

# TOPICAL TIME

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**If you would like to see Universal Philatelic Auction's next World Auction catalogue FREE OF CHARGE,  
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**Please contribute to the 2018 ATA Boldly to the Future fund today...  
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# DALE'S DIALOGUE

**Dale Smith, ATA President**

## There just is not enough time

Hello! Over the last few months several members I met for the first time asked me to tell a bit more about myself. They felt that most of our membership did not really know who I am. So, in this column I will do that.

I am a stamp collector – and have been for more than 30 years. The topics I collect are stamps on stamps, HIV/AIDS on stamps and pharmacy on stamps. I am a retired pharmacist who was certified in treating HIV/AIDS early in my pharmacy

career in the early 1980s, when the disease was discovered. Like many ATA members, I chose to collect topics that fit my career. Therefore, Scott 1473, the 8¢ Pharmacy stamp that appears above, and the illness I treated were both naturals for me to collect.

Stamps on stamps fascinate me. I can afford to collect those classic treasures that are memorialized on new issues that keep coming out. Thank you Sir Rowland Hill, the subject of so many different stamps when his anniversary – and that of the



**Libya, World Health Day 1986, Scott 1303-1304.**

postage stamp – was being observed a few years ago.

But that is not all I collect. Just like you I have many other philatelic subjects and topics that I am interested in collecting. I collect worldwide stamps on stamps used on both first-day covers and commercially used covers. I lack just a couple of the first-day covers that were issued when the 8¢ Pharmacy stamp was issued in November 1972, while I was in pharmacy school. It has taken more than 30 years of hunting, which I have enjoyed. I have a large variety of Aids stamps on first-day covers. It is difficult to find them on commercially used covers.

But much to my wife's chagrin, that is not all I collect. I have a nice collection of U.S. stamps, including some classics that I could afford. It is still enjoyable to open that album and look at the artwork on stamps that were created so long ago. I like to think of the many collections they have been a part of over those years. Who were the collectors that appreciated these stamps as much as I do? I also collect U.S. perfins and fancy cancels. I am a member of both of those collecting groups, as well as many others.

I also collect stamps, covers and postcards of winter scenes: pictures of heavy snow scenes like we used to have 30+ years ago, or pictures of fireplace scenes where families snuggle with their cocoa or other libations after a day of playing in the snow. We have two fireplaces that we use during the winter. I will save the Christmas cards that arrive this year with those scenes on them. Also, during this happy season,



**Figure 2. Faroe Islands, Old Pharmacy, Klaksvik, Scott 588.**

I take out my album of U.S. Christmas seals just to look at them. I still put early ones on the back of our Christmas cards each year.

The Pony Express started in St. Joseph, Mo., just 50 miles north of where we live in Kansas City. I have been to that museum and observed its collection of first-day covers when Scott 894 (the 3¢ Pony Express stamp) was issued in 1940. I have a few that the museum doesn't own and will donate them someday.

I also collect first-day covers of the various Vietnam issues, because I served there; Virginia Dare Scott 796 is such a beautiful stamp; Kansas City Scott 994 where we live; ATA show covers and more. My collection of George Washington Carver first-days will be donated to his museum in Diamond, Mo., eventually.

So you can imagine shelf after shelf in our house is filled with philatelic albums. Yes, I have it bad, just like many of our ATA members out there. Is there a cure for this philatelic madness? Can I ever say no to just one more topic to collect? Is withdrawal painful?

My problem today is that there just is not enough time to work on my collections. I have little piles of stamps, covers and ephemera sitting around me to put into albums. During retirement, I have been very busy with ATA responsibilities – and I still consult two or three days a month as a pharmacist. My wife, Andrea, and I are gardeners during the summer and have a lot of yardwork to tend, as well. Although I have resigned from several other boards that I served on, I still serve on four that don't require too much time.

But now winter is here. The holiday season is when we stay home and don't travel as much. I must confess that if I just devote a little time to my collections, I am stealing time from ATA. I am writing this article in November 2017. You can rest assured that I did take a few days during the holiday season and the first day of the New Year to work on my collections. Here's wishing you a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Readers of this column, what about you? Do you find it difficult to find time to work on your collection? Do you have stacks and stacks of stamps and covers that you have not yet put away? Is there a room in your home devoted to your collection where you spend wonderful hours focused on this fantastic hobby of ours? Does your spouse or significant other say *NO MORE*? I would love to hear from you. My email address is on Page 4 of this magazine. ☐



# About ATA

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

## Save the Date

The joint ATA National Topical Stamp Show and APS Stamp Show will most likely be the biggest stamp show of 2018. We hope you will join us in Columbus, Ohio, for the Aug. 9-12 event.

A combined show of the country's two largest organizations for stamp collectors means more dealers, exhibits, programs, meetings and social events.

## A Project for the New Year?

A new year is a great time to start a new topic! Browse the list of checklist topics on the ATA website and choose one that interests you. Order your checklist, and you're off and running! If you have a topic in mind that is not on the list, the ATA staff can create a custom checklist for you. ATA checklists are bigger and better than ever before. We hope you take advantage of this great member service.

## ATA Chapters

Does your stamp club have a group of active topical collectors? If so, consider becoming an ATA-affiliated chapter. If you have at least three ATA members in your club, you are eligible to become a chapter. If you have at least six ATA members, there is no charge. See the Chapters section of the ATA website. A program on topical collecting is a great way to encourage interest in your club. The ATA Office can provide handouts and help.

## Volunteers Needed

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

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

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

**State Compilers.** If you collect stamps related to your state, please become involved in our project to develop a checklist for every state. We still need compilers

for many states! ATA member Mike Vagnetti is coordinating this project. Contact Mike at [atastatechecklistproject@gmail.com](mailto:atastatechecklistproject@gmail.com) or Vera at the ATA Office.

**International Outreach.** ATA has members in 44 countries. We invite our international members to join a committee to develop international relationships and form a council of ambassadors in other countries to help their philatelic organizations and to attract new members to ATA. Please let us know if you would like more information about becoming involved. Please contact president Dale Smith. His contact information is on Page 4 of this issue.

## Recent Shows and New Members

**Oct. 14-15, Canpex**, London, Ont., Canada. **Ambassador:** Larry Davidson. New member: 1

**Nov. 4-5, Aapex**, Ann Arbor, Mich. Ambassador: Loraine Stanton. New member: 1

**Dec. 1-3, Florex**, Orlando, Fla. Ambassadors: Dawn Hamman, John Hamman. New members: 5

## Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at These Upcoming Shows

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

**Jan. 26-28, 2018. Southeastern Stamp Expo**, Norcross, Ga. (see Steve Chun at ATA table, or Barbara Asher or LeA Coe at youth table) [www.sepsc.org](http://www.sepsc.org)

**Feb. 2-4, 2018. Sarasota Nat'l Stamp Exhibition**, Sarasota, Fla. (see Dawn or John Hamman) [www.sarasotastampshow.com/show.html](http://www.sarasotastampshow.com/show.html)

**Feb. 23-25, 2018. APS AmeriStamp**, Birmingham, Ala. (see Steve Chun or Vera Felts) [www.stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE](http://www.stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE)

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

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

**BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!**

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## BTTF 2017 Goal Exceeded!

As this issue of *Topical Time* goes to the printer, we are welcoming the new year with optimism and many goals for ATA for the coming year. Our services are made possible by the support of our members, and we are pleased to announce that we have exceeded our **Boldly to the Future** fundraising goal for 2017.

Our fine checklists and award-winning journal, as well as the day-to-day operation of the office, are possible because ATA members make donations – small and large. You have responded to appeals and have thought of other ways to give, such as rounding-up payments for your purchases and donating mint U.S. postage.

This is also an opportune time to thank the many volunteers who serve – as ambassadors at shows, on committees and the board. Our checklist coordinators, handbook editors, and those who help prepare Taste of Topicals packets all keep ATA moving forward.

The year ahead presents some wonderful opportunities for promoting our hobby of topical collecting. Foremost is the joint National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) and APS Stamp Show in Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 9-12. This will be the largest national stamp show of the year, and we hope to welcome many ATA members, and introduce others to topical collecting.

Thank you for everything you do to support the ATA. We look forward to an exciting 2017!

<b>2017 BTTF Goal:</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>
<b>Received:</b>	<b><u>\$42,168</u></b>
<b>Goal exceeded by:</b>	<b><u>\$7,168</u></b>

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

- **Check** drawn on U.S. bank in U.S. funds (preferable because it saves us fees) payable to "ATA," PO Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008 USA.
- **PayPal** - to [americantopical@msn.com](mailto:americantopical@msn.com) - preferable if you pay electronically.
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If you do not use the internet, you may supply your credit card information to ATA.

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

Together we can continue to advance...

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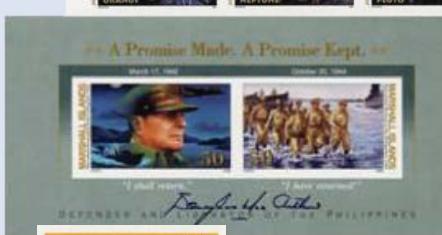
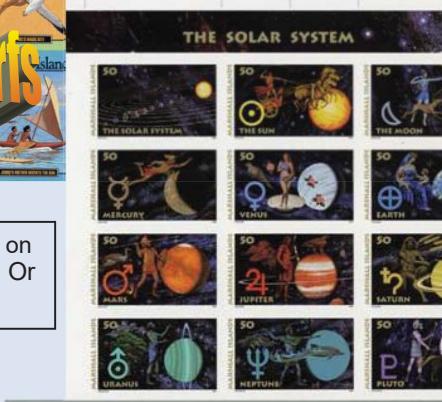
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**WWII collectors:**  
For the 50th Anniversary of WWII, 100 sets were issued depicting events and battles. The stamps were available as singles or with an attached bottom inscription tab. Available perf & Imperf and gutter pairs!



# VERA'S VIEWS

Vera Felts, ATA Executive Director

## Support ATA and Save a Couple of Bucks

Beginning in 2018, your ATA Office is offering you a reduction in your membership cost! When it's time to renew your membership, simply mail a U.S. check or money order to the ATA Office so we receive it before your expiration date – and take \$2 off your membership renewal cost.

You can always locate your membership expiration date on the top line of the mailing label of *Topical Time*. If you're an electronic member, it is found at the top of your "Because You Belong" email announcing each new issue of our journal. Again, mail a check to the ATA Office to arrive any time before that date, and subtract \$2 from your renewal price.

This offer does not apply to paying electronically (PayPal and electronic cards are certainly convenient, but have considerable added costs to the recipient). And the discount is available *only* if you renew before your expiration date – saving ATA the time and expense of multiple membership reminders.

**Mint US Postage Needed.** This winter, when you're playing with your mint U.S. stamps, we hope you'll remember to set aside any duplicates you might have and



*The ATA's rapidly dwindling 3¢-8¢ postage box.*

mail them to ATA for office use. I just know you have plenty of duplicates here and there among your stamps! Our office postage supply is

"down" at the moment and your contributions will be appreciated – especially by all the folks who receive our mail posted with a plethora of interesting stamps.

**New ATA Handbooks.** A new ATA handbook on amphibians is still in progress. We have been working with its author, **Vic Eichler**, for quite some time now, but we are sorry there have been several delays. However, we have been able to produce a new digital handbook on *Space Weather*, prepared by **Garry Toth** and **Don Hillger**. Print copies will be available only if preordered by March 31 – and if there are enough orders to support the printing. More details are found on the inside front cover of this issue.

**ATA Webmaster Change.** We are sorry that **Amanda Morgenstern** is moving on to other opportunities. Amanda has been our graphic designer for eight years and our webmaster for four years. She developed and launched our **ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org** member website. She designed the following ATA

handbooks: *Barack Obama on Worldwide Stamps*, *Wild Cats in Art*, *Disney on Stamps*, *Watercraft on Stamps* (Vol. II), *Plants on Stamps* (Vol. V), *Insects on Stamps* (Vol. IV) and the in-progress *Amphibians on Postage Stamps*. Her positive effect on ATA's Facebook page, especially the "Topical Tuesday" activity, has clearly been noticed. Her outstanding service to ATA and other areas of philately was recognized when she was chosen the APS Young Philatelist of 2017. Amanda has received meager monetary compensation for her work, but most of her time has been voluntary — a labor of love for ATA. We certainly wish her well, and thank her for her excellent efforts for philately.

**New State Checklist Project.** Many ATA members have already volunteered to help assemble a checklist for one or more U.S. states. But several states are still on the "available adoption" list. ATA — thanks to member **Clarence Wagner** and others — can provide resource material to make the task easier. Please email **Mike Vagnetti** at [atastatechecklistproject@gmail.com](mailto:atastatechecklistproject@gmail.com), or contact the ATA Office for info.

**January.** This seems a good month to travel to someplace warm! So, due to vacation, our ATA Office will be a bit short-staffed during most of the month. Fulfillment of checklist orders will be a priority. Mail, emails and phone calls will receive responses, but you might not hear from us quite as promptly as usual. We'll be back full time in early February. Thanks for your support! ☺



*Amanda Morgenstern holds up a copy of the ATA Watercraft on Stamps handbook.*



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# WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

Wayne L. Youngblood, *Topical Time* Editor

## Topical Time Cover Theme?

Last year a theme developed for the covers of *Topical Time*. Because it is frequently difficult to find an attractive and suitable (as well as large enough) stamp image to use as the visual backdrop for other cover information, I've begun using other appropriate images that are large enough, attractive and that, hopefully, you enjoy. In each case last year, a high-resolution image of a picture postcard related to a feature contained in that issue (or some other relevant aspect) was featured on the front cover.

Rather than continue to use postcards this year (or at least for now), I've decided it could be fun to feature post offices – in and out – as this year's theme. As noted on the facing page ("About the Cover"), this issue's cover features one of the wonderful Works Progress Administration's (WPA) murals from the Lexington, Ky., post office. These fascinating works of art – of which there were once hundreds across the country – have been



vanishing for decades as post offices have been demolished, repurposed or redesigned, and there is now a concerted effort to preserve those that remain; and there are some that are stunning!

However, it's not just murals we'll examine. There is some fascinating post office architecture, interior design and other details that are worth showing off. While I will search for suitable post office-related images for the remainder of the year, I am certainly open to nominations you may have. My criteria includes: The interior, exterior, mural or other visual feature must be attractive, and you must be able to submit a high-resolution image (at least 300 dpi, and large enough to fill the background of the cover). Some background information for the "About the Cover" would also be helpful to provide readers with some understanding about why a particular post office is outstanding.

One office I won't be featuring on the cover this year, but that warrants honorable mention is Cornucopia, Wis. Established in 1902, it is the state's northernmost post office (shown on the facing page from 2017 and the mid-1960s). Cornucopia (which, amazingly, still has a post office) is now an unincorporated community and has a current population of around 100. It sits near the tip of the Bayfield Peninsula, jutting into Lake Superior. Surprisingly, almost nothing – other than the directionality of the exterior siding – has changed in more than 50 years! ☐

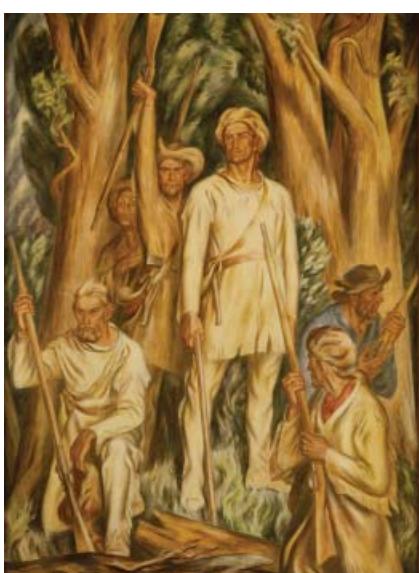
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## About the Cover

This painting – a post office mural – is found in the U.S. Post office and courthouse in Lexington, Ky. It is a fine example of the then-ubiquitous Works Progress Administration (WPA) art that was so prevalent during the Great Depression. Thousands of murals were created in post offices and other gov-

ernment buildings as a part of Federal Project Number 1, only to be white-washed over in the decades following the Great Depression. Those that remain are finally being treated as the works of art they are.

This particular mural is titled *Daniel Boone's Arrival in Kentucky*, and was painted in 1938 by Ward Lockwood. Lockwood was born in Atchison, Kans., in 1894. After studying at the Pennsylvania Art Academy, he was a founding member of the Taos (N.M.) Art Colony during the 1920s, and created several murals for the WPA. He died in 1963. ☐





# TOPICAL POSTLINE

## Letters to the Editor

### **His 2¢ Worth Regarding 13¢ Stamp**

When I received my November-December issue of *Topical Time*, I flipped through the pages, as I usually do, and I noticed the Indian Head Penny stamp on Page 77.

Well, the polite side of my brain said, "Leave it alone, Howard. Let it go." However, the smart-aleck side of my brain said, "Go ahead and ask."

So I'm asking: Are we sure that's an Indian Head Penny? I was under the impression that the United States never issued a penny. When the founding fathers adopted the metric system, the cent, 1/100<sup>th</sup> of a dollar, became our basic small coin.

"Penny" is a leftover from our British history, and it's a word that's hard to lose: (1) A penny saved is a penny earned; (2) penny-pincher; (3) A penny for your thoughts; (penny-wise, pound foolish); (5) penny arcade; (6) penny loafers; (7) penny ante; and more.

Now, some people want to get rid of our pennies – I mean cents – and that makes no cents, but free speech dictates that we can't set a penalty for such a centiment.

— Howard R. Reeves  
Ogdensburg, N.J.

*Howard, it all makes perfect cents to me. What you've coined is an interesting (and accurate) essay on the history of a small unit of currency. If I had a quarter of the cents you seem to be displaying, I'd be ex-*



*changing puns with you. But I don't apparently have a yen for it. We could, however, expand the field to currency if euro pen to it. The exchange could be cointagious and a few could be worth rupeeting...*

— Wayne

### **2015 All Blacks Jersey Stamp: additional production details**

Rugby philatelic enthusiasts and collectors of stamps on unusual non-paper materials may be interested in an informative update to earlier comments about New Zealand's 2015 \$15 stamp made from Adidas replica rugby player jersey material (All Blacks Jersey Stamp, *Topical Time*, Jan-Feb 2017, Letters to the Editor, pp. 24-25).

A more-detailed and complete account of the design, proofs, printing and perforation trials, and the end-production and distribution is available: "The 2015 All Blacks Jersey Stamp," by B.G. Vincent, *New Zealand Stamp Collector* 96(3):82-85, September 2016. Of note is that the gummed sheets of the printed background frame design were guillotined into smaller sheets of five rows of two. This was to facilitate the individual hand-affixing of the printed, self-adhesive-backed and die-cut fabric jerseys. Stamps were then separated into single copies for insertion into the Presentation Packs. Only single stamps were available for sale.

— Alastair Watson  
New Zealand, via email



# TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

## *George DeKornfeld*

### Winter...its Snow Fun

Seemingly out of nowhere here in the Northeast, the days have become noticeably shorter. The fall foliage with all of its various electric colors has mostly disappeared, witnessed in part by the waning daily hum of gasoline-powered leaf-blowers. And the nights have become decidedly crisp, necessitating an extra blanket or two to provide that warm, cozy feeling as we're tucked into our beds. It won't be long now before we'll be looking upwards and reliving the weather illustrated in our first pictorial, an example from the country of Israel. Used in Jerusalem in 2016, this marking offers a clue as to what topic we'll be looking at in this issue (Figure 1).



**Figure 1.**

Love it or hate it, there's no escaping the fact that winter is once again here

and with it comes that fluffy stuff that periodically falls from the sky, coating or – at times – burying, our streets and lawns. This stuff, the bane of commuters and the joy of the young and the young at heart is, of course, snow. This time around we'll be examining one of the more positive, fun aspects of these white flakes, another clue towards this end to be found in Figure 2, a first-day marking from Bonn, Germany, used in 2014 (and if you've noticed the



**Figure 2.**

stamps shown in the two previous examples, you've already figured out our ultimate topic for this issue).

A few lumps of charcoal, a carrot, maybe a scarf, a chapeau (a top hat being the choice of purists) and some elbow grease is all that's needed to create a seasonal, friendly lawn ornament that greets visitors and passers by alike: the snowman. So that's our topic and let's begin our journey!



**Figure 3.**



**Figure 4.**

Mountain ski slopes, he holds hands with, to his right, a Lake Zell water-skier. Note the snowman is wearing sunglasses, making him one cool dude (Figure 3).

Figure 4 presents us with another snowman “ski bum,” this one applied to a 50-haléř Czechoslovakian postal card mailed in 1983.

The pictorial takes us to Dobšiná, a town in the Slovak Ore

Mountains, the largest mountain range in Slovakia, which sports an abundance of ski lodges and trails.

Next we’ll look at a couple of pictorials from Finland, starting with a first-day marking used at Helsinki in 2006. That is one pudgy and jolly-looking snowman (Figure 5)!

Our second example comes from 2016 and also was applied at Helsinki. Likewise a first-day pictorial, this one exhibits great stylistic concordance with the stamp onto which it was applied (Figure 6).

If not on a pair of skis, our snowmen also seem to enjoy “kawabunga-ing” down the slopes on snowboards as shown in Figure 7, the second pictorial from Germany in our story. The marking, which includes a passenger plane, invites us to fly from North Hesse in Germany to the Tyrolean Alp ski areas in western Austria. This area is world-famous for its skiing opportunities and many of us may recall watching one or more of the Winter Olympics held at

We start with an older marking, one from 1969, applied to a postcard mailed from Zell am See, Austria, a resort village located south of Salzburg, situated on Lake Zell. The split-image, tourist-enticing machine cancellation showcases two of the activities available to visitors there. As our snowman schusses down one of the Schmittenhöhe



**Figure 5.**



**Figure 6.**



**Figure 7.**

Innsbruck, the capitol of Tyrol, the most recent having been held in 1976. Our marking was applied at Calden, Germany, in 2014.

Up next is a Christmas pictorial issued by Gibraltar in 1910, shown in Figure 8. Here our snowperson (please excuse this temporary lapse into political correctness) is in the form of a Holiday candle (either that or his hat's on fire, in which case he may not be long for this world, were he the real thing).

Our next stop is Great Britain, and here I must admit to being a little prejudiced. Having grown up in London, I've always felt that England produced some of the most stunning Christmas season stamps and, with them, the most beautiful pictorial postmarks. The examples to follow may help make my case.



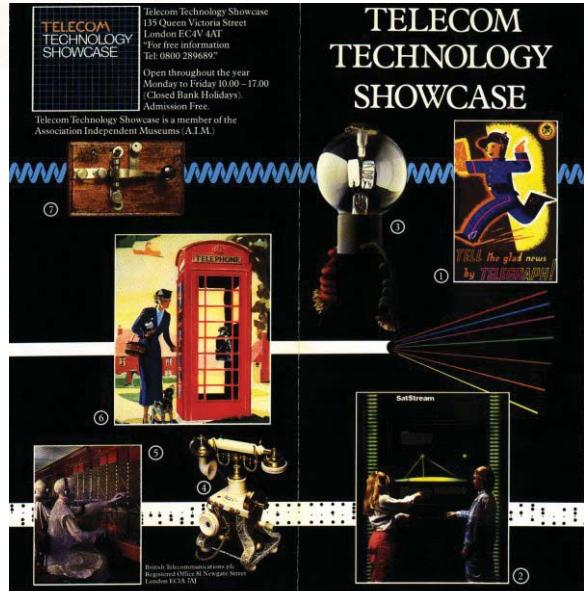
**Figure 8.**



**Figure 9 (above).**

**Figure 10 (right).**

piece of household equipment, the hard-wired telephone. Used in London in 1983, this marking (Figure 9) celebrates The Telecom Technology Showcase, a museum sponsored by British Telecom between 1982-97 that included interactive displays of all things communications. An advertising poster for the museum can be seen in Figure 10.





**Figure 11.**

Five pretty British Christmas stamps can be found in Figure 11. This first-day pictorial marking, issued in 1987 by the Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh, Scotland,

features a snowman that closely mimics the one found in the stamp all the way to the left. Peeking into the window at a young lad playing his Christmas horn he, as well as the bird on his head, seems to be enjoying listening to the music.



**Figure 12.**

We now interrupt our regularly scheduled programming to slip in a backstamp: a British slogan machine cancellation that perfectly fits our topic. Used as an arrival marking at Tonbridge in the County of Kent in 1990, our Snowman here wishes us all a Happy Christmas while beseeching us to “Please Post Early,” albeit on Dec. 14 (Figure 12).

Figure 13 brings us our final English example, another first-day marking that again clearly mimics an image found in some of the stamps. This pictorial, applied in 2006, includes the name “Tallents House,” Royal Mail’s Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh.



**Figure 13.**

In 1981 and in 1986, Salgótarján, a city located in the northeast of Hungary, issued two pictorial postmarks that are strikingly similar in appearance, while also providing a bit of a mystery. They both feature the same snowman holding an Olympic rings flag and a set of skis that would lead one to believe these markings were in some way used to celebrate the Winter Olympics. As Mr. Spock would say, "It's only logical." The 1981 marking indicates the XVI

Olympics

(Figure 14)

and the 1986

marking reads "XXI" Olympics

(Figure 15). The problem is, there was neither a Summer nor a Winter Olympics held in either of these years. The Roman numerals don't jive

**Figure 14.**



**Figure 15 (above).**

**Figure 16 (right).**

**Figure 17 (below).**



1986. The bottom line? For the life of me I can't figure out what these pictorials are supposed to be commemorating (and if any reader can enlighten me, I would love to hear from her or him).

Some of us may be surprised to find out that several areas of Japan can and do get huge (and I do mean huge!) amounts of snowfall each year. The icy cold wind that blows across Siberia then picks up



with any Olympic games near to these dates either, although they are five years apart corresponding to the same amount of time elapsed between 1981 and



**Figure 18.**



**Figure 19.**

plenty of moisture as it crosses the Sea of Japan, dumping an average 600 inches of the white stuff onto some of the country's Alps (yes, Japan has them, too) in a single season with some areas occasionally recording 1,500 inches! That's a lot of Snowman-making material, a fact not lost by the creators of two of their pictorials presented here, struck in the usual deep red ink (Figures 16 and 17).

The Eastern European Republic of Moldova possibly wins this issue's cutest pictorial award. Found as Figure 18, here we catch Frosty hitching a ride



**Figure 20 (above).**

**Figure 21 (left).**

Topical Time  
on Santa  
Claus' (or  
more spe-  
cifically, the  
Moldavian  
version:  
Mos Craciun's) sleigh.  
Our snow-

23



Figure 22.

man's features being visible gives him center stage in this marking as Mos Craciun and his reindeer are in silhouette form. This was a first-day postmark used in 2014.

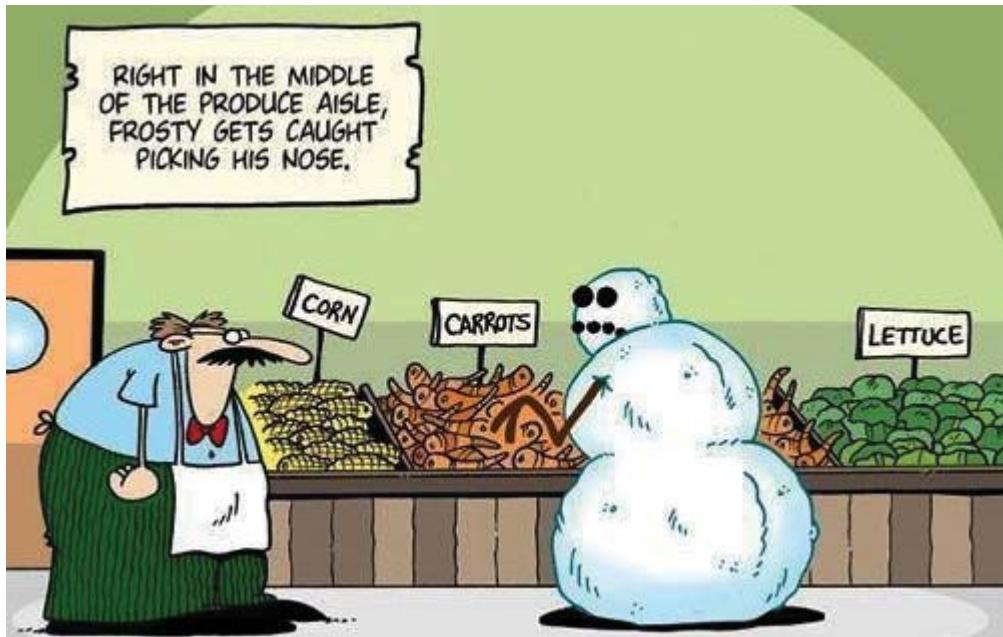
Norway's contribution to our topic comes under the heading of attractive in its simplicity. There's no doubt what this pictorial is trying to portray and in so doing uses a bare minimum of ink, even incorporating the date and city of usage as part of the picture, all to convey a sense of "smile." This marking comes from Oslo and was used in 2006 (Figure 19).

Also issued in 2006 (Figure 20), this pictorial from Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, showed me an accessory that never crossed my mind to use in my own snowman-making endeavors. Having a few sprigs of evergreen poking out from under his hat, giving the appearance of hair, is a really neat idea! Issued in the middle of November, this marking wishes everyone a quite early Happy New Year.

Let's finish up with three markings from back home here in The States. Figure 21 is a marking used in Milton, N.H., in 1999, celebrating the town's annual February Winter Carnival sponsored by the local Moose Lodge. Along with the usual winter carnival activities, there's also a chili cook-off with sampling permitted by any attendees



Figure 23.



**Figure 24.**

who want to warm up from the inside out and who are willing to make a small donation (usually \$5) for the privilege. Tasters also become judges for the competition.

Figure 22 is a sprayed-on marking used in Massachusetts in 2010. Not particularly popular with many collectors, these markings are often poorly or weakly applied and they tend to smudge easily, but I have to admit, that's a pretty good-looking snowman.

Last, but not least, a handsome illustrated cover originating from the appropriately-named Frosty Station in Frost, Minn. The combination of the pictorial, the artwork, the sentiment and the stamp issue does a great job of including many things secular related to snow-people, winter and the holidays (Figure 23).

Figure 24 needs no comment so I'll wish you all a belated Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. May you all enjoy the season, and get out there with the kids or grandkids and build yourselves a snowman! ☺

## NTSS/StampShow and Elections

Be sure to watch for NTSS/Stampshow information in the March-April *Topical Time* (as well as subsequent issues). The first-ever joint show will take place in Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 9-12, 2018. We hope to see you there!

Also, we'll feature emerging details on this year's ATA election (which will take place later this spring) in the March-April issue of *Topical Time*. Several positions will need to be filled or re-elected. ☺

# Denys to Teach Topicals

Jack André Denys, experienced exhibitor and past president of the American Topical Association (as well as recipient of the ATA's Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award), will be instructor for a two-day course during the 2018 American Philatelic Society's Summer Seminar on Philately. The course, titled "Topical Collecting 101," will cover the basics, but will go much further. The course will take place Monday and Tuesday, June 25-26, at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pa.

The course, according to Denys, is an introduction to topical stamp collecting intended for both philatelic beginners and seasoned philatelists who are seeking something new. Traditional collectors turn to topical philately when they have completed their primary collection, when they cannot afford the stamps they don't have or when they want something new and stimulating. All are welcome!

## **Participants will learn:**

- The definition and history of topical collecting.
- The freedom and fun of topical collecting.
- What "Beyond the Catalog" items are and how to obtain them.
- Similarities and differences of topical and thematic collecting.
- Resources for topical collecting.
- What to look for in a thematic exhibit.

## **Participants will learn how to:**

- Choose an appropriate topic and do topical research and write-ups.
- Develop a resource file for the topic.
- Decide the parameters of a topical collection.
- Create a topical want list.
- Decide how to organize and store a topical collection.

As mentioned, Denys is a highly seasoned and experienced collector and exhibitor. His primary thematic exhibit, dealing with the Bauyeaux Tapestry, has won 10 gold national-level World Series of Philately medals, including the grand and reserve grand at the ATA's National Topical Stamp Show. In international competition, his exhibit has won three vermeil awards. Jack is also a prolific philatelic writer and has been mentor to new topical collectors. He welcomes your questions and stories.

Registration information may be obtained by emailing the APS education department at [education@stamps.org](mailto:education@stamps.org), by calling (814) 933-3803, by registering online at [www.stamps.org/Summer-Seminar](http://www.stamps.org/Summer-Seminar) or by writing the Education Department, American Philatelic Society, 100 Match Factory Pl, Bellefonte PA 16803.

We hope to see you there! 

# Harriet Tubman: Emancipator

*By John P. Renhart*

Once again, my collecting interests have gone off on a tangent. While organizing elements in my collection having to do with the Civil War, I have taken a particular interest in **Harriet Tubman**. Frankly, until the United States Postal Service issued a

13¢ commemorative stamp recognizing Tubman in 1978, I was not aware of her important place in history. In fact, like many, the recent press about the U.S. Treasury adding Tubman to the front of the \$20 bill in 2020 really got me wondering what the fuss was all about. I have discovered that this remarkable woman's story is one of extraordinary courage and commitment. I also discovered that there is a lot more to her story than meets the eye.

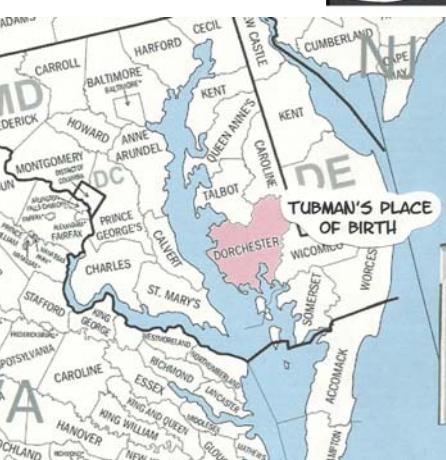
From a philatelic point of view, there is a fair amount of material to tell her story. Shown nearby are two covers depicting the Feb. 1, 1978, commemorative tribute that marked two firsts for the USPS: the first African-American woman to be honored on a U.S. postage stamp and was the subject of the first Black Heritage series stamp, of which 38 had been released through 2016.



*Harriet Tubman, U.S. Scott 1744 (above), and two FDCs (below).*



As I did my research for this feature, I found a couple of covers that draw attention to slavery, shown in the collage at right: a Richmond, Va., company that was at the center of the slave trade, dated Oct. 13, 1860; and an anti-slavery cover reverse that illustrates Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, dated March 28, 1853. The cover of the book, as well as the Stowe stamp (Scott 3430), are also shown.



wound that would cause her epileptic seizures and headaches for most of the rest of her life. With the encouragement of her mother, she acquired a passionate faith in God which would impact many of her actions throughout her life.

Around 1844, Araminta, still a slave, married **John Tubman**, a free black man. Such blended marriages – free people of color marrying enslaved people – were not uncommon on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Shortly after the marriage, she changed her name to Harriet (her mother's name). A copy of their wedding photo is shown on the following page.

Born **Araminta (Minty) Ross**, into slavery in 1822, Harriet Tubman's early life was in Cambridge, Dorchester County, Md. The map at left shows the county's location.

At a very young age Tubman was responsible for taking care of her younger siblings. As a teen, she worked as a field hand, where she frequently faced beatings by masters to whom she was hired out. On one occasion she received a severe head

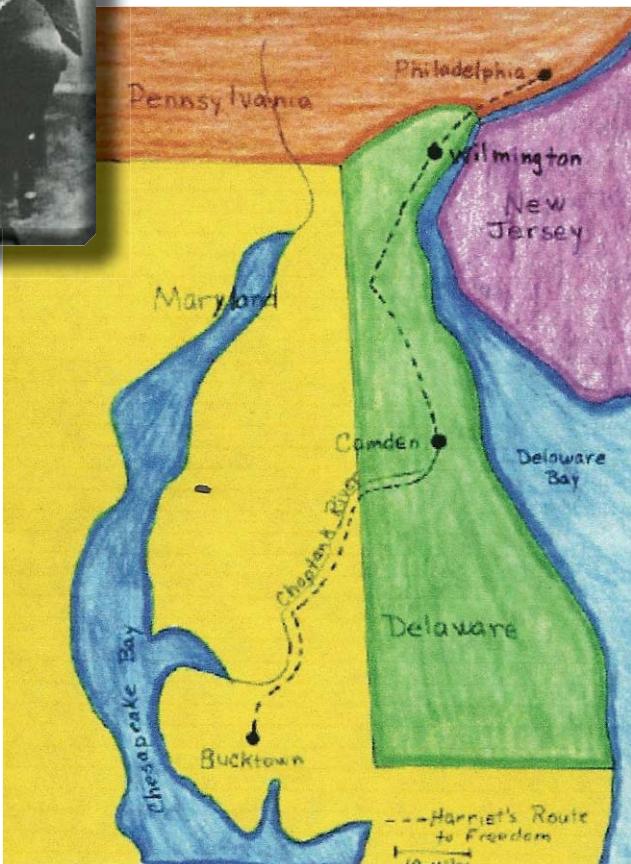


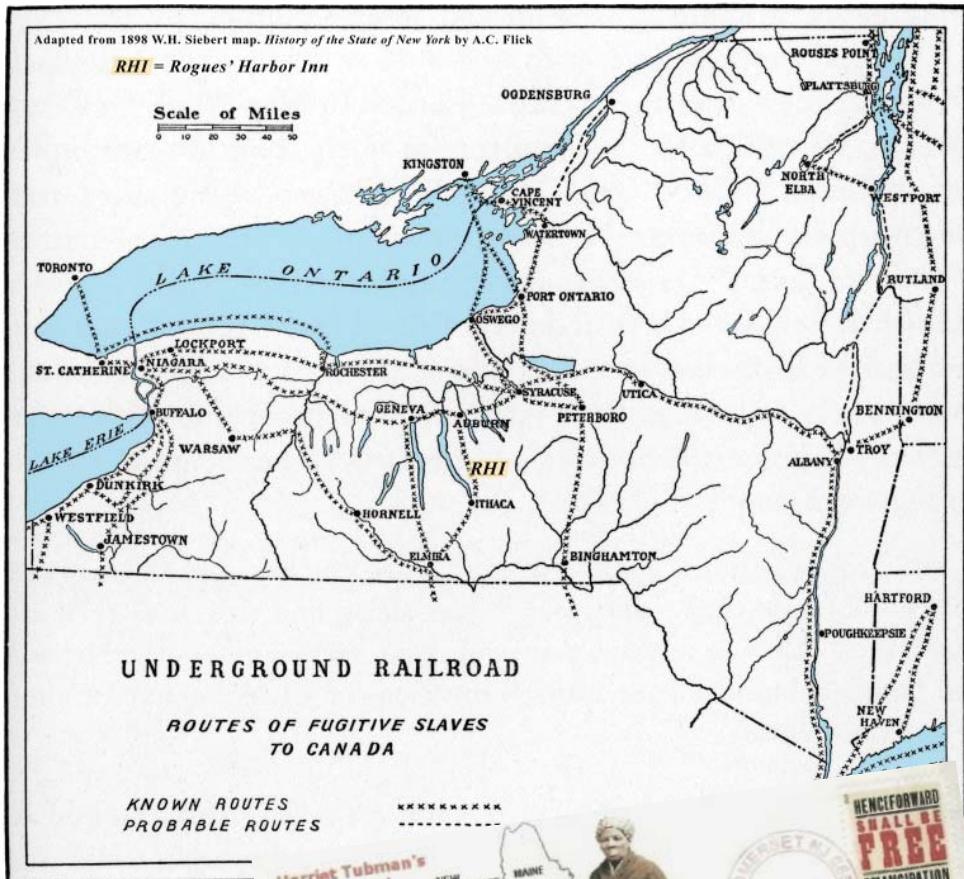
**Harriet and John Tubman, 1844.**

Americans escape from bondage. Under the cover of darkness, people opposed to slavery (free blacks, abolitionists, Quakers) served as “conductors.” They brought the fugitive slaves, often in carts, to farmhouse “stations”; safe houses, to be fed, sheltered and provided with hiding places. The conductors guided the “passengers” on to the next stop and ultimately a “free” state or Canada. As illustrated by the map at right, Tubman’s first escape route took her north 130 miles from “Bucktown”/Cambridge, Md., to Philadelphia, Pa.

As illustrated on the facing page, a New York State map shows the various known and probable routes of the Underground Railroad. The cover near the map was prepared by a stamp club in Somerset, N.J., and commemorates the death centennial of Harriet Tubman (March 10, 2013). It features U.S. Scott 4721, the 150th Anniversary Emancipation Proclamation commemorative stamp issued Jan.

Wanting her freedom and – despite her husband’s efforts to dissuade her – on Sept. 17, 1849, Tubman and her brothers escaped from slavery. On the move during the night, they used the North Star to guide them in their flight. She tapped into the resistance network known as the *Underground Railroad*; it was neither underground nor a railroad. It was a secret humanitarian resistance movement of abolitionists who wanted to help thousands of African





1, 2013. Notice the map of the Northeast with an Underground Railroad route marked in red.

The cover's narrative makes reference to the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park (which opened on the Eastern Shore of Maryland's Chesapeake Bay in March 2017). It is on the Dorchester County property where Tubman worked as a slave. Fast forward, in the same area 125 miles of highway has been designated the Harriet Tubman Underground



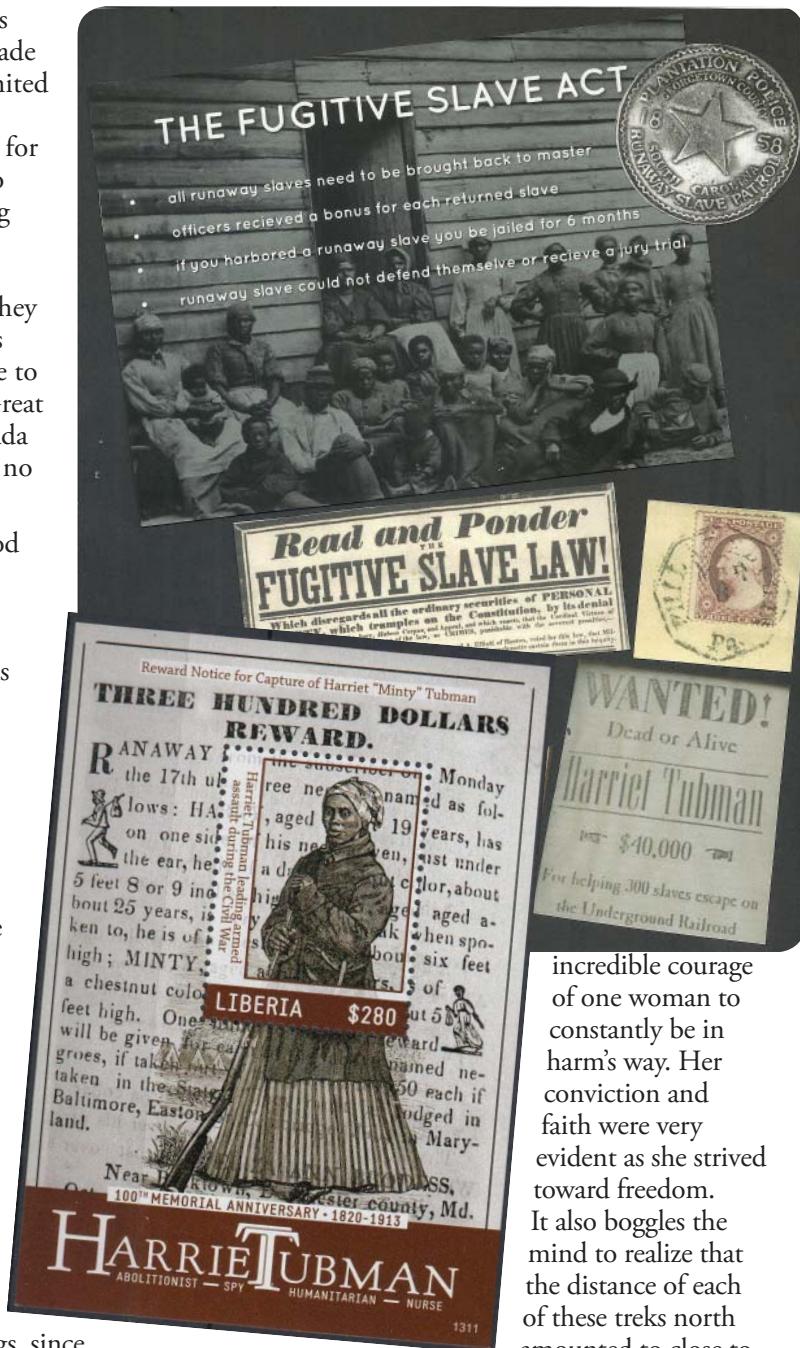
Railroad Byway, where visitors are able to recount Tubman's life story as well as the story of slavery and the pursuit of freedom.

The *Federal Fugitive Slave Law/Act of 1850* required that all escaped slaves, upon capture, be returned to their masters ... with compliance to the law

in “free” states as well. The law made the northern United States a more dangerous place for escaped slaves to remain, resulting in an increased migration into Canada. Once they “shook the lion’s paw,” a reference to the symbol of Great Britain, in Canada they were slaves no more.

Over a period of 11 years, at great personal risk, Tubman made 19 arduous trips, rescuing close to 300 family members (including her aging parents) and friends. She returned repeatedly to the Eastern Shore of Maryland, usually working during the winter months. Once she established contact with her escaping prospects, they would leave town on Saturday evening

newspapers would not print runaway notices until Monday morning. Tubman's Underground Railroad journeys into upstate New York and Canada put her at great risk. It's hard to imagine the



incredible courage of one woman to constantly be in harm's way. Her conviction and faith were very evident as she strived toward freedom. It also boggles the mind to realize that the distance of each of these treks north amounted to close to

1,000 miles round-trip. Also, without any formal education, Tubman was unable to read or write.

It's interesting to note that slaveholders on Maryland's Eastern

**February is Black History Month**

**ABOLITIONIST, HUMANITARIAN, UNION SPY**

**\$150 REWARD**

**She made more than thirteen missions to rescue more than 70 slaves using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the "Underground Railroad"**

**Harriet Tubman (1820 - March 10, 1913)**

**SAGAMORE BEACH, MA 02562**  
**FEB 27 2013**  
**USPS**

**HENCEFORWARD  
SHALL BE  
FREE  
EMANCIPATION  
PROCLAMATION  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN  
1863  
FOREVER USA**

Black History Month had its beginnings in 1926 in the United States, when historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History announced the second week of February to be **Negro History Week**. This week was chosen because it marked the birthday of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. **Negro History Week** grew in popularity throughout the following decades, with mayors across the United States endorsing it as a holiday. In 1976, during our bicentennial celebration, **Negro History Week** was expanded to become known as **Black History Month**.

Shore had no idea that “Minty,” the petite, five-foot-tall disabled slave who ran away years before and never came back, was behind so many slave escapes in their community. By the late 1850s they began to suspect a northern white abolitionist (including John Brown) was the culprit.

Because of their investment, slaveholders did not take the defection of their charges lightly. While a \$40,000 reward for Tubman’s capture was rumored (such as the clipping pictured in the facing page’s collage), a more realistic bounty is illustrated in the documented posting of a \$300 reward for the return of Harriet and her brothers, Harry and Ben, by the Brodess family in the Oct. 3, 1849, *Delaware Gazette*. In 2013, Liberia issued two souvenir sheets and two mini sheets commemorating the 100th anniversary of Tubman’s passing. The souvenir sheet, shown on the facing page, features the 1849 reward poster, along with an image of Tubman in her Civil War uniform. Shown above is a 2013 Black History cover with a cachet featuring another reward poster. Despite the best efforts of the slaveholders, Tubman was never captured, nor were the fugitives she guided.

In December 1851, while guiding 11 fugitives north, en route to St. Catharines, Ontario, Tubman’s group took refuge at the Rochester, N.Y., home of abolitionist and former slave (also from Maryland), **Frederick Douglass**. Later, in 1868, Douglass would honor her with commentary for an early biography: *“The midnight sky and the silent stars have been witness of your devotion to freedom and of your heroism. Excepting John Brown – of sacred memory – I know of no one who has willingly encountered more perils and hardships to serve our enslaved people than you have.”* A 25-year resident of Rochester, Douglass was a fervent advocate for slavery’s abolition ... along with being an accomplished author, orator, editor, diplomat and suffragist. His final resting place is the Mount Hope Cemetery in Rochester.

Douglass has been recognized a couple of times on U.S. postage. On Feb. 14, 1967, a 25¢ in the Prominent Americans series was released with his image (Scott 1290), and on June 29, 1995, as part of the U.S. Civil War sheetlet and postal card series (Scott 2975h and UX207).

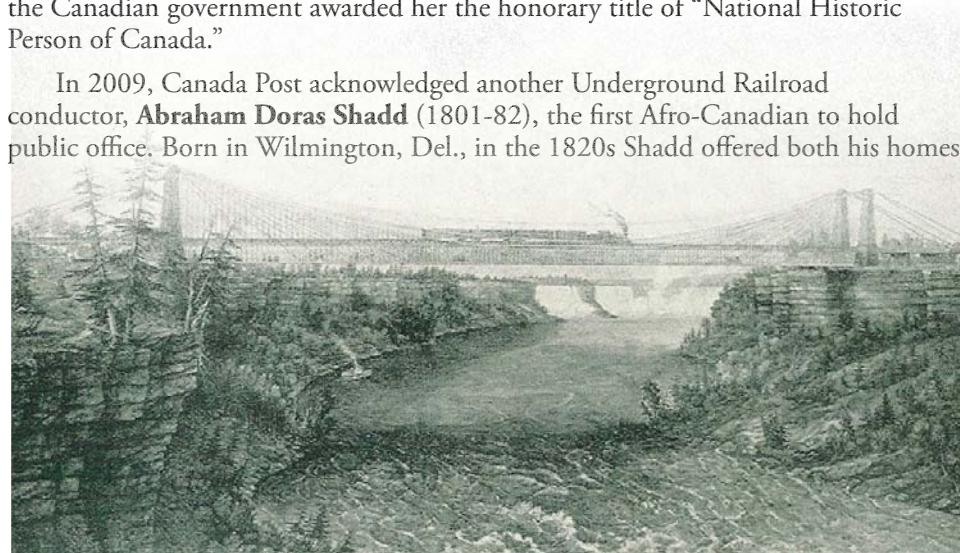
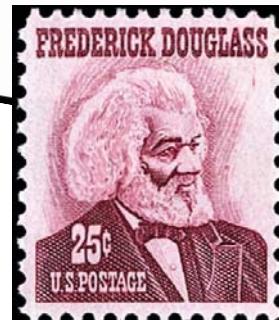
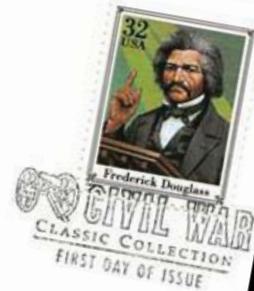
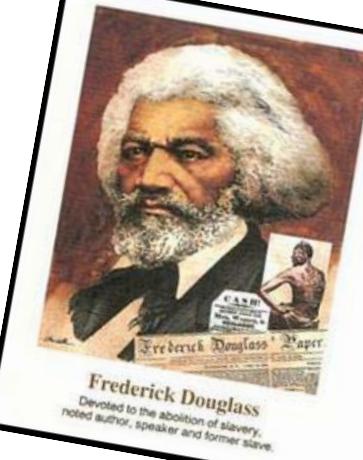
A hub of abolitionist activity in Canada, St. Catharines, Ontario, was a well-known safe haven for African Americans fleeing from slavery.

Over a 10-year period, Tubman

would bring numerous groups from Maryland. Each time, she would make the Niagara River/ Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge (built in 1856 by John Roebling who also built the Brooklyn Bridge) crossing (shown below). In St. Catharines, she rented and operated a boarding house to help resettle the newly arrived freedom seekers. In 1855, in an interview, she stated that it was her desire "to stay in her native land, but could not live there because she had no freedom or legal rights in the United States." In 1861, she helped establish the Fugitive Aid Society.

Over the years, Canadians have acknowledged Tubman's work with memorials, exhibitions and with a commemorative plaque and bust on display at the Salem Chapel of the British Methodist Episcopal Church (a National Historic Site) in St. Catharines. The bust is shown on the facing page. A message below the bust features a quote from Tubman, in response to the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act: "*I wouldn't trust Uncle Sam with my people no longer. I brought them all clear off to Canada.*" In 2005, the Canadian government awarded her the honorary title of "National Historic Person of Canada."

In 2009, Canada Post acknowledged another Underground Railroad conductor, **Abraham Doras Shadd** (1801-82), the first Afro-Canadian to hold public office. Born in Wilmington, Del., in the 1820s Shadd offered both his homes,

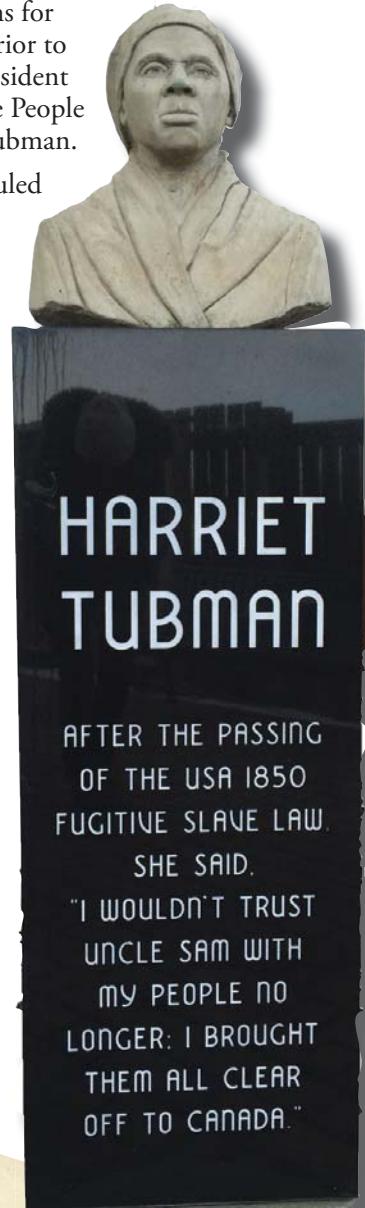


in Wilmington Del., and West Chester, Pa., as safe havens for escaping slaves. He was an outspoken abolitionist and, prior to becoming a Canadian citizen in 1833, he was elected president of the National Convention for the Improvement of Free People of Color. It is likely that he crossed paths with Harriet Tubman.

The Supreme Court's *Dred Scott* decision of 1857 ruled that black men – whether free or enslaved – had “no rights which a white man was bound to respect.” Like most Northerners, Tubman was outraged at the notion that slavery was legal anywhere in the country. On the 150th Anniversary of the Supreme Court ruling, in 2007 the Dred Scott Heritage Association released a Colorado commemorative cover, and others marked the occasion with cancels or cachets as well.

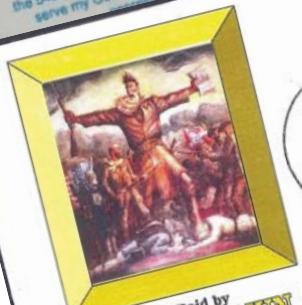
In 1858, Tubman was visited by anti-slavery activist, **John Brown**. He sought her help in convincing enslaved African Americans to rebel against the South. Eighteen months later, on Oct. 17, 1859, Brown led his infamous raid on Harper’s Ferry, Va., without Tubman’s presence. Brown was charged with treason and hung on Dec. 2, 1859. Tubman, Frederick Douglass and several white men known as the “Secret Six” were implicated in the notorious raid and warrants were issued for their arrests. Below is a 1934 cover marking the 75th anniversary of the event. A couple of additional – more recent – covers are shown on the following page. Brown referred to Harriett as “General Tubman,” because of her innate leadership abilities in leading slaves to freedom.

In 2013, at the same time as the previously illustrated souvenir sheet reproducing



**The end of slavery started with the  
Raid by John Brown on  
Harpers Ferry on October 17, 1859**

William H. Carney was born in Norfolk, Virginia in 1840 to parents who were slaves. In his youth he secretly received an education. At the age of 15 his parents were free by the death of their master. They moved to New Bedford, MA. Carney joined the 54th Massachusetts Infantry. "I felt I could best serve my God by serving my country and my fellow human brothers."



The Raid by  
**JOHN BROWN**  
Harpers Ferry Arsenal  
Centennial



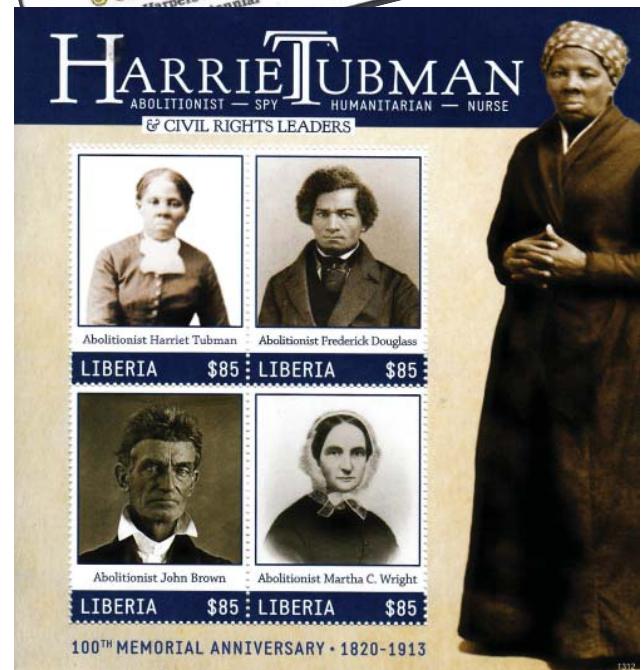
a wanted poster was produced, Liberia issued the sheetlet shown nearby (as well as a couple of others), paying tribute to Tubman and marking the centennial of her death.

The sheetlet acknowledges several abolitionists.

In recognition of her courageous efforts, abolitionist and publisher of *The Liberator*, **William**

**Lloyd Garrison**, nicknamed Tubman "Moses," alluding to the prophet in the biblical book of Exodus, who led the Hebrews to freedom from Egypt. Garrison supported her work by providing funds and shelter. At right is a small collage, showing a copy of *The Liberator* banner, as well as covers of books written about Garrison and Tubman.

In early 1859, abolitionist Republican U.S. Senator **William H. Seward** sold Tubman a small piece of land for \$1,200 (an illegal transaction at the time) on the outskirts of Auburn, in the Finger Lakes region



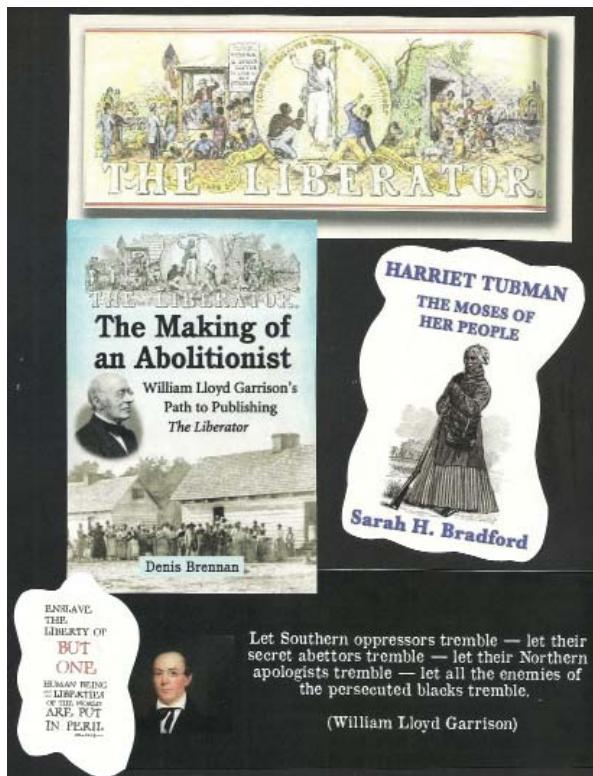
(Lake Owasco, Cayuga County) of upstate New York. Sympathetic to Tubman's cause, Seward quickly became an antislavery activist. His wife, Frances, was deeply committed to the abolitionist movement, which was strongly supported in Auburn. In the 1850s the Seward family joined the Underground Railroad network and opened its home as a safe haven for fugitive slaves. On one occasion, Seward

commented about Tubman's tenacity stating, "I have known her long ... a nobler, higher spirit, or a truer seldom dwells in the human form."

Auburn was the final destination of Tubman's last rescue mission, in December 1860. Except for her service in the Civil War, Auburn would be Tubman's home until her passing in 1913. It became a haven for her family (including her parents) and friends. To raise funds for her rescue missions and to pay for her new home, Tubman traveled throughout New England, attending anti-slavery conventions and giving lectures about the evils of slavery.

As an aside, I discovered why Auburn, N.Y., was the first-day city for the July 4, 1959, 4¢ 49-star American Flag stamp (Scott 1132). William Seward served as New York state senator and governor, U.S. senator, a presidential candidate and then secretary of state under Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson ... in which role he negotiated the 1867 \$8 million purchase of Alaska from Russia (aka "Seward's Folly"). He lived in Auburn from 1823 until his death in 1872.

Shown at left is the front cover of the July 4, 1959, Alaska Statehood celebration program (with a 4¢ Flag stamp superimposed). This is one of the few times that the U.S. Post Office Department scheduled a first-day ceremony on a holiday. The cancellation (inset) includes a rendering of Seward's Auburn home, which is now a historical museum. Seward appears on a U.S. stamp commemorating the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition (June 1, 1909, Scott 370 and 371, also inset).





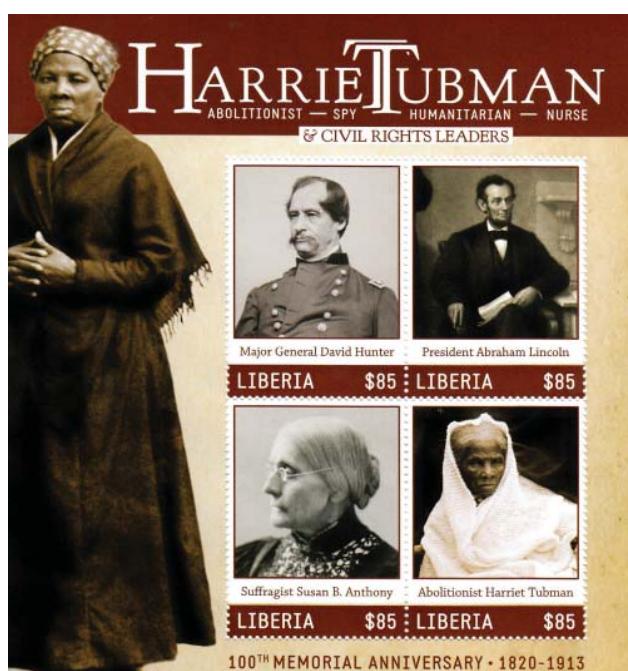
The cachet shown above features a reproduction of Seward's appearance on an early snuff tax stamp.

When the American Civil War broke out in 1861, Tubman saw a Union victory as a key step toward the abolition of slavery. In January 1862, she was recruited into the Union Army, where she served as a nurse, cook, scout and spy. In South Carolina, she met **Gen. David Hunter**, who appears with her on this 2013 Liberian mini sheet tribute, which you may recognize as being from the same set as several others pictured with this article.

A strong supporter of abolition, Hunter declared that all of the "contrabands" (slaves who sought refuge in Union military camps) in the *Port Royal* district free. His goal was to allow the former slaves to serve as a regiment of black soldiers. However, **President Abraham Lincoln** was

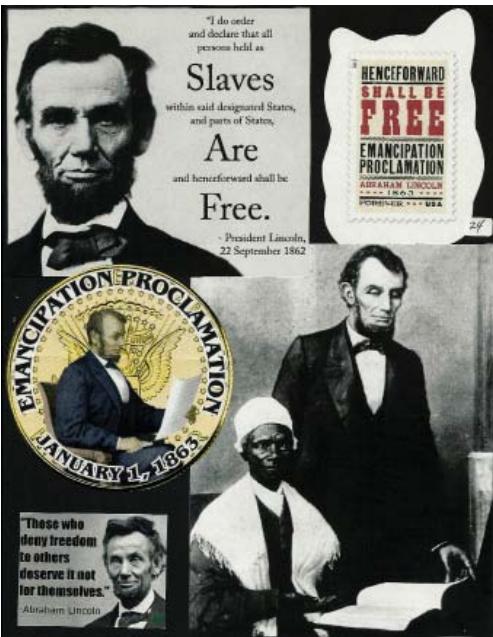
not prepared at that time to enforce emancipation on the southern states, and reprimanded Hunter for his actions. Tubman condemned Lincoln's response and his general unwillingness to consider ending slavery in the United States for both moral and practical reasons. "God won't let Master Lincoln beat the South 'till he does the right thing," she said. At the outset of the Civil War, President Lincoln felt driven to preserve the Union at all costs, even if it meant allowing for the continuation of slavery. He later changed his opinion and finally realized that slavery was one of the real causes of the war.

Seward is also included in the cachet of a number of different covers featuring the 8¢ airmail stamp (Scott C70) commemorating the 100th anniversary of the purchase of Alaska, issued on March 30, 1967.



When President Lincoln finally issued the *Emancipation Proclamation* in January 1863, Tubman's faith was renewed in the potential of liberating all blacks from slavery.

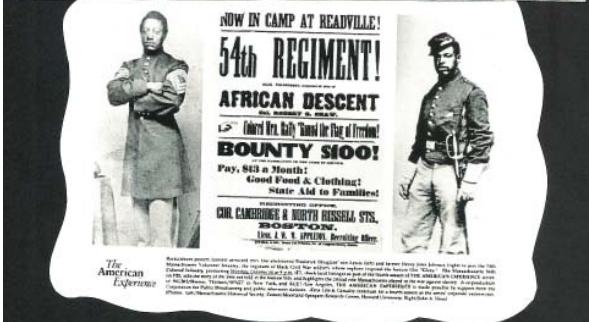
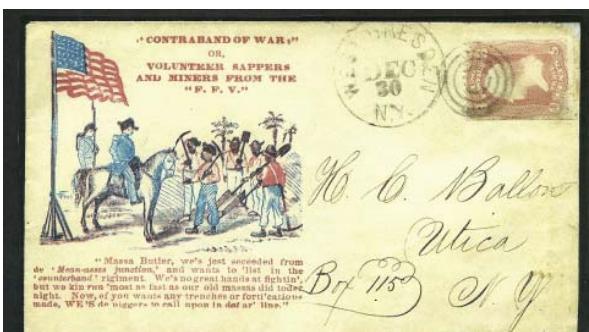
Tubman's expertise in freeing slaves, as well as her knowledge of the Port Royal, S.C., area suited her well in gathering key intelligence for troop commander **Col. James Montgomery**. On June 2, 1863, this gutsy/feisty lady became the first woman to lead an armed assault during the Civil War; the Combahee River Raid resulted in the burning of numerous low-country plantations and the mass escape of more than 750 enslaved men, women and children to Beaufort. Many of the newly liberated men went on to join the Union Army.

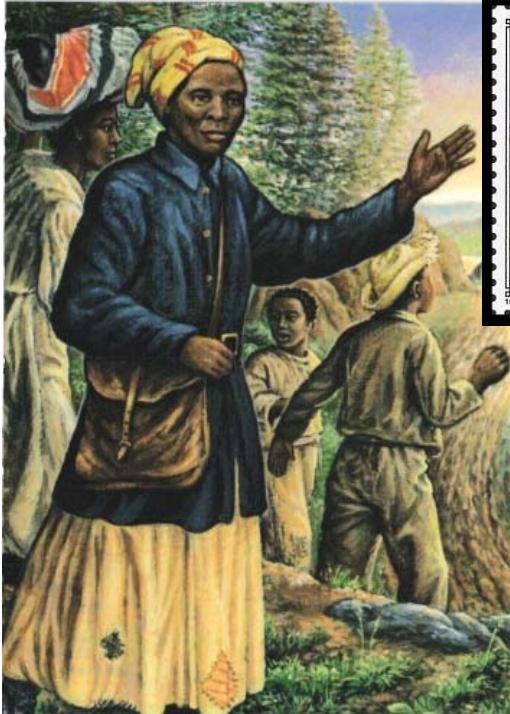


In 2006, the South Carolina legislature approved the naming of a bridge crossing the Combahee River in honor of Tubman.

In the photo collage at left is an 1861 cover that illustrates slaves volunteering to serve in the Union Army; it is estimated that more than 200,000 black men eventually served in the Union forces.

The USPS 1995 Civil War Classic Collection included a set of premium pictorial postal cards that matched the 20 different stamps, one of which features Tubman (Scott UX210) shown on the following page, along with the front and back of a stamp from the sheet. Also displayed are a Collins hand-painted first-day cover postmarked in Baltimore, Md. (June 29, 1995), and a Fleetwood cover (Collins and



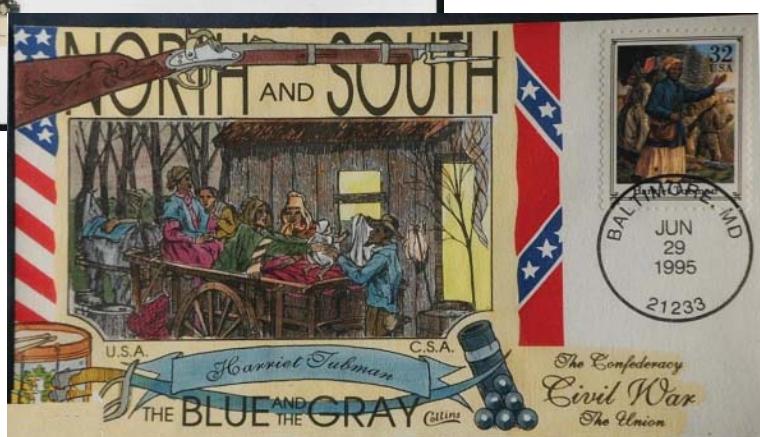
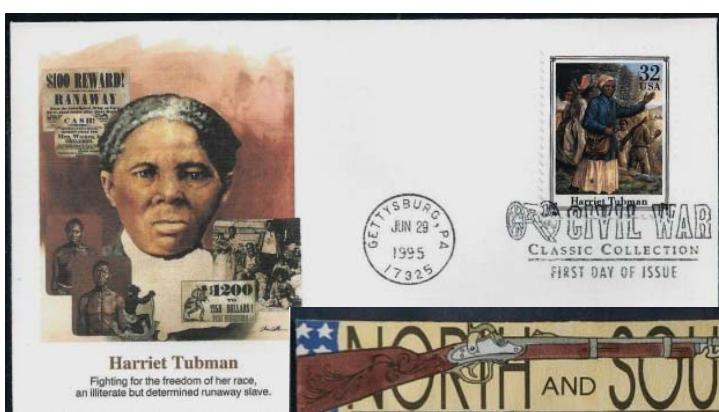


Abolitionist  
Harriet Ross Tubman  
c1821-1913  
Fugitive slave who fled  
to freedom. As "Moses  
of her people," led over  
200 Blacks north via  
Underground Railroad.  
Served Union Army as  
cook, spy and scout.

Fleetwood are both named after the maker), postmarked Gettysburg, Pa., also the first day. Both feature the 32¢ Tubman stamp (Scott 2975k).

Tubman continued her work with the Union forces, tending to newly liberated slaves, scouting into Confederate territory and nursing wounded soldiers in Virginia. For all of her service, she never received a regular salary and was not awarded a government pension until 1899.

At the end of the war, she returned to her home in Auburn, N.Y. While she continued her humanitarian work, Tubman was in a constant state of poverty. She took in boarders to help pay the bills.





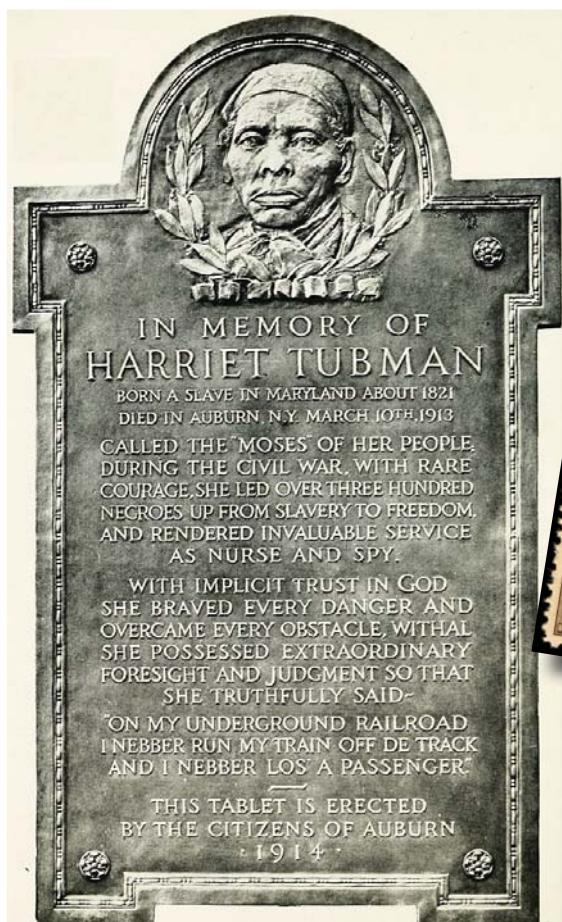
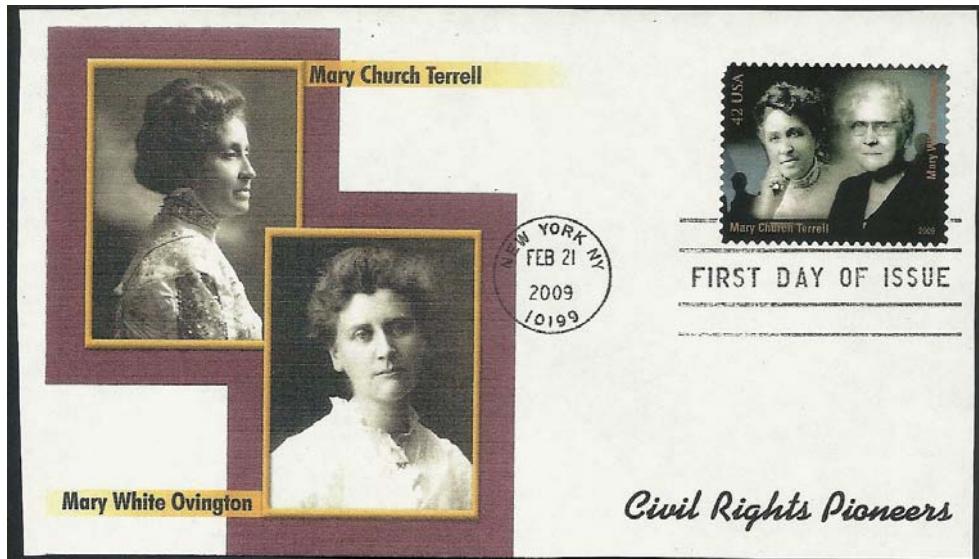
Abolitionist friends raised funds to support her. Early authorized biographies provided some revenue.

In 1869, Tubman remarried; **Nelson Davis** was one of her boarders. In 1874 they adopted a girl named **Gertie**. Above is a photo taken, in the mid 1880s of Tubman with daughter Gertie, husband Nelson Davis, and a family of rescued slaves. This photo appears on a 2013 Liberian commemorative souvenir sheet from the same set we featured earlier.

In her later years, Tubman promoted the cause of women's suffrage. Working alongside **Susan B. Anthony**, she traveled to New York, Boston and Washington, D.C., to speak out in favor of women's voting rights. Anthony's

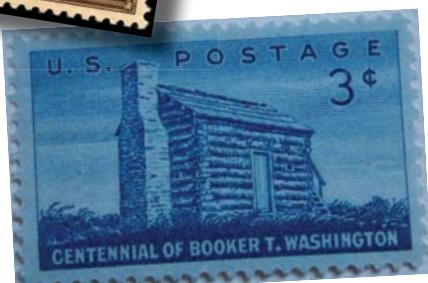
photo is prominent, along with that of Lincoln and David Hunter on the 2013 Liberian mini sheet paying tribute to Harriet Tubman we featured earlier. Anthony also appears a couple of times on U.S. stamps, including a 1936 3¢ issue (Scott 784) and a 50¢ value from the 1954 Liberty series (Scott 1051).





When the National Federation of Afro-American Women was founded in 1896, Tubman was the keynote speaker at its first meeting. She would be publicly acknowledged by fellow pioneers **Mary Church Terrell** and **Mary White**

**Ovington** for paving the way in securing civil rights for both blacks and women. Shown above is a Feb. 21, 2009, Fleetwood cover commemorating these civil rights pioneers (Scott 4384a).



Surrounded by friends and family, Harriet Tubman died of pneumonia in 1913. She



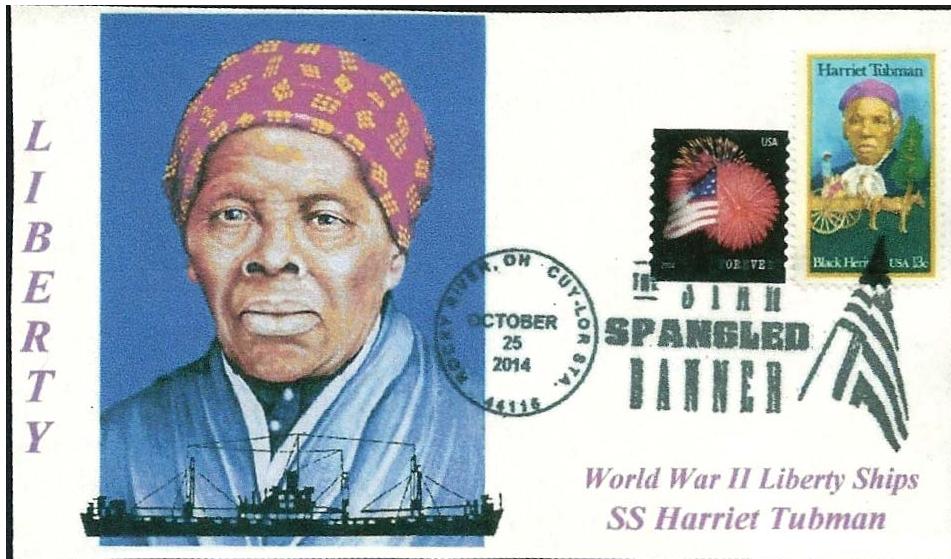
was buried with semi-military honors in Auburn's Fort Hill Cemetery, also the final resting place of **William Seward**. Stating that "*she brought the races together*," **Booker T. Washington** (a former slave and founder of the Tuskegee Institute) joined the citizens of Auburn in dedicating a special plaque at the Cayuga County Courthouse in Tubman's honor on June 13, 1914. Dr. Washington appears on the 10¢ Famous Americans Educators Issue (Scott 873, April 7, 1940) and the 3¢ commemorative of the centennial of his birth (Scott 1074, April 5, 1956), shown on the facing page.

Now, I really do understand what the fuss is all about. The announcement, this past spring, by the U.S. Treasury that (at long last) it would honor and celebrate the accomplishments of American women by featuring Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill is so appropriate. The designation is a fitting tribute to a woman who escaped slavery and unselfishly devoted her life to advancing the freedom and equality of African Americans and the rights of women. A mock-up of that bill is shown above.

In another philatelic tribute, Liberia pays homage to "*The People's Champions*" in the 2013 mini sheet shown below, which includes Tubman. She appears with great company, including Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, Florence Nightingale, Raoul Wallenberg, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn and Abraham Lincoln.

Over the years, Tubman's legacy has been celebrated on highways, museums, state and national parks, monuments, in numerous biographies, children's books and many memorials throughout the





*World War II Liberty Ships  
SS Harriet Tubman*

United States and Canada. Her name appears on dozens of schools as well. Interestingly, after she got her freedom in 1849, she attempted to learn how to read and write. In her lifetime, Tubman gave many others what she was denied as a child, and that was a formal education.

In 1944, The United States Maritime Commission launched the SS *Harriet Tubman*, its first *Liberty Ship* ever named for a black woman. Shown above is a 2014 commemorative cover marking the 50th anniversary of that event.

On March 10, 1990, **President George H.W. Bush** proclaimed Harriet Tubman Day, stating that “*in her efforts to abolish slavery, Harriet Tubman advanced the noble ideas enshrined in our Declaration of Independence...that all men are created equal.*”

*John P. Renyhart first wrote for Topical Time in 2009. In 2010, he prepared a three-part series titled “A Philatelic View of Philanthropy.” His 2014 submission featured “A Philatelic Window into Santa’s Evolution.” He has been recognized by the Christmas Philatelic Club (Yule Log) with the Irene B. Chidester New Author and the Ken MacKenzie Writer Awards. A lifelong stamp collector, John is past president of the General Francis Marion Stamp Club in Ocala, Fla. His collecting interests include U.S., U.N., Christmas, philanthropy, Abraham Lincoln and the American Civil War, Princess Diana and Prince William & family. John and his wife Nancy retired to Florida in 2006 from Long Island. His email address is [jprenyhart@aol.com](mailto:jprenyhart@aol.com).*

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



# CHECKLISTS CONSIDERED

## Dominic Sgro

## Be Careful What You Ask For

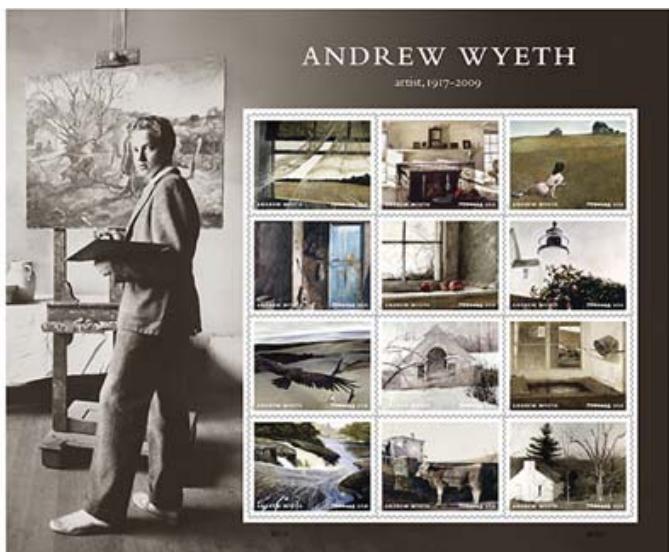
**Prologue:** I received an email from Vera Felts, asking if I would like to volunteer for some more projects at the ATA. I had done some DVD evaluations, and worked on the U.S. joint issues list. I then asked that if there were any other lists that needed work, to please give me a call.

Well, did I ask for it! She let me know of a project involving going over the Olympics lists, and breaking them down into more manageable sizes to make it easier for collectors to choose to either purchase the complete list of all summer or winter games, or choose certain years they may want to collect.

Starting on this project led me to ask some questions on how the dATABase was set up to figure out how my entries and corrections would need to be formatted and identified so that the person doing the updates can do it efficiently. I guess I asked one too many questions!

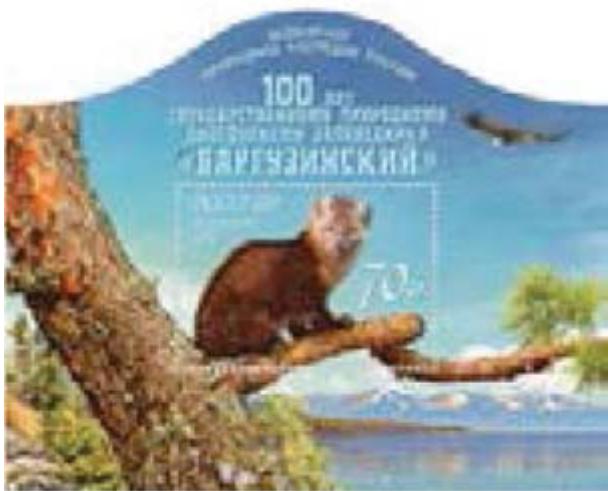
Hi. My name is Dominic Sgro, from Ontario, Canada. I'm the new checklist coordinator, and my main duty for the ATA is to enter the monthly Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue updates from Linn's Stamp News into the ATA checklist dATABase. I have a terrific assistant and backup, Beth Scully. She updates all the member requests for corrections and creation of new topic subjects/lists. We are also working at correcting many small quirks that have crept into the lists over the years.

We have started to change the denominations to reflect the way they are shown in Linn's.



**When multiple topics are represented on a single sheet or other format, do most collectors strip out only the stamp(s) that fit their topic(s)?**

## Souvenir Sheet



**Sable — A3938**

***The amount of detail (both visible and described) in a basic Scott listing for a worldwide stamp.***

the ATA stamp ID as to whether the item is a sheet (M/S), souvenir (S/S), pair, block or other format. This helps both members and dealers. This brought up another question I had asked the ATA while breaking down the Olympic lists.

“How does a topical collector handle a S/S or M/S, sheet, strip or other format, when multiple topics are represented? Does he or she collect the complete item, or simply remove the stamp(s) that are related to their topic?” I have been informed that some members do remove stamps or split them apart. I just was skeptical that someone would pay a premium price for a M/S or S/S and then remove stamps from it.”

After receiving member feedback, our mandate is to now list the complete sheet, S/S, strip, block or M/S as one item, and also enter each individual stamp as a separate ID. The topic might be the same (with current topic lists), but that might change as time goes on and as members’ requests for refinements in the topic lists, similar to the giant Olympics list being broken down by game year.

Another request and concern I had while entering stamps into the dATAbase was the accuracy of the topics identified for each entry. Collectors who use a Scott catalog or peruse the update section in *Linn’s* know that not every stamp is shown. There is a description of each stamp, but it does not completely and fully describe the stamp. Check the picture at left, based on the Scott listing shown:

So, we get tree, sable, eagle and bodies of water. Are those mountains and snow? So, can we stop with those checklists and be okay? Oh, but what about

If it is pound sterling or Euros, we are entering the symbols. As time permits, we will also correct/add other symbols for currency as needed.

Beth has been working hard to answer the backlog of members’ requests that have been submitted. Please keep them coming; we will get to every one of them. There might have been a time of silence, but we are back and determined to get the lists as close to accurate as humanly possible.

We have been getting requests from members and dealers to help them identify



**The image at right provided the author with more visual information regarding what appears on the item, including four additional topics from the lower-left corner (see enlarged inset above).**

anniversaries and national parks?

The larger image, at right, is from an eBay listing. It really is what I needed to

be able to spot topics (more detail). But wait: Looking at the lower left of the sheetlet, I noticed a few more topics (enlarged inset). These include butterfly, insect, bear, and another animal I cannot make out. Maybe when a member/collector has the actual item, then we can obtain that last topic.

So you can see how many topics are missed if we go with only what is shown, or written, in Scott/Linn's updates. It's a start, but it takes much more research per stamp to get it as complete as possible. Each month there are at least 1,000+ items to enter. I try my best to get them all in, and as accurate as time permits. At a minimum of five minutes per stamp...

We also ask that you help us create the best set of checklists we can for ATA members. Information is needed on every stamp topic when a stamp is first entered into the database. We rely on our members to help us if we miss any.

Please email us at [atachecklists@gmail.com](mailto:atachecklists@gmail.com) with additions or suggestions you may have. ☐



# Award Winners

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

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

## First, Second and Third Awards

Napex presented **\*Joel Cohen** with the ATA Novice Award for his exhibit, *Diversity in the Diamond Stamps Honoring Baseball's Multicultural Heritage*.

**David McNamee**'s exhibit, *The Canoe in Pacific Island Culture*, received the ATA first award at Seapex, while **\*Lyman R. Caswell**'s *They Came to America* received the ATA second award. The ATA third award went to **George Pogosov** for *Fragments of the History of Fencing*.

Minnesota Stamp Expo presented the ATA first award to **Phil Rhoades** for his exhibit, *The Master of Lice*. He also received the ATA one-frame award for *Japan Commemorates Pearl Harbor*. The ATA second award went to **Mike Schumacher** for *The Saga of the Icelandic Horse*.

The 2017 Bnapex/Caltapex joint stamp show gave the ATA first award to **\*James R. Taylor** for his exhibit, *Earth Science: From Flat Earth to Planetary Tectonics*. The ATA youth award was presented to **Alex Liusz Moser** for *Time of Dinosaurs*.

**Mia Fillion**'s exhibit, *The USDA My Plate Food Plate – Mapping Out the Foods*, received the ATA youth award at the Youth Champion of Champions competition.

Canpex awarded the ATA first medal to **\*Jean Wang** for the exhibit *Blood: A Modern Medicine*. **Brainard Fitzgerald** received the ATA second award for *Royal Visit to Canada 1951*, and **Doreen Fitzgerald** was awarded

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the ATA third medal for *Postal's – Through the Lens of Paul Yates*.

\***Dawn Hamman** received the ATA one-frame award at the Greater Houston Stamp Show for her exhibit, *How to Grow Tomatoes*.

*Bridging the Divide*, shown at Balplex by **Brian Harmon**, received the ATA first award, and **Ken Gilbert** was given the ATA second award for *Soccer – Made in Germany*.

Nojex's exhibit, *For the Love of the Dog*, by **George Kramer**, received the ATA first medal.

StampShow presented **William DiPaolo** the ATA first award for *The Gentleman from Pennsylvania*. **Jenny Bennett** received the ATA second medal for *Lord of the Arctic* and \***Larry Fillion** was awarded the third award for *The WHO's "The World Against Malaria" Stamp Campaign*. The ATA one-frame award went to **Jeffrey Hume-Pratuch**, for his exhibit, *The Atlantic Puffin: Its Habits and Habitat*.

\***Fran Adams'** exhibit, *The Charter of the United Nations* received the ATA one-frame award at the Omaha Stamp Show.

Merpex presented \***Carol Anne Visalli** the ATA first award for *Light Up the Sky with Fireworks and more...*, while **John C. Graper** received the ATA second award for *The Horse on United States Postage*.

**Brian Harmon** received the ATA first award at Milcopex for his exhibit, *Bridging the Divide*.

ATA awards presented at UNExpo, held at Bellefonte, Pa., include the ATA first award to \***Fran Adams** for *United Nations Origins, 1938-1942*, ATA second award to \***Greg Galletti** for *The World's Capital – The United Nations Headquarters* and the ATA third award to \***Christopher Dahle** for *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights Origins, Development and Ramifications*. \***Fran Adams** also received the ATA one-frame award for *The Leticia Incident*. ☐

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

## Add Fun to Every Tuesday!

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





# CINDERELLA CORNER

## *Arthur H. Grotel*

## Alphonse Mucha Charity Stamps

This brief article will appeal to collectors of the great Czech Art Nouveau artist, Alphonse Mucha, as well as to collectors of charity labels.

Mucha created four different charity labels (in addition to his advertising stamps). A very rare one, and the earliest of his charity stamps, was made in 1913 for the Foundation for the Schools of Brno. Its image is a rather formidable caped woman enveloping a child (Figure 1).

During the post-World War I Russian famine, Mucha designed a stamp titled “Russia Restituenda,” Latin for “Russia must recover.” Its melancholy depiction of a weeping mother holding her child appeared on a postcard (Figure 2) whose larger size permits more facial detail than the stamp (Figure 3). It comes in two types with different lettering.



Figure 1 (above).

Figure 2 (right).

Figure 3 (below).



issued in 1928 for an Orphan's Care organization. The poster from which the design is derived was published in 1928, rather late in Mucha's career. Presumably, the stamps were issued around the same time. It appeared in 20- and



Figure 4.



was issued in 1939, the year of Mucha's death (Figure 7).

After all these years, it is unlikely another Mucha charity stamp will be discovered, but you never know! Keep looking and please report to me if you find any others. ☐

50-haleru denominations. The 50-haleru is extremely rare (Figure 4). There are four major variants with at least eight others differing primarily in the size and shape of the denomination figures and the configuration of the rosettes in the upper corners. In addition, nine major colors with many shades exist making this an extremely complicated issue. Again, the postcard, issued as a receipt for a donation by the organization, shows a much clearer rendering of the image; it was used in 1943, some years after the stamp was released (Figure 5).

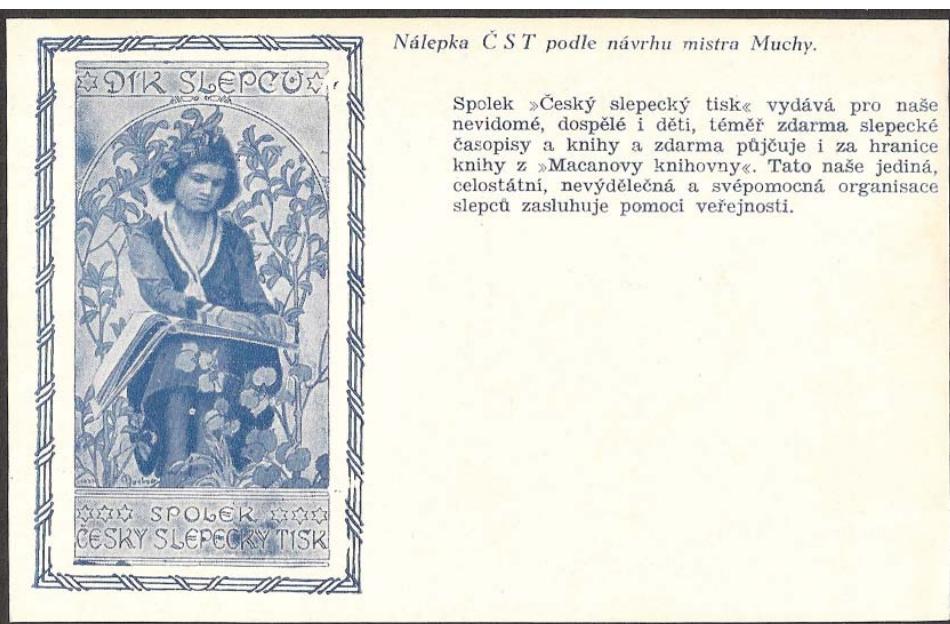
Lastly, a very late charity stamp for the blind appeared in 1935 and is the only multicolor one, albeit subdued (Figure 6). The postcard



**Figure 5 (above left).**

**Figure 6 (above).**

**Figure 7 (below).**



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



# Basics and Beyond

## Jack André Denys

### Postal Stationery III

I have admitted to being confused about German postal stationery that may have been printed privately – rather than by the government – and therefore not acceptable in international (FIP) exhibitions.

In the Sept-Oct issue, I wrote:

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

Then in the last issue I noted that:

The bold print in that second sentence is only sometimes true.

But now we have a member's clarification on the matter. Peter Lang of the ATA's [www.motivgruppe-musik.com](http://www.motivgruppe-musik.com) (International Philatelic Music Study Group) writes from Berlin:

*"To answer your question on page 40 of Topical Time, Nov/Dec 2017: Is this German postal card privately printed?*

[Editor's Note: Card is shown, reproduced, at right]

*"A clear NO! "This card is neither privately printed nor privately initiated. It is a 'Bildpostkarte' (picture postcard) officially printed by German Post.*



*"Please refer to the attached copy from the Michel Bildpostkarten und Motivganzsachen Katalog Deutschland. [Editor's Note: Shown on facing page.] The issue of my catalog is old (1995) but the content is still valid. You can find this card as card 'P 178 No. 019' as part of a series of total 27 cards.*

*"Of course, this card is accepted in FIP exhibitions!"*

Thank you, Peter. This is another example of us being the ATA; helping each other by providing insights into topical philately.

I also thank Phil Stager, America's foremost thematic exhibitor and retired APS/ATA judge, who recently attempted to clarify my confusion. Phil writes:

*"Jack's article (Nov-Dec TT) on postal stationery, correction – and confession and confusion, only adds to the confusion for exhibitors. For competitive exhibits at the national level in North America, the guidance in the Manual of Judging and Exhibiting, 7th edition (MOJE7) is used to evaluate exhibits; it also provides some guidance for exhibitors. For competitive exhibits at the national level outside North America and at international-level exhibits, the FIP GREV and SREV are used. [Editor's Note: GREV stands for "General Regulations of the FIP for the Evaluation of Competitive Exhibits at FIP Exhibitions." SREV stands for "Special Regulations for the Evaluation of Thematic Exhibits at FIP Exhibitions.] Do NOT confuse the two documents.*

*"Numerous important differences exist between the two documents. MOJE7, 3.5.13 and Appendix 2.1.1.13, state the following: A thematic exhibit develops a subject by illustrating it with a wide variety of appropriate philatelic material, and supporting it with associated thematic and philatelic text..."*

*"However, MOJE7 contains no guidance on what is 'appropriate' so we are left with the term 'philatelic material.' 'Philatelic material' is then anything in the various classifications such as traditional, revenue, illustrated, first-day covers, and even picture postcards.*

*"I repeat: The guidance in the FIP GREV and SREV are not used in North America. Those contemplating exhibiting where FIP rules are used should familiarize themselves with the latest version available on the FIP website and not what was in use in 1991-92."*

Mea culpa! In my desire to pass along helpful information on a subject I don't know very well, I have certainly created more confusion than clarity! My appreciation to the ATA members who have straightened me out. Lesson learned. There will be no "Postal Stationery IV!" ☐



182. B (Pf) dunkelgrün, österreich ..... ab 18.— 15.—  
komplete Serie # = 100.  
DRUCKPROBE # = 1—  
182. B (Pf) dunkelgrün, Österreich, Karte mit  
gleicher Aufdruck wie oben. Robert Bosch in Bozen, rechte  
seite CHL-Postkarten-Katalog Gestaltung Hoch, PP 104 S 1  
Stadt-Anmerkung zu P 104!  
10 verschiedene Bilder:  
01 Adenau (Niederrhein) ..... 30.— 32.—  
02 Baden-Baden, Alte Brücke, Lufthansa ..... 27.— 30.—  
03 Amtberg, Burg ..... 27.— 30.—  
04 Rathaus ..... 27.— 30.—  
05 Dörfchen ..... 27.— 30.—  
06 Bad Elster (Sachsen) ..... 27.— 30.—  
07 Gellert ..... 27.— 30.—  
08 Markt bei Kassel ..... 27.— 30.—  
09 Isenlohe (Salzland) ..... 27.— 30.—  
010 Schloss und Stadt, Marienberg ..... 27.— 30.—  
011 Marienberg, Bismarckhalle ..... 27.— 30.—  
012 — Neues Rathaus ..... 27.— 30.—  
013 — Schlosspark mit Schloss ..... 27.— 30.—  
014 — Schloss ..... 27.— 30.—  
015 Münchhausen (Hessen), Pfadfinder ..... 27.— 30.—  
016 Münchhausen (Hessen), Feuerwehr ..... 27.— 30.—  
017 Neuwied am Rhein ..... 27.— 30.—  
018 Hünberg, Burg ..... 27.— 30.—  
019 — Schloss ..... 27.— 30.—  
020 — Deutsches Museum ..... 27.— 30.—  
021 — Heiliggeist-Spital ..... 27.— 30.—  
022 — Burgberg ..... 27.— 30.—  
023 Quedlinburg, Ortsansicht ..... 27.— 30.—  
024 — Schloss ..... 27.— 30.—  
025 Bad Salzuflen (Söhne), Kurhaus ..... 27.— 30.—  
026 Brilonberg (Hessen) ..... 27.— 30.—  
027 Worms, Dom ..... 27.— 30.—

1927. Sonderkarte zur 100-Jahr-Feier des Briefpostamtes Berlin. Wertstempel Beethoven, rückseitig mehrfarbiges Bild eines Briefträgers von 1827.  
P 182. B (Pf) grün, weiß ..... ab 125.— 175.— 35.—  
© BERLIN C 100 Jahre Briefpostamt 1.—21.12.1927.



1929. Bildpostkarte, Wertstempel Ebert, geänderter Vordruck „Postkarte“ 37 mm lang; Rfdr. auf weißem rechteckigem Karton. Mit Umrundung.



1932. Bildpostkarte, Wertstempel Hindenburg, geänderter Vordruck „Postkarte“ 37 mm lang; Rfdr. auf weißem rechteckigem Karton. Mit Umrundung.

10 verschiedene Bilder:

01 Cleve, Schwemmenburg ..... 15.— 17.—  
02 Diersfordt, Ortsansicht ..... 15.— 17.—  
03 Düsseldorf, Rheinufer, Kurhaus ..... 15.— 17.—  
04 Gütersloh, Lufthafen ..... 15.— 17.—  
05 Kehlstein, (Bayern), Befreiungshalle ..... 15.— 17.—  
06 Koblenz, (Rheinland-Pfalz), Reichstag ..... 15.— 17.—  
07 Mönchengladbach, Rathaus ..... 15.— 17.—  
08 Stolberg ..... 15.— 17.—  
09 Speyerer (Hessen), Fabriken ..... 15.— 17.—  
010 Schleiden, Ortsansicht ..... 15.— 17.—



# Encouraging Exhibiting (but not for exhibitors only!) Rob Henak

[Rob Henak, ATA Exhibits and Judges Chair, continues his series on Exhibiting 101.]

## **Easy Entry – Noncompetitive Exhibiting**

For those who have considered exhibiting but are concerned about the work involved or afraid of what the judges might say, there is a simple and easy alternative: noncompetitive exhibiting.

There are a number of benefits to noncompetitive exhibiting.

In a noncompetitive exhibit, you display whatever it is you want to show, whether it is your collection of Mickey Mouse on C.T.O. (canceled-to-order) stamps, early Wisconsin territorial covers or local stamp show ephemera. Quite often, our interests do not fit easily into established categories for competitive exhibits.

For instance, I have an exhibit of covers and ephemera from the first 50 years of the Milcopex stamp show in Milwaukee, Wis. It is not really something that would garner any awards, but it was fun to put together and many people at Milcopex commented positively on it.

Exhibiting on a noncompetitive basis also can be attractive to those who simply do not wish to be bothered with – or constrained by – the technical rules for competitive exhibits. Even with the looser rules for Display and other exhibits under the new *Manual of Judging and Exhibiting* (7th ed.), in terms of using some nonphilatelic material, the guideline remains that philatelic items must carry the bulk of the story. Some exhibitors prefer to use more ephemera than the judges feel is appropriate. An example might be the stamp show ephemera exhibit I mentioned earlier. Likewise, some exhibitors wish to focus more on the writeup, with a storyline overshadowing the philatelic material used to illustrate it. In competitive exhibits, of

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course, it is the philatelic material that must be pre-eminent, with the writeup in a supporting role. Noncompetitive exhibitors need not follow those rules.

Noncompetitive exhibiting also allows the exhibitor to tell his or her story to the world without fear of being judged. While competitive exhibiting certainly has its benefits, not everyone who likes sharing his or her particular love of philately publicly also enjoys having a judge looking over their shoulder and critiquing the work – nor is there any reason why this should be necessary. Many of those attending stamp shows enjoy the exhibits without concern for the rules or the medal level. If an exhibit is on a subject attendees find interesting, they will enjoy it, and often marvel at the effort, appearance and content of even those exhibits that philatelic judges may be less than enthusiastic about.

At the same time, a noncompetitive exhibitor can request comments and suggestions from judges and other exhibitors regarding how to improve the exhibit. While the noncompetitive exhibitor may not receive the formalized critique generally given to competitive exhibits, it is rare that a judge is unwilling to spend some time with

the noncompetitive exhibitor. As such, the noncompetitive showing of an exhibit may be a good trial run for an exhibit that is intended ultimately to be shown competitively.

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E-mail: [info@stamps.org](mailto:info@stamps.org)



Finally, size can be a significant benefit to noncompetitive exhibiting. Outside of youth exhibiting on a local level, adult competitive exhibits generally are limited to multiples of 16 standard 8½- by 11-inch pages, that being the size of a standard exhibit frame. However, many local shows (Wiscopex and Danepex, for example), as well as some national shows such as NTSS and Milcopex, allow for noncompetitive exhibits of four or eight pages, along with those in multiples of 16 pages.

Some stories do not require a full 16-page frame of material to tell. For some, there simply is not the material available – or at least available to the collector – to fill an entire frame.

So, even if you have not yet been bitten by the exhibiting bug to the extent of trying a competitive exhibit, I would encourage you to at least try testing the water with a noncompetitive exhibit. You may find, as I did, that it permanently changes how you practice and enjoy your hobby. ■

# My Topic

## Cathie Osborne

Dawn Hamman

Bells are ringing when Cathie Osborne enters her stamp room. You guessed correctly – she collects bells on stamps. This delightful lady loves to share her collection and enthusiasm with others. She readily agreed to tell us about her topic.

Q. When and how did you become a topical collector?

*A. As a young mother with time on my hands, I had taken up my childhood stamp collection. After getting several countries as close as I could to completion, I decided I needed a more limited, cheaper way to collect.*

*In Linn's I read about the American Topical Association and that one could collect by subject. My mind swirled! Well, I collect bells that ring. Maybe I could collect bells on stamps. There is our first Liberty Bell stamp, at least.*

With an early ATA checklist that had been compiled by Bea Humphreys, she was off and running. Happily, Bea also became her mentor. Mary Ann Owens encouraged Cathie in her collecting and exhibiting. "I always thought that when I grew up, I'd like to be like her," Cathie said.

Q. What do you enjoy about your topic?

*A. The most enjoyable part of collecting bells is that there is no end of it! If I get tired of looking at Christmas bells, I can pull out my animal bells. If I am at a standstill in "bell" towns, I can go through my advertising covers or bell cancels to get new inspiration. There are church bells, ship bells, fire and police bells, bellmen, clock bells, dancers with bells, jester bells, door bells, bicycle bells...*

Q. What are the challenges of collecting bells on stamps?

*A. The challenge of collecting bells is finding dealers or sources to make them your own.*

*I try to attend as many stamp shows as I can to meet dealers. Being known as the "bell lady" isn't a bad thing! The dealers in Topical Time have been helpful.*

Q. How do your store or display your collection?

*A. My stamps are stored*



*in stock books, covers in albums and shoeboxes. After the last child left home, I took his room and, with shelves added by my husband and two six-foot tables, it is my haven.*

Cathie also puts together exhibits using aspects of her collection. Recent exhibits were *Doorbells* and *Bellflowers*. She has exhibited in shows around her Washington state home.

Q. Do you collect other topics?

A. Well, there is the "When is a bell not a bell?" collection, people named Bell, bellflowers, geographical features named for bells, diving bells, bellboys and so on. You get the picture.

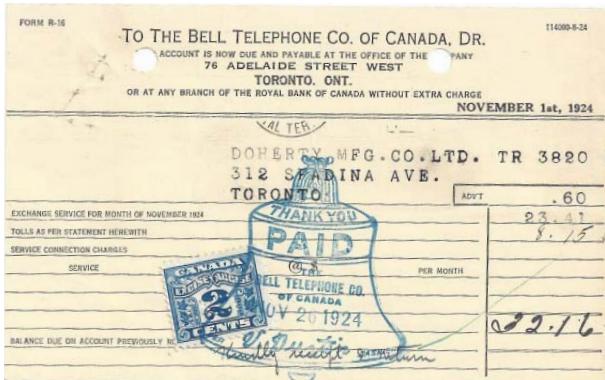
Cathie is a member of the Strait Stamp Society, formed in 1973, which meets twice a month.

The group's informal meetings include show and tell, auctions and a letter-of-the-month presentation. The group holds a show each August.

Q. You are a member of Motivgruppe Musik, the music on stamps study unit. How have you benefitted from your membership in the group?

A. The journal of Motivgruppe Musik, *Der Musikus*, is in three languages – German, French and English – so I have been able to get background information about bell stamps and also information about new issues. Also, as the group's U.S. secretary, I've made friends on the other side of the world. Anyone who collects music on stamps will get information not available in another publication.

Cathie is considering putting together a topical exhibit for a national show. We all hope she does so we can see more of her extensive collection. A few representative – and self-explanatory examples – are shown nearby. ☺



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# Units in Action

By Jeffrey Hayward, ATA Study Unit Coordinator ([jefthaywardata@gmail.com](mailto:jeffhaywardata@gmail.com))

## Bicycle Stamps Club

### *Bicycle Stamps*

#### The March 2017 *Bicycle Stamps*



of bicycle company advertising covers and postcards also appear in this issue.

Dues are \$19 in the United States. Contact Steven Andreasen, 2000 Alaskan Way Unit 157, Seattle WA 98121-2199.

Email: [steven.w.andreasen@gmail.com](mailto:steven.w.andreasen@gmail.com)

or, £12.50 in the United Kingdom. Contact Brian Sole, 49 Westcar Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames KT12 5ER, United Kingdom.

Email: [brian.sole@btinternet.com](mailto:brian.sole@btinternet.com)

Website: [www.bicyclestamps.tripod.com](http://www.bicyclestamps.tripod.com)

## Carto-Philatelic Society *The New Carto-Philatelist*

In the April 2017 *The New Carto-Philatelist*, Brian Marshall writes a biography of "Walter Klinefelter, a Pioneer Cartophilatelist" and shares Klinefelter's contributions to cartophilatelic literature. Klinefelter

wrote seven different books on cartophilately between 1936-78. Klinefelter

also contributed articles to many journals writing more than 170 articles for the Carto-Philatelic Society alone. Eight illustrated pages of map-related new issues are also in this issue of the journal.

Dues are \$20 in North America, \$25 elsewhere. Electronic membership is \$15 worldwide. Contact Marybeth Sulkowski, 1117 Douglas Ave Unit 209, North Providence RI 02904-5374.

Email: [mb37zx@aol.com](mailto:mb37zx@aol.com)

Website: [www.mapsonstamps.org](http://www.mapsonstamps.org)

## Cats on Stamps Study Unit

### *Cat Mews*

The COSSU shared highlights from recent gatherings around the world.



Members met in Melbourne, Australia, during Australia's International Stamp Exhibition

where "The Black Cat in Philately" was presented to the attending crowd.

Also in the Summer 2017 issue of *Cat Mews*, Marci Jarvis writes about the Lykoi, or "Wolf Cat, African Lion

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subspecies and a recent booklet of stamps issued in India depicting tigers.

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

Email: [bobmarci@aol.com](mailto:bobmarci@aol.com)

Website: [www.catstamps.info](http://www.catstamps.info)

### Chemistry & Physics Study Unit

*Philatelia Chimica et Physica*

In the Winter 2017 *Philatelia*



*Chimica et Physica*, Richard Oertel writes a biography of "Alexander Stoletov: Pioneer in Electricity and Magnetism." Stoletov developed two new methods for measuring

magnetic properties of several materials. Kay Thomas Finley also shares stamps of scientific interest issued between 2014-16 related to chemistry and physics.

Dues are \$20 in the United States, \$26 in Canada, \$40 elsewhere. Contact

Roland F. Hirsch, 20458 Waters Point Ln, Germantown MD 20874-1091.

Email: [michael@cpossu.org](mailto:michael@cpossu.org)

Website: [www.cpossu.org](http://www.cpossu.org)

### Christmas Philatelic Club

*Yule Log*

In the April-June 2017 *Yule Log*, guest author Doug Weisz shares



covers from cachetmaker Dorothy Knapp with Christmas themes in "Christmastime for the Knapp Family." Knapp produced cachets for U.S. stamps from the 1940s through 1953 and then again starting in the early 1980s. Weisz shares 12 different Knapp Christmas-related designs in his article.

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

Email: [jp4stamps@windstream.net](mailto:jp4stamps@windstream.net)

Website: [www.christmasphilatelicclub.org](http://www.christmasphilatelicclub.org)



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

Horace Baldwin shares biographies of "Omega Men on Stamps" in *Reflections* for April 2017. Omega men belong to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity that was founded on the campus of Howard University in 1911. The fraternity is devoted to several

principles, including perseverance and scholarship. Nine Omega Men appear on U.S. postage stamps including Duke Ellington, Count Basie and General Benjamin Oliver Davis, Sr.

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

Email: [esperstamps@esperstamps.org](mailto:esperstamps@esperstamps.org)  
or, Earnest Shinault, Sr, 3523 Douglass Ave, Memphis TN 38111-5721.

Email: [eshinaultsr@yahoo.com](mailto:eshinaultsr@yahoo.com)  
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### Errors, Freaks, and Oddities Collectors' Club EFO Collector

John Hotchner continues his series on collecting EFOs on a budget with "Perforations – Not Spending Big Bucks" in the January-March 2017 issue of *The EFO Collector*. Cemil Betanov also explores the many "floating" and leaf color varieties of U.S. Scott No. 2482 \$2 Bobcat stamp in this issue.

Dues are \$20 in the United States



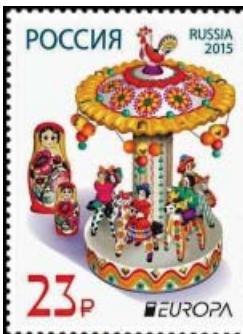
and Canada, \$37 elsewhere. Contact David Hunt, 45 Fairway Dr, Denver PA 17517-9737.

Email: [dhhunt@ptdprolog.net](mailto:dhhunt@ptdprolog.net)  
Website: [www.efocc.org](http://www.efocc.org)

## Europa Study Unit

### Europa News

The May-June 2017 *Europa News*



leads with new issues from Great Britain showing the Europa 2017 theme of "Castles." The miniature sheet features various views of Windsor Castle. Twenty

additional European countries also issued stamps with the Europa 2017 theme of castles. Illustrations for all of these stamps along with background information on the stamp issues are provided in this issue.

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

Email: [tvanloij@gmail.com](mailto:tvanloij@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.europastudyunit.org](http://www.europastudyunit.org)

## Halloween Spooktacular Stamps & Stuff

### The Bubbling Cauldron

Ron Breznay writes about a similar tradition to Halloween celebrated



by children in Finland in the Spring 2017 issue of *The Bubbling Cauldron*.

The Sunday



before Easter, children dress up in costumes and go door to door trading twigs for some kind of treat. A list of cachetmakers who created FDCs for the U.S. Jack O'Lantern stamps issued in 2016 is also provided.

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](mailto:deniselazaroff@gmail.com)

**Journalists, Authors, & Poets on Stamps (JAPOS)  
JAPOS Bulletin**

In the Spring 2017 JAPOS Bulletin Eddie Janusz writes biographies of Bulgarian poet Hristo Botev and novelist Ivan Vazov in "Vazov, Botev and the Bulgarian Renaissance." Vazov



is best known for his novel, *Under the Yoke*, portraying life in rural Bulgaria during the April Uprising of 1876.

Dues are \$7 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](mailto:cdelvaux@msn.com)  
or, Mark Winnegrad, 1450 Parkchester Rd, Bronx NY 10462-7622

**Masonic Study Unit**

*The Philatelic Freemason*

In the May-June 2017 *Philatelic Freemason*, Don Rickles is the featured Masonic biography. Born and raised in Queens, N.Y., Don Rickles was a popular comedian and actor who

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passed away in April 2017. Rickles was a member of the Service City Geba Lodge in Astoria, N.Y., becoming a Master Mason in June 1953.

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](mailto:radpm67@gmail.com)  
or, Gene Fricks  
Email: [genefricks@comcast.net](mailto:genefricks@comcast.net)

### Napoléonic Age Philatelists Campaign

The lead highlight from *Campaign* for April-June 2017 is a stamp issued by Guinea in 1994 showing a scene from the Battle of Borodino in September 1812. The battle took place during the Russian invasion of the Napoleonic Wars on



Sept. 7, 1812. There were an estimated 70,000 casualties during the battle, making it the deadliest day of the Napoleonic Wars.

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

Email: [krb2@earthlink.net](mailto:krb2@earthlink.net)

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

### Polar Philatelists, American Society of Ice Cap News

Hal Vogel writes about a "Pretty Ugly" cover (with condition issues), mailed by Admiral Byrd at a stop in Sacramento, Calif., while traveling by train 1936. The cover was most likely sent to someone who requested an autograph from



Byrd, as there was a piece of paper inside that read "REByrd/Signed on Train." John Young continues with the second part of "Polar Icepick: A Ship

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Named Bear" in the January 2017 *Ice Cap News*.

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

Email: [alanwar@comcast.net](mailto:alanwar@comcast.net)

Website: [www.polarphilatelists.org](http://www.polarphilatelists.org)



Sierra Leone in 2016. The USCGC *Healy* is the most technologically advanced icebreaker in the U.S. Coast Guard.

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@turbanet.com](mailto:hobbies@turbanet.com)

Website: [www.shipsonstamps.org](http://www.shipsonstamps.org)

### **Ships on Stamps Unit**

#### *Watercraft Philately*

The article, "Icebreakers: taming the North Pole," leads the March-April 2017 issue of *Watercraft Philately*. The USCGC *Healy* is one of the ships that appears on a souvenir sheet issued by



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### **United Nations Philatelists**

#### *Journal of United Nations Philatelists*

The UNPA released six miniature sheets for the International Dance



series. Dances include Polynesian and Native American Tribal Dances, issued in New York; Quadrille and Japanese Fan Dances, issued in Geneva; and Samba

and Ballet, issued in Vienna. Greg Galletti also writes his fifth installment on "The Making of the United Nations Permanent Headquarters" in the *Journal of United Nations Philatelists* for April 2017."

Dues are \$28 in the United States, \$35 in Canada and \$50 elsewhere. Contact Blanton Clement Jr, PO Box 146, Morrisville PA 19067-0146.

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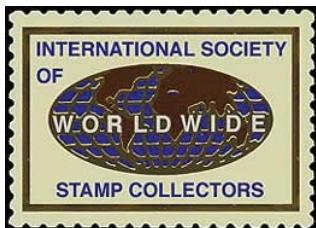
**Email: chrisdahle8@gmail.com**

**Website: www.unpi.com**

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The Circuit**

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in “Of Maps and Books.”  
Also in the May-June 2017 *The Circuit*, John



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# Webmaster's Log

*Amanda L. Morgenstern*

- **New Checklist Update**

The November 2017 checklist updates, including the recent *Linn's* new-issue listings, contain 9,335 items added since the last list was posted in August. Check out your favorite topics to see how much they've grown! If you don't find your topic listed, ATA can customize a checklist for you. Contact the ATA office, [american topical@msn.com](mailto:american topical@msn.com), for information. Visit the checklist page at <http://american topicalassn.org/checklists.shtml>

- **Topical Tidbits - Canada**

Every season, Assistant Youth Coordinator Aimée Devine designs an in-depth packet on a particular topic. These packets are designed for youth but are equally enjoyed by adults. The most recent edition was on Canada. These resources are free for your use, whether with your children, grandchildren or at your local club. Printable PDFs are available on the *Tidbits* page for each edition. A collection of all *Topical Tidbits* can be found at <http://american topicalassn.org/tidbits.shtml>. Check out the latest Canada edition at <http://american topicalassn.org/tidbits/2017-summer.pdf>



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## Charter Members

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Jerry and Sally Husak

Bruce L. Johnson

Robert E. Lamb

Barbara E. Miller

Richard A. Roman

Edwin H. Shane

Dale and Andrea Smith

Donald W. Smith

Frederick C. Skvara

Michael S. Turrini

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



# Chapter Chatter

*By Frederick C. Skvara, ATA Chapter Coordinator*

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

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

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

**Newsletter editor:** Robert Mather, email: [burrobob@wi.rr.com](mailto:burrobob@wi.rr.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (October) Ann Selzer's program at the October meeting "Wild Wild West" told the story of this interesting era in American history. Members were asked to bring items related to Ann's talk for a "Show & Tell" after her presentation. The newsletter contains an article, "Postage Stamps and Postal History of Guam," and ends with a Halloween poem and some "Halloween Chuckles."

(November) In November Anne Clark presented "Cold War, Hot Dogs," showing material related to the Cold War space race and the launch of *Sputnik 1* and *Sputnik 2*. It was *Sputnik 2*, launched on Nov. 3, 1957, that carried the Russian dog Laika. The "Show & Tell" following Anne's talk was on space programs. "The U.S. Virgin Islands" was the subject of a short article.



**Sputnik I circling globe. Launching of first artificial earth satellite, Russia, 1957 (Scott 1993).**

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (October) At the Oct. 13 meeting Luis Greiff, Jr. presented "JFK on U.S. Covers" showing not only FDCs, but ship & naval covers, meters and more. An article related to his presentation mentions the ATA checklist and handbooks on John F. Kennedy. The newsletter notes the presentation by Tom Wrzosek in September, "Covers from the Port City of Danzig," mentioning that the 1919 Treaty of Versailles established the free city of Danzig. A number of stamps and covers from Danzig were shown. An article looking at some of the stamps issued by the United Nations over the years highlighted UNExpo 17 that was held Oct. 27-28 at the APS headquarters in Bellefonte, Pa., celebrating United Nations philately. The article "North Korean Philately" describes some of the interesting stamps that have been issued by this country over the years.

(November) An article on "Stamp Catalogues" ends with a description and an example of the one of the many checklists offered by the American Topical Association. Alan Davis showed his collection of JFK stamps following Luis' October presentation.



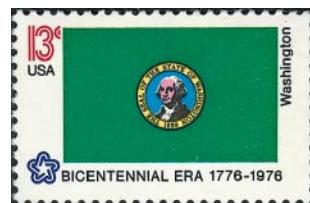
**Germany, Danzig 1920 (Scott 2).**

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

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

**Newsletter editor:** Tim Greene, email: [gt45@msn.com](mailto:gt45@msn.com). (The Evergreen Stamp Club is a member of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, which issues *The Federated Philatelist*, Jack Congrove, editor.)

**Newsletter topics:** (November) The Evergreen Stamp Club participates in the APS club circuit books program and the latest mailing of 16 books included two on the topic of sports. At the October meeting Bill Geijsbeek showed a sheet of the American Bicentennial State Flags issue (Scott 1633–1682) issued by the United States Post Office Department on Feb. 23, 1976. The interesting thing about the sheet shown was that the six plate numbers were all in sequence, which he mentioned is not commonly seen. *The Federated Philatelist* (December) includes Dennis Gelvin's article, "Women in Space Cover," and illustrates a cover from May 10, 1977, noting that women can successfully withstand reentry from space into earth's atmosphere. Dennis is from the Olympia Philatelic Society, one of the constituent societies of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs. Jack Congrove has a short article on the "Washington State Golden Jubilee," showing some of the poster stamps that were created to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Washington's statehood. In another article, "Ivory Stamp Club," Jack shows one of the stamp albums issued by the H.E. Harris Company of Boston for the *Ivory Stamp Club of the Air*, a radio show sponsored by the Proctor & Gamble Company. A Christmas-themed "Philatelic Quiz" was also included in this issue.



**Washington State flag, United States, 1976 (Scott 1674).**

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

**Newsletter:** *Philatelic Chatter*, Don Smith, editor, email: [donsmith32@atlanticbb.net](mailto:donsmith32@atlanticbb.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (November–December) The program for the November meeting was a DVD presentation, "Switzerland: A Panorama of its Stamps."

The newsletter mentions that the 2017 Europa stamps from Luxembourg issued on May 6 did not have the name of the country on the stamps. On July 1 the stamps were removed from sale. In the article "Frederick S. Duesenberg: A Local Connection," the author tells the story of how Frederick Duesenberg, the designer of the famed Duesenberg automobile, wound up in the Conemaugh Memorial Hospital in Johnstown following an automobile accident, and where he died from a subsequent pneumonia. The article "Detectives in Philately" illustrates a number of stamps from around the world showing famous detectives who have been honored on stamps.



**Arthur Conan Doyle & Sherlock Holmes, Monaco 2009 (Scott 2538).**

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

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

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (October) The cachet on the envelope used to send this

month's newsletter depicts Father Theodore Hesburgh and is franked with the coil version of the recent Forever® stamp issued by the USPS to honor this longtime president of Notre Dame University. Only 2 million coil stamps were produced, as opposed to 15 million stamps issued in panes of 20. The coil version was not distributed to local post offices and was only available from USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services. President Bob Ceo is interested in the philately of France and illustrates a pair of French stamps overprinted by the Germans to mark their victory over northern France in 1940. The overprints

were authorized by the Wehrmacht commandant who administered the Dunkirk region. The stamp of the month, a gift from editor Tom Broadhead, was the 3¢ stamp issued by the United States Post Office Department in 1946 (Scott 943) to commemorate the centennial of the Smithsonian Institution. Gerald F. Schroedl's article, "Northwest Coast Indian Art on Stamps," is related to an exhibition, *Northwest Coast Indian Art: A Community of Tradition*, at the McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture on the University of Tennessee campus. A number of United States and Canadian stamps depicting art from the Indians of this area are illustrated in the article. (November) In "Tracing Family History With Stamps," Tom Broadhead notes that one of his relatives was a British soldier in General Burgoyne's army. Burgoyne surrendered to George Washington after the Battle of Saratoga on Oct. 17, 1777, and Tom illustrates several U.S. stamps depicting John Trumbull's painting of the surrender. The stamp of the month complements Tom's article, as it is the 1953 U.S. stamp commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Bar Association. James Overton Broadhead, the brother of Tom's great grandfather, was the first president of the American Bar Association.

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

**Newsletter:** *The Messenger*, Scott Couch, editor,

**Email:** [tigercollect@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tigercollect@sbcglobal.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (October) At the October meeting Ken Masters presented a program on the use of perfins on advertising covers. (November) The newsletter mentions that "The History of



**Newfoundland Pacific Coast Indians of Canada, 1974 (Scott 572-573).**



**William Howard Taft with Travelers Insurance Co. perfin. United States 1938 (Scott 831, back of stamp has been horizontally flipped).**



Hockey" stamps issued Oct. 20, 2017, will be issued in a pane of 20 (two designs) and as a souvenir sheet of two stamps. The souvenir sheet is available only from USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services and will not be distributed to local post offices.

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

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (October) The issue describes the recent Christmas issues from the USPS – a set of four stamps for *A Snowy Day*, a children's book by Ezra Jack Keats, and another set of four stamps, this time depicting Christmas Carols. (November) Gaylord Yost

presented a program on postal stationery at the November meeting.



**USS Constellation stamped envelope, United States 1988 (Scott U612).**

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

**Newsletter:** *On Cover*, Kurt Romig, editor, email: [mcsc442@yahoo.com](mailto:mcsc442@yahoo.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (September) There is a short note about the semipostal stamp (nondenominated, First-Class Mail priced at 60¢) that was issued in a pressure-sensitive adhesive pane of 20 stamps by the USPS in November for Alzheimer's research. One of the activities at the November meeting was "Ten Stamp Topical Game," which Kurt Romig, who designed the game, described to me in a recent email that I am quoting here: *"It is pretty simple. You dig through a table filled with on- and off-paper stamps, and put together 10 stamps sharing a topic, theme or quality. Keep that secret. Assemble them on a one-pager (I provide pages and hinges) and the micro-collections are displayed for members to look over.*



**Kaiser's yacht, Kiauchau, 1905 (Scott 28).**

*Everyone also has a sheet where they can write down their guess at each topic. Whoever guesses the most correctly, and whoever has the least-guessed topic wins a prize! This year, we are awarding \$10 cash, from a recent donation. Last year we had the following topics: American Presidents, postage stamps overprinted for non-civilian postal use, 'dead' countries, number progression with 1¢ through 10¢ stamps devilishly out of order, cars and transportation."*

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**Omaha Philatelic Society**  
**(ATA Chapter No. 123), Omaha, Neb.**  
**Website: [omahaphilatelicsociety.org](http://omahaphilatelicsociety.org)**

**Newsletter:** *The Spacefiller*, Paul Breakenridge, editor.  
**Email:** [paul\\_breakenridge@gmail.com](mailto:paul_breakenridge@gmail.com).

**Newsletter topics:** (October) Jim Hamilton presented a program on collecting the stamps of Vatican City at the October meeting.

**Archangel Gabriel, by**  
**Fra Angelico, Vatican**  
**City 1968 (Scott C54).**



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

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

**Newsletter:** *Hinges & Tongs*, Fred Haynes, editor, **Email:** [fredmhaynes55@gmail.com](mailto:fredmhaynes55@gmail.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (November 2017–January 2018) Fred Haynes has two primary collecting hobbies: minerals and philately. He describes some recent mineral finds from summer trips to Cobalt, Ontario, a historic mining district. In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century it was the world's largest producer of silver and cobalt, but now tourism and fishing are the attractions. Fred shows photographs of native silver and cobalt arsenide that he found on some of the mine dumps that abound in the Cobalt district, along with stamps depicting native silver and erythrite (oxidized cobalt arsenide). At the November meeting Florence Wright presented "Traditional Christmas Stamps," while in December Steve Eisinger presented "Hiking Through Peru—Its Stamps and Covers."



**Silver mine, Cobalt Lake, Canada 1978 (Scott 765).**

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

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

**Newsletter:** *Frogtown Philatelist*, John Mann, editor, **Email:** [john6125@earthlink.net](mailto:john6125@earthlink.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (October) The "Where in the world is..." column looks at St. Lucia in the eastern Caribbean Sea, mentioning that the French were the island's first European settlers in 1660. Control of the island changed hands frequently between France and England over the years until 1814, when the British took definitive control. The article also describes the geography, climate and tourist attractions and is illustrated with a number of St.

Lucia stamps. Oct. 19, 1781, was one of the subjects of the "This Day in History" column. It was on that date that British Gen. Lord Cornwallis surrendered to Gen. George Washington at Yorktown, Va., essentially ending the American Revolution. It was on Oct. 5, 1882, the other date noted in the column, that Robert H. Goddard, the man who ushered in the Space Age, was born in Worcester, Mass. (November) South Georgia and the South



**British Grenadier and Bellin map of St. Lucia, 1762, Bicentennial of Battle of St. Lucia, 1978 (Scott 448).**



Sandwich Islands in the southern Atlantic Ocean are the subject of the “Where in the World is...” column. Capt. James Cook claimed the islands for Great Britain in 1775. A major source of revenue for these islands is the sale of postage stamps, many of which have topical appeal. The two November dates in the “This Day in History” column are Nov. 16, 1855, the date that David Livingstone saw Victoria Falls in southern Africa, and Nov. 2, 1865, the birthdate of Warren G. Harding. Both short articles are illustrated with stamps.

**Venice Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 122), Venice, Fla.**  
**Website:** [www.stamps.org/venice-stamp-club](http://www.stamps.org/venice-stamp-club)

**Newsletter editor:** Lance Grandone

**Email:** [venicestampclub@gmail.com](mailto:venicestampclub@gmail.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (October) Jim Mazepa presented “The Overrun Countries Series – The Flags Go To War” at the October meeting. At the APS StampShow in Richmond, Va., Dawn Hamman’s exhibit, *Backyard Chickens*, received a Gold and the Most Popular Exhibit award.



**Flag of Denmark, Overrun Countries series, United States, 1943 (Scott 920).**

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

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

**Newsletter editor:** Alan Barasch.

**Newsletter topics:** (October) David Griesedieck presented the program “Colorful Sardinia.”

(November) Ed Bayham gave the program, “Retracing a Global Trek.”



**Peasant, dams and map of Sardinia, Italy, 1958 (Scott 738).**

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

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

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

**Email:** [fcskvara@optonline.net](mailto:fcskvara@optonline.net)

**Newsletter topics:** (November/December) Robert Loeffler gave the program “Bureau Printed Precancel Errors” at the November meeting. In the “Jottings From A Worldwide Collector” column, the editor looks at John Basilone (1916-45) and the Guadalcanal Campaign in World War II. The article is illustrated with the 2012 set of stamps from the Solomon Islands commemorating that campaign, one of which shows John Basilone. He was the only enlisted marine in World War II to be awarded the Medal of Honor and the Navy Cross. He was killed on Iwo Jima on Feb. 19, 1945. A philatelic quiz by the editor rounds out the issue.



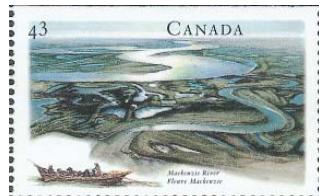
**Sgt. John Basilone and Medal of Honor, Solomon Islands 2012 (Scott 1175d), 70th Anniversary of Guadalcanal Campaign.**

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

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

**Newsletter:** *Mayflower Minutes*, Doug Becker editor, email: [newsletter@thewssc.com](mailto:newsletter@thewssc.com)

**Newsletter topics:** (September) The article “Canadian First Flights To Northwest Territory and North of the Arctic Circle” describes the inauguration of airmail service on Dec. 10, 1929, along the Mackenzie River from Fort McMurray in Alberta to Aklavik in the Northwest Territory, north of the Arctic Circle. The contract was awarded to Commercial Airways Ltd., which used four aircraft to deliver the 120,000 covers on the inaugural flights. The first flight reached Aklavik on Dec. 27 after encountering severe weather (on Christmas Day the temperature dropped to -60°F at night). (November) The program for the Nov. 3 meeting was “The Story of the Penny Black.”



**Mackenzie River, Canada, 1994 (Scott 1513).**

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

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

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

**Newsletter topics:** (October) Editor Ray Perry describes a four-page exhibit he

put together for Wiscopex, *Rhode Island History on United States Postal Stationery*, illustrating the article with several postal cards, including the 1999 postal card (Scott UX303) showing the Redwood Library and Athenaeum in Newport, R.I. He also mentions that the America's Cup race was named after the American yacht *America* that won the first race hosted by the Royal Yacht Squadron. From 1930-83, the race was held in the waters off Rhode Island. There are several short notes on the 3¢ Connecticut Tercentenary Stamp (Scott 772), the 1994 29¢ Buffalo Soldiers

stamp (Scott 2818) and the 1992 29¢ Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo stamp (Scott 2704). Cabrillo was the first European to explore the west coast of the future United States in 1542. In her “Connecting with Clubs” column, MaryAnn Bowman shares some thoughts on how a club can have a program on first-day cover collecting. (November) “Wisconsin Duck Stamp Artists” is the topic of the President’s Message column in which President Karen Weigt and Darell Lee White give some biographical information on Wisconsin artists whose paintings have appeared on federal duck hunting permit stamps. The duck stamps depicting their paintings are illustrated in the article. On the same theme, several clubs in the Federation, as reported by MaryAnn Bowman, had programs on duck stamps in response to the 2017 Federal Duck Stamp Art Competition, held at the University of Wisconsin’s Steven Point campus on Sept. 15-16. The WFSC



**Ross' Geese by Martin R. Murk, United States 1977-78 Hunting Permit Stamp (Scott R44).**

staffed a table at the event providing a free bookmark showing a duck stamp and listing a number of web pages that provide information on duck stamps. A trifold table display was prepared by Karen Weigt, depicting the work of Wisconsin artists along with their biographies. Clete Delvaux from the Green Bay Philatelic Society gives some background on the popular British children's story "Paddington Bear." The author who created the character, Michael Bond, died June 27, 2017. Paddington Bear appears on the cover of a 1994 stamp booklet and in a set of 12 stamps from Great Britain depicting classic childrens' stories.

## Australia

### **Thematics Queensland (ATA Chapter No. 86), Queensland, Australia**

**Newsletter:** *Thematically Speaking*, John Crowley, editor.

**Email:** [jcrowley@primus.com.au](mailto:jcrowley@primus.com.au)

**Newsletter topics:** (November) There is an interesting and well-illustrated article on "Bird Flight," from which I learned that there are four main types of bird wings: elliptical, high speed, high aspect ratio and soaring wings with slots. Each is used by different groups of birds. There are also various types of flight: gliding flight, flapping flight and bounding flight. There are a number of illustrations of items from the August meeting's Show & Tell. I noted an image of a Great Britain booklet pane with attached advertising labels for "Millennium Oat-Flakes" and "Wright's Coal Tar Soap." At the APS StampShow in Richmond, Va., Jenny Bennett was awarded a gold for *Lord of the Arctic*. At Queensland Stamp Show 2017, Wayne Pratsch received a vermeil for *Wood'n It*, Miklos Dombay received a silver for *Blue Danube*, Vera Radnell was awarded a vermeil for *Introducing Falconry* and David Lloyd received a silver-bronze for *The 1966 World Cup of Football*. At Brasilia 2017, Daryl Kibble was awarded a large gold for *Message Behind the Angel Story: God's Redemption of Mankind*. Accompanying the newsletter were copies of a number of pages from various exhibits demonstrating the inclusion of philatelic studies that "blend with the thematic development without affecting the fluidity of elaboration of the exhibit." As an example, one page from the section on Braille in Joan Orr's exhibit, *Senses & Sight*, shows the 1981 set of three stamps from Jordan (Scott 1092-94) showing "Hands Reading Braille." The philatelic studies that the page demonstrates are described on an accompanying sheet as "colour essays and approved proof of design for rate change and issued stamps. Three values." The accompanying sheet gives similar explanations for the philatelic studies that each of the exhibit pages demonstrates. These examples on the use of philatelic studies in thematic exhibits is a wonderful teaching tool for thematic exhibitors and I congratulate the person(s) who took the time to compile this information. □



**Vulture, French Andorra, 1992 (Scott 419).**



# YOUTH IN TOPICS

## *MaryAnn Bowman*

## Activities for the New Year

It's the new year! Do you know what activities you will use during the upcoming year? Do you find yourself lacking for programming ideas to use with your young collectors? Teaching and reinforcement of the basic skills are important – but then what? On occasion I hear about well-intentioned adults starting a club for youth, but then losing steam after a few sessions.

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When working with kids, it is important to actively engage the young learner in the process. Provide hands-on and fun activities. Incorporate technology if possible. Introduce new concepts and consider having other adults share their collecting interests for short mini-lessons or show-and-tell sessions.

Travelogues using a combination of photos and stamps – if done at an age-appropriate level – make for interesting programs. An alternative would be to locate some easy-to-read picture books from the children's section of the library and use those, along with a combination of stamps, to explore a particular country. If possible, prepare or find album pages as well as an assortment of stamps from the country being featured so that each child can take home their own beginner collection.

Robert Finnegan writes a Youth & Philately column for *Stamp Insider*, the bimonthly journal of the Federation of New York Philatelic Societies. The July-August 2017 issue described an interesting activity to engage children in identifying the stamps of foreign countries. He gave each pair of his students

## United Postal Stationery Society Modern Envelopes



10 different foreign stamps to identify – ones that cannot be easily identified. The object was to identify the nation of each stamp and then to put the stamps in alphabetical order by country name.

Students were timed and the total time to complete both tasks was recorded. The teacher or stamp adviser

would then add one minute to each team's score for any misidentified stamps and also add 30 seconds for any stamp not in proper alphabetical order. The pair of students with the fastest time received a philatelic prize.

Most children are more interested in topical collecting, and using a different theme for each meeting will introduce them to ideas as well as a variety of philatelic material. Choosing monthly themes is quite easy and there are many Internet resources that will offer suggestions. Winter Olympics, presidents, Martin Luther King and Valentine's Day are monthly themes one could consider for use during the beginning of this year.

Consider using copies of *Topical Tidbits* – either in their entirety or as a resource or as a take-home activity to accompany your lessons.

Have you used any of the music videos available on the ***StampSmarter.com*** website? In previous columns I have written about Disney-themed stamp music videos created for use at the ATA National Topical Stamp Show. Check them out!

There are also free PowerPoint presentations on various philatelic subjects available online. Most recently I heard about four such programming ideas from the United Postal Stationery Society. These can be downloaded for club use. Each program has some notes with each slide to describe what is shown. The location of the slides is [www.upss.org/code/slideset.php](http://www.upss.org/code/slideset.php), or go to the UPSS website ([www.upss.org](http://www.upss.org)) and select "Presentations for Clubs."

Currently there are four titles offered: *Introduction to Worldwide Postal Stationery*, *Introduction to United States Postal Stationery*, *Columbian Envelopes* and *Modern United States Postal Stationery Treasures*. I found them to be very well done, easy to understand and not too lengthy. Perhaps one of these program titles would be useful for those more sophisticated young collectors.

Most recently, a review copy of *Hidden Objects: Stamp Collecting and Bird Watching*

appeared in my mailbox. It is a compilation of black-and-white drawings by the award-winning cartoonist and children's illustrator, George Wildman.

The first half of the 64-page paperback book is centered around the stamp collecting hobby and uses stories and puzzles to tell the story of United States mail delivery through the ages, starting with mail that was delivered by horseback and wagon, then moving on to railroads and special delivery and rural free delivery. This section concludes with airmail and zeppelin mail services.

Each transportation mode is accompanied by a page that tells the story and the accompanying page that includes the related full-page illustration. Children are challenged to find the hidden objects that are displayed at the bottom of the page and then color the picture.

This book can do double duty for the young collector who also happens to like or collect birds on stamps. The second half of the book similarly introduces several bird species, such as penguins, robins, parrots, ducks, woodpeckers and others.

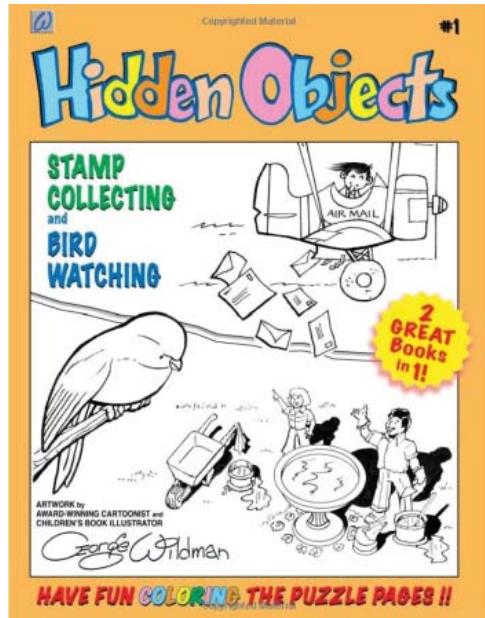
The book is published by Wildman Creative Studios and is available for \$9.95 from [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).

In the future, I would like to spotlight either those individuals who have worked with their own children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and/or neighborhood children. How did you get them interested? What activities have you done with them? What advice would you give to other adults seeking to interest children in the hobby?

Likewise, I would like to include write-ups of youth stamp clubs – what are they doing? What are their success stories? What problems or concerns have they encountered along the way?

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

You can contact me at PO Box 1451, Waukesha WI 53187, or send an email to me at [maryann15b@mac.com](mailto:maryann15b@mac.com). I am looking forward to hearing from you! ☐



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

# Obituaries

## Raymond W. Ireson

Raymond W. Ireson of Roxboro, Quebec, Canada, died on April 13, 2017. He was one of only nine persons to twice win the Grand Award at the American Topical Association's annual exhibition, receiving it in 1999 and 2012 for *The Panama Canal Story*. Several pages of Raymond's exhibit are posted on the ATA website: [www.americantopicalassn.org/ex-tpcs.shtml](http://www.americantopicalassn.org/ex-tpcs.shtml).

An ATA member since 1982, Ray also had thematic exhibits on Gilbert and Sullivan and *The Wicked Wit of Winston Churchill*.

A member of Lakeshore (Montreal) Stamp Club, ATA Chapter 99, Ray served as ATA representative and also editor for 85 issues of its newsletter, *The Shoe Box*, receiving APS Chapter Newsletter Gold Awards 2002-12.

Ray was honored by the club's publication of a 28-page color memorial issue of *The Shoe Box*. (A copy is available to the first person to contact Jack Denys.) It includes a philatelically illustrated biography, a description of his notable exhibits and an exhibit, *Journey to a Lost Empire* (Peru), described as "prepared, but sadly never completed."

Presented with the club's Founders Trophy both in 1991 and 2005, Ray remains the only member honored twice. He was a director of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada 1998-2008, becoming a Fellow of the Society in 2011 when he received the President's Award for Outstanding Philatelic Achievement.

Also a member of the AAPE and the APS, Ray wrote an article, "Earthquake," about the devastating Jamaica earthquake of 1692, remembered in stamps, for *The American Philatelist* of March 2011.

A Canadian citizen born in Britain, Ray specialized in Great Britain (post-George V), Colombia, The Bahamas, Belize, Jamaica and Pitcairn Islands. Ray had worked in Latin America for many years and was a consummate writer who especially enjoyed creating interesting philatelic articles about that area of the world.

## Judith Barna

Judith E. Barna, ATA Life member, died Nov. 17, 2017, in Barrington, Ill. She was an ATA board member and served as secretary 1980-83. Her exhibit, *Living Hands*, which included Albrecht Dürer's *Praying Hands*, won various awards. She was a member of the Dürer Study Unit. Judy also collected Madonnas and listed her topics in the *ATA Membership Directory* as Roosters, Predatory Birds, Flowers, Roses, Folk Costumes, Nudes, Disney, Angels, Religious Art, Jesus, Saints, Winston Churchill, Christmas, Santa Claus, Children, Women, Embroidery, Artists, Royalty and Wildlife. 

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## *Exfilna 2017, Brasília 2017*

# Foreign Thematic Exhibits

Larry E. Davidson

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

## Exfilna 2017

This national stamp exhibition with international participation was held in Portugalete, Spain, Oct. 9-15, 2017, and was organized by the Spanish Federation of Philatelic Societies (FESOFI), with the sponsorship of the State Post and Telegraph.

### Multi-frame Exhibits

<b>Maria Teresa Miralles</b>	<i>The Nurse: Caring, Teaching, Comforting</i>	91, LG
<b>Paul Bonnin</b>	<i>The Bicycle</i>	88, G
<b>R. Rumoroso Rodriguez</b>	<i>Navigation since the 18th Century</i>	87, G

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<b>María Begoña Imaz Ortiz</b>	<i>I, Juana</i>	86, G
<b>Sebastien Matry</b>	<i>From McCormick to IHC, a Brand Story</i>	86, G
<b>Artúr Bánás</b>	<i>The Most Popular Winter Sport — Alpine Skiing</i>	85, G
<b>José Antonio García Díaz</b>	<i>Wildlife in the Natural Paradise (Asturias)</i>	85, G
<b>Enrique Pérez Martín</b>	<i>The Pigeon and its Use!</i>	85, G
<b>Jean Francois Duranceau</b>	<i>The Hole</i>	84, LV
<b>Juan García Fernández</b>	<i>Science through Consciousness: Nobel Prizes</i>	83, LV
<b>José María Ulacia</b>	<i>Air Mail, a Great Adventure</i>	83, LV
<b>Ma Elisa Abad Suárez</b>	<i>Ouviña (Spanish basketball player) from Origin to Identity</i>	80, LV
<b>Rafael Acuña Castillo</b>	<i>Beware, Life is Fragile!</i>	80, LV
<b>José Luis López León</b>	<i>Shall we dance the “Trompo”?</i>	80, LV
<b>*Cecilio Cagigal</b>	<i>The Steamboat</i>	76, V
<b>José A. Gutiérrez Ceballos</b>	<i>The Fighting Bull</i>	75, V
<b>Julián Maroto Molleda</b>	<i>Tribute to the Horse</i>	75, V
<b>Antonio Moreno Pérez</b>	<i>Classical Mythology</i>	75, V
<b>Santiago Sacristán Orejón</b>	<i>History of the Olympics</i>	73, LS
<b>Juan Ramón Pidre Bocardo</b>	<i>The Spain of the Catholic Kings</i>	70, LS

### Open/Display Exhibits

<b>José Luis Rey Barreiro</b>	<i>Felipe VI</i>	72, LS
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## Brasília 2017

This Specialized World Stamp Exhibition was held in Brasília, Brazil, Oct. 24-29, 2017. It was held under the patronage of the World Federation of Philately (FIP) and with the technical support of the Brazilian Federation of Philately. Exhibitors could exhibit in one of three categories – Nature, Culture or Technology.

### Multi-frame Exhibits

#### Nature

<b>Geraldine Forestier (France)</b>	<i>The Relationship between Bees and Men</i>	90, G
<b>Manuel Riera (France)</b>	<i>Turtles</i>	85, LV
<b>Hey Kyong Han (South Korea)</b>	<i>Water is Life</i>	85, LV
<b>Hexing Li (China)</b>	<i>Sleep</i>	83, V
<b>Henri Aronis (France)</b>	<i>Teeth in their Environment...</i>	83, V
<b>*Lallan P. Singh (India)</b>	<i>The Hows and Whys of Birds (A Philatelic Contribution to a Better Understanding of Birds)</i>	80, V
<b>Monica Lydia Santana Santoyo (MX)</b>	<i>Hibernation without Return: Bears</i>	72, S
<b>Antonio Liz Pereira (Brazil)</b>	<i>Reptiles from Pre-History to the Present Day</i>	70, S

#### Culture

<b>Daryl Kibble (Australia)</b>	<i>The Message Behind the Angel Story: God’s Redemption of Mankind</i>	95, LG
<b>Fernando Veiga (Brazil)</b>	<i>Linking Borrowers to Lenders</i>	95, LG



<b>Yosuke Naito (Japan)</b>	<i>A History of Hong Kong</i>	92, G
<b>Teresa Miralles (Spain)</b>	<i>Nurse: To Care, to Teach and to Comfort</i>	91, G
<b>Yipping Shi (China)</b>	<i>Getting Closer to Ludwig van Beethoven</i>	91, G
<b>Demétrio Delizzoicov Neto (Brazil)</b>	<i>A Notable Presence</i>	90, G
<b>*Yoram Lubianiker (Israel)</b>	<i>Chess – The Game of War</i>	90, G
<b>Lawrence Fisher (Israel)</b>	<i>The Jewish Homeland – Our Struggle for Survival</i>	90, G
<b>Lu Gao (China)</b>	<i>The Exploration of the Mouth's Mysteries: A Human Being's Perspective</i>	90, G
<b>Luiz-Fernando Diaz (Costa Rica)</b>	<i>From Glamor to Ostracism (A Story of Tobacco)</i>	90, G
<b>Xaver Menze (Germany)</b>	<i>Flags and Banners — A Universal Language</i>	90, G
<b>Christine A. Earle (G.B.)</b>	<i>Extracts from a Wartime Diary 1939-1945</i>	90, G
<b>Jose Angel Gandara (Spain)</b>	<i>Columbus, Course of the Yndias</i>	90, G
<b>Marie-Ghistaine Porte (France)</b>	<i>Stitches in Time</i>	88, LV
<b>Gita Noviandi (Indonesia)</b>	<i>One World, One Promise: "The Scout Movement"</i>	87, LV
<b>Jean-Marie Sauvaitre (France)</b>	<i>My Journey in Freemasonry</i>	86, LV
<b>Orlando Eloy Corres (Argentina)</b>	<i>The Magic of Cinema</i>	81, V
<b>Julio Antonio Santanelli (AR)</b>	<i>The World is a Soccer Ball</i>	81, V
<b>*Roger Van Laere (Belgium)</b>	<i>Pre-Hispanic Peru</i>	80, V
<b>Oswaldo Navas (Ecuador)</b>	<i>The Scouting Movement: Education for Peace</i>	80, V
<b>Zeeshan Advani (Great Britain)</b>	<i>Revival to Golden Jubilee of Modern Olympic Games 1896-1944</i>	80, V
<b>Nikolay Penev (Bulgaria)</b>	<i>The History of English Football from 1863 until the World Cup Win in 1966</i>	77, LS
<b>Sang Man Shin (South Korea)</b>	<i>Children – Adorable Treasure</i>	76, LS
<b>Petr Fenci (Czech Republic)</b>	<i>Gagarin in a Skirt</i>	75, LS
<b>Anna Lee (Hong Kong)</b>	<i>Sojourn through Old World Wine Regions</i>	75, LS
<b>Ummer Farook Senali Veedu (UAE)</b>	<i>Mahatma Gandhi</i>	73, S
<b>Luis Rosario Micelli (Argentina)</b>	<i>The Salesian Congregation</i>	71, S
<b>Jin Soo Kim (South Korea)</b>	<i>The UNESCO Heritage of Korea</i>	71, S

### Technology

<b>Yannick Delaey (Belgium)</b>	<i>Mail in Motion: A Primary Function of the Railroads</i>	93, G
<b>Hedy Faibel (Israel)</b>	<i>The Red Cross Movement – Everywhere for Everybody</i>	91, G
<b>Carlos Dalmiro Silva Soares (Brazil)</b>	<i>Petroleum: Black Gold</i>	90, G
<b>Willy Bats (Belgium)</b>	<i>The Omnibus – Transport for All</i>	90, G

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<b>Luis C. Fritzen (Brazil)</b>	<i>Dive into an Unknown World</i>	85, LV
<b>Rogério Dedivitis (Brazil)</b>	<i>The Life Beat</i>	85, LV
<b>Shenlu Wu (China)</b>	<i>Electromagnetic Waves</i>	83, V
<b>Sheila Moraes (Brazil)</b>	<i>At the Wheel – Respect Life</i>	80, V
<b>Alfio Fiorini (Italy)</b>	<i>The Horse in the History of the Letter</i>	78, LS
<b>Vilmar Brito (Brazil)</b>	<i>Rails of the Past, The Railways of Today</i>	77, LS
<b>Ilyas Ahmed Patel (India)</b>	<i>The Story of Building Bridges – An Index of Human Civilization</i>	75, LS
<b>Rodrigo de Oliveira Campolina (BR)</b>	<i>Flying – From Mythology to Reality</i>	70, S

### One-frame Exhibits

<b>Enzo Bellini (Uruguay)</b>	<i>The Mini: The Little Giant</i>	86
<b>*Sergio Recuenco (Peru)</b>	<i>The Emblems of Independent Peru</i>	85
<b>Licata Giovanni (Italy)</b>	<i>The Maya</i>	83
<b>Shaoke Li (China)</b>	<i>Leather Shoes</i>	82
<b>Francisco Omar Carrillo Quirós (PE)</b>	<i>Machu Picchu, Historical Sanctuary</i>	80
<b>*Peter Suhadoic (Slovenia)</b>	<i>Cruising with Friends on a Sailing Boat</i>	80
<b>Sinisha Pavleski (Macedonia)</b>	<i>Parrot's Life for Me</i>	77
<b>Fabio Flosi (Brazil)</b>	<i>The Integrated Circuit – How it Changed the World</i>	76
<b>Fabio Flosi (Brazil)</b>	<i>Amateur Radio Activities – Surfing on Radio Waves</i>	75
<b>Teresa Salazar Dávila (Peru)</b>	<i>Paintings from Viceregal Cusco, from Canvas to Glory</i>	75
<b>Juan Manuel Moreno-Murillo (CO)</b>	<i>The Wonderful National Stone: the Emerald</i>	73
<b>Augusto Zavala Rojas (Peru)</b>	<i>The Incas Chess Players</i>	73
<b>Julio Cesar Gerard (Uruguay)</b>	<i>Pushing, Dragging and Floating</i>	73
<b>Hey-Jin Han (South Korea)</b>	<i>The Joy of Fishing</i>	71
<b>Juan Pablo Valer-Miranda Nina (PE)</b>	<i>Natural Protected Areas of Peru, Preserving Life</i>	70

I wish to thank Jim Taylor of Canada for providing the results of Brasília 2017.

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



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# Membership

## New Members and Reinstatements

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57876	BAGARUS, Douglas	Dogs, Ducks, Olympics, France paintings, World 1955
57325	BAGLEY, Dwayne, <i>brothersquint@gmail.com</i>	Freedom From Hunger, Aviation, Schweitzer, others as interests lead
57887	BARTNIKOWSKI, Stanley, <i>stan.bartnikowski@gmail.com</i>	Pope John Paul II, Railroads, Music (Classical)
57882	BAUTER, Sandra, 219 S School St, Braidwood IL 60408-2121	
56213	BELBER, Jerry	
57879	BROMEAD, Kathleen	
57878	BROWN, Michele	
57896	CANDREVA, Phil	
57874	CARBONE, John	
57885	COOLEY, Laurie, <i>lauiedentremont@yahoo.com</i>	w/w Christmas stamps, w/w Christmas seals, w/w hockey stamps, w/w stamps with hearts, w/w "Love" stamps
57892	CROCIANI, Delvito	
57890	CROWLEY, Clifford	
57873	DAIL, Sean, <i>seandail01@gmail.com</i> 1405 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh NC 27604-1328	American Revolution, American Civil War, United Nations
57891	EASTON, Lon	Franklin D. Roosevelt
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57889	MILLER, Marilyn, <i>mimi2124@netzero.com</i>	Hedgehogs, Frogs, Horses, Alfons Mucha
57888	NICHOLSON, Skip, <i>skip@nicholson.net</i>	Books & Printing, Literature, Writing & Alphabets, Documents
57870	OREM, Brian	
57894	OSBORN, Michael Pitchblend Ct, Grand Junction CO 81503-3164	Archaeology, Boxing, Hunting, Fishing, Military, Rugby, Dragons, Martial Arts, Fencing, Yuri Gagarin,
2827		Oil Industry, Waterfowl, Scorpions, Birds of Prey and Star Wars
54507	PALMER, Charlene, <i>charlenepalmer0@gmail.com</i> 60638 Juniper Ln, La Quinta CA 92253-7615	Art, Paintings, Child Art
57872	PITTS, Edwin	
57304	PURCELL, Leonard, <i>lppbusmex@hotmail.com</i>	Art
57886	RADNELL, Vera, <i>vradnell@gmail.com</i>	Birds, Raptors, Falconry
57895	RAMAMURTHY, Amurthur	
57884	SCHWERDTFEGER, James, <i>schwekx@yahoo.com</i>	Disney, WWII, Trains
57897	SWANSON, Dennis	
57881	UYL, Henny, <i>countryowl@rogers.com</i> 584034 Beachville Rd, Ingersoll, ON N5C3J5, Canada	Christmas, Religious, Jesus, Diabetes, Owls, Insects, Butterflies
57871	WILINSKI, David	
57883	WILSON, James H	
57875	WULFF, Tanya	
57880	ZUCKERMAN, Edward	

**Deceased**

53916	AHRENS, Gilbert (Conn.)	30015-LM	BARNA, Judith E. (Ill.)
56004	ANDERSON, Robert I. (Penn.)		

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**ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green.**

**ATA Dealer Members shown in red.**

**2017 Recruiters**

Hamman, Dawn and John	12	Davidson-Stroh, Lynn	1
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Davidson, Larry	3	Epstein, Harriet	1
Lingler, Andy and Sandra	3	Grant, Andrew	1
Stout, Jean	3	Kulp, Newton	1
Sullivan, Joe	3	Morgenstern, Amanda	1
Congrove, Jack	2	Peluso, Tom	1
Fisk, Allan	2	Roth, David	1
Stanton, Loraine	2	Sazama, Robert	1
Asher, Barbara	1	Scannell, Caroline	1
Bland, Dennis	1	Skvara, Fred	1
Bruce, Sue	1	Smith, Dale	1
Burke, Michael	1		
Colasanti, John	1	<b>Groups:</b>	
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(408)

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

## ATA Mission Statement

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

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

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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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[www.stanleygibbons.com](http://www.stanleygibbons.com)

*Israel Philatelist*: Donald A. Chafetz, editor, 1943 Altozano Dr, El Cajon CA 92020-1002 USA  
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# Show Calendar

**Feb 23-24, 2018, Ohio.** Toledo, Ohio. The 94th annual Toledo Stamp Expo, sponsored by the Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, Holland Gardens, 6530 Angola Rd., Holland, Ohio. Free admission and parking, exhibits, 20 dealers. Show is Friday and Saturday, hours 11-7 Fri., and 10-5 Sat. Contact Cliff Campbell (419) 874-6241  
**Website:** [www.toledostampclub.org](http://www.toledostampclub.org)

**March 3-4, 2018, Redding, Calif.** Novapex 2018, sponsored by the Redding Stamp Club, Redding Senior Citizens Center, 2290 Benton Dr, Redding, Calif. Contact Mark Woodward (530) 221-8933,  
**Email:** [markwoodward@charter.net](mailto:markwoodward@charter.net)  
**Website:** [www.reddingstampclub.org](http://www.reddingstampclub.org)

**March 18, 2018, Ontario, Canada.** Oxpex/Otex 2018, John Knox Christian School, 800 Julianna Drive, Woodstock, Ontario. Hours: 9:30 am to 4 pm, free admission, exhibits, 15 dealers, youth gift bags, free parking. Contact Russell Smith,  
**Email:** [viking17@rogers.com](mailto:viking17@rogers.com)  
**Website:** [www.oxfordphilsoc.com](http://www.oxfordphilsoc.com)

**March 24-25, 2018, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.** 2018 Spring National Stamp Show, sponsored by the Edmonton Stamp Club, Central Lion's Recreational Centre, 113 St & 111 Ave., Edmon-

ton. Stamp dealers, circuit books, door prizes, WSP-level exhibits, youth table, free admission, 10-5 Saturday, 10-4 Sunday. Contact: Ed Dykstra

**Exhibits email:** [liuszmoser@gmail.com](mailto:liuszmoser@gmail.com)

**Email:** [eddykstra@shaw.ca](mailto:eddykstra@shaw.ca)

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

**March 24, 2018, Wisconsin.** Baypex 2018, sponsored by the Green Bay Philatelic Society. St. Matthew Catholic Church Multipurpose Room, 2575 S. Webster Ave. (parking in rear), Green Bay, Wis., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 10-12 dealer bourse. Local Club Exhibits. Free admission. Contact: Mark Schroeder (920) 337-9616.  
**Email:** [markthetuba@gmail.com](mailto:markthetuba@gmail.com)

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

**Email:** [lestamps@charter.net](mailto:lestamps@charter.net)

**Website:** [www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger](http://www.wfscstamps.org/Clubs/Badger)

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

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

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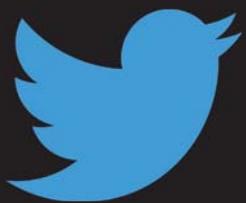
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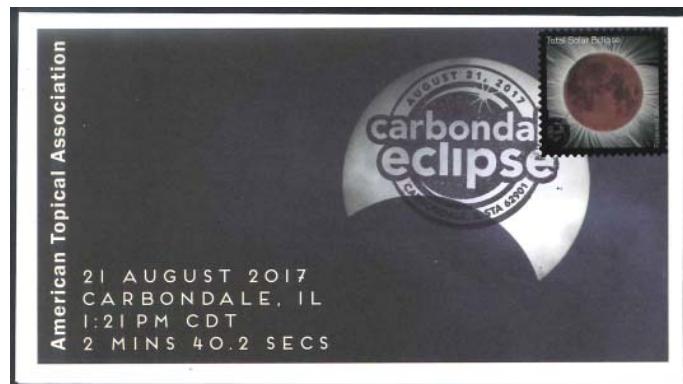
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## **2017 Great American Eclipse Cachets**

The ATA Office is located a few short miles from the longest eclipse duration in Carbondale, Illinois. These cachets feature two different stamps and, notably, two different sized postmarks!!



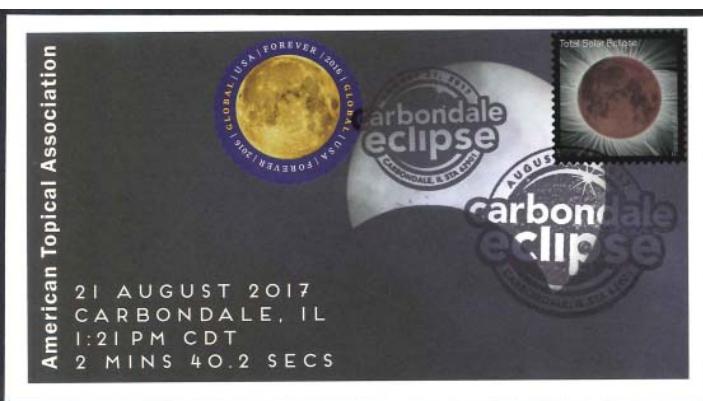
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