

Full coverage of NTSS 2015 throughout this issue.

\$5.00

TOPICAL TIME

September-October 2015

Vol. 66, No. 5

Whole Number 393



Bats!

See Page 37

The Bauhaus

See Page 45



Journal of Thematic Philately

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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



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TRUE STORY OF THE STAMP TRADE'S BIGGEST PROBLEM

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

Managing Director Andrew McGavin of Universal Philatelic Auctions explains:

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Universal Unique Reducing Estimate lot system was born

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

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

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

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

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JACK'S JOURNAL

Indexing your thematic collection/exhibit

Most of us have discovered several different ways to manage our collections and organize our exhibits. We maintain inventories of our purchases so we can both record prices we paid and avoid buying duplicates. We include a plan page in our exhibits – a table of contents listing its chapters and sub-chapters – to guide viewers through the presentation. If your exhibit has more than a few frames (or if your collection has a number of pages), how about also developing an index of it? The index would, of course, never be included in the exhibit's public display. Instead, it would be kept on computer or paper as a very helpful tool for your own private use.

My Bayeux Tapestry exhibit, like all thematics, uses thematic knowledge to tell its story. Sometimes it makes several different thematic points about the same subject. Like most thematic exhibitors, I try to use different philatelic elements (coils, covers, postal cards and more) each time I refer to a subject. Therefore, I maintain two indexes of my thematic exhibit, one listing thematic subjects and one listing philatelic elements. Especially when developing a new thematic point or adding new philatelic items, I use my indexes to find locations of similar items already in the exhibit.

Example: The Tapestry tells of several crossings of the English Channel. Here is my subject index, using chapter and sub-chapter numbers:

English Channel

- 1.2 - Jersey: Map on aerogramme (mint)
- 1.4 - Jersey: Map on booklet cover
- 3.4 - Jersey: Map on stamp (plate proof)
- 3.4 - Jersey: Map on stamp (mint)

Frame and page numbers could be used instead, but would require more frequent updating than the chapters/sub-chapters method when new material is added. If you do not exhibit, you could use page numbers instead.

Obviously, the more references to the same subject, the handier the index. For example, William the Conqueror is a central figure in the Tapestry and therefore he is referred to 10 times to make different thematic points.

Here is an index of a philatelic element:

Aerogrammes

- 1.2 - Jersey: English Channel map (mint)
- 1.3 - USA: Halley's Comet - postmark
- 2.1 - GB: Illuminated manuscript (Christmas 2000)
- 4.3.4 - GB: Shakespeare (for Ophelia and Hamlet) – specimen

Note that you can cross-reference an item either by looking in the subject index or element index. (Jersey's English Channel map in 1.2 is noted in both the English Channel and aerogramme indices, as previously noted.)

Developing an index of philatelic elements is also a way to check the balance of different elements. (For another way, see *The Philatelic Exhibitor*, July 1991, pp. 29-31, where the late Mary Ann Owens recommended using a "Philatelic Elements Check List" to guard against the clustering of elements.)

The older I get, the more I welcome ways that help me remember. Using an index replaces the need for a photographic memory of my exhibit!

Note: An earlier version of this article appeared in The Philatelic Exhibitor, July 2007, p. 17. 

About ATA

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

NTSS Reports on our Website

www.americantopicalassn.org/ntss/ntss2015.shtml

- Stamp Exhibition Award Winners.
- Selected pages from Grand, Reserve Grand, One Frame Grand and Most Popular exhibits.
- Study Unit Literature Competition Award Winners.
- Show Cachets by Frans Geerlings.
- Limited Edition Cachets by John Colasanti.
- Fanciful Flowers Postal Card First-Day Ceremony Program and Cachet.

Also New on our Website

- Youth page: Topical Tidbits. Tidbits is now a quarterly publication. The latest issue is Dolphins. There are now more than 400 pages in the youth area of our website.
- Press releases: Free Checklist Updates to ATA Members.
ATA Offers New Youth Membership Category.
- Checklist dATABse: The August checklist update was the largest one to date, with more than 18,000 items added.
- Membership Directory Available.

Checklists

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

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Attention bargain hunters! Have you checked out TopicalsOnLine?

Well-priced stamps – by topic, country or Scott number – are for sale there. Go online and find your bargain: www.TopicalsOnLine.com. Many ATA members are



taking advantage of the great new checklist service. You'll enjoy a 10% ATA member discount. All sales benefit the ATA.

Recent Shows and New Members

July 31-Aug. 2. **National Topical Stamp Show**, Portland, Ore.

Ambassadors: Karen Cartier, Doug Clark, Jack Denys, Vera Felts, Dawn Hamman, Amanda Morgenstern, Jean Stout. New Members: 5

Aug. 8. **Strait Stamp Show**, Sequim, Wash. **Ambassadors:** Keith Edholm, Vera Felts. New Members: 2

Aug. 20-23. **APS StampShow**, Grand Rapids, Mich. **Ambassadors:** Jack Congrove, Larry Davidson, David Erbach, Jan Erbach, Vera Felts, Dawn Hamman, John Hamman, Steve Sherman, Jean Stout. New Members 11.

Sept 4-6. **Balpex**, Hunt Valley, Md. **Ambassadors:** Joe Sullivan, Harriet Epstein, Lucy Eyster, Gerry Frazier, Don Hadley, Don Neiman, Don Smith, Bill Thomas.

Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at These Upcoming Shows

If you can assist at the ATA table for an hour or two, please contact the ATA Office.

You may save postage by contacting the ATA Office to request that certain items (e.g. *Topical Time* archives, handbooks, checklists, DVDs) be brought to these shows for you.

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

Oct. 10-11: **Cupex**, Urbana, Ill.

Oct. 11: **Fenwick Stamp & Coin Show**, Renton, Wash.

Oct. 23-25: **ASDA National Stamp Show**, New York, N.Y.

Nov. 6-8: **CSDA National Stamp Show**, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

Nov. 13-15: **Chicagopex**, Ithaca, Ill.

Dec. 4-6: **Florex**, Orlando, Fla.

Dec. 13: **Fenwick Stamp & Coin Show**, Renton, Wash. ☎

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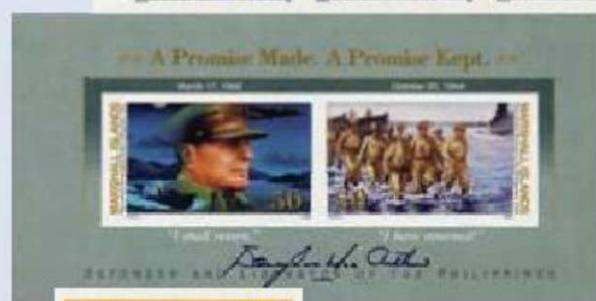
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Boldly to the Future

A good mission statement is short, sweet and accurate. Here is ours:

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

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



Please measure the ATA by its faithfulness to this mission. Please think about how you and your topical collecting are enriched by your membership in the ATA. Then, please consider joining hundreds of your fellow members in helping us to go

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!

2015 BTTF Goal: \$35,000
Given/pledged to date (May 31)

2015 BTTF Goal	\$35,000
Received to date	\$11,879*
Still Needed:	\$21,056

* Unpaid pledges of \$2,065 not included here.

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

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

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

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

Together we can advance...

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!



VERA'S VIEWS

Membership Directory

By now, every ATA member who preordered a new *2015-2017 Membership Directory* through the Directory Donor program should have received his or her copy. Around 300 members participated in the program, so the local post office

was very busy shipping the directories for us during the first part of August. More than 5,000 stamps were used in mailing the directories, so our local postal clerks could have dropped their gym memberships for the month, due to the arm exercise they expended in canceling all the stamps! Seriously, all ATA members undoubtedly know by now that we use stamps – and only stamps – on all mailings for ATA.

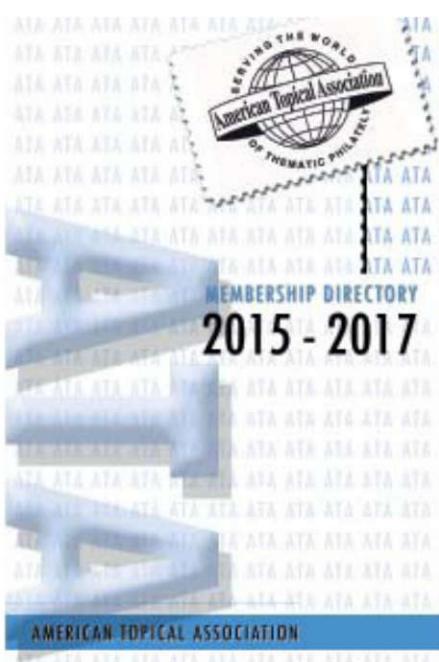
Several positive comments have been received regarding the new *Membership Directory*, which is shown nearby. Much of the credit goes to ATA's administrative assistant, Jane Schemonia, who spent months creating a 10,600-line Excel spreadsheet to manage the directory information. Handling such a

large amount of data is almost impossible without some tiny errors here or there. If you spot an error in your information, do notify us and we will do our best to rectify it. And, please let the ATA Office know of any positive or negative comments you might have about the new directory.

The cost of the directory seems well worth the \$12 price, as it holds the potential to connect you with dozens of ATA members all around the world. If you haven't ordered your copy, pick it up at an ATA society table at a stamp show, or order it through the ATA Office. For postage, domestic members should add \$3, Canadian members should add \$6 and other international members should add \$13.

Once you have your directory, my advice is to flag the following pages: 46-47. They contain the "mini" table of contents – the main headings of topics where you'll find your fellow collectors listed. There are no longer any confusing topic codes. Instead, topics are listed according to the thematic schema of our new checklist dATABase.

If a fellow ATA member you wish to contact did not release his/her contact information to be printed in the directory, all you need do is write an email or letter to



the collector and send it to the ATA Office. Your communication will be forwarded to the member with whom you would like to communicate. This is a free service available to all ATA members at all times, as we do not release any contact information without the specific consent of a member.



thoroughly depleted. The accompanying photo shows the condition of our postage tray at the time I returned from NTSS. The largest denomination present was one plate block of 19¢ stamps!

Help, help! Do you have duplicates of U.S. stamps that you'd be willing to donate to ATA? I recently perused my stamp albums and found that I had quite a few duplicates slipped alongside my mounted stamps. They were perfect to supplement the ATA postage supply. Every penny of your stamp donation will help ATA, and your donation will be acknowledged and your name listed in *Topical Time's* next recognition issue (March-April 2016). If you live in the United States, your stamp contribution is tax deductible, as ATA is an IRS 501C(3) organization. And, if you are a stamp dealer with discount postage to sell, we'd certainly be interested in talking with you.

Visitors to ATA. Visitors are always welcome, but they rarely come! Our office is in a rather out-of-the-way spot of rural southern Illinois. You have to want to visit to find us. Recently, member Frank Muckenaupt of Virginia didn't have anything better to do on a long trip to the Rocky Mountains than to drive

Spare postage? I mentioned earlier that ATA used more than 5,000 postage stamps to distribute the preordered membership directories. This leads to a huge dilemma! Our supply of "discount postage" purchased from our stamp dealer members and received as donations from our members has been



Frank Muckenaupt, recent visitor to ATA Office.

out of his way to see us. He received the grand tour of the ATA Office (all 900 sq. ft. of it) and we enjoyed lunch together. It was nice to get to know Frank and to learn about his collecting interests, which include soccer, baseball, jazz, lighthouses and stamps on stamps. He's a relatively new ATA member, but he thinks he'll be "with us" for a long time. Thanks for the visit, Frank!

NTSS. Always a highlight of the year in years there is not a U.S-based international show, the 2015 National Topical Stamp Show did not disappoint. Show co-chairs Orlie Trier and Jack Congrove did themselves proud in welcoming ATA to the Pacific Northwest and in taking care of the hundreds of details needed to stage a successful WSP show. I am grateful to them, to our stamp dealers who made the show possible, our various show event sponsors and to the dozens of other volunteers who worked together to make NTSS a friendly and lively show. ☐



Call for Nominations: Distinguished Topical Philatelist 2016

The American Topical Association is now accepting nominations for our organization's highest award: Distinguished Topical Philatelist. This very special honor is bestowed upon a person who has made significant contributions to topical philately and the ATA in particular.

Individuals, study units and chapters may send nominations. The letter of nomination should detail the person's contributions to philately – in particular, topical philately.

The award will be presented at the ATA Annual Meeting held during the NY 2016 World Stamp Show on Friday, June 3, 2016. (There will be no NTSS show in 2016.)

The Distinguished Topical Philatelist award was established in 1952 by ATA founder Jerome (Jerry) Husak. Since then, 117 people have received the honor. Recipients have included residents of the United States, Canada, Great Britain and Italy. Find a complete listing of past winners at our website. The special url is: www.americantopicalassn.org/awardsdtp.shtml.

The selection committee consists of Donald W. Smith (chair), Donald Beuthel, Jack H. Green, George Griffenhagen, Dorothy C. Smith, Darlene Thomas and Mark H. Winnegrad. Deadline for nominating letters is Dec. 31, 2015. Please send nominations to Donald W. Smith, PO Box 576, Johnstown PA, 15907.

This year's winner was Donald P. Wright, an entomologist active in the ATA Biology Unit, past editor of the unit's newsletter and author of, or contributor to, four ATA handbooks. ☐



WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

Renewing Old Friendships ... Making New Ones

Some of the best things about stamp shows are the social aspects that are no small part of the enjoyment of a philatelic gathering. The friends we make in this hobby tend to be lifelong. Those of us who attend several shows during the course of a year eagerly look forward to catching up with our philatelic buddies for the priceless face

time that comes with the renewal of friendships developed over the years. Occasionally, when we're lucky, we're able to reconnect with long-lost friends. I had that experience in Portland.

When I was a teenager in the Los Alamos (N.M.) Stamp Club, there were many members who took an interest in this budding philatelist. Among those were Eva "Kitty" Wentworth and Winifred Amsden, mainstays of ATA and many stamp shows nationwide. However, one of the members who loomed largest for me was Bill Weihofen, a tall, lanky fellow with a great sense of humor and great hobby outlook. During



The author (in center), flanked by Bill Weihofen (left) and his partner, Kay.

my years there, Bill was the club's chief "collection snarfer"; that is, he'd buy collections on the club's behalf, break them down and sell them to members at attractive prices. He introduced me to many new collecting areas, including Orange River Colony. At any rate, after leaving New Mexico, going to college, establishing a family and living life, I never saw Bill again and only heard of him tangentially — and even that stopped eventually.

Quite out of the blue, the Portland-based brother of a local collector was visiting St. Louis and was talking about members in his club. My ears perked up when he mentioned Weihofen. Ready for action, I grilled club members upon arriving in Portland, passed a message on to Bill and reconnected with an old friend I haven't seen in about 37 years! Bill, his partner, Kay, and I are shown in the accompanying photo.

A new friend, at least to the pages of *Topical Time*, is Sandy Strzalkowski, who is our new Chapter Coordinator. You'll find her first column on Page 76, and she is pictured nearby.

Sandy tells me she has been a collector since 1999, when she first joined the West Suburban Stamp Club of Michigan (sponsor of The Plymouth Show). "My husband

and younger son belonged," said Sandy, "and I went with them to a meeting. Well, I was sucked in. What can I say? It was a good family activity, that's for sure."

Since then, Sandy has become extremely involved with both the club and the hobby in general serving as West Suburban president in 2001 and 2002, secretary and newsletter editor since 2007, Plymouth Show Chair in 2008, Plymouth Show Banquet and Housing Chair since 2009 and more. She is a member of the ATA, APS, Women Exhibitors and is a past member of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE). Among other things, her collecting interests include British slogan cancels, masks, dragonflies and cows. Although Sandy has not yet exhibited, she relates the following: "I am currently working on an exhibit of my main collecting interest, British Slogan Cancels. I hope to have it ready for the 2016 Plymouth Show."

Sandy hopes to not only provide information on chapter activities that have occurred, but also on events to come. Welcome Sandy! ☺



Sandy Strzalkowski.



TOPICAL POSTLINE

Reparo shop?





Thank you for your nice article on automobiles in the "Meters By Topic" column (Topical Time, July-Aug. 2015, page 30). Enclosed is a scan of a German meter of a car in need of assistance following an accident. Yes, they need repairs and servicing!

One big advantage of topical collecting and thematic exhibiting is that we can find multiple uses for the same item. For example, this meter is from my Harry Potter exhibit. It is used to discuss the "Reparo" spell.

— Van Siegling

Van, as an editor this is one area where a "spelling" error (Reparifarge, an untransfiguration spell) could make a huge difference!

— Wayne

My Topic

Rob McGuiness

Dawn Hamman

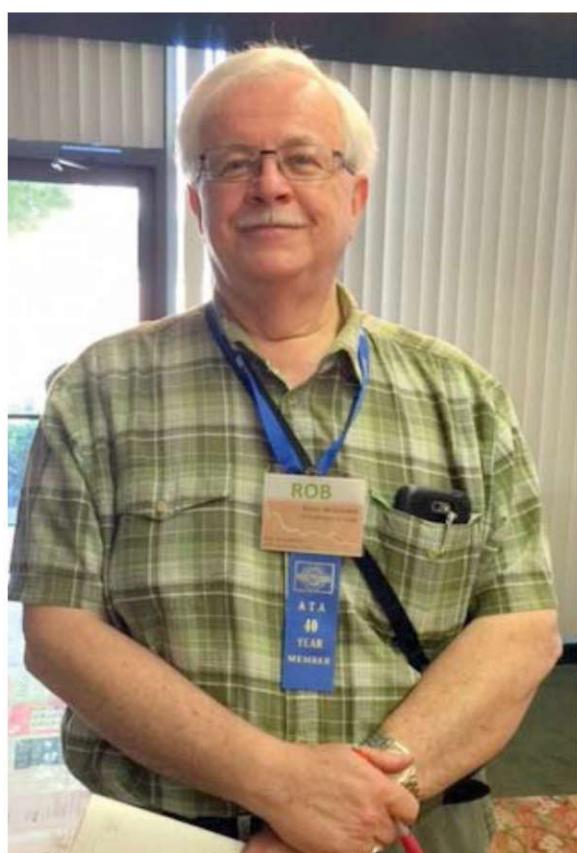
This is the 11th in a series of brief vignettes spotlighting interests of some of our fellow ATA members.

When school librarian Rob McGuiness did his student teaching nearly 40 years ago, he taught a unit on Japan. A Japanese student enhanced the lesson by demon-

strating how to fold paper to make a crane. That demonstration captivated both students and their teacher.



Rob ordered books on origami for the library, learned the way basic folds could be combined to make designs and began teaching others. It followed naturally that the lifelong stamp collector would begin collecting origami on stamps. "There are about 50 stamps with origami as the central theme, but I enjoy making other connections," said Rob, "For example, Lewis Carroll and Hans Christian Andersen enjoyed paper folding, so that is part of my collection."



Rob also extends his topic of children's literature by adding puppets on stamps and children's theater. His exhibit on children's literature has received gold awards. This active collector's other interests include letter boxes on stamps and a collection of old tins for stamp hinges. □



TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

George DeKornfeld

Let's Take a Ride

As Americans we're used to hearing about how we've developed what amounts to an obsessive love affair with our cars – the bigger, the shinier, the faster, the better.



Figure 1.

sense of practicality, the vehicle I currently drive is a Ford pickup, as much a tool as a conveyance and necessitated by my chosen lifestyle (think “country,” “firewood” and “boat”). Yet I still feel my heart rate climb when I see a gleaming muscle car roaring down the road while bopping along in my pickup truck.

Also, with summer in full swing, all the old classic jalopies have come out of hibernation and can be witnessed puttering along, especially on weekends when their owners can proudly show off, turning many a head as they go by. These all predate me, but they’re still cool to see, especially since I recall my Dad’s stories of his first car back in Hungary and how he had a bucket of burning coal on the floor next to him for winter driving (we’ve come a long way, baby!). My own fascination started in the early 1960s while riding shotgun in my Mom’s Rambler, especially after dark, with its multicolored and illuminated push-button transmission

Now, I concede there is more than just a little truth to that impression of us Yanks and, having owned a rather powerful Dodge Charger many moons ago as my first ride, I further concede that I am personally guilty as charged. Due to advancing age and what – I suppose – is some



Figure 2.



Figure 3.

Our first stop is Austria, where in Figure 1 we see a rather busy first-day cover commemorating both the 1971, 75th anniversary of the Austrian Automobile, Motorcycle and Touring Club (ÖAMTC - Österreichische Automobil, Motorrad und Touring-club) and the release of a 4-schilling Marcus Car stamp (Scott 906).

Siegfried Samuel Marcus of Austria was one of earliest manufacturers who used a gasoline engine to propel an automobile. This stamp illustrates his second model (1888), one so innovative at the time that the American Society of Mechanical Engineers has named it a Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark.

The Viennese pictorial shows a slightly more modern jalopy with super detail, including coach lights and crank starter handle. Note that on the right side of the marking there is mention of "Ins SOS Kinderdorf" (International SOS Children's Village), an international development organization for abandoned, orphaned and destitute children that was founded in Austria in 1949.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.

appearing like spaceship controls to this little kid. My enchantment started at an early age.

But hold on a moment. Are we the only ones fascinated by these four-wheeled machines? Hardly! And to prove it, in this issue, we'll be touring the continent of Europe, home of automotive icons such as Ferrari and Mercedes, to check out some of their car-themed pictorial postmarks. In fact, there are so many out there, this article will serve as "Europe Part I," and we'll be saving "Part II" (and other continents, including North America) for future episodes.

Figure 2 is another 1971 pictorial commemorating the ÖAMTC's anniversary. Also applied in Vienna, this cancel actually depicts the second Marcus Car, clearly a marking that would have been nice to find used with our Figure 1 cover.

The slogan found here loosely translates into “75 years in the Service of Motor Vehicles.”

An easily recognizable car company emblem can be seen in our Figure 3 postmark, also from

Austria, and used at Linz in 1986 to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the German firm, Daimler-Benz.



Figure 6.



Figure 7.

nies, merging in 1926, adopted the brand name Mercedes-Benz. Mercedes was the name of the daughter of Emil Jellinek, a wealthy Austrian entrepreneur associated with the early Daimler Company and its development of the first “modern car,” the 35-horsepower Mercedes.

Renault, a French manufacturer with a branch in Vienna (Niederlassung Wien) used the stylized 1994 pictorial found in Figure 4 to announce its roll out of the “Laguna” that same year. A family sedan, this particular car was just phased out this year, replaced by their new “Talisman” model.

Next up is France. In Figure 5 let's start with an older pictorial, one used to commemorate the 33rd Paris car show held in 1946. Started in 1898 and called the Salon de l'Automobile (Paris Car Show), the show changed its name to the Mondial de

Having never laid eyes upon one another, Gottlieb Daimler (1834-1900) and Carl Benz (1844-1929) simultaneously invented gasoline-powered cars in 1886, Gottlieb in Stuttgart and Carl in Mannheim. These two predecessor compa-



Figure 8.



Figure 9.

l'Automobile (Paris Motor Show) in 1988 and is currently held biennially. The car shown here, a short step up from a simple stick figure, surprisingly still conveys a sense of speed in its design.

Figure 6 brings us to the Lyon Automobile Museum located in the beautiful château (Figure 7) pictured in the marking. Begun as a private enterprise in 1959, today the museum belongs to the city and holds around 150 cars and 40 motorcycles (along with bicycles, trains, trams and engines). Here we see a fine old jalopy with a circular date stamp applied at the Lyon Railway Station.

Another car show, this one in Avignon in the southeast of

France, first held in 1979, is celebrated in our Figure 8 pictorial. A nice automotive touch is its use on the 25c Road Signs issue of 1968 (Scott 1203).

In October of 1984, France released a 3F stamp to commemorate 100 years of the automobile (Scott 1943). The design of the stamp, as well as that of

the first-day pictorial, is a design schematic of the Delamare-Deboutteville, the first French car built by Edouard Delamare-Deboutteville and his assistant, Leon Malandin, in 1884 (Figure 9). Plagued with problems (not the least of which was a tendency to explode), this vehicle never went into production and, for this



Figure 11.

reason, many attribute the first production automobiles to Germany's Daimler and Benz.

Our final French pictorial returns us to the Paris car show, this time for its 100-year anniversary in 1998, a first-day marking used on a stamp issued for the same milestone (Figure 10).

Next, let's motor over to Germany. Held in 1938, the 5th International Automobile and Motorcycle

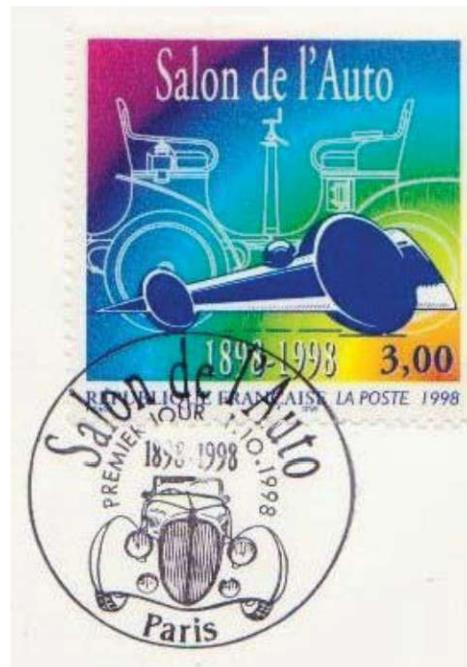


Figure 10.



Figure 12.

Exhibition was held in Berlin's inner city, in the borough of Charlottenburg. Our pictorial commemorating this event can be seen in Figure 11, where we see one of the rolling flared fenders with large canister headlamp typical of the era. Because the image is so limited, it's certainly difficult to determine what model of car we're looking at, although, were I to hazard a guess I'd choose an automobile body built by Karosserie Voll Ruhrbeck (for a Mercedes-Benz chassis), since this company was located in Charlottenburg.

Figure 12 takes us over to Hamburg with a pictorial commemorating the 1949 running of the Hamburg City Park Race.



Figure 14.

three unfortunate spectators. In 1999, the race was resurrected as a classic car event and continues to use most of the original route.

If the number of available pictorials is anything to go by, the Germans sure do adore their cars, so to save a bit of space, we'll look at the last few in a list format.



Figure 16.

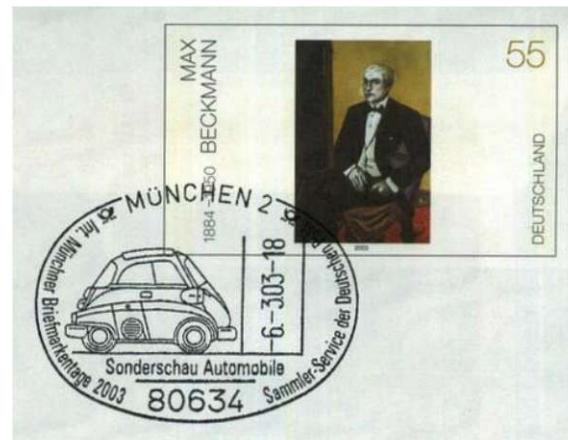


Figure 13.

running through part of the city, as well as its park, this event was first held in 1934. It was originally just for motorcycles, with cars not joining in until 1938, when roads were improved by the replacement of cobblestones with cement. Interrupted due to World War II, this race was held roughly annually through 1952 – that year's race being the last due to a car losing control and killing



Figure 15.

Figure 13: Munich, 2003; special show cars.

Figure 14: Cologne, 2003; the pictorial, as well as the semipostal stamp, commemorates the Ford Taunus Model 17MP3 produced between 1960-64, as well as 100 years of the Ford Motor Company. Note the stamp's selvage!

Figure 15: Essen, 2011; 125 years of the automobile with a “before and after” flavor.

Figure 16: Mannheim, 2011; 125 years of the automobile.

Figure 17: Zülpich, 2011; 125 years of the automobile.



Figure 17.

Figure 18: Dortmund, 2015; the pictorial shows the BMW 507, an interesting choice as it was deemed too expensive to

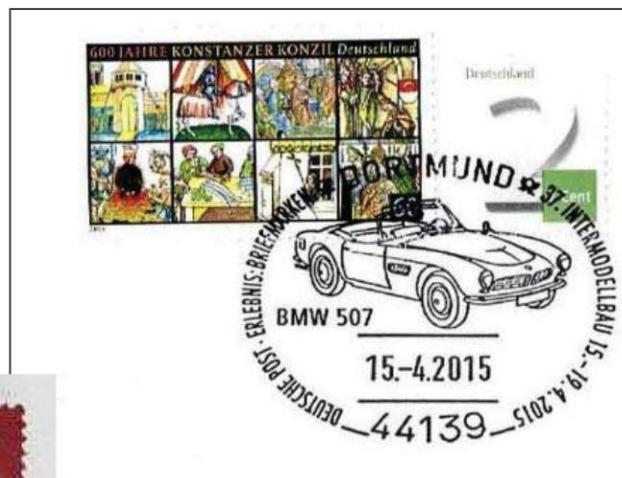


Figure 18.

produce, with only 252 cars being built, resulting in huge losses for the Bavarian Motor Works.

Figure 19: Bonn, 2015; another BMW 507 pictorial, this time with a stamp of the same theme. I suppose being the owner of one of the 252 built wouldn't be ... a bad thing.



Figure 19.



"Can't we talk about something other than the way I parked the car?"

Figure 20.

We'll end our European road rally, for now, by wishing you all a pleasant end-of-summer and with apologies in advance to one segment of the readership for Figure 20. Until next time, happy collecting!

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

NTSS 2015 Lands in Portland

by Wayne L. Youngblood



During the first weekend in August, topicalists descended on the unsuspecting city of Portland, Ore., for NTSS 2015, our annual convention and philatelic exhibition. These shows are very important, both for conducting society business

Top: The ATA board in action.

Above: Board member Larry Davidson is crowned "king" of ATA recruiters.

Below: Thursday tour participants enjoy the Pittock Mansion.





Facing page (clockwise from top):
Thursday tour members take a moment of well-deserved rest at the famous Powell's Book Store; attendance on the show floor was quite heavy at times; first-day ceremony of the Fanciful Flowers postal card; show sponsor NY2016 promotional materials.

Right: Show attendees take in a variety of exhibits at NTSS 2015.



and for providing the opportunity for members to meet each other and socialize in various locations throughout the country.

Although there will be no NTSS 2016, due to the World Stamp Show New York 2016 international exhibition, those who attended this year's show had a fantastic time, and there will no doubt be pent-up demand for our 2017 event.

One of the hallmarks of NTSS in recent years is the half-day tour on Thursday (before the show begins) and a full-day tour on Monday (after the show ends). These events give those attending both a flavor of and an appreciation for the places we visit.

Right: The first meeting of the band-new Halloween Spooktacular Stamps & Stuff study unit.

Below: Friday evening's annual President's Reception provides an opportunity for relaxed socializing in a pleasant atmosphere.







Facing page (clockwise from top): Collectors at NTSS enjoyed visiting with dealers as well as adding to their collections; Saturday's Wine on Stamps study unit meeting; study unit founder Robert Crumb made an appearance; a number of Boy Scouts earned their Stamp Collecting merit badge during the show; post-banquet viewing of exhibits; Phil Stager gives some pointers on exhibiting internationally.

This page, from top: Program sponsor Kim Kellerman of Rasdale Stamp Co. gives presentation on themes of collecting ... and life; ATA director Vera Felts at ATA table; NTSS jury at the Feedback Forum (judges critique).

On Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, our board of directors met to discuss business and the future direction of the organization. You'll find a report of the meeting elsewhere in this issue, as well as a call for nominations for several of these important positions. Please consider getting more deeply involved with the ATA.

After business was taken care of, however, all who signed up for the Thursday trip loaded on to a bus bound for the Kennedy School (rehabbed as a restaurant, theatre and shops), the Pittock Mansion (which sits atop a hill overlooking Portland) and the world-famous Powell's Book Store. Despite the 100-degree heat, all had a good time.

The show opened with a bang Friday, with the first-day ceremony for the Fanciful Flowers postal card issue, leading into other show activities, including the ATA annual membership meeting featuring recognition of milestone memberships and a summary of the board meeting. Throughout the weekend there were various other meetings, including those of the new Halloween Spooktacular Stamps & Stuff study



Above: Saturday evening's awards banquet was extremely well attended, with enjoyable fare for all (left).

Below: Larry Davidson accepts the NTSS grand award from jury chair Phil Stager (left) and ATA president Jack Denys (right).

unit (of which I became member #13!), Biology Unit, Ships on



Stamps, Penguins on Stamps, Wine on Stamps, Americana Unit lunch, Cats on Stamps and others, including an opportunity to train as an ATA Ambassador on Saturday morning. Also on Saturday was the

Cachetmakers' Bourse, where several different cachetmakers displayed their wares.

Saturday evening, of course, is always reserved for the NTSS Awards Banquet, this year sponsored by the ATA Biology Unit, with presentation of both the philatelic and literature awards. The grand award winner was Larry Davidson, for *Beavers: Nature's Engineers*. A listing of major award winners appears elsewhere in this issue; a complete list may be found on the ATA website.

Sunday wasn't short on activities, either, with a study unit officers and

THE TIGER

Thematic/TOPICAL PHILATELIST

WANT LIST/BUYER'S LIST ON TIGER:

DIE PROOF-TRIAL COLOR PROOF-ERROR-RARE STATIONARY-AND EXCELLENT RARE ITEMS on Tiger(big cat/feline animal)

URGENT CONTACT: tigerphilately@yahoo.com



Left: One of Sunday's presentations, by Jim Olsen, featured a new way to look at your stamps (3-dimensional!), including instructions on how to create these items.

Below: Monday morning's pre-tour board meeting breakfast analysis of the show, which provides valuable information for future shows.



editors meeting (to exchange ideas), a meet-the-editor forum for *Topical Time* (with yours truly) and a truly inventive session given by 3D enthusiast Jim

Olsen, who displayed special glasses and instructed attendees how to mount stamps on cards for a truly three-dimensional appearance through the special glasses.

After the board met over breakfast to discuss the show, those who registered for the outing in advance boarded a chartered bus for a scenic tour of Mount St. Helens.

If you were unable to join us this year, we hope to see you next year in New York! ☺

Nominations for ATA Board Members

Nominations are officially open (and sought) for ATA members to serve on our Board of Directors for 2016-18. Nominations may be made in writing by any ATA Chapter or by any 10 ATA members in good standing. All nominations, including a brief biographical sketch, must be received no later than Saturday Oct. 31, 2015, by the ATA Executive Director. Those interested in making nominations are asked to contact the ATA Office for a copy of the Board of Directors job description (contact information is found on page 4). **Since four current Board members have chosen not to be nominated, at least that many new nominations are needed.**

Board members to be elected are president, first and second vice presidents, secretary, treasurer and between four and eight directors. (A listing of current officers and directors is also found on page 4.) The two-year terms begin in June 2016.

A ballot with biographical sketches will be published in the January-February 2016 issue of *Topical Time*. Deadline for receipt of ballots is March 31, 2016. Results will be announced and the elected officers and directors will be installed at the ATA annual meeting during NY World Stamp Show on June 3, 2016. ☺



METERS BY TOPIC

Wayne L. Youngblood

This month we feature a guest column, by Tony Curiale, president of the Petroleum Philatelic Society International. Tony reworked and added to a piece he originally prepared in 1992. In this case, Tony is using a large number of meters, presented in groups without separate captions, to illustrate his points. The meter size has been reduced to accommodate all of them.

If you have a collection of meters related to one or more of your topics, please consider sharing it with your fellow members through this column.

—Wayne

Meter Advertisements in Petrochemical Plant Design

By Tony Curiale

This article was originally written in 1992 for *The Petro-Philatelist*. After some discussions on the topic of meter slogan collecting with ATA members, I thought it timely to be shared with other ATA members. With a little updating and some additional material added, it is just as pertinent now as it was then!

When I began collecting petro-stamps in the early 1980s, I was also an avid collector of everything United States. I was fortunate to have an arrangement with the mail receiver person in my place of employ, who gave me all the empty envelopes the company received. This mail often contained many pieces from all over the United States, as well as from overseas. While I clipped the stamps, I became aware of the myriad of slogans that were in existence, both as postal-agency-applied cancels and as postal meters. I began accumulating these and, when finally going through the routine of sorting them by category, I realized that many of these were ads for firms

that supply materials and/or services that are used in the design and construction of petroleum and petrochemical plants.

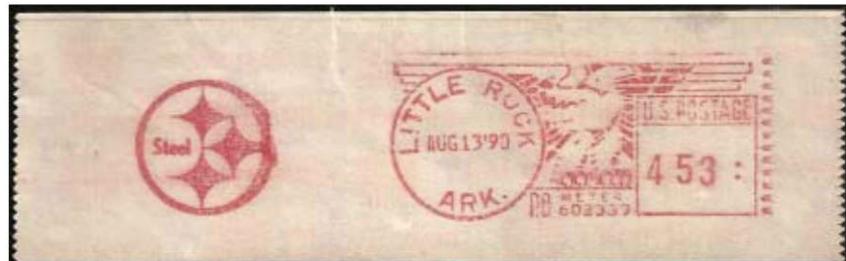
Here is a sampling of these ads and how what they offer is used in the industry.

A plant design engineer may have been employed by several notable engineering and construction firms during his career. A few of the logos of



Figures 1-3. Meters from various engineering firms.

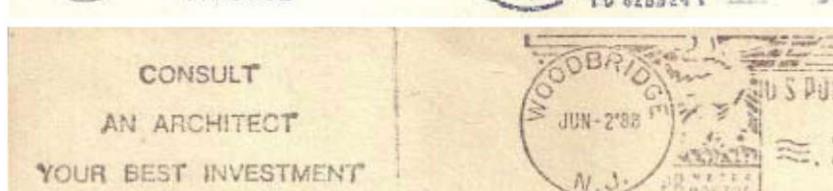
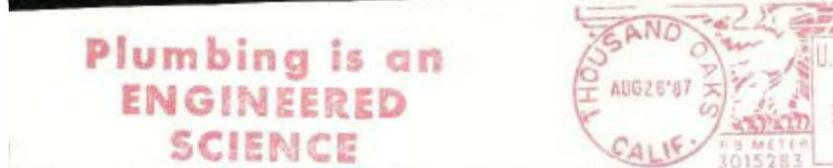
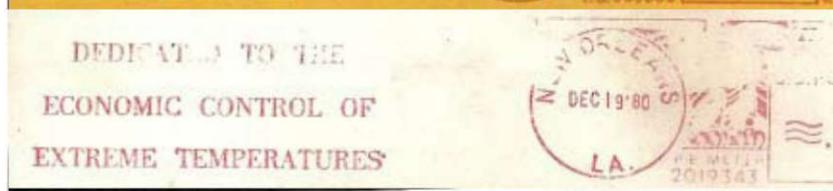




Figures 17-19. These meters show ads and ad slogans related to raw materials, including steel, copper, brass and nickel.



Figures 20-27 (below). Several examples of meters reflecting design consultants for the industry.



valves form a large part of the total complex, but none of these could function as designed without the knowledge and experience of the design professional. Figures 4-16 show the ad slogans of the manufacturers of some of these components. Represented here are components for corrosion resistance, fiberglass pipe, tubing, castings, pipe fittings and refrigeration equipment. Raw materials for the manufacture of pipe and valves, represented by Figures 17-19,

Figures 28-34. The meters shown at right all reflect different aspects of suppliers of various precision instruments.

include steel, iron copper and brass. None of the components could be created without extensive knowledge of the properties of these materials.

Often, it becomes necessary for the design professional to use the services of a consultant, such as those needed to perform a piping stress analysis, material take-off or other tasks that may be out of the design organization's field of expertise. The results of a stress analysis, for example, usually yield changes in the piping or equipment design arrangement to keep equipment nozzles from being overloaded by forces due to a pipe's thermal growth. Specifications for the purchase of special pipe hangers, some of which may be spring loaded, are prepared for purchase by such consultants. Designing a refinery's control house or other ancillary buildings may be better accomplished by an architect and team of consulting engineers specializing in mechanical, electrical and plumbing design. In Figures 20-27, we see the ad meters of some of these consultants or their representative advocacy organizations.

In a multi-discipline design-construct firm, the design professional relies on information provided by other departments to complete his job. Coordination between disciplines is very important in the design of facilities such as these and the transfer of that information results in each discipline working efficiently. The Instrumentation & Control group, for example, is one such supplier of information. It will provide the specifications for pressure, temperature, flow and level gauges and measuring devices and



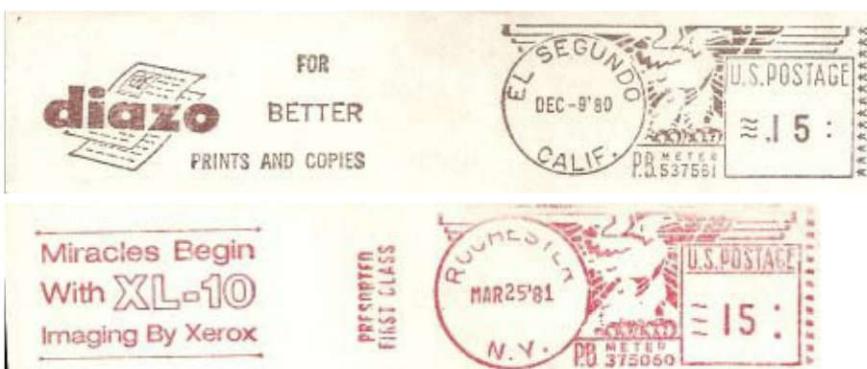


"BUILDERS OF THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL COMPUTERS"

Figures 35-36. Early computer companies that provided mainframe services are represented on these meters.

and measuring device. An orifice plate is one such device used for flow measurement, and the location of the controlling valve station may be dictated by upstream and/or downstream runs of straight pipe required allowing the meter to read accurately. This can be as much as 40 feet, depending on the size of the pipe, so you can see why the information is critical. A rise or fall in the flow rate of the metered line could activate a switch which could open a valve, start or stop a pump, and alert an operator of operating conditions all at the same time. Figures 28-34 show ad slogans for some of these instrument suppliers. Receiving information from these providers in a timely fashion is crucial to the scheduled completion of a project's design and subsequent construction.

regulating control valves. Designing a control valve station for adjusting the flow through a particular heat exchanger, for example, would involve knowing the size and end-to-end dimension of the control valve and the type of flow



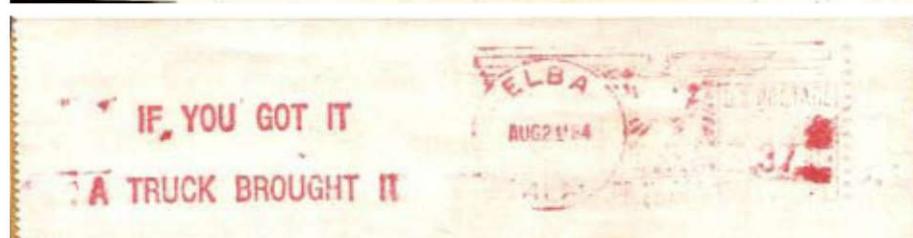
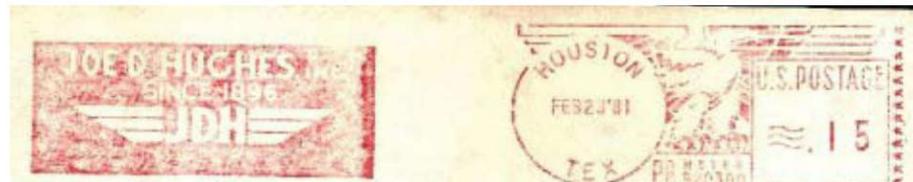
Figures 37-38. The companies represented by these meters submit bids for printing drawing, specifications and other appropriate documents.

Many, if not all, of the calculations, material listings and the like are performed on computers nowadays, as is the operation of the plant. Before the advent of the personal computer and now internet-based systems, much of this work could only be performed on large mainframe



Figures 39-41. Once contracts are let, fabricators must be found. A few are represented by these meters.

Figure 42. A meter advertising the delivery mode of many materials.



Figures 43-45. Several trucking companies are represented by these meters.

39-41 note a few of these fabrication shops and subcontractors. The slogan shown in Figure 42 reads, "America moves by truck." I must admit, the bulk of the equipment and pipe I've received on site does arrive by truck. Sometimes we use ship, train and even barge, but mostly trucking companies, such as those in Figures 43-45.

Operation of the completed plant requires not only feedstock to process, but also utilities such



Figures 46-47. Water treatment, represented by these meters, is an important part of the process as well.



Figures 48. A maker of safety shower and eyewash equipment.

systems. Figures 35 and 36 show some of these computer companies as advertised on their meters. When the design is complete and the documents are ready to go out for bid, countless numbers of drawings and specifications must be printed. Can you imagine trying to do this without the vendors shown in Figures 37 and 38?

When contracts are awarded, fabrication of the supporting steel structures is begun, as is pipe and equipment fabrication and erection. Figures

as compressed air, natural gas, nitrogen, other inert gases and water which must be piped in to aid in



the process. Water, our most common commodity, must often be treated prior to use in order to prevent corrosion or aid in compatibility with other elements into which it comes into contact. Companies specializing in water treatment are denoted by the meters represented in Figures 46 and 47. Water also comes in handy when dealing with worker and plant safety. Figure 48 represents the maker of safety shower and eyewash equipment.

When it's all together, tested and started up, our clients, Figures 49-55, are usually satisfied because they can now begin getting a return on their investment and all parties involved feel pretty darn good about having a part in the total process. □

Figures 49-55. A group of meters featuring the interests and industries of the clients of the company for which the author worked, showing a diverse range of products and services.

Tony Curiale began work in the early 1970s as a piping designer. He soon found himself on Alaska's North Slope oil fields and was fascinated by the technology used to extract energy from the earth while maintaining an environment-friendly posture on the surface. He has collected stamps for more than 50 years and became member No. 424 of The Petroleum Philatelic Society International (PPSI). Curiale eventually decided to specialize and became more involved, serving as editor of the newsletter, The Petro-Philatelist, as vice president and finally as president, a position he's held since 2007. He lives in Fair Haven, N.J., and can be reached at njav8r@verizon.net.

Postage Stamps and Commercial Products Depicting Bats

Thomas Lera

Abstract

One of the most popular hobbies in the world is philately – the collecting and study of postage stamps and cancellations, both of which are unique and, at times, valuable records of history, geography, politics, art and numerous other aspects of human civilization. From the earliest years of the hobby, most philatelists have preferred to collect by country, specializing in the issues of one or more nations. Since the mid-1950s, however, interest has grown in thematic stamp collecting on a wide variety of specific subjects, such as caves and bats. As a collection matures, other related collectibles, such as commercial product labels, telephone cards and postcards, also become of interest. This article discusses how postal administrations use illustrations of bats on stamps, and various product manufacturers employ bats in their marketing efforts.

Bats

Who would think bats would be responsible for tequila sunrises and margaritas on the beach? As an important part of our natural heritage, bats are known indicators of a healthy environment. Although there are more than 1,100 species of bats worldwide, they make up little more than 20% of all species of mammals. Postal administrations and corporations around the world have issued stamps, envelopes, postal cards and product labels illustrating bats, caves and karst features. This article is the first of several about what we cavers collect as we pursue our favorite activity – cave exploration.

Bats are very important to world-wide ecosystems. Tropical bats are essential to many plants and shrubs within the rain forests. Fruit-bearing plants, such as bananas, mangoes, cashews, dates, avocados, peaches, cloves, figs, the saguaro cactus and agave plants, from which tequila is distilled, rely on bats for pollination. As bats drink the flowers' nectar, their bodies pick up a dusting of pollen, and, as they move from flower to flower,

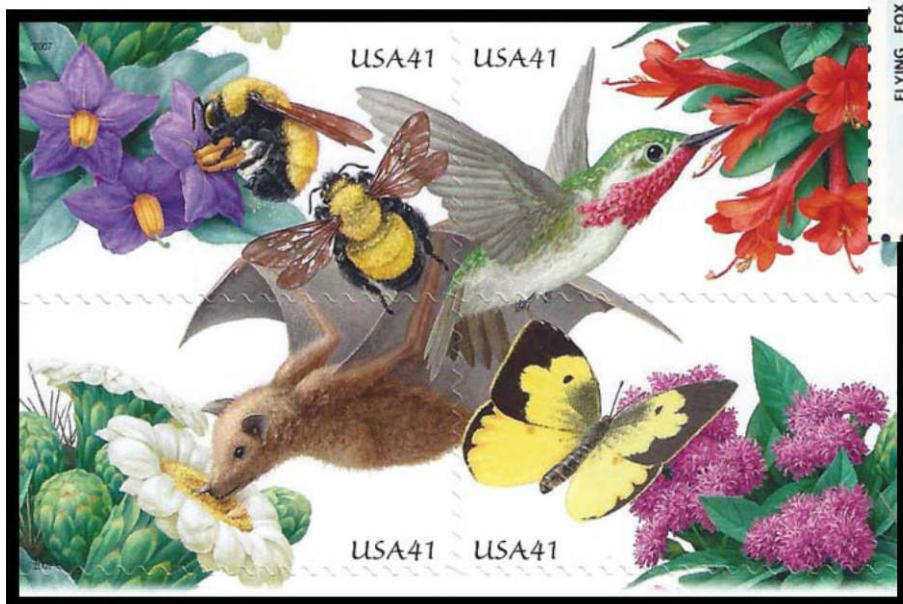


Figure 1 (left). United States (2002) Lesser Long-Nosed Bat (*Lep-tonycteris yerbabuenae*) and (above) Seychelles (1980) Seychelles fruit bat or Seychelles flying fox (*Pteropus seychellensis*).

they unwittingly distribute this pollen to other flowers (Figure 1).

Bats also help distribute the seed of these important fruit-bearing plants in their excrement. Without pollinating and seed-disbursing bats, many ecosystems would gradually die and no longer provide food and cover for wildlife species near the base of the food chain. For example, in the East African savannah, the great baobab tree, often called

the “African Tree of Life,” is critical to the survival of many species and depends almost exclusively on bats for pollination.

Of the 47 United States and 52 European bat species most, however, are insect eaters (Figures 2 and 3). Since bats eat so many insects, they lessen the need for the use of chemical pesticides in agriculture. Bats help control the populations of beetles, moths and leafhoppers. A little brown bat can eat up to 1,200 insects per hour.

The Corn Earworm moth, loved by the Mexican freetail bat, attacks commercial plants worldwide, which results in an estimated \$1 billion in damage a year. Current research shows the freetail bat is so effective in controlling this moth population, they save farmers in south-central Texas up to \$1.7 million a year in pesticide costs, resulting in fewer pesticides entering the ecosystem and our foods.

Because bats also eat large amounts of mosquitoes, they help control viruses spread

by these insects. Diseases such as West Nile virus and Yellow Fever would be much more prevalent without bats.

Vampire bats, found in Latin and South America, have blood-sucking strategies more like mosquitoes than Count Dracula,



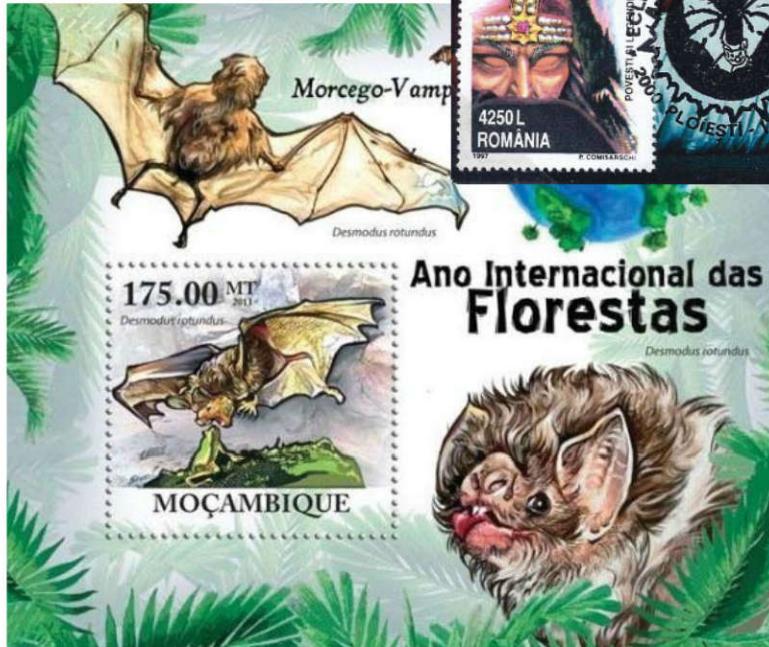
Figure 2 (right). Czechoslovakia (1990) Brown Long-Eared Bat (*Plecotus auritus*) and from Cyprus (2003) a set of four different bats (above).



Figure 3. Romania (2006) Common Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) and Belgium (1987) Lesser Horseshoe Bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*).



Figure 4 (below). Mozambique (2011) Vampire bat (*Desmodus rotundus*) and Romania (1997) Count Dracula stamp, bat cancellation and postcard (right).



importance. This is also true in the United States, but even more importantly, American bats are dying from a fungal infection known as White-nose Syndrome (WNS). Since 2006, this syndrome has reduced populations of mainly insect-eating bats, such as the Little Brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), the Tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) and the Northern Long-Eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) by more than 90 percent, and deeply affected the already federally endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*).

This disease, named for the white fungus often seen on the muzzles, ears and wings of infected bats, poses a threat to cave hibernating bats of the United States and potentially all temperate regions of the world. Scientifically called *Geomyces destructans*, the fungus invades the skin of bats, producing ulcers and often making bats leave hibernation before they are ready, thereby causing starvation (Figure 5).

Figure 5. *Myotis*, with white-nose syndrome.

popular in Romania (Figure 4). Scientists studying their saliva discovered it contains an anticoagulant (preventing the formation of blood clots), and may soon be able to use it to treat heart patients and stroke victims.

The main threats to bats in Europe include habitat loss from development and a lack of understanding of their



Dr. David Blehert (microbiologist at the United States Geological Survey National Wildlife Health Center) has stated: "While our study confirmed *Geomycetes destructans* [now known as *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*] is spread bat-to-bat, it is also important to note that virtually all pathogens, especially spore-producing fungi, are spread by multiple routes. This is the reason that in an effort to further control the spread of white-nose syndrome, resource management agencies have implemented universal precautions, including limiting human access to sensitive environments occupied by bats, decontaminating equipment and clothing moved between these environments, and restricting the movement between sites."

Commercial Products

Bats' guano (manure) is rich in nitrogen. This natural, organic by-product, collected from caves and rock formations, is used in lawn and garden fertilizers and, in the 18th and 19th centuries, was a highly valued commodity used in making gunpowder (Figure 6).

Besides its use on guano packaging, the bat's image has been used to market commercial items because of their association with the creation of the product.

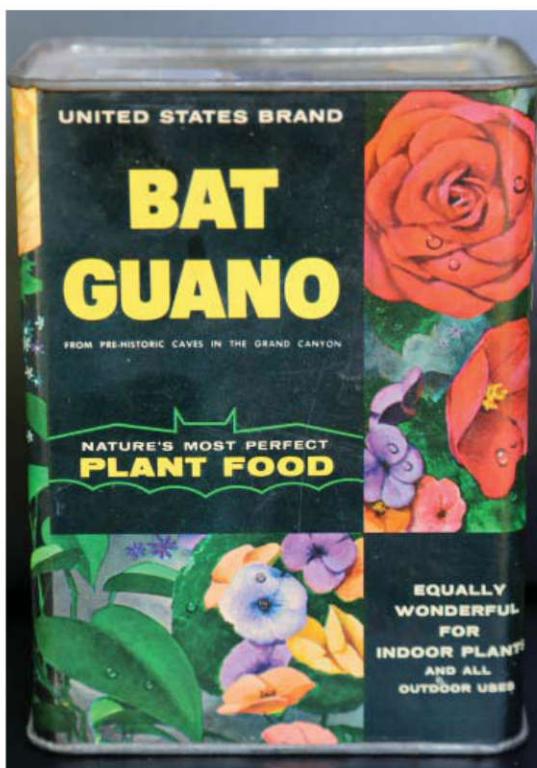


Figure 6. A 1957 one-pound can of United States brand bat guano from Bat Cave, Kingman, Ariz.



Figure 7. Among the many commercial products that have used bats as part of their imagery are Puck Safety Matches (above) and Bacardi Rum (right).



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Figure 8. Bats also appear on a number of pictorial meters and postal cancellations.

Some of these products include Bacardi Rum and Puck Safety Matchbox labels (Figure 7).

Commercial organizations have also used bats in their advertising, including meters and slogan and pictorial cancels (Figure 8). Including the few shown with this article, there are more than 500 postage stamps depicting bats and 200 stylized bats, many of which appear on first-day covers and illustrated mail. ☐



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In 1995, Thomas Lera published his first book, *Bats in Philately* and, his *Cave Post Offices* book was published in 2011. In 2007, he was appointed the Winton M. Blount Research Chair at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum and has written more than 100 philatelic articles, which have been featured in leading journals such as *The London Philatelist*, *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, *The American Philatelist*, *The Confederate Philatelist* and the 2003, 2009 and 2011 Congress Books. Currently he is a national philatelic judge and a member of several philatelic societies, including the Royal Philatelic Society, London. He lives in Virginia.



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APS **ASA**

Our ATA Board of Directors...

...at its July 29-30 meeting

- Unanimously authorized the NTSS 2017 joint show research team to pursue negotiations with the American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS) for a joint show in 2017. (The AFDCS board subsequently unanimously passed the same resolution.)
- Recognized the outstanding work of Vera Felts, executive director, and approved the renewal of her contract through Aug. 31, 2018.
- Recognized the excellent job performed by Wayne Youngblood, the editor of *Topical Time*, and approved the renewal of his contract through Nov. 2, 2018.
- Adopted a *Topical Time* mission statement:
"Topical Time is an international specialty journal serving the topical and thematic communities of philately. It publishes articles for beginning through advanced collectors that are stimulating to read and helpful to readers in their collecting activities. As the journal of the American Topical Association, Topical Time strives to publish accurate and up-to-date information about its membership and its study units and chapters. It also serves as a forum for communication among members of the ATA."
- Noted that the online Wikipedia article about the ATA has been rewritten and expanded by Dennis Dengel.
- Established "About The Adventure" as the ATA motto.
- Approved an electronic membership category for youth up to age 18 for a cost of \$10 per year.
- Brainstormed ways to retain our newest members.
- Reviewed progress on its action plans.
- Noted that we have only needed to spend a minimum amount from our limited reserve fund the past two years, mostly because of generous giving to BTTF.
- Celebrated that the eight sponsorships procured by Dale Smith for this show's events netted us almost \$7,000.
- Had a conversation with David McNamee, Chair of APS CANEJ (Committee on The Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges) about the upcoming new edition of the *Manual of Philatelic Judging*, stressing guidelines rather than rules, the (re-) introduction of points on exhibit evaluation forms and the possibility of topical (not only thematic) exhibits.
- Heard Jack Denys announce that he will not run again for president next year (but will run for the Board). □

Please check the ATA website frequently for information and news that you can use!

At Our Recent Annual ATA Meeting We...

- Remembered the 32 members who died in the past year.
- Celebrated 25th anniversaries of ATA membership of: Jeff Hayward and Bruce Johnson.
- Recognized new chapters:
 - Webster Groves Stamp Club (Mo.) (No. 126)
 - Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (N.J.) (No. 127)
 - Baltimore Philatelic Society (Md.) (No. 128)
 - Midwest Philatelic Society (Mo., Kan.) (No. 129)
- Noted new study unit - Halloween.
- Honored Featured Study Unit - Biology.
- Heard about new ATA initiatives: Checklist dATAbase, TopicalsOnLine, *Topical Time* archive and Taste of Topicals.
- Acknowledged awards earned by *Topical Time* and our ATA website.
- Thanked Show Committee, including Orlie Trier and Jack Congrove - Co-Show Managers; John Hamman, last minute Bourse Chair.
- Looked ahead to NY2016 international show (ATA will have a booth and will meet at the show). ☐

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The Bauhaus

Lyman R. Caswell

The most influential organization for the arts and crafts, industrial design and



Figure 1. Bauhaus commemorative set, German Democratic Republic 1980, Scott 2101-2106.

architecture in the 20th century was the Bauhaus school in Germany. The clean, angular, unadorned, functional style of architecture and design promoted by the Bauhaus is seen today on buildings and utilitarian objects worldwide. After the Nazi regime

forced the closure of the Bauhaus in 1933, many of the faculty and students left Germany, carrying with them the Bauhaus ideas and ideals to other countries. The Bauhaus, and some of its instructors and students, have been honored on stamps issued by various countries, beginning with a set issued in 1980 by the German Democratic Republic (Figure 1). Recognition of the Bauhaus and works by its faculty are shown by stamps of Germany issued in 1983 (Figure 2). The Bauhaus-related stamps pictured in this article show examples of modern architecture and modern abstract art.

The Bauhaus initially occupied the facilities of the Grand-Ducal School of Arts and Crafts, founded in 1905 at Weimar, Germany, by Belgian architect Henry van de Velde (1863-1957, Figure 3), under the auspices of the Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach. When Van de Velde was obliged to leave the school in 1915 because he was an enemy alien, he recommended prominent German architect Walter Gropius (1883-1969) as his successor as director of the school.



Figure 2. Bauhaus commemorative set, Federal Republic of Germany, 1983, Scott 1387-1389.



Figure 3. Centennial of the birth of architect Henry van de Velde, 1963, Belgium Scott 602.

Gropius was unable to take over the position until after World War I, during which he was a sergeant in the German Army. During the war, the facilities of the school had been used as a military hospital. The Grand Duchy was abolished by the 1918 revolution and combined with the German state of Thuringia. Gropius organized a new school, the Staatliche Bauhaus, in the facilities of the former school. The word Bauhaus can be roughly translated as “Structure House.” Gropius promulgated the Bauhaus Manifesto and the Program of the State School in Weimar, that described the goals of the



Figure 5. Bauhaus Building in Dessau, 2002, Germany Scott 2207.

curriculum began with a preliminary course (Vorkurs), taught by one of the senior form masters, after which the student joined one of the craft workshops.

Buildings designed by Gropius appear on several stamps. Figure 4 shows the homes designed by Gropius for the form masters in Weimar and Dessau, now UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Two Bauhaus buildings designed by Gropius are shown in Figure 1, the Cooperative Society



Figure 4. Homes of Bauhaus form masters in Weimar and Dessau, 2004, Germany Scott 2277.



Figure 6. The Gropius House in Lincoln, Mass., 1982, U.S. Scott 2021.



Figure 7 Mies van der Rohe and the New National Gallery in Berlin, 1986, Germany-Berlin Scott 9N508.

building on the 5-pfennig stamp and the Bauhaus school building on the 70-pfennig stamp. Figure 5 shows another view of the Bauhaus school building. The last building designed by Gropius is the Bauhaus Archive in Berlin, which is shown on the 80-pfennig stamp in Figure 2. His monument to the March Dead,



Figure 8. German Pavilion in Barcelona, by Mies van der Rohe, 1987, Germany Scott 1505.

victims of the 1920 Kapp Putsch, is shown on the 15-pfennig stamp in Figure 1. The Nazis declared the March Dead Monument to be “degenerate art” and destroyed it in 1936.

Gropius' first wife, Viennese beauty Alma Mahler, the widow of Austrian composer Gustav Mahler (1860-1911, Austria Scott 654), left an unflattering description of life at the early Bauhaus. She had married Gropius in 1915 to escape from a suffocating affair with Austrian expressionist painter Oskar Kokoschka (1886-1980, Austria Scott 1339). Alma found the living facilities primitive and lacking in privacy, and the vegetarian fare served in the refectory was a “garlic-flavored mush.”

She returned to Vienna. Walter and Alma divorced in 1920. She later married Austrian author Franz Werfel (1890-1945, Austria Scott 1516). Gropius married Ise Frank in 1923.

Gropius resigned as director of the Bauhaus in 1928. Although his contract had two more years to run, he wanted to resume his career as an architect, and his resignation was encouraged by political conflict with the Weimar authorities.

After sojourns in Berlin and in London, Gropius came to the United States in 1937, and was appointed Chairman of the School of Architecture of Harvard University. One of the stamps of the United States in the American Architecture series, issued in 1982, shows the house that Gropius designed for himself in Lincoln, Mass. (Figure 6).

Gropius was succeeded as Bauhaus director by architect Hans Emil “Hannes” Meyer, who was the architect for the School of the General Federation of Trade Unions in Bernau, shown on the 50-pfennig stamp in Figure 1. Meyer was a follower of Communism, which conflicted with political changes at Weimar. The conflict caused the Bauhaus to be moved to Dessau. He was also disliked by the faculty, some of whom resigned when he was appointed. Meyer was fired in 1930 by the Mayor of Dessau for his leftist political views.



Figure 9. Buildings designed by Mies van der Rohe at Illinois Institute of Technology, 1982, U.S. Scott 2020.



Figure 10. A building in Chicago designed by Mies van der Rohe, 2005, United States Scott 3910f.



Figure 11. K XVIII 1923, by László Moholy-Nagy, 1995, Hungary Scott 3503.

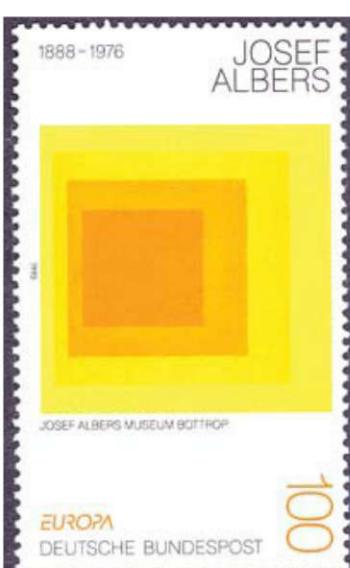


Figure 12. Homage to the Square, by Joseph Albers, 1993, Germany Scott 1784.

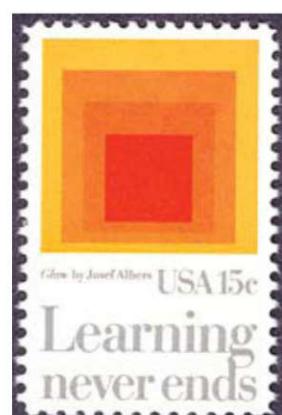


Figure 13. Glow by Josef Albers, 1980, U.S. Scott 1833.



Figure 14. Cats in the Attic, woodcut by Gerhard Marcks, 1989, Germany Scott 1571.

(1886-1969), who served until the closure of the Bauhaus was forced in 1933 by the Nazi regime, which declared the Bauhaus style “un-German” and “degenerate.” Figure 7 shows Mies van der Rohe and the New National Gallery in Berlin, which he designed. He also designed the German Pavilion at the Barcelona World Fair, shown in Figure 8. In 1937, Mies van der Rohe came to the United States, where he served as head of architecture at Illinois Institute of Technology (I.I.T.). Structures in Chicago that he designed while at I.I.T. are shown in Figures 9 and 10.

The Preliminary Course of the Bauhaus curriculum was developed in 1919 by Swiss expressionist painter Johannes Itten (1888-1967). Itten was a member of a cult called Mazdaznan. The macrobiotic diet promoted by this cult was responsible for the “garlic-flavored mush” that disgusted Gropius’ wife Alma. Itten resigned from the Bauhaus in 1922 after a disagreement with Gropius about the goals of the school.

Itten was replaced as Preliminary Course instructor in 1923 by Hungarian László Moholy-Nagy (1895-1946), who moved the Bauhaus closer to the goal as

Modernist architect Otto Bartning (1883-1959) was invited by the Weimar authorities to take over the Bauhaus facilities at Weimar, where he established the Staatliche Bauhochschule, also known as the “Other Bauhaus.” The style of the “Other Bauhaus” was more conservative than that of its namesake, though still modernistic. There has been no philatelic recognition of either Bartning or the “Other Bauhaus.”

In Dessau, Meyer was replaced as director of the Bauhaus by architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe



Figure 15. Abstract painting by Georg Muche, 1996, Germany Scott 1923.



Figure 16. Concentric Group and Bauhaus Staircase, paintings by Oskar Schlemmer, 1975, Germany Scott 1164 and 1165.

a school of industrial design. Moholy-Nagy directed the metal-working shop and was a pioneer in creative photography. He was one of the faculty who resigned from the Bauhaus in 1928 when Hannes Meyer was appointed director. Moholy-Nagy left Germany in 1933, and came in 1937 to the United States to direct the New Bauhaus in Chicago. After the New Bauhaus failed for lack of financial support, he directed the Institute of Design at the Illinois Institute of Technology. The 50-pfennig stamp in Figure 2 shows Moholy-Nagy’s kinetic sculpture, *Light-Space Modulator*. Figure 11 shows his abstract painting, *K XVIII* 1923.

The Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design in Budapest is named for him.

Josef Albers (1888-1976) enrolled in the Bauhaus in 1920, joined the faculty in 1922 as form master of stained glass, and taught the “principles of handicrafts” course beginning in 1923. Albers remained with the Bauhaus until its closure in 1933, then came to the United States, where he developed the painting program at Black Mountain College in North Carolina. In 1950, he became the head of the Department of Design at Yale University. Albers’ lithograph, *Sanctuary*, is shown in the 60-pfennig stamp in Figure 2.

Figure 12 shows his painting, *Homage to the Square*, and Figure 13 shows his painting, *Glow*. Albers’ paintings earned him the sobriquet “The Prince of Op Art.”

Gerhard Marcks (1889-1981) was appointed form master of pottery by Gropius in 1919. He left the Bauhaus in 1925 when the pottery workshop was discontinued on the move to Dessau. Marcks’ amusing woodcut, *Cats in the Attic*, is shown in Figure 14. Georg Muche (1895-1987) was another of the original form masters who joined the Bauhaus in 1919. He headed the weaving workshop from 1921-27, when he left the Bauhaus. He designed the Haus am Horn at Weimar, now a World Heritage Site, for the 1923 Bauhaus Exhibition. One of Muche’s paintings, *Für Wilhelm Runge*, is shown in Figure 15. Muche was co-architect with Richard Paulick (1903-79) of the Steel House (Stahlhaus), erected in 1926 at Törten in Dessau, shown in the 20-pfennig stamp in Figure 1. Paulick’s association with the Bauhaus was brief, 1927-28, and involved completing projects initiated by Gropius.

Expressionist painter Lothar Schreyer (1886-1966) joined the Bauhaus in 1921 as head of the theater workshop. He resigned in 1923, when his colleagues couldn’t understand his play, *Mondspiel*, which was presented at the 1923 exhibition. He was replaced by Oskar Schlemmer (1888-1943), who had joined the Bauhaus in 1920 to head the mural painting and sculpture departments. Schlemmer was one of the faculty that resigned in 1929 because of the appointment of Hannes Meyer as Gropius’ successor. Two of his paintings, *Concentric*

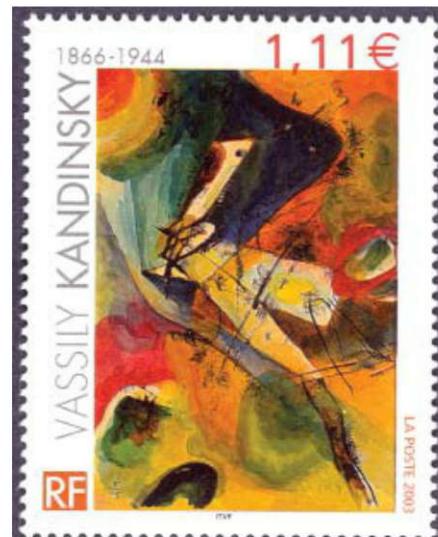


Figure 17. Paintings by Wassily Kandinsky: *untitled abstract*, 2003, France Scott 2949 and *Murnau with a Rainbow*, Germany, 1992, Germany Scott 1752.



Figure 18. Wassily Chair, by Marcel Breuer, 1998, Germany Scott 2014d.



Figure 19. Paul Klee, 1979, Switzerland Scott 668.

of the form masters, joined the Bauhaus in 1920 as form master of carpentry. He left the Bauhaus in 1927, following Gropius. After a sojourn in London, he joined Gropius on the faculty of the Harvard School of Architecture in 1937. He left Harvard in 1941 to form his own school of design in New York City. Breuer's tubular steel creation, the *Wassily Chair*, which he made in 1925, is shown in Figure 18.

Swiss artist Paul Klee (1879-1940, Figure 19) was a member of the Bauhaus faculty from 1921-31. He served as form master in the bookbinding, stained glass and mural painting workshops. His painting, *Bird Garden*, is shown in Figure 20.

Another Swiss artist, Max Bill (1908-94) studied with Kandinsky, Klee and Schlemmer at the Bauhaus. He went back to Switzerland after the Bauhaus was closed, but returned to Germany after the war to found the Hochschule für Gestaltung (Institute for Design) at Ulm in 1953. Bill's sculpture, *Continuity*, is shown on a stamp of Switzerland in Figure 21.

His painting *Red Square* is shown in Figure 22.

Austrian graphic designer Herbert Bayer (1900-85) worked at the Bauhaus from 1924-28. He designed the one-

million-mark banknote issued during the German high inflation period of 1923. In 1927, he designed the Bayer Universal typeface. He also designed the lettering of the word "Bauhaus" in Figure 1 (70 pfennig) and Figure 5. When the Nazi regime declared Bayer's work "degenerate art," he left Germany in 1937 and came to the United States in 1938. Bayer designed the ARCO Plaza in Los Angeles, and developed the ARCO art collection.

Unlike most art academies in Germany, the Bauhaus was

Group and *Bauhaus Staircase*, are shown in Figure 16. The Nazi regime suppressed his works as "degenerate."

Russian abstract expressionist Wassily Kandinsky (1866-1944) replaced Schlemmer as form master. He had joined the Bauhaus in 1922 and remained until its closure. He taught the basic design and the advanced theory courses. He moved to France after the Bauhaus closed. An untitled abstract painting by Kandinsky and his painting, *Murnau with Rainbow*, are shown on in Figure 17.

Hungarian Marcel Lajos "Lajkó" Breuer (1902-81), the youngest



Figure 20. Bird Garden, by Paul Klee, 1979, Germany Scott 1303.



Figure 21. Continuity, sculpture by Max Bill, 1974, Switzerland Scott 594.



Figure 22. Red Square, painting by Max Bill, 2008, Switzerland Scott 1325.

coeducational. Of the 170 students at the Bauhaus in 1929, 51 were women. One of the first women students was Gunta Stölzl (1897-1983), who entered the school in 1919 and took the classes in the glass workshop and mural painting. She left the Bauhaus with Itten, but returned to the Bauhaus in Dessau in 1925, and became the form master of the weaving studio in 1927. She was fired by Mies van der Rohe in 1931 for political reasons.

Josef Albers met his wife Anni (née Annelise Fleischmann) at the Bauhaus, in which she enrolled in 1922, and who studied weaving with Gunta Stölzl. They were married in 1925. In the United States, Anni Albers was a noted textile artist and printmaker.

Other women who studied at the Bauhaus were Marianne Brandt (1893-1982) and Otti Berger (1898-1945). Brandt entered the Bauhaus in 1923, was a student of Moholy-Nagy in the metal workshop, and succeeded him as workshop director in 1928. She left the Bauhaus in 1929, and worked as a designer of lighting fixtures. She was denied employment during the Nazi era because she refused to join the Nazi party. After the war, she supervised exhibits for the German Democratic Republic. Her teapot is shown on the stamp in Figure 23.

Otti Berger, a native of Croatia, entered the Bauhaus in 1927, took the Preliminary Course under Moholy-Nagy, and studied weaving with Gunta Stölzl. She left the Bauhaus in 1930 and returned to her family in Croatia in 1937. Berger and her family died at Auschwitz.

Bauhaus-inspired buildings exist today throughout the world, a heritage of the leadership of Walter Gropius, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, László Moholy-Nagy and their colleagues and students. Their influence is also shown in modern styles of design of appliances and furniture.

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Figure 23. Teapot, designed by Marianne Brandt, 1998, Germany Scott 2014b.

Lyman R. Caswell was introduced to stamp collecting by his second-grade teacher, and has pursued the hobby ever since, with the usual hiatus for college and graduate school. He is a philatelic writer, having contributed articles to The American Philatelist, Collectors Club Philatelist and The News of Hungarian Philately. His thematic exhibits, Alexander von Humboldt and They Came to America, have both won golds. His current collecting interest is Hungarian philately with specialization in Hungarian postage due stamps and their uses. He has a Ph.D. in organic chemistry and is a retired chemistry professor. Caswell lives in Tacoma, Wash., and can be reached at ruthandlyman@nventure.com.



CINDERELLA CORNER

Arthur H. Groten

Matchbox Labels

Matchbox labels are clearly ephemera, meant to be used and discarded (in the simplest definition of ephemera).

They comprise a vast field with at least a million or more different ones. Their heyday was from the mid-1800s through the 1930s, and they are ideal for study as a particular design may have as many as 30-40 varieties. It is, then (like philately), impossible to collect the world, so collectors

tend to concentrate on a particular country, topic or theme just like their philatelic cousins.

The sampling of a number of labels nearby shows their appeal. Indeed, a number of beautifully illustrated books on the art of the matchbox label have been published in the past few years. The country of origin is often clearly identifiable by the design. There was worldwide distribution of many of these designs. These were either pirated or under license. That makes identification of a particular origin difficult in many cases. Serious students of these labels pore over company archives and trademark books looking for the primary producer. Sound familiar?



Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Figure 3 (above).

Figure 5 (below).

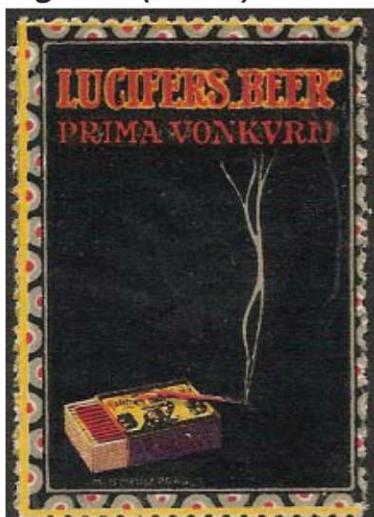


Figure 4.

There are many topical ones such as the "Aeroplane." The "Reg & Trade Mark" notice along the left side

indicates that it was made for export, probably to the United States (Figure 1). The *U.S. Constitution* was a very popular and long-lived design (Figure 2).

The Belgian “Secret” is a lovely label in the French style; I have never seen the same one made in France (Figure 3).

Pall-Mall cigarettes were popular in England; the label is from around 1920. Its design is more typical of Italy than England (Figure 4). Lucifers “Beer,” distributors of matches in the Netherlands, likewise used a striking image for one of its labels (Figure 5).

Advertising covers for matchbox labels may be found preprinted as the Indian postcard with both rabbits and a chicken illustrated (Figure 6). However, some companies, such as Wimco, the Indian licensee for some Swedish match companies, placed an actual label on the cover (Figure 7).

Remember these lovely bits of paper ephemera when looking to add some pizzazz to your own collection. You’ll find something of interest! ☺



Figure 6.

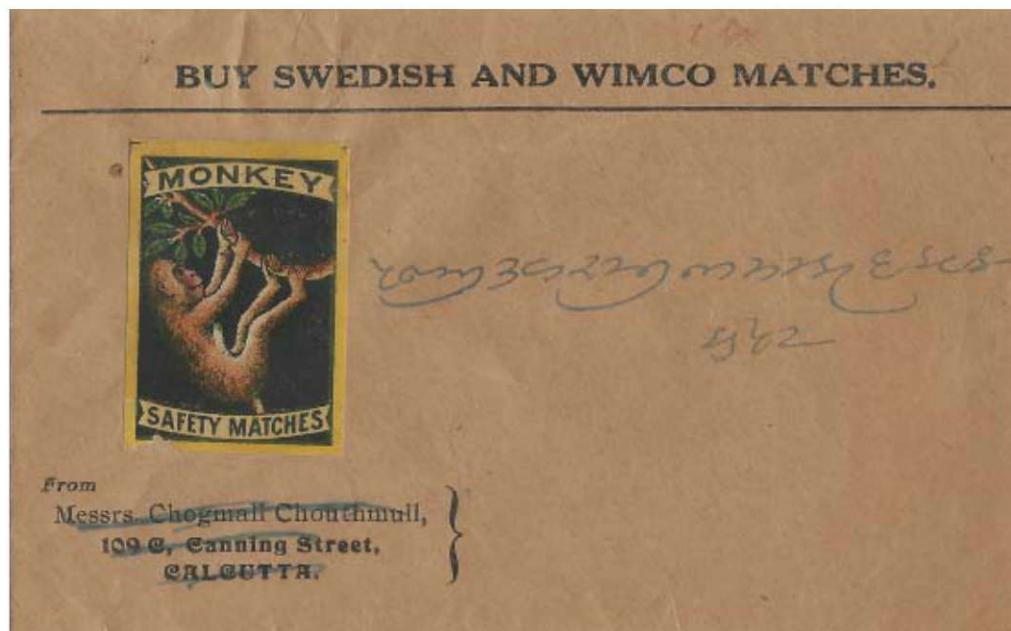


Figure 7.

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

Study Unit Spotlight

This month: Disneyana on Stamps Society

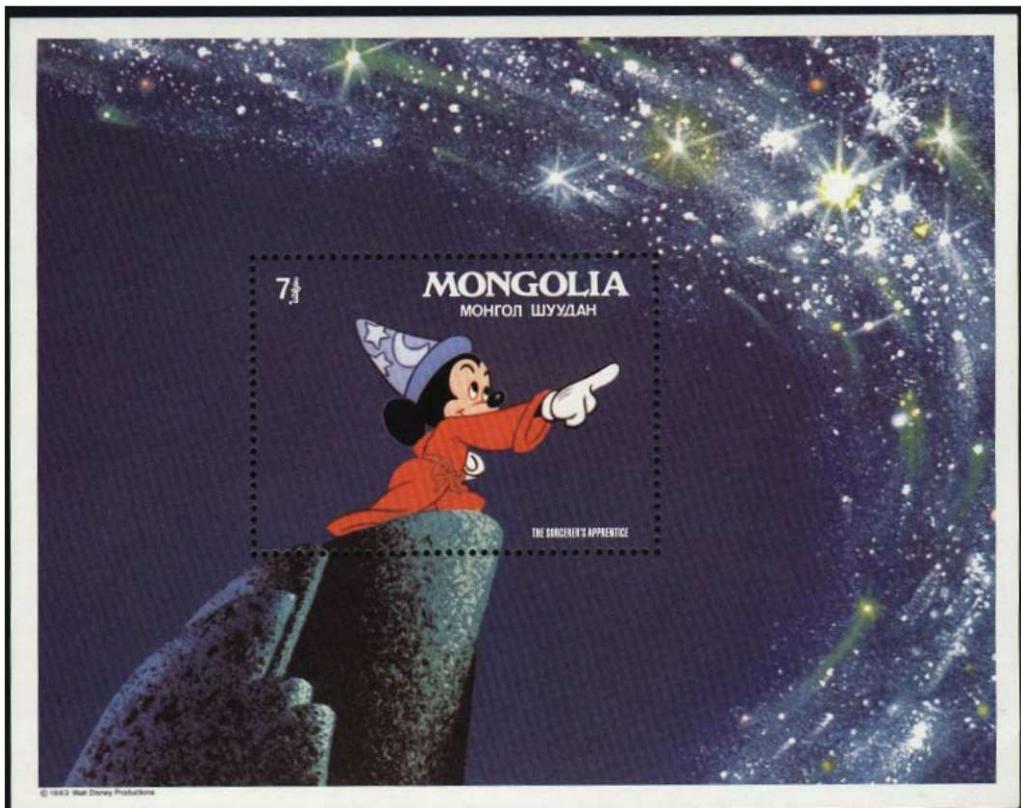
[Editor's Note: This is the 30th installment of a regular feature intended to – indeed – spotlight one of our study units and the fine work done in its journal. This month we feature "Fantastic Fantasia," from Disnemation, July 2015. To be considered for "Study Unit Spotlight," please select what you feel may be the finest article appearing in your journal during the past year or so (preferably with philatelic content) and submit it to the Topical Time editor (wystamps@gmail.com), or Study Unit Coordinator Jeff Hayward (stamps@jeffhayward.com). We hope you enjoy this fine feature. [Submissions of Spotlight features are earnestly solicited!]]

Fantastic Fantasia

Virginia Sylvester

"Fantasia" is a musical term for a composition in a fanciful or irregular form or style. The term, though it was also known as "The Concert Feature," was the working title of the animated film during most of its creation, and it described the result so well that it stuck. The original idea was for an animated short feature titled *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, with Leopold Stokowski directing the music and Mickey Mouse filling the role of apprentice. Disney's unique approach to *Fantasia* depended solely upon pantomime, without dialogue or sound effects – art matched to descriptive music. *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* segment worked so well that Disney proposed an expanded animated film, using the same process of matching art-

work to classical music. It had never been done before and Disney lost money initially on the venture. But, *Fantasia* proved to be one of Disney's most creative works; it has been re-released over and over again. There was even a sequel in 2000, which reused the Mickey Mouse segment and added seven



Souvenir sheet from a 1982 set of nine stamps and souvenir sheet released by Mongolia (Scott 1290-99).

new interpretive sections, all based on classical music. To date, no stamps have been issued to commemorate *Fantasia* 2000.

The world of philately has celebrated *Fantasia* with a number of stamp issues. In 1982, Mongolia issued its first Disney stamps with a set of nine stamps and a souvenir sheet focused entirely on *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* segment. The nine-stamp group shows scenes from the story, while the souvenir sheet depicts Mickey as master of the universe, directing even the stars (Mongolia 1290-1299).

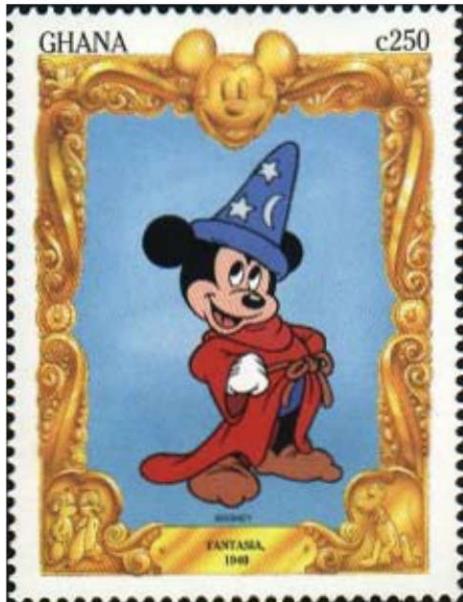
In 1994, Ghana issued a set of stamps celebrating Mickey's 65th anniversary. One of these stamps shows Mickey as the sorcerer's apprentice (Ghana 1658).

Two countries released stamp sets in 1991 (a year late) celebrating the 50th anniversary of *Fantasia*. Grenada's set included eight scenes from the movie, two small souvenir sheets related to the film and an oversized collage of scenes or characters with a single stamp in the center showing Mickey Mouse as the sorcerer's apprentice (Grenada 1920-1930). One of the smaller souvenir sheets depicts a fanciful tiered birthday cake decorated with a dozen candle-characters from *Fantasia*. Mickey, in his apprentice garb, is about to light one of the candles and Maestro Leopold Stokowski's silhouette is conducting the symphony.

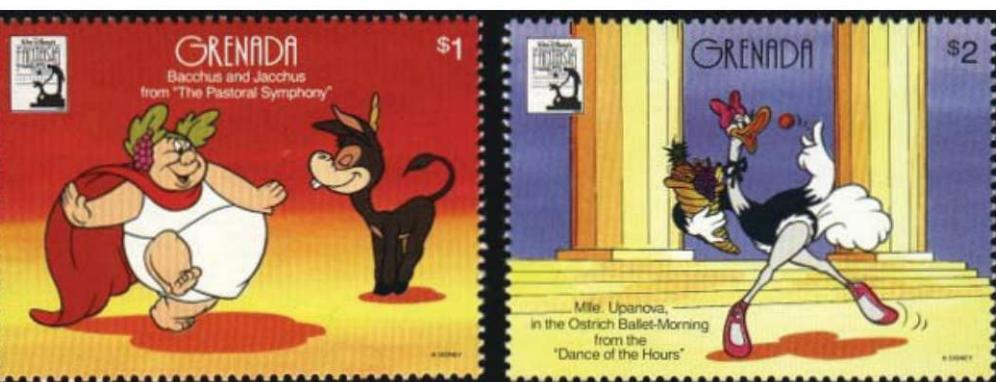
The second of the smaller souvenir sheets depicts silhouetted violinists with the now-famous picture of Mickey shaking hands with Stokowski. A silhouette of this picture would become the logo for the film and appears on all of the stamps, making him the most frequently depicted human on the Disney stamps. (A companion piece, Mickey adjusting Maestro James Levine's white bow-tie, would



Shown below are two singles from the 1991 Grenada Disney issue, showing scenes from The Pastoral Symphony. Inset at left is the famous silhouette of Micky Mouse shaking the hand of conductor Leopold Stowkowski, which has been depicted on many stamps since.



Ghana Scott 1658, showing Mickey Mouse as the sorcerer's apprentice.



later become the equivalent image for *Fantasia* 2000.)

The eight single stamps in the 1991 Grenada issue illustrate scenes from *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, *The Nutcracker Suite* (Chinese mush-



A 1991 set from Mongolia (Scott 2025-2036) depicts various movie posters, a graphic that isn't as effective as it could be on reduced-size stamps. One of those stamps is shown here, slightly enlarged.

ers from *The Nutcracker Suite*; various seasonal fairies from *The Nutcracker Suite*; orchid and thistle dancers from *The Nutcracker Suite*; Chernabog, the god of evil from Slavonic mythology from *Night on Bald Mountain*; and the elephant ballet from *The Dance of the Hours*. Tucked into the collage are outline drawings of Mickey Mouse as the apprentice, the logo of Mickey and the Maestro and a film strip showing abstract visual art from the *Sound Track* (part of the intermission segment of the film.) Despite the number of scenes and characters included in this oversized sheet, there is only one stamp, Mickey carrying water buckets, in the center of the sheet. Truly, a work of art!

The 1991 Mongolia issue (Scott 2025-2036) includes eight stamps and four souvenir sheets. The stamps illustrate six movie posters and two original sketches from the movie archives. The six movie posters include two from the 1940-41 releases, a 1969 “psychedelic sixties” release, a 1981 stereo reissue, a 1982 digital reissue and a 1985 digital-stereo release. The two stamps containing archival sketches depict Mlle Upanova (as drawn by Campbell Grant) and Mickey in an early version of his sorcerer’s apprentice costume. All of the stamps (and all four souvenir sheets) have the Mickey and Maestro logo in one corner.

room dancers), *The Rite of Spring* (primeval earth beginnings), *The Pastoral Symphony* (cavorting Greek mythological characters), *The Dance of the Hours* (starring ostrich ballerinas, with Made-moiselle Upanova, elephant ballet dancers and their alligator partners).

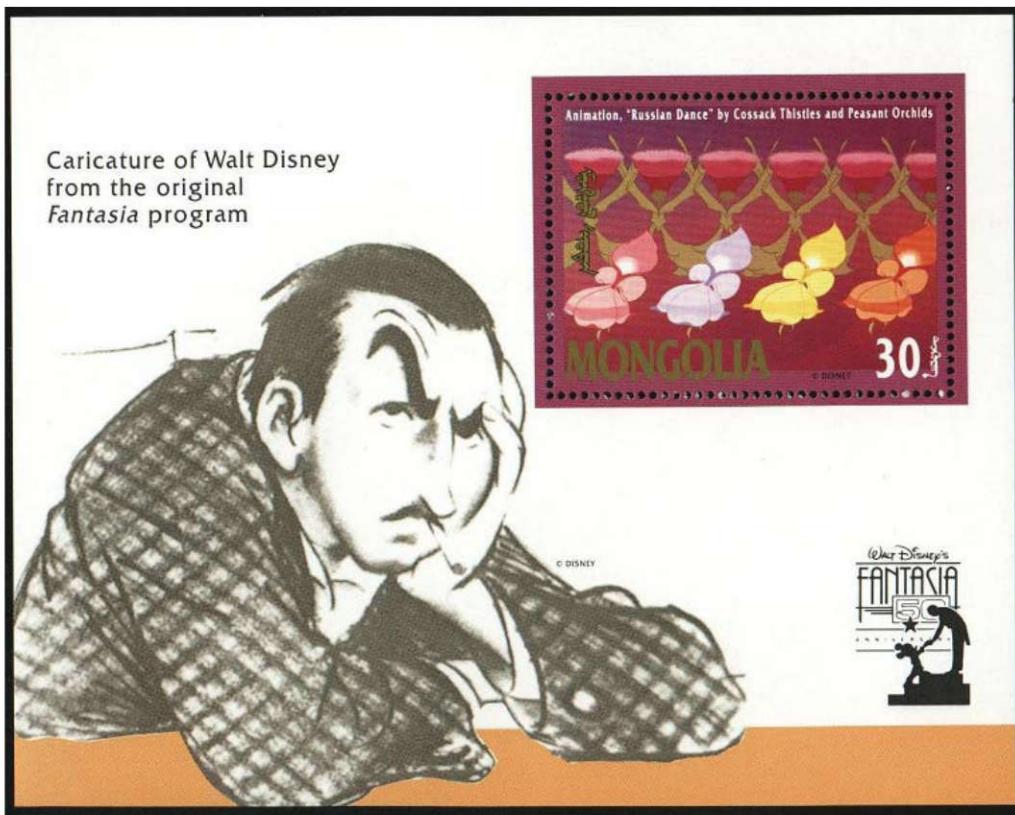
The oversize souvenir sheet is a remarkable collage of 13 scenes from *Fantasia* and, perhaps, the world’s largest souvenir sheet. These colorful scenes include the pegasii from *The Pastoral Symphony*; the milkweed ballet from *The Nutcracker Suite*; *Tyrannosaurus rex* from *The Rite of Spring*; Mickey and his broom slaves from *The Sorcerer’s Apprentice*; Hyacinth Hippo and Ben Ali Gator from *The Dance of the Hours*; the Gothic procession from *Ave Maria*; Mickey floating on a spell book from *The Sorcerer’s Apprentice*; the mushroom danc-

The four souvenir sheets focus on artist sketches, some from the original drawings and two from the first program. One sheet is filled with working sketches of Mickey in his apprentice role. Its stamp, appropriately, also shows Mickey.

Another of the sheets shows the developing

sketches of the dancing mushrooms and a drawing of the tiny mushroom, Hop Low, by artist Art Babbitt. The stamp is a cel showing special effects for the mushrooms. A third sheet reproduces a caricature sketch of Julian Huxley, a world famous biologist who visited the Disney Studios as an advisor during the creation of the dinosaurs for *The Rite of Spring* segment. The Disney artists labeled Mr. Huxley "Huxleyranodon." The stamp for this sheet is a cel showing a brontosaurus. It is interesting to note that the New York Academy of Science thought that the *Fantasia* dinosaurs were "better science than whole museums of fossils and taxidermy." The fourth souvenir sheet shows a caricature sketch of Walt Disney, used in a *Fantasia* movie program. The drawing purportedly depicted Disney's expression when an artist's rendition was "not good enough" (note the trademark raised eyebrow). The stamp for this sheet is a design from the Russian dance sequence of *The Nutcracker Suite*, with Cossack thistle dancers and their orchid partners.

As beautiful as the *Fantasia* stamps are, the wide scope of each film segment, and the humor of the Disney artists are very hard to reduce to postage stamp size. For example, *The Rite of Spring* segment contains vastly more than dinosaurs. It also describes the birth of planet Earth (as seen from outer space long before any humans had seen Earth from space), the emergence of one-celled creatures, the emigration of water life to land and the development and disappearance of the dinosaurs. *The Nutcracker Suite* is a fantasy world of color and imagination, including seductive fish, seasonal fairies, dancing flowers and delicate milkweeds which were suggested by and modeled from weeds gathered in a back lot at the Disney Studio. *The Dance of the Hours* actually spans a day's time, from morn-



This souvenir sheet, also from the 1991 Mongolia set, features a caricature of Walt Disney, from a *Fantasia* program.

ing to evening, via ballet sequences danced by the most unlikely ballerinas: Mlle Upanova (an ostrich, note the humor in her name), hippos and tutus, elephants playing with pink bubbles and lecherous alligators in red capes chasing everyone in the ballet. Mickey licks his finger to turn a page in the spell book, while floating on a torrential flood. Although sound tracks are visualized for all of the musical instruments in the orchestra, it might be easy to miss the strip of sound track in the Grenada super sheet.

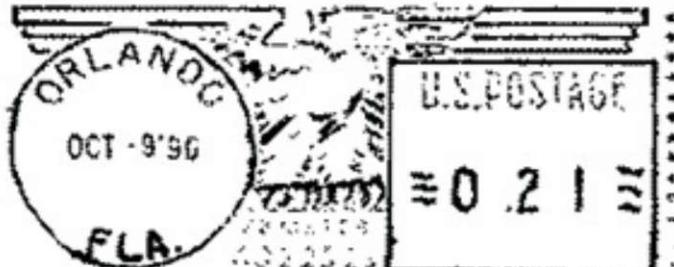
The last two segments of *Fantasia* pit evil (Bald Mountain's god of evil) against Ave Maria's good (a procession of pilgrims carrying candles and singing). *Fantasia* ends with the triumph of good over evil – a hallmark of Disney films. All of *Fantasia*'s spectacular big-screen animations and impressions are represented in smaller form in Disney stamp sets but “the most exciting adventure” as Walt said, must be seen, heard and felt to absorb the full impact of *Fantasia*'s fantastic accomplishment.

Fantasia Postage Meters

Collecting *Fantasia* topical and thematic stamps can easily be a mini-topic of its own. Once you have all the *Fantasia* stamps, you might want to expand your collection to include other philatelic items. For example, two postage meters are known to have been used to advertise the re-release of *Fantasia* to theaters.

The first of these was used in March 1942 by the New York office of RKO Radio Pictures. The boxed slogan to the left of the place and date indicator reads: “SEE WALT DISNEY'S / FANTASIA.” It is a Pitney Bowes meter and is numbered US4201 in the *Disney on Stamps Handbook* – Part 4.

A second meter was used in October 1990 by Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla. The slogan reads: “Walt Disney Classic / FANTASIA 50th.” It is also a Pitney Bowes meter and is numbered WD9003 in the *Disney on Stamps Handbook* – Part 4. □



Disneyana on Stamps Society

William Sylvester began publishing *Disnemation* in August of 1986. The publication was on hiatus however between 1998-2011. Sylvester decided to update his *Handbook of Disney Philately* with the ATA and found several collectors who were interested in the publication as well as forming the study unit. The Disneyana on Stamps Society was chartered in January 2012 and now has more than 150 members from around the world.

Membership in DoSS is FREE. As a member of DoSS you receive access to the members' only, quarterly, online journal, *Disnemation*. This includes a complete checklist of Disneyana on Stamps from 1968-2015, free want ads, new issue information plus many other benefits available to members. The DoSS website is at: www.disnemation.8m.com/HOME.htm.

National Topical Stamp Show Winners

Philatelic Competition

- Grand Award - Sponsored by France International: *Beavers: Nature's Engineers* – **Larry Davidson**
 - Reserve Grand Award - Sponsored by Brooklyn Gallery of Coins and Stamps: *The Sun: Myth, Science, Effects, Culture* – **Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz**
 - Mary Ann Owens One Frame Grand Award: *The Charter of the United Nations: A Document for World Peace - San Francisco 1945* – **Fran Adams**
 - Best Display Division Award: *Beavers: Nature's Engineers* – **Larry Davidson**
 - Most Popular Exhibit: *A Celebration of the Cockroach!* – **Jean C. Stout**

Study Unit Literature Competition Grand Awards

Units with fewer than 50 members:

- *ARPA Journal*, Armenian Philatelic Association, Jack Kifedjian, editor

Study Units with 50-200 members:

- *Philateli-Graphics*, Graphics Philately Association, **Amanda L Morgenstern**, editor

Units with more than 200 members:

- *Reflections*, Ebony Society Of Philatelic Events & Reflections, **Don Neal**, editor
A complete list of all winners may be found at:

www.americantopicalassn.org/ntss/2015/ntss2015_palmaries.pdf

www.americantopicalassn.org/ntss/2015/ntss2015_palmaries_litcomp.pdf 

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Units in Action

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

Sadly both the Canadiana Study Unit and the International Philatelic Golf Society disbanded at the end of 2014 due to the lack of volunteers for several officer positions within the study units. There are several study units requesting volunteers and I have put their requests after their journal review in this column. Please consider volunteering for these open positions. Topical philately wants you!

Americana Unit

Americana Philatelic News

In *Americana Philatelic News*,



April-June 2015, Melvin Morris shares "Collecting the Presidents: The Kennedy Half-Dollar Coin on Stamps." President Kennedy is the second-most

popular president to appear on stamps, with only George Washington appearing on more stamps.

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After President Kennedy was assassinated, a silver half dollar coin was put into circulation with Kennedy's portrait on the coin.

Six nations have issued stamps or minisheets showing the Kennedy half dollar. The first nation to do so was the Arabian Shiekdom of Ras Al Khaimah on the fifth anniversary of Kennedy's death in 1968.

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

Email: dennisdengel@verizon.net

Website: www.americaunit.org

Captain Cook Society

Cook's Log

Several new issues related to Captain



Cook have been issued so far in 2015 by Australia Post. One of those stamps, issued in May 2015,

pictures the *Endeavour*'s anchor from the National Museum of Australia's collection. From another set of stamps depicting Australian islands, one stamp shows Bruny Island off of Tasmania. Captain Cook sheltered in the bay off Bruny Island for several days in 1777.

Dues in the United States are \$28, electronic version \$14. Contact Jerry Yucht, 8427 Leale, Stockton CA 95212.

Email: us@CaptainCookSociety.com

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

Email: Secretary@CaptainCookSociety.com

or, Aus\$48 in Australia. Contact Len Harrow, 48 Tomasetti Crescent, Narre Warren, Victoria 3805, Australia

Email: australianbranch@**CaptainCookSociety.com**

or, C\$30 in Canada. Contact John W. Richardson, 19 Oakhurst Dr, North York, ON, Canada M2K 2N2

Email: canada@CaptainCookSociety.com

or, NZ\$40 in New Zealand. Contact Brian Wyeth, 4 Bush Point Rd, Cable Bay 0420, New Zealand

Email: nz@CaptainCookSociety.com

Website: www.CaptainCookSociety.com

Chess on Stamps Study Unit*Chesstamp Review*

Jon Edwards explains "The Making of a Stamp" in *Chesstamp Review*, April-June 2015.



in *Chesstamp Review*, April-June 2015.

Edwards shows the stages of how designer

George Bennett designed the 1993 Tonga Family Values set showing a man and child playing chess.

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The author shows the different stages of the stamp design from the preliminary sketch, various proofs, right to the final design and actual stamp.

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

Christmas Philatelic Club*Yule Log*

W. Eugene Sanders Jr. illustrates and describes all of the philatelic items that were available for sale for Christmas Island's 2014 Christmas stamp issues in the latest issue of *Yule Log*. Christmas Island began issuing Christmas stamps with

crabs on them in 1983. The 2014 issues show Santa Claus accepting a gift from a red crab on one stamp and the second stamp has a coconut crab offering a gift-wrapped coconut. The stamps were also available as a souvenir sheet, first-day cover and in a presentation pack.

Dues are \$25 in the United States and Canada, \$35 elsewhere. Contact Jim Balog, PO Box 744, Geneva OH 44041-0744.

Email: jpb4stamps@windstream.net

Website: web.295.ca/cpc/

Christopher Columbus Philatelic Society*Discovery*

In "A Portrait to Remember,"

Christopher Kolker explores the art and history of the Columbus souvenir sheets issued by Italy, Portugal, Spain and the United States in 1992. One portrait, painted by Christian Ruben, is *Christopher*



Columbus, his most recognized work, which appears on souvenir sheet U.S. Scott 2624. In addition to painting, Ruben also created designs for stained-glass windows for the Regensburg Cathedral and other churches.

Dues are \$15 in the United States and \$20 elsewhere. Contact Greg Ciesielski, 333 Miller Blvd, Havelock NC 28532-2645.

Email: lilski@ec.rr.com

Disneyana on Stamps Society

Disnemation

Virginia Sylvester and the Disneyana on Stamps Society celebrated the 75th anniversary of *Fantasia* in the July 2015 *Disnemation* journal. The movie *Fantasia* has the largest number of stamps issued for any Disney movie.

Walt Disney originally wanted the movie to have additional footage added to it over time and there were several re-releases to theatres over a number of years. In 1982 the film was remastered and restored to its original theatrical release condition.

In addition to stamps depicting scenes from the movie, the author also discusses the different music composers



responsible for the music in the movie and shows several stamps on which they appear.

Membership is free. Members receive *Disnemation* online six times a year; site access is password controlled.

Email: disnemation@yahoo.ca

Website: [www.disnemation.8m.com/
HOME.htm](http://www.disnemation.8m.com/HOME.htm)

Errors, Freaks, and Oddities

Collectors' Club

The EFO Collector

John Hotchner offers six inexpensive



ways to collect errors, freaks and oddities in *The EFO Collector*, January-March 2015.

One of the author's suggestions is to collect misperforated stamps. Hotchner admits that prices for misperfs can command a higher price when the perforations are within the design of the stamp. There are many stamps available with this type of EFO that are inexpensive.

Dues are \$20 in the United States and Canada, \$37 elsewhere. Contact David Hunt, 45 Fairway Dr, Denver PA 17517.

Email: dhbhunt@ptdprolog.net

Website: www.efocc.org



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Europa Study Unit

Europa News

There are several pages of new issues for this year's Europa theme of Old Toys in the July-August 2015 *Europa News*.



Hans Olthof also explores

a great topic for Europa collectors, the Island Games. First hosted in 1985 on the Isle of Man, this event has 24 different islands participating and the host country can choose from 18 different sports for the bi-annual competition.

Dues are \$20 in the United States, \$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

Gems, Minerals and Jewelry Study Unit

Philagems International

Tar sands are the result of petroleum

accumulating above ground in lakes and then its volatile compounds evaporate, leaving a solid mixture.

While searching for El Dorado, the fabled city of gold, Sir Walter Raleigh

found a pitch lake with tar sands on the island of Trinidad in 1595. Raleigh found tar sands to be useful for caulking his ships, taking additional barrels of tar sand with him on his voyage.

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

Email: gilberte.ferland@sympatico.ca

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

Email: norma.al@sympatico.ca

Halloween Spooktacular Stamps & Stuff Bubbling Cauldron

A hearty welcome to our newest study unit, which was chartered during NTSS in Oregon. In issue

No. 1 of *Bubbling Cauldron*, Denise Lazarof tells the story of where Halloween began and also "The Story of the Haunted



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Canada Ghost Bride." The Ghost Bride has been seen in the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel since the 1930s. The bride may have caught her heel or brushed against a candle flame causing her to fall down a staircase and die.

Canada Post issued a set of stamps and also a coin depicting the Ghost Bride on Oct. 31, 2014.

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
Dame Agatha Mary Clarissa Christie and some of her 66 novels and short stories that are depicted on stamps are the subject of a feature article in

the *JAPOS Bulletin* Spring 2015 issue.

The United Kingdom issued a prestige booklet in 1991 that included panes with images from several of her books. One of those panes shows *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*. This novel, which was published in 1920, changed the way people read and solved mysteries.

JAPOS is still seeking a volunteer

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for Secretary/Treasurer. Please consider volunteering.

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

Email: cdelvaux@msn.com

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

Judaica Thematic Society

Judaica News

Alan Benjamin tells the story of how



he became a stamp dealer in May of 1966. Benjamin became interested in collecting

stamps as a child and wanted to work for Stanley Gibbons when he was old enough. The author instead worked as a furrier and in the fashion trade until one day when he discovered that some sheets of stamps he purchased had color shifts. Benjamin tried to sell the sheets with the printing freaks to a dealer, but the dealer instead challenged Benjamin to sell the stamps on his own. Alan Benjamin became a successful stamp dealer after selling those sheets of stamps and is grateful for the chance to meet so many people, travel and have an interesting life.

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

Email: judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net

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Lighthouse Stamp Society

The Philatelic Beacon

Seven pages of new lighthouse stamp issues are listed in *The Philatelic Beacon* July-August 2015. One set of new-issue lighthouse stamps comes from Croatia, issued June 10, 2015. This set of stamps shows the Daksa Lighthouse, the Glaval Lighthouse, Grebeni Lighthouse and the Sveti Andrija Light. A closeup view of each of



the lighthouses appears in the selvage for each issue.

Dues are \$15 in the United States and \$20 elsewhere; an electronic version of *The Philatelic Beacon* is available for \$10. Contact Dalene Thomas, 1805 S Balsam St Apt 106, Lakewood CO 80232-6778. Email: dalene@lighthousestampsociety.org Website: www.lighthousestampsociety.org

Masonic Study Unit

Philatelic Freemason

In the July-August 2015 *Philatelic*



Freemason there was a report of a new Masonic stamp issue by Romania this year to commemorate the 135th anniversary of the foundation of the National Grand

Lodge of Romania. Three mini sheets were issued showing the Grand Lodge Building, the Coat of Arms of the Grand Lodge and other masonic symbols.

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

Email: radpm67@gmail.com

or, Gene Fricks

Email: genefricks@comcast.net

Mathematical Study Unit

Philamat

The April 2015 issue of *Philamat*



contains a biography of French mathematician Augustin-Louis Cauchy. Cauchy is known for the

Cauchy convergence test for infinite series and also worked on astronomy,



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optics and water waves. Cauchy published seven books and seven hundred eighty-nine research papers before he died. Cauchy appears on a stamp issued by France on November 10, 1989.

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 "A Short History of Fertility

& Sterility,"
by authors
Ahmet Dogan
Ataman and Elif
Vatanoglu, the
authors describe
fertility and
sterility amulets,
contraceptive
methods, offerings,
deities and
treatments used

to treat both conditions, with stamps
and pictorial cancellations. One of the
fertility deities is the Greek goddess
Artemis of Ephesus. She is depicted in
one of the pictorial cancellations with
multiple breasts, which are a symbol of
her reproductive power.



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

Marguerite Annie Johnson studied



modern dance
and also studied
African dance
with Pearl
Primus of
Trinidad. In
1954 she began
her career as a
calypso dancer
under the name "Maya Angelou."

She would later tour Europe with the musical *Porgy and Bess* and release her album *Miss Calypso*.

Maya Angelou would move on to writing after 1959 and become actively involved in the civil rights movement.

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

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

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different ships
during the French
Revolution and the
Napoleonic Wars.

After these wars,
though, privateers
from Jersey became
more successful
than the French.
Jersey captain Peter
Duval captured

26 ships and soon a price was put
on his head. The French built a ship,
Le Guapachin, which looked like a
merchant ship, to set a trap for Duval.

Captain Duval, sailing the *Vulture*,
came upon the ship *Le Guapachin* at
sea and demanded her surrender. The
French did not take into account the
height difference between the two ships



and were forced to withdraw from the
battle when their cannons overshot their
target. Both ships appear on a stamp
issued by Jersey in October 2014.

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

Email: krb2@earthlink.net

Website: www.nap-stamps.org

The Perfins Club

Perfins Bulletin

In "My Perfinator – A175," Clark



Buchi reports on a
machine he purchased
that belonged to
Adolph L. Singer &
Co. to create perfins
on stamps used by
the company. Adolph
L. Singer was a tailor
and operated his
clothing company

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out of Chicago, Ill. The machine was designed to perforate 10 definitive stamps at a time with the company's registered perfin pattern "ALS."

Dues are \$15 in the United States, \$18 in Canada and \$25 elsewhere. Contact Ken Rehfeld, PO Box 125, Spokane Valley WA 99016-0125.

Email: kenrehfeld@comcast.net
Website: www.perfins.org

Pitcairn Islands Study Group

Pitcairn Log

Steve Pendleton explains how Pitcairn



Islanders are no longer relying on Pitcairn stamp sales as a source of income and now sell souvenirs to passengers on "Cruise Ship Day." Islanders pack handcrafted

carvings, weavings and paintings into boxes that can be easily boarded onto long boats. The long boats then go to cruise ships that anchor off Pitcairn before moving on in the South Pacific.

Islanders face the challenge of navigating tumultuous seas and also having to carry boxes of souvenirs up several decks to cruise passengers.

Dues are \$20 in the United States and Canada, and \$25 elsewhere for regular members, \$30 or more for contributing members, \$18 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Ed Morgan, 25 Saint Julians Ct, Pawleys Island SC 29585-6309.

Email: eanddfof@gmail.com
Website: www.pisg.net

Plate Number Collectors Club (PNC³)

Coil Line

Two rare plate number coil sales were reported in *Coil Line*, July 2015.



The first sale was for the rare Atlas 10¢ presort stamp with plate number V21113. There are only six known examples of

this stamp and the stamp sold is one of the six. The stamp had a selling price of \$1,600.

There was also a sale of an Egret 37¢



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stamp with plate number P22222. This stamp has multiple ties in the die cut which is rare for this plate number.

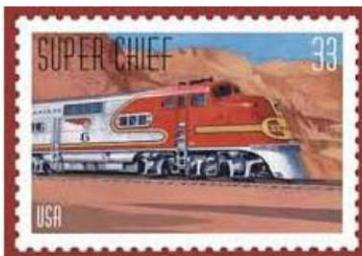
Dues are \$32-\$40 in the United States and Canada, \$45 elsewhere, \$18 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Michael J Conway, 239 Judd Rd, Easton CT 06612-1025.

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

Casey Jones Railroad Unit

The Dispatcher

Florence Wright highlights several



recent Europa issues with this year's Europa theme of old toys that are train and railroad related

in *The Dispatcher*, May-June 2015 issue. There is a total of 14 Europa stamp

issues shown in the article, including two stamps with pictures of Hornby model trains. Three additional pages of train and railroad new stamp issues are also provided in this issue.

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

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

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Religion on Stamps, Collectors of (COROS)

The COROS Chronicle

"Khachars – The Stone Crosses of



Armenia" explains the religious meaning of these hand-carved monuments, and how they were created, in *The COROS Chronicle*, May 2015. Khachars were originally used to display pagan symbols but during the paleo-Christian

era these symbols were replaced with crosses. Two sets of stamps were issued by Armenia illustrating Khachars in 2012 and 2014.

COROS has several officer positions in need of volunteers. If volunteers are

not found soon, COROS will consider disbanding the study unit in late 2015. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions.

Dues are \$22 in the United States, \$27 in Canada and Mexico and \$32 elsewhere. Contact James F Bailey, PO Box 937, Brownwood TX 76804-0937. Email: corosec@wildblue.net Website: www.coros-society.org

Rotary on Stamps Fellowship

The ROS Bulletin



In addition to administrative club updates for members, several personalized rotary stamp issues were reported in *The ROS Bulletin*, June 2015.



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The study unit has also made several updates to the *Rotary on Stamps Encyclopedia* and *Rotary on Stamps Stamp Album*. Both are available for sale from the Rotary Study Unit.

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

Email: gfitz@suddenlink.net
Website: www.rotaryonstamps.org

Scouts on Stamps Society International *SOSSI Journal*

In *SOSSI Journal*, May-June 2015,

Lawrence Clay shows covers commemorating re-enactments of "The Barefoot Mailman" by various Boy Scout troops.



Barefoot mailmen were postal carriers that delivered mail on a 68-mile route in South Florida that included Palm Beach, Lake Worth, Miami and Lemon City. The first known philatelic cover commemorating the re-enactments of the Barefoot Mailman Trail is from February 1951, with a cachet for the Annual Sun Dance Celebration. Nine other covers and postmarks appear in this article.

SOSSI is looking for a secretary; please consider volunteering for this position.

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

Email: lclay3731@charter.net
Website: www.sossi.org

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Ships on Stamps Unit

Watercraft Philately

In addition to two pages of more than



30 new ship stamp issues, a description for each of eight "Sailing Ships 1800 and Up" appear in *Watercraft Philately* May-June 2015. One

of those sailing ships was the *Phoenician*. This wooden clipper ship was built for the Aberdeen White Star Line and she made regular voyages between London

and Sydney Australia. The *Phoenician* later wrecked on a voyage to China after being sold to Andrews & Co., Belfast.

Dues are \$15 in North America, \$22 elsewhere and \$10 for a PDF electronic version worldwide. Contact Myron P. Molnau, 1616 E 32nd Ct, Spokane WA 99203-3918.

Email: hobbies@turbonet.com

Website: www.shipsonstamps.org

Sports Philatelists International

Journal of Sports Philately

Ron Backhouse provides tennis-related booklet covers and advertisements within booklets in "Tennis in Booklets," in the Summer 2015 issue of *Journal of Sports Philately*.



One of these booklets contains an advertisement for Stjernens, promoting

its line of soft drinks and tonic water. A checklist of tennis in booklets is also provided in this issue.

Dues are \$31 in the United States and Canada, \$43 elsewhere. An electronic version is available for \$15 worldwide. Contact Mark C. Maestrone, 2824 Curie Pl, San Diego CA 92122.

Email: markspi@prodigy.net

Website: www.sportstamps.org

United Nations Philatelists

Journal of United Nations Philatelists

The June 2015 *Journal of United*

Nations Philatelists features the recent UNPA Endangered Species stamps showing 12 birds-of-paradise. The 12 birds that appear on the stamps are the King bird-of-paradise, Blue bird-

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#1540	\$150
#1586	\$1,300
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of-paradise, Princess Stephanie's bird-of-paradise, Carola's Parotia, Wilson's bird-of-paradise, Paradise riflebird, Standard-wing bird-of-paradise, Goldie's bird-of-paradise, King of Saxony bird-of-paradise, Splendid astrapia, Greater bird-of-paradise and the Superb bird-of-paradise. Birds-of-paradise are found in Australia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. They are mostly endangered due to habitat loss.

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.

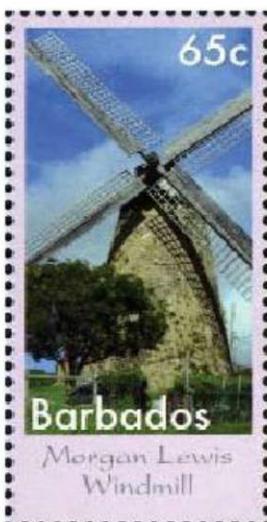
Email: malaria stamps@yahoo.com

Website: www.unpi.com

Windmill Study Unit

Windmill Whispers

The April-June 2015 issue of *Windmill*



Whispers contains 12 illustrated pages of new windmill-related stamps, cards and cancels.

There are also updates provided to members for several of the study unit's checklists.

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



Penguins on Stamps Study Unit

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

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

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

Email: possumember@yahoo.com

Washington Church Rd, Miamisburg OH 45342-4510.

Email: otyssel@aol.com

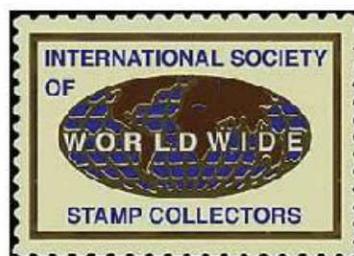
Dues are £7.50 (payable by check) in the United Kingdom (or €10 payable in cash). Contact Fred Atkins, 35 Laxton Way, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 2QL, United Kingdom.

Email: fred.atkins@blueyonder.co.uk

Website: www.wsuweb.eu

Worldwide Stamp Collectors, International Society of *The Circuit*

Barry White shares two Barbados



stamps from his collection that managed to get bull's-eye cancels from Long Beach, Calif.

The author

discovered that these stamps were most likely added to the envelope as a decoration. The stamps received the bull's-eye cancel when the envelope was processed and there was additional postage that must have been used to pay the letter rate.

Also in this July-August issue of *The Circuit* is a three-page guide to "Getting Started in Exhibiting."

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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Award Winners

The ATA offers a variety of exhibit awards to any show with a juried exhibit. A list of available awards and their criteria are available on the ATA webpage. The awards can be obtained by contacting the Awards Chairman Dalene Thomas at dalene@lighthousestampsociety.org, or by mail at 1805 S Balsam St Apt 106, Lakewood CO 80232-6778.

Only those shows that submit a report to the Awards Chairman will be acknowledged here. *Denotes ATA member.

First, Second and Third Awards

The following exhibitors were recent recipients of ATA Awards:

Sam Chiu received the ATA 1st award at Ropex for his exhibit, *Frogs and Toads*. The ATA one-frame award went to ***George DeKornfeld** for his exhibit, *Making Whitetail Venison Sausage*.

Coffee: Ambassador of Tropics, exhibited by **L. F. Diaz**, received the ATA 1st award at Napex, while **Lorenz Housman** was awarded the one-frame award for *Canada and Stamps on Stamps*. The ATA Youth Award was presented to **Darren Corapcioglu** for his exhibit, *The Universe*. ☐

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

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Chapter Chatter

By Sandy Strzalkowski

Welcome to Chapter Chatter! I am pleased to be your new Chapters Coordinator. You can read more about me on page 14. Please send your ATA publications to me so we can publicize your efforts. Send newsletters to sandystraz@gmail.com or Sandy Strzalkowski, 13986 Sarasota, Redford MI 48239-2837. If you have a list of future club activities, please send that, too. I would like to see this column be more forward-looking, so we can publicize upcoming events as well as those that have already occurred. Hopefully, this will boost attendance at your meetings. Please keep in mind we can only mention topical-related articles, not chapter-related activities.

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

Newsletter: *AASC Newsletter*

Editor: Harry Winter, PO Box 2012, Ann Arbor MI 46106.

Email: harwin@umich.edu;

Website: www.annarborstampclub.org

Newsletter topics: Club news (July 2015).

ATA Chapter 5 Milwaukee (ATA Chapter No. 5) in Milwaukee, Wis.

Newsletter editor: Bob Mather.

Email: rmulatt@att.net

Newsletter topics: Military Show & Tell, Purple Cow Cancel (Jun 2015), Confederate Postal System (Jul 2015).

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

Newsletter: *Perf-Dispatch*

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

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

Newsletter topics: Aug. 24 meeting topic was American Revolution, presented by Mimi White.

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

Newsletter: *The Hamilton Hinge*

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

Email: hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org;

Website: www.hamiltonphilatelic.org

Newsletter topics: First-day cover featuring bicycle theme, presented by Ed Muench (March 2015 meeting).

Obituary for Sherman Britton showed a first-day cover with delivering mail theme, featuring a picture of Sherman as a postal carrier.

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

Newsletter: *Philatelic Chatter*

Editor: Don Smith, PO Box 576, Johnstown PA 15907

Email: donsmith32@atlanticbb.net

Newsletter topics: July 27 meeting included a presentation on “Dead Countries” (July-Aug 2015).

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

Newsletter: *Stamping Around*

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

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

Newsletter topics: Robert Weidman describes his liberty call trip in October of 1970, including information about Buddha (stamp and statue). Peter Elias describes his experiences driving a forklift (stamp and picture). Ray Cartier’s article encourages exhibiting, using various topics as examples (movies and movie equipment, cameras). Peter

Elias' article about Legos™ was inspired by Europa Postal Administration's Europa series of stamps about toys. (March 2015)

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

Newsletter: *Milwaukee Philatelist*
Editor: Carol Schutta, 6814 Southview Cir, West Bend WI 53090

Email: harryncarolschutta@gmail.com
Newsletter topics: Discussion of new produce stamps (July 2015).

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

Newsletter editor: Paul Petersen.

Email: pcpetersen@comcast.net

Newsletter topics: Presentation "Survey of Confederate Postal History," by Patricia Kaufman (April 2015). Lancopex non-competitive exhibits included *American Baseball*, by Chuck Kilgore and *The Slogan Cancels*, by Hal Klein (May 2015). Article "The Philatelic Completist & Small Topical Collections," by Paul Petersen (June 2015).

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

Newsletter: *Hinges and Tongs*

Editor: Fred Haynes.

Email: fredmhaynes55@gmail.com;

Website: www.rpastamps.org

Newsletter topics: It was reported that Ada Prill's exhibit, *What's a Telephone For?* was selected as the most popular exhibit at Bufrex in March 2015. Exhibit night held this past March included *Purple Minerals Majesty* by Fred Haynes. Ropex 2015 featured an Elvis cachet. (May-July 2015)

Topical Philatelists in Colorado (ATA Chapter No. 78) in Denver, Colo.

Newsletter: *Topic*

Editor: Dalene Thomas, 1805 S Balsam St Apt 106, Lakewood CO 80232-6778

Email: dalene@lighthousesstampsociety.org

Newsletter topics: Programs presented by Van Jennings, "Halley's Comet" (June 2015) and Dalene Thomas, "Circus Wagons" (August 2015).

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

Newsletter editor: Dawn Hamman, 334 Rio Terra, Venice FL 34285-2951

Email: venicestampclub@gmail.com

Newsletter topics: Discussion of the 1948 commemorative issue, which highlighted the centennial of the American Poultry Industry. The public deemed poultry an unsuitable topic for a postage stamp (July-August 2015).

Waukesha County Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 125) in Waukesha, Wis.

Newsletter editor: MaryAnn Bowman, PO Box 1451, Waukesha WI 53187

Email: maryann15b@mac.com

Newsletter topics: Several members entered pages in the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs team exhibit. The exhibit topics included Malaria, Mailboxes, Mermaids and Mismatches.

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

Newsletter: *Mayflower Minutes*

Editor: Sandy Strzalkowski, PO Box 700049, Plymouth MI 48170-0941

Email: mywssc@msn.com;

Website: www.thewssc.com

Newsletter topics: Sept. 4, 2015, meeting was an APS slide show, *Fancy Cancels*.

Westfield Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 113) in Edison, N.J.

Newsletter: *The Westfield Philatelist*

Editor: Frederick C. Skvara, PO Box 6228, Bridgewater NJ 08807-6228

Email: fcskvara@optonline.net

Newsletter topics: "Native New Zealand Seaweeds" (Jan-Feb 2015); "The Fahrenheit Scale," by Frederick Skvara (Mar-Apr 2015).

Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs (ATA Chapter No. 107) in Wisconsin
Newsletter: *Across The Fence Post*
Editor: Aimee Devine, 2111 E Luther Rd, Janesville WI 53545-2042
Email: spanishmoss72@sbcglobal.net; **Website:** www.wfscstamps.org
Newsletter topics: 2015 Wiscopex palmares included awards for the following topics: Libraries (Larry Nix), US Drug Abuse Stamp (Robert Henak), SPUDS (Robert Henak), Art of Stamps, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (Ramona White), Circus (Roland Essig, deceased), Malaria (Frank Kos), Mismatches (Robert Mather), Mermaids (Robert Ulatt) and Mailboxes (George Strieter). Deceased member, Frank Moertl, collected Wisconsin ink jet cancels and personalized postage stamps, among other things. Milcopex 2015, Sept. 25-27, will feature an Alice in Wonderland theme.

CANADA

Calgary Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 91) in Calgary, Alberta
Newsletter: *Calgary Philatelist*
Editor: Dale Spiers, Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta T2P 216 Canada
Website: www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com
Newsletter topics: The June 2015 issue was mailed with newly released dinosaur stamps. Elizabeth Sanaranta's article, "The Maple Leaf Flag Reaches Its 50th Anniversary," included a list of Canadian issues with the maple leaf flag, plus several nice illustrations (July 2015).

Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance (ATA Chapter No. 109) in Toronto, Ontario.



Newsletter: *PhilaJournal*

Editor: Tom Malicki

Email: tom.malicki@gmail.com;

Website: www.gtapa.org

Newsletter topics: "Unusual Postage Stamps," by Jerry Piotrowski, discussed Portugal's 2009 set of five stamps depicting the five senses (Spring 2015). "Scouts on Stamps" by Tony Manson illustrates Scouting postcards issued in the early 1910s (Summer 2015).

Ottawa Philatelic Society (ATA Chapter No. 120) in Ottawa, Ontario.

Website: www.ottawaphilatelicsociety.org

Newsletter topics: Society President Raymond Villenueve reports that a recent survey of club members revealed the following interests: art, balloons, birds, Christmas, firemen, fish, geology, mailmen, Olympics, polar, popes, sports, Unesco, whales and WWF.

AUSTRALIA

Thematics Queensland (ATA Chapter No. 86) in Queensland

Newsletter: *Thematically Speaking*

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

Email: jcrowsley@iprimius.com.au;

Website: www.qpc.asn.au

Newsletter topics: Article about thematic exhibiting included bells, golf, dogs and trees. Joan Orr's article regarding postal history pictured several philatelic items with flowers, to illustrate how to arrange when exhibiting (August 2015). ☐



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

Exfilna 2015, French Championship 2015

Foreign Thematic Exhibits

Larry E. Davidson

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

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

ECTP 2015

This national exhibition was held in Avilés, Spain, March 13-21, 2015, and was organized by FESOFI (Spanish Federation of Philatelic Societies) and its regional stamp federations. The thematic philately class with 32 exhibits was the second largest after postal history.

Multi-frame Exhibits

José Angel Gándara Rodríguez	<i>Columbus: Bound for India</i>	93, LG
José Antonio Herraiz García	<i>A Monarchy: A Form of State</i>	92, LG
Guillermo Campo Pomar	<i>The Chrysanthemum and the Sword</i>	88, G
Andrés García Falces Rodrígues	<i>Copernicus Stopped the Sun, Revolutionized the Earth</i>	87, G
Andrés García Falces Rodrígues	<i>An Imaginary Flight over Northern Lands</i>	86, G
Giuseppe Salvatore	<i>The Chocolate Industry</i>	85, G
Luciano Lomba Vicente	<i>Rural to Urban Cathedral Monastery</i>	83, LV
Paulino Magdaleno Jano	<i>The Road to Santiago: An Apostle, a City, a Road</i>	83, LV
*Joan Miquel i Llompart	<i>Sport: Social Phenomenon</i>	83, LV
Teresa Miralles Sagro	<i>Nursing: Caring, Teaching, Comforting</i>	83, LV
Jorge Angel Pulido Parga	<i>4000 Years of Hockey</i>	83, LV
Enrique Pérez Martínez	<i>“La Paloma” (a song) and its Use</i>	81, LV
Salvator Picconi	<i>The Nuragic Civilization</i>	80, LV
Francesco De Simone	<i>Small and Sweet: Bees</i>	79, V
José Antonio García Díaz	<i>Wildlife in the Principality of Asturias</i>	78, V
Juan García Fernández	<i>Science through Awareness: Nobel Laureates</i>	77, V
Jesús De Juan Corredera	<i>Master Painters of Spain</i>	77, V
Eliza Abad Suárez	<i>The Knife-sharpener Trade</i>	76, V
Ramón Díaz Martínez	<i>The Discovery of America</i>	72, LS
Luis Anselmo Suárez Álvarez	<i>Convadonga. Different Sides of Reality</i>	72, LS
Miguel Martínez Pérez	<i>Lighthouses and Other Navigational Aids</i>	72, LS
Jorge Martínez Baz	<i>That Unknown Beginning of Life</i>	70, LS

Open/Display Exhibits

José Luís López León	<i>Bailamos... el trompo? (Let's Dance... the top)</i>	82
Fernando Del Sol Vega	<i>The Festival of the Bulls</i>	72

Segundo Heredia Machado
Salvator Preciado Serrano

<i>Enzo Ferrari, a Legend of the Sports Car</i>	70
<i>Silence... Lights, Camera, Action</i>	70

French Championship 2015

The French Championship is a national exhibition held every year in a different location in France. This year it was held in Mâcon, France, on May 22-25. The exhibition was held in conjunction with the 88th National Congress of the French Federation of Philatelic Associations (FFAP).

Multi-frame Exhibits

Jean-Luc Joing	<i>Freemasonry</i>	93, G
Jacques Chautemps	<i>The Rooster: A Noble Creature</i>	90, G
Jacques Rothenburg	<i>Beautiful as a Rose!</i>	88, LV
Henri Aronis	<i>The Teeth in their Environment</i>	86, LV
Jean-Paul Uettwiller	<i>7: A Number, a Digit, It's Quite a Story...</i>	85, LV
Clément Duvaltier	<i>Railways in the Time of Steam</i>	83, V
Christian Riobe	<i>Plants used by Man</i>	83, V
Michel Abram	<i>Yellow</i>	83, V
Marie Françoise Du Fayet de la Tour	<i>Raminagrobis Cat... So!</i>	83, V
Gérard Melot	<i>Time and Weather</i>	82, V
Hubert Kubler	<i>Dogs and Man</i>	81, V
Luc Delmon	<i>Owls without Ear Tufts and Owls with Ear Tufts:</i> <i>Relatives of the Night</i>	81, V
Claude Lucenet	<i>Cetaceans: From its Origins to Today</i>	81, V
Christine Cacheleux	<i>Playing Cards</i>	80, V
Bernard Fabre	<i>Christopher Columbus</i>	80, V
Louisa Hamon	<i>Existence</i>	80, V
Pierre Riedwag	<i>Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1756-1791</i>	78, LS
Patrick Spiroux	<i>The Conquest of Air 1783-1913</i>	78, LS
Vincent Bastien	<i>The History of European Construction</i>	78, LS
Pascal Pariot	<i>Always a Connection, I am a Bridge</i>	78, LS
Alain Richard	<i>Sailing</i>	78, LS
Christian Busson	<i>Storming a Summit</i>	78, LS
Daniel Plouviez	<i>Butterflies on the Wing</i>	78, LS
Michel Baschenis	<i>Childhood</i>	76, LS
Françoise Semat	<i>The Beautiful Story of Jesus told by the Gospels</i>	76, LS
Dominique Reviglio	<i>Tennis</i>	76, LS
Marc Henrard	<i>Helicopters</i>	75, LS
René Charlier	<i>Charles de Gaulle in the Service of France and the French</i>	73, S
Maurice Vitel	<i>World Heritage</i>	72, S
Françoise Semat	<i>The Life of Jesus and 2000 Years of Christianity</i>	72, S
Christophe Delorme	<i>Evolution of Grand Prix Cars and the Formula I</i>	70, S
Jacques Raimondeau	<i>Submarines</i>	70, S

Open/ Display Exhibits

Pascale Aubry	<i>Discovering Lace</i>	84, V
Paulette Boudon	<i>Lighthouses... Sentinels of the Sea</i>	83, V
Jean-Claude Roussel	<i>Firewood</i>	81, V
Danielle Jonquet	<i>Advocacy of the Elephant</i>	80, V
Gérard Gangloff	<i>Orchids and Man</i>	80, V
Roselyne Braud-Pin	<i>The Bee in History</i>	79, LS
Françoise Cohen	<i>Hooves on the Head (about horses)</i>	79, LS
André Babillot	<i>A Musical Promenade with W.A. Mozart</i>	78, LS
Michel Assier	<i>The History of Hot Air Balloons</i>	78, LS
Maurice Vital	<i>Genealogy</i>	76, LS
Maurice Vital	<i>Publicity</i>	76, LS
Céline Idez	<i>Hapy, the Nile God, Tells You his Story</i>	76, LS
Pierre Schroeder	<i>A Man, a Destiny: Charles de Gaulle 1890-1970</i>	76, LS
Juan-José Ara Somohano	<i>A Page of Spanish History – Republican Sector 1936-1939</i>	75, LS
Françoise Semat	<i>What a Circus then!!!</i>	75, LS
Marie-Chantal Serre	<i>Whether it is an Owl with Ear Tufts or an Owl without Ear Tufts!</i>	75, LS

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Hervé Douarec	<i>The “France” in “Norway”</i>	75, LS
Françoise Semat	<i>The Magic of Walt Disney Movies</i>	75, LS
Albert Vignard	<i>Pigeons, Doves and Turtledoves</i>	75, LS
Françoise Chaluleau	<i>Gutenberg Revolutionized the Book</i>	72, S
Josette Portejoie	<i>Birdwatching</i>	71, S
Jean François Reynet	<i>Traditional Rural Economy (Europe)</i>	71, S
François Paillard	<i>Two Motorized Wheels</i>	70, S
Monique Le Chevalier	<i>The Reign of Louis XIV</i>	70, S
Michel Assier	<i>The Ephemeral Passage of Dirigibles</i>	70, S

I would like to thank Koenraad Bracke of Belgium for providing translations into English of several of the exhibit titles. ☺

Larry E. Davidson, a current member of the ATA board, is a retired university mathematics lecturer. He has been collecting stamps for more than 54 years and exhibiting for more than 28 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 lawrence.davidson@gmail.com.



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YOUTH IN TOPICS

MaryAnn Bowman

What's your hook?

Where did the summer go? I can hardly believe that fall is in the air and that students are heading back to school. Stamp clubs are starting up again after a summer recess. Continue reading to learn what is new in youth philately and for ideas you can use.

News from the ATA Board Meeting

Your ATA Board voted to approve a youth electronic membership in the ATA for the annual fee of \$10. This has been a long time coming. A youth membership category was proposed and voted down in 1999. This new category is open to youth 18 years old and younger. Membership includes all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of a regular electronic membership. However, youth can only purchase a maximum of two checklists a year.

ATA has already demonstrated a commitment to youth through the *Topical Tidbits* publications and the many topical album pages available on the internet. In addition, resources have been made available to leaders and teachers who want to promote the hobby at stamp shows and in classrooms.

Do you have other ideas of how we might better serve the youth population? I am eager to hear from you.

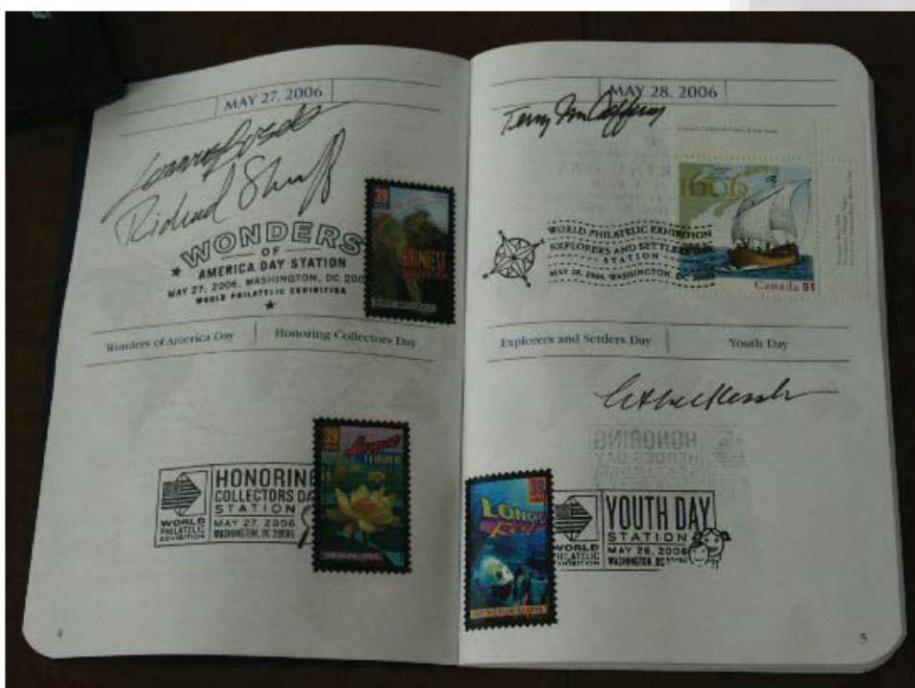
Passport to Learning

Summer vacation may be over for students, but armchair traveling is always in style. I have been “test-driving” an activity for possible use in the youth/beginner area of World Stamp Show New York 2016. It involves a passport. At the show itself, youth will receive a blank passport-type booklet and be given the opportunity to search through a mixture of stamps, seeking one to represent each continent. As this is a rather open-ended activity, a child might spend 10 minutes looking for stamps or they might get so involved that they stay for greater lengths of time.

Club leaders and teachers can expand on this concept and devote an entire program session to this passport activity while making it an educational opportunity to involve the kids in dialogue and promote understanding.

Begin by introducing the term “armchair traveling” and the benefits of travel without actually leaving your chair. Use questioning techniques such as these: What does the term mean? How do you do it? (TV, movies, reading, videos, slide shows, stamps) When you travel to a foreign country, what do you need to enter and leave a country (passport)? Why? What is a passport? What kind of information is found in a passport? (This includes name, address, date of birth, photograph, signature

Examples of a few philatelic passports from international exhibitions. Passports for youth activities could be created along a similar line, for use with mixtures.



and other identifying information.) How is it used? Show examples of actual passports. You might want to point out that passports are moving to biometric information embedded in a microchip that is embedded within the document making it machine readable and difficult to counterfeit.

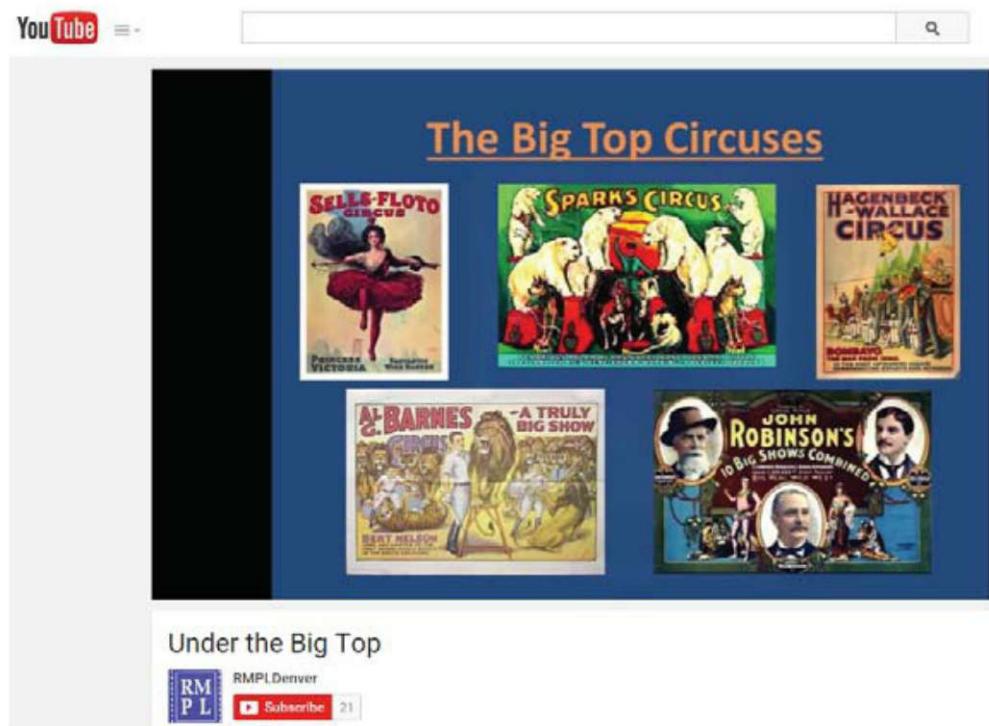
Before you begin the activity, review the names of the continents and ask which continent does not contain an entity with a post office that releases postage stamps (Antarctica). The activity itself involves youth finding and hinging stamps into their passport, with the goal of trying to find as many different countries as possible to represent each continent. For Antarctica, there are stamps issued for territories that can be used (French and Australia), or there is a place for youth to design their own stamp.

For our test run, I set a time limit and when the time was up, each child counted the number of different country stamps they had found. I then let them take twice that number of stamps from my mixture. While they were doing that, I asked them what country in the world they would like to visit. This could be used as a basis for future programming – a philatelic armchair travel trip of stamps from the chosen countries.

The program continued with a brief discussion of the World Stamp Show New York 2016 and the fact that our country only hosts an international show every 10 years. Discussions focused on the size of the event and the many postal administrations that will be in attendance. It was discussed that some collectors like to purchase a philatelic passport and try to obtain stamps and special cancellations from each of the visiting postal administrations (the expense of

doing so was also noted).

It was also mentioned that some collectors like to create their own Philatelic Passport by collecting the commemorative and show cancels that most exhibitions have. Those passports serve as a reminder of stamp shows visited. For this group, I was lucky enough to have several such passports started by another collector and was able to give each child one to keep.



A screen capture from the online video created by the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library in conjunction with the ATA.

The Circus is Coming! The Circus is Coming!!

The ATA, in cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, has created a video titled *Under the Big Top*. It is currently available on YouTube. The nearly 17-minute program uses stamps and other philatelic material to tell the story of the circus. It can be found at www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWBetETT9L8.

The youth-appropriate video could be used in conjunction with copies of the circus-themed *Topical Tidbits* published as the May/June 2013 issue. It offers a brief history of the circus, sets of stamps and commemorative cancels to study, a circus wagon ABCs activity and an album page where one can create his own circus collection of animals, clowns and other circus acts. These pages are free and downloadable.

How have you used the *Topical Tidbits* issues created especially for youth? Have you used the album pages? Please share your responses with me. I'd love to know what you are doing with and for youth, whether as an individual or as a club leader.

Let me know about what "hooks" you use to entice kids to learn more about stamp collecting. Please write to me at PO Box 1451, Waukesha WI 53187. I will share ideas received in future articles. ☐

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.

Membership

New Members and Reinstatements

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Connections between ATA members, especially among those with similar collecting interests, are encouraged. The contents of the ATA Membership Listing are the property of the American Topical Association, Inc. Any commercial use, including use for mailing lists or for any other commercial purpose, is prohibited without prior written consent of the Executive Director of the Association. **This list includes new membership numbers 57269-57316 and recent reinstatements.** This reflects membership through Aug. 15, 2015.

57315	BEAUJEAN, David <i>dbeaujean1764@gmail.com</i>	Space
53907	BOREN, Gerald	
57293	BOROUCHOFF, Jeremy <i>jbaruch@ww.rr.com</i>	Musicians, Composers, Writers and Performing Artists, Judaica/Holocaust
57289	BRAULT, Glenn <i>chiefbro@charter.net</i>	Disney
57276	CALLISON, Dennis <i>dpcallison@frontier.com</i>	Boy Scouts
57273	COBB, Brad <i>poma19622000@yahoo.com</i> 109 Andrew Rd, England AR 72046-1229	Mummies, Cotton
57297	COLWELL, Ronald, 20 Meeting House Ln Apt 6, Reedsville PA 17084-9266	Honeybees
57272	DAHLINGER, Sandra	Fish, Astronomy, Dinosaurs, Mercury, Pegasus, Dragons, Antarctic, Arctic, Orchids
57287	DEKNATEL, Charles <i>cdeknatel@comcast.net</i> 2 Alveston Ter, Jamaica Plain MA 02130-2833	Archaeology Classical, Archaeology U.S., Environment/Conservation
40866	DUARTE, Armando <i>setubalense@gmail.com</i> Apartado Postal 51.475, Sabana Grande, D.C. Caracas 1050A, Venezuela	Venezuelan, Beetles, Portugalia, Tintin, Asterisks
57281	EICH, David <i>eichd@msn.com</i>	Maps, Tall Ships, Airplanes
57307	FISHER, Ann Elizabeth	Classic Cars
57303	FLANAGAN, John	
57298	FORD, Karin <i>kefordbus4@comcast.net</i>	
57286	GALLERY, Michael <i>mike@mikegallery.com</i> 320 Talisman Dr, Crystal Lake IL 60012-3527	Universal Postal Union
57280	HAMMES, Larry	
57302	HARTLEY, Chris, 2757 John Warren Dr, West Bloomfield MI 48324-2130	Automobiles, Gems, Minerals
57301	HARTLEY Jr, Tom, 3660 Elmview, West Bloomfield MI 48324-2618	Baseball, Hockey
57285	ILNYCKY, Andrew <i>ilnycky@telus.net</i>	
57278	JENKINS, Woody <i>woodyjenkins@hotmail.com</i>	Before and After Civil War, Covers and letters from Baton Rouge and Greenwell Springs
57308	KARR, James R.	
57309	KINBERG, Mike <i>mikekinberg@gmail.com</i> 12918 Mukilteo Spdwy Ste C23 #184, Lynnwood WA 98087-5125	Chickens
57312-FM	KINBERG, Jenny, 12918 Mukilteo Spdwy Ste C23 #184, Lynnwood WA 98087-5125	
57288	LÄGE, Damian	
57313	LARIN, Jan	
57305	LEONE, Matthew <i>leone1717@cox.net</i>	Wine/Grapes, Birds
57283	LOBMEYER, Don <i>rhinos_r_us_club@hotmail.com</i> PO Box 47696, Wichita KS 67201-7696	Rhinoceros
57314	LOFFER, Linda <i>lwloffner@aol.com</i> PO Box 3167, Tualatin OR 97062-3167	Paintings
57277	McINTYRE, Martin J. 10A Nebraska Dr, Whiting NJ 08759-1118	Civil War, American Revolution, Lighthouses

57282	OLIVERA MENDEZ, RAFAEL	
57274	MORSHED, Mohiuddin	
57295	ORAVEC, John 24435 River Rd, Dickerson MD 20842-9369	Minerals, Astronomy, Chemistry, Christmas, Hologram, Espionage, Math, Physics, Scents, Shapes, U.S.
57270	OTTOSEN, Jean <i>jo6865@gmail.com</i>	Textiles
57275	PAUL, John <i>johnwpaul@charter.net</i>	
57279	POULOS, Dennis	
57304	PURCELL, Leonard	
57271	ROBINSON, Dann <i>dannrobinson@gmail.com</i>	Telecommunications, ITU, Electronics, Radio
57316	SALES, Michael <i>mjsales@mac.com</i>	Space, Technology, Art, US History, Nobel Prize
		Winners, Science, Cars, Geography
57290	SANZONE, Vincent <i>vсанzone@comcast.net</i>	Birds, Presidents, Bonsai, Christmas
57284	SHAVER, James <i>expat48@gmail.com</i>	Astronomy, Swords, Knives, Islam
57291	SHEPHERD, Eric	
49580	SPOUNIAS, Christopher	Greece, Cyprus, Malta, George Washington, Boy Scouts, World War II, Bicentennial
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57269	THURN, Joseph	Bats, Penguins, Fish, Reptiles, Angling
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57306	TOTIN, Dennis <i>dtotin@gmail.com</i>	Oregon History, Conservation, U.S. Mint, Space
57310	WALKIEWICZ, Carrie	
	2583 NW Northrup St, Portland OR 97210-2840	
57294	WHITE, Judith <i>525jude@gmail.com</i>	Bicycles
57292	ZUERCHER, Darrell <i>dzwriter@gmail.com</i>	Birds of Prey

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Deceased Members

49616	CAPPS, Marie (Kans.)
16389	RAMSDELL, Robert (Pa.)
11433/LM 1000	WINICK, Lester (Ill.)

ATA Membership Recruiters 2015

The following ATA members have recruited a total of 44 new members up to Aug. 15 of this year. They receive \$5 in ATA Bucks credit for each new member recruited. We hope your name will appear here soon!

ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green.

ATA Dealer Members shown in red

New Members

Davidson, Larry	13	Drought, Richard M	1
Hamman, Dawn	6	Edholm, Keith	1
Winnegrad, Mark	6	Foo, Austin	1
Fisk, Allan	3	Jones, Susan B	1
Congrove, Jack	2	Knapp, Eric	1
Quintero, Robert	2	Pettway, Jim	1
Youngblood, Wayne	2	Skvara, Fred	1
Bruce, Sue	1	Stout, Jean	1
Chouinard, Louise	1	Trier, Orlie	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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ATA website: www.americantopicalassn.org.

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

sipeditor@gmail.com; www.israelstamps.com

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

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csnee@amosmedia.com; www.linns.com

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kevinmorgan2@live.com

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ATA will hold its annual meeting during NY2016

Show Calendar

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 Contact: Dale E. Smith (816) 734-4536
Email: thedale.smith48@gmail.com

Oct. 2-4, 2015, Indiana. Indypex 2015, Hamilton County Fairground & Exhibition Center, 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville, IN. Hours: 10-5 on Friday and Saturday and 10-4 on Sunday. Indypex is a national-level stamp show hosting the ATA, Machine Cancel Society/Post Mark Collectors Club and the Indiana Postal History Society. A total of 34 dealers are confirmed. Contact: Chuck Slagle.
Email: chuckslagle@prodigy.net
Website: www.indianastampclub.org

Oct. 17-18, 2015, New Mexico. NewMexPex 2015, sponsored by the Albuquerque Philatelic Society, Rio Rancho Stamp Club and the Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane, SE in Rio Rancho, N.M. Tenth annual stamp show, free admission and parking, 9-5, and 9-4, respectively. Features about 36 frames, 10 dealers, possible USPS substation show cancel.
 Contact: Paul Morton (505) 867-9664
Email: p.morton@att.net

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

Contact: Harry & Dottie Winter (734) 761-5859
Email: harwin@umich.edu
Website: www.annarborstampclub.org

Nov. 7-8, 2015, Pennsylvania. Pittpex '15, sponsored by Philatelic Society of Pittsburgh, South Fayette Fire Hall, 661 Millers Run Rd., Bridgeville, Pennsylvania 15017.
 Contact: Ron Carr (412) 561-6562
Email: rgc211215@aol.com
Website: www.presidentdrive.com

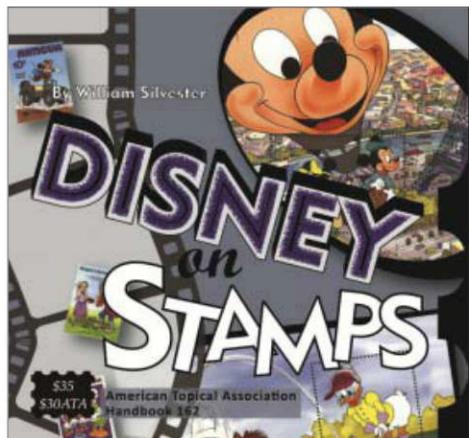


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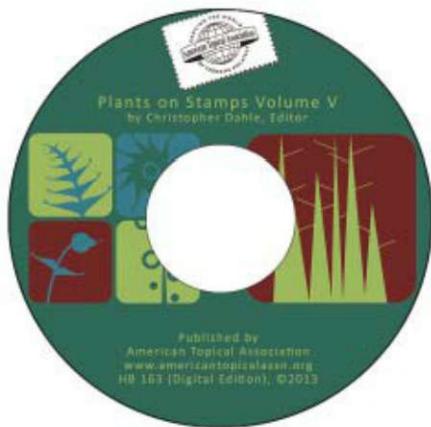
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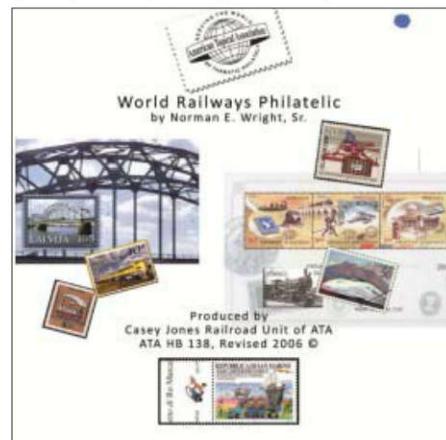
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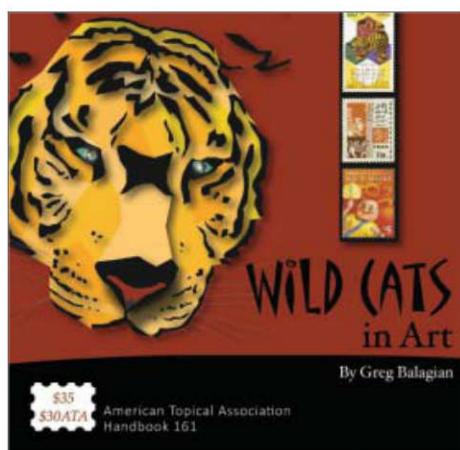


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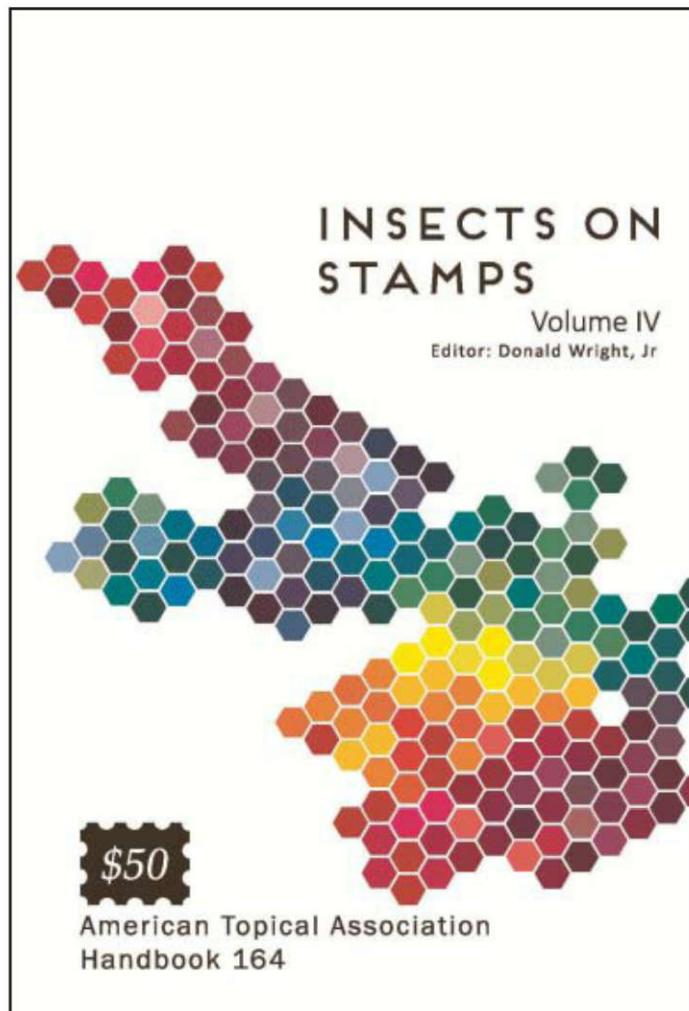
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11-18-08. (WWF)

#539, 80c. *Hypolimnas bolina* L., NYM, Nymphalinae. Larva & chrysalis

#540, 90c. Same, ♀

#541, \$1.15. Same, ♂ underside

#542, \$1.95. Same, ♂

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FAMILY CRAMBIDAE, SUBFAMILY ACENTROPINAE

Eristena sp. Nov.

Hong Kong, 1542, 2012, \$2.40. In sheet and in s/t of 6

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