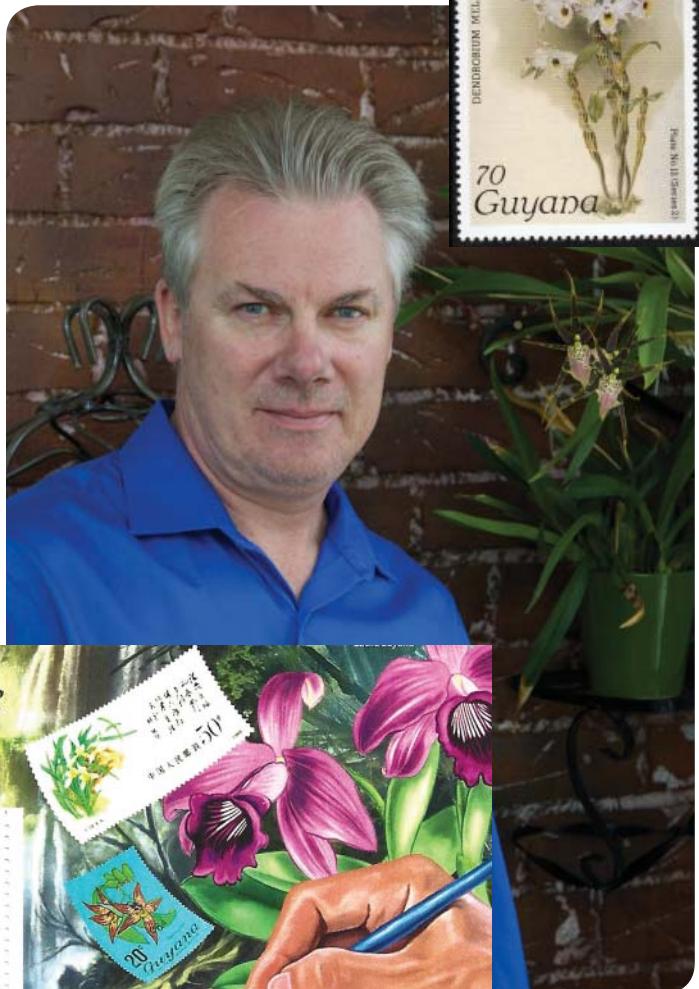
Jean-Michel Bertrand

Dawn Hamman

Jean-Michel Bertrand experienced a stamp collector's worst nightmare when his 30-year collection of hot-air balloons and airships on stamps was destroyed by fire. The Black Forest Fire in Colorado in 2013 was the most destructive fire in the state's history.

"I gradually started to feel the need to restart a stamp collection," he recalled. "My wife loves orchids, and we are growing orchids in our greenhouse. Orchids on stamps was an easy choice."

While most ATA members start with an ATA checklist and go from there, Jean-Michel



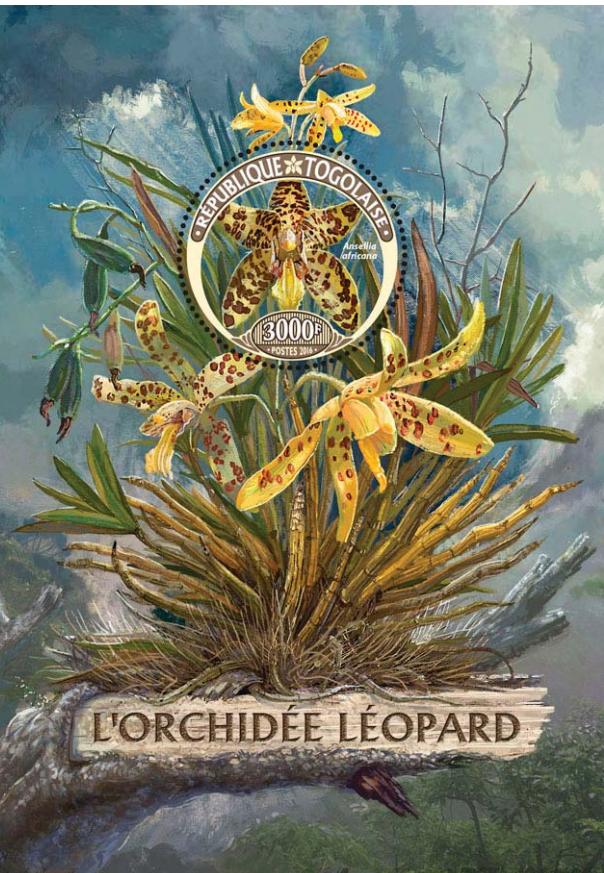
From Top: Guyana Scott 1713, Jean-Michel Bertrand and (left) Uganda Scott 2085.

loves research, and took a very scholarly and thorough approach.

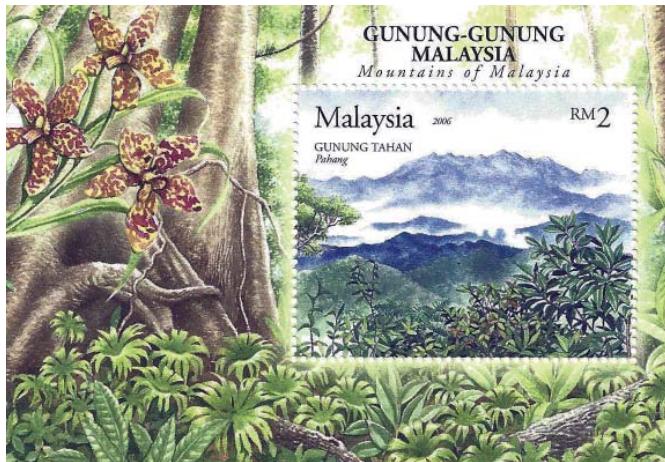
"I started by going through all the Scott catalogs to establish a base. I am now reconciling that list with other sources," he explained of his massive project. "The last stage will be to compare with the ATA list. Hopefully I can submit the updated list to the ATA."

Along the way, there have been plenty of challenges. In consulting the Scott catalogs, he found that many stamps are not pictured. "They are easy to miss!" he soon saw. Also, he has found many errors in identifying the orchid shown on the stamp correctly.

For now, he organizes his collection by country. But, he has become quite knowledgeable in identifying orchids, which is satisfying, and most likely helpful in the greenhouse, too. "To me, the most enjoyable part is the research on the topics," he explained. With the number of stamps depicting orchids (well over 5,000), his challenges continue.



Togo orchid souvenir sheet, released in 2016.



Malaysia souvenir sheet, Scott 1088c.

"Collecting (acquiring) is the easiest part, in my opinion. It depends on how much money one can spend on it!" he said. We all relate to that.

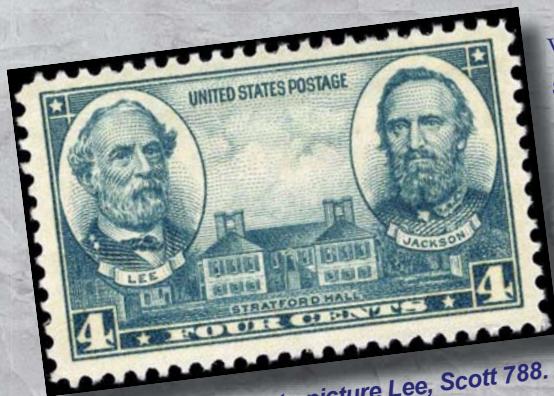
Like all topical collectors, Jean-Michel has other topic ideas simmering on the back burner: gems & minerals and turtles. But that will be in the future, as he is quite busy with his orchid project. ☐

Confederate Stamps in Your Collection

Jack André Denys

If you collect post-1937 United States stamps, you collect Confederate stamps. Let me explain.

Confederate General Robert E. Lee (1807-70) is depicted on six U.S. stamps. Confederate Lt. General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson is on three. Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, is on two. Several other Confederates appear once, on the 1995 Civil War pane. All of these stamps were issued before the current controversy over Confederate statues and memorials.



The first U.S. stamp to picture Lee, Scott 788.

4¢ gray value of the Army Series (Scott 788), issued at Washington, D.C., March 23, 1937. It shows Jackson, Lee and the latter's birthplace, Stratford Hall, near Montross, Va. (The home is open to visitors.)

There was controversy over this stamp. *Linn's Stamp News* of March 13, 1937, notes: “Postmaster General James A. Farley is apparently trying to calm the irate Southern Colonels by issuing the coming four-cent stamps...in gray ink.... Much protest was aroused in the south over the issue of the current 3¢ Army stamp depicting [Union leaders] General Sherman along with Grant and Sheridan. Farley is paying a nice compliment to the old Confederacy.... Printing the stamp in Confederate gray should go far toward soothing the injured feelings of our southern brethren....”

The second stamp depicting Lee was a blue commemorative (Scott 982), issued April 13, 1949, in Washington, D.C., for the bicentennial of Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va. The stamp portrays both of its namesakes and the main building of a Colonnade, designated as a National Historic Landmark District.

Lee graduated second in his class at West Point and, after distinguishing himself in the Mexican-American War, served as superintendent of that Academy. A moderate, Lee was discontented with radicals on both sides of the North-South controversy. But, believing he owed his first loyalty to Virginia, he resigned his U.S. Army commission and became Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia.

The first stamp showing Lee was the

4¢ gray value of the Army Series (Scott 788), issued at Wash-

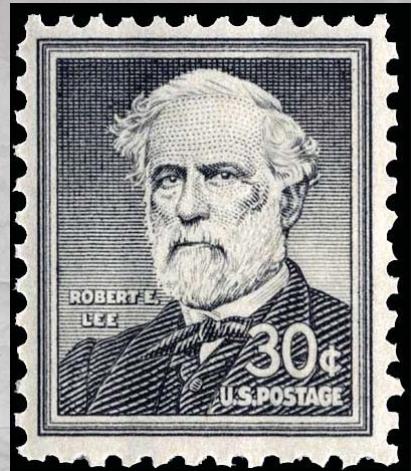


The 1949 Lee stamp, Scott 982.

Founded as Augusta Academy in 1749, the school was renamed Liberty Hall in 1776 and then Liberty Hall Academy six years later. It became Washington College in 1796, when George Washington made a \$20,000 gift, saving it from bankruptcy. Immediately after Lee's death in 1870, the school was renamed Washington and Lee University. (The school's Colonnade was also depicted on a 20¢ postal card - Scott UX302 - minus the portraits.)

The university's motto, Nōn Incautus Futūrī', meaning "Not unmindful of the future," is an adaptation from that of the Lee family. Lee was president of the university from 1865-70. He lived and died in the Lee House – where the president still lives – and is buried in Lee Chapel, together with his wife, five children and his horse, Traveler.

"One of the southern state's [sic] all time heroes will soon be seen on a U.S. postage stamp after two previous appearances." Thus began *Linn's* Aug. 22, 1955, issue's announcement of the third Lee stamp, a black 30-cent, eighth in the Liberty series (Scott 1049). Issued Sept. 21, 1955, opening day of the APS convention in Norfolk, Va., the stamp depicts a portrait similar to the 1949 commemorative. According to



Scott 1049, the 30¢ value of the popular U.S. Liberty series, features Robert E. Lee.

the U.S. Post Office Department's *Postal Bulletin*, the likeness of Lee "was reproduced from two prints obtained from the Library of Congress. One, identified as a Brady print, showing Lee in uniform, was used for his facial features and the other was taken from a negative owned by L. G. Handy of Washington, D. C., was used for the civilian attire."



Upon completion of the massive Stone Mountain Memorial in 1970, this 6¢ commemorative, Scott 1408, was released.

institution of slavery as 'a moral and a political evil in any country.'" President Lincoln had offered Lee the command of the Federal army. Lee turned it down. "Lee wrote later, 'I declined ... stating as candidly and courteously as I could, that, though opposed to secession and deprecating war, I could take no part in an invasion of the southern states.'"

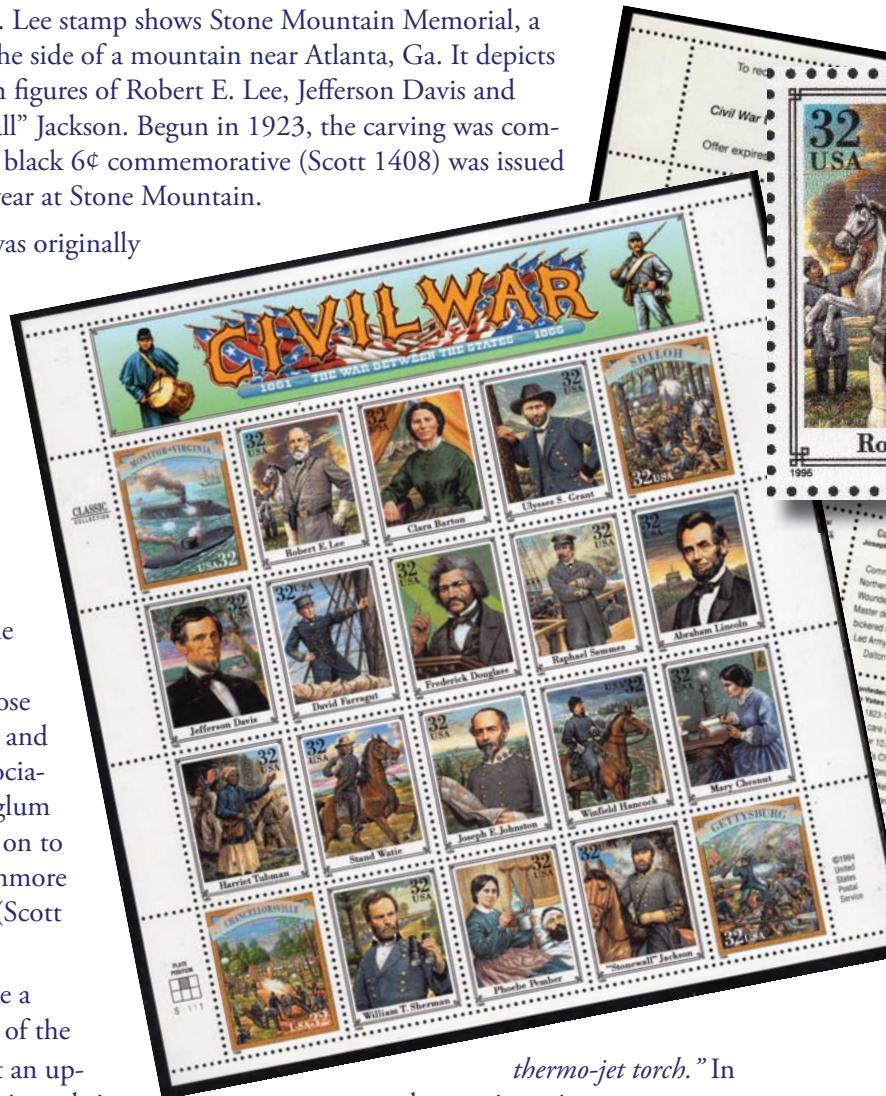
The fourth U.S. Lee stamp shows Stone Mountain Memorial, a huge carving on the side of a mountain near Atlanta, Ga. It depicts massive equestrian figures of Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. Begun in 1923, the carving was completed in 1970. A black 6¢ commemorative (Scott 1408) was issued on Sept. 19 that year at Stone Mountain.

The sculpture was originally planned to only portray Lee, but its designer, Gutzon Borglum, envisioned a carving with seven central figures accompanied by "an army of thousands." It was changed to the three existing figures. A dispute arose between Borglum and the managing association, causing Borglum to leave. He went on to carve Mount Rushmore in South Dakota (Scott 1011 and others).

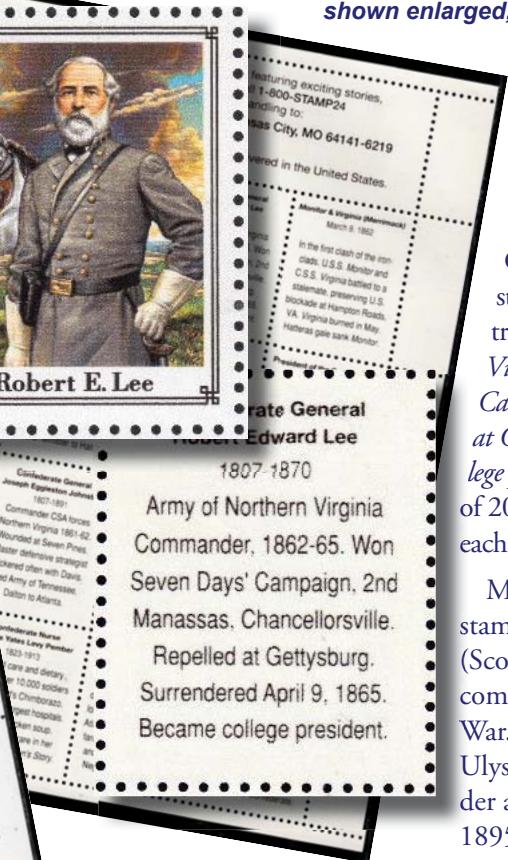
Visitors can take a skyride to the top of the Mountain and get an up-close look at what its website calls the "*the largest high relief sculpture in the world, actually much larger than it appears from the ground, measuring three-acres, larger than a football field. It towers 400 feet, measures 90 by 190 feet, and is recessed 42 feet into the mountain. Workers could easily stand on a horse's ear or inside a horse's mouth to escape a rain shower. The figures were sculpted with the detail of a fine painting. Eyebrows, fingers, buckles and even strands of hair were fine-carved with a small*

thermo-jet torch." In the evening, viewers can see "*the world's largest laser light show featuring a fantastic fireworks finale!*" Clever and creative, it includes galloping horses, superimposed on the carving.

The fifth stamp depicting Lee was one of a pane of 20 multi-color 32¢ stamps issued in Gettysburg, Pa., on June 29, 1995, to honor heroes of the Civil War (Scott 2975). Lee is shown with Traveler in the background. The chosen honorees represent an almost perfect balance



This 1995 sheet honoring heroes of the Civil War was released June 29, 1995, and is balanced nearly equally between the North and the South. The Lee stamp is shown enlarged, front and back.



between the North and South. Confederate images are, in addition to Lee, Davis and Jackson: Gen. Joseph Eggleston Johnston, Rear Adm. Raphael Semmes, Diarist Mary Boykin Miller Chesnut, Nurse Phoebe Yates Levy Pember, Brig. Gen. Stand "Degataga" Watie and the battle of Chancellorsville. Printed on the reverse of the stamps are brief descriptions of each person's contributions. Lee's wording reads *"Army of Northern Virginia Commander 1962-65. Won Seven Days' Campaign, 2nd Manassas, Chancellorsville. Repelled at Gettysburg. Surrendered April 9, 1865. Became college president."* (The same designs were used for a set of 20¢ picture postal cards, Scott UX200-219, with each design serving as the card's picture.)

Most recently, the sixth Lee issue was a "Forever" stamp issued April 9, 2015, at Appomattox, Va., (Scott 4981). It was the fifth and last souvenir sheet commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The stamp shows Lee and Union General Ulysses S. Grant shaking hands during Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, as depicted on an 1895 painting, *Peace in Union*, by Thomas Nast.

Statues of Robert E. Lee may be taken down, but millions of stamps depicting him remain. It is interesting to speculate on the public reaction if any of these stamps were issued today. But, regardless of our politics, we can escape from the world around us and retreat into the wonderful world of our little pieces of paper! ■



The most recent U.S. Lee stamp, from 2015, Scott 4981.

The author would like to thank Scott Tiffney, Reference Assistant at the American Philatelic Research Library, for his very helpful and timely assistance.

Jack André Denys is a past president of ATA and remains very active within the ATA. He may be contacted at jdenys@verizon.net. His exhibit on the Bayeaux Tapestry has won many awards.

Units in Action

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

Americana Unit

Americana Philatelic News

In *Americana Philatelic News* January-March 2017, William Pederson explores “Abraham Lincoln on European Stamps.” San Marino is one European nations that has issued several stamps to honor Lincoln. In 1861 Lincoln was offered honorary citizenship, which he accepted.

Four pages of Americana-related new stamp issues also appear in the journal.

Dues are \$9 in the United States, \$15 elsewhere. Contact Dennis Dengel, 17 Peckham Rd, Poughkeepsie NY 12603-2018.

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Biology Unit

Biophilately

An update to Edward N. Munns’ article “The World’s Most Valuable Trees,” first published in 1967, along with an update to the tree checklist is reprinted in the March 2017 *Biophilately*. After consulting foresters, nurserymen and many others, Munns settled on a list that includes the Almond, Coconut, Date, Cinchona, Citrus, Fig, Mulberry

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and Rubber trees. Lyman R. Caswell also continues the third part of the series on “Alexander von Humboldt: The First Environmentalist” in this issue.

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

Email: chris-dahle@fastermac.net

Website: www.biophilately.org

Books and Printing (Graphics Philately Association)

Philateli-Graphics

Kathy Bell continues with the second part of her series on “Calligraphy in Philately.” Also in the July 2017 issue of *Philateli-Graphics* is a biography of Ottmar Mergenthaler inventor of the typesetting machine known as the Linotype.

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

Email: unhinged@gbstamps.com

Website: www.graphics-stamps.org

Cats on Stamps Study Unit *Cat Mews*

In the Spring 2017 issue of *Cat Mews*, Marci Jarvis writes several articles on “Monaco’s Circus Cats,” the “Return of the U.S. Jaguar” and “The Black Leopard.” Greg Balagian also writes about Japanese painter Hishida Miyōji and his painting, *The Black Cat*. *The Black Cat* was painted in 1910 mixing old and new styles of painting. A portion of the painting appears on a stamp issued by Japan in 1979.

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

Email: bobmarci@aol.com

Website: <http://www.catstamps.info>

Chemistry & Physics Study Unit

Philatelia Chimica et Physica

Don Hillger and Garry Toth explore “Temperature Scales and their Inventors” using stamps and covers that show how these devices have been used over the past 300 years.

One of the inventors was René-Antoine Ferchault de Réaumur who was a French

Naturalist studying insects. He invented an alcohol thermometer that was used to measure temperature and the growth of insects. The Réaumur Thermometer is still used in parts of Italy and Switzerland in cheese production.

Dues are \$20 in the United States, \$26 in Canada, \$40 elsewhere. Contact Roland F. Hirsch, 20458 Waters Point Ln, Germantown MD 20874-1091.

Email: michael@cpossu.org

Website: www.cpossu.org

Chess on Stamps Study Unit

Chessstamp Review

Allan Savage shares the first game of “Chess in Space” in the October-December 2017 issue of *Chessstamp Review*. The game took place on June 9, 1970, between Soviet cosmonauts on *Soyuz 9* versus players on earth. The game has been commemorated on stamps by Hungary, Romania and the U.S.S.R. The game ended in a draw after six hours of play.

Dues are \$17 in North America and \$24 elsewhere. Contact Barry Keith, 555 Rolling Valley Ct, Charlottesville VA 22902-8257.

Email: keithfam@embarqmail.com

Website: www.chessonstamps.org

Disneyana on Stamps Society

Disnemation

The Disney Films on Stamps series continues with Disney films from 1967-1973. Five films were released during this period: *The Jungle Book*, *Winnie the Pooh and the Blustery Day*, *The Aristocats*, *Bedknobs and Broomsticks* and *Robin Hood*. Rob Feikens also shares covers mailed by ship using Disney stamps in “Disney Paquebot and Ship Mail Covers” in the January 2017 *Disnemation*.

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

Email: disnemation@yahoo.ca

Web: <http://disnemation.wixsite.com/doss>

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

Reflections

In *Reflections* for January 2017, editor Don Neal provides an in-depth look at many new USPS 2017 issues. John Hotchner also explains the various auxiliary markings one might find on covers and why you should consider collecting them.

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

Email: esperstamps@esperstamps.org
or, Earnest Shinault, Sr, 3523 Douglass Ave, Memphis TN 38111-5721.

Email: eshinaulsts@yahoo.com

Website: www.esperstamps.org

Europa Study Unit

Europa News

Seven illustrated pages of Europa new issues lead the January-February 2017 *Europa News*. Also in this issue are Part 7 of Steve Luster's monograph "The 1958 Europa Stamps" and an article on the "Gothard Base Tunnel," the world's deepest and longest traffic tunnel that goes through the Alps.

Dues are \$20 in the United States and Canada, \$30 elsewhere and \$10 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Tonny Van Loij, 3002 S Xanthia St, Denver CO 80231-4237.

Email: tvanloij@gmail.com

Website: www.europastudyunit.org

Fire Service in Philately

Fire Stamp News

In "Tools of the Trade" Dan Alfond explains how speaking trumpets were used by firefighters to communicate orders. The use of horns and trumpets began in the early 1700s and they have been replaced by electronic horns and communication devices. Covers, stamps and pictorial

cancellations appear in the article to show the many types of trumpets that have been used. Several pages of new issues also appear in this October-December issue of *Fire Stamp News*.

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

Email: etflory@ptd.net

Halloween Spooktacular Stamps & Stuff

The Bubbling Cauldron

Editor Denise Lazaroff shares her experience at the USPS first-day ceremony in Anoka, Minn., for the block of four Jack-O'-Lanterns stamps issued in September 2016. Anoka is considered the "Halloween Capital of the World" and began having Halloween festivals in 1920.

Dues are \$15 in the United States and Canada, \$20 elsewhere. Contact Denise Lazaroff, PO Box 624, Simpsonville SC 29681-0624.

Email: deniselazaroff@gmail.com

Journalists, Authors, & Poets on Stamps

(JAPOS)
JAPOS Bulletin

Jeff Dugdale writes about two authors with anniversaries in 2016. The 300th anniversary of Thomas Gray's birth was in December 2016. Gray is an English Romantic poet known for *Elegy Written in a Country Church*, published in 1751. The other author is Agatha Christie, known for writing murder mysteries. Royal mail dedicated an issue to Christie in September 2016 to mark the 125th anniversary of her birth.

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

Email: codelvaux@msn.com

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

Judaica Thematic Society*Judaica News*

Gene Eisen provides a history of “The Zhovkva Synagogue” in *Judaica News* for February 2017. Ukraine issued a set of stamps in August 2016 and the Zhovkva Synagogue appears on one of the four stamps in the set. The synagogue was built in the 1690s and looks more like a fortress than a synagogue.

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

Email: judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net

Lighthouse Stamp Society*The Philatelic Beacon*

New issues from the United Kingdom depicting Bailiwick Lighthouses lead the March-April 2017 issue of *The Philatelic Beacon*. Six lighthouses from The Bailiwick of Guernsey appear on the stamps in the set of six. The Bailiwick of Guernsey is a British territory in the Channel Islands that is a popular tourist destination.

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

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

Masonic Study Unit*The Philatelic Freemason*

Several biographies of Freemasons are offered in the January-February 2017 issue of *The Philatelic Freemason*. One of note is of Henry Dearborn, known for leading a local militia group to fight at the Battle of Bunker Hill during the Revolutionary War.

Dues are \$10 in the United States, \$12 in Canada and Mexico and \$16

elsewhere. Contact Robert A. Domingue, 59 Greenwood Rd, Andover MA 01810-3311.

Email: radpm67@gmail.com

or, Gene Fricks

Email: genefricks@comcast.net

Mathematical Study Unit*Philamath*

In *Philamath* January 2017, David Walker explores “Slide Rule Themed Philately” with stamps depicting slide rules, mathematicians and logarithms used with slide rules. A biography of math teacher Jaime Escalante, known for his entertaining teaching style, is also included in this issue of *Philamath*.

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

Email: montystrauss@gmail.com

Website: www.mathstamps.org

Medical Subjects Unit*Scalpel & Tongs*

In the July-September 2017 *Scalpel & Tongs* Jayant Pai-Dhungat writes about the “Barefoot Doctors: China’s Health Revolution in the 1960s,” which was a program to improve healthcare for those living in rural communities. Five pages of medical stamp-related new issues were also provided in the journal.

Dues are \$15 in the United States and \$18 elsewhere. Contact Marion Rollings, 101 New Amwell Rd, Hillsborough NJ 08844-5516.

Email: drmarionrollings@yahoo.com

Motivgruppe Musik (International Philatelic Music Study Group)*Der Musikus*

Numerous biographies and autobiographies appear in *Der Musikus* March 2017. Just some of the artists featured include Lauren Bacall, Jack Benny, Fanny



Brice, Lorne Greene, Al Jolson, Bette Midler, Marilyn Monroe and Barbra Streisand.

There are also 17 pages of fully illustrated new music-related stamp issues and music-related cancels reported in this edition.

Dues are €25 (€12.50 for collectors 25 years old or younger.) Young collectors receive one year of *Der Musikus* free. Contact Peter Lang, Rotkamp 14, 13053 Berlin, Germany.

Email: motivgruppe.musik@gmx.de
Website: www.motivgruppe-musik.de/indexe.html

Penguins on Stamps Study Unit *The Rookery Report*

The lead article in the Winter 2017 *The Rookery Report*, by Pobjoy Mint, introduces readers to the Zavodovski Island penguins. Zavodovski Island is known for having the largest colony of chinstrap penguins in the world, with an estimated 750,000 breeding pairs. The island also has a smaller colony of Macaroni penguins that also breed on the island.

Dues are \$15 in the United States, \$20 elsewhere and \$10 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Lynn Vernon, 8430 Iris Rd, Plymouth IN 46563-9055.

Email: gentoo172@yahoo.com
Website: www.penguinstamps.org

The Perfins Club *Perfins Bulletin*

Several Perfins Club members reported interesting covers in the January-February 2017 issue of the *Perfins Bulletin*.

One of note was reported by Steve Endicott. The cover was from the Standard

Oil Company office in Charleston, S.C., and also the stamp used had a Standard Oil perf. The cover was postmarked twice, Dec. 31, 1919, and Jan. 1, 1920, making this possibly the only perfin cover postmarked in two decades.

Dues are \$16 in the United States, \$23 in Canada and \$26 elsewhere. Contact John Hart, 6500 Upper Applegate Rd, Jacksonville OR 97530-9314.

Email: jg.hart@charter.net
Website: www.perfins.org

Plate Number Collectors Club (PNC³) *Coil Line*

In the February 2017 *Coil Line*, Dan Forques provides an update on the incision styles for the "H" Hat stamp die cuts. Gene Trinks also provides to members an updated count to the PNC³ rarities list for the previous year.

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

Email: mjcconway@hotmail.com
Website: www.pnc3.org

Railroad Unit, Casey Jones *The Dispatcher*

In addition to several pages of train-related new issues, editor Casey Jones writes about several "Train Wrecks" including one that Jones witnessed in Wyoming in 1980.

Also appearing in the November-December 2016 *The Dispatcher* is a short

MINT, TOPICAL SETS RARELY OFFERED BY OTHER SOURCES.

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<http://stores.ebay.com/postagestampsforcollectors>

THANK YOU, PETER MORVILLE

article featuring stamps with model trains depicted on them.

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

Email: roymenn@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.uqp.de/cjr

Rotary on Stamps Fellowship

The ROS Bulletin

Several illustrated pages of Rotary-related new issues are reported in *The ROS Bulletin* February 2017 issue. Also, new album supplements and encyclopedia revisions are currently being distributed to the membership.

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

Email: gfitz@suddenlink.net

Website: www.rotaryonstamps.org

Scouts on Stamps Society International

SOSSI Journal

Lyndon Berry provides SOSSI members with an article about scouts canoeing on stamps. Scouts are shown canoeing in various settings and a checklist of scout stamps depicting canoeing is provided to readers. There is also an article listing scout-related cachets created by ArtCraft since 1948. Washington Stamp Exchange recently announced the discontinuation of ArtCraft cachets after 78 years of production.

Dues are \$25 in the United States, \$30 in Canada, \$35 in Mexico and \$45 elsewhere. An electronic version is available for \$20 worldwide. Contact Lawrence E. Clay, PO Box 6228, Kennewick WA 99336-6228.

Email: lclay3731@charter.net

Website: www.sossi.org

United Nations Philatelists

Journal of United Nations Philatelists

Part 3 of “League of Nations & United Nations Associations” continues in the *Journal of United Nations Philatelists* October 2016. Part 4 in the series is provided with illustrations of postal history of UNESCO National Commissions, Associations and Clubs which were formed to promote UNESCO activities.

Dues are \$28 in the United States, \$32 in Canada and \$40 elsewhere. Contact Blanton Clement, Jr., PO Box 146, Morrisville PA 19067-0146.

Email: bclemjr@yahoo.com

or, Larry Fillion, 18 Arlington St, Acton MA 01720.

Email: malariastamps@yahoo.com

Website: www.unpi.com

Worldwide Stamp Collectors,

International Society of

The Circuit

John Seidl continues his Dead Country series with British East Africa in *The Circuit* January-February 2017 issue.

The territory of British East Africa was comprised of modern-day Kenya and part of Uganda. Indian postal services were used via Zanzibar until the first surcharged stamp was issued in May 1890 and the Imperial British East Africa Company opened a post office in Mombasa and Lamu.

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

Email: joannebe@pacbell.net

Website: www.iswsc.org

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NTSS Was Highly Successful, Fun

Dawn Hammnn

Our 2017 National Topical Stamp Show is over, but we will have memories of the many great events for years to come. Let's just list a few highlights:



Above: Nathan Smith and Igor Grigorian team up to hang exhibits.

Right: Scott English presents a Nicholas G. Carter National Promotion Service Award to Jack Congrove. Dawn Hamman also received the award, and Amanda Morgenstern was awarded the Outstanding Young Adult Philatelist.



25- and 50-year members were recognized. Two new chapters were welcomed: Evergreen Stamp Club, Washington; and Buffalo Stamp Club, New York. ATA ambassadors received pins that they can wear when representing ATA at shows. Special thanks was given to retiring board members Bob Lamb and Larry Davidson.

We celebrated the birthday of famed thematic teacher and exhibitor, Mary Ann Owens, with a beautiful tribute by Jack André Denys, with ice cream and cake.

Then, it was time for food and fellowship again as the President's Reception served up traditional Wisconsin fare, including bratwurst and sauerkraut.



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: gentoo172@yahoo.com



A group of hardy travelers



Busy shoppers fill the tables of dealers at NTSS 2017 in Milwaukee, Wis.

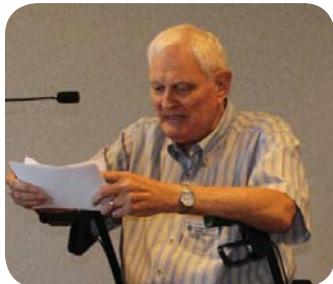
The long-anticipated program by Barry Stagg, chair of the British Thematic Association, drew a crowd to hear about thematic collecting and exhibiting in England. Barry and his wife, Allison, joined in on many show activities.

Jack Congrove led us through the steps to create our own custom album pages. We'll offer this popular class again.

The awards banquet, always a festive evening, took on special meaning as ATA executive director Vera Felts received the ATA's highest award, Distinguished Topi-



Dealers took a full-day trip after the show (Monday) to New Glarus, Wis.



Past President Jack André Denys (far left) presides over the ice cream and cake at the Mary Ann Owens birthday celebration June 24. Her "stamp" portrait is shown at left.

cal Philatelist. We also had the opportunity to honor a stalwart ATA

supporter, Bob Mather, who was named Honorary Chair for the show.

Speaking of awards, the exhibitors were rewarded for fine work, with Phil Stager winning the Grand for *The Wonderful World of Bamboo*.

Another program that drew a big crowd was given by Ed Andrews, who also served as chief judge for the show. He spoke about the differences between topical and thematic exhibits, and undoubtedly inspired some to begin making topical exhibits.

Throughout the show, collectors enjoyed shopping with dealers offering lots of topicals, but also countries, covers and much more.

The success of the show was the result of hard work by many people – too many to mention. If you helped, please give yourself a pat on the back! ☺



A busy jury ponders the numerous stamp exhibits at the show.



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Basics and Beyond

Jack André Denys

Collecting Postal Stationery

Your questions, comments and suggestions about topical collecting are most welcome. Contact info is on Page 4.

What is postal stationery and where is it found?

There are many other “philatelic items” that can be collected in addition to stamps. In the May-June issue of *Topical Time*, the “Encouraging Exhibiting” column introduced the concept of elements and included a “Philatelic Elements Inventory Checklist.” One type of philatelic element is postal stationery – primarily postal cards, stamped envelopes, letter sheets and aerograms. What they all have in common is that they were issued by governments and have imprinted stamps (indicia) in the upper-right corner, indicating that a specific rate of postage was prepaid. (Note – “picture postcards” are not postal stationery – they are not issued by postal authorities and do not have preprinted stamps. That’s why philatelists call the philatelic items “postal cards.”)

Postal stationery is an important addition to topical or thematic collections because it often has pictorial design elements of topical interest. Mary Ann Owens said: “Postal cards are the best source of material for the topical or thematic collector.”

Here is a link to definitions and information about postal stationery:
www.linns.com/insights/stamp-collecting-basics/2000/january/what-is-postal-stationery-.html

Why should you consider collecting postal stationery?

- You can add some aspects of your topic that are on stationery but not on stamps.
- You have all the stamps for your topic.
- You can add variety to your collection.
- You are up to a new challenge.
- You are curious to find out what else exists in your area.

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The Higgins & Gage World Postal Stationery Catalog is the most encyclopedic

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contact: RGray43645@aol.com

catalog of postal stationery covering basic material for the whole world. The catalog was published from 1964-86 and comprises 19 alphabetical volumes with supplements. Included are stamped envelopes, postal cards, lettercards, wrappers, aerograms and registration envelopes. Unfortunately, most of the volumes have not been updated for more than 20 years. Various volumes are listed in the catalog of the David Straight Memorial Philatelic Union Catalog: <http://catalog.stamplibrary.org/InmagicGenie/opac.aspx>. Specialty stationery catalogs of various countries have also been published.

For many years, Dalene Thomas wrote a “Topical Postal Stationery” column in *Topical Time*, featuring new issues. Back copies are available on the ATA’s *TT* digital archive: www.americantopicalassn.org/topicaltimearchive.shtml

Societies offer information

The United Postal Stationery Society (UPSS, www.upss.org) was formed in 1945 from the merger of the Postal Card Society of America, in existence since 1891, and the International Postal Stationery Society, founded in 1939. It offers publications on Canal Zone, Cuba, Liberia, Peru, Philippines and Puerto Rico, the USSR and the United States. Here is a link to the Society’s “PS 101” page asking “Should you be collecting Postal Stationery?” www.upss.org/code/ps101.php.

See the ATA’s Casey Jones Rail Road Unit link <http://alphabetilately.org/tops.html> for information about trains on postal stationery. The page also features a comprehensive illustrated list.

A sampling of topical postal stationery by country

Note: This is by no means an exhaustive list. Your corrections, suggestions or additions are welcome. Information about Russian and Romanian stationery and Japanese echo cards is especially needed.

Belgium

- Publibels, 1933-85, not listed in *H & G*.

The Belgium post office printed ads on the lower left on then-current postal cards for a fee and a minimum order. At least 2,790 different ads have been recorded. Cards were issued in Dutch and French. Mary Ann Owens noted that “They are a fertile source for the topical and thematic collector.” The Casey Jones Rail Road Unit provides a link that gives more info about Publibels: <http://alphabetilately.org/tops/belgP.html> (see illustration above).



The definitive catalog is *Thema's op publibel / Thèmes sur Publibel / Themes on Publibel / Themen auf Publibel*, by Thomassetti Ludo, Andre Delfosse Editeur, 1996 / 2003. It lists 2,790 items.

This reference is not listed in the David Straight Memorial Philatelic Union Catalog. But examples of Publibels can be seen on this link:

www.catawiki.com/catalog/stamps/printers/3393199-publibel

France

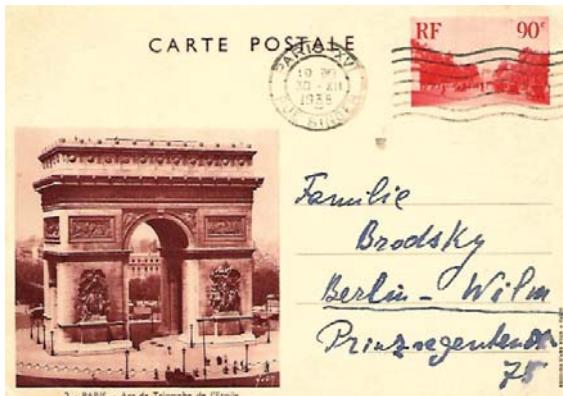
- “Editions d’art Yvon” (Editions of Art Yvon), a series from the 1930s of “Carte Postale” cachets showing French scenes, sometimes with matching indicia.

The Paris series contains at least 15 cards (see illustration at right).

- “Prêt à Poster” (PAP), 1994 to date. Prêt à Poster translates as “Ready to Post.” They are envelopes with printed indicia and “cachets” on their left side. More than 10,000 different ones have been issued, many “with locally-chosen added designs, and those can be bought only in the Post Office of the town of issue. Since they are locally issued, it is hard to find information about them. It

works much like meters: any town administration or tourist office can ask the Post Office to add their design to some prepaid covers.

These covers are sold inside the post office until they are sold out. Cost is a few cents more than buying stamp + cover individually,



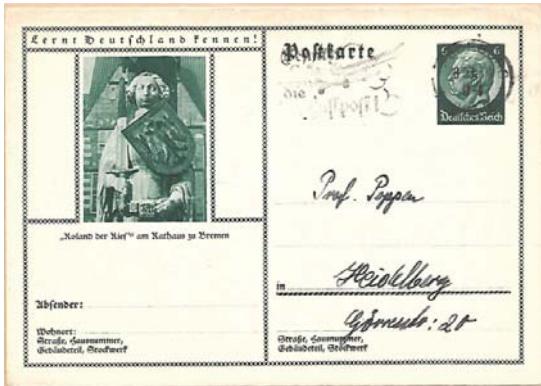
and they are sold usually in packets of 10.” (Quoted from the Casey Jones Rail Road Unit, which again, provides information and illustrations,

from the train topic perspective: <http://alphabetilately.org/tops/france-pap.html>). A multitude of topics are featured. My topic, the Bayeux Tapestry, for example, has seven examples. Some come in two sizes and with several different indicia. Sometimes the reverse of the envelope carries through on the theme (see illustrations above).

Germany

- Pictorial definitive postal cards were issued with the theme “Lernt Deutschland kennen” (Get to Know Germany). The first series was released 1926-42. A second series ran from 1952-99. An article, “The Pictorial Definitive Postal Cards of ‘Deutsche Bundespost’ 1952-99,” by Steffan Kober appeared in *Topical Time* Nov.-Dec. 2012. A copy is available by sending a stamped, addressed





envelope to the ATA Office. Kober notes that 5,506 different postal cards were issued. Many depict spas, casinos, cathedrals, castles, cars, railways, ships, planes, lighthouses, bridges and zoo animals, among many other topics (see illustration at left).

The Michel *Ganzsachen Katalog Deutschland* has comprehensive listings of German issues (*Ganzsachen* = postal stationery).

- Much German postal stationery was printed to order for commercial purposes. These items are non-acceptable in thematic exhibitions, but cover a tremendous variety of topics. They are listed in both the *Pre-WWII - Michel Privatganzsachen Katalog Deutsches Reich* and *Post-WWII - Michel Privatganzsachen Katalog*.

In the next issue we'll look at more postal stationery and note sources where these items may be obtained. □

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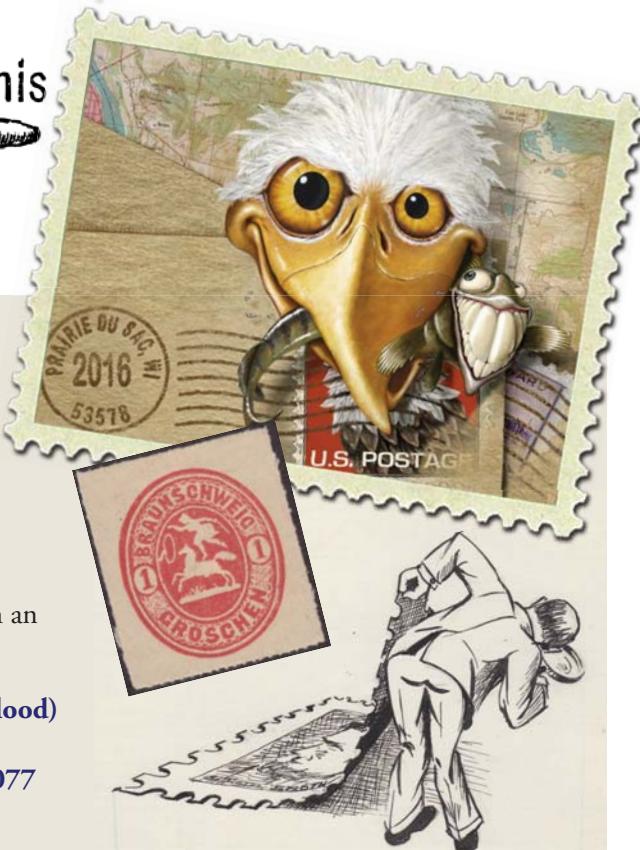
Are you

LOOKING

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WYstamps (Wayne Youngblood)
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Prairie du Sac WI 53578-1077
wystamps@gmail.com





Encouraging Exhibiting (but not for exhibitors only!) Jack André Denys

[Rob Henak, ATA Exhibits and Judges Chair, will continue his series on Exhibiting 101 in the next issue of Topical Time.]

More Thematic Exhibits on the Internet

Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs (www.wfscstamps.org/Exhibits)

Hans Christian Andersen, by Jan and Jim Byrne

Redoute Botanical Watercolors, by Jim Byrne

11th World Boy Scout Jamboree, by Jim Byrne

More helpful hints

- Make slits or windows before hinging any items on exhibit pages. If you make a mistake, there is less to undo.
- When you make slits, use Post-it notes (at their corner angles) to mark where you want to begin and end the slit.
- When printing pages, check to see that your computer program has not automatically changed your section numbers (for example, turning 3.2 into 3.3).

Buy much more paper than you think you will need, especially if you have chosen a light color rather than white. It's amazing how many pages we go through printing re-writes. Paper producers and suppliers may change or phase out your chosen color.

- Double hinge everything to help prevent runaway stamps.
- Bring spare hinges with you when mounting an exhibit – just in case
- When you number the backs of your pages, use a pencil – numbers may change when you do rewrites.
- Use photocopies rather than the actual items when laying out pages – this minimizes risks of damaging any actual material. ■

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Published in Australia

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CINDERELLA CORNER

Arthur H. Grotens

Rockwell Kent redux

Ten years ago I wrote about the 1932 Rockwell Kent Greenland airmail stamp (Figure 1). As I mentioned, this was created during filming of Deutsche Universal's *S.O.S. Eisberg*. Captain Ernst Udet, a WWI German flying ace, carried mail with the stamp on it as a fundraiser; about eight covers are recorded.

Since then, I have been

able to add some other material to help flesh out the story. In the mid-1930s, Bulgaria Cigarette Makers of Dresden issued a long series of cards; No. 240 was of Udet (Figure 2). The film company issued a large poster stamp to promote the film. It is known in greenish-gray and brownish-gray, in German, French and English (the first scarce; latter two rare, Figure 3). I know of only a single cover with one tied (Figure 4).



Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.

To round out the story, a reproduction has recently appeared: black on greenish or cream paper, gummed. It is clearly not meant to fool anyone (Figure 5).



Figure 6.

However, on eBay, I have seen obvious forgeries offered twice. I bought one for archival purposes. Without looking any further, the inclusion of the portion of a second stamp to the left is evidence enough. These stamps were produced one at a time (Figure 6).

So new things are constantly popping up. ☺

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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.

***We all collect!
Please use stamps
whenever possible.***



Webmaster's Log

Amanda L. Morgenstern

ATA eShop is on its Way

An eShop is on its way for ATA! Development of an online shop selling ATA products is in process. I aim to unveil this before the end of the year.

The Magic of Disney – *Topical Tidbits*

The spring edition of *Topical Tidbits* was jam packed with Disney facts, games, album pages and fairy tale trivia. Designed for youth, *Topical Tidbits* can be enjoyed by adults as well. These fantastic resources are created by our assistant youth coordinator, Aimée Devine, and are always available online to use for yourself, with your grandchildren or your local stamp club.

The Disney edition of *Topical Tidbits* can be viewed on our website at www.americantopicalassn.org/tidbits/2017-spring.pdf, and a full list of *Tidbits* editions can be found at: www.americantopicalassn.org/tidbits.shtml.

Did You Know??

There is a list of ATA member websites and dealer websites on the ATA site. Check out the interesting variety of topics, databases and checklists our members have created, all in one place: www.americantopicalassn.org/memberlinks.shtml.

If you wish to add your website to the list, please email the ATA Office: americantopical@msn.com.

ATA-Because YouBelong.org

Don't forget, you can read *Topical Time* online by going to the Members Only website (url is contained in the headline) and logging in.

Facebook

Join the [Topical Tuesday](#) fun!

Don't miss the fun we're having sharing our favorite topicals on the ATA Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/americantopicalassn/.

Entries are allowed on Tuesdays only and winners are announced on Thursdays. Prizes include, but are not limited to, ads on the ATA website, handbooks, cachets, stamps, prizes from Study Units and more!

Website Advertising

Support the ATA and grow your business at the same time! ... And support those who advertise with the ATA as well. Find our current advertisers on our website at: www.americantopicalassn.org/advertisers.shtml.

Submit website ad inquiries, ad copy and payment to: American Topical Association c/o Online Ad Manager & Webmaster Amanda L. Morgenstern. Call (618) 357-5497, or send an email to webmaster@americantopicalassn.org. 

Survey Says...

by Vera Felts

This article is the final one in a series responding to the many hundreds of comments ATA members wrote in our Membership Survey last year. Answers to many of the comments are found in the “About ATA Checklists” article on page 53. Here are other member comments not covered there (each is bullet-pointed).

- Distribute more free checklists
- Making some of the shorter lists of topicals available free online on the website.

We distribute a free checklist each holiday season, downloadable from our website by ATA members and nonmembers alike. It is publicized in the philatelic media. Sometimes we offer a free checklist with the purchase of other lists. We'll work toward offering even more – and perhaps offer some of the shorter lists on our website. Thanks for your suggestions!

- Adding checklists children would be interested in.

Great idea – and one that would enrich our free website offerings. It would be nice to have them illustrated, too. Are there any ATA members interested in putting together such lists?

- I can't peruse all the catalog, **every time**, just to check if there is a new entry. So to periodically notify me about the new entry (via email) on a specific topic would be very useful.

More than 4,000 new entries were added to the ATA Checklist dATABse in July alone. It would be impossible for ATA to email each member who has purchased a checklist every time a stamp is added. The best way to learn if new items have been added is to check the numbers in a new listing of checklists, like the one found in this issue. If items have been added to your list, and it has been at least a year since you ordered the list or received an update, ATA will be happy to supply you with a new list or an “updates only” list.

- Set up a system to allow me to download checklists to my computer.

This may be possible in the future through www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org. But having such a system is beyond the technological capabilities of our current dATABse.

- I have not purchased a checklist as (study unit name) maintains a very comprehensive checklist, but may consider it in the future.

ATA checklists are designed for beginning to intermediate collectors. Around a dozen ATA Study Units maintain a license with Amos Media that allows them to sell checklists – and their lists are often wonderfully detailed and more specific than the more general ATA checklists. Other ATA Study Units offer a free checklist service to their members (which apparently does not require a license to use Scott numbers). When an ATA Study Unit notifies the ATA Office that maintaining checklists is one



of its member services, the website URL for the study unit is listed in every ATA checklist listing near the major topic the unit services.

- Although I recognize the enormity of developing your checklists, recently I purchased several and found them to be seriously inadequate.
- The lists are only as good as the data received to put in them. I acquired a (topical subject here) list to find out what was missing in a particular subset only to find out that my subset list was more comprehensive. So there needs to be a methodology for those topical collectors to send in additional data to help improve the lists for the good of all topical collectors.

Our tireless checklist dATABase developer, Karen Cartier, did more than was humanly possible to set it in motion. Member Tom Stillman entered all the items he could possibly do over a period of two years. New Coordinator, Dominic Sgro of Canada, and Assistant Beth Scully of Texas, together have added 7,227 items in May, June and July. But, the lists will be only as good as ATA members help make them! So, we earnestly seek the submission – by email or mail – of any item that should be added or description that should be changed or alteration that should be made. Forms (in Excel and in .pdf) are on our website page for convenience – or submit them any format that is convenient to you to avoid re-keying information.

- The greatest assets the ATA has are the various topical lists. Most of your resources and focus should be on keeping these lists available and updated. Too often I have sent update information and I would not see any resulting use or acknowledgement of that information.

We certainly know there have been instances in the past where ATA has “dropped the ball” and your contribution has not yet been entered or acknowledged. For that, we apologize. That is a major reason we now have two checklist coordinators instead of one. Beth Scully has been working hard on a backlog of submissions, and contributors now receive both an acknowledgement when they submit items and a copy of the incorporated info. We will be doing our best to continue these kinds of responses in the future.

- Create a checklist for other topics like stamps with embedded material.
- Have more (name of subject) topic checklists.

Fine idea concerning the Embedded Materials checklist! We do have checklists on various shaped stamps, but no list for stamps with special materials. Can anyone help with that? It is a popular area of collecting and would be a nice addition to the ATA checklist repertoire. Regarding checklists on other topics, we certainly do welcome contributions. It is only through member contributions that our service can be improved.

- I think the checklists are a huge benefit.
- The new checklist system is absolutely fantastic. Keep it up!

Thanks very much for your encouragement! We will all work together to keep the ATA Checklist Service the best that it can be. ☺

About ATA Checklists

ATA's checklists are one of its most important member services. Checklists provide beginning and intermediate collectors a working list of stamps related to a specific topic. The list contains, among other information, the name of the country issuing the stamp, the date of issue and the Scott catalog number. The contents of one of ATA's newest lists, for Paralympics, are illustrated nearby. The brief description of each stamp helps the collector determine whether the item is desirable for his or her collection. The list, by its nature, is always a work in progress. ATA members continue to help improve lists by submitting corrections and additions, which are then incorporated. Each month, all the topical stamps from *Linn's Stamp News* are added to the ATA Checklist dATABse, to make it as current as possible. The Paralympics list will undoubtedly grow in the future as additional stamps are issued by countries.

Some basics regarding how ATA's checklist service works:

- The number of items in each list are shown in parentheses after each checklist name. The cost of a list is 2¢ for each item, with a \$3 minimum and a \$75 maximum for any list.
- Customized lists are available for the same price.
- Lists are available emailed in Excel or .pdf format, or printed and mailed (additional charge to cover costs).
- Updates are always available at no additional charge as long as ATA membership is maintained. Choose between 1) only the stamps added or amended since you last received the list, or 2) a complete new list.
- To order checklists or updates, email, write or call the ATA Office, or use the form available on our website. Office procedures allow most checklists to be delivered within 24 hours of receipt of your request; reminders are appreciated if you don't receive your lists in a timely fashion. ☎

More on Checklists

The ATA maintains a licensing agreement with Amos Media, owner of *Linn's Stamp News* and the *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, allowing use of Scott catalog numbers in all ATA checklists.

For advanced collectors, several ATA study units sell more detailed checklists for their particular topical areas. Those study units maintain their own licensing agreements with Amos Media. Amos does not include study units under ATA's licensure.

Some other ATA study units that do not maintain licensing agreements offer checklists to their members free of charge.

ATA Checklists: A Member-to-Member Service

Topical Listings for Aug-Sep 2017 (An alphabetical listing is also available.)

New checklists: Michigan; Olympics 2016; Painters (misc/other); Paralympics. Current checklist listings (1,212 different lists) are also posted on our website at www.americantopicalassn.org/checklists.shtml or are available by sending an addressed, stamped envelope to ATA, and are available in our *Publication Guide* at ATA tables at stamp shows.

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

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

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

Costs for the checklists are:

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

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

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

NATURE

ANIMALS-LAND

- Animals (misc/other) (254)
- Endangered Species (7372)
- Wildlife Conservation (215)
- World Wildlife Fund (885)
- Zoos / Zoology (375)

Amphibians/Reptiles

- Reptiles (misc/other) (39)
- Frogs / Toads (717)
- Crocodiles / Alligators (411)
- Dinosaurs / Fossils (3628)
- Lizards / Geckos (1085)
- Snakes (1119)
- Turtles / Tortoises (701)

Domesticated Animals

- Cats, Domestic (2293)
- Cattle - Oxen - Bovine - Cows (1525)
- Dogs (3495)
- Donkeys (910)
- Goats (338)
- Horses (3763)
- Pigs - Hogs - Boars (545)
- Rabbits / Hares (639)
- Sheep - incl. Shepherds - (1326)

Mammals

- Mammals (misc/other) (285)
- Anteaters - Pangolins - Sloths (208)
- Antelopes (200)
- Badgers (79)
- Bats (397)
- Bearcats - Civets - Genets (62)
- Bears (545)
- Beavers (51)
- Bison / Buffalo (409)
- Camels / Dromedaries (744)
- Cats, Wild (689)
- Deer / Related (2042)
- Dogs, Wild (180)

- | | |
|---|--|
| Elephants (1022) | Canaries (33) |
| Foxes (317) | Capercaillie / Grouse / Ptarmigan (146) |
| Giraffes (282) | Cardinals / Grosbeaks / Tanagers (267) |
| Hedgehogs (82) | Chats / Nightingales (88) |
| Hippopotamuses (210) | Chickadees / Titmice / Tits (129) |
| Hyenas (115) | Cormorants / Shags (134) |
| Jaguars (animal) (114) | Cranes (400) |
| Kangaroos / Wallabies (185) | Crossbill / Finches / Weavers (541) |
| Koalas (84) | Cuckoos/Roadrunners/ Turacos (181) |
| Leopards / Ocelots (535) | Curlews / Whimbrels (70) |
| Lions (980) | Dollarbirds / Rollers (127) |
| Lynxes (132) | Doves (1576) |
| Marsupials (254) | Ducks / Geese (2902) |
| Mice - Rats - Rodents (676) | Fantails / Wagtails (97) |
| Pandas (186) | Flamingoes (254) |
| Porcupines (66) | Flycatchers / Kingbirds / Wheatears (232) |
| Primates (1690) | Francolins (31) |
| Raccoons (43) | Frigatebirds (152) |
| Rhinoceros (355) | Gallinules / Swampheens / Moorhens / Rails (209) |
| Squirrels (202) | Grebes (84) |
| Tamarins (45) | Guinea Fowl (49) |
| Tapirs (62) | Gulls / Kittiwakes (306) |
| Tigers (515) | Herons / Egrets / Bitterns (699) |
| Tigers, Sabre Tooth (22) | Hoopoes (148) |
| Weasel Family (<i>Mustelidae</i>) (383) | Hornbills (192) |
| Wolves (226) | Hummingbirds (499) |
| Zebras (249) | Ibis / Spoonbills (249) |
- ### **ANIMALS-AIR**
- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| Birds |
| Birds (misc/other) (3945) |
| Albatrosses (171) |
| Anhingsa / Darters (35) |
| Avesots / Stilts (70) |
| Bananaquits (67) |
| Barbets / Toucans / Woodpeckers (517) |
| Bee/eaters (217) |
| Birds of Paradise (118) |
| Bishops / Widowbirds (55) |
| Blackbirds / Ravens (84) |
| Boobies / Gannets (227) |
| Buntings (103) |
| Bustards / Korhaans (133) |



Oystercatchers (50)
 Parrots / Cockatoos / Lories (1546)
 Partridges / Quail /
 Pheasant / Tragopans (390)
 Peacocks (104)
 Pelicans (273)
 Petrels / Shearwaters (254)
 Pigeons (475)
 Pipers (43)
 Plovers / Dotterels /
 Killdeers / Lapwings (252)
 Puffins (78)
 Quetzals / Trogons (154)
 Redstarts / Warblers (275)
 Robins (123)
 Roosters / Chickens (691)
 Shrikes (173)
 Skua / Jaegers (46)
 Snipes (35)
 Sparrows (135)
 Storks (350)
 Sunbirds (219)
 Swans (196)
 Swifts (34)
 Terns / Noddies (439)
 Thrushes (203)
 Tropicbirds (153)
 Turkeys (64)
 Waxwings (56)
 White/Eyes (63)
 Whydahs (49)
 Wrens (76)

Birds of Prey

Birds of Prey (misc/other) (310)
 Condors (85)
 Eagles (1369)
 Falcons / Kestrels (474)
 Hawks (281)
 Ospreys (95)
 Owls (917)
 Secretary Birds (58)
 Vultures (256)

Flightless Birds

Ostriches / Emus (143)
 Penguins (available
 from Study Unit,
 penguinstamps.org)

Insects/Butterflies

Insects (misc/other) (260)
 Ants / Termites (119)
 Bees / Beekeeping (753)
 Beetles (1145)
 Butterflies / Moths (9102)
 Cockroaches (16)
 Crickets (84)
 Dragonflies (392)
 Flies (162)
 Grasshoppers - Cicada -
 Locusts - Katydids (243)
 Ladybugs (168)
 Mites / Ticks (12)
 Mosquitoes (183)
 Praying Mantis (108)
 Scorpions / Centipedes (39)
 Spiders / Arachnids (187)
 Wasps / Hornets (123)

ANIMALS-WATER

Marine Life (misc/ other) (984)
 Corals (991)
 Crabs (640)
 Dolphins / Porpoises (867)
 Fish / Fishing (9470)
 Lobsters (215)
 Manatees-Dugongs-Sea
 Cows (148)
 Marine Gastropods/
 Nudibranchs (116)
 Narwhals (23)
 Octopus / Squid (209)
 Pearls (47)
 Sea Horses (193)
 Sea Shells (2346)
 Sea Stars (167)

Sea Turtles

Green Sea Turtles (259)
 Hawksbill Sea Turtles (194)
 Leatherback Sea Turtles (105)
 Loggerhead Sea Turtles (100)
 Ridley Sea Turtles (64)
 Seals - Walrus - Sea Lions (524)
 Sharks (602)
 Shrimp / Prawns (137)
 Snails / Mollusks (180)
 Sponges (Marine) (64)
 Sting Rays / Manta Rays (298)
 Whales (1133)

MINERALS/EARTH

Beaches / Coastlines (631)
 Bodies of Water (2182)
 Conservation / Ecology (471)
 Diamonds (120)
 Earthquakes (57)
 Gems (225)
 Glaciers / Icebergs (180)
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 Hurricanes - Cyclones -
 Tornadoes (160)
 Minerals (987)
 Mountains (2085)
 Mount Everest (Nepal) (52)
 Mount Fuji (Japan) (117)
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 Snow / Snowmen (371)
 Volcanoes (373)
 Waterfalls / Cascades (1225)
 Niagara Falls (USA /
 Canada) (24)
 Victoria Falls (Zambia) (47)

PLANTS

Agriculture / Horticulture (513)
 Botanical Gardens (483)

Flowers

Flowers (misc/other) (5408)
 Anemones (82)
 Anthurium (57)

Asters (65)
 Begonias (46)
 Bellflowers (130)
 Birds-of Paradise (106)
 Black-eyed Susans (48)
 Bougainvillea (117)
 Buttercups / Clematis (88)
 Camellias (105)
 Carnations/Pinks/Jonquils (168)
 Columbines (54)
 Cornflowers (36)
 Crocus (83)
 Chrysanthemums (129)
 Cyclamens (43)
 Dahlias (84)
 Daisies (215)
 Dandelions (38)
 Edelweiss (38)
 Forget-me-nots (25)
 Frangipani (169)
 Freesias (24)
 Fuchsia (52)
 Gardenias (61)
 Gentians (114)
 Geraniums (80)
 Gesneriads (30)
 Gladiola (56)
 Heliconias (98)
 Hibiscus (597)
 Honeysuckles (26)
 Hyacinths (63)
 Hydrangeas (38)
 Impatiens (22)
 Iris (310)
 Jasmine (80)
 Lantanas (25)
 Lilacs (31)
 Lilies (943)
 Lotus (172)
 Magnolias (83)
 Marigolds (80)
 Morning Glories (157)
 Narcissus, Daffodils,
 Amaryllis (202)

Oleanders (94)
 Orchids (4889)
 Pansies (56)
 Pasqueflowers (35)
 Passion Flowers (82)
 Peacock Flowers (19)
 Pea Plants (56)
 Peonies (198)
 Periwinkles (61)
 Plumbagos (27)
 Poincianas (29)
 Poinsettias (163)
 Poppies (259)
 Primroses (76)
 Protea/Sugarbushes (62)
 Rhododendron/Azaleas (222)
 Roses (1637)
 Snowdrops (28)
 Sunflowers (194)
 Thistles (106)
 Trumpet Plants (130)
 Tulips (276)
 Violets (156)
 Zinnias (30)

Other Plants/Fungi

Bamboo (132)
 Bonsai (88)
 Cactus / Succulents (768)
 Caper Bushes (14)
 Carnivorous Plants / Fungi (168)
 Clover (57)
 Cotton (239)
 Ferns (147)
 Ginger (120)
 Grasses (82)
 Holly (55)
 Mushrooms / Fungi (3615)
 Weeds (120)

Trees

Trees / Forestry (5010)
 Flamboyant Tree (60)
 Palm Trees (944)
 Rubber Trees / Industry (42)

CULTURE ART

Art (misc/other) (11,265)

Artists

Artists (misc/other) (362)
 Audubon, John James (427)
 Bellini, Giovanni (160)
 Botticelli, Sandro (270)
 Brueghel Family (83)
 Caravaggio (100)
 Cezanne, Paul (116)
 Chagall, Marc (208)
 Correggio, Antonio da (166)
 Cranach Family (112)
 da Goya, Francisco (160)
 Da Vinci, Leonardo (258)
 Dali, Salvador (67)
 David, Jacques-Louis (87)
 Degas, Edgar (125)
 Delacroix, Eugene (160)
 Dürer, Albrecht (682)
 El Greco (144)
 Fra. Angelico (130)
 Fra. Filippo Lippi (114)
 Gauguin, Paul (179)
 Ghirlandaio, Domenico (38)
 Giorgione [da Castelfranco] (40)
 Giotto [di Bondone] (116)
 Hiroshige, Utagawa (334)
 Hokusai, Katsushika (330)
 Homer, Winslow* (15)
 Hopper, Edward* (15)
 Hundertwasser,
 Friedensreich (18)
 Klimt, Gustav (50)
 Manet, Edouard (87)
 Matisse, Henri (84)
 Memling, Hans (85)
 Michelangelo [Buonarroti] (300)
 Miro, Joan (81)
 Monet, Claude (135)
 Murillo, Bartolome (182)
 Picasso, Pablo (615)
 Raphael (733)



Rembrandt (578)
 Remington, Frederic (12)
 Renoir, Pierre Auguste (192)
 Rockwell, Norman (207)
 Rubens, Peter Paul (978)
 Tiepolo Family (Artists) (63)
 Tintoretto, Jacopo (60)
 Titian (387)
 Toulouse-Lautrec, Henri (132)
 van der Weyden, Rogier (85)
 Van Dyck, Anthony (342)
 Van Eyck, Jan (55)
 Van Gogh, Vincent (438)
 Velazquez, Diego (161)
 Vermeer, Jan (76)
 Wyeth Family* (23)

Decorative Arts

Antiques (38)
 Bas-Relief Art (51)
 Candles (433)
 Ceramics / Pottery (1199)
 Classic Grecian Pottery (129)
 Clay Cylinders of Cyrus the Great (14)
 Clocks / Timepieces (649)
 Fans (251)
 Furniture (217)
 Glass (121)
 Handicrafts (misc/other) (754)
 Hats / Helmets / Headdresses (460)
 Hummel Figurines (109)
 Jewelry (447)
 Keys (74)
 Lanterns (143)
 Masks / Face Painting (996)
 Mosaics / Tiles (461)
 Sculpture / Statues (5206)
 Tattoos / Body Art (36)
 Umbrellas (228)
 Woodcarvings (633)

Performing Arts

Dance (misc/other) (545)
 Ballet (350)

Folk Dance (1304)
 Social / Modern Dance (79)
 Theater / Playwrights (1202)

Textiles/Crafts

Basketry / Fiber Art (233)
 Clothing / Fashion (295)
 Costumes (misc/other) (1423)
 Costumes, Folk (682)
 Embroidery / Stitchery / Sewing (317)
 Spinning Wheels (35)
 Tapestries (232)
 Bayeux Tapestry (33)
 Textiles / Lace (387)
 Uniforms (not Military) (51)
 Weaving (198)

Visual Arts

Cameras / Photography (753)
 Children's Drawings (1245)
 Chinese Painters / Art (706)
 Comics / Cartoons (1642)
 Graphic Art (56)
 Illusions / Optical Illusions (23)
 Japanese Artists (1090)
 Landscapes / Seascapes (1046)
 Mona Lisa (37)
 Monuments / Memorials (2322)
 Murals / Frescos (274)
 Nudes (2970)
 Petroglyphs / Wall Paintings (351)
 Posters (453)
 Silhouettes (black) (139)

ENTERTAINMENT Amusement

Actors / Actresses (misc/other) (2336)
 Chaplin, Charles (67)
 Monroe, Marilyn (148)
 Balloons, Toy (156)
 Cards / Gambling / Lottery (140)
 Carnivals / Festivals (2202)

Chess (473) (add'l info from Study Unit,
chessonstamps.org)
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disnemation.wixsite.com/doss)
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- X-Planes / Experimental (194)

Rail Transportation

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- Locomotives (2152)
- Railroads (199)
- Steam Engines (223)



Street Cars (72)
 Subways (81)
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Watercraft

(add'l info from Study Unit,
shipsonstamps.org)

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 other) (2848)
 Bligh, William - HMS
Bounty (30)
 Cable Ships (67)
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 Barges (170)
 Sailing Vessels (misc/other)
 (3662)
 Brigantines (33)
 Caravels / Carrack Ships (73)
 Frigates (70)
 Schooners (101)
 Sloops (37)
 Whaleboats (47)

Didn't find the topic for which you were looking?

Customized checklists, produced by searching for key words, are also available.

Scott catalog numbers in ATA checklists are published with the permission of Amos Media, Inc., publisher of the *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*. They are updated regularly by adding newly cataloged stamps listed in *Linn's Stamp News* (this list contains listings through June 2017) and changes/updates suggested by ATA members.

Updates of lists you purchase are available free as long as your ATA membership is maintained. Members are encouraged to supply amending information to atachecklists@gmail.com or to the ATA Office, to help improve the checklist service.

Thanks to Karen Cartier for her legacy – the checklist dATAbase from which ATA checklists are produced. ☺



Feedback Requested From Checklist Users

Dominic Sgro and Beth Scully, ATA's new checklist coordinators, have a question for ATA checklist users:

If stamps are issued/sold as a sheet, mini sheet, strip or souvenir sheet, and there are multiple topics represented, would you like the individual stamps and the sheet listed as separate items in the ATA checklists? (Sheets/minisheets with single topics will be kept as issued and entered as a separate item.) If you have an opinion about this issue, or would like to contribute "your 2¢ worth," please email atachecklists@gmail.com or write to the ATA Office, PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008. Thank you.

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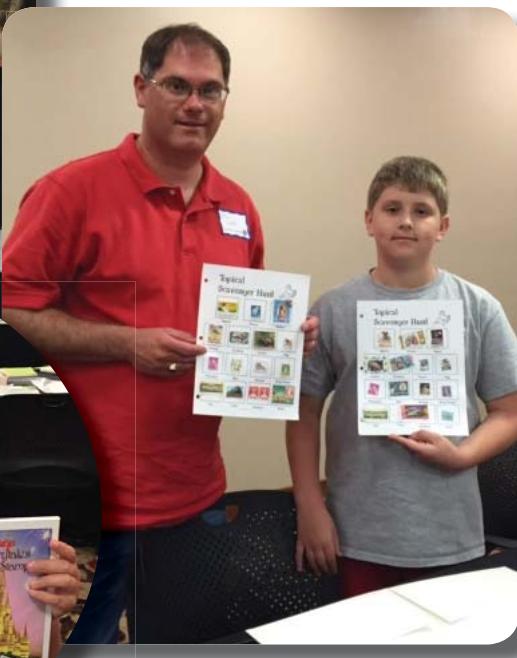


YOUTH IN TOPICS

MaryAnn Bowman

NTSS 2017 and a bit of Change

National Topical Stamp Show 2017 in Milwaukee is history now. The July-August issue of *Topical Time* outlined some of the youth and beginner activities that would be available at the show. These were well received and photos from the



Youth and adults both had fun working on projects in the family fun area at NTSS.

show accompany this article. A special thank you goes to the National Stamp Dealers Association for funding the youth area. I appreciate all those members who stopped by to say "hi," as well as those who donated stamps and other philatelic material for use in the youth/beginner program.

A New Direction

Jack Denys, former ATA president, asked me to attend the ATA board meeting and to specifically address the comments and suggestions that were made regarding youth and philately in a survey taken last year.

Many of the comments were related to getting programs into schools and offering school stamp clubs – a noble idea but, quite frankly, one that will not be easy to implement. Having come from the educational profession myself, I know some of the problems that will be encountered and the reasons such programs are not likely to be included in the curriculum of schools.

Efforts to promote the hobby through youth areas at stamp shows reach only those youth who come to the show with parents or other relatives. We can still work at stamp shows for new recruits, but most likely these people are in the hobby already.

Youth have very little free time as a result of their involvement in after-school activities such as sports and with time spent on computers and other technological devices.

A new approach

A different approach is needed if we are to attract new blood to the hobby.

Perhaps it is time to go in a new direction. We know that the world is changing. The hobby needs to change as well. Today's adult collectors need to recognize that change is in the air and embrace those changes to meet collectors where they are.

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Many times youth areas are nothing more than an offer of free stamps and maybe the offer of some supplies or reference material. What is being done to show others the passion we have for the hobby or to share some of the fascinating aspects of stamp collecting?

As I pointed out to the ATA board, there are two words that are often not used or seen in stamp show advertisements or other hobby promotional materials. Those two words are "family" and "fun."

I am suggesting that clubs and show organizers should begin to promote the hobby with family fun events. Instead of a youth/beginner room, have a family fun room. Organize an event at a library or school evening program advertising it as a family fun time. During these times, offer the opportunity to explore stamps through hands-on and interactive programming activities.

If possible, set up the room so that one can flow from activity to activity with the ability for an individual or family to select things that interest them or that they would like to try.

Some “basics” should be offered; at a minimum, demonstrating the how-to of removing stamps from paper and then offering a hands-on opportunity. Kids love to soak stamps! Additionally, a table could display some of the tools of the trade, such as catalogs, perforation gauges, watermark detectors, magnifiers and more. A collector could be on hand to offer information as to how and why these tools are used.

Most of the activities should be ones that allow participants (kids and adult family members) the ability to explore facets of the hobby, specifically ones that they may not have any idea even existed in the wonderful world of stamps.

Examples of possible learning stations or discovery centers are many. Do you remember the USPS Secret Decoder from the late 1990s? Both adults and children will have fun trying to see the hidden images in select U.S. stamps.

Similarly, use magnifying glasses to hunt for the microprinting on some U.S. and Canadian stamps, or to hunt for the word “NINA” as hidden in the caricatures of the U.S. Comedians booklet or Silent Screen Star stamps designed by Al Hirschfeld during the 1990s. And, most recently, check out the U.S. Harry Potter booklet stamps, where seven of the stamps each have one micro-printed word to spell out a message.

Speaking of magnifying glasses, gather an assortment of various sizes and types of magnifiers and set them out on a table. Number each magnifier. The task would be for the user to try and pick out his/her favorite magnifier. Results could be marked on a tally sheet, recorded on a bar graph or even written on slips of paper as to why a particular magnifier was their favorite.

If you have an ultraviolet light, demonstrate its use. To get you started, *Linn's Stamp News* had an article, “Turn on the glowing stamp magic with an ultraviolet lamp,” published Oct. 11, 2010, written by Janet Klug. An Internet search will lead you to the article. Then use other research skills to find some of the unusual tagging patterns found on U.S. stamps.

Do you have access to non-cacheted first-day covers? Set up a station with various art supplies, such as markers, colored pencils, crayons, water colors and other supplies to create add-on cachets to these covers. For the not-as-artistic, offer stencils, cookie cutters or other tools to trace around, stickers or other craft materials. Participants can create and take home their own creative cachet.

Or, if there is an interesting new issue of family appeal that would lend itself to the creation of a cachet, supply the envelope, art materials and, later, the stamp and send for the first-day cancel for them. They will have a nice souvenir and reminder of the family fun event as well as the thrill of receiving a piece of mail.

Civil War wallpaper covers are from an era in history that might be unknown to adults and children. Create a small educational display with a brief history of Civil



Caricaturist Al Hirschfeld was known for hiding his daughter Nina's names in his drawings. The stamps he designed were no different. The name has been emphasized in red in the enlargement.

War wallpaper covers, along with photocopies of real covers. Then, a template could be used to trace the outline of an unfolded envelope onto a sheet of wallpaper. A message could be written, the cover sealed, addressed and mailed.

Even the act of creating an envelope using templates you provide may encourage and promote the art of writing. Wrapping paper, magazine or calendar pages and even old maps make interesting envelopes or illustrated mail pieces.

Deciphering the bar codes found on the bottoms of most mailed pieces offers a challenge for young and old alike. Wikipedia offers one explanation, but others are readily found. Set out a variety of envelopes with different ZIP codes, as well as deciphering directions, for another hands-on activity.

Simple stamp passports or mini-albums, such as the one found on the website of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, offers another learning activity. Small in size, with an ample supply of a foreign stamp mixture, the album can be completed quite quickly and form a nice take-away from your family fun event. Check it out at: www.wfscstamps.org>Youth/ClubLeaders/MiniStampAlbum.pdf

Consider offering a display on a foreign country – any country. It is quite easy to create a trifold display with interesting facts and information about a country. Use photocopied illustrations and fact charts from children's books, add picture postcards, set out a tub of stamps from that country, as well as album pages for mounting the stamps and you have another interest center for families to enjoy. Choose a country from which you can readily find an assortment of stamps – countries such as Canada, Australia, Germany, or any other country for which you can provide materials. If doing the family fun event several times a year, choose a different country to highlight and focus on the next time you present the activity.

I have additional ideas for activities that could be used in a family fun area and I will share them with you next time. In the meantime, consider planning such an event. If possible, I would suggest trying to do it several times during the year. Find a location in a community room, such as a library or an educational institution. Even some of the non-profit organizations, such as the Salvation Army, Goodwill and St. Vincent de Paul have rooms. I would also suggest that if you are planning such an event, don't use all ideas at once. Save some activities for another time. That way there is something different being offered in the event some families choose to return for another program.

I'd love to hear about your thoughts, suggestions or questions in regard to having a family fun event. ☐



A Civil War "turned" wallpaper cover.

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

Chapter Chatter

By Frederick C. Skvara, M.D., ATA Chapter Coordinator

Please send all chapter ATA publications to Frederick C. Skvara, M.D., 617 Country Club Rd, Bridgewater NJ 08807, or by email to: fcskvara@optonline.net.

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

Website: annarborstampclub.org.

Newsletter: AASC Newsletter, Harry Winter, editor

Email: harwin@umich.edu

Newsletter topics: (June) One of the continuing activities of the club is participating in the APS Sales Circuit program for stamp clubs. The June APS Sales Circuit consisted of books of U.S., Canada, British North America, British West Indies, British Oceana, Europe and two books on topicals: Scouts and police/law enforcement.

ATA Chapter No. 5, Milwaukee, Wis.

Website: wfcstamps.org/clubs/atachap5.shtml

Newsletter: Robert Mather, editor

Email: burrobob@wi.rr.com

Newsletter topics: (June) The June newsletter contains a short article, “Christmas Seals,” noting that the idea for Christmas Seals originated with a Danish postal clerk in 1904. The first United States Christmas Seal came about through the efforts of Emily Bissell, a social worker in Delaware. Other articles include “The Potato Tax Stamps of 1935,” which are listed in the Scott *Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers* in the revenue section with the prefix RI. In “Evolutionary History of

the Modern Horse,” an article traces the story from the eohippus, a small, foxlike animal that developed 60 million years ago, to the emergence of the modern horse family, equus, 2 million years ago. (July) At NTSS ’17, Robert T. Burney of Kansas City, Mo., won the ATA Chapter 5 Incentive Award for his exhibit, *Feathers and Furs on Stamps and Hooks*. The newsletter also contains an article



Symbols of Lithuanian Scouts. Lithuania 2007 (Scott 837).



Senefelder's lithography press. Germany 1972 (Scott 1088).

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describing some of the main processes by which postage stamps have been printed: intaglio, letterpress and lithography. Photogravure, which is in common use today, is a photomechanical version of intaglio.

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

Website: www.stamps.org/Evergreen-Stamp-Club

Newsletter: Tim Greene, editor

Email: gt45@msn.com

Newsletter topics: (July) At the June meeting, Art Van Uchelen presented the Cinderella stamps of the “Azad Hind Movement” and showed some stamps from the Republic Maluku Selatan, a self-proclaimed republic in the Maluku Islands (Moluccas) of Indonesia that had no authority to issue stamps. At the Evergreen Stamp Club summer show in July, topical exhibits included Richard Horner’s three exhibits: *Easter*, *Christmas* and *The Civil War*, as well as Laurie



Republic Maluku Selatan.

Anderson’s exhibit, *Women in the Olympics*. I picked up two topically related articles in the June issue of *The Federated Philatelist*, Journal of the Northwest Federation Stamp Clubs, of which the Evergreen Stamp Club is a member and Jack Congrove is the editor. In “What to Do With Those Extra Stamps,” Jim VanderPlatt described the making of bookmarks using an inexpensive laminator and plastic pouches. Bookmarks could be made for any topic, and shown with the article was one made with stamps depicting fruit. The “Philatelic Outreach” column mentions submitting articles with topical themes to non-philatelic publications that relate to those themes. The example shown in the column was the first page of an article by Strait Stamp Society member Cathie Osborne “Bells on Stamps,” which appeared in *The Bell Tower: Official Publication of the American Bell Association International, Inc.*

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

Newsletter: *Philatelic Chatter*, Don Smith, editor

Email: donsmith32@atlanticbb.net

Newsletter topics: (July/August) The newsletter notes that June 5 was the 50th anniversary of the “Machin” stamps from Great Britain. The stamps were designed by Arnold Machin and show a bas-relief of Queen Elizabeth II. Including varieties, Machin collectors (of which I am one), have more than 2,000 stamps to collect. One of the Machins is illustrated in the newsletter’s nameplate. The nameplate also shows one of the stamps from the USPS’ 2004 set “The Art of Disney: Friendship.” The 37¢ stamp depicted shows Goofy, Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck (Scott 3865).



**Disney characters.
U.S. 2004 (Scott 3865).**

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

Website: www.lcps-stamps.org.

Newsletter: Paul Petersen, editor

Email: pcpetersen@comcast.net

Newsletter topics: (June) In “From the West End to Tahiti,” the editor mentions that he is starting a collection of the stamps of Tahiti. The column mentions that Pippa Middleton and James Matthews honeymooned on Tetiaroa Island after their wedding. Marlon Brando leased the island, which is about 30 miles north of Tahiti in the Society Islands of French Polynesia, for 99 years in 1966. Marlon Brando starred in the 1962 film *Mutiny on the Bounty* that was partially filmed on several islands of French Polynesia. The Brando resort on the island was built according to his vision of an eco-friendly resort. It is beautiful and expensive with a daily rate of €3000–€4000 for two persons for a one-bedroom villa. (July) In a short article, editor Paul Petersen notes that the USPS has, as of this date, not issued any stamps for the 100th anniversary of the United States entry into World War I. He illustrates a French commemorative released June 23, 2017, celebrating the landing of the first troops of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF). The stamp shows a small portrait of General Pershing, a ship and marching troops carrying an American flag. The United States previously released a 32¢ stamp in the 1910s pane of the “Celebrate the Century” series in 1998 (Scott 3183i) showing an “I Want You” Uncle Sam poster with the words “U.S. enters World War I.” He also mentions sources for locating other stamps related to the AEF: the ATA, Scott’s new issue listing appearing in *Linn’s Stamp News* and new issue dealers. Following up on WWI, the show cover for Lan-copex 2017 is illustrated and also commemorates the United States entry into The Great War. The stamps on the cover include the 1985 22¢ stamp for WWI Veterans (Scott 2154) depicting Harvey Dunn’s painting, *The Battle of Marne, France*, and the 1961 8¢ stamp showing a portrait of General John J. Pershing, Commander of the American Forces. The third stamp on the cover is the 1979 21¢ airmail showing Octave Chanute (1832–1910), a civil engineer and aviation pioneer.



**General John J.
Pershing. U.S. 1961
(Scott 1214).**

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

Website: www.knoxstamps.com

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

Email: tomwb50@aol.com

Newsletter topics: (June) The stamp of the month, a gift from Pat Goebel, is the 1933 definitive from Syria shown nearby, depicting the skyline of Aleppo, Syria, which as we all know, has been devastated by the recent Syrian civil war. Editor Tom Broadhead has a short column about a recent business trip to India and shows

a 2010 Indian stamp depicting the Cathedral and John Connon School in Mumbai (Scott 2457). The school was founded in 1860 and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. (July) For July's Stamp of the Month, Pat Goebel again was the donor, this time with the United States 22¢ Statue of Liberty commemorative (Scott 2224) issued in 1986 for the 100th anniversary of the statue.

**Aleppo, Syria. Syria
1933 (Scott 211).**



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

Newsletter: *The Messenger*, Scott Couch, editor

Email: tigercollect@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter topics: (June) The newsletter reprints an article from the *Kansas City Star* newspaper's website detailing and illustrating the "Total Solar Eclipse" stamp issued by the USPS on June 20, 2017. (July) At Okpex in Oklahoma City, member Bob Burney was awarded silver for *Feathers & Furs on Stamps and Hooks*, as well as the APS Creativity Award. Bill Johnson took a Gold for *James William Denver: The Man and His Times*, and presented a talk on Denver at the June meeting.



**Jock Scott fishing fly. U.S. 1991
(Scott 2546).**

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

Website: milwaukeephilatelic.org

Newsletter: *Milwaukee Philatelist*, Jonathan Kumbera, editor

Newsletter topics: (June) The USPS' "Have a Ball!" sport ball stamps issued on June 14 this year and showing images of balls used in eight different sports was described in an article by the editor. The stamps will have a first day ceremony in Hartford, Wisconsin, at the 117th U.S. Open Championship. (July) The editor gives some nice background information on the sharks depicted on the July 26 set of five stamps from the USPS.



**Baseball (from Sport
Balls issue). U.S. 2017
(Scott 5207).**

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

Newsletter: *On Cover*, Kurt Romig, editor

Email: mcscc442@yahoo.com

Newsletter topics: (June) At the May meeting one of the clothesline exhibits was by Thom Ouelette showing stamps, FDCs and the first-day *Postal Bulletin* for the 1972 commemorative stamp issued by the USPS honoring American Druggists. In the "Cover Corner," Al Raddi displays three colorful

**Pharmacy Issue (Mortar & Pestle, Bowl of Hygeia, 19th
Century Medicine Bottles). U.S. 1972 (Scott 1473).**



House of Farnam first-day covers for the American Numismatic Association (ANA) commemorative stamp issued by the USPS in 1991 for the 100th Anniversary of the ANA (Scott 2558).

Omaha Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 123), Omaha, Neb.

Website: omahaphilatelicsociety.org

Newsletter: *The Spacefiller*, Paul Breakenridge, editor

Email: paul_breakenridge@gmail.com.

Newsletter topics: (July) At the June meeting Mike Ley gave a presentation on Burma, now known as Myanmar. During World War II it was occupied by the Japanese from 1942-45.

Elephant carrying teak logs. Burma (under Japanese Occupation). 1943 (Scott 2N48).



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

Website: www.toledostampclub.org

Newsletter: *Frogtown Philatelist*, John Mann, editor

Email: john6125@earthlink.net

Newsletter topics: (June) The “Society of the Month” describes the United Postal Stationery Society (UPSS), which is devoted to the collection, research and promotion of worldwide postal stationery. A short article looks at “Lundy Island,” a small island between Wales and Devonshire in the Bristol Channel. England sold the island to Martin Coles Harman who, in 1929, issued several coins and a series of stamps (local carriage labels) that are denominated in puffins, small pelagic seabirds. Many of the stamps show famous individuals and would fit in a number of topical collections. Eventually, the island was given to The National Trust, which leased it to the Landmark Trust, the current manager of Lundy Island. It has 28 permanent residents, a bar and several inns that are sup-



Louis Blériot & Alessandro Anzani. Lundy Island 1954 .

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ported by day-trippers from the mainland. Several of the Lundy Island stamps are illustrated in the article.

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

Website: www.stamps.org/venice-stamp-club

Newsletter: Lance Grandone, editor

Email: venicestampclub@gmail.com

Newsletter topics: (July) At the July meeting Terry Raymond gave a presentation titled "Snail Mail," which was about his collection of stamps depicting shells.

Smaragdia rangiana, a marine gastropod mollusk. Cocos Island 1985 (Scott 136).



Webster Groves Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 126), St. Louis, Mo.

Website: webstergrovestampclub.org

Newsletter: Alan Barasch, editor

Newsletter topics: (July) Alan Barasch, at the July meeting, gave the talk "Lions... and They Don't All Come from Africa."

Lion Coat of Arms. Belgium 1929 (Scott 201).



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

Website: westfieldstampclub.org

Newsletter: *The Westfield Philatelist*, Frederick C. Skvara, editor

Email: fcskvvara@optonline.net

Newsletter topics: (May/June) At the May meeting, Lou Caprari gave the talk "United States Beer Tax Stamps that were issued between 1866 and 1951." In the column "Jottings from a Worldwide Stamp Collector," the editor briefly goes over some of "The Harding Scandals" that plagued the administration of Warren G. Harding, our 29th president (1865-1923). Discussed with illustrations of stamps are the Alien Property Custodian Scandal, Justice Department Scandal, Veterans Bureau Scandal and, probably the most notorious, the Teapot Dome Scandal. Harding was widely considered to be a decent man who was not up to the office of the presidency and most historians feel that he was probably ignorant of most of the unscrupulous activities engaged in by some members of his cabinet. Described as a man who didn't know how to say no, he appointed a number of friends and acquaintances to positions for which they had no previous experience or ability. Once the scandals started to see the light of day, he himself was quoted as saying:

"My god, this is a hell of a job! I have no trouble with my enemies...But my damn friends, they're the ones that keep me walking the floor nights."



*Warren G. Harding.
U.S. 1986 (Scott
2219a).*

Distressed by the unfolding events, Harding took a trip across the country and, on his way to San Francisco from Alaska, became ill with what has been described as "ptomaine poisoning," developed pneumonia and eventually died of an embolism on Aug. 2, 1923. Rounding out the issue is the editor's regular philatelic quiz.

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

Website: wpscstamps.org

Newsletter: *Across the Fence Post*, Ray Perry, editor

Email: fiveperrys@athenet.net

Newsletter topics: (July/August) In his column, editor Ray Perry notes that he has started collecting the U.S. stamps commemorating our national parks. Illustrations of several stamps of the 1934 National Parks issue from the USPOD accompany the article. Clete Delvaux from the Green Bay Philatelic Society mentions in, "Curious George: The Story Behind the Story," how the authors of the *Curious George* children's books escaped from Paris, France, in 1940, as Hitler's army approached the city. With a manuscript about the curious monkey, they traveled to Portugal, and then sailed to Brazil, finally ending up in New York



Great Head, Acadia National Park, Maine. U.S. 1934 (Scott 746).



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City, where Houghton-Mifflin, in 1941, published their manuscript. In 2006 the USPS issued a set of eight stamps showing “Children’s Book Animals,” one of which depicts Curious George (Scott 3992).

Canada

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

Newsletter: *Calgary Philatelist*, Dale Spiers, editor

Email: opuntia57@yahoo.ca

Newsletter topics: (July) At Orapex 2017 in Ottawa, Earle Covert’s exhibit, *Religious Groups Using Illustrated Permits*, received awards as the Most Innovative Thematic and the APS Medal of Excellence for post-1980 exhibits, as well as a Large Vermeil. At the Royale 2017 Royal in Quebec, Jim Taylor’s topical exhibit, *Continental Drift and Plate Tectonics*, won a Large Vermeil, as well as the AAPE Creativity and ATA First Awards. The stamp shown nearby was issued on the 100th anniversary of the birth of Alfred Wegener (1880-1930), a German geophysicist and meteorologist who devised the theory of continental drift. At NTSS 2017 in Milwaukee, Norma Nielson presented the lecture “Using Genealogy Resources for Philatelic Research.”



**World map showing
Continental Drift. Germany
Berlin 1980 (Scott 9N451).**

Great Britain

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

Website: www.britishthematic.org.uk

Newsletter: *Themescene*, Wendy Buckle, editor

Newsletter topics: (June) Opened in 1759 and now stretching over 300 acres of gardens and greenhouses, Kew Gardens contains the world’s largest collection of living plants. Great Britain has issued several stamps over the years commemorating the gardens. Chris Wheeler gives some history of the gardens in his illustrated article, “A Day At the Kew Gardens.” In “Postage Stamps Defining Social History: An Example of Cold-War Politics – Part 2,” Chris Yardley looks at the stamps from East and West Germany issued between 1949-90 related to science. He then uses the stamps to “compare and contrast” how the stamps of the two Germanys give different messages. East Germany issued more stamps than West Germany in the previously noted time period and more science stamps as well. The achievements of the Russian space program, as propaganda for the communist system, resulted in 68 space-related stamps issued by East Germany. West Germany and West Berlin issued only three space-related stamps during their 42-year existence.



**Russian Soyuz
rocket taking off. East
Germany 1975 (Scott
1683).**

Sue Townsend's interesting article, "How I Started: Discovering and Having Fun With Thematics," traces her evolution as a topical/thematic collector. A club meeting where the subject was "something beginning with 'E'" led her to 'H' and her first display, *A History of Britain from the Ice Age to the Tudors*. She then went on to the Industrial Revolution for the letter 'I,' Quakers for 'Q' and Transport for 'T.' The article illustrates material from her displays. Although at first she used only British stamps, Townsend broadened her collecting to include foreign stamps that fit with her themes. In "Herbs and Spices," an illustrated article, Neil Pearce describes a number of these aromatic plants. Lise Whittle's "Just4Kids" column, in this issue, "I-Spy My Favorite Tree," shows a number of stamps depicting trees with text encouraging youngsters to identify the trees depicted.

South Africa

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

Website: www.thematicsca.co.za

Newsletters: 1) *Thematics*, Robbie Harm, editor, Email: robertharm9@gmail.com; 2) *ThemNews*, Wobbe Vegter, acting editor, Email: wobbe.vegter@gmail.com

Newsletter topics: *Thematics* (May) At the April meeting of the Western Cape Chapter, Reanie showed stamps and covers for her new collection, "Windmills," while Henk showed a number of postal stationery items for his "Butterflies" exhibit. Editor Robert Harm has a biography of Clara Schumann (1819-96), a Ger-

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man pianist and composer, who was the wife of Robert Schumann. Her portrait can be seen on a stamp from Germany issued in 1986 (Scott 1480). (June) At the May meeting of the Pretoria Chapter, Andre Nel showed a collection of Butterflies, while at the May meeting of the Kwazulu-Natal Chapter, Joyce Hulse showed pages from her penguin collection that will be exhibited with the title *Happy Feet – Looking at Penguins* (Family Spheniscidae). (July) Petra Heath shared her collection on Nelson Mandela at the June meeting of the Pretoria Chapter. At the Western Cape Chapter's June meeting, Henk showed his exhibit, *The Pursuit of Butterflies and Moths*. Editor Robert Harm looks at the topic of "The Accordion" on stamps, based on an article written in Dutch by Anna C. van der Maade and published in July 2017 in *OVVP Nieuwsbrief* 139. Several examples are shown, including the stamp from Switzerland shown nearby. The article notes that the instrument is very popular in South America where an annual international event is held. From 1960 it has been used increasingly in classical music, in addition to its long-standing association with folk music. ☐



Diatonic accordian, 20th century. Switzerland 1985 (Scott B517).

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Melbourne 2017, Finlandia 2017

Foreign Thematic Exhibits

Larry E. Davidson

In this column, we will review the thematic exhibits shown at Melbourne 2017 and Finlandia 2017. Only those exhibits with a score of 70 or higher are listed. * Denotes ATA member.

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

Melbourne 2017

This international stamp exhibition was held in Melbourne, Australia, March 30-April 2, 2017. It was held under the patronage of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP) and with recognition by the Federation of International Philately (FIP). The major sponsor was Australia Post. Thematic exhibitors could exhibit in one of three categories – Nature, Culture or Technology.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Nature

Xin Rong'an (China)	<i>Smell</i>	V
Yao Jianchun (China)	<i>Eyes</i>	LS
*Anand Kakad (India)	<i>Birds of the Pheasant Family</i>	LS
Chen Yude (China)	<i>Wharves</i>	S

Culture

Yosuke Naito (Japan)	<i>Japan and the 15-year War</i>	G
Lin Aa'an (China)	<i>Tobacco – From Popularity in the World to Global Control</i>	LV
Tian Wei (China)	<i>Life on a Ship – A Sea Dog's Story</i>	V
Li Jingbin (China)	<i>Please Read My Magazine (Cultural Heritage)</i>	LS

Technology

Wang Xiaozhou (China)	<i>Photography – A Movement of the Organic and Close Combination of Industrial Renovation and Visual Arts</i>	Com-LV
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One-Frame Exhibits

Richard (Bill) Jenkins (Australia)	<i>Charles Naish of Victoria</i>	90
Masaru Kawabe (Japan)	<i>“Liberty Leading the People” by Delacroix</i>	83
Michael Roland (Australia)	<i>For Economic Reasons</i>	77
*Ross Newton (Australia)	<i>Apollo 13: A Successful Failure</i>	77
Chen Xiuqing (China)	<i>The Elderly Happy Life</i>	74
David Figg (Australia)	<i>General Douglas MacArthur – Defender and Liberator Of the Philippines</i>	69

Open/Display Exhibits

Gary Diffen (Australia)	<i>Preparations for War and the Australian Military Campaign Gallipoli</i>	LG
Graeme & Gaye Chequer (Australia)	<i>Orchids and their World</i>	G
Gerhard Kamffer (South Africa)	<i>The Road to Democracy in South Africa to 1994</i>	G
Bruce Chadderton (Australia)	<i>Descent into the Abyss</i>	LV
*Marilyn Gendek (Australia)	<i>Florence Nightingale: The Path to Legend</i>	V
John Paston (New Zealand)	<i>The Suez Canal</i>	V
Kenneth Markham (New Zealand)	<i>New Zealand –from Discovery to Depression</i>	V
Daryl Kibble (Australia)	<i>Sign of the Times</i>	LS
Kevin Dwyer (Australia)	<i>Aubrey Gotley and the First A.N.A.R.E. Antarctic Base, Heard Island 1947-1955</i>	S

Finlandia 2017

This international stamp exhibition was held in Tampere, Finland, May 24-28, 2017. It was held with the patronage of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA) and with the recognition of the Federation of International Philately (FIP). The theme was the 100th Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Finland (1917-2017).

Multi-frame Exhibits

Michel Meuwis (Belgium)	<i>Teach me French Literature</i>	95, LG
Jean Frick (France)	<i>Sound</i>	95, LG
Jean Luc Joing (France)	<i>Freemasonry</i>	93, G
Yannick Delaey (Belgium)	<i>Mail in Motion, a Primary Function of the Railroads</i>	93, G
Turid Veggeland (Norway)	<i>Bitter Pills and Strong Drops</i>	93, G
Giovanni Licata (Italy)	<i>The Palm, a Royal Plant</i>	92, G
Erika Zehnder (Switzerland)	<i>Bears</i>	92, G
Ryszard Prange (Poland)	<i>Vine and Wine – The Gifts of Gods, Sun and Soil</i>	92, G
Johann Vanderhaute (Belgium)	<i>Chocolate: Drink of the Gods, but now a Pleasure for Everyone</i>	92, G
*Yoram Lubianiker (Israel)	<i>Chess – The Game of War</i>	99, G
*Vojtech Jankovic (Slovakia)	<i>My Life as a Bicycle</i>	92, G
*Bengt-Göran Österdahl (Sweden)	<i>The History of Chemistry</i>	92, G
Jim Etherington (UK)	<i>1940: A Desperate Year for Britain</i>	91, G
Michel Abram (France)	<i>Meet the Horse</i>	90, G
Felix Albe (France)	<i>Sunday: Regular or Grand, A Social Phenomenon</i>	90, G
Thomas Radzuweit (Germany)	<i>Persecution – Resistance – Holocaust</i>	89, LV
Jean-Marc Seydoux (Switzerland)	<i>Our Little Sister the Moon</i>	88, LV
Alain Israel (France)	<i>The Red Cross from Solferino to Modern Times</i>	88, LV
Ulla Kemppilä (Finland)	<i>The Story of a Book – from an Author to a Consumer</i>	88, LV
Januz Jaskulski (Poland)	<i>Angling – My Hobby</i>	87, LV

Jean-Pierre Suys (Belgium)

Massimiliano Bruno (Italy)

Izhak Barak (Israel)

***Linda Lee (Australia)**

Alfred Kunz (Austria)

Valery Andreyuk (Belarus)

Manuel Riera (France)

Andres Kaido (Estonia)

Jose Antonio Herráiz (Spain)

Paulo Jorge Ferreira De Sousa (Port.)

Bernard Péters (Belgium)

Marcel Sanchez (France)

Jacques Paquet (Belgium)

Jacques Chautemps (France)

Olli Vlijanen (Finland)

Pekka Klemi (Finland)

EEro Pikkukookana (Finland)

Brian Harmon (Ireland)

Bernard Santraine (France)

Risto Jussila (Finland)

Odd Johansen (Norway)

Leanid Turyn (Belarus)

Antonis Gennadiou (Cyprus)

<i>From Body Sounds to Sound Bodies</i>	87, LV
<i>Footballers of the World Play for a Cup</i>	87, LV
<i>The Development of Aviation and Transportation of Mail by Air until 1914</i>	87, LV
<i>Flower Magic</i>	86, LV
<i>Wine – History, Economy and Culture</i>	86, LV
<i>Forest & Mankind Together through Centuries</i>	85, LV
<i>Turtles</i>	85, LV
<i>University of Tartu 1632-2012 (People and Circumstances</i>	85, LV
<i>Monarchy, a Form of State</i>	85, LV
<i>A Look into a Sustainable Future</i>	85, LV
<i>Endangered Mammals</i>	82, V
<i>The Cathedral, Masterpiece of a City</i>	82, V
<i>The Gothic Cathedral between God and Men</i>	81, V
<i>The Rooster – A Domestic but a Star</i>	81, V
<i>The Worlds Meet</i>	81, V
<i>The Fight against Cancer through the Years</i>	79, LS
<i>Chess-Mate – From its Roots in India to Today's Competitive Sports</i>	78, LS
<i>Bridging the Divide</i>	78, LS
<i>Cement and its Application</i>	78, LS
<i>Searching for Peace, Security and Stability – European Integration and Finland until 2004</i>	75, LS
<i>Bridges – The Fascinating Link</i>	75, LS
<i>The History of Development of Northern Latitudes</i>	73, S
<i>Pre-war Olympic Philately from Host Countries: the First Sponsors and Promoters of Olympic Games</i>	72, S



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Open/Display Exhibits

Jeanette Banfield (UK)	<i>Medicine – Its History and Development</i>	95, LG
Johan Snellman (Finland)	<i>Steaming Helsinki</i>	90, G
Alan Farrell (Ireland)	<i>HMAV Bounty and its Legacy</i>	90, G
“Wayne Wright” (Ireland)	<i>The Coach is Coming, Clear the Way</i>	90, G
Harry Dunkel (Finland)	<i>The Oldest Trading House in Savo Area; Gust. Ranin History 1852-1952</i>	88, LV
Henning Jarle Mathiassen (Norway)	<i>Longer, Higher, Faster – Success, Trouble and Disaster</i>	88, LV
Aline Pairault (France)	<i>The World of Elephants</i>	86, LV
Konrad Andraczek (Poland)	<i>Charms of the Polish Motorization</i>	86, LV
Pascal Köhler (Germany)	<i>Herbivorous Dinosaurs</i>	85, LV
Pavina Ondrejková (Czech Rep.)	<i>National Nature Reserve Certoryje & its Flora</i>	83, V
Jose Carlos Rodriguez Piñero (Spain)	<i>An Eternal Friendship: Between Dog and Man or Between Man and Dog</i>	83, V
Théo Montulet (France)	<i>A History of the Great War 1914-1918</i>	82, V
Wilson Barlet (France)	<i>Meeting with Birds of Prey</i>	81, V
Johannes Maurer (Germany)	<i>Rites in Advent and Christmas Season in German-speaking Areas</i>	81, V
Sophia Dräger (Germany)	<i>Fruits I Love to Eat</i>	81, V
Nadzeya Dzemiadziuk (Belarus)	<i>The Birds of Oltush's Lake and its Surroundings</i>	80, V
Noel Roulling (Luxembourg)	<i>The Huntable Animal Species in our Forest</i>	80, V
Nicolas Cocco Hoedt (France)	<i>Skiing in Winter Sports is so Cool!</i>	80, V
Niklas Köhler (Germany)	<i>Technology in Agriculture</i>	80, V
Guy-Yann Meuwis (Belgium)	<i>The Elephants</i>	78, LS
Annabel Tampe (Germany)	<i>Horses in the Service of Man – in the Past and Today</i>	77, LS
Celina Thuro (Germany)	<i>Bears – Not for Cuddling Only</i>	77, LS
Christina Kerl (Germany)	<i>Business Cards of Some Insects</i>	76, LS
Flavia Perozzo (Belgium)	<i>The Sea in All its States</i>	75, LS
Dominik Mrva (Slovakia)	<i>The Dissolution of the USSR and the Creation of Modern Ukraine</i>	75, LS
Josephine Dräger (Germany)	<i>Bird Wedding – Modernized and Polished Maps</i>	73, S
Manolis Gustavsson (Finland)	<i>Rail Transport</i>	71, S
Lukasz Wierzbicki (Poland)	<i>How to Identify Birds</i>	70, S
Margot Metche (France)		70, S

Larry E. Davidson is a retired university mathematics lecturer. He has been collecting stamps for 60 years and exhibiting for 32 years. His display/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 lawrencecdavidson@gmail.com.

Membership

New Members and Reinstatements

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57829	ALBUQUERQUE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, ATA Ch. 132 PO Box 56625, Albuquerque NM 87187-6625	
57802	BENNETT, Michael, michael.bennett@uoit.ca 6 Park Place Lane, Newcastle ON L1B 0B2 CANADA	Butterflies, Railroads, Bridges, Wine
55464	BROWN, Don	
57800	BROWNE, Carroll	
57808	CAMPBELL, Joseph	
56219	COLVIN, Patricia, colvinp28@gmail.com 18634 W Mission Ln, Waddell AZ 85355-4403	Nubian Archaeology, African Americans on stamps
57812	DEWALD, Howard	
57821	DOHERTY, Mary Lynne, mldoherty1@bcglobal.net	Clowns, Motorcycles
57817	DURAIRAJAN, Kannan	
57807	ELKINGTON, Linda	
57827	FOX, Henry Preston, 2020 Stormway Dr, Rockford IL 61107-1616	
57818	GOEDE, Nicholas	Halloween, SciFi, Fantasy, Castles
57823	GOLDENBAUM, Walter, goldenb1@gmail.com	Cats (domestic)
57809	GOODALL, Max	
57806	GORSKI, Elizabeth, gorskimbj@gmail.com	
55053	KAHN, Lois, loisgk@gmail.com	China & Porcelain, Flowers in Vases, Unicorns, Textiles
57805	KEEFER, Doug, keefers@yahoo.com	Planets, Solar System, Stars, Sun/Moon
57824	KEIL, Michael, mkeil87859@hotmail.com	Antarctica, Naval Covers
57811	KRUSE-DOHRN, Judi	
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57819	NOVOTNY, Jim, PO Box 827, Bowling Green OH 43402-0827	
57825	O'HARA, Kevin	
57828	PITTS, Charlie, <i>mud.puppy.7jbn8.32@gmail.com</i>	Religion (used stamps)
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57813	SAULINSKAS, Elaine	
57822	SIGOLOFF, Jerry, <i>jjsstamps@icloud.com</i>	Mother Teresa
	301 S Signal Butte Rd Lot 27, Apache Junction AZ 85120-4534	
57810	SNYDER, Michael	
57820	STREETER, Bonnie, <i>mickisis@yahoo.com</i>	Cats (domestic and wild)
57815	SYSUM, Scott, <i>scott_sysum@comcast.net</i>	Space, Sea Life, Dinosaurs
57816	TRUAX, Todd, <i>ttinaz@msn.com</i>	
57826	von DORSTER, Eric	
55839	WINN, Craig, <i>cwinn72@gmail.com</i>	Christmas, U.S. Bicentennial, World War II
	11126 Worchester Dr, New Market MD 21774-6266	
56160	WINTERFELD, Arthur, <i>wint1951@aol.com</i>	Railroads, Birds, Stamps on Stamps
	34815 Eagles Peak Pl, Zephyrhills FL 33541-2648	
57801	WYLLIE, Stanley, <i>stanleywyllie@yahoo.com</i>	Fraternal organizations, Elks, Lions International, Jaycees, Civitan

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ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green.

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Asher, Barbara	1	Sazama, Robert	1
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Letters to the editor, features and short pieces are always welcomed, as long as they are strongly related to topical and thematic stamp collecting and add to the knowledge base of the hobby.

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Show Calendar

Sept. 15-17, 2017, Texas. Greater Houston Stamp Show, Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway, Humble, Texas. Free admission and parking, 33 dealers. Contact Ron Strawser.

Email: ghss2017@earthlink.net

Website: www.houstonstampclub.org

Oct. 6-8, 2017, Indiana. Indypex 2017 Stamp Collectors Show, Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds & Exhibition Center, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville, Ind. Hours are 10-5 Friday, 10-5 Saturday and 10-3 Sunday, 34 dealers, APS WSP show. Contact Rick Nelson.

Email: janelsonnep@comcast.net

Website: www.indianastampclub.org

Oct. 14-15, 2017, Canada. Canpex 2017, a two-day national philatelic exhibition and bourse hosted by The Middlesex Stamp Club (APS World Series Show), Hellenic Community Centre, 133 Southdale Road West, London, Ontario Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-4, Free admission and parking.

Website: www.canpex.ca

Oct. 21-22, 2017, New Mexico. NewMexPex 2017, sponsored by Albuquerque Philatelic Society, Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane, SE, Rio Rancho. Hours 9am-5pm Saturday, 9am-4pm Sunday. Exhibits, dealers, gifts for kids, door prizes, more. USPS show cancel, plus "What's in Your Attic" table. Free admission and parking. Contact Joan Karrie.

Email: jimenie@his.com

Nov. 4-5, 2017, Michigan. Aapex 2017, sponsored by Ann Arbor Stamp Club, Morris Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Drive (north of Clark Rd-Golfside intersection), Ann Arbor, Mich. Exhibits, 29 dealers, cachetmakers Saturday, ATA and youth tables, USPS and UN Postal Administrations, free parking and admission. 10-5 Sat, 10-4 Sun. Contact Harry & Dottie Winter (734) 761-5859.

Email: harwin@umich.edu

Website: www.annarborstampclub.org

Nov. 11, 2017, Pennsylvania. The 71st Annual stamp show sponsored by the Johnstown Stamp Club, St. John Gualbert Activity Center, 110 Adams St., downtown Johnstown. Hours 10-4. Dealers, exhibits, youth area, post office. Free admission and parking. Contact Charles Holtzman, Jr, 522 Highland Ave, Johnstown PA 15902. (814) 532-0199.

Email: chazhjr@msn.com



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

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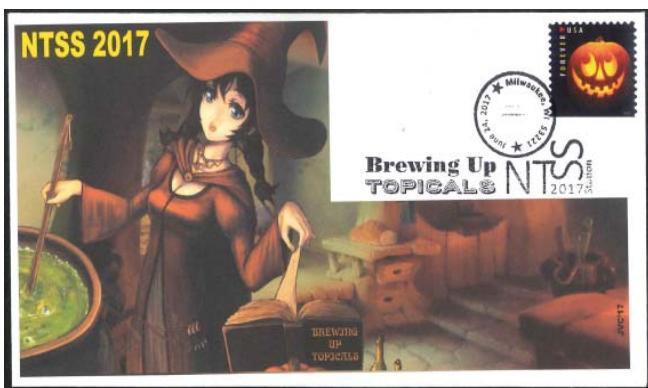
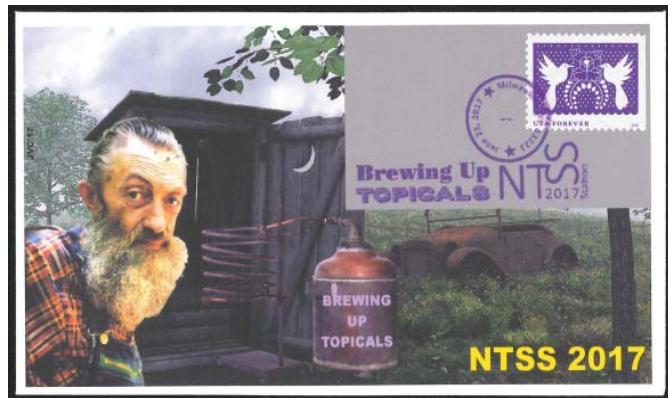
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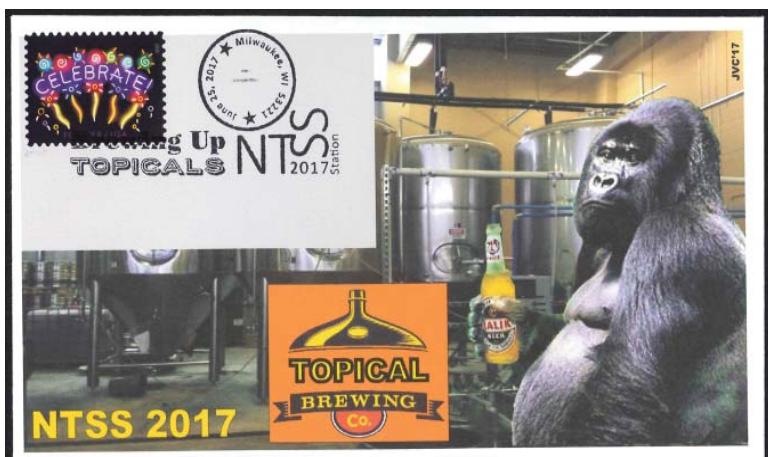
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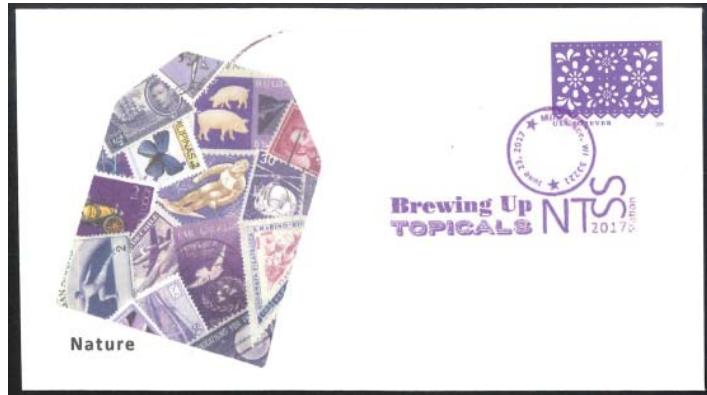
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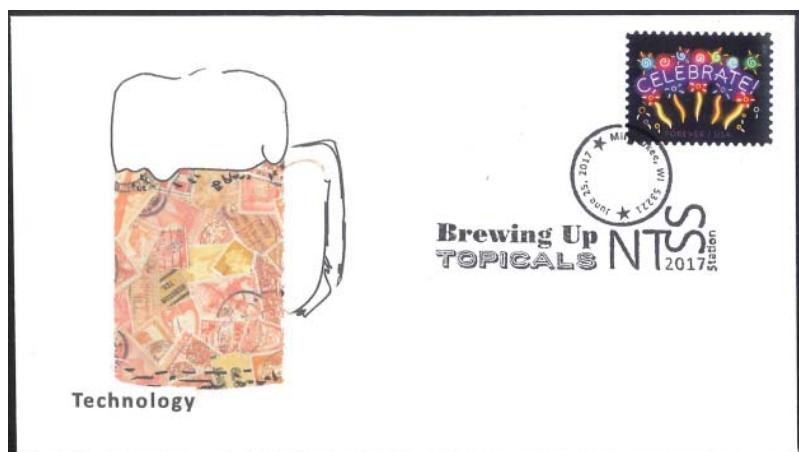
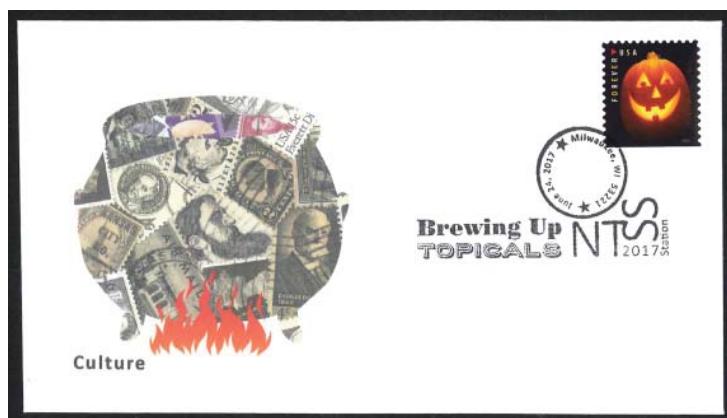
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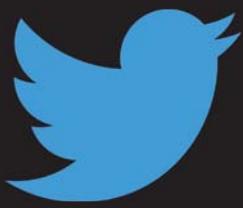
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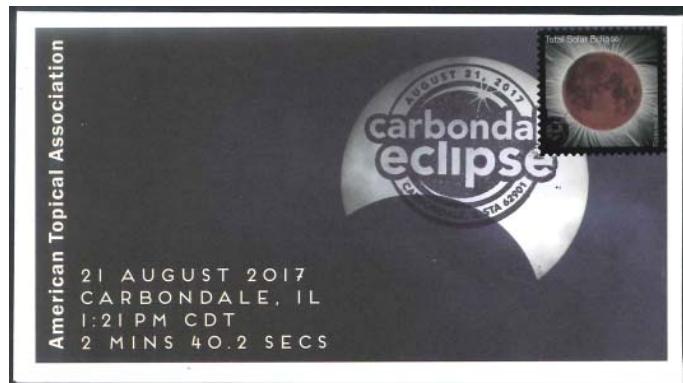
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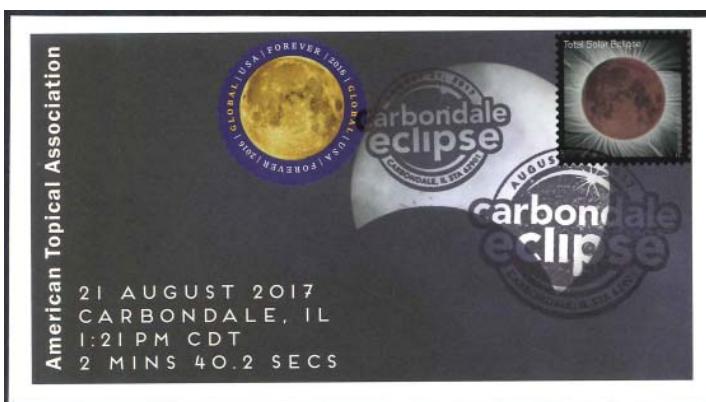
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