

ATA Annual Appreciation issue

\$5.00

TOPICAL TIME

March-April 2016

Vol. 67, No. 2

Whole Number 396

Thank you!



An Escape to Tropical
Coastal Settings
See Page 39

...and
MUCH
more!



Journal of Thematic Philately

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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*Breaking News! The next National Topical Stamp Show will be held
at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, June 23-25, 2017!*

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Topical Time 3.6/01

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TRUE STORY OF THE STAMP TRADE'S BIGGEST PROBLEM

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

Managing Director Andrew McGavin of Universal Philatelic Auctions explains:

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Universal Unique Reducing Estimate lot system was born

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

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

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

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

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

www.UPAstampauctions.co.uk E-mail: info@upastampauctions.co.uk

Fax: 011 44 1451 861 297 Tel: 011 44 1451 861 111

Universal Philatelic Auctions (TT) 4, The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, Glos GL54 3HE United Kingdom

FREE "Stamp Tips of the Trade": Please visit www.UPAstampauctions.co.uk

**Please contribute to the 2016 ATA Boldly to the Future fund today...
Your name will appear in good company
in next year's listing of donors!**



JACK'S JOURNAL

When there is no stamp for your topic

Sometimes stamps do not exist for the point you want to make about one of your topics. There is still hope. There may be a postmark that could come to the rescue. Often, postmarks illustrate pieces of thematic knowledge that elude stamps. And, because of their size and content, postmarks can also add variety to your pages. Some are downright striking (pun intended)!

The most common philatelic postmarks are found on first-day covers. But many countries also use postmarks that honor people or celebrate anniversaries, festivals and other events. Nearby is a U.S. Halloween postmark with the headless horseman carrying a carved pumpkin head. You could put this postmark on your album page

with the U.S. Jack-o'-Lantern stamps to be released this fall.

There are two big challenges in topical postmark collecting. The first is finding out what items exist. Here are some ideas:

- Several stamp publications regularly list new U.S. postmarks. Some also note new covers (with cachets and postmarks) offered by U.S. stamp clubs. Our ATA offers cacheted covers with topical



postmarks depicting the themes of our annual stamp shows. Back issues still available are shown at www.americantopicalassn.org/ntss/show_cachets_available.pdf.

- Copies of the USPS *Postal Bulletin*, including illustrated lists of postmarks 2001 to date, can be found at about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/
- For many years there have been columns on topical postmarks in *Topical Time*. In the past, a column illustrated new postmarks on various topics in each issue. In recent years, George DeKornfeld has focused on one topic per issue in his very informative regular column. Our new *Topical Time* digital archive is an invaluable resource containing all issues of the journal 1949-2014 in an electronically searchable format.
- In listings of ATA checklists (on our website, or by mail by sending stamped, addressed envelope to ATA Office), those marked with an asterisk (*) contain Beyond the Catalog (BTC) items, including postmarks. (You could further enrich our checklists on your topics by sending lists of BTC items, including postmarks, to the ATA.)
- Some study unit journals include postmarks in their columns on new issues.

- Your topic may relate especially to one or more particular countries – they are the most likely to have postmarks for your topic. Postmark catalogs and websites may exist for those nations. They may also be available at the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) – www.stamps.org/About-the-Library – and other philatelic libraries. Staff at those libraries may be able to tell you about postmark journals for different countries.

Here's a start – several resources for two countries that are useful for my primary topic. (A neat project would be for someone to research additional resources for other nations and include them in *Topical Time*.)

Great Britain

- First Days (FD) 2003-date and current, special and permanent postmarks: www.norphil.co.uk
- First Days 1924-date: www.bfdc.co.uk/postmarks
- Several editions of *Slogan Postmarks of the United Kingdom*.

France

- Various: www.timbres-de-france.com/cachet/index.html
- Various: www.phil-ouest.com/Choix_General.php?Choix=Flamme
- First Days: www.phil-ouest.com/Annees.php

Once you have discovered those postmarks that exist for your topic, the second challenge is to find them. Our ATA's TopicalsOnLine website, eBay, Delcampe and other Internet sales sites can be good sources for postmarks. Look up your topic and browse. You will probably find some you didn't know about. They usually aren't expensive – the challenge is finding them.

If you have a choice, the best postmark is one that ties a stamp that pictures something related to your topic. Otherwise, choose the postmark with the least distracting stamp. You don't want a large irrelevant stamp competing for attention with the relevant postmark. Small definitives are often best. Ideally, most of the postmark will be clearly visible. Usually a postmark is on a cover, but sometimes may be available as a cut piece. The choice is yours. If exhibiting, you will probably only want to show the postmark, not the entire cover.

Happy postmarking! 

Breaking News!

*The next National Topical Stamp Show
will be held at the Crowne Plaza
Milwaukee Airport, June 23-25, 2017.*



About ATA

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

Congratulations!

To **Foil Miller**, 2009 ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist, who celebrated his 100th birthday on Jan. 18! Is he our oldest member?

Thank You

The Philatelic Society of Lancaster has remembered the ATA in its will ... well sort of. The club revised its bylaws and added a dissolution clause that leaves any assets (after expenses) to APS (75%) and ATA (25%). But we hope it never happens!

TopicalsOnLine

Visit www.TopicalsOnLine.com to see many new search options. Find stamps and much more! ATA members get a discount; all sales benefit ATA..

New ATA “Members Only” Website: www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org

By now, several hundred ATA members have visited the members-only area of our site to read *Topical Time* online. The software works with your tablet, your “smart phone” or your computer. You can even read your favorite journal while you’re waiting for an appointment somewhere!

Coming soon: PDF copies of *Topical Time* issues from 2013 to date. These are great for members who would like to download one or more issues to their own computer, or who for those who prefer to read without page-turning software.

If you have not used the new site, look for your early December email with the temporary password to enter the site. You will then change your password to one known only to you and have easy access to the ATA members-only content. If your password has disappeared into the electrons of space, just email americantopical@msn.com for assistance.

New on ATA Website

(www.americantopicalassn.org)

- **Checklist dATABse:** Updated listings for February include more than 1,000 additional items. To order lists, use order form at www.americantopicalassn.org/checklists.shtml or contact the ATA Office directly.
- **Topical Time:** The prior versions of *Topical Time* requiring a password have now been removed. All the issues from Jan. 2013 to date can be found on the members-only web page, www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org.

Checklists

The ATA Office has handled requests for more than 2,000 checklists since our new dATABse was activated in May 2014. Ordering lists may be done by email, phone or letter to the ATA Office. Contact information may be found on page 4.

Forms to use for checklist updates/changes, as well as for new checklists are on our website: www.americantopicalassn.org/checklists.shtml. Send the information directly to Tom Stillman: atachecklists@gmail.com, or PO Box 210748, San Francisco CA 94121-0748.

About The Adventure

Recent new members have received their first of six "About The Adventure" newsletters, familiarizing them with the ATA. Subjects are Checklists, Connectivity, TopicalsOnLine, *Topical Time*, Supporting the ATA and Renewing Membership. We hope these connections will help new members learn about ATA. Any member who would like to receive "About The Adventure" should notify the ATA Office.

National Topical Stamp Show – 2017

Unfortunately, plans for a joint NTSS (National Topical Stamp Show), have not materialized due to increased cost of space needed for a combined show. The ATA is currently finalizing plans for the 2017 (NTSS). The dates will be June 23-25, at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport in Milwaukee, Wis.

Recent Shows and New Members

Jan. 29-31, APS AmeriStamp, Atlanta, Ga. Ambassadors: Barbara Asher, Sue Bruce, Steve Chun, LeA Coe, Dawn Hamman, John Hamman, Jean Stout, Vera Felts. New Members: 11

Feb. 6-8, Sarasota National Stamp Show, Sarasota, Fla. Ambassadors: Dawn Hamman, John Hamman. New Members: 4.

Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at These Upcoming Shows

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

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

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

Feb. 26-28

Texpex, Grapevine, Texas

March 5-6:

KnoxPEX, Knoxville, Tenn.

Mar. 19-20:

Nashville Stamp Show, Nashville, Tenn. (ATA, Sat. only)

April 1-3:

St. Louis Stamp Expo, St. Louis, Mo.

April 16-17:

Plymouth Show, Westland, Mich.

April 16-17:

Evergreen Stamp Show, Kent, Wash

April 30-May 1:

Orapex, Ottawa, Ont., Canada

May 20-24:

Ropex, Canandaigua, N.Y.

May 28-June 4:

NY2016 World Stamp Show, New York, N.Y.

WANTED:

Please contact Jack Denys if you are interested

- ***Topical Time* Indexer** – Compile 2016 index during year, finishing in early December 2016 for publication in Jan-Feb 2017 issue. See format on pages 79-85 for 2015 index.

- **Exhibit Lister** - Compile lists from APS website of thematic exhibit awards at WSP shows. ☐

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!

Tell 'em you saw it in Topical Time!

Please support our advertisers; they support our hobby.

Boldly to the Future Goal Reached for 2015!

The final results for the 2015 BTTF campaign are in. We made it! Thanks to your generosity the **ATA met its goal with \$35,159.43!** We are very grateful to everyone who helped to make this possible.

Support from members has been very important to the ATA over the last couple of years. At a time when many philatelic organizations have declining membership and are reducing services, it is refreshing to see the ATA expanding its services and maintaining its membership. Best of all is the growing popularity of topical collecting.

From May 28 to June 4 of this year, we invite you to join us in at New York 2016, the International Stamp Exhibition at the Javits Center.

This once-in-a-decade show is a wonderful celebration of philately. Please stop by the ATA booth and talk with the ATA Executive Director, Vera Felts, and the volunteers who are helping to make our participation possible.

All aspects of our hobby will be represented. Friday, June 3 is Topical Collecting Day. The ATA annual meeting will be at 1 p.m. We will welcome as our speaker Dr. Damian Läge from Switzerland, former president of FIP Thematic Commission and noted exhibitor.

Your generous support has been responsible for the ATA's progress in recent years. Many members add a few extra dollars for BTTF when they renew their membership or order a checklist. Even small donations are so important to ATA. Thank you!

2016 BTTF Goal:	\$35,000
Received or Pledged:	\$12,270
Still needed in 2016:	\$27,780

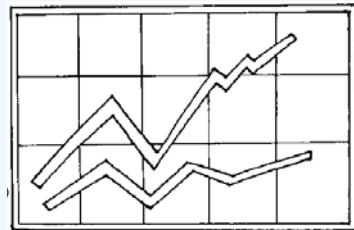
Every dollar you give helps to reach our goal!

You can send your 2016 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 - preferable if you pay electronically
- **Debit/credit card** – At [PayPal.com](https://www.paypal.com) – send money to americantopical@msn.com. One can safely and securely donate on the website even without a PayPal account.

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

Together we can advance...



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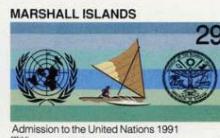
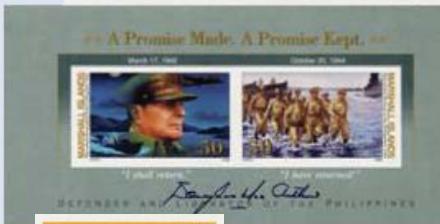
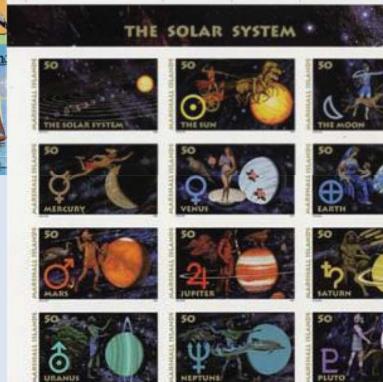
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- US and Worldwide Die Proofs
- Enormous stock Butterflies, Bees, Insects & Birds, Mint
- Covers and Postal History

Everything for the Topical Collector!



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

ATA Angels

This appreciation issue of *Topical Time* seems an appropriate one in which to highlight some ATA Angels. That's a "Vera speak" term for members who have given their time and energy to ATA. Often this happens in most unexpected ways. Always, it's appreciated – even if it goes unheralded. ATA Angels from the recent past include:

Bob and Pat Quintero of Michigan, who have obviously spent hundreds of hours sorting and classifying thousands of beautiful youth-friendly topical stamps. They sent the stamps to ATA for assembling into "Taste of Topicals" packets. Here's how specific their sorting was: Instead of sending the Animals stamps into one very large group, they sorted the stamps into Antlered Animals, Beavers, Camels, Dinosaurs, Elephants, Fish, Frogs, Giraffes, Lizards, Otters, Pandas, Penguins, Rabbits, Rhinos, Snakes, Turtles and Zebras. I know that anyone who has ever sorted stamps will appreciate the magnitude of the project! Now, when we learn of beginning/youth collectors with special fascination for specific animals, ATA will have a better chance to pique their interest in topical collecting.



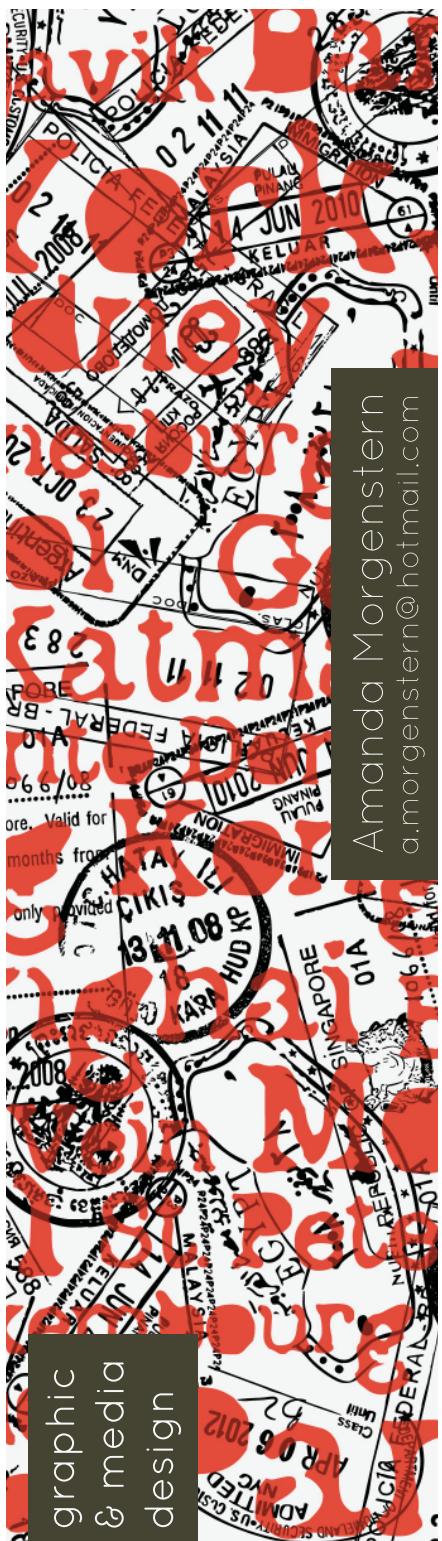
Lina Sharp of Nevada, who responded to Agbenyega Adedze's excellent article "A New Star is Born: The Early Years of Ghana Postage Stamps" in the July-August issue of *Topical Time*. Lina stitched two lovely pillows using beautiful Ghanian fabrics she purchased when visiting her daughter, a former Peace Corps volunteer in that country. She sent them to the ATA Office, where they were thoroughly appreciated. The pillows now grace Agbenyega's home – and will undoubtedly be used to enhance his teaching (he is a professor at Illinois State University whose expertise is in African textiles).



Norm Jacobs of Georgia, **Joanne Patterson** of Delaware and **Andrea Smith** of Missouri, who have each donated many hundreds of sorted youth-friendly topical stamps for ATA beginning and youth programs. Your devotion and loyalty to ATA are so appreciated!



ATA members who purchase checklists from the new dATABse (since May 1, 2014) are entitled to free updates once per year, as long as ATA membership is maintained.



Amanda Morgenstern
a.morgenstern@hotmail.com

Henrik Rossell of Maryland who, between bouts of cancer, has continued to send to the ATA Office many stamps for various purposes – including for use as mint postage and for youth work.

Leonard Zehr of Ontario, Canada, who learned that one of our study units was without a newsletter editor – and who immediately volunteered to assume the role.

What a pleasure it is for us to know that our members are willing to pitch in and help in needed ways!

Ron Tabbert of British Columbia, Canada, who sent a treasure trove – pounds and pounds of lovely stamps, including a large amount of U.S. mint postage. His box was franked with, among other stamps, six of the beautiful \$5 Canada flag stamps made from fabric. If you're in the market for such a unique stamp in used condition, look for some of those on *TopicalsOnLine.com* in the future!

Myron Wambold of Florida, who is living out his stamp dealer dream on behalf of ATA. Myron spends dozens of hours every week scanning and posting on our member sales site,

TopicalsOnLine.com. All the items he posts have been donated to ATA from various sources, especially from members who are winding down – or refining – their collecting activities. Myron's commitment is very strong, and he seems to thoroughly enjoy working with the hundreds of wonderful stamps and stamp sets (along with covers) that have been donated to us and that we'd like to offer to our members for their collections. He also actively seeks to promote TopicalsOnLine on our Facebook page and elsewhere.





Richard Schaefer of New York, ATA's "postage angel of the year." Upon learning (through this column in the Sept-Oct issue of *Topical Time*) of our empty postage bin and the need for any/all denominations of mint postage, he showered us with many hundreds of the most wonderful stamps. If your cover mailed from our office contains postage extracted from a press sheet (identifiable by marginal markings) or a plethora of stamps denominated lower than 30¢, the stamps are undoubtedly from Richard's donation. What a gift – to ATA and to our members who order items from us!

It is always problematic to write a column like this, as there are so many dozens of other ATA members who also contribute to further the organization's work, and whom we very much appreciate. If you did so in 2015, you'll undoubtedly find your name on our appreciation pages **28-34** of this issue. Thank you to all, but especially to the 2015 ATA Angels listed here, who have especially touched my heart.

New "members only" ata website. Hundreds of ATA members have now accessed: www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org and are reading the electronic version of *Topical Time* without cumbersome individual passwords. All issues from 2013 to the present are posted there. Soon, PDF versions needing no additional password will be available for reading or downloading to your own computer.

The membership expiration date for about half of ATA members occurs on May 1. If your membership is paid to May 1 of this year and you have supplied your email address to ATA, you are set to receive a dues reminder directly from the website during the first week in March. That's your "cue" to mail a check to the ATA Office or pay through PayPal on the website. It is incredibly helpful to our small office staff if you do that during the first few weeks after you receive your reminder. If, for any reason, you do not plan to renew, it is so helpful for us to know that "up front," instead of using precious time to send extra reminders. Thanks for your courtesy to our office staff!

Enjoy your stamps even more! Check out www.TopicalsOnLine.com! ☺

Topical Time is an international specialty journal serving the topical and thematic communities of philately. It publishes articles for beginning through advanced collectors that are stimulating to read and helpful to readers in their collecting activities. As the journal of the American Topical Association, Topical Time strives to publish accurate and up-to-date information about its membership and its study units and chapters. It also serves as a forum for communication among members of the ATA.



TOPICAL POSTLINE

More on “Modern” Fancy cancels

I received the May/June *Topical Time* and I have a question after I learned something new. In your column, “Topical Postline,” you refer to a catalog titled *20th Century United States*

Fancy Cancellations

Revised, 1987, of which I knew nothing about. I have one of these types of covers in my Knights of Columbus topical collection (see attached) and was wondering if it is listed and if it is scarce. I have two of these and I believe the requestor was Floyd Shockley with the cooperation of the Ed, Ky., postmaster. The pirate cover you show in your column is addressed to Ed, Ky., also.

Any help will be most appreciated and thank you!

— Greg Ciesielski

Greg, first, what a wonderfully attractive cover — a gorgeous component of your Knights of Columbus collection! This cancel is, indeed, listed in the aforementioned catalog as No. 289 (it was known when the first volume was published during the 1950s). It is shown as having been used on April 30, 1930. There is no way of knowing how many exist, but it is fairly scarce and is highly desirable — both because of the strong strike and the topical appeal of the image. Floyd Shockley, along with Jefferson Jones, R.P. Gilley and several others, were among the most well-known of the fancy cancel collectors of that era, and their names appear on many fancy cancel covers.

E.S. True, postmaster of Ed, Ky., was the creator of likely more early 20th-century fancy cancels than any other postmaster. He delighted in pleasing his philatelic customers and created each pictorial cancel by hand. Covers such as yours were once despised by “real” collectors, and I suspect many were destroyed, as I rarely see them for sale. However, between the patina of age and the huge topical appeal they offer, these cancels are now prized by the majority of collectors, both traditional and topical/thematic.

As a side note, the heyday of so-called “modern fancies” was between 1928-34, when they came to a screeching halt, after the U.S. Post Office Department specifically forbade postmasters from creating, using or distributing them. They came about through a loop-hole in postal regulations, and a number of postmasters from fourth-class post offices utilized them as a way to boost their income, which, at that time was based on mail volume.

— Wayne





WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

Stories Behind the Cancels

As we collect topical postmarks related to our interests or admire them in columns or features (such as George DeKornfeld's "Topics on Postmarks"), it's easy to forget that every single one of those postmarks has a story – or several – behind it. We all recognize that these items usually mark an anniversary or note a specific event (many times of historical significance), but they also all have a back story of how the postmark came about, the story of the development of the cancel itself or even the tale behind what's pictured. In most cases these stories are lost to all but a few shortly after the fact, but we occasionally get a glimpse at a portion of one.

I was reminded of this recently, when I obtained the cover shown nearby. It is an attractive cacheted cover created for Josex 1989, the annual show sponsored by the Johnstown (Pa.) Stamp Club. The pictorial cancel, which marks the centennial of the 1889 Johnstown flood, depicts the town's Stone Bridge, with an arch very attractively framing the dated portion of the cancel. Although not at once obvious, the concordance between stamps and cancel is great – a trio of train stamps making up the then-current 25¢ first-class rate, since the bridge is, indeed, a locomotive span. It's easy to admire the cancel for both its artistic and topical appeal (railroads and bridges), but there's much more behind this souvenir of a 27-year-old stamp show.

Along with the cover was a seven-page, single-spaced article about the flood and the significant role played by the Stone Bridge, written by a JSC member, John S. Brancho. Many accounts of the 1889 flood – one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history – emphasize the death and destruction created when debris behind the bridge caught fire after the flood. But the Stone Bridge was essential to both the town's survival and that of many residents. While I won't attempt to recreate Brancho's essay, I will briefly recount some of the background of this important story, which is essential in understanding just why an ill-thought-out bridge became a life saver.

Anyone familiar with Pennsylvania knows that Johnstown, located about 65 miles east of Pittsburgh, has an unfortunate history of flooding. "Flood City," as it is sometimes referred to, is located in the Conemaugh Valley, where the Little Conemaugh and Stonycreek rivers converge. The first recorded flood of any significance occurred in 1808. Then there was the "Pumpkin Flood" of 1820, when thousands of pumpkins were taken from fields by the flooding Stonycreek, floating them downstream to Johnstown. There were also noted floods in 1847, 1859, 1862, 1868, 1887 and 1888, before the big one in 1889. Since then, Johnstown has been inundated several more times, most notably in 1936 and 1977.

Although not incorporated until 1800, the town was founded in 1770 and was soon a center of commerce, becoming an important part of the Pennsylvania Main

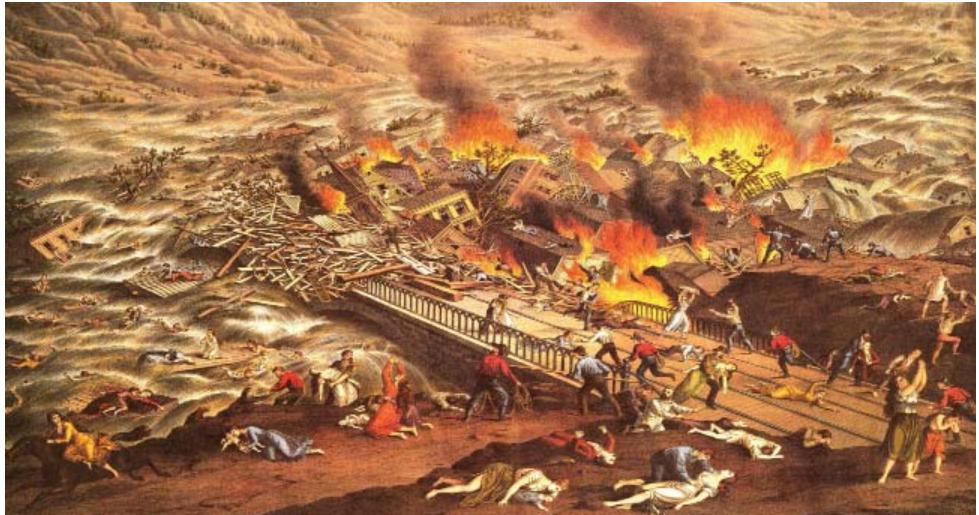


Line Canal (1834-54), then as an important stop along the Pennsylvania Railroad line. The mineral wealth of the area helped cement the town's importance and it thrived, despite almost yearly floods – which is why people continued to settle there.

Although the importance of the canal ceased 25 years before the Great Flood, it played a role in creating the conditions for it to occur. In 1841, construction began on a large dam on the South Fork branch of the Little Conemaugh River, about 14 miles upstream of Johnstown. The dam, completed in 1852, was physically 400 feet higher in altitude than Johnstown. The intent was to supply the canal with enough water and flow strength to ship materials from Johnstown to Pittsburgh during times of drought. After the canal closed, the dam remained and became property of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. and (reportedly) was not maintained or repaired to any great degree. In 1875, the dam was sold to Congressman John Reilly and, later, to Benjamin Ruff, who organized the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club. None of these owners seemed to see the need for upkeep to the dam.

The Stone Bridge was completed by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1887 with local stone. It was built as a seven-arch bridge over the Conemaugh River, with each arch spanning 55 feet. It was about 48 feet wide and 400 feet long. At least one citizen was concerned about the further narrowing of the river with the bridge's construction. The bridge it was to replace was much, much smaller and of a different construction style. In a letter to the editor of the local paper (June 16, 1887), the writer worried about the increased size of the piers as they rose to the arches, leaving less space for water to pass through the arches. He imagined an ice dam forming, blocking the arches and "in a very few minutes the whole valley in which Johnstown lies would be converted into a huge reservoir."

On May 30, 1889, Johnstown paused to mark Memorial Day. It had been raining heavily for several days, with six to eight inches recorded in many locations across western Pennsylvania. It had already been a very wet spring. The ground was water-



An early lithographed print that shows the destruction caused when backed up debris at the Stone Bridge caught fire.

logged and the rivers were rising. During the early evening it began raining again and continued overnight.

By 8 a.m. on May 31, both the Little Conemaugh and Stonycreek rivers were rising at the rate of 18 inches per hour. Water was already rising in the streets and people were moving to the second floor of their homes, confident the water would soon recede. After all, they had prior experience. By noon, people were traversing the streets by boat or raft, and there was four to 10 feet of water in the streets. Meanwhile, upstream...

The water level of the South Fork Reservoir had risen to a critical level. The dam's spillway was inadequate and there were no valves near the bottom to open. Workers frantically tried to dig another spillway to relieve pressure, but it was too late. The dam broke in the middle, sending 20 million tons of water crashing down on the communities downstream, with a force as great (at that time) as the Mississippi River.

After hitting the town of South Fork, the water smashed the 75-foot Old Portage Railroad viaduct, before taking out the town of Mineral Point and other targets, including entire trains and various structures.

According to various reports, the raging flood waters picked up so much debris on its way to Johnstown, that the floodwaters themselves became a "moving dam." Given the elevation of the dam and the volume of the moving water, the deluge should have been able to reach Johnstown within 25 minutes. Instead, it took almost an hour, giving residents a fighting chance to find refuge.

As the flood hit Johnstown, the water first destroyed the Gautier Wire Works, which served to split the torrent and add wire to the debris. Half of the torrent was channeled to downtown, the rest toward the Stone Bridge.

In fairness, had the full force of the wave hit the bridge, it could not have held out. Still, after hitting Westmont Hill (adjacent to the bridge), the flood waters began to slow as they hit the bridge. The controversial arches began catching debris, including



The Stone Bridge, after blasting began to clear the debris that saved so many lives.

(as Brancho put it) "shattered houses, locomotives, railroad cars, steel tracks, steel cable and barbed wire, machinery, boulders, trees, animals and humans." This material was backed up behind the bridge in mounds 20 to 30 feet high!

This is where it gets even more interesting. The sheer variety of materials and the height of these mounds left the backed-up debris literally honeycombed with air holes. An estimated 2,000-3,000 people who had been swept up in the floodwaters found and inhabited these air holes until they either escaped on their own or were rescued.

At 5:45 p.m., the east end of the drift caught fire, turning into an inferno that would burn for three days. More than 70 charred bodies were eventually recovered from that part of the debris.

The take-away is that the "poor design" of the Stone Bridge caused the debris to back up behind it, allowing more than 2,000 to escape with their lives; a scenario that would have played out very differently if the bridge had either not caught the debris or if it had collapsed. There were also heavily populated areas below the bridge that would have been endangered as well.

After the flood, the debris remained. Until a path was cleared, backed-up water could not flow. On June 5, 1889, blasting began to clear the rubble and debris. An area 30 by 75 feet was cleared the first day, with steady progress made afterward. Finally, on Aug 22, the Little Conemaugh and Stonycreek rivers were completely cleared. The Pennsylvania Railroad alone had lost 20 miles of track, 34 locomotives, 24 passenger cars and 58 freight cars that had been floated away.

In the end, 2,209 people perished in the 1889 Johnstown Flood. but that number could easily have been doubled if it weren't for the Stone Bridge, which sheltered and protected many hundreds of Johnstown citizens.

And to think, I learned all this from a pictorial cancel! ☐



TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

George DeKornfeld

Mouse in the House

Soon after the article on pictorial postmarks depicting bears (*Topical Time*, November-December 2015, Page 17) was received by our ATA readers, I received a nice note from member William Sylvester, who took me to task regarding what he considered to be a serious omission.

"Just finished your article about bears on postmarks and couldn't help but notice that my favorite bear – Winnie the Pooh – was not included."

In my defense, I did mention that a future article would include those bruins not explored in the first

Figure 1.

article, including their cartoon counterparts. Winnie, also a favorite bear of mine, will certainly be included in that piece.

William went on to say:

"That led to the next thought – would you be interested in doing a Disney-on-postmarks article?"

What a good idea, and, as a matter of fact, I would indeed.

Needless to say, Disneyana's scope is huge, and one that would likely require an entire book to cover all of the available postal markings related to this popular topic. With this in mind, in this issue let's start by taking a look at the progenitor of all things Disney – Mickey Mouse.

This official mascot of the Walt Disney



Figure 2.



Figure 3.

Company came to life thanks to the artistic efforts of Walter Elias Disney and Ub Iwerks, debuting in one of the earliest cartoons to include sound, *Steamboat Willie*, first shown at the Broadway Theatre in New York City in 1928. Instantly a hit with young and old, our featured mouse started appearing in comic strips, comic books, movies (more than 130!) and many additional cartoons. Many of us also fondly remember watching *The Mickey Mouse Club* on our televisions as we were growing up. As a testament to Mickey's popularity, this TV series ran from 1955 all the way to 1996.

Mickey's fame and popularity clearly transcend most – if not all – international boundaries as well as language barriers. With that, let's hop right in with a pictorial used at the multi-lingual city of Brussels, Belgium, in 2008 (Figure 1). This is a classic Mickey pose that leads one to think, as he extends his gloved hand, that he's saying, "Voila...here's the new stamp!" This first-day marking was used in Stad Brussel (the Dutch version of the name) as indicated by the

1000, the city's postal code.

Figure 2 takes us to a nice recent example from China, a veritable trifecta in the concordance department. Called

a Greeting Stamp, this stylized stamp issued in 2015 comes with an attached label that depicts our mouse friend, along with a circular postmark of Mickey's head matching that of the label's, providing a most attractive result.

It's been said the French have always been crazy about Jerry Lewis and his comedic movie antics. While this may very well be true, it seems the French also have quite a love affair with Mickey Mouse, at least judging by the number of pictorials extant. We'll look at just four, but keep in mind that there are enough out there to make for an amusing mini-collection from this country alone.

Figure 3 is a machine cancellation used at Vitry-le-François, a commune in north-eastern France, to advertise its 10th annual city festival held in June 1983.

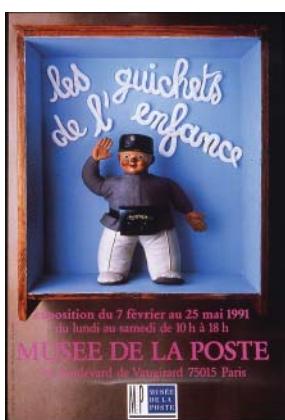


Figure 5.



Figure 4.



Figure 7.



Figure 6.

**Figure 8.**

Next stop is Paris (Figure 4) where we see a 1991 pictorial commemorating the Postal Museum's exhibit titled *The Windows and Childhood*, showing Mickey in mail carrier garb with letter in hand. The exhibit itself included a bisque and papier-mâché figure of a rural postman (made in 1935 and donated to the museum in 1991), which became the official mascot for the museum's philatelic collections (Figure 5).

Figure 6 brings us to Chessy, a commune located in the eastern suburbs of Paris, for a pictorial used there in 1993 that celebrated the 65th anniversary of the founding of Disney. Appropriately, the image of Mickey used is that of his starring role in the cartoon, *Steamboat Willie*. Chessy is the home of what back then was called The Euro - Disney Resort. Opened in April 1992 by Michael Eisner, CEO of the Disney Company (1984-2005), this most popular Euro-

pean theme park has since been renamed Disneyland, Paris.

**Figure 10.**

Germany, for a machine cancel advertising the Hermann E. Sieger Company, stamp dealers and publishers. Here Mickey proclaims the wonderful world of stamps on this pictorial used in 1981.

Next stop: Italy. Figure 9 is a very busy marking used in 1988 for Milan's Philatelic Exhibition that celebrated the 60th anniversary of Disney. In Italy, Mickey is known as Topolino which means baby or little mouse. Topolino is also the name of a comic book series featuring all of the Disney characters that has been published since 1932.

**Figure 9.**

Our final example from France was used to cancel one of the three Stamp Day stamps issued in 2004, all three of which are cinema-themed using Disney characters. Ours is the €0.50 Mickey Mouse stamp with our mouse in the director's chair and our Parisian pictorial neatly applied at the bottom. You just gotta love that face (Figure 7)!

Figure 8 brings us a quick visit to Lorch-Württemberg,

**Figure 11.**

Used at Spotorno in the province of Savona, our next example takes us into the additional theme of sports with a pictorial used for the 7th annual Topolino Youth Trophy Fencing Competition, held by the Fencing Club of Savona and the Italian Fencing Federation. This two-day event, in addition to the competition itself, provides an opportunity for people of any age to duel with members of the undoubtedly well-practiced Savona club (Figure 10).

Another sports-related theme, this one being football (soccer), is



Figure 13.

found in our Figure 11 cancel. Used at Gressan in the Aosta Valley region of northwest Italy in 2013, this pictorial celebrated the second Topolino Youth Football Competition. As one would expect, football is a huge deal in this part of the world. The competition in 2013 included 180 youth teams playing 600 matches throughout the area, with Gressan serving as the hub of the activities that included a Mickey Village that provided entertainment and fair venues, all part of the Mickey Mouse Sports Project Initiative. The cancel itself is a nice action pose of Mickey who is about to pound the ball towards the goal, while being able to maintain that smile he is so well known for.

Japan is another country that holds a love affair with all things Mickey, as witnessed by the opening of a Disneyland in Urayasu near Tokyo in 1983. In Figure 12 we have a postmark commemorating the 70th anniversary of Disney and, in Figure 13, a pictorial used for The Mita Festival held at Keio University in 2012. This four-day event, put on by students, includes all sorts of music and dance, including traditional Japanese, as well as magic performances, martial arts and lectures on a broad range of topics.

A 2001 pictorial from Lisbon, Portugal, at last brings us a match-up with a stamp depicting

Figure 14.



Figure 12.





Figure 15.

Topolino, mentioned earlier, received a little philatelic press with this pictorial issued by San Marino in 1994 (Figure 15). This marking is an exact match of the cover art used on the Topolino 2000 issue as seen in Figure 16.

Let's finish up our visit with Mickey with a small group of pictorials from his home country:

Figure 17: A pictorial issued for the first day of the International Stamp Show held at Palmer House, Chicago, Ill., in 1987.

Figure 18: A Disney Station marking featuring Mickey from Parkville, N.Y., used in 2004.

Figure 19: A first-day cancellation for the Art of Disney Bambi and Thumper stamp issued in 2004 from Anaheim, Calif.

the man who brought us Disney (Figure 14). This marking celebrates the 100th anniversary of Walt Disney's birth (1901), by using the three circles he used to start the drawings of his mouse. Isn't it amazing how those three circles positioned thusly, with no additional information whatsoever, immediately brings Mickey to mind in what, I would guess, might be the vast majority of folks?

The comic book

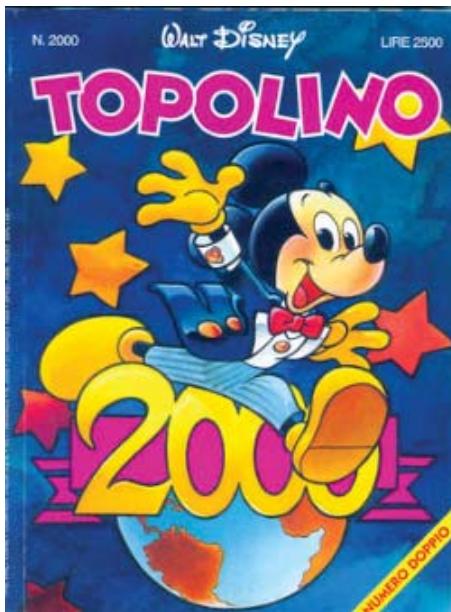


Figure 16.

Well, that's it for now my fellow Mouseketeers, so until next time, all together now (in your best falsetto voices): M-I-Ceee...K-E-Y.....M-O-U-S-E...(I'm sure you know the rest).

P.S. Some housekeeping:

1. Bill Silvester is the president and founder of the Disneyana on Stamps Society, an ATA Study Unit since 2012. Membership is FREE! For more information and

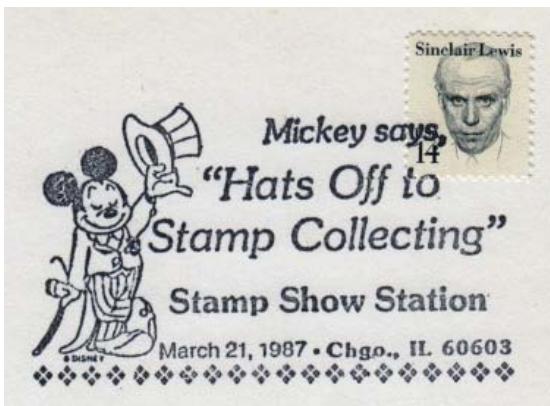


Figure 17.

to see the benefits membership provides (such as checklists), go to the society's website at www.disnemation.8m.com/HOME.htm, or contact Bill directly at disnemation@yahoo.ca.

2. Member Nathan A. Unterman of Chicago wrote regarding the amusement park rides article, "Just Along for the Ride," in the May-June 2015 issue (Page 20). Nate is working on a checklist covering amusement park and carnival rides and would love to hear from – and collaborate

with – members sharing his interest. If that's you, drop me an email and I'll get you connected with him.

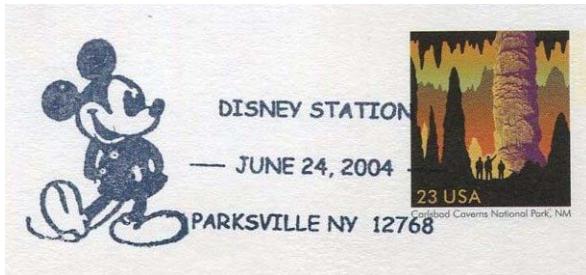


Figure 18.

3. Member Norm Pence wrote regarding the article on bear postmarks:

"Very interesting article. However, I think that the postal marking in Figure 1 is a fake. The postmark is a four-bar handstamp on some other stamp. The Edison stamp has been pasted on top of it obscuring most of the four bars. The bear has been added after the cover left Bear, Ark."

With my response:

Figure 19.

Good eye, and I probably should have explained this item a bit better. I guess the term fake could apply although I don't believe deception was the intention. This is more of (in my opinion) a philatelic contrivance, since the killer bars are clearly visible next to the circular date stamp. Note that the plate numbers, two red and two blue, match (No. 19778), so my best guess it was a collector simply having some fun.

We'll never know the true intention for sure, so it will remain a mystery, but I will do a follow-up on this item in the next issue of *Topical Time* just to set the record straight. Done!

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



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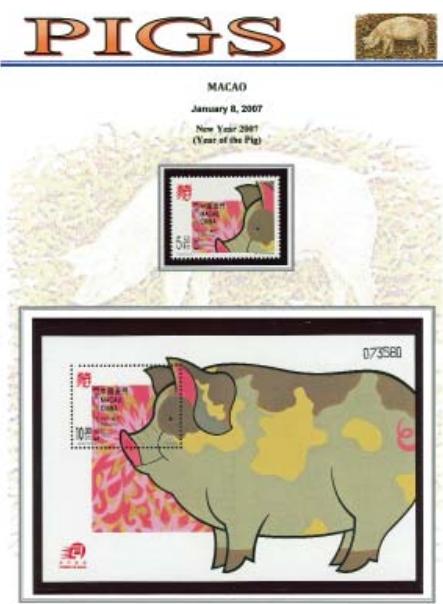
Hilda Bailey

Dawn Hamman

This is the 14th in a series of brief vignettes spotlighting interests of some of our fellow ATA members.

Hilda Bailey's creativity and sense of humor led to her choice of a topic: Pigs. "My husband Parker was a police detective, so it naturally followed that my collecting theme would be pigs. While the word is sometimes used negatively when referring to police, they have turned it around to stand for pride, integrity and guts," she explained. Parker collects police on stamps, so when she joined him in the hobby she chose a complementary topic.

Hilda uses her ATA checklist, searches for additional listings, and exchanges information with other pig collectors. "When I started this collection I expected to have only a couple dozen for a complete collection. Wrong! I have several hundred already and



still counting, she said. She also collects lighthouses, bats, bears, caves and Disney.

She designs her album pages with Microsoft Word, adding a fancy heading and pig design watermark. She has made an attractive album to show to fellow collectors.

Hilda and Parker enjoy sharing their hobby. "Because we both collect stamps, it's something we can do together and never seem to get tired of it, or each other," she noted. "Topical collecting allows me to appreciate how postal images are depicted on subjects I admire." ■

ATA Supportive Members, 2015

ATA is dependent upon its members to support our programs – and keep our membership dues low. Thus, we annually pause to thank the hundreds of members who contribute to our efforts. In addition to our Boldly To The Future fund, ATA received major donations for TopicalsOnLine and NTSS Sponsorships. The NTSS show program and several other activities were also made possible by donations.

In 2015, ATA members made the largest number of donations in recent history. This was partially due to the hundreds of members who were Directory Donors – who purchased a Membership Directory and made a donation to assist in publishing it. Many Directory Donors made additional contributions during the year. It is wonderful to have our members supporting more than one ATA initiative!

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Two wonderful cachetmakers, John Colasanti and Frans Geerlings, shared their time and talent to make nice in-kind donations of cachets for NTSS.

Lastly, many ATA members and others donated philatelic materials of various kinds in 2015. They include: Paul Brach, David Dickens, Dawn Hamman, Matthew Leone, Hermann Meyer, Henrik Rossell, Kenneth Rothschild, Sheryll Ruecker, Caroline Scannell, Robert Schlotzhauer, David and Julie Shafer, Ed Shane, Andrea and Dale Smith, Jean Stout and Carol Wolf.

ATA is indebted for the kind support of members mentioned here. If we have missed your name, please do let us know so our records may be completed. Thanks to everyone for your generosity! ☺

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METERS BY TOPIC

Wayne L. Youngblood

Don't Collect Meters? Why Not?

As you can no doubt tell from the title of this column, it is about meters – by topic, specifically. What if you don't collect meters?

You do not have to be a meter specialist to enjoy, appreciate and collect meters related to the topic(s) you collect, and they are considered a postal element if you are exhibiting. Therefore, it can be enjoyable, useful and challenging to attempt to find items for your topics where a meter enhances the item.



Figure 1. This highly attractive and detailed pictorial meter strike from the German camera manufacturer Leica is an example of what most of us think about when considering adding meter impressions to our collections.

Traditionally, we tend to think of collecting meters simply for their pictorial depictions. Take, for example, the item shown in Figure 1. It is a superb strike of a Leica camera pictorial meter from 1951, which would be a great addition for anyone collecting cameras or photography. But there's so much more to meter collecting, and that's kind of the point of this month's column; to show you what's available to supplement and enhance your collection or exhibit – not comprehensively, but enough to hopefully inspire you to look. A well-placed meter may well enhance other topical aspects of your collection. Read on.

On Aug. 8, 1974, a "Pilot Program," initiated by the electronic communications subsidiary of National Cash Register (NCR) began in the Bar Terrace branch of the Flushing, N.Y., post office on a trial basis. The "test," which ran from 1974–1981, was for a self-service omni-denominational meter, which would allow postal patrons to mail their own items for various services. While this type of meter did not spread, it paved the way for today's Integrated Retail Terminals (IRTs) and Postage Validation Imprinters (PVIs) that are used in virtually every post office of any size. Their postal importance has never really been recognized other than by a few meter specialists.

Yet, during their time, these meters (from 54 terminals) were used in 29 stations, 18 carrier stations and 11 finance stations (and there are a couple of types). Because of their arguably unattractive appearance and unpopularity of meters at the time, very few were saved. Commercial examples, such as

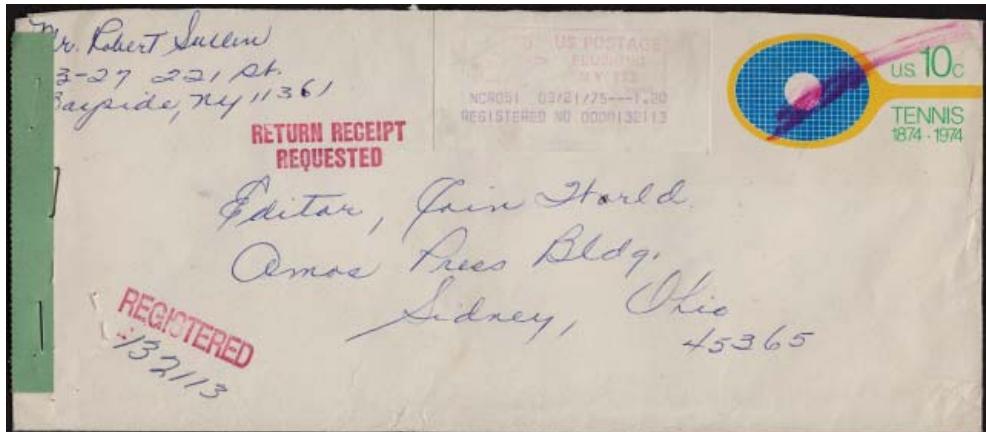


Figure 2. Of interest to sports or tennis topicalists, this stamped envelope from 1975 bears a special test type of registered meter that is extremely scarce.

the Figure 2 cover – one of only a few known registered uses – were quickly discarded and lost to the hobby. Even first-class or philatelic uses of these meters are scarce.

The cover, from Meter 113 (USPMSC type POX-C2), shows the 10¢ first-class rate paid by the Tennis stamped envelope (Scott U569), with the \$1.05 registry fee (no insurance) and 15¢ return receipt fees paid by the experimental Flushing meter (for a total of \$1.30). In this case the meter tremendously enhances a Tennis-related item.

As a side note, there is a wealth of information regarding meters from all over the world in the International Meter Stamp Catalog, which is found free online at: https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/International_Postage_Meter_Stamp_Catalog.

The cover shown in Figure 3 could very easily be a part of a fire-related topical or

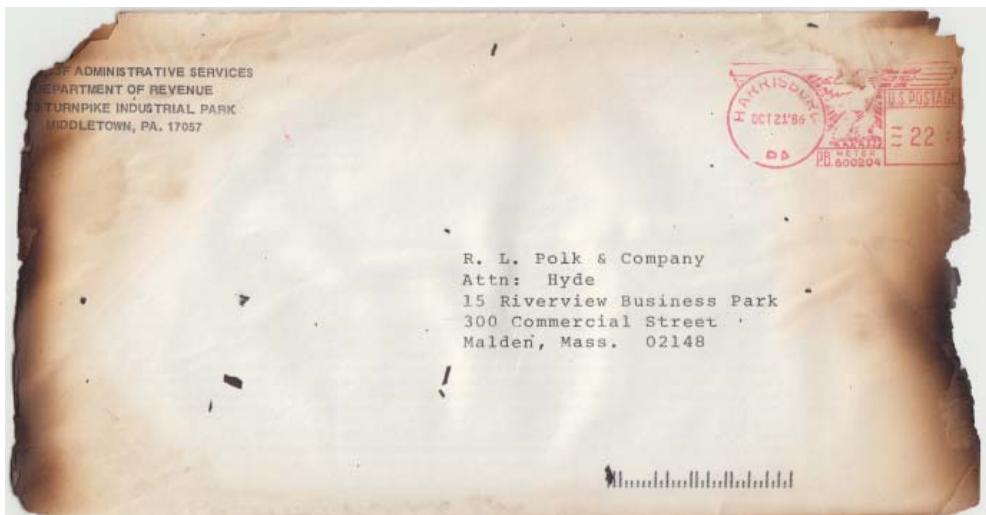


Figure 3. The meter is secondary on this charred cover, which was burned when a mail truck caught fire in 1986. It could easily fit into a fire-related topical collection.

thematic collection. It is not a crash cover, but has been burned. Although metered (as most commercial mail is), it still tells a great story. This Oct. 21, 1986, metered cover was delivered to its Massachusetts recipient in a modern-style USPS plastic "body bag" in 1986. Although neither the cover nor the bag gave any indication of the cause for the obvious (and significant) charring, the Wilkes Barre, Pa., postmaster saw fit to create a letter of explanation. It reads as follows:

"Dear Postal customer:

"The Postal Service extends its [sic] sincere apology for the condition of your enclosed mail.

"The damage resulted from a fire on the mail truck in transit from Harrisburg on Wednesday, October 22, 1986.

"We are very sorry for any inconvenience that this may have caused you.

"W.M. Brady, Postmaster"

Modern covers are rarely delivered with a note of explanation regarding damage or delay. This note is exceptional in its content and detail.

The cause of the fire is unknown.

The Figure 4 cover is of topical interest because of its pictorial machine cancel showing a carousel horse. However, the illegal use of a meter, trimmed from a colored envelope, used almost three weeks earlier and pasted on another, adds both interest and value to the cover. It may not be as attractive as a

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Figure 4. A close look at the meter on this photographically cropped cover will tell you that it's an illegal use. The meter was cut from another envelope and glued on this one to evade paying postage. It is a great addition to the subject matter of the carousel horse pictorial cancel.

commemorative canceled with the same marking, but is a much scarcer and challenging use.

Finally, Figure 5 shows the postage side of a picture postcard with a "Gift House" trading stamp illegally used to pay the 6¢ postcard rate on Sept. 11, 1969. The local use was caught the following day and assessed 5¢ postage due, which was paid with the use of a post office meter tape. Again, the meter use is enhancing the base item.



Figure 5. Another illegal use – this time of a trading stamp as postage – was caught and assessed proper postage due.

Be on the lookout for meter uses that can improve items in your collection. There are many of them out there! ☺

An Escape to Tropical Coastal Settings

Barry Floyd

During mid-winter months in mid-latitude countries – with often freezing temperatures, snowfalls and a sun that is both weak and infrequent – there is a yearning to travel southwards into tropical climes to escape, at least temporarily, the hardships of the northern winter and to lounge contentedly where land and tropical waters meet.

Yet not all of us have the time, the money or the ability to physically leave home for a tropical break. Unless, that is, we are topical collectors and have wisely accumulated a selection of colorful stamps depicting some of the scenic splendors of shorelines. With such a collection it is possible to go vicariously traveling around the world in the mind!

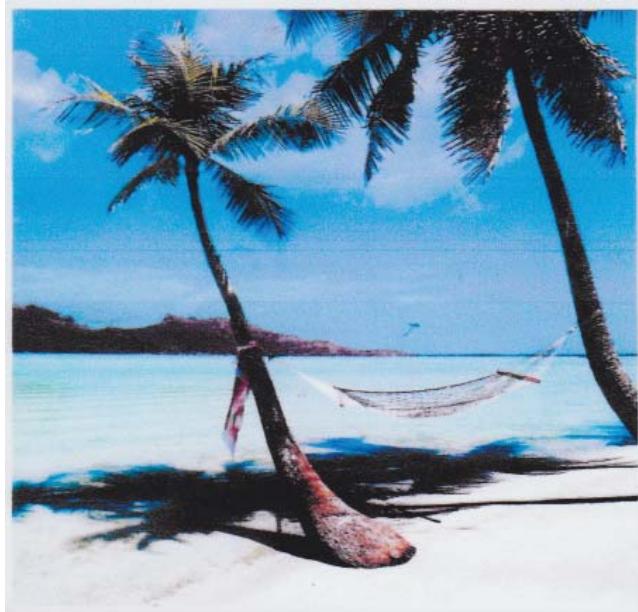


Figure 1. A tranquil tropical coastal scene.

The philatelic portrayal of tropical coastal settings can act as a substitute for real life journeys and, if exercised carefully, will provide much pleasure for just a minimum of effort.

Some examples from my own collection of tropical shorelines on stamps follow. They are selected from four regions: the Caribbean, Africa, the Indian and the Pacific Oceans. I hope you will experience something of



Figure 2. Beaches of Anguilla sheetlet, 1999, Scott 1005-1010, Stanley Gibbons MS 1054.



Figure 3. Antigua Barbuda 1988, Scott 1082, SG MS 1162.

islands of Antigua and Barbuda, surrounded by aquamarine seas, depicted in the \$5 stamp (Figure 3), provide an ideal habitat for large brown pelicans – an attraction for overseas visitors.

The 10c stamp from Barbados, another West

Indian island (Figure 4), shows a deserted Bathsheba Beach. It was issued on the occasion of the first United Nations Conference of Small Island Developing States

(see logo), and the Bajan coastal attractions were no doubt enjoyed by delegates to the conference.



Figure 4. Barbados, 1994, Scott 865, SG216.



Figure 5. Grenadines of St. Vincent, 1975, 1977, Scott 66, 68 and 115, SG 67, 69 and 109.

the real enjoyment that viewing them brings to me.

Anguilla is a small island in the Eastern Caribbean, closely associated with the larger islands of St. Christopher and Nevis. The miniature sheet of six values (Figure 2) shows an attractive white sandy shoreline along six different bays, virtually empty and awaiting the arrival of northern visitors!

The neighboring

islands of Antigua and Barbuda, surrounded by aquamarine seas, depicted in the \$5 stamp (Figure 3), provide an ideal habitat for large brown pelicans – an attraction for overseas visitors.

The 10c stamp from Barbados, another West Indian island (Figure 4), shows a deserted Bathsheba Beach. It was issued on the occasion of the first United Nations Conference of Small Island Developing States (see logo), and the Bajan coastal attractions were no doubt enjoyed by delegates to the conference.

Still in the Eastern Caribbean, the coast of the Grenadines is featured on three selected stamps (Figure 5). The 35c issue shows the harbor area of Petit St. Vincent, with vessels at anchor; the first \$1 stamp shows sailing in the Coral Lagoon of Petit St. Vincent, while the second \$1 stamp reveals a broad view of Grand Bay on Canouan Island.

Moving to the west of the Caribbean, the island of Cuba marked the millennium by issuing two 15c se-tenant stamps commemorating the 40th anniversary of Cuba/China diplomatic relations (Figure 6). The left stamp pictures Coconut Forest Bay, located in the sub-tropical province of Hainan in South China. The right stamp shows the popular

Figure 6. Cuba 200,
Scott 4109a, SG
4499-4500.

Varadero Beach in Matanzas Province on the north coast of Cuba. With the relaxing of political constraints

between the United States and its island neighbor, we may anticipate larger numbers of visitors from North America in the years ahead.



Figure 7. Nicaragua, 1989, Scott 1757, SG 3020.

state of Sierra Leone celebrated independence in 1961 with a set of 13 stamps, two of which (4d & 1s.3d) featured the popular Lumley Beach, located just east of the capital of Freetown.

Having swum there some 50 years ago I can vouch for its attractiveness and the friendly local inhabitants (Figure 8).



Figure 8. Sierra Leone, 1961, Scott 213, SG 228.



Figure 9. Spanish Guinea, 1949, Scott 307, SG 333.

A little known state in West Africa is Spanish Guinea, made up of two overseas provinces of Spain: Fernando Poo and Rio Muni. With a coastline within the Gulf of Guinea, there are potential – though still undeveloped – locations for winter visitors from the



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Figure 10. South Africa, 1983, Scott 625a, SG MS 553.

a miniature sheet (four stamps) featuring popular seaside resorts (Figure 10). The top left 10c stamp shows the broad sweep of Plettenbergbaai Bay; the top right 20c stamp shows the popular beach at Durban, protected by shark nets; the lower-left 25c stamp depicts a west coast scene and the lower right stamp provides an aerial view of Clifton Bay.

Turning to the Indian Ocean, the Seychelles are a group of islands off the east coast of Africa. Tourism already plays

an important role in the economy and may be expected to expand, with the state a full member of the British Commonwealth of Nations. Numerous stamp issues have featured the islands' coastal attractions. Among the earliest is the 45c stamp (surcharged, Figure 11), which offers a picture of Anse Royale Bay.

Figure 12. Maldives Islands, 1978, Scott 773, SG 785.

The Maldives are located west of Sri Lanka; the country is a Sultanate and an Associate Member of the Commonwealth. Foreign visitors already frequent the islands, attracted by palm-fringed shorelines such as the one depicted in the 1L stamp (Figure 12).



north. The 10¢ stamp (Figure 9) displays a stretch of shore, a fishing craft, and an imposing Clarence Peak in the background.

With a subtropical climate around its southern coasts, South Africa attracts many visitors from the northern hemisphere during winter months.

Celebrating tourism,



Figure 11. Seychelles, 1965, Scott 216, SG 216.

Proceeding eastwards across the Indian Ocean, we reach Christmas Island,

Figure 13. Christmas Island, 1993, Scott 350, 352, SG 378, 380.

some 600 miles south of Singapore and currently an Australian Territory. Scenic views around the island were featured in a four-part set of stamps issued in 1993, two of which are shown here (Figure 13). The 85c stamp reveals a somewhat rugged shoreline, captured still more fully in the higher-value \$1.05 stamp.

The continent of Australia features a variety of climates, with several regions experiencing tropical conditions with scenic coastlines to match. In 2010 Australia Post issued a set of three international (high value) stamps depicting beaches, two of which are shown here Figure 14).



Figure 14. Australia, 2010, Scott 3288, 3289, SG 3427,3428.



Figure 15. Thailand, 1997, Scott 1760, 1761, SG 1966, 1967.

Cape Tribulation in the so-called “wet tropics” of Queensland. The Cape was named during Captain James Cook’s pioneering voyage along the northeast coast of Australia, facing numerous challenges en route. The \$4.30 stamp takes us to the opposite side of the continent and offers an appealing view of the curiously named Hellfire Bay.

Thailand is one of the most popular destinations for visitors worldwide and has numerous attractions to offer. Among them are some fine shorelines, two of which were featured in a set of three stamps in 1997 devoted to tourist sights (Figure 15). The stamps also marked the 30th Anniversary of the Association of South-East Asian States. The top 9p stamp offers a view of an impressive sunset at Phromthep Cape, Phuket; the bottom example shows a scenic natural bridge along the coast of Thalu Island, Chumphon.

The Philippines comprises a group of islands in the South China Sea, in the Western Pacific Ocean. Formerly ruled by Spain, the United States and, briefly, by Japan during World War II, the country is now an independent republic. Due to the large number of islands that make up the state, there is a very lengthy coastline, offering a great variety of seascapes for visitors. The single 6c stamp, issued to mark World Refugee Year in 1960 (Figure 16), shows a peaceful sunset scene with a fishing vessel and village in Manila Bay. A half-century later, it is doubtful whether such a tranquil setting remains.



Figure 16. Philippines, 1960, Scott 817, SG 848.



Figure 17. Fiji, 1980, Scott 330, 331, SG 600, 601.

from Great Britain, Canada and the United States. Among issues featuring appealing scenes around Fiji was a special four-stamp set devoted to tourism, issued in 1980. Two of the stamps are included here (Figure 17). The 6c value shows a pretty Sovi Bay, surrounded by well-forested hills, while the 20c stamp portrays a sunset scene on Yanuca Island, with ‘sun-downers’ (whiskeys or gin-and-tonics) no doubt ready to be poured. On the edge of both stamps are examples of traditionally-crafted Fijian patterns.



Figure 18. Samoa, 1995, Scott 866-867, 871, 875, 878-879n SG 927-929, 941, 944-945).

form a fitting conclusion to this review of appealing tropical shorelines to which we may vicariously travel while settled comfortably at home, winter prevailing. Enjoy! ☺

Located in southwest Pacific, Fiji is a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations and – despite its remote location – is a popular vacation locale for visitors

North-east of Fiji, the Samoan Islands experienced several colonial rulers in the past but achieved independence in 1962. Their setting offers many beautiful coastal scenes, as the stamps issued in 1995 readily testify. They

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

Lonely Onlys...

Can You “Top” These Topicals?

Mark Sommer

[Editor's Note: This is the second installment of several to be presented throughout the year, focusing on unusual or, perhaps, unique topics.]

Okay, so the ATA has completed a database of hundreds of topicals. Fine. You have a master list of items and most of the items you need.

If you are looking for a new challenge, how about finding “only topic” on stamps as another category? Let’s explain. Those stamps shown in this month’s column are unique, in that – to the best of my knowledge – they are the only ones displaying the topic they represent.

The challenge? Either find other stamps showing these topics to prove me wrong or point out other potentially unique stamp topics. Don’t just sit there reading, get

out those catalogs and start looking!! ☎



Left: In 2006 Germany released this stamp, showing 100 years-worth of license plates. Stamps may show vehicles with license plates (see next stamp), but this is likely the only one specifically honoring them. **Center left:** One of the more bizarre stamp issues ever is this baby with a gas mask, released in 1979, as part of the Year of the Child (protesting carbon monoxide).



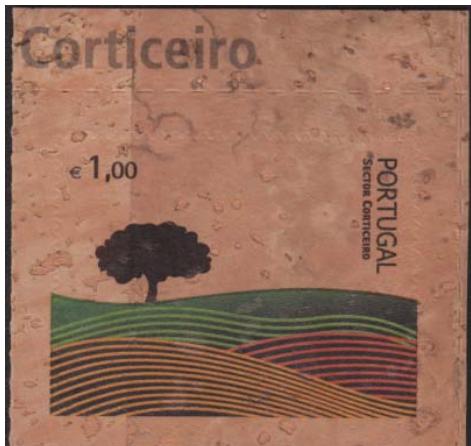
Bottom left: This is likely the only stamp ever issued

showing
a jetpack
(rocket belt).
On March
31, 1988,
Bhutan
released

a set of 10 stamps
honoring milestones
in transportation.
Despite the fact the
rocket belt has never
developed beyond
a prototype, it was
depicted on the 9nu



stamp shown. **Above right:** On Nov. 28, 2007, Portugal became the first country to ever release a stamp made of cork. The 1-euro self-adhesive stamp depicts a single cork tree on a hillside. ☎





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Arthur H. Grotz

American Air Races

The coming of practical aviation created immense public interest in anything aeronautical. Like the automobile before it, sportsmen and gentlemen (and some women) enthusiasts



Figure 1. Above.

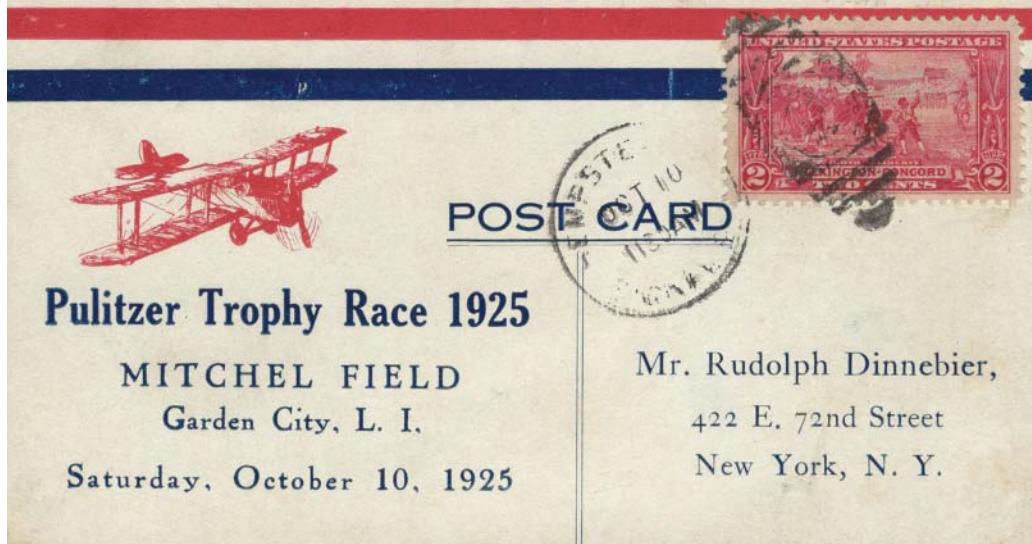
Figure 2. Below.

Figure 3. Right.

gravitated to it, seeking to test their prowess. The great Meets of 1910-12 essentially ended with the death of Harriet Quimby at Squantum on June 30, 1912. Air races returned slowly in the 1920s. To promote them, various poster stamps and associated materials were prepared by the sponsors. They provide some of the most striking imagery among American labels.



National Aeronautic Exhibition Flights October 8 -- 10, 1925





The first major Air Race to issue such a label of which I'm aware was held in 1925 at Mitchel Field on Long Island, the same Mitchel Field from which Lindbergh departed across the Atlantic (Figure 1). A special card was available (Figure 2).

Just a few months later, a race was held in Baltimore as part of the International Schneider Cup competition for seaplanes. That year James Doolittle won the prize in a Curtiss R3C-2. Twelve such races were held between 1913-31. (Figure 3)

The year 1928 saw the National Air Races held in Los Angeles, home of one of the earliest air meets, January 1910 (Figure 4).

By 1929, air races or derbys were being held in such out-of-the-way places

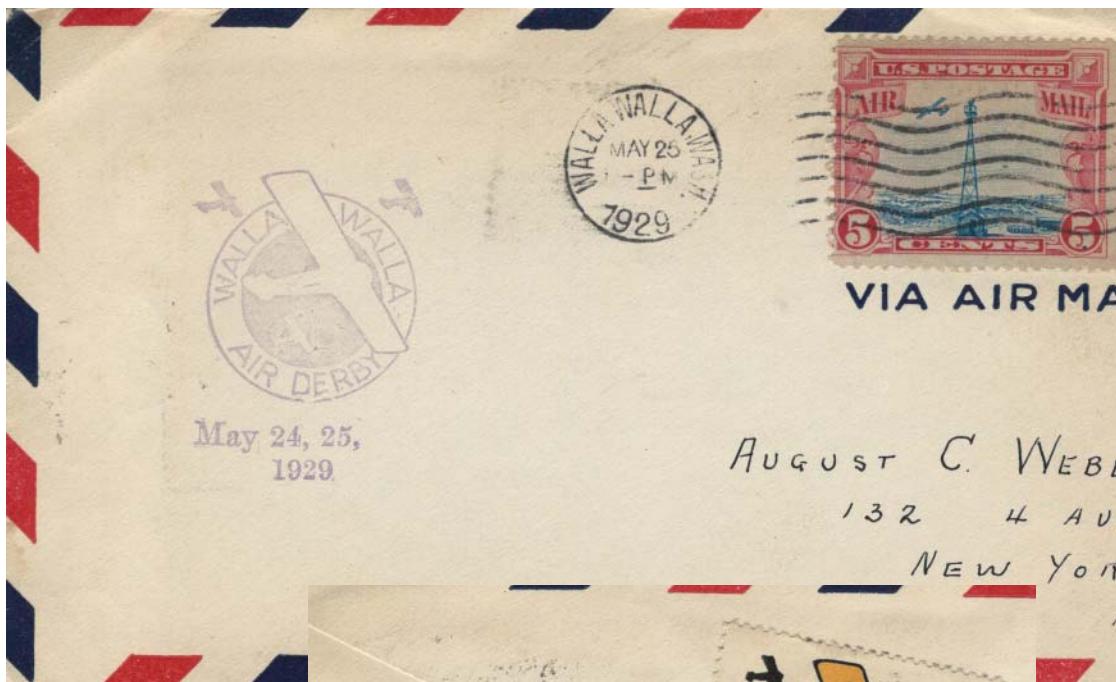


Figure 4. Top.

Figure 5a. Above.

**Figure 5b. Right,
tied label from
the reverse of the
Figure 5a cover**





Figure 6.

as Walla Walla, Wash. That show – as did most – had special cachets in addition to labels. The simple hand-stamped cachet on the front of the cover matches the label on the reverse. This repetition of design is often seen (Figures 5a and 5b).

Also in 1929, Parks Air Lines of Chicago set out to create some buzz for its company by sponsoring five preliminary races from various cities to East St. Louis, Ill. Those five winners then competed in St. Louis, Mo, in May. C.W. "Speed" Holman won in a Laird LC-RJ200 "Speed Wing." The label notes that race as part of the meet (Figure 6).

There are many other labels from various air races that I'll discuss in due course. ☐

Arthur H. Groten, longtime cinderella enthusiast, welcomes correspondence at PO Box 3366, Poughkeepsie NY 12603-3366 USA, or by email: agroten43@icloud.com.

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ATA's super booth (#1276-1278) will be a “world topical headquarters”

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FRIDAY, JUNE 3

11:00-12:00 - Informal Gathering of Leaders and Members of Worldwide Thematic Associations – Room 1E06

An opportunity to meet and talk with other thematicists; meet someone who collects your topic- maybe even have lunch together! Members of the British Thematic Association are already planning to attend.

1:00 – 3:00 - ATA Annual Meeting – Room 1E06

- Presentation of the Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award
 - Installation of Board of Directors
 - Acknowledgment of 25 and 50 Year Membership Anniversaries
 - Recognition of New ATA Chapters and Study Units
 - Presentation by Dr. Damian Läge, former president of FIP Thematic Commission:
- "Developing Your Story – The Key Concept of Thematic Philately"



His exhibits:

- *Australasian Birdlife* - Large Golds at ITALIA 98 and CHINA 99
Shown in the Championship Class at WASHINGTON2006
Website: www.fipthematicphilately.org
Click “Exemplary Plans and Exhibits,” then Läge (third down)
- *Fascinated in Feathers - How Birds Inspire People*
Grand Prix at European Championship for Thematic Philately - 2015

3:00 – Dr. Damian Läge will lead a walk through thematic exhibits

Meet at the first thematic frame

U.S. Multi-frame Thematics at NY2016

Exhibit	Exhibitor
<i>The Bayeux Tapestry</i> , NTSS: Grand, 2008; Gold, 2015	Jack André Denys
<i>The Butterfly Effect</i> , NTSS: Grand, 1984; Gold, 2015 americantopicalassn.org/ntss/2015/exhibit_entries/Herbert,%20Greg.Butterfly%20EffectSynopsis.pdf	Greg Herbert
<i>Coconuts</i> , Gold and Reserve Grand at NTSS 2014 ape.org/exhibit_view_frame.asp?intExhibitNumber=61&intCurrentFrameNumber=1	Phillip J. Stager

Exhibits by international exhibitors are listed at www.ny2016.org/Exhibits.aspx

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

ATA Study Units at NY2016

*Please send corrections to ATA Office. They will be included in the next issue and on our website. ATA's booth number at the show will be 1276-1278.
ATA's exhibit frame at the show will include a list of all our study units.*

Study Unit	Meeting	Booth
American Society of Polar Philatelists	--	1280
Armenian Philatelic Association	--	ATA booth
Biology Unit	--	ATA booth
CartoPhilatelic Society	--	1656
Cats on Stamps Study Unit	"Tigers in Philately" Tue May 31- 2:00 to 4:00 Room 1E20	ATA booth
Chess on Stamps Study Unit (COSSU)	Sat June 4 -1:00-3:00 Room 1E10	--
Christmas Philatelic Club	--	ATA booth
Collectors of Religion on Stamps (COROS)	"A Retrospective" Fri June 3 -1:00-2:00 Room 1E15	--
Earth's Physical Features Study Unit	--	ATA booth
Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections (ESPER)	General Meeting [closed] Sun May 29 - 1:00 to 3:00 Room 1E21	782
Graphics Philately Association	--	ATA booth
International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors (ISWSC)	"Yes, You CAN Collect the World" Sun May 29 - 3:00 to 5:00 Room 1E06	1374
Old World Archaeological Study Unit	--	ATA booth
Petroleum Philatelic Society International	--	ATA booth
Pitcairn Islands Study Group	Board of Directors Sun May 29 - 12:00 - 1:00 Room 1E18	1281
Plate Number Coil Collectors Club (PNC3)	--	876
Scouts on Stamps Society International	General Meeting <u>Sun May 29 - 1:00 -2:00 Room 1E19</u> "Postal Autographs of the Baden-Powells" <u>Sun May 29 - 2:00 to 3:00 Room 1E19</u> "Scout Philately: A Many Faceted Hobby" Speaker: Lawrence Clay Mon May 30- 1:00 to 2:00 Room 1E19	783
Space Unit	Speaker: Chris Calle, stamp designer <u>Fri June 3 - 1:00 to 2:00 Room 1E11</u> Annual Meeting <u>Fri June 3 - 2:00 to 3:00 Room 1E11</u>	--
Sports Philatelists International	Sports and Olympics Collectors Meeting Mon May 30-11:00 to1:00 Room 1E07	778
United Nations Philatelists	--	ATA booth

**Please make it a goal to recruit
at least one new member
this year...**

Help us continue to "Buck the Trend!"

Time to Vote for Board of Directors

It's time to vote for our ATA leaders. A list of current board members is found on page 4. The board recently amended the ATA bylaws to allow for staggered three-year terms of office. (Previously, all terms were two years and expired at the same time.) This ballot reflects that change and, to begin the new cycle, it includes nominees for terms of one, two and three years. A ballot is on the inside front wrapper of this issue (feel free to remove the mailing label with your name before you send it). If you have an email address on file with ATA, you may vote at www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org. Or, mail your vote to the address given at the bottom of the ballot; it must be received by April 15, 2016. Results will be announced by May 1 on the ATA website and Facebook page, in the May-June BYB newsletter and in *Topical Time*. The elected officers and directors will be installed at the ATA annual meeting during NY2016 World Stamp Show on June 3 in New York City.

Philatelic biographies of the nominees

(*Incumbent member of the board)

Officers

President: Dale Smith* of Kansas City, Mo.

- ATA member since 1999, board member since 2011, first vice-president since 2012.
- Penguins on Stamps Study Unit: past president and board member.
- Member of study units: Stamps on Stamps, Gays and Lesbians on Stamps.
- Other topical interests: AIDS, U.S. Pharmacy Stamp Scott 1473.
- With wife, Andrea, operates Stamp Smith, topically-based dealership. Had tables at 10 of last 11 National Topical Stamp Shows.

First Vice President: Dawn Hamman* of Venice, Fla.

- ATA member since 2011, board member since 2014, Ambassador, Publicity Chair, Fundraising Committee, edited NTSS 2013-15 show programs.
- Biology Unit: member and journal contributor.
- Americana Unit.
- Exhibit, *How to Grow Tomatoes*, Mary Ann Owens one-frame grand award (NTSS 2013) and APS Most Popular Champion of Champions:
<http://americanatopicalassn.org/ex-tomatoes.shtml>
- Other collecting/exhibiting interests: Chickens, Abraham Lincoln, Manatees, Bananas.
- Retired from journalist career. Dawn has written and edited many publications.

Second Vice President: Jack Congrove of Fort Lewis, Wash.

- ATA member since 1985, co-chaired NTSS 2015.
- Editor of Biology Unit's journal, *Biophilately*.
- Member of Americana and Wine on Stamps Units.

- Exhibit, *Alexander Hamilton: Soldier, Financier, Statesman, Founder*, Gold and Best Display at NTSS 2013:
<http://american topicalassn.org/ex-hamilton.shtml>
- President of Seattle Philatelic Exhibition (Seapex).
- Editor of *The Federated Philatelist* (Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs)
- Member of APS, AAPE, WE, Military Postal History Society, Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library and Evergreen Stamp Club (Washington)

Secretary: Laurie J Ryan* of Cincinnati, Ohio

- ATA member since 1997, board member since 2008, secretary since 2008.
- Biology Unit member.
- Topics include Hedgehogs, Iris, Beer, Bagpipes, Endangered Animals.
- Docent at Cincinnati Zoo, where she inspires many to create a topical collection of animals on stamps

Treasurer: Dennis M. Dengel* of Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

- ATA Life member since 1987, Board member since 2008, past second vice president, former Multi-Media Coordinator.
- Americana Unit: secretary-treasurer; International Philatelic Press Club - past secretary.
- Other topical interests: Statue of Liberty, Olympics, Elvis Presley.
- Named 2008 Distinguished Topical Philatelist.

Directors

Beth Collins* of Cottonwood, Minn.

- ATA member since 2008, board member since 2012, Ambassador, coordinator of NTSS silent auction.
- Member of Carto-Philatelic Society, Biology Unit and Penguins on Stamps Unit: second vice-president.
- Topical interests include Maps, Trees, Scouting, Peace Corps and Cricket.

Larry E. Davidson* of Stratford, Ontario, Canada

- ATA member since 1999, board member since 2012, Ambassador, NTSS Awards Chair.
- Vice-president of ATA Biology Unit.
- Writes "Foreign Thematic Exhibits" for *Topical Time*.
- Gold medal award-winning thematic/display exhibit, *Beavers: Nature's Engineers*, Most Popular at 2007 and 2008 NTSS, Grand and Best Display Awards NTSS 2015:

http://american topicalassn.org/pdf/exhibitions/beaver_exhibit_2015_grand.pdf

- Other thematic interest: Sir Frederick Banting and discovery of insulin.

Jack André Denys* of Somerville, N.J.

- ATA member since 1976, board member since 2006, president 2008-16.
- Co-founder Albrecht Dürer Study Unit, president and editor of *Dürer Journal* for 20 years
- Exhibit, *The Bayeux Tapestry*, won Grand Award at NTSS 2008. It will be at NY2016.

- Other topical interests: British royalty, Andrew Wyeth, palindromes.
- Named 2014 Distinguished Topical Philatelist.
- Member APS since 1986, AAPE since 1990.

Jeff A. Hayward of Staten Island, N.Y.

- ATA Life member since 1990, Study Units Coordinator.
- Virtual Stamp Club: Maintained stamp show schedule webpage & discussion board moderator.
- International Society of Worldwide Stamps Collectors: PR Director and handled Youth Outreach.
- Earth's Physical Features Study Unit: president and editor.
- Received 2011 APS Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Award for Outstanding Young Adult Philatelist.
- Has worked in Information Technology for non-profit entity for 20 years.

"The cliché of 'do more with less' has become an everyday reality and we have had to come up with creative and unconventional ways to solve our problems. I will bring this creative and opened-minded approach with me in the hope that I can help address the challenges of the ATA."

Robert E. Lamb* of State College, Pa.

- ATA member since 1997, board member since 2008, Fund-Raising Chair, Chair of the ATA Internet Sales Committee.
- Association management experience, including 12 years as executive director of American Philatelic Society.
- Topical interest: Maps/Cartophilately.

Amanda Morgenstern of Pinckneyville, Ill.

- ATA member since 2009. Designs ATA graphics, including handbooks and website.
 - Volunteer ATA webmaster - only site to win Gold in APS Web Competition four years straight. Recently developed members-only website: www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org.
 - Editor of Graphics Philately Association's journal, winning gold and grand awards in ATA competition.
 - Bachelor of Honours in Graphic Design and Masters in Typographic Design.
 - Freelance graphic designer.
 - Member of APS, Southern Illinois Stamp Club and Wine on Stamps Study Unit.
- "I feel my devotion and service to ATA have prepared me well to represent its members by serving on the Board of Directors."*

[As ATA contract staff, Amanda will abstain from voting when appropriate, to avoid any potential conflict of interest.]

Dick Roman of St. Louis, Mo.

- ATA member since 1975.
- Helped to get the Topical Checklists organized, recognized and used.
- Member Biology Unit since 1975, now publisher of *Biophilately*.
- Topical interest: Wild animals, "All the vertebrates I could find." Next to

the stamps in his albums are “photographs of animals from my field trips depicting the same species.”

“ATA needs to improve both the hardware and data handling software, and I’d work in that area with the board.”

Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz of Portland, Ore.

- ATA member since 2003.

- Awards:

1998 American Philatelic Congress Diane D. Boehret Award.

1999 U.S. Classic’s Society Elliott Perry Cup.

2001 U.S. Classic’s Society The Stanley Ashbrook Cup.

2002 Luff Award for Philatelic Research.

2013 Inducted APS Writer’s Unit Hall of Fame .

- Author/coauthor of many books, including on *US Domestic and International Postal Rates, Canadian and British Rates* and *The 1954 Liberty Series*.
- Writes column for *Linn’s Stamp News* on “Modern U.S. Postal History” (since 2004).
- Writes column and edits Auxiliary Markings Club newsletter (since 2003).
- 43-year (life) APS member.
- APS philatelic judge emeritus (judged NTSS three times).
- Most recently, he is facilitating the placement of freely available Government Postal History documents onto a website hosted by the APS.
- Exhibiting interests: *Postal history of 1954 Liberty series* (Grand), *The Sun* (Thematic – NTSS 2015 Reserve Grand):

http://american topical classn.org/pdf/exhibitions/thesun_2015_resgrand.pdf

The forwarding of US domestic mail, Unmailable and Undeliverable US Domestic Mails from 1860-2015, The history of the development of computer generated meter postage (Gold)

www.aape.org/exhibit_view_frame.asp?intExhibitNumber=147&intCurrentFrameNumber=1

Good luck to all candidates. The ballot is found on the inside front wrapper of this issue of *Topical Time*. The deadline for ballot receipt is April 15. 



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Study Unit Spotlight

This Month: Medical Subjects Unit

[Editor's Note: This is the 33rd installment of a regular feature intended to – indeed – spotlight one of our study units and the fine work done in its journal. This month we feature "Mosquito Nets," from Scalpel & Tongs, Oct-Dec 2015 (Vol. 59, No. 4). To be considered for "Study Unit Spotlight," please select what you feel may be the finest article appearing in your journal during the past year or so (preferably with philatelic content) and submit it to the Topical Time editor (wystamps@gmail.com), or Study Unit Coordinator Jeff Hayward (stamps@jeffhayward.com). We hope you enjoy this fine feature. [Submissions of Spotlight features are earnestly solicited!]

Mosquito Nets

Frederick C. Skvara

The *Journal of the American Medical Association* has been published continuously since 1883 and, for the first 80 years, the cover was devoted to a table of contents. Beginning in the 1960s, under the direction of editor John H. Talbott, MD, pictures started to be placed on the cover and, from 1964, the covers have been devoted to the illustration of fine art in full color. Save for a couple of special issues during the year, every cover of *JAMA* has since then depicted a reproduction of a work of art and, while paintings dominate, other forms of art have also graced the covers. Except for a small number of theme issues, the cover art is not related to any of the articles in a particular issue.

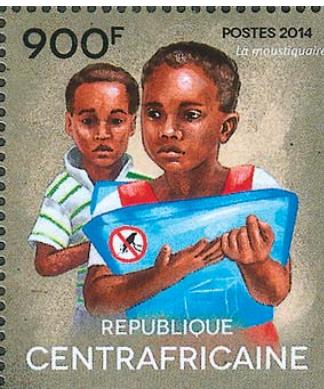
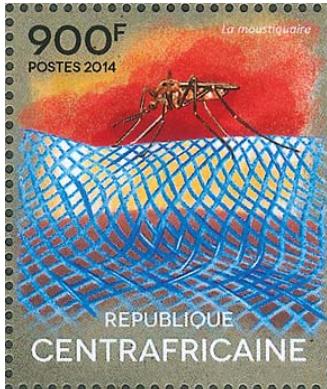
Since the 1970s, the responsibility for choosing the art to be shown on the covers has fallen to M. Therese Southgate, MD, a senior editor, who immersed herself in the study of art and began about the same time to describe in short notes some of the information that she had learned about the illustrated works. Those notes have evolved into the essays that accompanied each illustrated cover.

Several years ago they reverted to placing the Table of Contents on the cover and placing a work of art with its accompanying essay on the inside.

The "Art of *JAMA*" column in the July 24-31, 2013, issue illustrated the 1908 painting, *Mosquito Nets*, by John Singer Sargent, an oil on canvas that resides in the



Mosquito Nets, by John Singer Sargent.



Central African Republic 2014 (two stamps).

Detroit Institute of the Arts.

John Singer Sargent (1856–1925) was born in Florence, Italy, to American parents on Jan. 12, 1856. He spent his early years traveling around Europe with his parents,

periodically taking drawing lessons. In 1876 he visited the United States and established his U.S. citizenship. He took his formal art training at Carolus Duran's studio and at the École des Beaux-Arts, both in Paris. Mainly a portrait painter, Sargent's works "showed an extraordinary ability to reveal the inner aspects of his subjects." He became famous and included among his sitters princes and princesses, musicians, actors, writers and statesmen and diplomats. At the height of his career it became a distinction to be painted by Sargent, and many wanted that honor. "Taken as a whole his portraits ... must come to be considered the epitome of the age he lived in..."

Dr. Edwin J. Andrews for APS Treasurer



As a fellow ATA member I ask for your vote
in the upcoming APS election where I am a candidate for Treasurer.
My election will strengthen our ATA ties to APS.

"My top priorities for APS are membership, debt reduction for financial flexibility, and maximization of technology for effective leadership and communication."

Financial and Business Management Experience: 40 + Years

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- Director of Global Marketing - a Johnson & Johnson Company
- Global Director of Academic & Educational Programs - Project Management Institute

Principle of Andrews Consulting Enterprises LLC (2011-present)

- Board Oversight and Responsibilities
- Global Consulting to Non-profit Organizations
- Financial and Strategic Planning
- Organizational and Project Management

Lifelong Service to Philately

- Collector from age 8 – APS Member for 40 years , Former Member APS Membership Committee
- Current Treasurer and Board Member - American Association Philatelic Exhibitors
- Current Board member POLONUS Philatelic Society
- Member - Collectors Club (NY), American Topical Association, American Revenue Association, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Military Postal History Society and the Germany Philatelic Society.
- Chief Philatelic Judge – Member of CANEJ
- Editor - Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting – new 7th edition

I ask for your vote to allow my experience and abilities help APS and the hobby.

Contact: www.andrewsconsultingenterprises.com/afacinc@yahoo.com

Sargent spent the fall of 1908 in Majorca (Mallorca) one of the Balearic Islands in the western Mediterranean Sea, off the coast of Spain, where he painted *Mosquito Nets*. The painting depicts his sister, Emily Sargent on the left, with her friend Eliza Wedgwood in the village of Valdemoso. Emily Sargent appears to be immersed in a book. They are both covered by what John Sargent called "Garde Mangers," an invention of Emily for keeping out mosquitoes.

As I often do, I tucked the photograph of the painting and essay in a clipping file for possible future use. Then I noticed in Gwen Prout's article, "Malaria: WHO Update and Recent New Issues," which appeared in the last issue of *Scalpel & Tongs* (Vol. 59(3); pg.58), a miniature sheet of four stamps from the Central African Republic for the 2014 Campaign Against Malaria. Two of the stamps show mosquito nets (left-facing page). On one, a mosquito sits on top of an insecticide-treated mosquito net, while the other shows a young child carrying a packaged mosquito net. In addition, the stamp on the accompanying souvenir sheet issued at the same time shows a woman carrying one of those nets (above).



**Central African Republic
2014 (one stamp).**



Luis Beauperthuy. Venezuela 1971 (Scott 994).

Mosquito nets have been in use for a very long time. The Greek historian Herodotus (484-425 B.C.) who visited Egypt wrote,

"In the marshy country...each man possesses a net...by day it serves him to catch fish while at night he spreads it over the bed in which he is to rest, and creeping in, goes to sleep underneath. the gnats which, if he rolls himself up in his dress or in a piece of muslin, are sure to bite through the covering, do not so much as attempt to pass the net⁽¹⁾."

The Roman poets Horatius (65-8 B.C.) and Juvenal (c. A.D. 55-127) both mention conopeum (mosquito netting) in their writings.

Marco Polo (1254-1324) described a kind of mosquito netting used on the Coromandel Coast on the Indian subcontinent. It was noted by the English physician and writer James Johnson (1777-1845) in 1818 in India, and John MacCulloch (1773-1835), a Scottish physician and geologist, in 1827 in Scotland, that the use of mosquito nets, gauze veils and curtains and closing the windows and doors at night offered protection against malaria. In 1854 Luis Daniel Beauperthuy (1807-71), a French physician, promoted the idea that yellow fever was spread by mosquitoes and used a mosquito curtain to prevent yellow fever epidemics (above left). In 1878 General Charles Gordon of Khartoum (1833-85), a British Army officer and administrator, told Robert Felkin (1853-1926), an English medical missionary and ex-



Insecticide-treated mosquito nets. Red Cross Campaign Against Malaria. Republic of Guinea 2015 (from miniature sheet of four, two stamps).

plorer who had traveled up the Nile River to meet Gordon, “never to sleep without a mosquito net as he was convinced that the net acted as a filter against the malaria poison as well as against the mosquitoes and other insects that might cause the fever⁽¹⁾.”



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Mosquito nets have been highly effective in preventing malaria, but their effectiveness was almost doubled with the introduction of insecticide-treated nets in the 1980s (left). Composed of polyester, polyethylene or polypropylene the nets are dipped in a solution of water containing a pyrethroid insecticide and then dried. Originally the nets had to be retreated with insecticide every six to 12 months, but nets have now been developed that are effective for up to three years.

References

1. C.M. Poser & G.W. Bruyn, *An Illustrated History of Malaria*, The Parthenon Publishing Group, New York and London 1999.



Harvey Cushing, M.D. (1869-1939). Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he was a pioneer in the field of neurosurgery who graduated from Harvard University and trained at Massachusetts General Hospital and at Johns Hopkins University. He received the Pulitzer Prize for his 1925 Biography of Osler (Sir William Osler, Canadian-born physician). Cushing is depicted on U.S. Scott 2188, released in 1988.



annual Pulitzer Prizes for journalism and literature. Stamp issued on centenary of his birth in 1947, U.S. Scott 946.

Joseph Pulitzer (1847-1911). Pulitzer was a U.S. newspaper publisher and editor who was born in Hungary. He owned a number of newspapers and included in his will provisions for the establishment of the

Medical Subjects Unit

After a formal proposal went out to all ATA members in the July-August 1952 issue of *Topical Time*, 12 members would form the Medical Subjects Unit by December that same year. This study unit collects all types of medicine-related stamps, including dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, physicians, Red Cross and veterinary medicine. The Medical Subjects Study Unit had published three ATA handbooks and the study unit's journal, *Scalpel & Tong*s has been in print since December 1955. For more information about the Medical Subjects Study Unit please contact Marion Rollings, 101 New Amwell Rd, Hillsborough NJ 08844-5516 or via email drmarionrollings@yahoo.com. Dues are \$15 in the United States and \$18 elsewhere.

Help us continue to “Buck the Trend!”

Award Winners

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

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

First, Second and Third Awards

The following exhibitors were recent recipients of ATA Awards:

At Florex this year the ATA 1st medal was given to **Jerry Miller** for *Evolution of the German Reichstag and its Post office in the Rise and Fall of a Nation*. The ATA 2nd medal was awarded to **Dawn Hamman*** for her exhibit, *Remembering Lincoln*. **Dr. Sam Chiu** received the ATA 3rd award for *Frogs and Toads, Their Relevance to Humans*. The ATA one-frame medal went to **Dawn Hamman*** for *Campanulas: Bells of the Garden*. Both the ATA Novice award and the youth award were given to **Cheyenne Fleming*** for *Dinosaurs of the World*.

Phil Stager* received the ATA 1st award at Chicagopex for *Coconuts*.

Stephen Olson's* exhibit, *The six-pointed star* received the ATA 1st award as well as the ATA Novice award at Penpex. **Physiological Perception of Wine Tasting**, by **Nigel Moriarty**, received the ATA 2nd award, while **Hiriam Thurston** was given the ATA 3rd award for *Many Faces of Abraham Lincoln*. The ATA Youth award was presented to **Ana Calderon** for *Color Varieties of the Monarch of Elizabeth II*. ☐*

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Units in Action

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

Astronomy Study Unit

Astrofax

The Astronomy Study Unit



welcomed its new editor, Leonard Zehr in the December 2015 *Astrofax*. Zehr retired from a 36-year career in business journalism in 2007. The 25th anniversary of the Hubble telescope was

celebrated in this issue. The telescope was put into service on April 25, 1990, after several years of setbacks, including the shuttle *Challenger* accident. Jersey Post released a set of eight stamps in April 2015 that show images taken by the Hubble telescope.

The study unit is seeking a volunteer webmaster. Please contact the study unit if you would like to volunteer for this position.

Dues are \$8 in the United States and Canada, \$12 elsewhere. Contact John W.G. Budd, 728 Sugar Camp Way, Brooksville FL 34604-1501.

Email: jwgbudd@gmail.com

Books and Printing (Graphics Philately Association) *Philateli-Graphics*

A biography of “Engraver: Milos Ordracek” appears in the October 2015

Philateli-Graphics. Sent to the School of Arts and Crafts in Turnow at a young age, his studies were mostly in jewelry engraving. He would later move on to engraving banknotes and then engraving



stamps, after one of his designs was accepted and printed in 1969. Ondráček would engrave more than 400 stamps during his career with a large portion of his engravings depicting artwork.

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

Email: lr@gbstamps.com

Website: www.graphics-stamps.org

Chess on Stamps Study Unit

Chesstamp Review

Manfred Roesler shares his new



interest in “Chess on QSL Cards” in the October-December 2015 *Chesstamp Review*. QSL Cards are postcards created and shared by radio operators with their CB “handle” or radio nickname. Roesler has found many of these cards with chess themes and several are shown in the article.

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

Email: keithfam@embarqmail.com

Website: www.chessonstamps.org

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Christmas Philatelic Club

Yule Log

The holiday October-December



2015 *Yule Log* celebrated the season with "Silent Night" Celebrated on Stamps Around the World." Author John Renhart starts with a history of Christmas carols and then uses stamps and covers to illustrate *Silent Night's* beginning and how it spread in popularity and on stamps around the world.

The Christmas Philatelic Club is in need of an editor. Please consider volunteering for this position.

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

Email: jpba4stamps@windstream.net
Website: www.ChristmasPhilatelicClub.org

Disneyana on Stamps Society

Disnemation

With the recent release of Disney's *Star Wars the Force Awakens*, France and Germany have issued *Star Wars* stamps. France issued a stamp booklet that



includes a stamp of the *Star Wars* logo, with access to *Star Wars* digital content online. Germany and France also issued personalized stamps with different *Star Wars* characters and themes. Disney Films on stamps continues in issue No. 73 of *Disnemation* with films from 1954.

Membership is free. Members receive *Disnemation* online six times a year; site access is password controlled.
Email: disnemation@yahoo.ca
Web: www.disnemation.8m.com/HOME.htm

Ebony Society of Philatelic Events

and Reflections, Inc. (ESPER)

Reflections

Editor Don Neal provides a biography for Richard Allen, the 39th African American to be honored on a stamp in the United States Black Heritage series. Born into slavery, Allen purchased his freedom in 1780 and later

became the first bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Neal also asks if the USPS made "*A Charlie Brown Christmas Faux Pas*," since the Peanuts character Franklin does not appear on any of the 10 stamps in the 2015 issue. Neal notes that Franklin is always invited to the Christmas party by the Peanuts gang, so why wasn't he invited by the USPS?

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

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

Email: eshinaultsr@yahoo.com
Website: www.esperstamps.org

Errors, Freaks and Oddities

Collectors' Club

The EFO Collector

Dave Hunt explores "Overinking and Underinking" for

18 different U.S. stamps and explains how some of these EFOs occurred during the printing process in *The EFO Collector* July-Sep 2015 edition.

The latest EFOCC auction also appears in this issue, with 139 lots available in the auction.



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
Website: www.efocc.org

Europa Study Unit

Europa News

Six illustrated pages of Europa new issues kick off the *Europa News* January-February 2016 edition.



Included in these new issues are some of the first stamps issued with the Europa 2016 theme of "Ecology in Europe - Think Green."

The late Steve Luster's monograph of the 1985 Europa Stamps of France on covers continues.

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

Email: tvanloij@gmail.com
Website: www.europastudyunit.org

Fire Service in Philately

Fire Stamp News

Ed Flory continues his series on

"Foreign Made Fire Apparatus on Stamps," with stamps showing vehicles made by Hotchkiss, Isuzu and Iveco in the October-December



2015 *Fire Stamp News*.

In Australia and New Zealand, Isuzu vehicles with water tanks and pumping equipment are used by firefighting units in rural areas.

Don Alford, in this edition, also shows stamps from around the world and slogan cancels used to educate people to prevent forest fires.

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

Email: eflory@ptd.net

Gems, Minerals and Jewelry Study Unit

Philagems International

President of the London Diamond



Bourse, Harry Levy, gives his view of the diamond industry and its inner workings in "The Changing Diamond Trade - a view from the inside." Levy describes how the widely recognized gemstone travels

from the mine, polishers and cutters to bourses and brokers. A new-issue list with Scott numbers is also included in the October-December 2015 *Philagems International*.

Dues are \$15 in North America and \$20 elsewhere. Contact Fred Haynes, 10 Country Club Dr, Rochester NY 14618.

Email: fredmhaynes55@gmail.com
or, Josef Charrach, PO Box 14, Metar, 85025, Israel

Email: jcharrach@gmail.com

Journalists, Authors, & Poets on Stamps (JAPOS)

JAPOS Bulletin

Clete Delvaux celebrates the 175th birthday of French short story writer



and novelist Alphonse Daudet in "Happy Birthday, Monsieur Daudet." Daudet is best known for his humorous stories in "Letters from my Mill," and also for three

novels in which the comic adventures of his character Tartarin appear. Almost all of the stamps in the author's Daudet mini-collection of five stamp issues commemorate these four novels.

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

Email: cdelvaux@msn.com

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

Judaica Thematic Society

Judaica News

In the December 2015 *Judaica*



The six painters commemorated are Chaim Goldberg, Moses Gottlieb, Samuel Hirszenberg, Amedeo Modigliani, Moritz Daniel Oppenheim and Camille Pissarro. Oppenheim is considered the first Jewish painter of the modern era. At a time when others were forced to convert to Christianity in the 19th Century, the German painter maintained his Jewish identity throughout his life.

Dues are not required; the publication *Judaica News* is available, in electronic format only, free. Contact Gary Goodman at the following email address.

Email: judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net

Lighthouse Stamp Society

The Philatelic Beacon

Paul Longcrier reports on what may

be the first "St. Mary's Lighthouse Local Stamp" in *The Philatelic Beacon*, January-February 2016 issue. The unguammed and imperf stamp was issued in July 2012 and just 240 were printed. The 150-foot lighthouse depicted was built in 1898 and it



was the last Trinity house lighthouse to use oil. The lighthouse also appeared on a cancel used in June 1985 for the Safety at Sea issue.

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

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

Malaria Philatelists International

Miasma

Larry Fillion uploaded his one-frame exhibit,



Malaria's 1962 Anti-Malaria set for 'The World United Against Malaria' Campaign, in *Miasma* Issue 40. This exhibit presents the story of the anti-malaria set issued in 1962 by Morocco, from production to commercial use. There are also several new 2015 handbook updates that have been posted on the website.

Dues are not required; the publication *Miasma* is available, in electronic format only, free. Contact Larry Fillion at the following email address.

Email: mariastamps@yahoo.com

Web: www.mariastamps.com/mpl/

Masonic Study Unit

Philatelic Freemason

A biography of Alexander Murray



Palmer "Alex" Haley, a Prince Hall Freemason, is just one of many philatelic freemason biographies in the *Philatelic Freemason*, January-February 2016 edition.

After dropping out of college at the

age of 16, Haley joined the U.S. Coast Guard. While serving during WWII he taught himself to write stories. He would later move on to become a journalist and was the first Chief Journalist ever in the U.S. Coast Guard. Haley is best known for writing *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* and *Roots*, which aired on TV in 1977 to a record number of viewers.

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

Email: radpm67@gmail.com

or, Gene Fricks

Email: genefricks@comcast.net

Medical Subjects Unit

Scalpel & Tongs

After seeing the painting, *Mosquito*



Nets, by painter John Singer Sargent in a medical journal, Dr. Frederick Skvara realized that mosquito nets appeared on a set of stamps recently written about in *Scalpel & Tongs*. Two

stamps from a miniature sheet issued by the Central African Republic for the Campaign Against Malaria show the nets, one with a mosquito on a net and the other stamp shows a child holding a packaged net. Skvara also provides a history of the mosquito

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URGENT CONTACT: tigerphilately@yahoo.com

net along with several other stamps depicting nets.

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

Email: drmarionrollings@yahoo.com

Motivgruppe Musik (International Philatelic Music Study Group)

Der Musikus

In addition to 11 color pages of music-related new issues, there is also an article on one of



the best preserved church organs in Poland. The organ is in a church in Jedrzejów, Poland, and was built in 1751 by Józef Sitarski. The organ is still in its original state except for two bellows that were added later. A minisheet was issued by the Polish post office in July 2015 showing the organ in the Cistercian Monastery.

Dues are €25 (€12.50 for collectors 25 years old or younger).

Young collectors receive one year of *Der Musikus* free. Contact Peter Lang, Rotkamp 14, 13053 Berlin, Germany.

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

Napoléonic Age Philatelists

Campaign

Thirteen new Napoleon issues,



along with detailed explanations of the Napoleonic elements that appear on them, are featured in the January-March

2016 issue of *Campaign*. One of those issues was released by France in May 2015 and shows the Episcopal Palace in Mâcon, which is where Napoleon and

Josephine stayed in April 1709 enroute to Milan.

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

Email: krb2@earthlink.net

Website: www.nap-stamps.org

The Perfins Club

Perfins Bulletin

Several administrative notices

appear in the *Perfins Bulletin* January-February 2016 including a request for volunteers for the positions of president, vice president and secretary.

Also in this issue, Robert Littrell asks "What the Heck is NBT?" after discovering the unknown NBT perfin from an online auction. The author was able to confirm the perfin was owned by Perry & Co., as NBT appears as a trademark on a Perry & Co. receipt. Unfortunately, Littrell has not been able to find out what N.B.T. stands for and why it was used by this clothing company.

Dues are \$16 in the United States, \$23 in Canada and \$26 elsewhere. Contact Ken Rehfeld, PO Box 125, Spokane Valley WA 99016-0125.

Email: kenrehfeld@comcast.net

Website: www.perfins.org

Petroleum Philatelic Society

International

Petro-Philatelist

The Winter 2016 *Petro-Philatelist* consists of the study unit's committee

report for certified petroleum stamp issues and also "Guidelines to Classify Petroleum



Related Stamps." The study unit is without an editor or treasurer at this time and has had to cease publishing its newsletter and collecting dues. Please consider volunteering for either editor or treasurer of this study unit. In the interim, Petroleum Philatelic Society International will be active on Facebook and can be found at the group's website. www.facebook.com/PetroleumPhilatelic/

Plate Number Coil Collectors Club

(PNC³)

Coil Line

In the December 2015 edition



of *Coil Line*, editor Ronald Blanks reports on the lack of snowflakes this winter season and also asks "Where are the snowflakes?" as the 10¢ Snowflakes coil issue rarely appears on covers. While a large number of those stamps have been produced, bulk mailers may be unaware of this issue, possibly explaining the limited use.

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

Email: mjconway@hotmail.com

Website: www.pnc3.org

Polar Philatelists, American Society of Ice Cap News

Dr. Marion Rollings announced her new column, "Modern Quest," in the October 2015 issue of *Ice Cap News*. Rollings will use the column to help answer questions ASPP members have about modern polar philately items. Rollings' first question was about a cover found in a mystery box with a field



post office postmark and a BR station hospital postal marking. The cover is mail from British forces Field Post Office 141 and mailed from the station hospital almost one year after the start of the 1982 Falkland Islands War.

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

Email: alanwar@comcast.net

Website: www.polarphilatelists.org

Railroad Unit, Casey Jones

The Dispatcher

Several pages of new train issues are



provided in the November-December 2015 edition of *The Dispatcher*. One of those issues was

from the Haunted Canada series of stamps issued by Canada in September 2015. The train-related stamp shows the Headless Brakeman. A brakeman was decapitated while making repairs in the railyard of the Waterfront Station in Gastown, Victoria. There have been reports of seeing the headless ghost of the brakeman walking on the tracks, with his lantern in his hand, on rainy nights.

Dues are \$15 in the United States, \$17 in Canada and Mexico and \$20 elsewhere. Junior (21 years old or younger, United States only) memberships are \$10. Contact Roy W. Menninger, Treasurer and Membership

Secretary, CJRRU-ATA, PO Box 5511, Topeka KS 66605-5511.

Email: roymenn@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.uqp.de/cjr

Religion on Stamps, Collectors of (COROS)

The COROS Chronicle

John R. Barnes shares "Sinai



Treasures in Ukraine" in *The COROS Chronicle* November 2015. A souvenir sheet issued by

Ukraine in 2001 shows three panels from Saint Catherine's Monastery, which is located at the base of Mt. Sinai. These panels are now in the collection of the Bohdan and Varvara Khanenko Museum of Art.

With disappointment I must report that COROS officers have decided to disband the study unit in 2016 due to the lack of volunteers for several officer positions. COROS will have a meeting at the NY2016 International Stamp Show so that members of the study unit will have a chance for one final meeting before the study unit is disbanded.

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

Ships on Stamps Unit

Watercraft Philately

A detailed history of the 36-gun wooden warship *HMS Amphion*



launched in 1798 is featured in the November-December 2015 *Watercraft Philately*. In addition to several pages of

Penguins on Stamps Study Unit

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

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

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

Email: possumember@yahoo.com

new issues, there are listings of ships in world navies and passenger/cargo ships with their service records.

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

Website: www.shipsonstamps.org

Sports Philatelists International

Journal of Sports Philately

In the Winter 2015 edition of



Journal of Sports Philately, Patricia Loehr shows different printing varieties and usages of the "France Le Touquet Golf Stamp" issued in 1962. Around 194 million of these stamps were printed, making them widely

available to collectors. Loehr explains the

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differences between five known varieties and also shows some of the many usages of this stamp on covers.

Dues are \$31 in the United States and Canada and \$43 elsewhere. An electronic version is available for \$15, worldwide. Contact Mark C. Maestrone, 2824 Curie Pl, San Diego CA 92122-4110.

Email: markspi@prodigy.net

Website: www.sportstamps.org

United Nations Philatelists

Journal of United Nations Philatelists

Four new personalized stamp sheets were reported in the *Journal of United Nations Philatelists* December 2015. They were issued by the U.N. Postal Administration in the last few months of 2015. Sheets were issued to honor

the visit of Pope Francis, to highlight programs for those with disabilities, for the U.N. Convention Against Corruption and also for the UNESCO 70th anniversary.

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

Email: bclemjr@yahoo.com

or, Larry Fillion, 18 Arlington St, Acton MA 01720-2602.

Email: malariastamps@yahoo.com

Website: www.unpi.com

Windmill Study Unit

Windmill Whispers

Most of the July-September 2015 *Windmill Whispers* issue is made up of new windmill stamp discoveries. There are also windmill



cancels, along with a brief description of the cancel design. One of the cancels, celebrating 625 years of paper manufacturing, shows the Gleismühle Mill. Paper production began in this mill in 1390.

Dues are \$12 in the United States. Contact Orville Tysseling, 9740 Washington Church R, Miamisburg OH 45342-4510.

Email: otyssel@aol.com

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

Email: fred.atkins@blueyonder.co.uk

Website: www.wsuweb.eu

Wine on Stamps Study Unit

Enophilatelica

“Wine in New Zealand” is the lead article in *Enophilatelica* November 2015. Using a six-value set of New Zealand vineyard stamps issued in 1997, the author explains the different types of wines and growing conditions in the different vineyards.



Eight different countries have issued new wine-related stamps and an

update to the Wine on Stamp checklist is also in this issue.

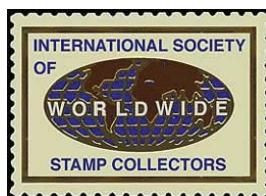
Dues are \$17 in North America, \$22 elsewhere and \$14 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Paul J. Parham, 1768 Aurora Avenue N, Apt 303, Seattle WA 98109-2758.

Email: pauljparham@msn.com

Website: www.wine-on-stamps.org

Worldwide Stamp Collectors, International Society of *The Circuit*

In *The Circuit*, January-February



2016, Emory Earl Toops shares his views on “Exhibits versus presenting -

Experiences of a worldwide collector.” Toops shares his personal experience with traditional exhibiting, but also offers ways to present stamps at venues such as stamp club meetings, libraries and schools.

John Seidl continues his “dead” country series in this issue with Bamra, one of the Princely States of India.

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

Email: joannebe@pacbell.net

Website: www.iswsc.org

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Obituary: Ken Wood

Kenneth A. Wood, ATA's Distinguished Topical Philatelist in 1979, died Nov. 23, 2015, at the age of 89. When he received that award, Ken was cited for "his scholarly and professional ability, as well as his delightful sense of humor, with which he has encouraged many to a new appreciation of philately through topical/thematic collecting." It was noted that "few people are doing so much to help the topical collector," as Ken was as editor of *Stamp Collector*. He edited that journal from 1968-80. Ken was a prolific philatelic writer. His *This is Philately* is a three-volume stamp encyclopedia. He also wrote *Where in the World: An Atlas for Stamp Collectors*, among other works. Named to the APS Writers Unit 30 Hall of Fame in 1984, Ken received the American Philatelic Society's Luff award in 1987. He was also an ATA accredited judge and a fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society in London.

Obituary: Eliot Landau

Eliot A. Landau, noted exhibitor and Abraham Lincoln expert, died Jan. 4 at the age of 73. He had joined the ATA in 1959 and became a Life Member in 1961.



Landau showed several exhibits on Lincoln, including a thematically-oriented one, *Lincoln, Slavery and the Civil War*. That exhibit earned the NTSS 2011 Grand and Best Display Division Awards. It combined philately, ephemera and artifacts in an appealing study of Lincoln's presidency, the Civil War and Black History. Two years earlier, to help commemorate Lincoln's birth bicentennial, the exhibit was on display at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum. Landau gave

the Seventh Annual Maynard Sundman Lecture at the museum on that topic. A video on the museum's website shows him speaking about his exhibit:

<http://postalmuseum.si.edu/research/maynard-sundman-lecture-series/eliot-landau.html>

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.



YOUTH IN TOPICS

MaryAnn Bowman

Stamp-Themed Games

Hopefully spring is just around the corner in your part of the country. It has been an interesting year weather-wise and you are likely anxious to get outside and resume fair-weather activities. In this column we will look at a new picture book that came out about a year ago, as well as examine some interesting stamp-themed activities that were completed by youth as 4-H projects.

Special Delivery

The front flap of the cover jacket for this book says it all: How many stamps does it take to mail an elephant? Quite a few, Sadie discovers when she attempts to send one to her Great-Aunt Josephine, who “lives almost completely alone and could really use the company.”

So she decides to find another way, one that involves a plane, an alligator, a train, some bandit monkeys and a lot of determination.

The book was written by Philip C. Stead with illustrations by Matthew Cordell. The cover of the book is a take-off on the famous U.S. Inverted Jenny stamp. But even if the jacket is removed, the book's cover is filled with Cinderella stamp-like designs. *Special Delivery* begins with a reference to mailing an elephant and ends with the mailing of a letter to her alligator friend with a promised large piece of bubblegum.

Philatelic-Inspired 4-H Projects

When I was growing up, I was a member of the Happy Workers 4-H club, a city girl in a country club at a time when 4-H had more agricultural roots than today. I would be teased about having to take a turn sweeping and cleaning up after the cows in the barns during the county fair. At that time, my 4-H projects were things like clothing, home furnishings, gardening and other more domestic activities. I did not become a stamp collector until my late teens, which in itself is rather unusual. So, incorporating stamps into a 4-H project never entered my mind. Along the way, 4-H changed. Youth at younger ages were allowed membership and more exploratory projects were offered.

I was reminded of 4-H when ATA's own webmaster, Amanda Morgenstern, sent





harder depending upon the age and skill level of the players.

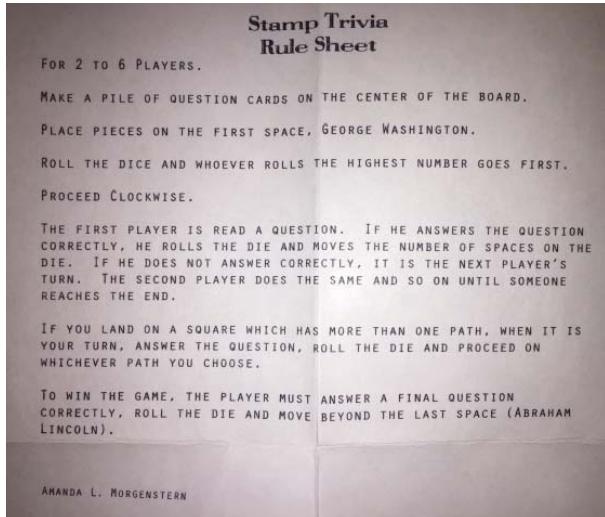
In Amanda's game, the question is read and, if answered correctly, the dice are rolled and the number of spaces moved. If the question is not answered correctly, it is referred to the next player. You could adapt the rules to fit the needs of your group.

Another young 4-H girl created a different game and later gave it to me. Using a large white plastic shower curtain, she enlarged a map of the United States showing just the borders (no names) of each of the 50 states. She then put a small piece of Velcro in the middle of each state. Using enlargements of the 50 State Bird and Flower stamps from 1982, she colored the stamp designs, had the cards laminated and put the matching piece of Velcro on the back of each card. The object of the game was to match each of the Birds and Flowers stamps to the correct state. I still have this activity. It makes a nice large floor game for kids (and their parents) when they attend a stamp show. Hint: You may want to make yourself a key or have a map that shows the names and locations of each of the states if you are not well versed in U.S. geography.

along a photo of a 4-H project she did when she was about 12 or 13 years old. She created a board game to help others learn about stamp collecting terminology. Although today she calls her efforts "a little rough around the edges," the game board is a fine example of an age-appropriate project. And for those reading this column who are leaders of stamp collecting groups, this may

inspire you to create something similar.

As you can see from the illustrations, the game consists of a board that uses stamps as spaces for landing and moving around. Cards contain trivia questions about some of the basics of the hobby. But it would be very easy to make additional sets of card questions that would focus on different aspects of collecting. It might be foreign stamp identification, or clues to topical collecting fields, or catalog names for colors on stamps. The possibilities are endless and can be made easier or



Another 4-H project that I have seen is a stamp-matching game that uses the concept behind the simple electric circuit boards. This activity used to be the type of project that was described as an experiment in elementary school science books. These can be created using a large shirt-type box, but for more stability a wooden frame and board is suggested. If you need help creating a circuit board, a quick internet search will reveal directions and materials needed. The ideas for

matching activities are endless. Try creating a topical matching game.

I have also seen 4-H projects that could essentially be considered stamp exhibits; binders of stamps organized around a topic or theme with descriptive writings to enhance the story of the stamps. In fact, some of those displays actually became competitive exhibits with a little help. I remember ones on Pianos, Dinosaurs, Flowers and Airplanes.

Aimee Devine's children, who are also 4-H members, have recently completed several projects that used stamps and were entered into competition at the local fair. For a computer science project, Thomas developed a philatelic theme for business cards and letterhead stationery. Tom also did two projects for his archery project. Both were displayed in binders. One pictured "Archery in Literature" and the other was "Archery on Philatelic Items." For a Mechanical Science project, he created a display board using stamps to illustrate the Apollo Missions and a second project was a binder on just Apollo 11 using philatelic items to illustrate it.

Aimee's second son, David, did a binder of his dolphin stamps and covers as a Cloverbud project. He also did Harry Potter philatelic items as a scrapbook for a visual arts project.

Another visual arts project seen at the fair was a mirror decorated with stamps. But I have also seen stamps decoupage onto glass plates, vases, tissue boxes, cigar boxes and around picture frames and aluminum cans. Hint: these easy-to-do projects are a good use for damaged stamps. These items look best when off-paper stamps are used.

Have you seen stamps or philatelic items used in "crafty" ways or as inspiration for an unrelated project or activity? I'd love to hear from you! ☺

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

Chapter Chatter

By Sandy Strzalkowski

Welcome to Chapter Chatter! I encourage all ATA chapters to add me to your mailing lists. Please send me your ATA publications so we can publicize your efforts here. Newsletters may be sent to Sandy Strzalkowski at 13986 Sarasota, Redford MI 48239-2837, or by email to sandystraz@gmail.com. If you have a list of future club activities, please include that as well. Keep in mind we can only mention topical-related articles, not chapter-related activities or other philatelic subjects.

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

Newsletter Editor: Bob Mather.

Newsletter topics: The Veterans Day meeting involved members bringing show-and-tell items related to veterans and telling war stories. This issue included articles on Guam Guard Mail and National Forest Camp Stamps (December 2015). January meeting topic was "My Topic on Postal Stationery," a member participation program (January 2016). The Richard Allen Black Heritage stamp was a featured article (February 2016).

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

Newsletter: *Philatelic Chatter*, edited by Don Smith.

Newsletter topics: Included in this issue was an article about Ireland's The Five Senses issues (Jan-Feb 2016).

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

Newsletter: *Knoxville Philatelic Society News*, edited by Tom Broadhead.

Newsletter topics: Tom Broadhead's article, "KnoxPEx 2016," covers the National Parks Service centennial and features images of National Parks stamps. The stamp of the month is the Washington 2¢ brown definitive (Scott 210) in honor of Presidents' Day. Bruce Robert's article, "A Treasure from the KPS Stamp Stock," highlights the Monaco Scott 2307, which honors Sir Edmund Hillary (February 2016).

St. Petersburg Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 119) in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Newsletter: *St. Petersburg Stamp Club Newsletter*, edited by Louise Graves.

Newsletter topics: Marc Isaacs' "On The Cover" column featured a cover sent from Brazil with 31 different bird stamps (January 2015). The Feb. 17 meeting featured a presentation by Scott Wood on "The First Hundred Years of Argentine Stamps; Unexpected Diversity" (Feb 2015).

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

Newsletter: *Venice Stamp Club Newsletter*, edited by Dawn Hamman.

Newsletter topics: The recent issue included several of the Peanuts stamps, one on the masthead, and several others in various places. Also included was an interesting article on the Global Sea Surface Temperatures Stamp, excerpted from the United States Postal Service press release. The club had a holiday exhibit at the local post office. The newsletter included an article featuring

“The Many Images of Old St. Nick” (December 2015). Member Wayne Schuetz won a silver medal for his exhibit, *Gold Dust Twins Washing Powder*, at Florex; Dawn Hamman won a gold for her postcard exhibit, *Remembering Lincoln*. Dawn also won a vermeil for *Campanulas* (Jan 2016). The Feb. 16 meeting will include a presentation by Peter McCann, “Monserrat: Postal History of a Caribbean Island” (February 2016).

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

Newsletter: *Mayflower Minutes*, edited by **Sandy Strzalkowski**.

Newsletter topics: The Jan. 8 meeting program was an AAMS slide show, *Lindburgh's Early Flights to the Canal Zone*. Front page featured the Happy Christmas 2001 Peanuts stamps. Frederick Skvara's article was about Charlie Brown Christmas stamps. He also wrote an article about Czeslaw Slania, who is considered by many to be the world's greatest stamp engraver (December 2015/January 2016). Sandy Strzalkowski's article, “Collecting Topical Stamps” touches on the main points of topical collecting and challenges all members to add a topical interest to their collecting pursuits (February 2016).

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

Newsletter: *The Westfield Philatelist*, edited by **Frederick C. Skvara**.

Newsletter topics: The Nov. 19 meeting's presentation was “Use of French Franchise Militaire Stamps (F.M.) from the French Colonies during the Era of the Group Type” (Nov-Dec 2015). The “Philatelic Quiz” column included several interesting stamps, including a commemorative souvenir sheet issued by Saint Pierre et Miquelon honoring the inaugural voyage of the *Hermoine*, which carried Lafayette to America in 1780. Frederick Skvara's “Jottings from a Worldwide Stamp Collector” column discusses Fibonacci's influence on the field of mathematics and includes several botanical stamps. Also included in the column is a picture and description of Malta's new stamp issue that commemorates the centenary of ANZAC (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) (Jan-Feb 2016).

Canada

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

Newsletter: *Calgary Philatelist*, edited by **Dale Speirs**.

Newsletter topics: Front cover features the \$5 Canadian flag stamp. Bill Cowling's article on Japanese New Year's Day Cancellations featured several images of cancels (February 2015).

International

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

Newsletter: *Themescene*, edited by **Wendy Buckle**.

Newsletter topics: Chris Wheeler's article, “The Salvation Army,” included several images with the Salvation Army logo, as well as a brief history about the organization. Barry Floyd presented the article, “Dragon's Den.” Results of the BTA Annual Competitions were announced, and the winning topics included bikes, snails, steam locomotives, crickets and rabbits. There was an article about King Wenceslas by Raymond Ireson that included several stamps images. The Just4Kids column was about space stamps. (Dec 2015). ☐

Notos 2015, Hong Kong 2015

Foreign Thematic Exhibits

Larry E. Davidson

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

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

Notos 2015

This exhibition was held in Peristeri, Athens, Greece, Nov. 12-15, 2015. The patrons were FEPA (The Federation of European Philatelic Associations) and AIJP (The International Association of Philatelic Journalists). The exhibition was organized by HPS (The Hellenic Philatelic Society).

Multi-frame Exhibits

*George Constantourakis (Canada)	<i>Greco-Roman Sculpture: Historical Development</i>	89, LV
Egon Habé (France)	<i>If the Bakery Could Talk</i>	88, LV
Constatin Milu (Romania)	<i>The Olympic Stamps for the First Olympic Games 1896 and the Decennial 1906</i>	88, LV
Henri Aronis (France)	<i>Teeth in their Environment</i>	85, LV
Mehmet Edip Agaogullari (Turkey)	<i>The Summer Olympic Games</i>	85, LV
Aaron Vazquez (Spain)	<i>Cipango Way</i>	85, LV
Daniel Herrmann (France)	<i>Olympism: The Perpetual Battle by Renovators</i>	80, V
Ioakeim Chalvatzidopoulos (Greece)	<i>Football</i>	80, V
Gianantonio Calani (Italy)	<i>The Old Dream of Four Wheels</i>	80, V
Yohanan Mey-Raz (Israel)	<i>Watch Yourself Very Carefully</i>	76, LS
Antonis Gennadiou (Cyprus)	<i>Pre-Olympic Philately from Hosting Countries: The First Sponsors and Promoters of Olympic Games</i>	75, LS
Viorica Hrustovici (Romania)	<i>Women in Family Life and Society</i>	75, LS
Evangelos Olympios (Greece)	<i>Theatre</i>	73, S
Anastasia Ioannou (Cyprus)	<i>Flowers: Medicinal, Therapeutic and Other Related Uses</i>	70, S

One-frame Exhibits

Sinisha Pavleski (Macedonia)	<i>A Parrot's Life for Me</i>	83
Efstathios Poularakis (Greece)	<i>Antoine de Saint-Exupéry – A Poet of Aviation</i>	81

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Yannis Panagopoulos (Greece)	<i>A Short Philatelic Review of Panamerican Flying Boats</i>	80
Klime Popovski (Macedonia)	<i>Saint Cyril and Saint Methodius: The Slav Teachers and Patrons of Europe</i>	78
Paulo Duek (Israel)	<i>Ayrton Senna 1960-1994</i>	75
Salvatore Picconi (Italy)	<i>The Nuragic Civilization</i>	75
Victor Nicolau (Romania)	<i>Beethoven: The Miracle of Music</i>	70
Sinisha Pavleski (Macedonia)	<i>The Rooster: Potent and Brave</i>	70

Open/Display Exhibits

Francisc Ambrus (Romania)	<i>100 Years of Romanian Commerce and Stock Exchange 1847-1947</i>	95
George Sparis (Greece)	<i>The Greek-Turkish War of 1897</i>	90
Massimiliano Bruno (Italy)	<i>Kicking up the Past</i>	90
Pasquale Polo (Italy)	<i>Through the Colors of the Rainbow</i>	90
Vassilios Apostolopoulos (Greece)	<i>To Footwear</i>	88
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Michael Tsipidis (Greece)	<i>Stamp Dealers and Greek Philately 1890-1950</i>	80
Cuneyt Gemicioglu (Turkey)	<i>A Lifelong Philatelist – Ismail Hakkı Tevfik Okday</i>	77
Charalambos Mavidis (Greece)	<i>The Greek Fleet during the Balkan Wars 1912-1913</i>	75

Hong Kong 2015

This 31st Asian International Stamp Exhibition was held in Hong Kong Nov. 20-23, 2015. The exhibition was organized by the Hong Kong Philatelic Society with the support of FIAP (Federation of Inter-Asian Philately) and the sponsorship of Hong-kong Post. The theme was “Shopping and Dining.” Thematic exhibitors could exhibit in one of three categories – Nature, Culture or Technology.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Nature

*Linda Lee (Australia)	<i>Flower Magic</i>	92, G
Kok-ying Kei (Hong Kong)	<i>Rice</i>	91, G
Wenlong Lin (China)	<i>The Newspaper – the Latest Printed Matter</i>	88, LV
*Daniel Szeto (Hong Kong)	<i>Heat</i>	88, LV
Hongchang Zhuang (China)	<i>Bird Breeding</i>	82, V
Lipu Fu (China)	<i>Volcanoes</i>	76, LS
Awaluddin Haldi (Indonesia)	<i>I'm a Bird, and This is How I Inspired Humans</i>	75, LS
Sugianto Sudham (Indonesia)	<i>The Feathered Family</i>	71, S

Culture

Daryl Kibble (Australia)	<i>Message Behind the Angel Story, God's Redemption of Mankind</i>	93, G
Ypsuke Naito (Japan)	<i>A History of Hong Kong</i>	90, G
Pu Chen (China)	<i>The History of Church Architecture</i>	87, LV
Dinesh Chandra Sharma (India)	<i>Summer Olympic Games</i>	80, V
Yongliang Jiao (China)	<i>Confessions of an Advertising Man</i>	78, LS
Wei Tian (China)	<i>Life on the Ship – An Ancient Mariner's Story</i>	77, LS
Ryoji Murayama (Japan)	<i>Czslaw Slania – The Story of his Great Work of Engraving Stamps</i>	77, LS
Ummer Farook Senali Veedu (UAE)	<i>Mahatma Gandhi</i>	73, S
Chi-keung Lui (Hong Kong)	<i>Equestrian Sports</i>	72, S
Sodoo Chadraabal (Mongolia)	<i>Genghis Khan</i>	72, S
Rajesh Bhura (India)	<i>Mahatma Gandhi: "The Man of the Millennium"</i>	70, S

Technology

Fang-Shing Su (Chinese Taipei)	<i>Telecommunication Systems</i>	91, G
Shih-Cheng Hsiao (Chinese Taipei)	<i>Better Oral Health for Better Life – Dentistry</i>	90, G
Teguh Chendawan (Indonesia)	<i>Brum Brum... I am a Car – Do You Know Me?</i>	85, LV
Jusak Johan Handoyo (Indonesia)	<i>Ships: Transportation Mode on Water</i>	83, V
Dafeng Hu (China)	<i>Electricity</i>	75, LS
Y. Adji Permadhiya (Indonesia)	<i>The Development of Aviation</i>	75, LS
Kuo-Chung Lia (Chinese Taipei)	<i>Fire-Fighting</i>	70, S
Anuah Bashah Mohd Sohore (Malaysia)	<i>The Monarchy of Malaysia</i>	70, S

One-frame Exhibits

Michael Rhodes (Australia)	<i>I am Nothing</i>	91
Xiaolin Guo (China)	<i>Steeplechase</i>	73

Larry E. Davidson, a current member of the ATA board, is a retired university mathematics lecturer. He has been collecting stamps for 59 years and exhibiting for 31 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.

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Compiled by Dorothy E. Smith

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New Members and Reinstatements

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57384	ABRAMS, Brenda	Unicorns, Dolls, Ireland, Israel
40125	BAKER, David	Pheasants
57396	CORLEY, Frank	Cardinals on U.S. Stamps, U.S. Flags, Trains, U.S. National Parks, Statue of Liberty, U.S. Famous People
53612	CORRIERA, Joseph, <i>corriera@msn.com</i>	UNESCO Stamps, Freedom from Hunger, Roosevelt 12657 W Shaw Butte Dr, El Mirage AZ 85335-7321
57401	DIMOND, Randolph	Space, Aviation, Sea, Ships
	200 E Minnehaha Ave, Portage WI 53901-1253	
57380	FLEMING, Cheyenne	Dinosaurs, Theodore Roosevelt
57379	GAHAR, Abby	
57374	HAYES, KEMP (Bill), <i>khayes7356@aol.com</i>	Scouting
54925	HEIDGER, John, <i>swampape@cfl.rr.com</i>	Wild Mammals, Reptiles
57381	HENSLEY, Don	
57404	HERNANDEZ, Juan	Flags, Personalities, Transportation
21130	HOLLOWAY, Jack	
57373	HUQUE, Ehteshamul, <i>chopol@hotmail.com</i>	Medical, Child Health, Disability
57405	JONSON, Per Harald, <i>pjonson@welbo.com</i>	Freemasonry
57345	JUDGE, Richard (correction of earlier listing), <i>ch2se@sbcglobal.net</i>	Bridges
57372	KESSEL, Peter, <i>pkes33@aol.com</i>	Judaica, Holocaust
57398	KIDNER, David, <i>beddaustamps@yahoo.co.uk</i>	
57399	LEGG, Robert, 310 Friendship Ln, Gettysburg PA 17325-7260	Lighthouses, Waterfalls
57385	LIMA, John, <i>john19371963@comcast.net</i>	Jesus, Christmas, Madonnas, Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, Holy Family, Easter
57395	LUTZ, Felix, <i>po.lutz@yahoo.ca</i>	Stamps on Stamps, Birds, World of the Sea, Bridges
51748	McCOY, George, <i>for:froggy@yahoo.com</i>	Trains, Rail Transportation
57378	MINCH, Jeffrey	
57388	NIKIFOROVA, Natalia, <i>Nat-vorfolomeeva@yandex.ru</i>	
57389	NORDHAVN, Ole, <i>oleshark1@aol.com</i>	Cats, Ice Hockey, Lighthouses, Cruise Ships
57393	NOWAK, John, <i>johnnowak1949@gmail.com</i>	Olympics, Christmas, Nudes
	12303 W Banyan St, Sun City West AZ 85375-4656	
57403	PALMER, Letticia	Pharmacy, Lady Bugs, Titanic
57376-DMPECK	DOUGLAS	
57390	PLEWS, Reese, <i>rplews@tkb.att.ne.jp</i>	Maps on Stamps
57375	QURESHI, Ijaz	
57387	REALE, John	
57391	RIZZO, Richard	Horses, Head of States, Royalty
	18300 Winter Park Ct, Gaithersburg MD 20879-4626	
57383	ROBBOY, Stanley, <i>stanley.robboy@duke.edu</i>	Physician portraits on stamps
57394	ROBINSON, Rhodes, <i>rrobinson@esinc.cc</i>	Birds, Penguins, U.S., Scouts
57392	SCANLAN, Timothy	

57382	SCHMITZ, Fred		
57397	SMITH, Edward, <i>EdASmith1960@charter.net</i>		Lighthouses, Military
57386	SMITH, Richard		
57400	SMITH, Virginia		
57402	SOREL, Leo, 12750 SW 4th Ct, Pembroke Pines FL 33027-1726	Trains, Arctic, Railroads, Meteorology	
57377	THOMAS, Joseph, <i>drjosephthomasuro@gmail.com</i>	Coins, Medical, Christian	
56203	UICKER, John, <i>jruicker@gmail.com</i>	Rabbits, US, Austria, Canada, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Great Britain, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, world in general	

Deceased Members

43568	FERRE, Nestor Manuel (Argentina)
9492-LM	KLEIN, Marilyn (MI)
08775-LM	LANDAU, Eliot (IL)

ATA Membership Recruiters 2015

This is the final recruiting report for 2015. A total of 85 new ATA members were recruited by current ATA members. The recruiters have received \$5 credit in ATA Bucks for each new member. We hope your name will appear here in 2016. Congratulations and thanks to Larry Davidson, Recruiting winner for 2015!

ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green.

ATA Dealer Members shown in red

New Members			
Davidson, Larry	20	Chouinard, Louise	1
Hamman, Dawn	11	Curiale, Tony	1
Winnegrad, Mark	7	Dimmick, Ed	1
Fisk, Allan	4	Drought, Richard M	1
Knapp, Eric	3	Edholm, Keith	1
Congrove, Jack	2	Foo, Austin	1
Eyster, Lucy	2	Hadley, Doug	1
Jones, Susan B	2	Mather, Robert	1
Quintero, Robert	2	Pettway, Jim	1
Skvara, Fred	2	Scannell, Caroline	1
Stout, Jean	2	Siebling, Van	1
Youngblood, Wayne	2	Smith, Dale	1
Bruce, Sue	1	Stanton, Lorraine	1
Cartier, Karen	1	Trier, Orlie	1
		Wolfersberger, David	1

**Please make it a goal
 to recruit at least one new member
 this year... This is a great time to start!
Help us go “Boldly to the Future!”
 ...and let’s see your name among those
 listed as “Membership Recruiters.”**

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

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

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

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www.yvert-et-tellier.fr/

Canadian Stamp News:
PO Box 28103, St. Catharines, Ontario, L2N 7P8, Canada
bret@trajan.ca; www.canadianstampnews.ca

Filacap: José Maurício do Prado, editor,
Caixa Postal 06, Cachoeira Paulista SP,
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ac.filacap@uol.com.br; www.filacap.com.br

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

Israel Philatelist: Donald A. Chafetz, editor,
1943 Altonzano Dr, El Cajon CA 92020-
1002 USA
sipeditor@gmail.com; www.israelstamps.com

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

Linn's Stamp News: Donna Houseman,
managing editor, PO Box 29, Sidney OH
45365-0029 USA
dhouseman@amosmedia.com; www.linns.com

Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine: John F. Dunn,
editor, 42 Sentry Way, Merrimack NH
03054-4429 USA
www.stampnewsnow.com

Philatelic Exporter: Graham Phillips, editor,
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Hampshire, BH24 35H, United Kingdom
exportereditor@aol.com
www.stanleygibbons.com

Philatelic Exhibitor: Randy L. Neil, editor,
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randyneil1941@gmail.com

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Bucuresti 63, 011737 Romania.
computerstamps@yahoo.ro.
www.philatelica.ro

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www.philateliequebec.com

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

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South Africa
saphilatelist@iafrica.com.
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Stamp Insider: Albert W. Starkweather,
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33624-2847 USA.

astarkweather@nystampclubs.org
www.stampinsider.org

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

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

Stamp Magazine: Guy Thomas and Julia Lee, editors, Hadlow House, 9 High Street, Green Street Green, Kent BR6 6BG, United Kingdom.

julia.lee@mytimemedia.com
www.stampmagazine.co.uk

Stamp News Australasia: Kevin Morgan, editor, PO Box 1290, Upwey, Victoria, 3158, Australia

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

U.S. Stamp News: John Hotchner, editor, PO Box 1125, Falls Church VA 22041-0125 USA.
www.stampnewsnow.com

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Show Calendar

March 19, 2016, Wisconsin. Baypex '16, sponsored by the Green Bay Philatelic Society, St. Matthew's Catholic Church Multipurpose Room, 2575 South Webster Ave, Green Bay, Wis., 10 dealers, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and free parking in rear of church. Local club exhibits only.

Contact: Ray Perry, 2214 Allouez Ave, Green Bay WI 54311 (920) 469-8925.

Email: fiveperrys@athenet.net

March 19-20, 2016, Ohio. The 85th annual McKinley Stamp Club Show, St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St NW, North Canton, Ohio. Features a 20-dealer bourse, exhibits, cachet/cancellation. Show hours 10-5 Sat., 10-4 Sun., free admission.

Contact: Dave Pool (330) 832-5992.

Email: lincolnway@sssnet.com

Website: mksc.webs.com

April 2-3, 2016, Canada. Spring National Stamp Show, sponsored by the Edmonton Stamp Club, Central Lion's Recreational Centre, 111 Ave & 113 Str., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4.

Contact: Ed Dykstra (780) 420-7243

Email: eddykstra@shaw.ca

Website: www.Edmontonstamp.com



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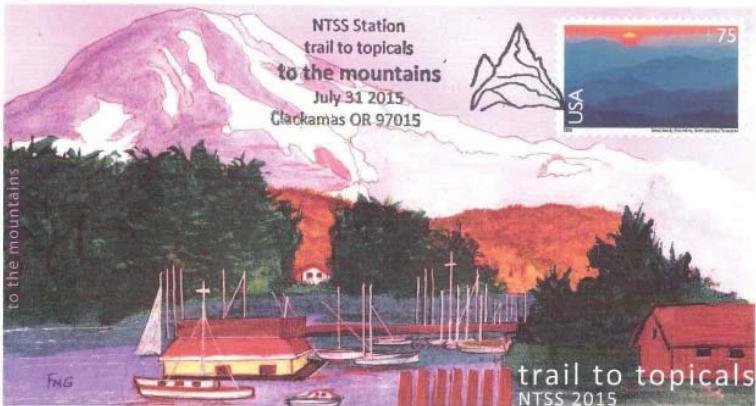
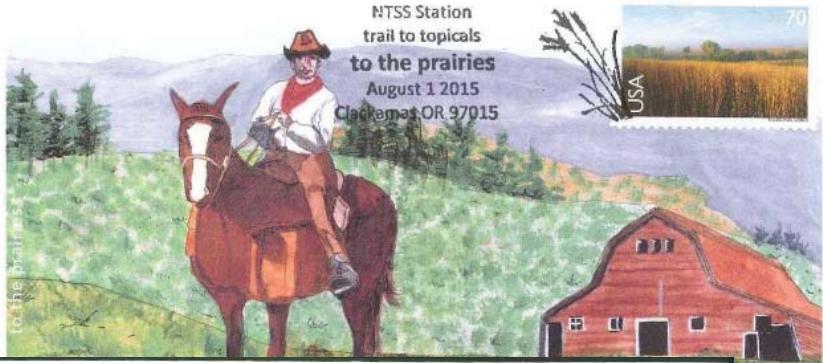
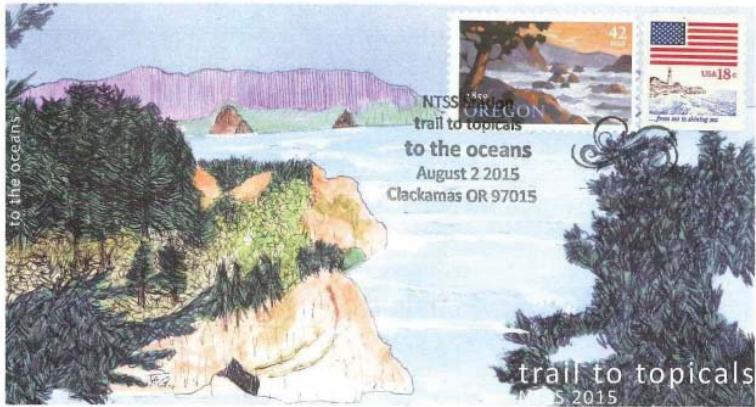
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To receive a listing in this column, send details to Wayne L. Youngblood, 4615 Lindell Blvd Apt 1102, Saint Louis MO 63108-3720, or by email to: wystamps@gmail.com. Please submit show dates at least four months prior to the show.

NTSS 2015 CACHETS

Did you miss adding ATA's NTSS 2015 cachets to your collection?

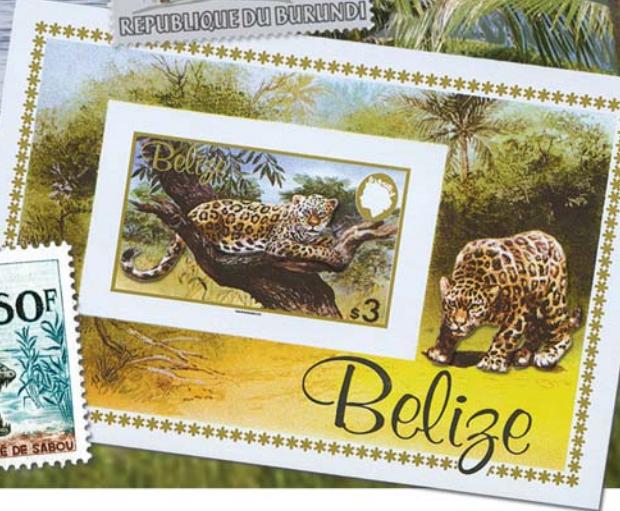
The wonderful paintings by ATA member and *Topical Time* advertiser Frans Geerlings of Geerlings Design are spectacular. Your album will be greatly enriched by their presence!

 <p>NTSS Station trail to topicals to the mountains July 31 2015 Clackamas OR 97015</p> <p>75</p> <p>FMG</p> <p>trail to topicals NTSS 2015</p>	<p>\$3.50 each</p> <p>3 for \$10.</p> <p>Add \$1. per order for postage</p>
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Name (optional)

Gender Male Female

1. Demographics (check appropriate box)

	Pre-1950	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010 to present
I was born								
I have collected stamps since								
I joined ATA								

2. My collection includes (circle all that apply):

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	1 (least)	2	3	4	5 (most)
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Other (please list):					

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Feature stories about topics (various authors)			
Foreign Thematic Exhibits			
Publication Reviews			
Cinderella Corner			
My Topic (interviews with collectors)			
Postmark Pursuit			
Units in Action			
Chapter Chatter			
Editing with Style			

ATA Membership Survey (page 2—see reverse side to begin)

5. The following features are included in *Topical Time* annually.

Choose TT if you would like the feature to continue to be included in *Topical Time*.

Choose WEB if you would like the feature to be on our website instead of *Topical Time*.*

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List of NTSS Exhibits (May)			
NTSS Schedule (May)			

6. I would like for *Topical Time* to have a larger page size (7" x 10") to allow a more modern layout? Yes No

7. I would like *Topical Time* to include a column for beginner-intermediate topical collectors? Yes No

8. I wish *Topical Time* would _____

9. I buy stamps and other items from these sources: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Display ads in <i>Topical Time</i> | <input type="radio"/> Dealers at stamp shows |
| <input type="radio"/> eBay and other online sellers | <input type="radio"/> Dealers who advertise elsewhere |
| | <input type="radio"/> Dealers with whom I'm familiar |

10. I browse and/or buy from TopicalsOnLine (www.TopicalsOnLine.com)

- Often Occasionally Never

If you answered "Occasionally" or "Never," check the all the reasons:

- I don't know about the site I haven't tried it
 I don't think/remember to go there I don't buy stamps on the internet
 I've looked but didn't find anything I wanted

11. I wish the ATA would _____

12. I think ATA can attract new members by _____

13. Other comments:

Thank you for participating in the ATA Survey! Look in a future *Topical Time* for results.

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TIME

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DATED MAGAZINE

POSTMASTER:

Send New Address to:

American Topical Association

P.O. Box 8, Carterville IL 62918-0008

Web Page: www.americantopicalassn.org

www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org

ATA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please renew my ATA membership.

Name:

Member # (on address label):

US Print & Electronic:

1 yr \$30 2 yrs \$55 3 yrs \$80 5 yrs \$125

Electronic:

1 yr \$25 2 yrs \$45 3 yrs \$65 5 yrs \$100

International Print & Electronic:

1 yr \$40 2 yrs \$75 3 yrs \$110 5 yrs \$175

\$ Donation to ATA's BTTF (Boldly To The Future)

\$ See attached order for Checklists, Directory,
Handbooks, Multimedia, *Topical Time* Archive

Enclosed is my check for \$

If paying electronically in one of the following ways, there is no need to return this form.

A small bonus to help cover electronic charges would be appreciated.

- Log into ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org; click on Renew
- At PayPal.com, send money to americantopical@msn.com
One can safely and securely pay by debit or credit card on the website even without a PayPal account.

I do not use the internet but would like to pay by debit or credit card. Please charge USD\$ to my Visa

MasterCard Discover

Card #

Expires / CVC

Signature:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

For Officers and Board of Directors of the American Topical Association

Please complete and mail ballot to:

**Robert Ulatt
Canvassing Committee Chair
1700 Chestnut Lane
Waukesha WI 53189**

This election is non-contested. You may vote for as many or as few of the candidates as you choose. Your vote shows your confidence in the ATA and its leaders. Mark "X" in boxes before names.

Members may be nominated by 10 ATA members or by an ATA Chapter.

For President:

- Dale Smith, Kansas City, Mo. (*term of 3 years*)

For First Vice President:

- Dawn Hamman, Venice, Fla. (*term of 3 years*)

For Second Vice President:

- Jack Congrove, Fort Lewis, Wash. (*term of 3 years*)

For Secretary:

- Laurie J. Ryan, Cincinnati, Ohio (*term of 1 year*)

For Treasurer:

- Dennis M. Dengel, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. (*term of 2 years*)

For Board of Directors: (vote for up to EIGHT)

- Beth Collins, Cottonwood, Minn. (*term of 1 year*)
- Larry E. Davidson, Stratford, Ontario, Canada (*term of 1 year*)
- Jack André Denys, Somerville, N.J. (*term of 2 years*)
- Jeff A. Hayward, Staten Island, N.Y. (*term of 3 years*)
- Robert E. Lamb, State College, Pa. (*term of 1 year*)
- Amanda Morgenstern, Pinckneyville, Ill. (*term of 2 years*)
- Dick Roman, St. Louis, Mo. (*term of 2 years*)
- Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz, Portland, Ore. (*term of 2 years*)

If you have an email address on file with ATA, you may vote online at:
www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org. Or, mail your vote to Robert M. Ulatt at the address given at the top of this page. Please use commemorative stamps on your envelope.

Deadline for receipt of ballots is April 15, 2016.