



\$5.00

TOPICAL TIME

Nov.-Dec. 2016 Vol. 67, No. 6

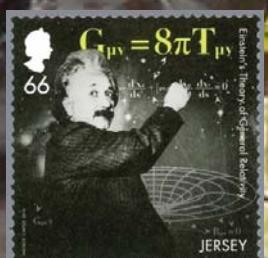
Whole Number 400

How to Build a Topical Exhibit

Page 52

Costumes of
Papua New Guinea

Page 29



Einstein

Page 39



...and MUCH more!

Journal of Thematic Philately

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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Boldly To The Future Progress (Page 10)

The American Topical Association
thanks
Auktionshaus Christoph Gärtner GmbH & Co. KG
for sponsoring the
CG International Philatelic Promotion Award

ATA received the Second Prize
of €1,000, plus a Trophy and Certificate
in the 2016 Competition, category of
“Promotion of youth philately and public relations.”
The prize was awarded for:

Topical Tidbits

and

Topical Time

For more details, see:

Topical Tidbits:

www.americantopicalassn.org/tidbits.shtml

CG-Awards:

www.cg-award.com/



TOPICAL TIME (ISSN 0040-9332) (USPS 633680) is published bi-monthly by the American Topical Association, Inc., 100 N Division St, Carterville IL 62918-1247. Periodicals postage paid at Carterville, Ill., and at additional mailing addresses. Copyright 2016. American Topical Association, Inc. Library of Congress catalog number 56-47317. Printing by Johnson Press of America (JPA), Pontiac, Ill. Subscription rates are included as part of the membership dues.

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

Contents

Boldly to the Future.....	10
Survey Says.....	22
<i>By Jack André Denys (New Jersey)</i>	
Amazonsmile and ATA.....	23
<i>By Dawn Hamman (Florida)</i>	
Call for Nominations for 2017 Distinguished Topical Philatelist.....	25
Costumes of Papua New Guinea.....	29
<i>By Ray Cartier (Texas)</i>	
Albert Einstein: Visionary Thinker and Cultural Icon.....	39
<i>By Barry N. Floyd (Great Britain)</i>	
Study Unit Spotlight, Cats on Stamps Study Unit:	
Hoffman's Starch Cat.....	49
<i>By Marci Jarvis</i>	
How to Build a Topical Exhibit.....	52
<i>By Edwin Andrews (North Carolina)</i>	

Regular Features

About ATA.....	07	Lonely Onlys.....	48
Addlets.....	88	Membership.....	85
Award Winners.....	24	Membership Recruiters 2016.....	87
Back to Basics.....	14	Show Calendar.....	90
Chapter Chatter.....	72	Topics on Postmarks.....	16
Cinderella Corner.....	46	Units in Action.....	64
Dale's Dialogue.....	06	Vera's Views.....	11
Encouraging Exhibiting.....	26	Wayne's Impressions.....	13
Foreign Thematic Exhibits.....	82	Youth in Topics.....	78
Index to Advertisers.....	90		

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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**

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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!**



DALE'S DIALOGUE

Planning is well under way for National Topical Stamp Show 2017. The show will be held in Milwaukee, Wis., June 23-25, at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport. As the name implies, it is very close to the airport and is serviced by the hotel shuttle.

I write this article to inform you about the amount of planning and work that goes into putting on a national stamp show. Work starts more than a year in advance and continues up to the very day a show begins – and continues long after the show is over.

A team of ATA leaders attended Milcopex recently to scout out the area, search out possible tours, plan the dealer table layout and meet with the hotel staff. That team consisted of our Executive Director Vera Felts and her husband Bill, First Vice President Dawn Hamman and her husband John (our show chair) and me, along with my wife, Andrea.

The evening before Milcopex we attended the meeting of ATA Chapter 5, one of the oldest chapters of ATA. Some of the officers took us out to dinner before the chapter meeting. We were greeted warmly and each of us spoke to the group of about 20 attendees. During a drawing, I received a free membership to the organization and I appreciate that. I plan to continue that membership.

Vera, Dawn and Andrea spent time scouting out tour possibilities for next year's event. And they were also able to purchase the exhibit awards for 2017. I must say that I found them beautiful and impressive.

It was important to seek a wonderful restaurant to host the President's Reception for next year. Milwaukee is known for its German ethnicity and great food. We went as a group to Karl Ratzsch's Restaurant. It is a restaurant that is about 110 years old and was decorated with beer steins, a wild game hunting theme and stained glass, definitely living up its German heritage. The food was great, with selections that would fit almost everyone's taste. While there we met with the events planner and confirmed the restaurant is reserved for our evening in June.

The next day we met with the staff of the Crown Plaza Milwaukee Airport Hotel. Six months before our visit, John Hamman had worked out the specifics of the contract. This meeting with the events coordinator was to ascertain that every detail was written down. We made sure the hotel had scheduled every event, menu, required meeting spaces – really everything that has to be planned for a large event such as ours.

The Crown Plaza Milwaukee Airport is a wonderful hotel. The staff was extremely pleasant, helpful and always greeted us. The rooms have been recently refurbished and are very spacious and comfortable. Before our event the hotel will furnish each guest room with a refrigerator. We were able to negotiate a good rate for

you that is posted on our website and will be noted in the Jan-Feb issue of *Topical Time*.

Finally, John and I volunteered to help with tasks that remained to get ready for the Milcopex show. John had his tape measure out many times to make sure there was adequate space for our own dealer set-up, society tables, and exhibit frames and more. He is extremely thorough in his planning and ATA is very fortunate to have him as our Show Chair.

As you can see, a lot of work by a lot of volunteers goes into creating a national show. This promises to be a fun one. Make your plans to attend the National Topical Stamp Show in Milwaukee, June 23-25, 2017. ☐

About ATA

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

It's Gold!

Congratulations to *Topical Time* editor Wayne Youngblood. Our journal has once again won a gold medal in the American Philatelic Society's literature competition. In fact, this is the fifth year that *Topical Time* has received this prestigious award.

And it's a CG Award!

ATA recently received Second Prize (€1,000, a certificate and trophy) in the C.G. International Philatelic Promotion Awards contest sponsored by Auktionshaus Christoph Gärtner for *Topical Time* and our digital youth publication, *Topical Tidbits*. The award ceremony occurred at the 34th Internationale Briefmarkenbörse Sindelfingen, in Germany, on Oct. 29. Michael Kogan, paleontology editor of *Bio-philately*, journal of ATA's Biology Unit, represented ATA at the ceremony. Eighth prize in the C-G Awards, and first prize in the digital contest, were won by ATA's study unit Motivgruppe Musik for its journal, *Der Musikus*. Peter Lang is the editor.

Volunteers Needed!

The ATA needs your help in filling these volunteer positions. If you are interested, we will provide you assistance learning the job and support in fulfilling it. Please contact Dale Smith at (816) 734-4536.

Grants and Awards Coordinator

We need your advice. If you have experience in obtaining grants or funding for non-profits please give Dale a call at the previously given number. We know other philatelic organizations have received small grants recently. We need your help in accomplishing this for ATA.

DVD Production Volunteer

We have some educational DVDs that need to be updated. If you have skills in this area, please let us know by calling Dale.



Save the Dates – NTSS 2017

Plans are well under way for next summer's National Topical Stamp Show in Milwaukee, Wis. It is a great location for many of our members, as one-third of the U.S. population lives less than a six-hour drive away. The show will be near the airport, so you can also take advantage of direct flights from 40 cities and flights with just one stop from 160 cities.

1949 Society

There is still time to become a charter member of the 1949 Society. Through the end of the year, those who have made – or are making – arrangements to remember ATA in their wills receive this designation. Of course, bequests to ATA are welcomed at any time. Please contact the ATA office for more information.

Recent Shows and New Members

Oct. 6-8: ASDA National Stamp Show, New York, N.Y. Ambassadors: **Allan Fisk, Tony Curiale, Jeff Hayward, Caroline Scannell, Fred Skvara.** New members: 4

Oct. 7-9: Indypex, Indianapolis, Ind. Ambassador: **Jean Stout.** New member: 1

Oct. 15-16: Cupex, Urbana, Ill. Ambassador: **Vera Felts.** New Members: 2

Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at This Upcoming Show

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

Dec. 2-4: Florex, Orlando, Fla. florexstampshow.com

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!

The 1949 Society

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

Charter membership available until Dec. 31, 2016.

Please notify the ATA Office if you qualify for Society membership.



Enormous range of Topics! Reasonably priced, starting at \$12.50

From the Press Sheet Archives. New on the market, ask for your free price list! Or see our website www.hgitner.com

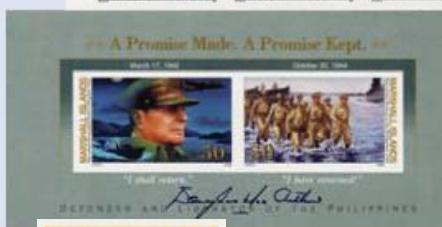
Henry Gitner Philatelists, Inc.,

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Specialized Topicals

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- US and Worldwide Die Proofs
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- Covers and Postal History

Everything for the Topical Collector!



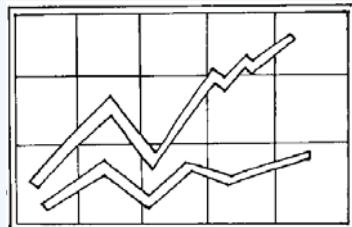
WWII collectors:
For the 50th Anniversary of WWII, 100 sets were issued depicting events and battles. The stamps were available as singles or with an attached bottom inscription tab. Available perf & Imperf and gutter pairs!

ATA thanks you for your support!

Later this month, you will receive an email or a letter with ATA's annual fund-raising appeal. We hope you will respond.

This appeal is very important to the ATA. After your dues, this is the ATA's most important source of income. It is the generosity of members like you that has allowed the ATA to continue to grow, to improve services and to promote topical collecting. Your support has enabled the ATA to be a leader in making our hobby stronger.

While the ATA is lucky enough to have a handful of big donors, most of our donations are less than \$20 and many less than \$5. To us, every dollar is important. Please watch for your annual appeal; we hope our members will respond in the generous manner they have in the past.



Members Like You

...have shown great generosity and have made the ATA the vital association that it is!

Most of your donations have been small ones. ATA is counting on you to help us reach our goal by Dec. 31.

2016 BTTF Goal:	\$35,000
Received or Pledged:	\$24,139 (through Oct. 31)
Still needed in 2016:	\$10,861

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 safely and securely to americantopical@msn.com. One can also donate on the website even without a PayPal account.

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

Together we can continue to advance...

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!



VERA'S VIEWS

Boldly to the Future

Some of us still use its original name: Buck The Trend Fund. Either way, the BTTF is vital to the future of ATA. Dozens of members remember to add a small overage – \$5, \$10 or \$20 – to each membership dues payment or checklist order. Hundreds respond to our letters asking for donation support, often at year's end when contributions to lower personal income tax are on our mind. Yes, ATA is an IRS 501(c)3 nonprofit educational organization, so every dollar contributed is tax deductible. Added together, your donations have helped ATA reach its BTTF goal for several years now – and have put our organization on a more sound financial footing. In the sharing spirit of the upcoming holiday season, please write a check to ATA or send a PayPal to american topical@msn.com. Your contribution will be gratefully acknowledged and much appreciated – and carefully used to further our shared hobby – topical philately.



**Start with a Smile at
smile.amazon.com this Holiday Season**

it "yours" if you purchase gifts – for others or for yourself – online at amazon.com. If you sign up for its Smile program and support ATA, our organization receives 0.5% of the money you spend. It's easy and you sign up just one time. ATA already benefits financially from this program, but we will receive even more donations if you sign up, too! Please see page 23 of this issue for more details.

Tales by Mail. Many ATA members remember Karen Cartier, who served as office manager when her husband Ray was our executive director.

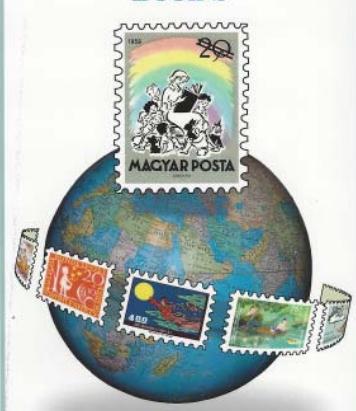
Karen is keeping busy in her "retirement" and has published *Tales by Mail – Book 2*, a sequel to her earlier book, which sold more than 1,100 copies. Her new book beautifully recounts 25 international folk tales, all depicted on stamps from around the world. Countries such as Thailand, Monaco, Norway, Russia, Australia and Palau are included. What a wonderful book for gift giving

Start with a Smile.

That's a good motto to follow, don't you think? I hope you will make

Tales by Mail

* Book 2 *



A collection of children's stories illustrated by postage stamps.

Karen Cartier

this holiday season! I hope you will email Karen at TalesByMailBook@gmail.com or write to Legend Lady Press, 2509 Buffalo Dr, Arlington TX 76013-1209 to learn more about *Tales by Mail*.

Connections. I truly believe that one of the best benefits of ATA is connecting with others who share your passion – whatever your collecting interests. My belief was recently confirmed when I received this note from member Carol Edholm:

"In a recent edition of Topical Time, I saw a new member listed who was interested in the Pheasant family. Couldn't tell if member was male or female, so I dropped them an email. He responded, and we've been chatting online for a couple weeks now. Anand Kakad of Nasik, India, is a delightful young man. We enjoy sharing information on our love of Phasianidae. We 'talk' almost every morning and every evening. Thanks again for encouraging him to join ATA!"

I do hope that you will always peruse the Membership Column of this journal and use it to strike up a new philatelic friendship. Make it a goal to send a note to a new member from each issue. Include some of your duplicate stamps that might be of interest/help to him or her. If the new member's mailing address isn't included, just send your sealed letter to the ATA Office and we'll forward it for you.

Candy. Each year for several years now, ATA has gifted the philatelic community with a free holiday-related checklist. Various topics connected to Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas have been developed, and a hundred or more folks request or download the list, which is available for a couple of months. The 2016 checklist is on the topic of Candy. Many thanks to Gary Goodman for his contributions to the list. You may download/print it for free from the www.americantopicalassocn.org website or send a stamped, addressed envelope to ATA for your copy. Please download the list or mail your request by Dec. 31.

Holidays. Most cultures celebrate multiple holidays near the end of the calendar

year and/or the winter solstice. It is a good time to take time for friends and family and to be grateful that stresses of the year – including the 2016 U.S. election(!) – are past. We give thanks for our blessings and look forward to a brighter future. So, it is with great joy that I offer my own thanks to each member of ATA

for supporting our fine organization.

We work very hard to earn your trust and provide you and others with member services that enrich your hobby. Thank you for being a part of ATA, and making it possible to bring such services to others. □





WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

Topical Time hits 400!

Although we have not had the opportunity to mark the milestone appropriately, this issue of *Topical Time* is the 400th! The publication began humbly enough in 1949 by society founder Jerome Husak to serve the needs of topical collectors. Issue No. 1 is shown nearby. Since then the publication has changed and grown over the years and has evolved into a 92-page top-medal-award-winning worldwide publication of which you can truly be proud! My own tenure as editor began seven years ago with the Jan-Feb 2010 issue (No. 359), which means this is my 41st issue as editor, having produced just over 10% of the total issues. Time flies!

I thought it would be good to recognize each of the former editors of *Topical Time*, an impressive list of editors to be sure! The list is as follows:

Jerome Husak

issues 1-161 (1949-77)

Ann Shoemake

issues 162-187 (1977-81)

Barbara Mueller

issue 188 (1981)

Fred Foldvary

issues 189-225 (1981-87)

Glen Crago

issues 226-252 (1987-92)

George Griffenhagen

issues 253-358 (1992-2009)

Wayne L. Youngblood

issues 359- (2010-present).

Of those on this list, Husak and Griffenhagen had by far the longest tenures; Husak with 28 years (161 issues) and Griffenhagen with 17 years (132 issues). Here's to a long and continued prosperous future!

As a sad side note, we just learned of the death of celebrated philatelist Barbara Mueller. We hope to have more in the next issue.

VOL. 1	WINTER, 1949	NO. 1
Introducing Religion on Stamps <small>By Frank H. Benjert</small>	Americana on Stamps of Foreign Countries <small>By Miss Ellen E. Jensen</small>	
<p>Think of owning a religious art collection put out by 48 governments of the world. You can have this treasury in a stamp album. That's the fun of being a philatelist when doing specialized collecting. You watch like a pet, and only buy what you reach. Your energy is your direction. My collection of religion at the present time is under 3,000 covers.</p> <p>If you are interested in collecting on stamps, you have to do it with groups. I do five groups: the life of Christ, five: the life of the Virgin, five: the life of the saints, etc.</p> <p>In the first section of twenty important stamps, among these are the ones who announced the birth of Christ issued by France in 1930 and "le Sourire de Reims"; then the shepherd stamp from Hungary, with the great star shining in the East, and the Delta Robot Lombino stamp from Italy in 1930. Holland in 1930 showed a complete infant in a little straw crib admired by an ox and ass with heads pushed in the barn windows. Then the shepherd scenes, the Three Kings, and The Holy Family follow in order. St. Joseph even takes the Christ Child for a piggy-back ride in another Holland stamp of 1930.</p> <p>To represent the adult life, Italy's issue of 1923 pictures Christ and His twelve apostles. This is often referred to as the most beautiful religious stamp ever issued. A series of Andes is also produced on several stamps issued by several South American countries. From Belgium, there are two: a crucifixion stamp, reproduction of R. Van der</p>		
<p>Today when one picks up a stamp magazine and reads where a country has issued one hundred and twenty-three stamps in three months time, and on another page one might read where a country plans to issue three hundred and forty-four stamps within the same period, one begins to wonder just how many of us will be able to keep up with this. A few of us will begin to wonder just how many of the world's population are able to afford a stamp collection. It is not an easy task to collect a collection of this size. When we asked me "why did you choose a topic like this?" There are two reasons why I did so. First, because I collect United States stamps and a collection of this type goes hand in hand with it. Second, because of the many things I have learned in history, geography, and about many great men and their accomplishments to our country. I have learned about the treaties and conferences between other nations and our country, and feel that I owe a great deal to this topic.</p> <p>Let's take a few of these historical events and see what the foreign countries have issued in the way of Americana stamps. First let us look at the great list of famous American men and women that have been honored. Twenty-eight Americans have issued two hundred ninety-five stamps and have honored fifty-two famous men and women. Franklin D. Roosevelt has been honored on more stamps than any other Amer-</p>		
<small>(Continued on Page 6)</small>		
<small>(Continued on Page 2)</small>		
Join the AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION today!		



BACK TO BASICS

Jack André Denys

Stamp Albums and Storage

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

You asked (on our recent member survey)...

I would love ideas on preparing a collection for both exhibition and personal use. How to make display pages since there is not an off-the-shelf product for topical collections?

Response: As a topical collector, you establish the boundaries of your collection. You are also free to house and display your collection in any way you choose. We have topical freedom!

Here are several options:

Stock books

Several manufacturers produce pages and albums with rows of transparent plastic pockets that are archival quality and acid free. No hinges or mounts are needed. Their advantage is flexibility – stamps can easily be moved and new ones added. Write-ups can also be added. Choose loose-leaf or bound, single or double-sided pages.

Printed topical album pages

American Philatelic Society: www.stamps.org/free-album-pages

The APS offers mini-albums for 21 topics and 25 states that can be downloaded and printed free. Albums range from four to 30+ pages and include background information on the illustrated stamps.



What topic or thematic
do you collect?

We've got you covered!

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American First Day Cover Society
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Palo Albums: www.paloalbums.com/stamp-albums/palo/premium/topical-pages

Palo sells printed pages for 16 topics with spaces for stamps in chronological and alphabetical order. Supplements are not produced on a yearly basis.

Topical headings printed on blank album pages

Palo will also produce blank pages with headings for any title upon request.

American Topical Association: americantopicalassn.org/yalbumpages.shtml

The ATA offers printable pages for ~125 topical headings. Designed for youth but may be downloaded free by anyone. Site offers: "Let us know if your favorite is missing we will try to create something."

Also: a beginner's collecting kit containing five ATA album pages with the same topical heading, 30 stamps related to the topic, stamp hinges and beginner information is available for a low cost. americantopicalassn.org/pdflyouth/tasteoftopicals.pdf

Washington Press: www.washpress.com

Washington Press sells loose-leaf pages with colorful headings/borders for 32 topics. Punched for three-hole binders.

Make your own pages by computer

At next year's NTSS, Jack Congrove will give a program on how to make topical album pages using Microsoft Word. Several people who make their own pages are bringing some to the show, and everyone is encouraged to bring something to share. Meanwhile, members are encouraged to share tips in this column about creating album pages. ☐

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TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

George DeKornfeld

Beetlemania

It's been said that we philatelists possess what's been termed a "collecting gene" that, for all intents and purposes, makes us avid collectors of those little bits of colorful paper that we all so cherish. Throughout our lives – or at least in my case – this



Figure 1.

gene has had me interested in collecting and accumulating all sorts of other things too, from coins to postcards to mineral stones and even – at a much younger age – butterflies and insects.

As a budding junior entomologist I used to spend hours on end in the great outdoors, net in hand, looking for specimens to add to my collection. These would be brought back home (much to my Mother's delight), looked up and identified using various taxonomic guides and either mounted and displayed in those old Riker Mounts, or placed into jars for further observation.

These days, insects ... bug me. Sure, some, like butterflies and moths, are a joy to watch fluttering around, but many of their creepy-crawly kin are hell-bent on making life as miserable as possible for anyone inhabiting their domain, which is almost anywhere out-

Figure 2.



side. Where I live, in the mid-Hudson Valley of New York, we've been enjoying unseasonably hot and humid weather and, as a result, these little critters have been out in full force. They buzz, they bite, they sting, they tickle – and some are downright scary looking. And so we come to the topic of this issue, where we'll be looking at a few examples of the "Flying Fortresses" of the insect world, the beetle.

Easily recognizable by two pairs of wings, beetles have the distinction of making up the largest order of the insect world, *Coleoptera*.

Their front two wings, called elytra, are hardened and thickened, which, along with an exoskeleton made up of plates called sclerites, serve as the body armor for these meaty critters (hence, that hair-raising crunchy sound when one inadvertently ends up under foot).



Figure 4.

row, center) also has a lighthouse in the image, another topical interest.

A pictorial postmark of a European Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes nasicornis*) appears in Figure 2. One of the largest beetles that can be found in Europe, it is only the male of this species that carries the horn-shaped appendage like the one our friend is sporting in our marking. Used in Prague (Praha), Czechoslovakia, in 1992, this is also a first-day marking.

Figure 3 brings us to Helsinki, Finland, for a pictorial used in



Figure 3.

Figure 1 brings us to a nice assortment of these insects on stamps. Issued in 2013 by Alderney, the northernmost of the Channel Islands, this first-day cover was neatly canceled with a beetle pictorial by the Bailiwick of Guernsey Post Office. As an aside, for those with other topical interests, note that the stamp depicting the Burying Beetle (top row, center) also has a lighthouse in the image, another topical interest.



Figure 5.

From top: Figures 6, 7, 8 and 9.



Figure 10 (above).

Figure 11 (right).



The Republic of China (Taiwan) has a long-standing tradition of issuing bug-esque stamps. We'll be checking out a small batch here and, yes, these are also all first-day pictorial markings. Figure 4 starts off with one of the earlier ones, a stylized marking used in 1992 that depicts a generic-looking beetle that's shaped like a ladybug, sans spots.

The Figure 5 example is from 2008 and the line-up of stamps and pictorial cancel depicts a grouping of stag beetles from the Family *Lucanidae*, so named because of the antler-like appearance of their two mandibles. Enjoying a more appetizing diet than our previous example, these guys enjoy dining on decaying deciduous wood. There are around 1,200 different species found in this rather large family of beetles.

Next is the family of long-horned beetles (*Cerambycidae*), characterized by sporting antennae oftentimes longer than their entire bodies. Many from this family are miscreants who cause damage to trees and un-treated wood, yet they are kind of cool looking. Figure 6 brings us some stamps and a pictorial cancel used in 2010.

Figure 7 depicts the 2011 version which also showcases long-horns, as does Figure 8 (2012) and Figure 9 (2013).

Let's next take a quick ride over to Japan and Figure 10, where we see one of that

1995 and yet another first-day cancel (it seems a pattern is developing here – first-day markings and guaranteed concordance with the stamps issued – a good thing, to a point). This pictorial and the stamp both depict *Geotrupes stercorarius*, a coprophagous (feces-eating) earth-boring dung beetle commonly found in areas where cattle and other livestock are kept (for obvious reasons). Musically inclined, these critters are able to make chirping sounds using their hind legs.



Figure 12.

country's typically (pretty) red-colored pictorials canceling a stamp that shows a beetle with incredibly iridescent colors. The bug in our pictorial appears to be another of the long-horned clan. This pictorial and stamp were issued in Showa 61 (1986).

Next stop is New Caledonia, for a marking used in 1977 at Noumea, the capital city. The pictorial depicts the adult form of *Agrinome fairmarei*, while the stamp shows both the adult and larval stages. The larva have a distinct fondness for dining on Candlenut trees, a nut producer named for its high-oil-content seeds with hard shells that can be burned like candles. I suppose as a way of getting even, people in some parts of the world dine on these larva (Figure 11).



Figure 13.

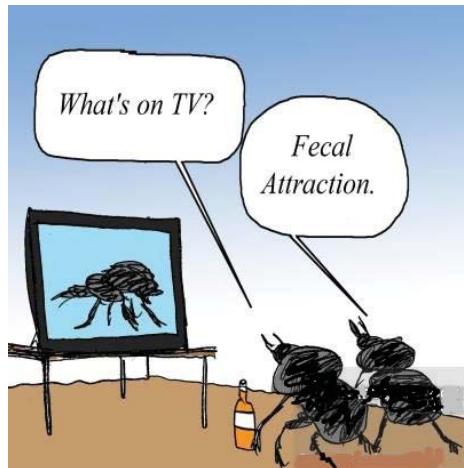
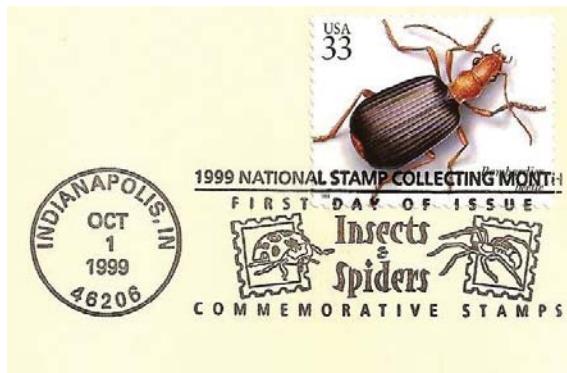
Figure 14.

For our next specimen, Figure 12, I had to show the entire cover, given the stunning use of color, the cachet and its clear concordance with the stamp and pictorial cancellation. The cover hails from Oradea, Romania, and was created in 1994. The pictorial proclaims: “To Know and Protect Romania’s Fauna” and depicts *Rosalia alpina*, a longicorn beetle that may be seen hanging out around European Beech trees – their preferred habitat – from the Alps east to Slovakia. Greatly depleted in numbers in recent times, this insect has been awarded protected status by many countries.

The British call its version “Ladybirds,” while here in the States we call them “Ladybugs,” but either way, these small beetles are of the “cute-as-a-bug-in-a-rug” variety and are well known in one form or another worldwide. Figure 13 brings us to a pictorial issued by Royal Mail in 1985 that has what appears to be our friends in a square dance formation.

Our last example, Figure 14, comes from home, issued in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1999. The cancel depicts the bombardier beetle. These plump nasties, by virtue of two sacs of different chemicals stored in their abdomens (hydroquinone and hydrogen peroxide) are able to mix and spray out a liquid that has undergone an exothermic reaction that cooks any other insect it comes in contact with, the temperature approaching that of boiling water.

Well, that's enough of bugging you guys for this issue. I hope you all enjoy the cooler days of autumn and, of course, any and all philatelic pursuits. I leave you until next time with Figure 15. ☺



Dung Beetles Favorite Movie

Figure 15.

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Survey Says...

Jack André Denys

This is the third installment based on responses to our recent membership survey. Our ATA Board will consider all ideas. Here are some of the 118 suggestions made about attracting new members.

Attracting new members

- This is very difficult. I belong to several membership organizations and they all have problems. The younger people do not join or work. I guess if they are interested they just go on the internet. Maybe ATA should have more presence online. When we go to the internet to look at stamps do we see ATA among the choices?

Many ideas focused on children and youth:

- Increased section in *Topical Time* for youth.
- Adding checklists in which children would be interested.
- More activities for children using computers.
- Creating a web page to promote philately among kids and youth [We currently have americantopicalassn.org/tidbits.shtml].
- Interacting with the schools! Do expositions there, with topics that can interest kids and then explain to them how to start a topic collection.
- Perhaps you could put together an elementary education program that would interest children in philately.
- Get more stamp clubs in schools, featuring topics. If you could publish a list of schools that have stamp clubs, a lot of collectors would send stamps and material.
- Having local clubs/collectors target younger audiences with educational displays at local libraries and state and county fairs.
- Offer kids reduced rate memberships. [We do].

But not everyone agreed:

- Just be out there. It requires face-to-face interaction to gain membership. Stop focusing on youth and think more about mature adults who have disposable income.
- Pitching to youth may not yield what we hope but maybe pitching to folks in their 50s who are not hampered as much by young children and the challenges of early career work.

Lots of other ideas

- Offer the first year free. If available, use the APS member list for direct mail solicitation.
- Give out samples of stamps, supplies and magazines.
- Encouraging dealers to carry inventory organized topically and get dealers to tell about ATA.
- Look at winners of medals from stamp shows and check if they are ATA members.

- Give dealers who advertise with ATA an advertising incentive to promote by signing up new members.
 - Put articles focusing on the philatelic aspect of topics in general magazines, newspapers and national news websites.
 - People will join if they find you fill a need.
 - Advertise checklist service in *Linn's* and APS journal – I believe the cost would be more than covered by new members who join.
 - We can still work at stamp shows for new recruits but they would mostly be people in philately already. New blood in the society would require a different approach, as this target audience would most likely not come to shows – we need an alternate approach – what that is, I don't quite know.
 - Remember the “fun” of collecting in everything you do. ☐
-

AmazonSmile and ATA

Dawn Hamman

If you are an **Amazon.com** shopper, there is a simple way to support ATA, at no cost to you. Instead of logging into **amazon.com**, go to **smile.amazon.com**. On your first visit, specify American Topical Association as your preferred charity. Each purchase you make benefits ATA. Read on for details.

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The donations that go to ATA are not tax deductible by you, as they are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation. But, this is a great way to help ATA while doing your holiday shopping. ☐

Award Winners

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

Only those shows submitting 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:

ATA exhibit awards presented at Ameristamp 2016 include the ATA 1st medal, presented to ***Jack Congrove**, for *Alexander Hamilton: Soldier, Financier, Statesman, and Founder. The Story of Lloyd's: From Coffee to Commerce*, shown by ***Norma Nielson** was awarded the ATA 2nd medal, while the 3rd medal was presented to ***James R. Taylor** for *Continental Drift and Plate Tectonics*.

***Larry Davidson** was awarded the ATA 1st medal at Seapex for his exhibit, *Beavers: Nature's Engineers*.

During the 2016 Youth Champion of Champions, ***Darren Corapcioglu** received the American Topical Association medal for his exhibit, *The Universe*.

***Larry Nix** was awarded the ATA 1st medal at the Minnesota Stamp Expo for *America's Library: The Library of Congress*.

At the Greater Houston Stamp Show, ***Dawn Hamman** earned the ATA One Frame Award for her exhibit, *Campanulas: Bells of the Garden*.

***Philip J. Stager** received the ATA 1st medal for his exhibit, *The Coconut Palm*, at Milcopex. He also received the 2nd ATA medal for *Mine to Mill, 1900-2000 Part 1*. The ATA 3rd medal was presented to ***Dawn Hamman** for her exhibit, *Backyard Chickens*. The exhibit *Competitive Rowing Errors and Oddities*, by ***Clemens Reiss** received the ATA One Frame award.

Merpex award winners include ***Paul Schaumacher**, who received the ATA One Frame Award for his exhibit, *Next in Line*. ***Charlie McGinley** was awarded both the ATA 1st medal and the Novice award for *Mathematics and Polymaths on Stamps (A short introduction)*. ☐

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

Call for Nominations for 2017 Distinguished Topical Philatelist

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

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

The award will be presented at the ATA's annual National Topical Stamp Show in Milwaukee, Wis., on June 24, 2017.

The Distinguished Topical Philatelist award was established in 1952 by ATA founder Jerome (Jerry) Husak. Since then, 118 people have received the honor. Recipients have included residents of the United States, Canada, Great Britain and Italy. Find a complete listing of past winners at american topical assn.org/awardsdtp.shtml

Last year's winner was Robert E. Lamb, a lifelong stamp collector, a retired career diplomat of the United States Foreign Service, past executive director of the American Philatelic Society and a current member of the ATA's Board of Directors.

For the 2017 award, send nominations to the DTP chair Donald W. Smith, PO Box 576, Johnstown PA 15907-0576. The deadline for nominations is Dec. 31, 2016. ☐

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Encouraging Exhibiting (but not for exhibitors only!)

Jack André Denys

More Online Resources for Exhibitors

Jack André Denys is past president of the ATA. His exhibit, The Bayeux Tapestry, received an international vermeil award at the NY2016 World Stamp Show.

This column includes tips, resources and information about thematic exhibiting. But even if you don't exhibit, you will find at least some of it helpful. Please help make this column your column by sending your comments, questions and suggestions. Contact information is on Page 4.

More Thematic Exhibits on the Internet

APS website: <http://stamps.org/Topical-Exhibits>

Aspinwall Connection

Elmo Loves Stamp Collecting

Bamboo

Guthrie, Woody

Bridges

Pineapples

Cannabis

Royal Palm

Coconuts

Shakespeare

Dates

Storytelling Ramayana

Helpful Hints

Alastair Watson of New Zealand writes about the July-Aug. column:

"Yes, use a 3-ring binder, the "D" form works well for me, and I place related items in a common spot, being a clear page-protector ... flexible, and not locked into today's chosen arrangement.

"Make notes / lists in a simple spreadsheet with Excel - this is a no-brainer for me ... trying to be more environmental sensitive, but importantly, easy to generate lists, in whatever topical limits you choose. Herein I record each stamp, cover, ephemera purchased, references found – and with time, continue to add details as research the item ... easy to copy & paste this text into Word docs for publications, or into Publisher or whatever system one uses to create exhibition pages ... flexible, expandable, neater than my hand-written notes – ha! Originally I did this in my word processor, but have slowly learnt more about the useful in Excel."

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

News: a “Topical” Category of Exhibits

The new edition of the standard for exhibiting in the United States, *The Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting (MPSJE7)*, was approved by the APS Board of Directors. It goes into effect Jan 1, 2017.

Probably the biggest news for us is the introduction of a “Topical” category. **Wait a minute! Topical - isn’t that us?** Technically not. There sometimes is confusion between what is meant by thematic and topical. According to Microsoft Office Word, the terms topic and theme are synonyms. And they are often used interchangeably by stamp collectors. Which word you use may depend on where you live. Mary Ann Owens and George Guzzio wrote in *The New Philatelic Exhibitors Handbook*:

“In the United States and a few other countries, ‘Topical’ is the umbrella term for both the collecting and exhibiting of topical or thematic material. In the rest of the world, ‘Thematic’ is the umbrella term.”

When it comes to exhibiting, though, we in the United States conform to most of the rest of the world – our exhibits have been thematic. Until now.

The ATA defines a thematic exhibit as “one that develops a non-philatelic subject by illustrating it with a wide variety of appropriate philatelic elements, to tell a story, accompanied by thematic and philatelic text.” It is the “story” and choice of material that distinguishes thematic and topical exhibits.

According to the new manual (3.5.14) (bold is mine),

*“Topical exhibits are composed of a variety of philatelic items, **the design of which illustrates a specific topic or subject**. If you choose to present a topical exhibit, it would show as many philatelic items as possible **with the image of the particular subject or group of subjects that is the focus of your exhibit**. The key success factor with a topical exhibit is to have a well-defined purpose, scope and organization of the subject matter as illustrated by your material.”*

The manual’s appendix (APP 2.1.14) offers suggestions for organization:

“One of the following structures is generally used for topical types:

- *Scientific, taxonomic, or systematic structure such as different types of minerals, gems or animals.*
- *Institutional or organizational structure such as fraternal, national or humanitarian.*
- *Event-related structure such as repetitive sporting events (World Cup, Olympics, etc.).*
- *Time-related structure such as a chronological sequence of related historical events.*
- *Other logically structured subjects.”*

The complete Manual is posted on the APS website:

www.stamps.org/userfiles/file/judges/JudgingManual2016.pdf

Hopefully, this chart will help clarify the similarities and differences between thematic and topical:

	Thematic Exhibit	Topical Exhibit
Uses a wide variety of philatelic elements...	To tell a story (a presentation of the subject in logical progression) according to a plan.	To illustrate a particular subject in an organized way using a logical categorization presented in a plan.
Each of those philatelic elements...	Depicts different aspects of the story.	Depicts an image of the exhibit's subject.
Example: An exhibit on a specific bird or group of birds...	Shows items that depict knowledge about that bird or group of birds (e.g. origin, reproduction, habitat, food sources and predatory nature).	Shows items that depict an actual image of the bird or group of birds.

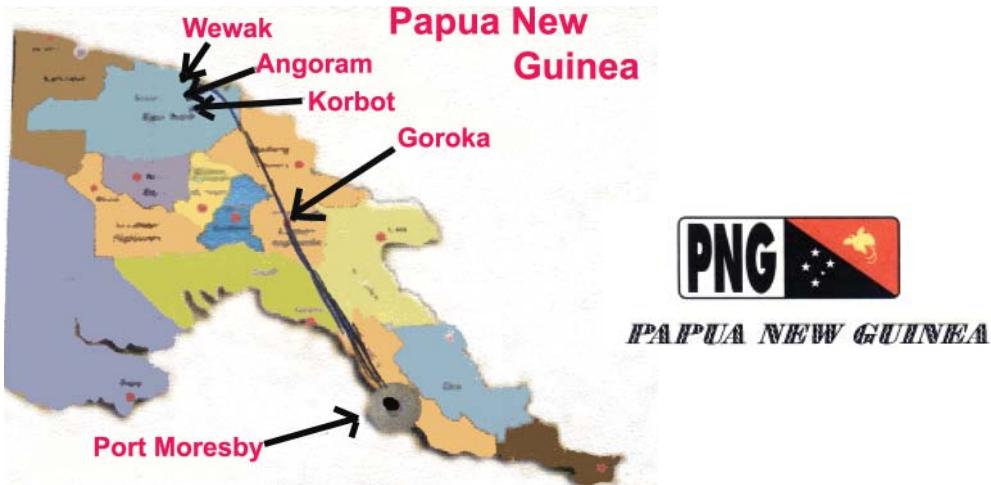
Obviously, it will take awhile for both exhibitors and judges to feel their way through this new exhibiting category. Ed Andrews, APS judge and General Editor of the new *Manual*, writes, *"I believe that this exhibit type will spark the interest of topical collectors and I am looking forward to seeing and judging this new exhibit type well into the future. I also think that with an increase in topical exhibits we will see a resurgence of thematic exhibits. How can more people exhibiting and getting excited about their collecting interests be wrong?"*

Andrews is promoting the new Topical category by:

- writing articles for forthcoming issues of *Topical Time* and *The Philatelic Exhibitor* on how to build and how to judge a Topical exhibit.
- creating a 10-frame Topical exhibit on *Hats* – shown non-competitively at Balplex (September), Florex (Orlando/Dec. 2-4) and AmeriStamp Expo (Reno March 3-5, 2017) – as an exemplar of this new type – both to stimulate the interest of collectors and to use as a training tool for judges.
- leading seminars at those shows on how to create and judge Topical exhibits.

At next year's NTSS (Milwaukee Jun 23-25), he will show his Topical exhibit, *Hats*, and lead his Topical seminar.

Our ATA Board, at its June meeting, voted 10-0 (with two abstentions) to accept Topical exhibits beginning at our National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) next June in Milwaukee. Here's an opportunity to be a pioneer – you can be among the first to "Try Topical" and exhibit in this new category! ☺



Costumes of Papua New Guinea

Ray E. Cartier

When considering vacation destinations, extremely few people envision a getaway to Papua New Guinea (PNG). Few – if any – travel agents have any information about this island nation where head hunting was in vogue until the mid-1950s, when the Australians stepped in and persuaded the tribes to – instead – compete in song, costuming and dance in events called “Sing-Sings,” or festivals. These PNG festivals have been created to promote peaceful interactions between tribal groups while allowing for traditions and cultures to thrive. While traveling, immersing yourself into the tight-knit cultures of PNG can sometimes be difficult. Luckily, there are plenty of opportunities to experience PNG’s cul-

An example of a colorful woman’s costume from Papua New Guinea.



As part of the Hiri

**Moale Festival, lagatoi
(also known as lakatoi)** celebrates the arrival of village men returning from trading expeditions. Women dance to celebrate the return, as shown on the inset stamp, PNG Scott 976 (1999).

tures by planning a trip around one or more of its many national festivals.

The largest of these is held each September in the Central Highlands in a town named Goroka. You can find tours online but the prices found there are astronomically high. We were able to tour PNG at a fraction of the listed prices by locating local guides.

We found ours by contacting the PNG embassy and requesting the names of three guides in Port Moresby, the capital. We then selected one who took us to the Hiri Moale festival in Port Moresby. He then located a guide in Goroka and another in the Sepik River area for the three-part tour I planned for us after reading in depth about the region.

The Hiri Moale Festival is an annual event, held on the same weekend as the Goroka Sing-Sing. Hiri is the name for the traditional trade voyages that formed an important part of the culture of the Motu people of Papua New Guinea. We arranged to be there on the first day and then we flew to Goroka for the next two days and then went on into the interior of the island for a personalized tour of the Sepik River area to round out our adventure.

The Hiri Moale Festival recreates the days when men in the village would sail away in their boats, called Lagatois, following the currents that ran counter-clockwise from Port Moresby. They would trade goods with tribes along the northern side of the island. Three months later, when the tides changed to the other direction, they would return home. Their sweethearts and wives spent those months sequestered in grass huts where older women would teach them





the “womanly arts” and taught them how to make some type of craft. When the men’s Lagatoi were sighted, the women would come out of their huts and sing and sway their grass skirts, welcoming their men

back home. Mothers of the young women, who often still show tattoos, recreate the tattoos with Sharpie-type felt-tip pens on their daughters.

Today, subsequent to the return, the college-aged women compete in a Miss Hiri-Moale pageant, which

During the festival, male singers with kudu drums keep rhythm for the contestants in the Miss Hiri Moale Pageant, also shown on Scott 159 (1961).



During the Hiri Moale Festival modern mothers use ink pens to mimic traditional tattoos that were applied to young maidens of the village. The inset stamp is Scott 975 (1999).





The Hiri Moale Festival full costume involves a grass skirt and beaded head-dress, as shown on PNG 655 (from 1975 Folk Dancers set).

just happened to occur on the grounds of the Holiday Inn in which we stayed. The judging for the title of Miss Hiri Moale is based on the girl's general knowledge, how well each presents her tattoos, how well they swing their grass skirts and how well they name their costumes.

The winner is the Hiri Hanenamo (Queen). There is also a runner-up and a Miss Hetura (Friendship).

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Red-Nose men dance at Goroka festival; Scott 450 (1977) shows a young woman with flare headdress.



Male singers with Kudu drums set the beat for the songs sung by the contestants.

Hiri Moale costumes usually consist of a headdress made of beads and/or feathers or fur. Some of the feathers were imaginatively cut. Additionally each young woman wore one of three types of necklace made from seashells or stones and often with seeds or wild boar tusks and/or a large crescent shell. On their upper arms the women wore arm bands that appeared on some to be slices of a large bone. On others it was one to three grass fronds. From these, strips of grass skirting were hung. The rest of their costumes consisted of grass skirts, some with shell waist bands.

The next morning we flew to what is probably the most colorfully costumed extravaganza in the world. As many as 2,500 natives from villages up to 50 miles from Goroka walk up to this plateau to compete in song, costume and dance, while lucky visitors who had booked one of the 27 hotel rooms in Goroka (1 ½ to 2 years in advance), get to walk around taking photos of the natives in each village's festive dress. The tribes chosen to win in each category were awarded the equivalent of \$100.

The year we were in Papua New Guinea, the tribe chosen as the best was the Asaro Mudmen. Our guide, it turned out, was the brother of one of the mud-men and introduced us to them, where he took photos of us alongside. The

mudmen created their mud and mud-mask costumes as a result of an ancient event. In those days each village had a "safe" area surrounding it. As a result, each village developed its own language. A total of 850 languages – or about half of all the world's languages – are spoken in PNG. Legend is that the Asaro were defeated by an enemy tribe and forced to flee into the Asaro River. They



Strong legend is associated with the Asaro Mudmen, Scott 387 (1974, above) and 1299 (2008, below).



Figure 14.



The subject of costuming in

PNG is a very broad one. The Goroka

Festival alone sports a huge variety of native costumes. The author is shown above with some participants, along with a selection of PNG stamps depicting different costumes.

waited until dusk before attempting to escape. The enemy saw them rise from the muddy banks in the moonlight, covered in drying mud and thought they were spirits. Most tribes in Papua New Guinea are very afraid of spirits, so the enemy fled back to their village in fear and held a special ceremony to ward off the spirits. The ceremonial mudmen could not cover their faces because legends say that the people of Papua New Guinea thought that the mud from the Asaro river was poisonous. So, instead of covering their faces with this alleged poison,



Traditional tamburin (spirit house) in the village of Kombot. A tamburin is shown at right on PNG Scott 321 (1971).



Native huts on stilts in the village of Kombot. Tree houses are shown at right on PNG Scott 96 (1932).



Children are frequently seen swimming in rivers infested with piranha (shown inset).



the men made masks from pebbles and mud that they heated with water from a waterfall.

Costuming is too varied to go into in this article, but if you look up Goroka Sing Sing in Google, you can see and hear the sounds of this remarkable pageant in which no two tribes are costumed the same. The materials are mostly grasses, flowers, leaves, the skins of cuscus (a form of possum), feathers, shells, beads, cloth strips, masks, colorful markings they make from various flowers and mud and so on.

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The author being gently reminded that it is time to go...

The third and last portion of our trip commenced with a flight to the northwest village of Wewak, from which our guide took us on a 5½ hour ride in a 4 X 4 to the interior village of Angoram. There is only one family-owned hotel there, which had existed for 25 years. We were the first Americans they had ever seen.

The following morning we took a 5-hour-long boat ride to visit some of the Sepik River area villages. I'd asked to visit a Tamburan (Spirit House), which we went into in Korbot. There a man was digging out a canoe from a log with a stone adz (ax), which he sold to me, in the shade under the tamburan. We stopped at some other villages and made a visit to a mask maker's hut.

Traditional housing is built in rectangular shapes and is weaved from thatch, pine canes or bamboo. The homes are on stilts, due to flooding, with high roofs that help keep smoke away from the inhabitants.

Children are frequently seen swimming all along the piranha-inhabited river. All along the river, people came out to see the white people and they smiled and waved as we finished our cultural visit to the land that time forgot – Papua New Guinea.

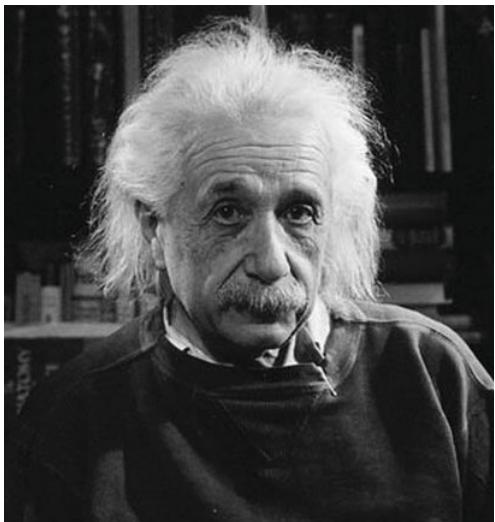
And, once again, my wife reminds me gently that it's time to leave. ☺

Ray Cartier has been a member of the ATA for more than 40 years and is a past executive director of the ATA. He is the founder and current president of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club in Arlington, Texas, and the author of Primary Recovery Ship Covers Handbook and the U.S. Space Cover Collecting Handbook. His primary collecting interests are in Astrophilately, with 11 exhibits on that subject and nine other active exhibits. He has been honored with the ATAs Distinguished Topical Philatelist and with the Texas Philatelic Association's Distinguished Philatelist of Texas Awards. He has been married to Karen Cartier, creator of the new ATA Topical Checklist Database, for 52 years.

Albert Einstein: Visionary Thinker and Cultural Icon

Barry N. Floyd

Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the publication of Einstein's revolutionary *General Theory of Relativity*, Jersey Post released a set of six stamps and a miniature sheet in 2016.



Above: Albert Einstein.

Below: Set of 6 stamps released by Jersey in 2016.

Albert Einstein is one of the most famous, influential and universally admired persons in human history. Having spent a lifetime re-imagining physics, his archetypical boffin persona – firmly lodged in popular culture – is indeed well-earned. His theories and discoveries have profoundly affected the way people view and understand the world and our place within it.

Behind the philatelic images of the great scientist we may legitimately enquire briefly into his lengthy and engaging life story, the better to appreciate his enduring contributions to the human knowledge of our universe.

Born in Germany in 1879, Einstein received his formal education in Munich and, later, in Switzerland.





Left: The earliest known photo of Einstein as a child.

Despite capabilities in science and maths, he tended to rebel against the prescriptive nature of school, where everything was unthinkingly memorized. His Munich schoolmaster wrote: “He will never amount to anything!”

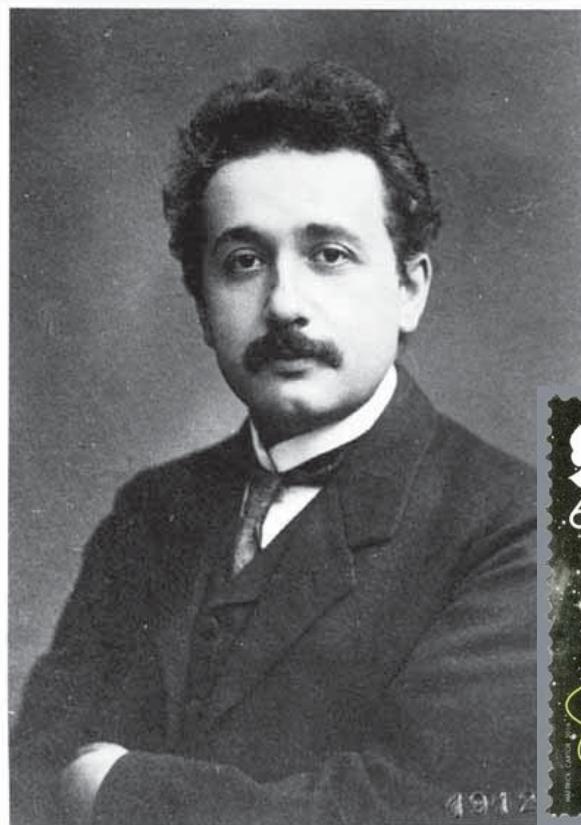
Training to be a teacher in physics in Zurich, Einstein gained a reputation for missing classes and wasting time discussing science with friends in local cafes. He acquired Swiss citizenship (to avoid military service in Germany) but, after graduating with only average marks, he spent two years trying to find an academic post. Eventually he took a job in

the Swiss Patent Office, where he found the work both easy and routine. He later joked about it being his “cobbler’s trade,” which left him plenty of time to think about physics. It was while working in the Patents Office that he started to evolve many of the theories that would subsequently bring him world fame. He also had

time to gain a doctor’s degree in 1905, at the age of 26.

Among the early contributions at this time was a paper on *The Electro Dynamics of Moving Bodies*, which would become known

Einstein as a young professor in Zurich, as shown on this 60p stamp (and source image).

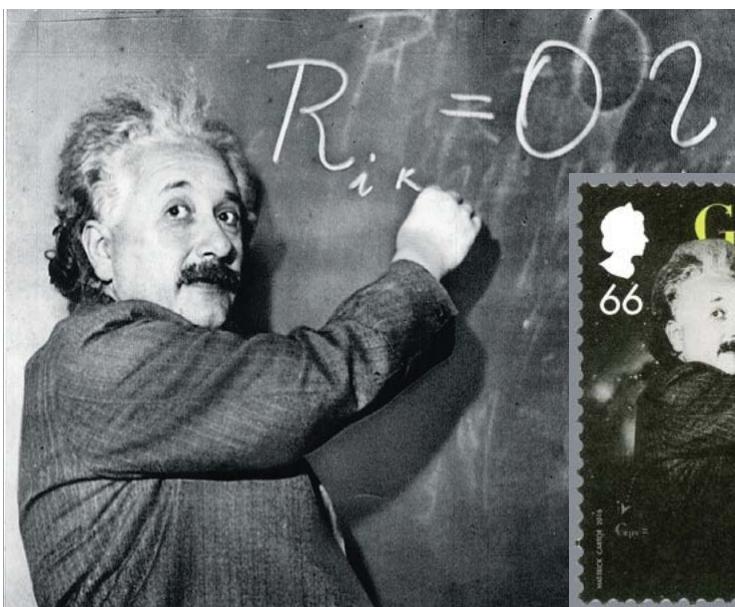


Einstein in Berlin, as depicted on this 48p stamp and accompanying source image.

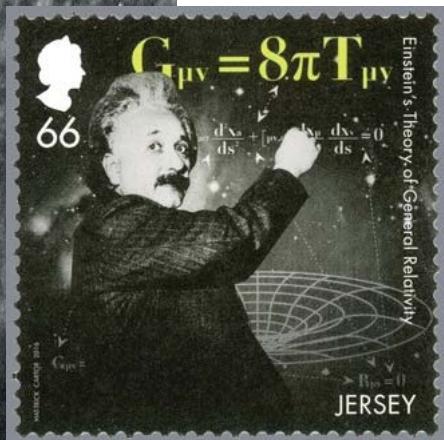


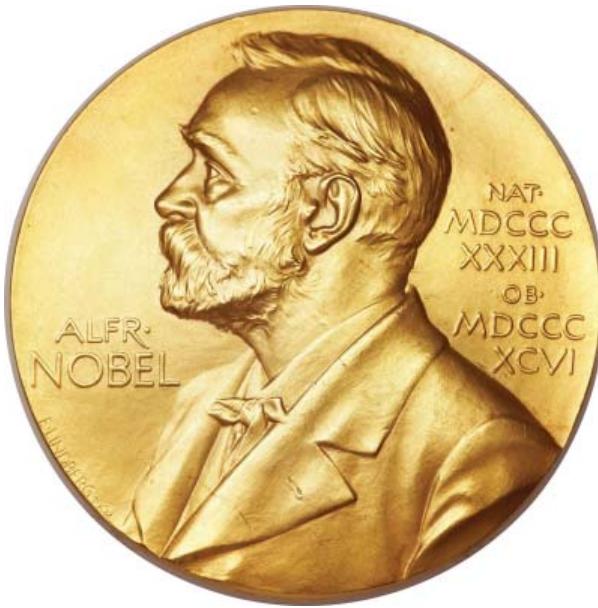
as *Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity*. This showed that measurements of space and time were relative to motion and subsequently forced physicists to re-evaluate some of their most basic concepts.

It was in 1908 when, at the age of 29, Einstein achieved his first academic



Einstein demonstrating his Theory of Relativity on 66p stamp, along with source image.





The Nobel Prize Medal. The 1921 award was presented to Einstein but given to him in 1922.

appointment as Privatdozent in Berne, to be followed a year later – when his skills were becoming recognized – by the position of Professor Extraordinary at Zurich. His fame was to grow widely from this time onwards.

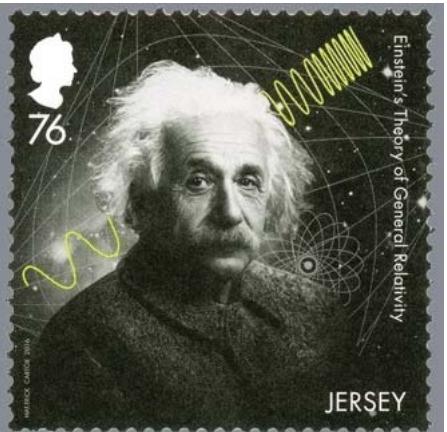
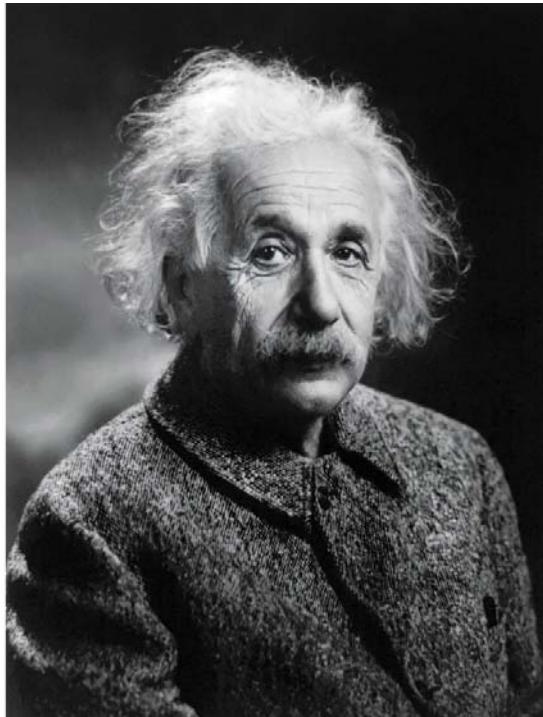
Returning to Germany, he was appointed to the Prussian Academy of Sciences and to Humboldt University of Berlin in 1914, the year the Great War broke out. He became a German citizen the same year. In 1917,

Einstein added to his duties the role of director of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute, and it was this prestigious post that Einstein was to hold until 1933, the year in which Adolph Hitler came to power. He was on one of his several visits to the United States



Left: Einstein and wife, Elsa, in New York in 1921, when the photo for the £1 stamp shown below was taken.





Einstein in 1947, as he appeared in the source image and on the 76p stamp of the 2016 set.

decided not to return to Germany.

It was in 1916 that Einstein officially submitted his paper, *The Foundation of the General Theory of Relativity*, the culmination of many

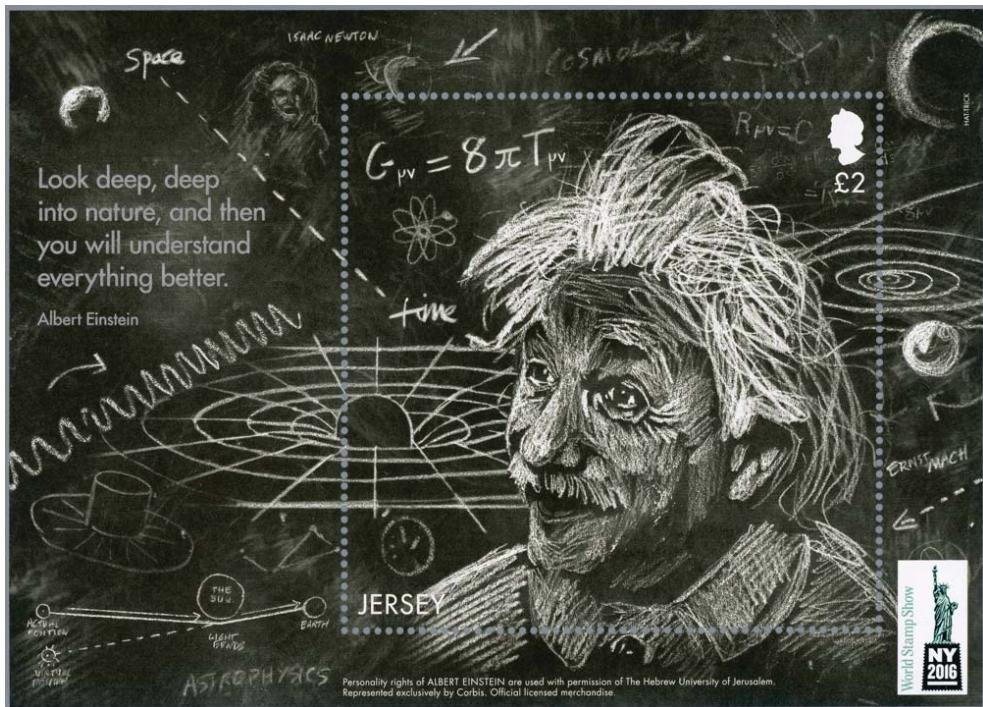
years of obsession with gravity. It displaced Newtonian mechanics and shook the physics world, proposing that space and time were one and the same and that gravity was the effect of objects bending space-time. Einstein's theory was given the weight of observational evidence when it was used to correctly predict anomalies in the orbit of Mercury. Proof of the theory occurred in 1919, when a British physicist, Arthur Eddington, observed a total eclipse of the sun. Einstein had predicted that gravity should bend light and, after careful measurements by Eddington, it became clear: light was bent – Einstein was right. His theory was later expressed in the world's most famous equation: $E=mc^2$.

Strangely, it was for his original work on photoelectric effect that Albert Einstein was awarded the 1921 Nobel Prize (which was actually given to him the following year, in 1922), rather than for the theory of relativity. Despite the overwhelming evidence of Eddington's observations, there were a few influential figures, including some serving on the Nobel Committee, who still had doubts concerning the validity of Einstein's grandest claim.

Einstein's first visit to America was in 1921, when he and his wife Elsa went to

The 88p stamp from the Jersey set shows the standing figure of a young Einstein.





The design of the chalkboard-style £2 Jersey souvenir sheet, featuring a smiling Einstein, was taken from an extensive 1947 portrait sitting.

New York. His distinctive appearance and obvious scholarship captured the attention of the press. He came across not as an aloof intellectual with strange ideas about the nature of reality, but as a warm and likeable character. The feelings were mutual. In an essay about his impressions of the country he wrote: "The American is friendly, self-confident, optimistic and without envy."

With the rise of Nazism and persecution of the Jews in Germany, it was fully understandable why Einstein should – in 1933 – decide to emigrate to the United States. He was offered the post of Professor of Theoretical Physics at Princeton, N.J., becoming a U.S. citizen in 1940. He continued working on the construction of unified field theories, started in Berlin, also the statistical mechanics of quantum theory. On the eve of World War II, he endorsed a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt alerting him to the potential development of "extremely powerful bombs of a new type." He recommended that the United States should begin similar research. This eventually led to the designated Manhattan Project. Einstein supported defending Allied military forces with new types of bombs, but generally disapproved of the use of newly discovered nuclear fission as a weapon. Together with the British philosopher Bertram Russell, he later signed a manifesto that drew attention to the danger of nuclear weapons.

Speaking out on social issues and joining civil rights organizations – even going so far as to defend friends suspected of having communist tendencies – led inevitably to the FBI opening a file on Einstein during the McCarthy-era of America. This grew to nearly 1,500 pages.

Einstein's desk was preserved as it appeared at the time of his death in 1955 at the age of 76.

Meanwhile, Einstein became a leading figure in the World Government Movement and was offered the presidency of the State of Israel. While declining this, Einstein collaborated with Dr. Chaim Weizman in establishing the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.



Throughout his active career, Einstein received honorary doctorate degrees in science, medicine and philosophy from numerous European and American universities. He delivered lectures across continents and was awarded fellowships or memberships to all the leading scientific academies throughout the world.

Einstein's research is well chronicled, with numerous books and more than 300 scientific papers to his name. His intellectual achievements and originality have made the word "Einstein" synonymous with "genius."

After retirement from the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, Einstein continued to work towards the unification of the basic concepts of physics, while opposing the views of many other physicists. He was unable to reconcile his theories with the new world of quantum physics and problems in this realm continue.

If he were alive today, Einstein would be intrigued by the work of the European Organization for Nuclear Research (Cern) in Switzerland. By running the Large Hadron Collider at its highest energy level, it is hoped that a new particle might be discovered, upsetting our basic understanding of physics again and ultimately revealing how our universe actually works and was created.

Albert Einstein died in 1955 at the age of 76 of an abdominal hemorrhage, leaving behind a busy, if untidy, desk (Fig. 9).

Reference: A useful source of information is the British Broadcasting Corporation: *Albert Einstein: A life spent re-imagining physics* (www.bbc.co.uk/timelines/zxy6sg8).

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.



CINDERELLA CORNER

Arthur H. Grotel

William Shakespeare Revisited

It has been four years since I visited the topic/theme of William Shakespeare. A few interesting new items have come my way since.



Figure 1.

of German/Austrian stamps depicting the Bard. In that column, Figure 1 was for the German House in Vienna. Those stamps appeared in many colors, both perforated and imperforate and were produced in huge quantities. In Figure 2, I show one overprinted for the Quadricentennial of his birth, used 50 years after they were first issued.

In a similar format (and, perhaps, also made in Austria), the Union of Philanthropic Philately released one as part of a set issued in 1911 to commemorate the Coronation of King George V (Figure 3).

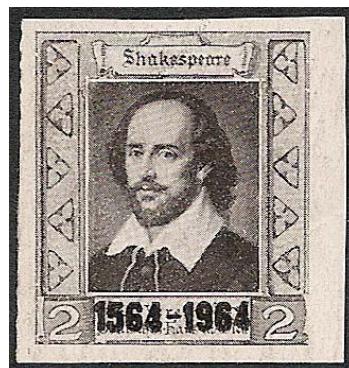


Figure 2.

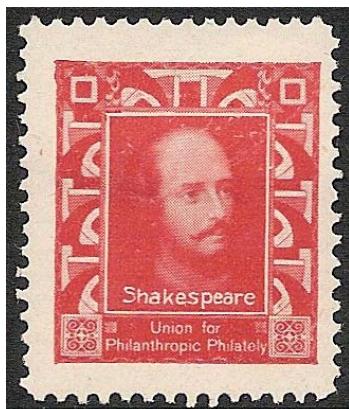


Figure 3.



Figure 6.

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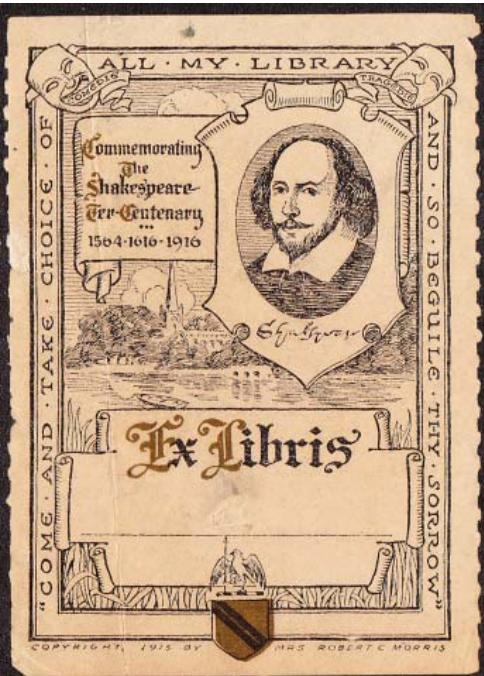


Figure 4.

ferent play each night" (Figure 5).

A most peculiar item, shown in Figure 6, is a group of three stamps denominated "5," printed on gummed paper, centered in a three- by five-inch sheetlet. Ac-

A small ex-libris, copyright 1915 by Mrs. Robert C. Morris, notes the 300th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. The item was apparently produced in coils, roulette vertically. This is a most unusual configuration for either an ex-libris or a poster stamp (Figure 4).

Another commemorative item from the Memorial Theatre in Stratford celebrates the Shakespeare Birthday Festival (April 12-May 15) and the Summer Festival (July 5-Sept. 11) with a "dif-

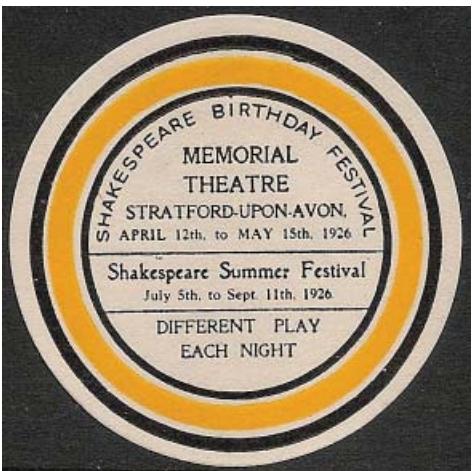


Figure 5.



of three, then, represents a new variant of this particular item. ■

cording to dummy stamp expert Glenn Morgan, it is a proof for a Harrison dummy stamp issued in the late 1930s. Those he has seen are in blocks of 10, defaced with an "X." The colors he has seen are black, blue, green, red and brown. This strip

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

Lonely Onlys...

Can You “Top” These Topicals?

Mark Sommer

[Editor's Note: This is the sixth installment of this column, 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 have found most of those you need.



Here's a new challenge: Find either new topics (where only a single stamp might exist) or add to these. Don't just sit there reading, get out those catalogs and start looking!

Special thanks this issue to Larry Dodson of Arizona. ☎

Above left: This New Zealand issue of 2015 is made of fabric from an All Blacks soccer home replica jersey.

Left: Austria Scott 2580, issued Sept. 24, 2015, features a pair of cut-to-shape lederhosen. The stamp is embossed on simulated leather (complete with embedded Swarovski crystals)!

Below: – Austria 2336, issued Sept. 8, 2011. There have been stamps with seeds glued to



them, but this is the only one that itself serves as a packet of seeds (spruce), which can be removed and planted.

Study Unit Spotlight

This Month: Cats on Stamps Study Unit

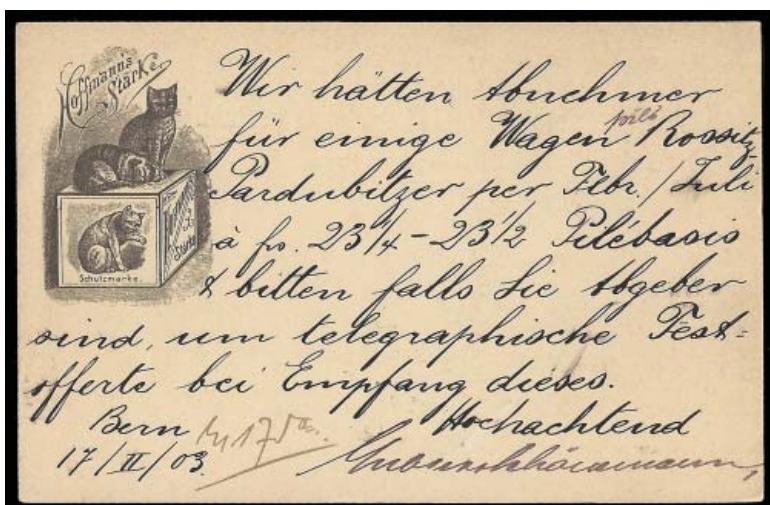
[Editor's Note: This is the 37th installment of a regular feature intended to – indeed – spotlight one of our study units and the fine work done in its journal. This month we feature "Hoffmann's Starch Cat," from the Fall 2016 Cat Mews. To be considered for "Study Unit Spotlight," please select what 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!]

Hoffmann's Starch Cat

Marci Jarvis

My favorite “find” at NY 2016 is an advertising postal card with the Hoffmann's Starch Factory cat trademark on the correspondence side. The cat is seated on a large box, with two other cats sitting on the top of the box.

Chosen as a symbol for purity and cleanliness, a white feline grooming represented Hoffmann's German enterprise. Artist Fedor Alexis Flinzer



This advertising postal card for Hoffmann's Starch Company has the trademark white cat grooming on the side of the box. Two other cats are atop the box. The card was mailed from Berne to Zurich, Switzerland, on Nov. 17, 1903.



The postage side of the Hoffmann's Starch Company advertising card shown above is a 5-centimes postal card with three handstamps. The two round #3 railway stamps show the card was received in Berne on Nov. 17, 1903, then received in Zurich on the same day. The large oval handstamp is from the Gubser & Schönemann Co. in Berne.



The white cat trademark for Hoffmann's Starch Co. is by Fedor Alexis Flinzer (1876).

Hoffmann's motto, "Maintain our strength" (Pflegen ist unsere stärke), is a play on words as stärke is translated both as "strength" and "starch."

Starch varieties included potato, corn, rice and wheat used in products ranging from food thickening agents to syrup and laundry starch.

The white cat became quite well-known in Germany and in other European countries. A replica of the cat rode in a promotional parade for German products in 1939 and was present for the company's 100th anniversary festivities in 1950. Flinzer's white cat was also on a float during a parade for the 500th anniversary of Salzuflen's town charter in 1988.

The company was dissolved in 1990, and was bought out by Reckitt Benckiser, a global manufacturer of cleaning products and household goods headquartered outside London.

The 5-centimes postal card was mailed in Berne, Switzerland, on Nov. 17, 1903, then collected and brought aboard a railway car used as a traveling post office (TPO).

These circular cancels "were in use from about 1871 through 1909 or 1910 and have

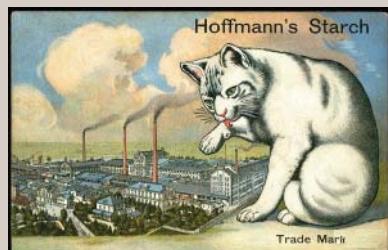
Fedor Alexis Flinzer

Marci Jarvis

Called "The Raphael of Cats" and "Cat Flinzer," artist and ailurophile, Fedor Alexis Flinzer (1832-1911), is best remembered for his illustration of a white cat grooming its paw, found in advertisements for Hoffmann's Starch Company (Stärke-fabriken) ca. 1876.

Flinzer attended the Dresden Academy of Fine Arts in 1849; 10 years later he taught at the institution, eventually writing art textbooks.

The animal world fascinated Flinzer, especially cats – domestic and wild. He painted and illustrated many, sometimes satirically, for numerous books.



This picture postcard depicts Flinzer's iconic trademark, which has appeared on hundreds of different products.

the legend AMBULANT [traveling] and bars in the two semi-circular segments and the Swiss cross at the 'foot.' The date is on the 'bridge' [rectangular portion]. Type XVIII is the most common. Both segments have coarse vertical bars of varying numbers."**

The postal card arrived at its destination in Zurich on the same day, a distance just short of 60 miles. The receiving cancel is inscribed "Zurich/Brieftrgr."

The large, oval handstamp from the Gubser & Schönemann Company of Berne indicates someone there sent correspondence referring to a payment request via a wire transaction.

It was really a fun purchase and I hope to find other Hoffmann cats. ☺

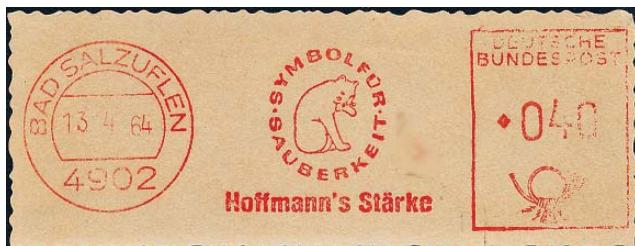
Partial List of Sources

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†Muncaster, Alice L. & Ellen Yanow Sawyer, *The Cat Sold It!: Feline Stars of the Advertising World*, New York, Crown Publishers, Inc., 1986.

Spiro, E. H. "An Introduction to the History of Train and Ship Cancellations" *Helvetia Newsletter*, March-Sept. 1957, Jan. 1958.



This 1964 red Hoffmann's Starch cat meter is from Bad Salzuflen, Germany where the company was founded in 1850. "Symbol of Cleanliness" surrounds the cat. (Courtesy of Patrick Roberts).



Cardboard cats were given away inside boxes of Hoffmann's Starch. This one may be from the 1950s.†

Cats on Stamps Study Unit

Founded in 1979, the Cats on Stamps Study Unit is an international organization studying cats – both wild and domestic – on postage stamps, postmarks and other philatelic materials. In the mid-1980s COSSU was chartered as an ATA study unit and also became an APS affiliate. The study unit journal, *Cat Mews*, has won many awards in APS and ATA literature competitions. Editor Marci Jarvis has implemented several changes to the journal since taking over in 2000 as editor. She has since added additional pages, some in full color, and the journal has been in continuous publication since 2000. For more information about the study unit please visit www.catstamps.info or contact Bob Jarvis, 2731 Teton Ln, Fairfield CA 94533-6503, email: bobmarci@aol.com. COSSU dues are \$14 for the United States, \$20 mailed elsewhere and \$10 for electronic membership.

How to Build a Topical Exhibit

Edwin J. Andrews

The purpose of this article is to provide guidance to the topical collector on how you might create a topical exhibit using material from your collection. The article is based on the personal experience of the author and is not to be construed as representing the policy or opinion of any group or body associated with philatelic exhibiting or judging. I have personally built a topical exhibit that is the basis for this and other articles on this subject. That exhibit will be on the APS World Series of Philately (WSP) circuit non-competitively at selected shows in 2016 and 2017. As an experienced exhibitor I built this exhibit to be an exemplar for exhibitors, and to help judges understand how best to judge Topical Exhibits.

1. Topical Collecting

Topical collecting is a branch of philately that focuses on a particular subject such as an animal, insect, mineral, sport or any number of other subjects. Topical collectors try to find as many philatelic items as possible that have in their design a depiction of the chosen topical subject.

The vast majority of topical collectors are not exhibitors and you may be intimidated by the idea of creating such an exhibit. Hopefully the following

Please Notice This



Are you

LOOKING

for those elusive
Beyond The Catalog
items?

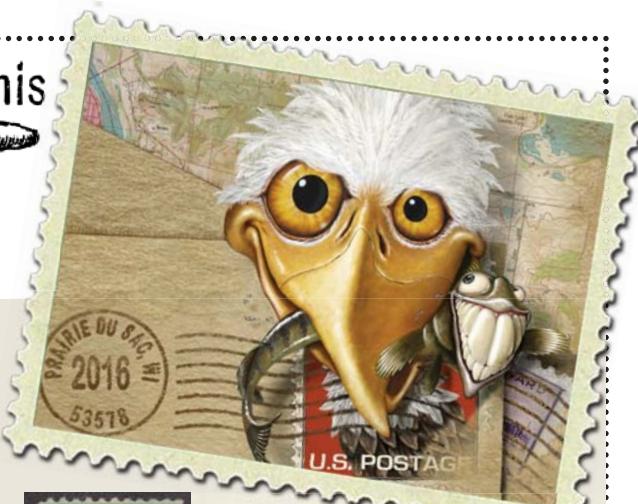
We've got you covered –
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discussion will provide a template and some guidance for you as you consider topical exhibiting as an extension of your topical collecting.

The new 7th edition of the *APS Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting* (Manual) has a title that now includes the word “exhibiting,” recognizing that the *Manual* is as much for exhibitors as it is for judges. This edition also opens exhibiting formats to provide far greater flexibility for exhibitors, dispelling many of the preconceived “rules” of exhibiting and judging. Two new exhibit formats are introduced, Experimental Exhibits and Topical Exhibits. The inclusion of Topical Exhibits is “topical,” since a trial class has been introduced in Australia and the ATA recently approved topical exhibits at its APS World Series of Philately (WSP) venue, the National Topical Stamp Show. In actuality, topical exhibits have long existed at WSP shows, as many youth exhibitors choose a topical format for their presentations. These Topical Exhibits have been adequately judged using the Uniform Exhibit Evaluation Form, or UEEF. The inclusion of Topical Exhibits in the new *Manual* also recognizes the large body of passionate topical collectors and provides them with a mechanism to show the best material from their collections.

2. What is a Topical Exhibit?

The new *Manual* defines a topical exhibit as follows:

“Topical exhibits are composed of a variety of philatelic items, the design of which illustrates a specific topic or subject. If you choose to present a topical exhibit, it would show as many philatelic items as possible with the image of the particular subject or group of subjects that is the focus of your exhibit. The key success factor with a topical exhibit is to have a well-defined purpose, scope and organization of the subject matter as illustrated by your material. As the exhibitor, you have the flexibility of using whatever subject you wish, as well as any logical organizational structure.” [APS Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting, 7th Edition, 2016]

Further, in the appendices of the *Manual* there is guidance in creating topical exhibits stating....

“Topical exhibits are not the same as thematic exhibits, which use a variety of philatelic items exclusively to tell a story. Topical exhibits are comprised of a wide variety of philatelic items, the design of which illustrates a specific topic or subject. For example, if the focus of your exhibit is to discuss birds, a thematic treatment would detail the taxonomy, origin, anatomy, physiology, reproduction, habitat, food sources, predatory nature, life, etc., of the particular bird or group of birds. A topical exhibit would show as many philatelic items as possible that depict the image of the particular bird or group of birds.

“The key to topical exhibits is that they should have a defined title, purpose, scope, and plan of organization, all of which can be adequately assessed using the UEEF. In the case of the aforementioned birds, this organization might be by taxonomic order. As the exhibitor, you have the flexibility of using whatever focus you wish, as well as any logical organizational structure of your choosing.” [Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting, 7th Edition, August 2016]

3. The Collection vs. the Exhibit

Most topical collectors focus on a specific subject and try to identify and collect as many philatelic items (elements) as possible that show that subject. The ATA has a library of checklists that aid collectors in finding philatelic material relevant to specific topical subjects. Some topical collectors focus only on stamps, while others include any and all philatelic elements, such as archival material (proofs, essays, specimens and more) revenue material, postal history, cancels (marcophily), first-day covers, illustrated mail, Cinderellas, labels, poster stamps, as well as variations in the production of philatelic material such as large multiples, plate positions, color varieties, errors in printing or perforating and more. Either type of collector can build a topical exhibit. However, the one who collects a variety of philatelic material will have an easier time building an exhibit.

Topical collections generally have some logical categorization of the topical subject material. This can be achieved in various ways:

- A scientific, or taxonomic or systems organization that might be suited to animals, insects, different types of minerals or other classifications.
- An organizational structure that relates to institutions such as religious, fraternal, national, humanitarian or other organizations.
- An event-related categorization often used for sports such as the Olympic Games or soccer.
- A time-related categorization following a chronology of historical events.

The exhibit I have prepared is titled *Hats – Protection, Identity, Fashion*. So, in this case, I have chosen a functional categorization of the hat and, within those broad categories, I use further divisions, examples of which will be shown later in this article.

If a topical collector has categorized a collection in a logical organization with detailed divisions of sub-categorization, then that organizational structure becomes the template for building an exhibit. Why is this organization so important? The answer is simple. Topical exhibits do not tell a story, so have no logical line of development from a beginning to end – rather, they depend on a logical categorization by which the exhibitor can best illustrate the topical subject through the use of philatelic elements. So categorization becomes the single-most important aspect of how an exhibitor will develop the exhibit. It is this logical categorization or organization that provides “linkages” from one section of the exhibit to others, essentially replacing the “story line” of a thematic oriented exhibit.

4. Exhibit Limitations

There is no specific size for a topical or any other exhibit type except for the One Frame Exhibit Class, which limits the exhibit to 16 standard 8½- by 11-inch pages (or A4) or their equivalent in oversized pages of various dimensions. Topical exhibits are representations of a larger collection, so by their nature can go on almost forever. The only other limit for a topical exhibit is dictated by the *Manual* as to not

exceed 10 frames of material in the United States. It is generally best not to try to squeeze an exhibit into a predetermined size. Rather, build your exhibit using the organizational plan you have decided upon and then determine where to balance it to fit a specific number of frames (more on this later). In most cases, smaller exhibits can easily be expanded once you determine the organization and balance of categories and sub-categories.

5. Treatment

5.1 Title Page

The title page (TP) is essential, as it is the first thing anyone reads when viewing your exhibit. Start with a clear, concise title – one that communicates your topical subject or even your purpose. Do not use cute or clever titles that do not communicate the right information. If a sub-title is necessary, make sure it adds information about the subject, purpose or scope or a combination thereof. While the title and any possible subtitle may already communicate the purpose, a short sentence should detail your intent for the exhibit. By example:

**Learn More, Do More,
Enjoy More with APS!**

America's Stamp Club

Join Today!

*and save more than \$50
on APS Services*

Membership privileges include:

- Low-Cost Stamp Insurance
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Phone 814-933-3803
Fax 814-933-6128
E-mail: info@stamps.org



"This is a 10 frame topical exhibit showing the many functions of hats and related headgear as means of protection, identity, and as statements of fashion..."

You also need a statement of scope, which will define your limits. In my case I detail what is included and what is not. For example, I do not cover headbands of various types, nor scarves or other draped head coverings, including turbans. This scope statement allows the viewer and judges to then focus on the organization you have presented without second guessing why certain things are not included. In many cases scope is also used to define the time period or geographical area as they may relate to your exhibit.

One way to format the TP is to follow the format of the UEEF, emphasizing key aspects of the four major judging criteria as they relate to your exhibit. So, in addition to providing a clear statement of purpose, describe your scope and showing a plan of organization, you can also describe new discoveries and how your rare material is identified and quantified for the viewer.

After providing the essential points of purpose, scope and plan, you may want to give

a short background or history to further clarify how you plan to proceed, or to present factual information to set the stage for your topical subject. If the plan or organizational structure is not presented on the TP then you will need a separate plan page.

5.2 The Organizational Plan

Treatment focuses on the development of the exhibit by using an organization that is logical and easy to follow. Since the topical exhibit is not telling a story, the organization you use to categorize the exhibit is important.

In the case of my exhibit, I chose the three uses for hats as the means of categorization; protection, identity and fashion. Each of these is then further subdivided as illustrated following.

1. Protection

- 1.1 Weather Elements and Sun
- 1.2 Associated with Occupation
- 1.3 Associated with Combat
- 1.4 Associated with Sporting Activities

2. Identity

- 2.1 Cultural
- 2.2 Religious
- 2.3 Organizational

3. Fashion

- 3.1 Traditional Designs
- 3.2 Fashion Statements

Since you cannot tell a story, it becomes important to further categorize your material to better emphasize its importance in philately. You also want to create linkages between your subcategories under these major headings. In my hats exhibit example I have taken each of the major categories and further subdivided them. By example, for hats associated with sporting activities I have subdivided to a third decimal level:

1.4 Associated with Sporting Activities	1.4.5 Land Sports
1.4.1 Aerial Sports	1.4.6 Motor Sports
1.4.2 Ball Sports	1.4.7 Water Sports
1.4.3 Contact Sports	1.4.8 Winter Sports
1.4.4 Equestrian Sports	1.4.9 Paralympic Sports

But even this level of subdivision can be further refined by the use of page subject headers, generally placed on the upper right of a page. By example for “1.4.8 Winter Sports” there are individual pages for:

1.4.8 Winter Sports

- Bobsleigh and Toboggan
- Luge
- Ice Hockey/Bandy
- Skiing
- Snowboarding

The following are examples of page headers from my exhibit. However, you can choose other ways to show your categorization.

1. Protection	1.4 Associated with Sporting Activities	Bobsleigh and Toboggan
1. Protection	1.4 Associated with Sporting Activities	Luge

Note that some of my headers are muted gray, while others are bold black. The bold black is used to alert the viewer when I first introduce something new. Subsequent muting in gray lets the viewer know they are still in the same section or sub-section. Even these sub-sections could be further refined such that skiing might have a separate sections for downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, ski jumping or others.

It is the level of categorization that will give your topical exhibit the richness it needs, in lieu of a defined story line. It also provides the necessary linkages that I mentioned earlier, allowing an exhibit without a story to move from one section to another in a logical manner.

Most topical collections already have some sort of categorization, so your task in beginning to organize your exhibit is to determine the most logical way to present the categorization and how you can divide and further subdivide the categories.

Good treatment will not only follow your plan of organization but also inform the viewer (and judge) what that organization looks like. The title page (and plan page if separate) help you to communicate your purpose for the exhibit, the scope of your categorization and the order of how you will logically let the exhibit flow from the first frame to the end.

5.3 Section/Chapter Introduction

A separate paragraph or even a separate page is a good way to introduce each major division of your exhibit. Since you have no story line it is important that your organization be very clear, and reorienting the viewer at each major section will help do this. Here you can also list what the viewer will be seeing in this new section/chapter, to aid in understanding your linkages and organizational flow.

5.4 Balance

As you develop each section of the exhibit be careful to maintain balance wherever possible. Overdoing one favored subject area can result in obvious imbalance. Judges will also look for completeness in exhibits. For topical exhibits, a complete showing of everything related to your subject would be impossible, essentially having to show your entire collection. So, to demonstrate completeness you need to show a complete presentation of the stated organizational structure such that each category and subcategory is represented, not leaving anything out. Try to balance sections as much as possible without “padding” the exhibit nor squeezing it

too much. In some cases the focus of a given section may need to be smaller or larger than other sections. If imbalance is obvious provide an explanation in your synopsis so judges are aware that you know of the imbalance and it has a logical reason for being present.

5.5 Ending

A logical ending to the exhibit is also part of good treatment. Even though you are not telling a story with a topical exhibit, you need to find a way to end it with a concluding paragraph and representative philatelic material. Since my exhibit is categorized based on the function of hats, I used philatelic items related to science fiction to show how hats might be used in the future.

5.6 Text

The amount of text used to carry the exhibit from beginning to end also needs to be considered as part of treatment. Avoid large blocks of text. In fact, the briefer the better. However, you do need to introduce each category and sub-category of your organizational plan. One or two sentences for each is all that is needed. These sentences should set the stage for the category and how the topical subject is related to the category. The following is an example of text I used in a new section to introduce a new subject.

- 1. Protection
 - 1.2 Associated with Occupation
 - 1.2.3 Deep Sea Diving

Underwater Protection

Deep sea divers require protection from cold temperatures, water entering the ears and nose, and to provide a fresh supply of air. Many designs of helmets and hat-mask combinations are used.

That is the only text used on that particular page. In other cases text may be necessary to describe philatelic items or the topical relationship of items where these are not readily apparent to the viewer.

6. Importance

Importance is worth 10 points in the judging criteria. The new *Manual* has more clearly defined importance as viewed in United States judging and – in particular – as importance relates to non-philatelic subjects. In topical and thematic exhibits, it is the exhibit importance that carries the weight of the point score, not the philatelic importance. The *Manual* defines exhibit importance as, “*the exhibit represents a significant challenge in scope or complexity. The exhibit is the best example of this subject, and it cannot be easily duplicated.*” So, for the challenge aspect you need to be able to demonstrate that your topical subject is not something simple. The more complex the subject, the harder it will be to show it using a topical treatment and, therein, a demonstration of the level of challenge. Challenge is also demonstrated by the diversity of philatelic items shown, not just page after page of mint stamps.

7. Knowledge and Research

7.1 Philatelic and Topical Knowledge

In thematic exhibiting, judges look for the degree of thematic knowledge as well as philatelic knowledge. What is thematic knowledge? It is the understanding of the type of philatelic elements considered acceptable and the discretion used in choosing challenging elements to represent each aspect of the story line. So, in a thematic exhibit you would use very little text on a page. There might be an introductory sentence for the focus of that page. Then a short phrase or portion of a sentence would be used to carry the story. Under each of these would be a single philatelic element chosen to best represent that part of the story. Multiple items (redundancy) related to the specific part of the story are frowned upon in favor of a single element, with the exception of philatelic studies (mini-studies), which will be discussed later in this article. Thematic knowledge is also demonstrated by choosing a variety of philatelic elements. The greater the challenge (cost, difficulty of acquisition, i.e. scarcity) the better.

For topical exhibits, you also need to show knowledge. Philatelic knowledge is certainly expected, so if you are showing something unusual you need to explain what it is, such as correct rates for postal history items. When showing postal history, strive for a commercial use versus a philatelic contrivance. For Maxi cards you can provide deltiology information, including the card type and publisher, date of the edition, type of printing and more. Maxi card concordance is also important. Concordance means the relationship of the card's image/illustration to the stamp and the cancel. For more details on concordance, refer to the *Manual*. For first-day covers or illustrated mail, give details of cachet makers, whether the cancel is an official city or not. If showing meters, try to provide information on the type of meter or rate (printed matter, for example) as a means of showing additional philatelic knowledge. If showing the illustration (picture) on a prepaid postal card, it is best to also show a reduced copy of the stamped area or some text to indicate the item is a prepaid card and not a picture postcard. Philatelic knowledge applies to all elements used, so if showing revenues or Cinderellas describe whatever might not be obvious.

Your choice of items is a demonstration of topical knowledge where multiple items with the topical subject image in their design are expected. This would be considered redundancy in a thematic exhibit. So, in addition to stamps you can use Cinderellas, labels, poster stamps, para-philatelic material, illustrated mail where the cachet or illustration represents the image for the page's subject. In effect, topical exhibiting gives you a breadth of possibilities in choosing material, but variety and challenge should be shown versus a boring page of mint stamps. For sets of stamp issues I recommend showing the key stamps (hardest to find or most valuable) or the high value denominations rather than the whole set. The greater the diversity and complexity (and rarity or scarcity) of items you show, the more you are demonstrating your knowledge of philately and of your topical subject.

7.2 Research and Personal Study

You can demonstrate knowledge through research and personal study by finding elements not previously reported or known. So look for unusual material, errors, stamps with plate flaws, interesting usage (postal history) or other factors that set it apart. If these have not been previously written about, take the time to describe what they are and take credit for discovering them. You can also show knowledge of your topical subject by showing items one would not expect to see or even think of as illustrating or being related to the topic. In my hat exhibit, for example, I use U.S. Internal Revenue tax-paid beer labels. These are a form of revenue stamp indicating the tax has been paid and are perfectly acceptable as philatelic elements.

7.3 Thematic vs. Topical vs. Display Exhibit Treatment and Knowledge

The previous sections provided suggestions on how good treatment and knowledge can be used in developing a topical exhibit. But how does topical treatment and knowledge differ from the development of thematic or display exhibits?

Exhibit type	Organization	Linkages	Philatelic elements	Non-philatelic elements	Knowledge demonstrated
Thematic	Thematic	Story line	Somewhat restricted	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story subject • Thematic • Philatelic
Topical	Categorization	Headers/sub-headers	Any and all	Paraphilatelic ephemera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topical subject • Philatelic
Display	Thematic	Story line	Any and all	Artifacts and ephemera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story subject • Philatelic • Deltiologic • Other knowledge relative to elements used.

The table summarizes the main differences in these exhibit types in their treatment and knowledge demonstration. Thematic exhibits are the most restrictive, with some limits to the types of philatelic elements that are generally used to carry the story line. In topical exhibits, any and all philatelic elements can be used. In fact, you will be rewarded for using a great diversity of these elements. In general, non-philatelic material is not used in either thematic or topical exhibits. In topical exhibits, paraphilatelic ephemera, such as first-day ceremony programs, new issue announcements or similar items may be considered, provided they show the topical subject in their design. This also includes PHQ (Postal Headquarters) cards from Great Britain, as they are produced by the post office and are associated with the release of new issues. Display exhibits use everything categorized, along with artifacts (3-D objects such as coins, medals and more) and ephemera (generally paper products that are non-philatelic, such as newspapers, picture postcards, trade cards, letterheads and more). So thematic exhibits are the most restricted and display exhibits the least restricted, with topical exhibits falling in the middle.

Both thematic and display exhibits require a story line to carry the exhibit forward. A topical exhibit depends on its categorization /organizational

structure to create linkages that will allow the exhibit to have a logical flow from beginning to the end.

8. Rarity and Condition

8.1 Rarity

People often confuse rarity and scarcity. Rarity refers to how many of something exists. This may or may not equate to value. Scarcity relates to demand for material, essentially how hard it is to find, regardless of its value. An inverted Jenny might be worth a lot, but if you had the money they are available, and are clearly quantifiable. Try finding an inexpensive rutabaga revenue tax stamp and you will understand scarcity. So, when showing rare material it should be identified by a notation, symbol, or colored font or matte to distinguish the item from others on the page. Rare items should also be quantified (one of 10 extant, only example reported and so on). Strive to have some rare or scarce material in your topical exhibit to give it additional philatelic relevance.

8.2 Condition

Condition will vary with each item you choose. Stamps, poster stamps, labels and similar items should ideally be mint, well centered and physically intact, free of faults. Why mint? Because you are showing a design image that relates to your topic and canceled stamps will likely cover or distort the image. When showing cancels

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that have your topical image in their design, be sure they are good solid strikes. Covers and stationery should be free of faults or stains, with complete undamaged edges and corners. Some material is available only used and may have punch holes, such as certain specimen stamps, revenue or telegraph stamps. A simple explanation will be appropriate under the item or in your synopsis. In all cases, the design image that is the focus of your topical subject needs to be clear and easily discerned. Always strive for the best condition in your material. Older material may show the effects of age, but with topical exhibits material in fine or better condition is expected.

9. Presentation

Presentation does not count for very much in judging (5 points), but it has a large impact on the viewer's impression and, in that regard, can affect how judges look at treatment and other aspects of the exhibit. The presentation should be attractive, free of distractions and readily legible, using large enough fonts for easy reading of text. Serif fonts are easier to read than non-serif fonts. Choose a paper color that highlights your material and use neat headers and sub-headers throughout. Matting, if used, should be unobtrusive and – again – should enhance the appearance of your material.

Crowding, overlapping material and windowing can all be effective ways to enhance material and create harmony on pages, but they can also be detrimental depending on how they are used. The tendency is always to crowd as many items on a page as possible, but care should be exercised to avoid overcrowding.

10. The Synopsis

The new *Manual* requires a TP and strongly encourages that a synopsis be submitted when making application to exhibit at a WSP show. If your plan of organization is not part of your TP, be sure to include it with your application material. These items are essential for judges to properly prepare themselves before judging an exhibition. They are also an asset to you, since they offer an opportunity for you to explain how you have created the exhibit and what is special about it.

When writing the synopsis, I use the format of the UEEF following each of the major criteria and explaining what I have done with my exhibit and explaining things that I believe the judges need to know. Do not simply repeat what is on the TP. Rather, provide details, such as numbers of elements used and percentages of categories to show balance. Under knowledge, make sure you take credit for new discoveries or new analyses. Provide details of rare or unusual material and where they might be found (frame/page). Use the synopsis to brag about your achievements and the challenge of putting the exhibit together.

At the end of the synopsis, provide some references when possible. In all cases, references should be readily available to judges through philatelic libraries or the internet. Since topical exhibits focus on a topical subject image on philatelic material, your references will most likely relate to that subject. If you use an internet URL as a reference, make sure it is still an active link by giving a date of last access. Date your synopsis so that if you provide an updated version before the show, judges will know which copy is the most recent. Limit your synopsis to two pages.

11. Conclusion

You have enjoyed collecting topical philatelic material and understand your topical subject. You have organized your collection so that you can easily access parts of it when you are adding new material. If you have been intrigued with seeing exhibits that strike your interest, then you have all the ingredients to begin a new chapter in your philatelic odyssey. Topical exhibiting is new to the United States so there will be a period of adjustment where both judges and exhibitors get used to the new exhibit type. But, as explained in this article, there is a way for you to take your collection from your albums and onto exhibit pages. Use the opportunity to show others the wonderful material you have accumulated over the years. Your passion for your subject will help drive the creation of your exhibit. Personally, I look forward to seeing topical exhibits as common exhibit types at WSP shows.

Reference:

APS Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting, 7th Edition, 2016. Available on the APS website at www.stamps.org, under the Judges and Judging tab.

Acknowledgements:

I appreciate the comments, edits and insights provided by David McNamee and Phil Stager in reviewing versions of this article. ☺

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Units in Action

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

Americana Unit Americana Philatelic News

Editor Frederick Skvara notes the



“150th Anniversary of the Union Pacific Railroad” in the July-September

2016 issue of *Americana Philatelic News*. To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Union Pacific railroad, Mozambique issued a souvenir sheet with one stamp and a miniature sheet of six stamps in 2012.

On July 1, 1862, the Pacific Railroad Act was passed by Congress and signed by President Abraham Lincoln to allow for the construction of railroads from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean. The locomotive shown on the souvenir sheet was one of two locomotives that were at the ceremony where the golden spike was driven to complete the first transcontinental railroad across the United States.

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

Email: dennisdengel@verizon.net
Website: www.americanauunit.org

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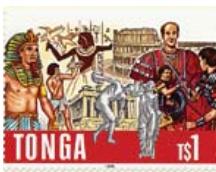
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Archaeological (Old World) Study Unit Old World Archaeologist

“Rameses II” is the feature article in the July 2016 *Old World Archaeologist*. Ramses is among the best known Egyptian Pharaohs of the 19th dynasty and also concluded the world’s first-known peace treaty.



Nine different new archaeology stamp issues are illustrated in color in the New Digs section, including a description for each stamp.

Dues are \$15 in the United States, \$23 elsewhere. Contact Caroline Scannell, 14 Dawn Dr, Smithtown NY 11787-1761.

Email: editor@owasu.org
Website: www.owasu.org

Astronomy Study Unit Astrofax

Editor Leonard Zehr explores the best locations to see the Aug. 21, 2017, solar eclipse in “Where is the best place to see the 2017 eclipse?”



Also noted in this issue, the 29¢ Pluto Not Yet Explored stamp recently set a new Guinness World Record.

A new gallery of solar eclipses on stamps also appears in the September 2016 *Astrofax*.

Dues are \$8. Contact John W.G. Budd, 728 Sugar Camp Way, Brooksville FL 34604.

Email: jwg'budd@gmail.com

Website: www.astronomystudyunit.net

Biology Unit

Biophilately

Vladimir Kachan explores the use of



“Butterflies in Culture, Art, Sculpture and Architecture” on stamps

in the June 2016 issue of *Biophilately*. Butterflies have different meanings for many cultures. For some, it symbolizes change, hope, beauty or the good things in life.

Sixty-eight pages of Biology stamp listings make up a large portion of this issue.

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

Email: chris-dahle@fastermac.net

Website: www.biophilately.org

Cats on Stamps Study Unit

Cat Mews

Marci Jarvis shares her favorite

philatelic find from World Stamp Show NY2016 in the Fall 2016 issue of *Cat Mews*.



During the show Jarvis found an advertising postal card for Hoffmann's Starch factory with its cat trademark on the reverse of the card. A white cat grooming was used as a symbol for cleanliness and purity.

Dues are \$14 in the United States,

\$20 elsewhere and \$10 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Bob Jarvis, 2731 Teton Ln, Fairfield CA 94533-6503.

Email: bobmarci@aol.com

Website: www.catstamps.info

Christmas Philatelic Club

Yule Log

Part three of the “The Origins of Biblical and Christmas Themed Names for Places Worldwide:

Saint Nicholas - Santa Claus - Grandfather Frost” continues in the July-September 2016 *Yule Log*.

Many towns in Europe have the name Saint Nicholas with Hungary having the largest number at 22. One town in Germany, Nikolausdorf, has had a special postmark in use since 1967 to answer letters written to St. Nicholas.

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.christmasphilatellicclub.org

Christopher Columbus Philatelic Society

Discovery

Don Ager and Michelle Pacou show the many different proofs and specimens used to create Spain's two stamps, Scott C41 and C42, of “Columbus in his cabin.” The set of stamps was issued in September 1930,



with two values in both perforated and imperforate formats.

A gallery of stamps depicting Columbus Monuments is also featured in *Discovery* July 2016.

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

Email: lilski@ec.rr.com

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

Reflections

The July 2016 *Reflections* features



ESPER's participation in the World Stamp Show NY2016. In addition to holding several meetings, Black Heritage stamp designer Jerry Pinkey also made a presentation at the show.

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were also interviewed for *Atlas Obscura* about ESPER's efforts to promote stamp collecting and make the hobby more inclusive. The article can be found at www.atlasobscura.com.

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

Web: www.esperstamps.org

Europa Study Unit

Europa News

Six illustrated pages of new issues for this year's Europa 2016 "Ecology in Europe - Think Green" theme appear in this issue.



The late Steve Luster's monograph of the 1958 Europa Stamps is continued, with part six.

There also five additional pages of Europa new issues in the July-August 2016 *Europa News*.

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Email: tvanloij@gmail.com

Website: www.europastudyunit.org

Gems, Minerals and Jewelry Study Unit

Philagems International

Josef Charrach explores silver's use and mining in "Silver Through the Ages" in the April-June 2016 *Philagems International*. This long-valued precious metal has been used to produce coins, jewelry and utensils since its discovery around 4000 BCE.



Mines in Bolivia, Mexico and Peru have produced more than 85% of the world's silver production.

Dues are \$20 in North America, and \$25 elsewhere. Contact Fred Haynes, 10 Country Club Dr, Rochester NY 14618-3720.

Email: fredmbaynes@gmail.com

or, Josef Charrach, PO Box 14, Metar, 85025, Israel

Email: jcharrach@gmail.com

Judaica Thematic Society

Judaica News

Several countries have recently issued Star Trek stamps showing both William

Shatner and Leonard Nimoy. Both actors are Jewish. Nimoy's "Live Long and Prosper" hand gesture comes



from Birkat Ha-Kohaneem, which is a religious blessing. The Vulcan salute appears on one of the Star Trek stamps issued by the United States in September 2016.

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

Email: judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net

Lighthouse Stamp Society

The Philatelic Beacon

In the September-October 2016



The Philatelic Beacon Paul Longcrier shares the history of "The Volga-Don Canal Lighthouse." The Lighthouse was built in 1953 to honor Volga sailors who fought in the Russian Revolution in 1918-19. The lighthouse was built at the entrance of the Volga-Don Canal on the Volga River.

Five fully illustrated pages of lighthouse stamp issues are also in this 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 St, Apt 106, Lakewood CO 80232.

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

Masonic Study Unit

Philatelic Freemason

Several Freemason biographies are in the September-October 2016 *Philatelic Freemason*, including one for Richard



Allen, honored by the USPS in February 2016 as part of the Black Heritage Series. Born into slavery, Allen taught himself to read and write, later becoming a pastor.

Allen was one of the founding members of African Lodge No. 459 and treasurer for the lodge.

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

Email: radpm67@gmail.com

or, Gene Fricks

Email: genefricks@comcast.net

Mathematical Study Unit Philamath

Retired teacher Kenneth Garst shows how he could have used postmarks when teaching geometry. Garst collects any covers, postcards and postal history from California.

In the April 2016 *Philamath* article, Garst uses several different postmarks to show how two postmarks in a plane could relate to one another.



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 Whiteman Blvd
Elyria OH 44035-1750

Email: possumember@yahoo.com



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

Email: montystrauss@gmail.com

Website: www.mathstamps.org

Medical Subjects Unit

Scalpel & Tongs

The Medical Subjects Unit is



currently seeking volunteers for the position of president and also for a member of the board of directors. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions.

Marilyn Ann Gendek provides biographies and service histories for Eva Gertrude Brooke and Grace Wilson in "ANZAC Nurses of World War I" in the April-June 2016 *Scalpel & Tongs*. Five pages of medical subject new stamp issues are also listed in this issue.

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

Plate Number Collectors Club

(PNC³)

Coil Line

In the September 2016 *Coil Line*,

Ron Blanks begins part one of a "Refresher Course: Look-Alikes" showing the differences between transportation coils that were printed



with Cottrell printing presses and the same design printed after Cottrell presses were retired in 1985.

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

In the April 2016 *Ice Cap News*,



Marion Rollings notes a cover she found in her collection, with Rear Admiral Byrd's home address applied by an ink stamp pad. The cover is also postmarked in December 1957, which is nine months after Byrd's death.

Associate Editor Hal Vogel explains that the Admiral's son maintained the Byrd archives after Byrd's death and serviced covers into the 1960s.

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

Email: alanwar@comcast.net

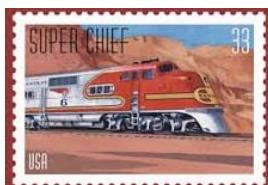
Website: www.polarphilatelists.org

Railroad Unit, Casey Jones

The Dispatcher

A report that five different countries have recently issued stamps featuring the sculptures on the facade of Grand Central

Terminal in New York City appears in *The Dispatcher* July-August 2016



issue. The sculpture, known as *The Glory of Commerce*, depicts Minerva, Mercury and Hercules, symbolizing wisdom, speed and strength.

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

Email: roymenn@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.uqp.de/cjr

Rotary on Stamps Fellowship ROS Bulletin

Four pages of Rotary stamps new issues make up the August 2016 *The ROS Bulletin*.



Solomon Islands

Stamps issued in March 2016 by Guinea show Rotarians Angela Merkel, John F. Kennedy, Neil Armstrong, Pope Francis, Paul H. Harris and Walt Disney.

Minutes for the Rotary on Stamps Annual General Meeting, held May 31, 2016, are also provided.

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

Email: gfitz@suddenlink.net

Website: www.rotaryonstamps.org

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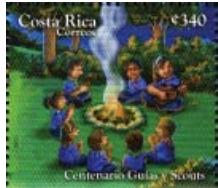
R.W. Gray
Box 353

Goffstown NH 03045

contact: RGray43645@aol.com

Scouts on Stamps Society International SOSSI Journal

In the July-August 2016 SOSSI Journal Lawrence



Clay shares recent covers with "Sanitized Mail Markings" sent to government offices. Irradiation of mail to

government offices began after letters containing anthrax were sent to the media and government offices in 2001.

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

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

Ships on Stamps Unit Watercraft Philately

Dan Rodlie shares his experiences



on a trip to Europe in "Port of Hamburg offers lots for ship buffs." Rodlie took a cruise down the Elbe River, seeing many different types of

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watercraft. Several of these ships appear on stamps and are shown in the article.

Three pages of new issues also appear in the July-August 2016 *Watercraft Philately*.

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

Email: hobbies@turbonet.com
Website: www.shipsonstamps.org

Sports Philatelists International Journal of Sports Philately

Norman Rushefsky discusses the



popularity of baseball around the world in "USA Baseball: Making 'Friends' Around the World."

Baseball was very popular in Japan in the early 20th Century, with teams from the

United States invited to play against Japanese teams in Japan. Several stamps shown in the article were issued by Japan to commemorate baseball players and professional baseball teams.

Also in the Summer 2016 *Journal of Sports Philately* is an article to help with strategies and tools in using cross-lingual searches online to help find philatelic materials and resources.

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

The June 2016 issue of *The*



Journal of United Nations Philatelists leads with an Angry Birds personalized event sheet.

U.N. Secretary

General Ban Ki-moon appointed Red from Angry Birds as the Honorary Ambassador for Green (referring to the green movement) to encourage young people around the world to begin to take action on climate change.

Dues are \$28 in the United States, \$35 in Canada and \$50 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: malaria stamps@yahoo.com

Website: www.unpi.com

Wine on Stamps Study Unit *Enophilatelica*

David Wolfersberger fills holes in his album from "An Old Want List" in *Enophilatelica* for May 2016. After finding the old want list, Wolfersberger began combing internet sites to



purchase the 26 stamps needed for his collection. There is a description for how each stamp relates to wine on stamps.

An update to the wine-on-stamps checklist appears on the last page of the journal.

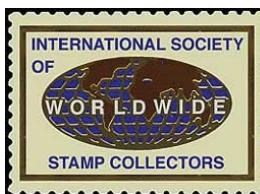
Dues are \$17 in North America, \$22 elsewhere and \$14 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Paul J. Parham, 1768 Aurora Ave N #303, Seattle WA 98109-2758.

Email: pauljparham@msn.com

Website: www.wine-on-stamps.org

Worldwide Stamp Collectors, International Society of The Circuit

The September-October 2016 issue of *The Circuit*



looks back at the ISWSC's participation in World Stamp Show NY2016. The ISWSC had a successful show, recruiting 40 new members at the society booth and also hosting a society meeting, with more than two dozen attendees. The program let philatelists know "You Can Collect the World."

The latest ISWSC mail bid sale also ran in this issue of *The Circuit*, with 361 lots for members to bid on.

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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Chapter Chatter

By Frederick C. Skvara, ATA Chapter Coordinator

New, But Familiar, Chapter Coordinator...

Sandy Strzalkowski has been reviewing the newsletters of the ATA chapters, reporting on the enclosed articles and chapter activities. Since this is my first column, I would like to emphasize, as Sandy has done, that only articles, activities and other information that relate to topical/ thematic philately will be mentioned in the "Chapter Chatter" column. Wherever possible, I will try to show a philatelic image related to something mentioned in the newsletters. Please send all chapter ATA publications to Frederick C. Skvara, M.D., 617 Country Club Rd, Bridgewater NJ 08807, or by email to: feskvvara@optonline.net

ATA Chapter No. 5, Milwaukee, Wis.

Website: wfcstamps.org/clubs/atachap5.shtml

Newsletter Editor: Robert Mather (Email: burrobob@wi.rr.com)



**50 Billion marks,
Germany 1923
(Scott 299).**

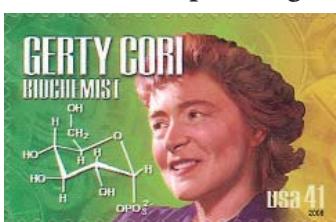
Newsletter topics: Ten postcards are depicted that commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 1898 Trans-Mississippi Exhibition that was held in Omaha, Neb. The cards reproduce the designs of the original pioneer postal cards issued in 1898 (Scott UX14) that showed, on their reverse sides, various buildings at the exhibition. A short note, "Runaway Inflation," describes the massive inflation that developed in Germany following World War I. In 1923 the cost to mail a letter from Berlin to London soared from 300 marks to 15 million marks. By the end of 1923 Germany was printing stamps at values as high as 50 billion marks.

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

Website: www.hamiltonphilatelic.org

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

Newsletter topics (August-October): At the October meeting Jeff Boyarsky presented "Vintage Halloween Postcards." One of the articles nominated by the society for the APS award honoring authors of philatelic articles in APS affiliates and clubs was Gianluigi Soldati's article "Chemistry on Stamps" that was in the November/December 2015 issue of *The Hamilton Hinge*, illustrated with a number of stamps, including the stamp showing Gerty Cori from the 2008 United States Postal Service set of four stamps honoring American Scientists.



**Gerty Cori, United States
2008 (Scott 4224).**

Need NTSS 2017 info?

Check our website or contact ATA for latest news!

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



Map of Norfolk Island, Norfolk Island 1991 (Scott 501).

Newsletter: *Philatelic Chatter*, Don Smith, editor (Email: donsmith32@atlanticbb.net)

Newsletter topics (September-October): The featured speaker at the annual banquet in September was Robert E. Lamb, who is well known to ATA members, and the recipient of the 2016 Distinguished Topical Philatelist award. The editor is calling on members to write an article about their topic for a new newsletter column, "My Topic." There is a short, illustrated article by the editor on the history of Norfolk Island and its postal emissions. Norfolk Island recently announced that it would no longer issue its own postage stamps or maintain a postal service, those duties being handled by Australia Post as of July 1, 2016. A number of recent USPS new issues are illustrated, as well as two new issues from the Czech Republic for the 2016 Olympics and Paralympics.

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

Newsletter: *Knoxville Philatelic Society News*, Tom Broadhead, editor (Email: tomwb50@aol.com)

Newsletter topics (September): Dr. Steve Snow presented "Nuclear Stuff on Stamps" at the August meeting. The 'Stamp of the Month' (actually included with the newsletter) was a 2003 Austrian definitive stamp depicting sailboats on the Wörther See in Carinthia. In "Ach du Lederhosen," Lori Williams shows the September 2015 stamp from Austria shaped like a pair of Alpine lederhosen, made of Alcantara leather and containing six Swarovski crystals. At the Nashville Stamp Show Bob Ceo exhibited *The WWII Era in France*.



Sailboats on Wörther See, Austria 2003 (Scott 1865).

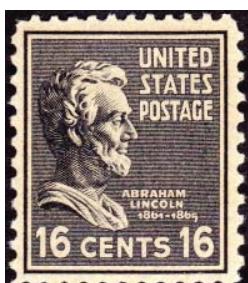
Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (ATA Chapter No. 118), Lancaster, Pa.

Website: www.lcps-stamps.org

Newsletter Editor: Paul Petersen (Email: pcpetersen@comcast.net)

Newsletter topics (July): Several U.S. flag stamps are illustrated by the editor in "Flag Stamps at Holiday Time." (August): President Hal Klein's article, "Overrun Countries: A Second Look," gives some interesting background on the series of

stamps issued by the U.S. Post Office Department in 1943 and 1944. "Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln and the Constitution" is the subject of editor Paul Petersen's "Musings" column. Douglass met with Lincoln in 1863 to present his concerns about Negro troops serving in the Union Army. By this time Douglass had come to the conclusion that the *Constitution*, as well as the *Declaration of Independence*, did not support slavery, a reversal of his earlier belief. The column is illustrated with the 16¢ Lincoln stamp from the U.S. 1938 Presidential Series and two stamps showing Frederick Douglass – the 25¢ stamp from the Prominent Americans Series and the 32¢ stamp from the 1995 Civil War pane. (September): The editor is



Abraham Lincoln, United States 1938 (Scott 821).



Der Leipziger Messe, Germany 1948 (Scott 583).

looking for the smallest of topical collections and asks if the 1962 Netherlands stamp (Scott 391) depicting the dial of a rotary telephone is the first to show that topic and is it unique? The editor's September "Musings" column, "Der Leipziger Messe, Philately and the Internet," looks at the history of the Leipzig Trade Fair (Der Leipziger Messe) and illustrates the column with three stamps issued by Germany in 1947 and 1948. Using the Internet for his research, he notes that more than 150 stamps have been issued for the Der Leipzig Messe. Although initially a market for the sale of goods, today the fair resembles a World's Fair and attracts exhibitors and events from well beyond Germany.

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

Newsletter: *Stamping Around*, Peter Elias, editor (Email: editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com)



**Dachshund, G.B.
Guernsey 2001
(Scott 741).**

Newsletter topics (August): Bob Weidman's article, "Surfing," is illustrated with a U.S. stamp showing surfing (Scott 4415). In "Carvings of Samoa Legends," Karen Cartier tells the stories behind the two 1971 Samoan stamps honoring Samoan folk tales that she shows in the article. The stamps depict the six-foot-tall teak log carvings – of the legends – created by Sven Orquist, a leper at Samoa's Moto'otua Hospital at Apia, a seaport in Western Samoa. In "Dachshunds," Pat and Bob Weidman give a short history of the breed and mention the ones they have adopted over the years. The 'Stamp of the Month' feature illustrates two stamps from Great Britain and Tristan Da Cunha depicting Rowland Hill. (September): "The Flying Trunk," by Karen Cartier condenses a tale by Hans Christian Andersen and is illustrated by a wonderful

image from a Danish aerogram. Karen, as many ATA members know, has a deep interest in folk tales and has authored several books on the subject. The 'Stamp of the Month' gives a short history of the Italian poet Dante Alighieri, some of the stamps that have honored him and shows the 5¢ U.S. stamp issued in 1965 commemorating the 700th anniversary of his birth.

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

Website: milwaukeephilatelic.org

Newsletter: *Milwaukee Philatelist*, Jonathan Kumbera, editor

Newsletter topics (September): In "USPS Goes Where No One Has Gone Before (Sort Of)," the editor illustrates and describes each of the designs in the recent set of four stamps celebrating the 50th anniversary of the original *Star Trek* television series.

Star Trek, United States 2016, Scott 5132.





**Albert Einstein,
United States 1979
(Scott 1774).**

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

Newsletter: *On Cover*, Kurt Romig, editor
(Email: mcscc442@yahoo.com)

Newsletter topics (August): Illustrated are the U.S. 2016 stamp booklet "Pets," as well as the Diwali stamp celebrating the Hindu festival. Member Al Raddi collects Einstein and shows a 1979 first-day cover of the U.S. stamp commemorating the centenary of Einstein's birth. The cover is signed by Bradbury Thompson, the stamp's designer. An interesting cover showing two jousting knights with the words "King Arthur's Tournament" was shown by a member who has a topical collection of "Prince Valiant in the Days of King Arthur."

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

Website: www.rpastamps.org

Newsletter: *Hinges & Tongs*, Fred Haynes, editor (Email: fredmbaynes55@gmail.com)



**Amethyst, United
States 1974 (Scott 943).**

Newsletter topics (August-September): The article "Summer Collecting: Pierre de Coubertin," by Carl Miller, gives a brief history of de Coubertin and shows several stamps issued in his honor. Also shown is an FDC of a recent Spanish stamp commemorating the 122 anniversary of the 1894 Congress of Sports, where he promoted the rebirth of Olympic competition. Two years later, in 1896, the first modern Olympic Games were held in Athens, Greece. Editor Fred Haynes describes a summer trip to Ontario to collect minerals for his amethyst-on-stamps collection and illustrates the article with the minerals he collected and stamps showing amethyst.

A photo of Florence Wright from the May meeting shows her holding a treasure she acquired at Ropex 2015 – an oversized poster for the 1936 U.S. Christmas Seal that shows a stylized Santa and candles. (Florence is a member of the Board of Governors of the Christmas Seal & Charity Stamp Society.)

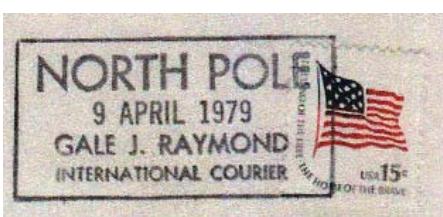
St. Petersburg Stamp Club (ATA Chapter No. 119), St. Petersburg, Fla.

Email: spstamps@gmail.com

Newsletter: *St. Petersburg Stamp Club Newsletter*

Newsletter topics (September): Mark Isaacs shows and describes a 1979 cover with a "North Pole" courier-post cancellation applied by Dr. Gale J. Raymond from the

geographic North Pole. Since the North Pole is in international waters, there is no post office located there, but as an accredited International Courier, Dr. Raymond was required to cancel the stamps on any courtesy mail he relayed with a special safehand "Courier" marking, this time additionally reading "North Pole." What a wonderful item for a polar philately collection.



Courier marking - North Pole.



Camera equipment, East Germany 1959 (Scott 425).

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

Website: www.salemstampsociety.org

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

Newsletter topics (September): At the September meeting, guest Paul Malan presented a talk titled "Photography & Stamps."

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

Newsletter: *Mayflower Minutes*, Sandy Strzalkowski, editor (Email: mywssc@msn.com)

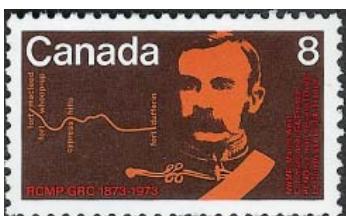
Newsletter topics (October): At the Oct. 7 meeting Alex Haimann introduced David Beech, Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) and past curator of the Philatelic Collections at the British Library. He was the keynote speaker at the grand opening event for the American Philatelic Research Library at the end of October.

Canada

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

Website: calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

Newsletter: *Calgary Philatelist*, Dale Spiers, editor



G.A. French, Royal Mounted Canadian Police Centenary, Canada 1973 (Scott 612).

Newsletter topics (August): The cover shows two of the five "Dinos of Canada" stamps issued on May 26, 2016. The editor has a wonderful article on "The Postal History of Alberta: Whiskey Traders Post Offices, Part 1," in which he notes that American whiskey traders caused a lot of problems selling 'rotgut' to the native tribes of the Canadian prairies in the middle of the 19th century. Eventually the Canadian government sent the North West Mounted Police in 1874 to establish rule of law in what is now southern Alberta and run the traders out of business.

The author describes two of the whiskey forts that had post offices – Stand Off and Fort Kipp. (October): In Part 2 he covers a third post office – Whiskey Gap. Besides photographs of the post offices, there are several illustrations of stamps including the 1973 Canadian stamp issued for the centenary of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police that shows Commissioner G.A. French and the route the North West Mounted Police took west into Alberta.

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

Newsletter: *PhilaJournal*, Susan Butler, editor (Email: sbutler@ilap.com)

Newsletter topics (Fall): Mattia Guida tells the story of "The Ghost Town of Dhanushkodi, a town at the tip of the Indian peninsula closest to Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), that was completely destroyed by a cyclone Dec. 22, 1964. Tony Manson describes several event covers in "Scouts on Stamps: World Scout Conferences." In 1953 Liechtenstein issued the first philatelic item for one of these conferences, a

set of four stamps for the 14th World Scout Conference that was held in Vaduz. A postcard from that conference shows those stamps and a portrait of Prince Emanuel of Liechtenstein, who autographed the card. Also illustrated were covers from the 1963 conference on the island of Rhodes in Greece and the 1971 conference in Tokyo, Japan.

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

Website: www.britishthematic.org.uk

Newsletter: *Themescene*, Wendy Buckle, editor



Dragonfly (Anax imperator), Poland 1988 (Scott 2841).

Newsletter topics (September): Chris Wheeler's article, "The Story of the Panama Canal" is well illustrated with stamps, a number of which depict people associated with the Canal. In "Velopost: One Service-Multiple Themes," editor Wendy Buckle describes a private post operator that issues its own stamps showing bridges of the areas in which it operates. She shows several examples of those stamps. The editor traveled to New York City in May for World Stamp Show 2016 and attended the ATA annual meeting (which I also

attended) and describes Damian Läge's excellent talk, "Developing Your Story: The Key Concept of Thematic Philately." She shows a number of items from thematic exhibits of BTA members that won awards at the New York show. Neil Pierce looks at "The Dragonfly: Devil's Darning Needle," illustrating his short article with a set issued by North Vietnam in 1977 and three of the six stamps issued by Poland in 1988. The world's first commemorative stamp, an 1871 stamp from Peru, is illustrated in Ray Ireson's article, "Peruvian Railways & the World's First Commemorative Stamp." The stamp shows a steam train and was issued to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Callao-Lima Railway. Ray shows a number of other stamps from Peru that depict trains. ☐



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YOUTH IN TOPICS

MaryAnn Bowman

Teaming and Theming

Partnering with a visiting society at a stamp show to provide youth-related activities can benefit the stamp show, the visiting society and the youth/beginners who use the materials developed and provided. Last year, I wrote about the materials provided by the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, as well as materials created for the Milcopex 2015 show. (See the November-December 2015 issue of *Topical Time*.)

This year, the visiting society was France and Colonies. Again, a partnership was formed – this time with a local chapter of a national group, the Alliance Francaise. As before, a trifold display of France was created using a combination of photocopied illustrations and fact charts from children's books obtained from the public library, along with a scattering of French picture postcards.

As luck would have it, Owney, the traveling mail dog, had also been to France earlier this year and so my smaller stuffed animal version was on display along with his photo album.

I had pulled French stamps, French colony stamps and some postally used postcards, covers, and first-day covers to give away. Both an album page for just stamps from France, as well as a separate page for French colony stamps was available. Copies of these album pages can be found on the ATA website.

This year Aimée Devine created an issue of *Topical Tidbits* to accompany the visiting society. It is the first bilingual *Topical Tidbits* issue published. The

publication starts out with a series of fun facts about the country. The second page illustrates famous French people and a matching activity to recognize their achievements. In another section, two French artists are introduced as well as their style of art, with youth being

Topical Tidbits

Youth Philately Publication of the American Topical Association

October- December 2016 Volume 5 Issue 4

Editor/Creator:
Aimée Devine

French Translation:
Alissa M Webel

France

Fun Facts:

- France is named after the Franks, one of the barbarian tribes who settled there from Germany in the 5th century A.D.
- France is the largest country in Western Europe and home to 64 million citizens.
- France shares a northern border with Luxembourg and Belgium, Germany, Switzerland and Italy are to the east. Spain is to the south across the Pyrenees Mountains.
- France is the world's most popular tourist destination. There were 83 million foreign visitors in 2012.

Faits Divers

Amusants:

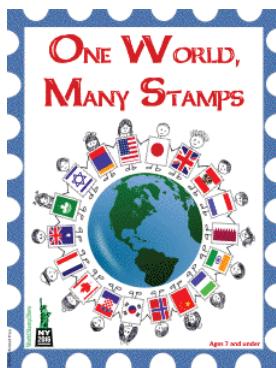
- La France porte ce nom à la suite de l'installation des Francs, l'une des tribus barbares venues de l'Allemagne au vième siècle après Jésus-Christ.
- La France est le plus grand pays d'Europe de l'Ouest, avec 64 millions d'habitants.
- La France partage une frontière avec le Luxembourg, la Belgique, l'Allemagne, la Suisse et l'Italie à l'est; avec l'Espagne au sud des Pyrénées.
- La France est la destination touristique

***The Fall 2016 issue of
Topical Tidbits was
produced as a bilingual
edition.***

challenged to create their own impressionistic or post-impressionistic masterpiece. To share the many beautiful places to visit in France, a travel bingo game was created. This issue is also available for free download at the ATA website.

Aimée did not stop there. She created three other activities to accompany the display. One was a French Colony word search. A second activity was a vocabulary matching game with one set of cards depicting French stamps with the English vocabulary word beneath and the other set of cards with the French equivalent and the French pronunciation of the word. Completing the trio of additional activities was the ever-popular fortune teller game using french numbers and colors. Special prizes, including Eiffel Tower pencils and Eiffel Tower gummy candies, were provided by Alliance Francaise. These activities are found on the website of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, youth resources pages.

New York 2016 Youth Activity Books

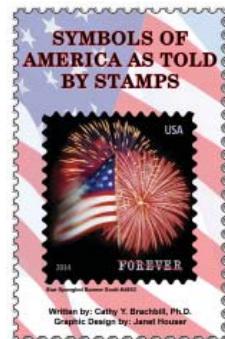


As written in my May-June 2016 column, the two activity booklets created for the international stamp show held in New York are now available for free downloads and printing. Check out the youth resources pages on the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs website for the One World, Many Stamps booklets, found here: www.wfscstamps.org>Youth/WorldStampShows.html.

Symbols of America as Told by Stamps

The American Philatelic Society has created a 24-page booklet, *Symbols of America as Told by*

Stamps, aimed at those who are in fourth through eighth grades. Another free downloadable, this publication tells the story of America's symbols as found on postage stamps, thus providing a visual history of the people and events that shaped the history of our country. The booklet is divided into chapters including informational text about the U.S. flag, National Anthem, *Pledge of Allegiance*, the Great Seal and national landmarks. The publication may be found here: <http://stamps.org/userfiles/file/education/Book/SymbolsOfAmerica.pdf>



Another APS Promotion

In anticipation of the release of a prequel to the *Harry Potter* series opening Nov. 18 in movie theaters, Van Siegling is offering to make available scans of his 128-page (eight frames) award-winning exhibit, *The Magical World of Harry Potter* to clubs willing to arrange with local theaters to display the exhibit.

Participants would need access to eight standard 16-page exhibit frames, the ability to receive .pdf copies of scanned exhibit pages and print them. Highly recommended would be club members to staff the area during prime movie times to explain the exhibit and hobby as well as offer membership applications to local and national stamp collecting organizations such as the ATA and APS.



Van Siegling reports that his efforts paid off when he placed his exhibit in a movie theater in Kalamazoo, Mich. Theater visitors became aware of the existence of a local stamp club and there was increased attendance at a local stamp show.

As we head into the new year, be thinking of ways that the ATA can help and support you with your outreach programs, whether to youth or beginning adults. If you have a successful program or activity in place, please share it with me. If you would like to see something new developed, also let me know. Do you have an idea for a future issue of *Topical Tidbits* or have a need for an album page not yet developed and published on the ATA website? Contact me. Wishing you a Happy Holiday Season! ☺

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.



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Thailand 2016, Hallfrim 2016, Odessaphilex 2016

Foreign Thematic Exhibits

Larry E. Davidson

In this column, we will review the thematic exhibits shown at Thailand 2016, Hallfrim 2016 and Odessaphilex 2016. 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.

Thailand 2016

This 32nd Asian international stamp exhibition was held in Bangkok, Thailand, Aug. 10-15, 2016, and was organized by the Philatelic Association of Thailand under the patronage of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP). The exhibition consisted of 1,200 frames from 30 member countries. Thematic exhibitors could exhibit in one of three categories – Nature, Culture or Technology.



UNITED STATES Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)	
1. Publication Title Topical Time	2. Publication Number 0040-9332
3. Issue Price-Per-copy	4. Number of Issues Published Annually 6
5. Address Information P.O. Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008	6. Advance Subscription Price \$30 US, \$45 Int'l.
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printed) Street, City, County, State, and Zip# P.O. Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008	8. Cont'd. Payment Yearly Rate
9. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printed) P.O. Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008	10. Cont'd. Payment Yearly Rate
11. Full Name and Complete Mailing Address of Publishers, Editors, and Managing Editors (Do not use initials) Publisher Name and complete mailing address: American Topical Association, PO Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008	
12. Other Name and complete mailing address: Wayne Youngblood, 4615 Lindell Blvd Apt 1102, Saint Louis, MO 63108-3720	
13. Mailing List Name and complete mailing address: (none)	
14. Owner (Do not use initials). If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation, its exact location, followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the individual or individuals who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not known, give the name and address of each individual owner. If the publication is maintained by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address: American Topical Association, Inc.	
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15. Extend and Nature of Circulation	Jul-Aug 2016
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(2) Mailed In-City Paid Subscriptions Based on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	1804
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d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	► 2158 2148
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c. Total Print Distribution (Line 1b) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 1a)	► 2566 2506
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Multi-frame Exhibits

Nature

Sitatag Juari (Indonesia)	<i>I am a Butterfly</i>	86, LV
Xinghe Li (China)	<i>Sleep</i>	82, V
Herman Joseph Handoyo (Indonesia)	<i>Legend of the Last Giant on Earth</i>	81, V
Hey Kyong Han (Korea)	<i>Children: Future of the Human Race</i>	81, V
Ayu Komariah Akasah (Indonesia)	<i>Aves: The Beautiful Creature</i>	80, V
Jianhua Ling (China)	<i>Shadows</i>	80, V
Zhaobin Xu (China)	<i>The Ocean</i>	77, LS
Ummer Farook (UAE)	<i>Mahatma Ghandi</i>	70, S

Culture

Seong Kwon Kim (Korea)	<i>German-Austrian Romantic Music in the 19th Century</i>	88, LV
Sheng Lin (China)	<i>Hats: Wearing of Decoration for the Head</i>	82, V
Avie Wijaya (Indonesia)	<i>Treasures from "The Sleepless Wolf"</i>	82, V
Albertus Djojoprawiro (Indonesia)	<i>Christmas Traditions from the Bible to Human Celebrations</i>	82, V
Yongda Li (China)	<i>Maps</i>	80, V
Yaozhong Lin (China)	<i>Football: My Love</i>	78, LS
Shakil Ahmed (India)	<i>Femme Déshabillé (Undressed Women)</i>	78, LS
Ryoji Murayama (Japan)	<i>Czeslaw Slania – The World of Engraved Stamps</i>	75, LS
Jianya Ge (China)	<i>Philately</i>	72, S

Technology

Fuwang Fan (China)	<i>Geography</i>	86, LV
Teguh Chendawan (Indonesia)	<i>Brum, Brum... I am an Automobile</i>	86, LV
Jiaxing Wang (China)	<i>First Aid</i>	83, V
Thi My Kim Nguyen (Vietnam)	<i>Alexandre Yersin: A Savior of Humanity</i>	77, LS
Rachmat Asaad Hamid (Indonesia)	<i>Bridges from Nature to Modern Structures</i>	76, LS

One-frame Exhibits

Shaoke Li (China)	<i>Leather Shoes</i>	86, LV
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Hallfrim 2016

This national stamp exhibition was held in Halmstad, Sweden, Aug. 12-14, 2016. The exhibition was organized by the Halmstad Philatelic Association (which celebrated its centenary), in cooperation with other philatelic associations in Halland. The exhibition was approved by the Swedish Philatelic Federation (SFF).

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Multi-frame Exhibits

Sofia Grönnqvist	<i>Toys and Games as Preparations for Adult Life</i>	86, LV
Göran Modén	<i>If you Lived in Jämtland (a county in Sweden)</i>	85, LV
Bertil Eriksson	<i>Hedgehogs: The Life and Times</i>	73, S

Open/Display Exhibits

Margareta von Bahr	<i>Meager Livelihood – Magnificent Luxury – An Insight</i>	
	<i>Into the History of Lace</i>	88, LV
Sofia Grönquist	<i>A Stamp turns into a Children's Book</i>	86, LV
Ann-Mari Fåhræus	<i>The Fåhræus Family Name and its Literal Complications</i>	81, V
Joel Yrlid	<i>Missions and Communications in Congo – the Swedish Mission Church Sunday School</i>	79, LS
Jan Dahlström	<i>Three Generations of Lawyers for Three Kings</i>	75, LS
Finn Nielsen	<i>Danika</i>	71, S

Odessaphilex 2016

This national stamp exhibition was held in Odessa, Ukraine, Aug. 24-28, 2016. The exhibition commemorated the 25th Anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine. In the 500 frames were exhibits from Ukraine, Germany, Poland, Belarus and Hungary. Odessaphilex received the recognition of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA) and was organized by the Association of Philatelists of Ukraine with the support of Ukrposhta, the Ukrainian State Enterprise of Posts. All exhibitors are from Ukraine except where noted otherwise.

Multi-Frame Exhibits

Ivan Leshchenko	<i>The First Steps of Modern Football</i>	94, G
Vitaliy Bankov	<i>Winter Olympic Games 1924-1968: Highlights and First Events</i>	92, G
Vitaliy Bankov	<i>Sport in Art</i>	91, G
Krzysztof Trawinsky (Poland)	<i>In the Shadow of Trees</i>	91, G
Bogdan Cymerys (Poland)	<i>Safety First on the Roads</i>	91, G
Sergey Poznahirko (Belarus)	<i>Space Mail</i>	83, V
Vasily Pruhnitsky	<i>Toads: Live Indicators of Nature</i>	76, LS
Mikkhail Gileva	<i>Man Conquers the Universe</i>	72, S
Oleg Nikolaevich Sukhinskiy	<i>The Difficult Way of the Ukrainian People to Independence</i>	71, S
Vera Olegovna Suhinskaya	<i>Polish Astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus</i>	70, S

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.

Yuriy Tyma

One-frame Exhibits*With a Name of Kobzar*

71, S

Open/Display Exhibits

Oksana Bolibrukh	<i>From the "Sokol" Movement to Olympic Victories</i>	91, G
Valery Mateev, Miroslav Faltus	<i>Pages from the History of the Creation of the Czechoslovak Army 1914-1918</i>	90, G
Evgeniy Tupchiev, Anton Tupchiev	<i>Ancient Ukraine in Ethnographic Plots of Post Miniatures of the Artist Yury Logvin</i>	80, V

Membership

New Members and Reinstatements

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Connections between ATA members, especially among those with similar collecting interests, are encouraged. The contents of the ATA Membership Listing are the property of the American Topical Association, Inc. Any commercial use, including use for mailing lists or for any other commercial purpose, is prohibited without prior written consent of the Executive Director of the Association. **This list includes new membership numbers 57589-57600 and 57651-57691 and recent reinstatements (membership through Oct. 31, 2016). Membership numbers 57601-57650 will be reserved for ATA Study Units in a new membership management system.**

57683	AGARWALA, Adhyatman	Astronomy, Space
55298	ASOKAN, Sellamuthu, 36 Brammatheertham Road, Karur, Tamil Nadu 639001 INDIA	
57672	BAJENSKI, Richard	
57673	BATHO, Beverly	
57679	BERENBAUM, May	
56051	BERGEN, Ed	
57660	BIALECKI, Robert, <i>bobsbiz2001@yahoo.com</i>	Mushrooms, Butterflies, Astronomy, Space
57662	BORN, David, <i>domarb@fastmail.cn</i>	Lighthouses, St. Kilda, General Interest
57668	BROWN, Robert, <i>cricklewood@gmail.com</i>	
53272	BUCHOLZ, Bernard	Police, Holograms
57682	BURKE, Mike, <i>mjbexport@aol.com</i>	Golf
57592	CANAVAN, Patrick, <i>patricklofan@aol.com</i>	Dinosaurs, Airplanes, Ships
57591	CARTER, Elizabeth Ward, <i>ewcmw@aol.com</i>	Pens, Pencils, Art
57596	CARTER, Richard	
57663	CHEN, Yen	
57599	COOK, Andrew, <i>ezifirefly@aol.com</i>	Bonsai, U.S. Civil War, Boy Scouts, Fire Service, Soccer, Knights of Columbus
	4408 Buchanan Ave, Baltimore MD 21211-1203	
54676	DALE, Frank	
53345	ELDRIDGE, Maurice Human Rights, Statue of Liberty, Mahatma Ghandi, Martin Luther King Jr 605 North Chester Rd, Swarthmore PA 19018-1014	
57674	DENTON, Julie	
57688	FACINELLI, Paul, <i>pfacinelli@botmail.com</i> Writers, Poets, Journalists, Shakespeare, Chess, Bridge, Mathematics	
57677	FAHRINGER, James, 3835 Ridgewood Rd, York PA 17406-7069	Lighthouses, Statue of Liberty, Local RPO



- 57686 FIELD, Lloyd, *lloyd-dharma@rogers.com*
 57690 FLOOD, Sarah
 57666 GAGERMEIER, Debi, *wapitidebigag@yahoo.com*
Dogs and Cats, Big Cats, Livestock, Steam Locomotives, Native American, Wolves and Foxes, anything small-cute-furry
 57667 GAGERMEIER, Mark, *mark.gagermeier@gmail.com*

 57684 HARGROVE-FARRES, Emily, *eb2436@aol.com*
 57689 HARM, Robert
 46169 HEDGE, Russell
 57600 HEINZ, Thomas
 57652 JANCZAK, Thomas
 57678 LINGLER, Colleen, *cjlingler@gmail.com*
 57669 LUX, D A
 57664 MORELL, Sergi
 57661 KAHL, Richard, *fucekahl482003@yahoo.com*

 57597 KUBISKE, Lisa
 57675 LOPEZ, Ricardo, *ultramontano@live.com*
 15021 Gwendolyn Dr, El Paso TX 79938-9287
 56538-DM MATHES, DeWayne
 57594 McINTOSH, Kris, *kris.mc@charter.net*
Women on U.S. Stamps, especially Susan B. Anthony ('36) and Progress of Women ('48)
 57658 MCLEOD, Kathy
 57680 MOYNIHAN, Lucy
 57691 ORTNER, Walter, *wortner@mtaonline.net*
 57687 PEARCE, Stephen, *legion10@comcast.net*
 57670 PEDRICK, Paula

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 Trains; When I find them: Butterflies
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 WWII Anniversary

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57681	PISZCZEK-KELLY, Violetta, <i>violetnecklaces@gmail.com</i>	Plants, Poland and Polonica on world stamps
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57653	POLKOWSKI, Jim, PO Box 5543, Madison WI 53705-0543	Princess Grace of Monaco, French art stamps
57676	PYATT, Julian, <i>jlpcommercial@gmail.com</i>	Princess Diana
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57593	SCHWEIGER, Elizabeth, <i>bk@fsapension.com</i>	Chickens, Farm Animals, Baseball Cards
	17304 Evna Rd, Parkton MD 21120-9733	
57659	SCULLY, Elizabeth, <i>bethscully57@gmail.com</i>	Winston Churchill, Math, Textiles, Radio
55953	SELZER, Ann	
55902	SHEYKHETOV, Boris (correction in email address), <i>boris32@sbcglobal.net</i>	Fencing
57655	ST. ONGE, John	Penal Philately
57654	STOHL, Barbara	Triangles, Armadillos, Railroads
57671	VERBSKY, Elizabeth	
57651	WARD, John	Birds, Medicine, Books
57657-FM	YAO, Carol	
57656	YAO, Jack	
57598	YINGLING, Sheri	

Deceased Members

54134 HERBERT, Barbara (Calif.)
22612-LM SPILLE, Wolfgang (N.C.)

ATA Membership Recruiters 2016

The following ATA members have recruited 106 new members through the end of October this year. Individual members have received \$5 in ATA Bucks credit for each new member recruited. We hope your name will appear here soon!

ATA Ambassadors at stamp shows shown in green.

ATA Dealer Members shown in red

New Members

Hamman, Dawn and John	27	Wieting, Amy	2
Stout, Jean	12	Balagian, Greg	1
Fisk, Allan	8	Bruce, Susan	1
Hayward, Jeffrey	8	Cartier, Ray	1
Sullivan, Joe	6	Cassidy, Jared	1
Curiale, Tony	5	Chun, Steve	1
Winnegrad, Mark H	5	Collins, Beth	1
Mather, Robert J	3	Crain, Lawrence Roy	1
Cartier, Karen	2	Denys, Jack André	1
Costa, Carol	2	Edholm, Keith	1
Davidson, Larry	2	Homel, Michael	1
Eyster, Lucy	2	Owen, John W	1
Morgenstern, Amanda	2	Ryan, Laurie	1
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Smith, Dale E	2	Stanton, Loraine	1
Thomas, Bill	2		

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

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Plan now!
ATA will hold its annual
meeting June 23, 2017.

Show Calendar

Feb. 17-19, 2017, Arizona. Aripex 2017, sponsored by the Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs, Inc., Mesa Convention Center Centennial Hall, 263 North Center Street, Building "C," Mesa, Ariz. Show hours Fri-Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-3. Exhibits, 47 dealer tables, youth area, USPS first-day ceremony, \$5 admission good for all three days. Free "Stamps in Your Attic" appraisals with paid admission. Free parking. Show also features APS "On the Road" course, *Detecting Damaged, Altered and Repaired Stamps*, Thursday 9-4. For course (\$95 APS members, \$145 for non-members), contact Janet Houser (jehouser@stamps.org). For show, Contact Kevin Lesk (480) 240-0388.
Email: aripex2017@gmail.com
Website: www.aripex.org

Feb 25-26, 2017, Ohio. Toledo (Holland), Ohio. The 93rd annual Toledo Stamp Expo, sponsored by Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo. Exhibits and Bourse, Holland Gardens, 6530 Angola Road, Holland, Ohio. Free admission and parking, 20 dealers. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3.
Contact Cliff Campbell (419) 874-6241.

Website: www.toledostampclub.org

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

March 4, 2017, Florida. Flagler Country 13th Annual Stamp & Coin Show, sponsored by Flagler County Stamp & Coin Club, Inc, Elk's Lodge No. 2709, 53 Old Kings Road, Palm Coast, Fla. Show hours are 10-3. Free parking and admission. Contact David Rosenthal (386) 437-0368.

Website: www.stampandcoinclub.com

March 4-5, 2017, Ohio. McKinley Stamp Club of Canton, 86th annual show, St. George Serbian Orthodox Society Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW, North Canton, Ohio. Show hours 10-5 Saturday, 10-4 Sunday, Free parking and admission, handicapped accessible. Food on premises, 50 frames of exhibits, 20 dealers, show cachet and cancel, USPS station.

Contact Dave Pool (330) 832-5992.

Email: lincolnway@sssnet.com

Website: www.mksc.webs.com

March 11-12, 2017, California. Frespex 2017, Veterans Memorial Building, 453 Hughes Ave., Clovis, Calif. Show hours are 10-6 Saturday, 10-4 Sunday. Free parking and admission, hourly door prizes. Contact Dick Richardson, 95 East Dovewood Ln, Fresno CA 93710 (386) 437-0368.

Email: starstamps@thegrid.net

Index to Advertisers

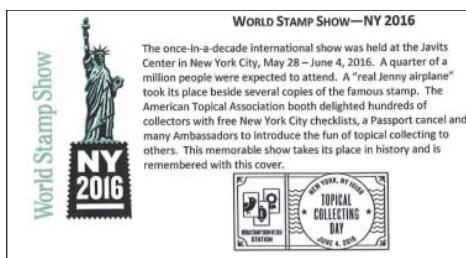
Page	Advertiser	Page	Advertiser
08	1949 Society	92	Regency-Superior Auctions
55	American Philatelic Society	80	Rising Sun Stamps
14	American First Day Cover Society	32	Stamp Connections
21	Bentley1Stamp	64	Stamp Insider
63	Champion Stamp Shop	66	<i>Stamp News</i> , Australia
70	Eastern Shore Stamp Co.	61	Stamp News Publishing
77	France International	81	Stamp Smith
02	Gartner, Christof	25	Stamp Vault
09	Gitner, Henry	71	The Tiger
69	Gray, R.W.	05	Universal Philatelic Auctions
15	Mackey, James	86	Virgin Stamps
66	Miner, R.D. Philatelics	37	Wydly.com
68	Penguins on Stamps Study Unit	52	WYstamps.com
	Philatelic Database		

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ISSN 0040-9332
USPS 633680

TIME

November-December 2016 Vol. 67, No. 6 Whole Number 400

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