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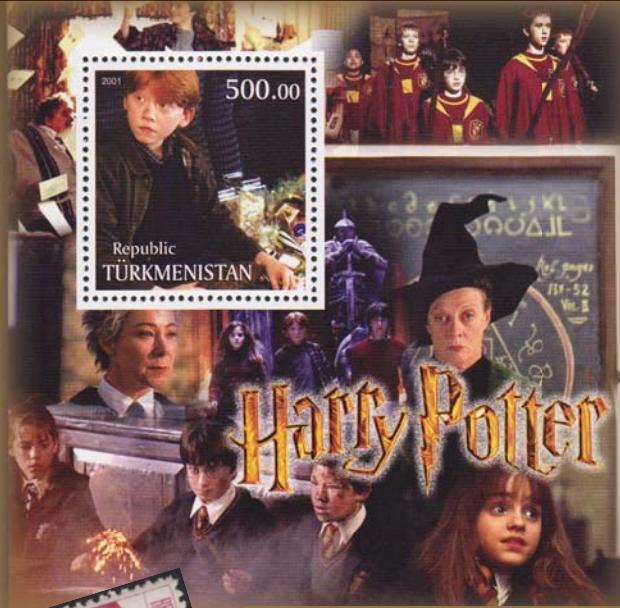
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TOPICAL TIME

Sept.-Oct. 2016

Vol. 67, No. 5

Whole Number 399



To Bee or not to Bee?

See Page 14



The Illegals

See Pages
49 and 54

...and
MUCH
more!

Journal of Thematic Philately

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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Boldly To The Future Progress (Page 10)

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35th AUCTION

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October 19 - 20, 2016 / coins & banknotes

36th AUCTION

February 9 - 10, 2017 / coins & banknotes

February 20 - 25, 2017 / philately & picture postcards

Closing date for consignments: January 3, 2017

37th AUCTION

June 16 - 17, 2017 / coins & banknotes

June 19 - 23, 2017 / philately & picture postcards

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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 ...

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

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

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

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DALE'S DIALOGUE

I have to admit something to the members of ATA. It is kind of embarrassing, but I feel that you may be in the same circumstance I am. I am somewhat of a computer novice. I never read books or magazines online. I never liked it. I rarely ever go to websites or search online. I get such work done because my helpful wife is much more technologically astute than I ever hope to be.

But I am educable. Since becoming president of ATA I realized that I had better become more knowledgeable of what this organization offers; and that includes becoming more familiar with the wonderful work that Vera and our webmaster, ATA Board Member Amanda Morgenstern (of Morgenstern Design), do for us on the website. So the last couple of days I dedicated eight hours to focus on the ATA website, www.americantopicalassn.org.

I reviewed all the services offered in blue on the left, then on the right.

At the bottom left is the Site Map. Tap this and you find an A-Z site listing of topics about collecting, ATA and many informative sites that might be interesting to you.

I was looking for the ATA Bylaws to review and, sure enough, I found the 2016 updated version in the A-Z sites.

There is a listing of archived *Topical Time* articles from 1949-2012. There I found articles written about the U.S. Pharmacy stamp issued in 1972 (shown above in my column's header). You can search for your favorite topical articles in this way also. ATA can supply you with the articles on any of the individual topics, or you can purchase the entire ATA Archive to always have all issues handy. For articles from Jan. 2013 to date, we can read electronic *Topical Time* on the ATA members-only website, www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org.

I enjoyed reading about ATA Conventions from 1950-98. Some “ancient” history that was very interesting reading. Pat Herst actually spoke at one of our meetings. I would have loved to have been there.

In the “F” section, I read Jerry Husak’s outstanding story about his “founding of ATA.”

Soon, Jeff Hayward, coordinator of our Study Units, and I will be working on how we can support, grow and enhance the Study Units. I found great information on those units on the website.

I also found a listing of historical information about ATA, press releases, past national topical stamp shows and so much more.

My company appraises stamp collections for insurance purposes, tax donations, bank trusts and lawyers who are dealing with inherited collections. I discovered the Code of Ethics for ATA members that all members are bound by. Now I can hand my clients a copy of that along with my credentials and references.

The complete lists of checklists are on the ATA website. They are listed not only alphabetically but also topically, and by Nature, Culture and Technology, with subgroups of topics under each of these.

You can order your favorite topical checklist with a form found online. There are more than 1,200 available. I immediately ordered "Stamps on Stamps" and "HIV/AIDS on Stamps" (the topics that I collect) when I found this.

Many members make additions, corrections or other changes to our existing checklists by using the template form on "Updates/Changes." With your suggestions we can continue to make the checklists more current, complete and accurate.

Then I did it. I logged in to the ATA members-only website (again, at www.ATA-BecauseYouBelong.org). As usual, I fumbled at first and had to reset my password. But I got in. Six days before I received it in the mail, I attempted for the first time to read *Topical Time* on the screen. I fumbled around, unable to read the small version presented initially. After some time I finally clicked on the icon with arrows going opposite directions. And there it was, in a larger readable format, with arrows on the left and right that I could use to turn the pages with a click. I read the whole journal with a sense of satisfaction.

Those with good computer literacy are probably laughing at me right now. But I learned something. Now I am going to explore every inch of the ATA websites.

To close, I have several little-known facts about our website. It has more than 700 pages of facts, helpful hints and philatelic information; more than 400 pages in the youth area; links to other philatelic sites; at least 121 Topical Album pages for anyone to download/print and use. They are beautiful. Also present is an introduction to stamp collecting for beginners, young and old.

The ATA websites are extensive. If you haven't used them, join me in exploring. I'll see you there! 

About ATA

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

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 previously given number. We know other philatelic organizations have received small grants recently. We need your help in accomplishing this for ATA.

Volunteers with DVD Production Skills

Have you ever been a star in the movies or television? Or even wanted to be a star? Ever produced film or DVDs for your work? We surely could use your talents here at ATA. We still have some DVDs that need modifying/updating. They

include Americana, Firemen, Maps, Music and National Parks, as well as others. Suggestions for modification have already been compiled by a volunteer team. We will pull together a committee to help with this project. Give Dale a call to see what it is all about.

TopicalsOnLine

ATA member and cachetmaker John Colasanti has donated dozens of beautiful topical covers to our organization. They are now posted at [**www.TopicalsOnLine.com**](http://www.TopicalsOnLine.com). ATA receives all the proceeds from their sale. Check it out to see whether your topic is represented! You'll certainly be adding an interesting item to your collection!

1949 Society

Charter membership in The 1949 Society is available. Please notify the ATA Office by the end of this year if you have made or are making arrangements to remember ATA in your will. See the article on Page 26 of this issue for more information.

Recent Shows and New Members

July 15-17: Minnesota Stamp Expo, Crystal, Minn. Ambassador: **Beth Collins**.

New member: 1

July 16-17: Evergreen Stamp Show, Kent, Wash. Ambassadors: **Keith Edholm, Carol Edholm**.

Aug. 4-7: APS StampShow, Portland, Ore. Ambassadors: **Jack Congrove, Larry Davidson, Eric Knapp, Ron Tabbert, Amy Wieting, Vera Felts**. New members: 19

Aug. 5-6: Merpex, Marlton, N.J. Ambassadors: **Allan Fisk, Fred Skvara**. New members: 2

Sept. 9-11: Seapex, Tukwila, Wash. Ambassadors: **Keith Edholm, Jack Congrove**.

Sept. 16-18: Milcopex, Milwaukee, Wis. Ambassadors: **Dawn Hamman, John Hamman, Frank Kos, Vera Felts**. New members: 9

Sept. 24: Waxahachie Chautauqua, Waxahachie, Texas. Ambassadors: **Ray Cartier, Karen Cartier**.

Ambassadors Will Represent ATA at These Upcoming Shows

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

You may save postage by contacting the ATA Office to request that certain items (e.g. *Topical Time* archives, handbooks, checklists, DVDs) be brought to these shows for you. **For the shows listed in green, we will have the capability to print checklists upon request.**

Oct. 6-9: ASDA National Stamp Show, New York, N.Y.

americanstampdealer.com/submenu/asda_fall_new_york_stamp_.aspx?id=486

Oct. 15-16: Cupex, Urbana, Ill. custampclub.org/cupex.shtml

Oct. 15-17: Canpex 2016, London, Ont., Canada. canpex.ca

Nov. 5-6: Aapex 2016, Ann Arbor, Mich. annarborstampclub.org

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

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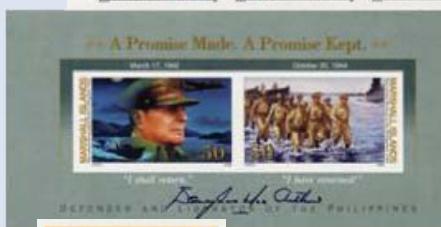
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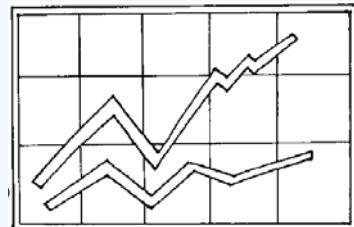
Everything for the Topical Collector!



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!

- About 110 ATA members have responded to the early summer letter/email asking for BTTF donations – a record number for mid-year contributions.
- More than 130 members have added a BTTF overage to their membership renewals, checklist orders and more.
- ATA leadership is gratified by the wonderful confidence you have demonstrated in the careful use of your membership money and donations.



YOU are part of this fine Association! You can help your ATA keep going
BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!

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. The amounts you add to your membership renewals really do add up!

2016 BTTF Goal:	\$35,000
Received or Pledged:	\$29,944 (through Aug. 31)
Still needed in 2016:	\$10,556

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. taxpayers and is acknowledged with a "tax letter" acceptable to the IRS.

Together we can continue to advance...

BOLDLY TO THE FUTURE!



VERA'S VIEWS

Member Contacts and ATA Services

One of the many pleasures I experience in my work for ATA is connecting with you. You contact our office through letters, phone calls, emails or conversations at stamp shows. You ask about resources ATA might have to help enrich the areas of collecting you are pursuing. You are virtually always “gentle” when we need to correct an error our office has made in your membership record or your order – and we gladly do just that. And, best of all, you often let me know of the difference that ATA resources are making as you extend your interests in our hobby.

Almost every week, a member comments about our checklist service:

“I had no idea it would be so helpful.”

“Where have you been all my life?”

“I wish I had known about the ATA checklists a long time ago!”

“Here are two stamp items to add to the list for my topic.”

“Could you tell me if there are any stamps for Betty Boop?” (Answer: Yes, there are 27 items in ATA’s checklist dATABse – here they are.)

Sometimes there are questions like:

“Can you send my website password again?” (Sure... here it is.)

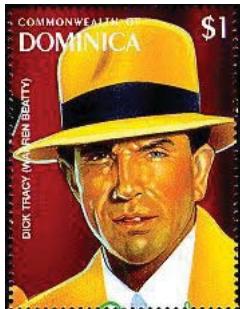
“Do you think the *Topical Time* Archive would work on my tablet or computer?” (Yes, if it has a USB port.)

“Can you help me find ____ on your website?” (Almost always, we can... or we can email the information straight to you.)

“When does my membership expire?” (That info is in minuscule print on your *Topical Time* mailing label, which you’ve probably recycled by now or else a magnifier isn’t handy. So, of course....) By the way, if your email address is on file with ATA, we are starting now to include your expiration date at the top of your *Because You Belong* newsletter.

Sometimes members let us know of new ways they are using our ATA resources. Recently, members in two different states let me know they are preparing some topical pages to exhibit at their local stamp club show. Both members are “breaking ground” in doing something different to share with others.

One member is making an interesting display depicting notable shady characters – Anne Bonney, Mary Read, Calico Jack, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg and others. It



**Warren Beatty as
Dick Tracy. Is there,
perhaps, a Bonnie &
Clyde movie-related
stamp?**

should draw lots of attention! The ATA checklist dATABase came to her aid in identifying several stamps for most of her ideas. However, a stamp for Bonnie and Clyde was elusive. Does any ATA member know of such an item? If so, please let the ATA Office know and we'll pass the information along (and add it to our checklist dATABase).

The other member was looking for album pages on various topics; he wanted to mount colorful stamps from many different topics to display at his local club show to demonstrate the diversity of topical collecting. I think he was delighted to learn that ATA has 121 different topical album pages on our website, developed by member Aimée Devine. Anyone can print them out, free of charge. Mounting a few stamps on one of the pages would



Hot Air Balloons

The top area of one of the 121 album pages found at www.americantopicalassn.org/youth.

be a fine way for you to share your hobby with others. For instance, one or more Flowers album pages would make a great remembrance for the birthday of a gardening friend.

Do let me know how you are using ATA resources! I'd love to know of your creative ideas. ☺

ATA Mission Statement (amended June 2016)

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

☒ Encouraging the collection, research and study of topical stamps and related material.

☒ Providing for the exchange of ideas among members worldwide.

☒ Developing, publishing and promoting books, checklists and multi-media programs.

☒ Holding or participating in philatelic exhibitions.

☒ Assisting members to acquire and dispose of collections.



WAYNE'S IMPRESSIONS

Moving forward, new adventures ahead

I first would like to apologize for the more-than-apparent tardiness of this issue. A number of show-, professional- and personal-related issues converged at one time, keeping me away from the desk for long periods of time. We look to make up considerable time with the next issue and, hopefully, be on track effective with the January-February issue. For the same reasons, there is no *Editing With Style* column in this issue.

Among of the issues I just mentioned include an interstate personal move and change of direction. Effective Nov. 1, 2016, I will once again dedicate full time to my existing free-lance activities (including *Topical Time*), adding stamp dealer, private treaty broker and professional appraiser to the list of hobby services I already offer and provide (mostly writing and editing). Concurrently, Dorothy and I will be relocating our home and business to Prairie du Sac, Wis., where we will also be closer to our growing family (including a precious granddaughter). You'll note my new business card illustrated nearby, with all my new contact information.

As a private treaty broker, I will be able to help collectors and exhibitors find difficult material, as well as help other dealers find the appropriate placement for their esoteric material. My longtime experience in other collectibles areas, including historical manuscripts, autographs, records and others will also allow me, as an appraiser, to aid estate managers value collectibles for insurance or resale purposes. And, as a stamp and postal history dealer, I will be obtaining and selling interesting and unusual philatelic material.

A philatelic website (www.wystamps.com) is currently under development, but will soon be available to help collectors more thoroughly enjoy their hobby through education, entertainment and the availability of interesting philatelic material. I can always be reached via email at wystamps@gmail.com. Our new address is: Youngbloods, 705 Forest Glen Cir, Prairie du Sac WI 53578. I will also continue to receive mail at our St. Louis address through October. ☐





BACK TO BASICS

Jack André Denys

You asked...

In our recent member survey, 90% of the respondents said they would like a column for beginning-intermediate collectors in *Topical Time*. We have heard you! This is the premier column. Please make it your column by sending your questions, ideas, and comments to the ATA Office.

You asked: Should one include all stamps of a set on an album page even though some do not pertain to the topic or just the ones that do pertain?

You are free to do as you choose. Most collectors probably store or display stamps not related to their topic in another place to keep their topic separate. Incidentally, selling those unwanted stamps on www.TopicalsOnLine.com is one way to dispose of them and get them in the hands of a collector who needs them.

The following article is reprinted from *Linn's Stamp News* of April 28, 2008. It appears here with the permission of its author, William B. Hughes, and *Linn's*. The feature asks the question about the scope of a topical collection. The writer's response helps distinguish between a strictly topical collection of stamps depicting a subject and a thematic collection that branches out to include stamps related to the topic thematically, but not actually picturing it.

To Bee or not to Bee

William B. Hughes

Topical collecting allows you to combine your passion for stamps with another passion or hobby. For example, I have a friend who enjoys the hobby of beekeeping. She eventually began to collect stamps related to bees and beekeeping.

Several aspects of my friend's collection fascinate me. My observations are based on bee and beekeeping stamps, but I believe they can apply to other topics as well.

To begin, there is the question of scope. What should the collection include and what should it not include?

To me, any stamp picturing a honeybee, whether it is the main subject of the stamp or not, is included. A classic example is shown in Figure 1. The United States Postal Service issued this 25¢ coil stamp Sept. 2, 1988 (Scott 2281). It portrays Apis mellifera, the European honeybee imported to the United States by colonists.

What about a stamp that pictures a bumblebee or a carpenter bee? Beekeepers do not keep those types of bees.



Figure 1. The 1988 25¢ U.S. Honeybee stamp, Scott 2281.

The carpenter bee makes no honey. The bumblebee makes only enough for its own use. While the same is true for the honeybee, it is the art of beekeeping to induce the bee to make more honey than it needs so that excess can be harvested.

The knowledgeable bee topicalist knows that the main function of the bee is to pollinate plants. Thus, the bumblebee remains in the fold because it is a pollinator; but the carpenter bee is out because it does not pollinate.

Further afield, should stamps that picture birds whose names reflect some ties with bees, such as bee-eater, honey guide, honey-eater and honeycreeper, be included? My answer is yes.

Austria's 1988 5-shilling World Wildlife Fund stamp shown in Figure 2 features the European bee-eater (Scott 1425). The bird is shown with a beetle, not a bee, in its beak.

The inclusion of beekeeping as part of the topic adds a considerable number of stamps to the collection. Many stamps show beekeepers in their spacesuit-like togs, smokers in hand, getting ready to rob a hive of its honey.



Figure 2. The European bee-eater is shown on this block of 1988 stamps from Austria (Scott 1425).



Figure 3. The bee skep represents savings on this 1947 Finnish stamp marking the Postal Savings Bank's 60th anniversary.

A skep, an early beehive made of straw, is shown on stamps, as are modern moveable-frame beehives. The skep is a popular design element on stamps relating to banks and banking. On these designs, the skep represents the idea of storing money for the future (savings accounts) in the same manner as bees store honey.

Figure 3 shows a 1947 Finnish stamp that combines a skep with two post horns in recognition of the 60th anniversary of the Finnish Postal Savings Bank (Scott 264).

Including honey as part of the topic can be justified, but it also opens the flood gates. Think of all those Walt Disney stamps that show Winnie-the-Pooh in his endless quest for honey. One example is Anguilla's 1982 3¢ Christmas stamp (Scott 513) picturing Winnie using a balloon in a vain attempt to reach a beehive in a tree.

My friend told me that some bee stamp collectors include gingerbread because it is traditionally made with



Figure 4. An Argentine stamp from 1947 (Scott 566) shows the beeswax melting from the wings worn by Icarus.

Week commemorative (Scott 566) shown in Figure 4.

Unfortunately, Icarus did not heed his father's warning about his wings melting if he flew too close to the sun.

Most beeswax goes into the making of candles, so I guess that stamps picturing candles are fair game. But beware of candles made from other sources.

Stamps that honor people closely associated with bees or beekeeping can be included. Some examples are Carl von Linne, who gave the bee its scientific name; Gregor Mendel, who studied bee genetics; Maurice Maeterlinck, who wrote about bees; and Hippocrates, who used bee sting therapy.

All these men have been commemorated on stamps, including Sweden's von Linne stamp (Scott 296, 298), Austria's Mendel stamp (Scott 1264), Sweden's Maeterlinck stamp (Scott 909) and Greece's Hippocrates stamp (Scott 521).

But what about Napoleon? After his coronation in 1804, Napoleon used the bee as a symbol of the industry, efficiency and productivity of the Bonapartist bureaucratic and political system.

My friend says that she includes Napoleon stamps in her bee topical collection.

The same logic applies to Pope Urban VIII, a

Figure 6. This 1926 set of three stamps from 1925 (Scott 105-107) features a honeybee hieroglyph (see inset enlargement).

honey. Following this line of reasoning, the Swedish 1977 Christmas stamp (Scott 1227) showing children baking ginger snaps is acceptable, although most people might not readily understand the connection to bees or beekeeping.

If honey is acceptable then why not beeswax? In Greek mythology, Daedalus used beeswax to affix wings to himself and his son Icarus so that they could fly away from the imprisonment on the island of Crete.

Icarus is pictured on several stamps, including Argentina's 1947 Aviation



Figure 5. This Swedish stamp showing Carl von Linne was released in both sheet and coil formats (Scott 296 and 298).



member of the Barberini family whose ancestral coat of arms prominently shows three bees. A 1999 Vatican City stamp honors Pope Urban VIII (Scott 1098).

In the end, the question of scope comes down to the individual topical collector, the same as it does for stamp collectors in general.

You are free to include what you want to include. That's one of the things that makes stamp collecting such a great hobby.

Topical collectors strike me as obsessively diligent. Magnifying glass in hand, they pore over stamps looking for the slightest hint of a connection to their topic.

For example, a 1925 Egyptian stamp shows the royal symbol of the pharaoh (Scott 105-107). The symbol combines a hieroglyph of a sedge plant, representing upper Egypt, and the hieroglyph of a honey bee, representing lower Egypt.

Another discovery; there are bees on the kilt of Diana of Ephesus as portrayed on early stamps of Libya, including the 25-centesimi stamp (Scott 51) shown in Figure 7.

Some bee topicalists include just about any stamp that contains a hexagon, the geometry of a honeycomb. I understand the inclusion of a stamp showing a bee depositing nectar in a hexagonal comb, but each and every hexagon?

Some bee topical collectors sidestep the issue of relevance by referring to them as symbolic stamps.

What does that mean? A symbol is something that represents something else. But not all hexagons represent a honeycomb, so they aren't symbols and thus the stamps are not symbolic.

I hope that you do not conclude from these observations that I am critical of the topical approach to stamp collecting.

To the contrary, I admire the diligence and the thoroughness of topical collectors. But, I do hope that the bee topicalist does not include stamps honoring Friedrich August Kekule, the German chemist who worked out the hexagonal structure of bronze. ☺

After retiring from a career in chemistry, William B. Hughes has found more time to pursue collecting interests that include semipostals, airmails, German stamps and the postal history of his home state of Missouri.



Figure 7. Bees decorate the kilt of Diana of Ephesus, as portrayed on this 1924 stamp from Libya (Scott 51). The bees are found in the lowest level, near her feet, as shown on the enlargement of the base of the statue at upper right.



TOPICS ON POSTMARKS

George DeKornfeld

Never Forget: A Sept. 11, 2001, Salute

Several months ago I was contacted by fellow ATA member Allan Fisk, who I'm sure you may either know – or at least have heard of – as he is quite active in all things ATA. He suggested that an appropriate subject for this issue's column would be a review of the pictorial postmarks created over the years that recall the horrendous events that took place on Sept. 11, 2001, while honoring the many first responders who gave their all during this nightmare of a day. Allan has been a collector of this topic over the years and offered to share his covers as a reminder for us all to "Never Forget!" As a former New York City Paramedic, Allan's proposal not only hit home (I knew some of the medics who lost their lives or were injured) but it immediately became a no-brainer in terms of the selection for this issue's topic, as this year marks the 15th anniversary.

So, this time around, we have a guest writer for "Topics on Postmarks." Please take some time to reflect on those events, helped along by Allan's collection, and most important of all... Never Forget!

Never Forget – United We Stand

Allan Fisk

Around the time of the NY2016 International Stamp Show, I suggested to George and Wayne that this issue's Topics on Postmarks acknowledge that Sept. 11, 2016, will be the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the United States. These horrific events: at the two towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, the



Figure 1.

Pentagon in Virginia and the heroic action by the passengers of Flight 93 over Somerset County, Pa. – must never be forgotten.

One month after the tragic day, Oct. 11, 2001, the Marshall Islands issued a booklet (Scott 789) with two panes. One pane has six stamps, each with a quotation. The other pane has

a large stamp showing a gathering of American people of all walks of the population. The first-day postmark, Figure 1, depicts a draped American Flag. It is shown linked to Scott 789a and 789d.

The United States stamp of Oct. 24, 2001, was issued as a booklet pane of 20 (Scott 3549) and as a coil stamp (Scott 3550). It has the American flag and the words “United We Stand.” That expression became the theme for stamps issued by many countries wishing to offer their support to the United States. Figure 2 is a postmark on Scott

3549 that clearly supports the theme.

A well-done first-day postmark by the country of Georgia (Scott B14) depicts the Twin Towers. The right side of the cancel declares “America We Trust You,” Figure 3.

The unforgettable photograph taken by Thomas E. Franklin on the afternoon of Sept. 11, 2001, was used by the United States for the “Heroes of 2001” stamp (Scott B2). These next two postmarks, Figures 4 and 5, pay

Figure 4
(above).

Figure 5
(right).

tribute and show support for our nation's heroes.

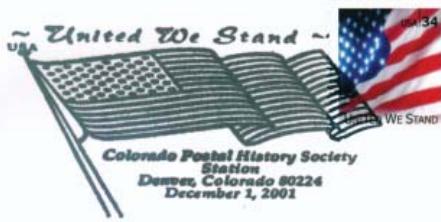


Figure 2.



Figure 3.



Figure 6 features a postmark using the zip code of the World Trade Center complex. Issued for the first anniversary of the attack, it has the Twin Towers draped by an American Flag.



Figure 7.

first-anniversary memorial service was held in the field, not too far from where the plane (Flight 93) destined for the United States Capitol in Washington D.C., was brought down by its courageous passengers.

Albania acknowledged the first anniversary with Scott 2694 and a Statue of Liberty postmark that reads “Kunder Terrorizmit” – “Against Terrorism,” Figure 9.



Figure 9.

Another first anniversary remembrance is from the James A. Farley Post Office ZIP code 10001, Figure 7. They refer to themselves as the “Old Glory Station.”

In Shanksville, Pa, Figure 8, a



Figure 8.

postmark that reads “Kunder Terrorizmit” – “Against Terrorism,” Figure 9.

A tower-like No. 11 dominates the postmark for Israel, Scott 1508; “11 September 2001,” by Michael Gross, Figure 10.

The second anniversary is remembered with postmarks from the West Side and East Side of lower Manhattan, Figures 11 and 12.

For the fifth anniversary, Figure 13, the Farley Post Office designated itself again as the Old Glory Station to remember the firefighters raising the American Flag at the World Trade Center.

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The Flight 93 Crew Monument, Figure 14, is a black granite obelisk that has the name of the seven crew members who perished. The top has a replica of the United Airlines Boeing 757-222 airplane of Flight 93. Four black granite benches surround the monument with the names of the 33 passengers.



Figure 11 (above).

Figure 12 (below).



On a hill overlooking Jerusalem, Israel built the 9/11 Living Memorial (shown on Scott 1811), as a tribute to World Trade Center victims.

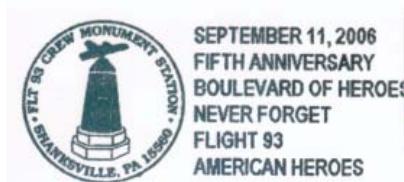


Figure 14.



Figure 10.

A three-day stamp show in New York City began on the eighth anniversary, Sept. 11, 2009. For each day a different postmark was used to honor the heroic rescuers of 9/11, as shown in Figures 15a, 15b and 15c.

Figure 16 brings us to the commissioning day for the USS *New York* LPD-21. Part of the hull was made using steel from the wreckage of the Twin Towers.



FIREMEN RAISE FLAG AT WTC • 2001

Figure 13.

The first-day postmark, Figure 17, is a silver color and shows the skylines of New York City and Jerusalem joined together.

Figure 18 shows the first phase of the Flight 93 National Memorial, a dedication featuring Vice President



Figure 15a, 15b and 15c.



Figure 16.

in designing the only 10th anniversary postmark for New York City, shown in Figure 19. Our design shows the Manhattan skyline as viewed across the harbor from Staten Island before Sept. 11, 2001. Since 2004, this is the location of "The Postcards"; the Staten Island Memorial for the victims of the WTC attacks of 2001, 1993 and one Flight 93 passenger. The cachet of the cover depicts "The Postcards."

Figure 20 features the 10th anniversary of the attack on the Pentagon.

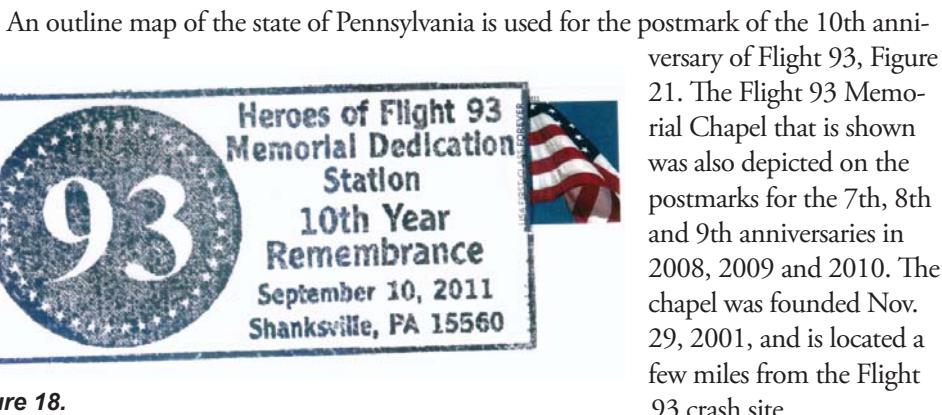


Figure 18.

Joseph Biden and former Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

Along with two other Staten Island Philatelic Society members, I was involved



Figure 17.

An outline map of the state of Pennsylvania is used for the postmark of the 10th anniversary of Flight 93, Figure 21. The Flight 93 Memorial Chapel that is shown was also depicted on the postmarks for the 7th, 8th and 9th anniversaries in 2008, 2009 and 2010. The chapel was founded Nov. 29, 2001, and is located a few miles from the Flight 93 crash site.



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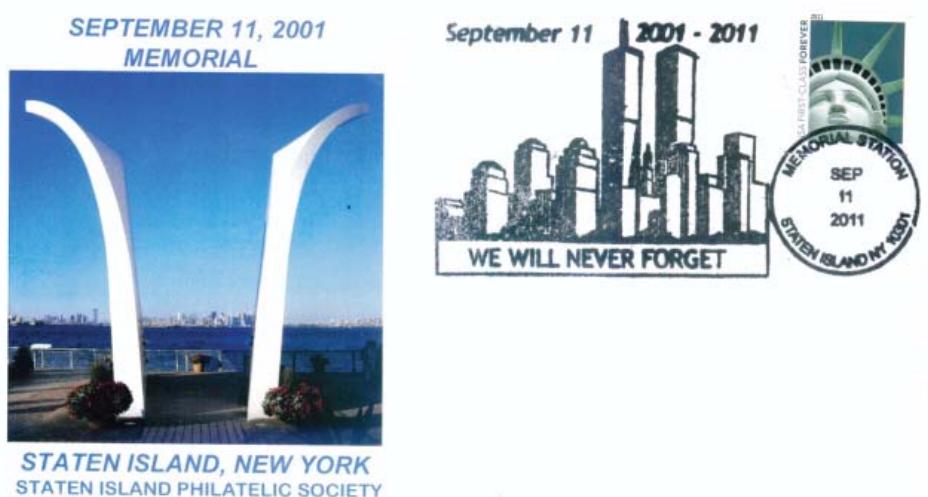


Figure 19.

The unique 10th anniversary postmark shown in Figure 22 incorporates the four tragedy locations of Sept. 11 in the design: The Twin Towers of the WTC, the Pentagon and the Flight 93 plane.

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.



Figure 20 (above left). **Figure 21 (above right).**

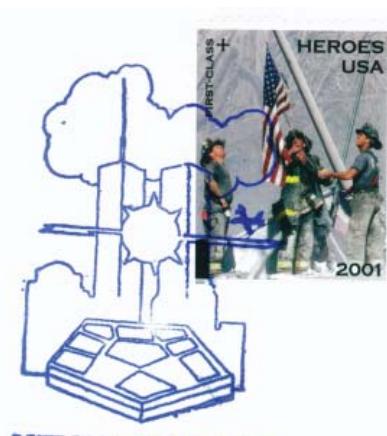
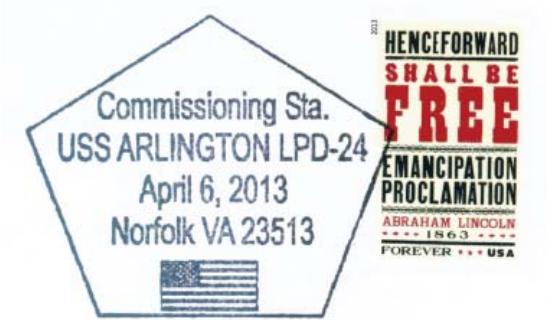


Figure 22 (left).

Figure 23 (below).

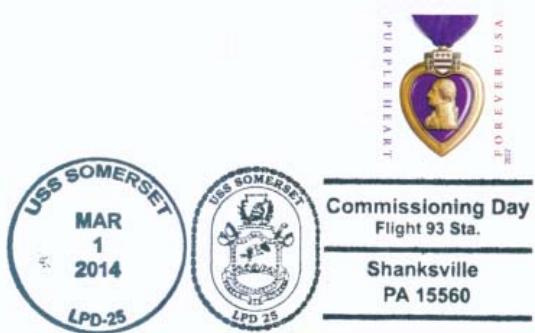
Figure 24 (bottom).



NEVER FORGET
September 11, 2011
Stamp Show Station
Omaha, NE 68107

Commissioning day for the USS *Arlington* LPD 24, Figure 23, at Norfolk, Va.

A similar postmark was released in Philadelphia where the commissioning of the USS *Somerset* LPD 25 took place. Shanksville, Pa., is located in Somerset County. Figure 24.



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This 13th Anniversary postmark, Figure 25, depicts the white marble “Wall of Names.” It is located on the flight path of Flight 93.

With George’s guidance and encouragement, I am able to present to you a sampling of postmarks. These postmarks enhance one’s knowledge of the topic and remind us all – Never Forget!

Any additional information about 9/11-related postmarks is welcomed. Please contact George at: gdekornfel@fairpoint.net or me at allanfisk76@gmail.com. 

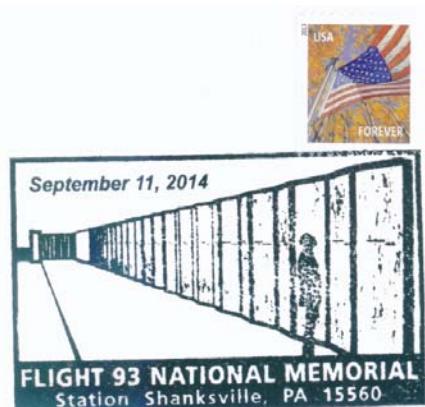


Figure 25.



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 the Awards Chair Dalene Thomas. Her contact information appears at the end of this column.

Only those shows submiting 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:

***Van Siegling**’s exhibit, *The Magical World of Harry Potter*, received the ATA First Award at Colopex.

At the **Minnesota Stamp Expo**, ***Larry Nix** was awarded the ATA First Award for his exhibit, *America’s Library: The Library of Congress*. 

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

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reaches our ATA Chapter Coordinator.**

The 1949 Society

Dawn Hamman

I did not collect stamps at all until about five years ago, when I started to attend stamp shows with my husband. I enjoyed looking at exhibits, especially

those by Phil Stager, whom I later found out is one of the best active thematic exhibitors and a long-time ATA member. After admiring his – and other – exhibits, I decided to give exhibiting a try.

I soon decided to become a topical collector and found ATA, ordered a checklist and “met” Vera Felts by phone. My husband John and I attended our first National Topical Stamp Show at Lancaster, Pa., in 2012. The ATA members welcomed us as friends, and those friendships have continued to grow.



Recently, I decided to join The 1949 Society by adding a gift to ATA in my will. The society was named for the year ATA was founded. I called my attorney, paid \$100 for a brief codicil to my will and stopped in to sign it and have it witnessed. I have specified a cash gift to ATA. My fellow ATA board member, Bob Lamb, recently pointed out that a bequest of a stamp collection is also an option, and would likely be appreciated by heirs who would be faced with the task of disposing of it. I will probably do that, as well.

In case you’re wondering, I plan to be around for quite a few more years, having fun with the many ATA members I have come to know. Membership in The 1949 Society is a wonderful way to remember and celebrate the fun of topical collecting and the many friendships we make. ☺

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Nominations for Board Members

Nominations are officially sought for ATA members to serve on our Board of Directors for 2017-19. Nominations may be made in writing by any ATA Chapter or by any five ATA members in good standing. All nominations, including a brief biographical sketch, must be received no later than Monday Oct. 31, 2016, by the ATA executive director. Those interested in making nominations are asked to contact the ATA Office for a copy of the Board of Directors job description (contact info is on Page 4).

Board members to be elected include the positions of secretary, and four directors. (A listing of current officers and directors is on page 4.)

Due to our need for staggered terms, one of the directors will have a one-year term. The secretary and three directors will have three-year terms that begin in June 2017 through June 2019.

A ballot with biographical sketches will be published in the January-February issue of *Topical Time*. Deadline for receipt of ballots is March 31, 2017. Results will be announced and the elected officers and directors will be installed at the ATA annual meeting during National Topical Stamp Show in Milwaukee, Wis., June 23, 2017. ☐

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Survey Says...

Jack André Denys

Here are some of the 24 comments about **exhibiting** in our recent survey.
Responses to each are in ***bold italics***.

- More do it yourself information. 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 the customized collections that constitute topical philately.

One of five similar suggestions. Topical Time's new column, "Encouraging Exhibiting," will deal with these questions. Members are encouraged to respond.

- Show scans of prize-winning exhibits on the website.

One of seven similar requests. The second of several listings of websites showing thematic exhibits is in this issue's "Encouraging Exhibiting" column.

- Clarify topical exhibits that will be accepted/allowed at NTSS.

Our ATA Board voted in June to include the new "Topical" category in NTSS. More info will be in the "Encouraging Exhibiting" column in the next TT.

- Have separate show divisions and competitions for thematic, display or open and postcard-class exhibits.

These classes are welcome in NTSS and are eligible for all awards.

- Encourage "fun" exhibits that would not do well competitively and not have them judged but shown to new members and visitors at NTTS.

One of two similar ideas. Our board has decided to continue to include "Free-Style" exhibits at NTSS. More info: Topical Time, March-April 2015, Page 13.

- Would like website to have judging criteria, as I understand it is different than American Philatelic Society. If there, it needs to be easier to find.

- *Topical Time* lists all these winners of awards, but I have no idea whatsoever how they got there or even what the awards mean.

Our ATA board recently revised and clarified ATA awards. See our website: americantopicalassn.org/awardsNTSS.shtml.

More excellent suggestions:

- Having one-page examples of various topical collections on display at shows in which ATA participates. Maybe we could get local attendees to provide a page to illustrate what they collect and how they display them in their albums.
- ATA Member one-page club showcase exhibits at shows.
- "I really get very little out of my ATA membership but feel it is important to support those who are topical collectors."
- "Keep honest and open with the members - that's what sets you apart from other philatelic organizations – that's what keeps members loyal."

Your comments/questions/ideas are most welcome. Contact info is on Page 4. 

Tell 'em you saw it in Topical Time!

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Encouraging Exhibiting (but not for exhibitors only!)

Jack André Denys

Online Exhibits and Book Review

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

The following exhibits (by topic) may be viewed online at the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) website: www.aape.org/exhibits.asp

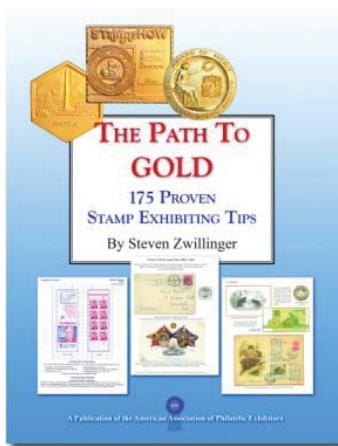
Aircraft	Fish	Pitcairn Island
Angels	Food	Prehistoric Zoo
Apple Pie	Health	Princesses
Bonsai	Horses	Ships
Bridges	Iron	Space
Cannabis	League of Nations	Steamships (2)
Chickens	Malaria (7)	United Nations (2)
Cuyahoga River	Milk	Venereal Diseases
Disney	Owls	Volkswagen
Elizabeth II	Pets	Zodiac
Europa	Pigs	

Thematic exhibit awards at World Stamp Show NY2016:
www.fipthematicphilately.org/Results/2016/NY2016resultsTH.pdf

New resource: *The Path to Gold: 175 Proven Stamp Exhibiting Tips*

Published by the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors. The AAPE website, www.aape.org, contains both a list of the tips and an order form. Prices range from \$34.95 softbound/members, to \$59.95 hardbound/non-members.

APS judge, ATA member and prolific exhibitor Steven Zwillinger has written an encyclopedic and indispensable resource on exhibiting techniques. He sums up the book this way: "I try to share exhibitor's (sic) solutions to exhibiting challenges." He does that very well, telling of his own experiences as well as the creative innovations of a multitude of others in the exhibiting community. His style is personal and conversational, often using the second person ("you"). From the first tip ("Enjoy yourself") to the last ("You can't please everybody"), Zwillinger offers suggestions,



not directions. “Your exhibit tells your story in the way you think best.” “There is no one way to prepare an exhibit.” He writes “You may wish to...” and asks “What do you think?”

The book is largely a compilation of columns Zwillinger wrote for several stamp journals during the past decade. It is profusely illustrated with exhibit pages in color.

This is not a thorough review of the book, but rather some notes about its thematic aspects.

While almost all of Zwillinger’s tips apply to thematic exhibitors, a few are particularly appropriate. In Tip 8, he writes, “If you are considering a thematic exhibit, consult Wikipedia” to see how its article on a topic is organized – and he illustrates the list of contents for the Wikipedia article on the Taj Mahal.

He recommends looking at the list of 139 major philatelic elements on the ATA’s website and wonders “how many apply to our [non-thematic] exhibiting areas.”

Occasionally, Zwillinger’s comments don’t consider the nature of thematic exhibits. He writes: “There was once a time when the picture side of a postcard was taboo in a philatelic exhibit. Not so anymore –” But according to the proposed *Manual on Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting*, postcards are still considered not appropriate for use in thematic exhibits.

And, in Tip 2 – about where to place descriptions - Zwillinger does not take into account the peculiarities of thematics, which require descriptions of both philatelic and thematic knowledge.

Among thematic exhibits mentioned in the book:

- Larry Davidson’s *Beavers: Nature’s Engineers* (also illustrated on the book’s cover)
- Van Siegling’s *The Magical World of Harry Potter*
- Janet Klug’s *Elmo Loves Stamp Collecting*
- Larry Nix’s *America’s Library – The Library of Congress*
- Phil Stager’s *Bamboo*
- Eliot Landau’s *Lincoln, Slavery and the Civil War*
- Clement Reiss’ *Sailing Races, 1662-2012*
- Roland Essig’s *A Study of S&H Green Stamps*

Included are photos of Yiping Shi and Hi-Hoon Kim, Mary Ann Owens and our own Vera Felts, as well as of award boxes made by Adam Mangold and Siegling.

The book could have benefitted from better editing. The numerous typos (I counted 17) are rather annoying and detract from this fine volume. An index in the book would also have been quite useful. (The AAPE website’s now includes a “Master Subject List.” www.aape.org/docs/MasterSubjectIndexForWeb.pdf) ☐

ATA Checklists – A Member-to-Member Service – Topical Listing Listings for August 2016

(Alphabetical and People listings are available on ATA website or by sending stamped, addressed envelope to ATA Office.)

Checklist titles are shown according to three general topics—NATURE, CULTURE and TECHNOLOGY – then subdivided within the topic. The number in parentheses after the checklist title is the number of stamp issues that appears in the checklist. The items contained in the checklists described as “misc/other” are not repeated in the related lists that follow; for instance, the Animals (misc/other) list contains stamp items not listed in the other Animals listings.

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

Costs for the checklists are:

Emailed (Excel file, or .pdf file, if requested): A penny per stamp issue. A checklist with 195 stamp listings, for example, costs \$1.95.

Mini-topics (checklists with fewer than 50 items) cost 50¢.

Maxi-topics (checklists with more than 5,000 items) cost \$50.

Mailed: Add 5¢ per page for printing (~50 items per page), plus actual postage to mail. Contact the ATA Office for assistance.

Checklist Updates: ATA members who purchase checklists from the new dATAbase (since May 1, 2014) are entitled to free updates once per year, as long as ATA membership is maintained. Contact the ATA Office for your update(s) – you may choose to receive the entire updated lists or an “update only,” containing the entries that have been added or changed since you last received the list from ATA.

NATURE

ANIMALS-LAND

- Animals (misc/other) (235)
- Endangered Species (7,340)
- Wildlife Conservation (215)
- World Wildlife Fund (853)
- Zoos / Zoology (358)

Amphibians/Reptiles

- Reptiles (misc/other) (29)
- Frogs / Toads (706)
- Crocodiles / Alligators (399)
- Dinosaurs / Fossils (3,624)
- Lizards / Geckos (1,077)
- Snakes (1,092)
- Turtles / Tortoises (677)

Domesticated Animals

- Cats, Domestic (2,283)

Cattle - Oxen - Bovine - Cows

(1,508)

Dogs (3463)

Donkeys (906)

Goats (331)

Horses (3,719)

Pigs - Hogs - Boars (538)

Rabbits / Hares (628)

Sheep - incl. Shepherds - (1,304)

Mammals

Mammals (misc/other) (278)

Anteaters - Pangolins - Sloths

(206)

Antelopes (189)

Badgers (76)

Bats (391)

Bearcats - Civets - Genets (61)

Bears (545)

Beavers (49)

Bison / Buffalo (407)

Camels / Dromedaries (735)

Cats, Wild (674)

Deer / Related (2,033)

Dogs, Wild (173)

Elephants (1,007)

Foxes (312)

Giraffes (282)

Hedgehogs (77)

Hippopotamuses (210)

Hyenas (110)

Jaguars (animal) (110)

Kangaroos / Wallabies (183)

Koalas (82)

Leopards / Ocelots (529)

Lions (967)

Lynxes (132)

Marsupials (236)
 Mice - Rats - Rodents (664)
 Pandas (185)
 Porcupines (63)
 Primates (1,619)
 Raccoons (42)
 Rhinoceros (349)
 Squirrels (201)
 Tamarins (45)
 Tapirs (61)
 Tigers (504)
 Tigers, Sabre Tooth (22)
 Weasel Family (*Mustelidae*) (375)
 Wolves (225)
 Zebras (248)

ANIMALS-AIR

Birds

Birds (misc/other) (3,881)
 Albatrosses (168)
 Anhingas / Darters (35)
 Avosets / Stilts (69)
 Bananaquits (66)
 Barbets / Toucans /
 Woodpeckers (510)
 Bee/eaters (215)
 Birds of Paradise (118)
 Bishops / Widowbirds (55)
 Blackbirds / Ravens (84)
 Boobies / Gannets (223)
 Buntings (103)
 Bustards / Korhaans (133)
 Canaries (32)
 Capercaillie / Grouse /
 Ptarmigan (145)
 Cardinals / Grosbeaks /
 Tanagers (262)
 Chats / Nightingales (88)
 Chickadees / Titmice / Tits
 (126)
 Cormorants / Shags (132)
 Cranes (388)
 Crossbill / Finches / Weavers
 (537)
 Cuckoos/Roadrunners/
 Turacos (181)
 Curlews / Whimbrels (69)
 Dollarbirds / Rollers (127)

Doves (1,557)
 Ducks / Geese (2,857)
 Fantails / Wagtails (96)
 Flamingoes (253)
 Flycatchers / Kingbirds /
 Wheatears (228)
 Francolins (31)
 Frigatebirds (152)
 Gallinules / Swampheens /
 Moorhens / Rails (209)
 Grebes (84)
 Guinea Fowl (49)
 Gulls / Kittiwakes (306)
 Herons / Egrets / Bitterns (690)
 Hoopoes (146)
 Hornbills (191)
 Hummingbirds (496)
 Ibis / Spoonbills (246)
 Jacanas (55)
 Jays / Magpies / Crows (190)
 Kingfishers / Kookaburras /
 Motmots (527)
 Larks (81)
 Loons (31)
 Martins / Swallows (171)
 Mockingbirds / Thrashers (65)
 Mynas / Starlings (153)
 Meadowlarks / Orioles /
 Blackbirds (185)
 Oystercatchers (48)
 Parrots / Cockatoos / Lories
 (1,528)
 Partridges / Quail / Pheasant
 / Tragopans (386)
 Peacocks (103)
 Pelicans (271)
 Petrels / Shearwaters (250)
 Pigeons (474)
 Pipers (43)
 Plovers / Dotterels / Killdeers /
 Lapwings (247)
 Puffins (75)
 Quetzals / Trogons (154)
 Redstarts / Warblers (270)
 Robins (116)
 Roosters / Chickens (629)
 Shrikes (173)
 Skua / Jaegers (46)

Snipes (35)
 Sparrows (133)
 Storks (349)
 Sunbirds (213)
 Swans (193)
 Swifts (33)
 Terns / Noddies (430)
 Thrushes (203)
 Tropic birds (151)
 Turkeys (64)
 Waxwings (53)
 White/Eyes (63)
 Whydahs (46)
 Wrens (76)

Birds of Prey

Birds of Prey (misc/other) (310)
 Condors (85)
 Eagles (1,357)
 Falcons / Kestrels (470)
 Hawks (281)
 Ospreys (95)
 Owls (903)
 Secretary Birds (58)
 Vultures (249)

Flightless Birds

Ostriches / Emus (142)
 Penguins (available from
 Study Unit, penguinstamps.org)

Insects/Butterflies

Insects (misc/other) (260)
 Ants / Termites (117)
 Bees / Beekeeping (748)
 Beetles (1134)
 Butterflies / Moths (9042)
 Cockroaches (14)
 Crickets (83)
 Dragonflies (391)
 Flies (161)
 Grasshoppers - Cicada -
 Locusts - Katydids (242)
 Ladybugs (167)
 Mites / Ticks (14)
 Mosquitoes (182)
 Praying Mantis (107)
 Scorpions / Centipedes (33)
 Spiders / Arachnids (187)
 Wasps / Hornets (122)

ANIMALS-WATER

- Marine Life (misc/other) (968)
- Corals (984)
- Crabs (631)
- Dolphins / Porpoises (851)
- Fish / Fishing (9,379)
- Lobsters (213)
- Manatees-Dugongs-Sea Cows (144)
- Marine Gastropods/ Nudibranchs (116)
- Narwhals (23)
- Octopus / Squid (203)
- Pearls (46)
- Sea Horses (191)
- Sea Shells (2328)
- Sea Stars (155)
- Sea Turtles
 - Green Sea Turtles (251)
 - Hawksbill Sea Turtles (187)
 - Leatherback Sea Turtles (104)
 - Loggerhead Sea Turtles (99)
 - Ridley Sea Turtles (62)
- Seals - Walrus - Sea Lions (520)
- Sharks (586)
- Shrimp / Prawns (135)
- Snails / Mollusks (177)
- Sponges (Marine) (63)
- Sting Rays / Manta Rays (291)
- Whales (1114)

MINERALS/EARTH

- Beaches / Coastlines (619)
- Bodies of Water (2,133)
- Conservation / Ecology (405)
- Diamonds (118)
- Earthquakes (57)
- Gems (209)
- Glaciers / Icebergs (178)
- Grand Canyon (USA) (24)
- Hurricanes - Cyclones -
 - Tornadoes (160)
- Minerals (971)
- Mountains (2,046)
- Mount Everest (Nepal) (52)
- Mount Fuji (Japan) (117)
- Rainbows (391)
- Snow / Snowmen (354)

Volcanoes (360)

Waterfalls / Cascades (1,207)
 Niagara Falls (USA / Canada) (23)
 Victoria Falls (Zambia) (46)

PLANTS

Agriculture / Horticulture (475)
 Botanical Gardens (463)

Flowers

- Flowers (misc/other) (5,318)
- Anemones (81)
- Anthurium (57)
- Asters (64)
- Begonias (45)
- Bellflowers (130)
- Birds-of Paradise (105)
- Black-eyed Susans (48)
- Bougainvillea (108)
- Buttercups / Clematis (88)
- Camelias (105)
- Carnations/Pinks/Jonquils (168)
- Columbines (54)
- Cornflowers (36)
- Crocus (77)
- Chrysanthemums (129)
- Cyclamens (43)
- Dahlias (83)
- Daisies (212)
- Dandelions (36)
- Edelweiss (38)
- Forget-me-nots (25)
- Frangipani (169)
- Freesias (24)
- Fuchsia (52)
- Gardenias (61)
- Gentians (114)
- Geraniums (79)
- Gesneriads (30)
- Gladiola (55)
- Heliconias (98)
- Hibiscus (594)
- Honeysuckles (26)
- Hyacinths (62)
- Hydrangeas (38)
- Impatiens (22)
- Iris (306)
- Jasmine (78)

Lantanas (25)

Lilacs (31)
 Lilies (934)
 Lotus (170)
 Magnolias (82)
 Marigolds (80)
 Morning Glories (157)
 Narcissus, Daffodils, Amaryllis (199)

Oleanders (89)

Orchids (4,849)
 Pansies (56)

Pasqueflowers (35)

Passion Flowers (82)

Peacock Flowers (19)

Pea Plants (55)

Peonies (198)

Periwinkles (61)

Plumbagos (27)

Poincianas (28)

Poinsettias (162)

Poppies (247)

Primroses (75)

Protea/Sugarbushes (62)

Rhododendron/Azaleas (218)

Roses (1616)

Snowdrops (27)

Sunflowers (192)

Thistles (105)

Trumpet Plants (127)

Tulips (270)

Violets (153)

Zinnias (30)

Other Plants/Fungi

- Bamboo (132)
- Bonsai (88)
- Cactus / Succulents (765)
- Caper Bushes (14)
- Carnivorous Plants / Fungi (168)
- Clover (56)
- Cotton (239)
- Ferns (141)
- Ginger (119)
- Grasses (77)
- Holly (53)
- Mushrooms / Fungi (3,596)
- Weeds (119)



Trees

- Trees / Forestry (4948)
- Flamboyant Tree (60)
- Palm Trees (938)
- Rubber Trees / Industry (42)

CULTURE ART

- Art (misc/other) (11,236)

Artists

- Artists (misc/other) (288)
- Audubon, John James (427)
- Bellini, Giovanni (160)
- Botticelli, Sandro (262)
- Brueghel Family (83)
- Caravaggio (100)
- Cezanne, Paul (116)
- Chagall, Marc (205)
- Correggio, Antonio da (166)
- Cranach Family (112)
- da Goya, Francisco (160)
- Da Vinci, Leonardo (254)
- Dali, Salvador (67)
- David, Jacques-Louis (87)
- Degas, Edgar (125)
- Delacroix, Eugene (160)
- Dürer, Albrecht (682)
- El Greco (142)
- Fra. Angelico (130)
- Fra. Filippo Lippi (114)
- Gauguin, Paul (179)
- Ghirlandaio, Domenico (38)
- Giorgione [da Castelfranco] (40)
- Giotto [di Bondone] (116)
- Hiroshige, Utagawa (334)
- Hokusai, Katsushika (330)
- Homer, Winslow* (15)
- Hopper, Edward* (15)
- Hundertwasser, Friedensreich (19)
- Klimt, Gustav (50)
- Manet, Edouard (87)
- Matisse, Henri (84)
- Memling, Hans (85)
- Michelangelo [Buonarotti] (300)
- Miro, Joan (81)
- Monet, Claude (133)

Murillo, Bartolome (182)

- Picasso, Pablo (613)
- Raphael (733)
- Rembrandt (577)
- Remington, Frederic (12)
- Renoir, Pierre Auguste (192)
- Rockwell, Norman (207)
- Rubens, Peter Paul (978)
- Tiepolo Family (Artists) (63)
- Tintoretto, Jacopo (60)
- Titian (386)
- Toulouse-Lautrec, Henri (132)
- van der Weyden, Rogier (85)
- Van Dyck, Anthony (342)
- Van Eyck, Jan (55)
- Van Gogh, Vincent (419)
- Velazquez, Diego (161)
- Vermeer, Jan (76)
- Wyeth Family* (23)

Decorative Arts

- Antiques (32)
- Bas-Relief Art (50)
- Candles (428)
- Ceramics / Pottery (1,186)
- Classic Grecian Pottery (129)
- Clay Cylinders of Cyrus the Great (14)
- Clocks / Timepieces (644)
- Fans (251)
- Furniture (212)
- Glass (118)
- Handicrafts (misc/other) (746)
- Hats / Helmets / Headdresses (392)
- Hummel Figurines (109)
- Jewelry (432)
- Keys (74)
- Lanterns (142)
- Masks / Face Painting (990)
- Mosaics / Tiles (450)
- Sculpture / Statues (5,144)
- Tattoos / Body Art (36)
- Umbrellas (225)
- Woodcarvings (629)

Performing Arts

- Dance (misc/other) (533)
- Ballet (348)

Folk Dance (1,295)

- Social / Modern Dance (78)
- Theater / Playwrights (1,179)

Textiles/Crafts

- Basketry / Fiber Art (232)
- Clothing / Fashion (266)
- Costumes (misc/other) (1,416)
- Costumes, Folk (668)
- Embroidery / Stitchery / Sewing (316)
- Spinning Wheels (34)
- Tapestries (232)
- Bayeux Tapestry (33)
- Textiles / Lace (381)
- Uniforms (not Military) (51)
- Weaving (197)

Visual Arts

- Cameras / Photography (736)
- Children's Drawings (1,234)
- Chinese Painters / Art (700)
- Comics / Cartoons (1,593)
- Graphic Art (51)
- Illusions / Optical Illusions (23)
- Japanese Artists (1,090)
- Landscapes / Seascapes (1,045)
- Mona Lisa (37)
- Monuments / Memorials (2,305)
- Murals / Frescos (274)
- Nudes (2970)
- Petroglyphs / Wall Paintings (349)
- Posters (440)
- Silhouettes (black) (138)

ENTERTAINMENT Amusement

- Actors / Actresses (misc/other) (2,310)
- Chaplin, Charles (67)
- Monroe, Marilyn (146)
- Balloons, Toy (152)
- Cards / Gambling / Lottery (139)
- Carnivals / Festivals (2,185)
- Chess (470) (add'l info from Study Unit, chessonstamps.org)
- Circus (397)
- Clowns (277)
- Dolls (214)

- Fireworks (218)
- Hairstyles (65)
- Hitchcock, Alfred* (30)
- Kites, Toy (173)
- Love (239)
- Magic - Magicians -
 - Ventriloquism (80)
- Marbles (30)
- Movie Industry (2,479)
- Disney, Walt and Characters (1,092)
- Walt Disney and Characters (Americana only) (832)
- (add'l info from Study Unit, disnemation.8m.com/home.htm)
- Puppets (226)
- Teddy Bears (177)
- Toys, Games / Puzzles (1025)

Food

- Food / Beverage (misc/other) (915)
- Bananas (360)
- Beer (131)
- Candy / Sweets (159)
- Chocolate - Cocoa - Cacao (152)
- Coconuts (382)
- Coffee (296)
- Coffee / Tea Services (170)
- Cooking (95)
- Fruits, Berries / Nuts (3,710)
- Gingerbread (64)
- Grains / Rice, Corn, Wheat, Other (911)
- Ice Cream (15)
- Pineapples / Bromeliads (244)
- Spices / Herbs (316)
- Sugar / Sugar Industry (419)
- Tea (104)
- Vegetables (613)
- Wine / Grapes (515)
- (add'l info from Study Unit, wine.on-stamps.org)
- World Food Day (48)

Philately/Mail

- Philately (misc/other) (1,035)
- African Postal Union (119)

- Arab Postal Union (86)
- Hill, Sir Rowland (229)
- Holograms (142)
- Intl. Year of Letter Writing (283)
- Joint Issues (334)
- Joint Issues w/ United States (28)
- Letters / Postal / Post Offices (4,138)
- Mailboxes (414)
- Magnifying Glasses (149)
- Philatelic Exhibitions /
 - Expositions (4,544)
- Scented Stamps (99)
- Shaped Stamps (other) (214)
- Round Stamps (93)
- Triangular Stamps (363)
- Stamp Day / Stamp Week (111)
- Stampic Twins (79)
- Stamps on Stamps (4,949)
- Universal Postal Union (1,397)
- Stephan, Heinrich von (UPU) (68)

GEOGRAPHY

- Arizona (95)
- Coats of Arms / Heraldry (5,159)
- Europa (2,641)
- (add'l info from Study Unit, europastudyunit.org)
- Flags (5391)
- Flags and Sports (313)
- UN/NATO Flags (688)
- Hawaii (76)
- Languages / Esperanto (204)
- Maps (5,748) (add'l info from Study Unit, mapsonstamps.com)
- Globes (1469)
- National Emblems (92)
- National Parks / Theme Parks (1,317)
- Nubian Monument /
 - Egyptology (252)
- Tennessee (107)
- Tourism (2,586)
- World Fairs / Expositions (2,280)
- World Heritage Sites (1,350)

LITERATURE

General Literature

- Books / Literature (misc/other) (1,432)
- Alphabets (238)
- Autographs (371)
- Children's Literature (677)
- Detectives (117)
- Fairy Tales / Fables / Nursery Rhymes (2,305)
- Folklore (382)
- Journalism / Newspapers (1,042)
- Libraries / Archives (403)
- Magazines (66)
- Medieval Manuscripts (137)
- Moby Dick (11)
- Mystery, Fiction (10)
- Pinocchio (22)
- Science Fiction (240)
- Winnie the Pooh (21)

Authors/Poets

- Authors (misc/other) (3,576)
- Alighieri, Dante (42)
- Andersen, Hans Christian (224)
- Carroll, Lewis (24)
- Cervantes, Miguel de / Don Quixote (89)
- Dickens, Charles (91)
- Doyle, Arthur Conan / Sherlock Holmes (31)
- Dumas, Alexandre (23)
- Eliot, T.S.* (8)
- Frank, Anne (7)
- Geisel, Tnastheodore* (9)
- Grimm Brothers (107)
- Hugo, Victor (41)
- Irving, Washington* (13)
- Kipling, Rudyard (37)
- Marti, José (48)
- Montgomery, Lucy Maud* (11)
- Perrault, Charles (19)
- Poe, Edgar Allan* (16)
- Pushkin, Aleksandr (67)
- Saint-Exupery, Antoine de (32)
- Shakespeare, William (128)
- Shaw, George Bernard (13)
- Stevenson, Robert Louis (26)



Twain, Mark (Samuel Clemens) (37)
 Verne, Jules (224)
 Voltaire (11)
 von Goethe, Johann (94)
 von Humboldt, Alexander (31)
 Poets / Poems (misc/other) (2,173)
 Byron, Lord (13)
 Von Schiller, Friedrich (48)

Mythology

Mythology (misc/other) (2,139)
 Apollo (59)
 Athena / Minerva (59)
 Ceres / Demeter (94)
 Cupid / Eros (43)
 Dracula / Vampires (26)
 Dragons (517)
 Hercules / Heracles (74)
 Mercury / Hermes (256)
 Mermaids (113)
 Monsters (66)
 Pegasus / Winged Horses (115)
 Phoenix (73)
 Unicorns (55)
 Venus / Aphrodite (182)

MUSIC

Composers

Composers (misc/other) (1,224)
 Bach, Johann Sebastian (89)
 Beethoven, Ludwig van (173)
 Chopin, Frederic (83)
 Handel, George (34)
 Liszt, Franz (48)
 Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus (193)
 Tchaikovsky, Pyotr (46)
 Verdi, Giuseppe (89)
 Wagner, Richard (58)

Genres/Musicians

Musicians / Songs (misc/other) (1,680)
 Singers / Entertainers (misc/other) (1,695)
 Armstrong, Louis (22)
 Presley, Elvis (319)
 Robeson, Paul* (7)
 Jazz / Jazz Musicians (213)

Opera (1224)
 Rock and Roll (478)

Instruments

Instruments (misc/other) (624)
 Bagpipes (137)
 Banjo Type (13)
 Bells (916)
 Brass Instruments (325)
 Clarinets (40)
 Drums (675)
 Flute / Panpipes (265)
 Guitars / Mandolins / Zithers (337)
 Harp Type (115)
 Organs / Pipe Organs (96)
 Pianos / Keyboards (229)
 Post Horns (326)
 Lutes (114)
 Lyre (48)
 Percussion (259)
 Strings (172)
 Violin Family (323)
 Woodwinds (136)
 Xylophones (45)

RELIGION

General Religion

Religion (misc/other) (1,325)
 Angels (1,249)
 Monasteries / Temples (1,569)
 Philosophy / Philosophers (367)

Religious Art (excl. Christmas/ Easter) (1,603)
 Icons (146)
 Stained Glass (677)
 Religious Housing (not churches) (68)
 Religious Documents / Texts / Bible (misc/other) (65)
 Religious Symbols (Cross, Ankh, etc.) (175)

Christianity

Biblical Subjects (678)
 Christmas / Religious Art (6,417)
 Adoration (941)
 Flight into Egypt (222)
 Holy Family (8,740)

Nativity (1,094)

Virgin and Child (770)
 Churches / Cathedrals (4,420)
 Clergy / Religious People (858)
 Crusaders (49)
 Easter / Easter Art (1,464)
 Good Samaritan (Biblical) (20)
 Jesuits / Franciscans (4,839)
 Jesus of Nazareth (7341)
 Luther, Martin (36)
 Madonnas / Virgin Mary (7,290)
 Methodists (95)
 Moses (36)
 Noah and the Ark (45)
 Pilgrims (22)
 Popes (other) (423)
 Pope Benedict XVI (188)
 Pope Francis I (68)
 Pope John Paul II (579)
 Pope Paul VI (142)
 Pope Pius XII (40)
 Reformation (10)
 Saints (other) (3,616)
 Saint George and the Dragon (74)
 Saint Joan of Arc (31)
 Saint John XXIII (66)
 Saint Joseph (1995)
 Saint Peter's Basilica (Rome) (75)
 Saint Teresa of Calcutta (136)
 Seventh Day Adventists (19)

Eastern Religions

Angkor Wat, Cambodia (19)
 Buddhism / Buddha (483)
 Islam / The Q'ur'an (242)
 Mecca / Pilgrimages (Saudi Arabia) (65)
 Mosques / Minarets (1,175)
 Pagodas (182)

Judaism

Jerusalem (94)
 Judaica (1,160)
 Wallenberg, Raoul* (24)
 Synagogues (103)

SOCIETY

Governance

Americana (misc/other) (361)
 Bicentennial (173)

Entertainment (1,460)
 Events (508)
 Flags/American (340)
 People (not Presidents) (2,168)
 Presidents/First Ladies/VP (1,808)
 Sites/American (misc/other) (513)
 Colonial Williamsburg*(12)
 Liberty Bell (USA) (53)
 Mount Rushmore (USA) (17)
 Statue of Liberty (USA) (359)
 United We Stand (9/11/2001) (26)
 Space/Americana (2,098)
 Sports/Americana (2,425)
 Transportation, Land/Americana (1,141)
 Transportation, Air and Sea/Americana (3,016)
 Banking (1,171)
 Census / Population (357)
 Coins / Currency / Banknotes (1,403)
 Education / Educators / Intl. Education Year (1,628)
 Elections / Voting (250)
 Democratic Political Party (USA) (930)
 Republican Political Party (USA) (687)
 Fire / Firefighting (1,124)
 Lifesaving (216)
 Human Rights (629)
 Civil Rights (32)
 Freedom from Hunger (326)
 Gandhi, Mahatma (India) (197)
 Holocaust (41)
 King Jr, Dr Martin Luther (USA) (109)
 Peace (1,148)
 Prisoners / Prisoners of War (POW) (102)
 Law / Lawyers / Courts (988)
 Police / Interpol / Law Enforcement (634)
 Social Security (61)

Governance-Leaders

Dictators (706)
 Hitler, Adolf (Dictator) (45)
 Politics / Politicians (misc/other) (1,247)

Presidents - United States (other) (655)

Eisenhower, Dwight D. (85)
 Jackson, Andrew (52)
 Jefferson, Thomas (119)
 Kennedy, John F. (504)
 Lincoln, Abraham (300)
 Obama, Barack (72)
 Reagan, Ronald (77)
 Roosevelt, Eleanor (US First Lady) (43)
 Roosevelt, Franklin D. (165)
 Roosevelt, Theodore (60)
 Truman, Harry S (28)
 Washington, George (466)

Presidents - Worldwide (other) (4,262)

Ataturk, Mustafa Kemal (Turkey) (158)
 Bolivar, Simon (Colombia) (251)
 de Gaulle, Charles (France) (240)
 Lenin, Nikolai [Vladimir] (Russia) (404)
 Mandela, Nelson (S. Africa) (10)
 Peron, Eva (Argentina) (11)
 San Martin, Jose de (Argentina) (87)
 Sun Yat-Sen (China) (73)

Statesmen / Diplomats (misc/other) (1,728)

Churchill, Sir Winston (Great Britain) (329)
 Franklin, Benjamin (USA) (196)
 Hamilton, Alexander (USA) (65)
 Hammarskjold, Dag (Sweden/UN) (55)

Holidays

Holidays (misc/other) (99)
 Christmas / Santa Claus and related (442)
 Nast, Thomas* (28)

Christmas Carols / Caroling (352)
 Christmas / Secular (cookies, tree, etc) (1,586)
 Greetings (702)
 Halloween (128)
 Lunar New Year (1305)
 New Years (412)
 Thanksgiving (20)

Nobel Prizes

Nobel, Alfred (Inventor) (60)
 Nobel Prize - Chemistry (363)
 Nobel Prize - Economics (23)
 Nobel Prize - Literature (677)
 Nobel Prize - Medicine (410)
 Nobel Prize - Peace (950)
 Nobel Prize - Physics (567)

Organizations

Organizations (misc/other) (36)
 European Union (125)
 Int'l. Labor Organization (179)
 Int'l. Telecommunication Union (386)
 Int'l. Year of Cooperation (130)
 Jaycees (77)
 Kiwanis Club (20)
 Lions Club Intl. (255)
 Masons / Masonic Government (8,458)
 Medals / Awards (914)
 NATO (79)

Red Cross / Red Crescent (1,921)
 Dunant, Jean-Henri - Red Cross (132)

Rotary Intl. (647) (add'l info from Study Unit,

rotaryonstamps.org)

Salvation Army (49)
 Scouts - Baden-Powell Family (210)
 Boy Scouts / Jamborees (1,699)
 Girl Scouts / Girl Guides (285)
 United Nations (excl. UN issued) (1,413)
 UNESCO (735)
 UNICEF (346)
 World Health Organization (449)



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People

African Americans (758)
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 Beauty Queens (73)
 Children
 Children in Art (639)
 Infants (1,619)
 Intl. Children's Day/Week (240)
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 Children's Sports and Activities (701)
 Hispanic People / Events (USA) (23)
 Knights (157)
 Martyrs (309)
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 Keller, Helen (Educator) (13)

Royalty

Royalty - Female (other) (1,801)
 Princess Anne (Brit.) (56)
 Princess Diana (Brit.) (649)
 Queen Elizabeth (Queen Mother, Brit.) (500)
 Queen Elizabeth II (Brit.) (3,592)
 Queen Isabella I (Span.) (80)
 Queen Victoria (Brit.) (704)
Royalty - Male (other) (2,754)
 Dukes and Lords (254)
 Emperors (355)
 Kings (other) (240)
 Belgian Kings (125)
 British Kings (other) (465)
 King Edward VII (173)
 King George V (471)
 King George VI (526)
 King Tutankhamen (Egyptian) (42)
 French Kings (170)

Italian Kings (85)
 Moroccan Kings (78)
 Romanian Kings (109)
 Spanish Kings (314)
 Thai Kings (170)
 Princes (other) (932)
 Prince Andrew (96)
 Prince Charles (265)
 Prince Philip (315)
 Prince William (280)
 Coronations (516)
 Jewelry, Royal (289)
 Roman Emperors / Empresses (158)
 Royal Visits (295)
 Royal Weddings / Anniversaries (734)

SPORTS

(also from Study Unit, sportstamps.org)
 Sports (misc/other) (607)
 Disabled Sports (294)

Individual

Archery / Crossbows (366)
 Badminton (116)
 Ballooning, Hot Air (373)
 Biathlon (202)
 Bicycles / Cycling (1,546)
 Billiards / Pool (22)
 Boating Related Sports (106)
 Bobsleds / Toboggan / Luge (425)
 Bowling (All Types) (100)
 Boxing (877)
 Ali, Muhammad (Cassius Clay) (46)
 Bullfighting (63)
 Canoes / Kayaks (1,225)
 Decathlon (69)
 Discus (396)
 Diving (450)
 Dog Sledding (109)
 Equestrian (706)
 Extreme Sports (other) (749)
 Fencing (384)
 Golf (169)
 Woods, Tiger (golfer) (5)

Gymnastics (other) (909)
 Acrobatic / Trampoline (173)
 Rhythmic Gymnastics (170)
 Hammer Throw (96)
 Handball (174)
 Heptathlon (15)
 Hiking (93)
 Horse Racing (233)
 Hunting (421)
 Hurdles (503)
 Javelin (428)
 Jumping (652)
 Martial Arts (misc/other) (50)
 Judo / Karate (377)
 Tae Kwon Do (77)
 Mountain Climbing (181)
 Parachutes / Skydiving (212)
 Pentathlon (50)
 Pole Vault (240)
 River Rafting (62)
 Rodeos (12)
 Running (misc/other) (1,674)
 Running, Marathon (124)
 Running, Relay Race (160)
 Scuba Diving / Snorkeling (552)
 Shooting Events (385)
 Shotput (201)
 Skating - Figure (379)
 Skating - Ice (251)
 Skating - Roller (26)
 Skating - Speed (336)
 Skiing - Snow (misc/other) (239)
 Alpine (misc/other) (295)
 Alpine - Downhill / Combined (261)
 Alpine – Slalom / Giant Slalom (261)
 Freestyle / Aerials / Moguls (77)
 Nordic Cross-Country / Combined (349)
 Ski Jumping (325)
 Skiing - Water (70)
 Surfing (61)
 Swimming - (misc/other) (1107)
 Table Tennis / Ping Pong (246)
 Tennis (617)
 Track / Field (317)
 Triathlon (39)

Walking Races (42)

Weightlifting (545)

Windsurfing (170)

Wrestling (567)

Olympics

Olympics (misc/other) (383)

de Coubertin, Baron Pierre (75)

Intl. Olympic Committees
(255)

Olympic Mascots (257)

Olympics - Summer - 1896-
1996 (8,530)

Olympics - Summer - 2000
and beyond (1,982)

Olympics - Winter (3,218)

Torch Bearers / Torches (692)

Team

Sport Mascots (excl.

Olympics) (238)

Baseball (567)

Basketball (810)

Beach Volleyball / Beach
Recreation (305)

Cricket (Game) (256)

Curling (34)

Football (American) (36)

Hockey, Field (192)

Hockey, Ice (444)

Polo (Land) (43)

Polo (Water) (147)

Rowing / Sculling (386)

Rugby (144)

Sailboat Racing / America's
Cup (224)

Sepak Takraw (5)

Soccer / World Cup (3,248)

Soccer Goalkeepers (71)

Swimming - Synchronized (31)

Volleyball (501)

TECHNOLOGY ARCHITECTURE

Architecture / Architects
(misc/other) (1,640)

Wright, Frank Lloyd* (11)

World Landmarks (misc/
other) (212)

Buildings

Architecture (misc/other) (268)

Castles / Palaces (3569)

Cities (17,055)

New York City, USA (356)

Venice, Italy (64)

Forts / Fortresses (828)

Hotels / Inns (507)

Lighthouses (2,282)

Museums / Natural History

Museums (1,777)

Sydney Opera House,

Australia (30)

Taj Mahal, India (35)

Universities / Colleges (2,131)

Windmills / Watermills (320)

Structures

Big Ben, London (31)

Bridges (3042)

Golden Gate Bridge, USA (25)

Dams / Hydroelectric (679)

Eiffel Tower, France (117)

Fountains (323)

Great Wall of China (65)

Machu Picchu, Peru (34)

Pyramids / Sphinx, Egypt (91)

Tunnels (102)

EXPLORATION

Explorers / Exploration
(misc/other) (1476)

Cabot, John (7)

Cartier, Jacques (31)

Columbus, Christopher (710)

Cook, Captain James (301)
(add'l info from Study Unit,
captaincooksociety.com)

da Gama, Vasco (165)

Discovery of America (594)

Drake, Sir Francis (45)

Henry the Navigator (37)

Lewis and Clark Expedition
(14)

Pocahontas (8)

Polar Regions / Arctic /
Antarctic (668)

Raleigh, Sir Walter (9)

Vikings (94)

INDUSTRY

Blacksmiths (182)

Cement Factories (36)

Farm Equipment / Farming
(635)

Fertilizer Plants (33)

Iron Industry (53)

Mining / Miners (636)

Mining, Coal (130)

Oil / Gas Industry (763)

Refineries / Chemical Plants
(278)

Salt Mining / Desalination (39)

Steel Industry (359)

Surveying (142)

Welders (38)

MEDICINE

Medical (misc/other) (904)

Ambulances (169)

Breast Feeding (313)

Caduceus (92)

Death (2260)

Skeletons / Skulls (46)

Dentistry (122)

Disabilities / Intl. Year of
Disabled (786)

Diseases (misc/other) (36)

AIDS / HIV (283)

Alcohol / Anti-Alcohol /
Temperance (60)

Cancer (180)

Diabetes (48)

Leprosy (116)

Malaria / Anti-Malaria (224)

Polio / Anti-Polio (99)

Smallpox (38)

Tuberculosis (477)

Yellow Fever (11)

Doctors / Physicians /

Researchers (misc/other) (1,525)

Avicenna (Greek physician) (41)

Curie, Marie and Pierre (125)

Fleming, Sir Alexander (58)

Koch, Dr Robert (107)

Pasteur, Louis (80)

Rizal, Dr José (82)

Roentgen, Wilhelm (37)

Schweitzer, Dr Albert (114)
 Drug Abuse / Anti-Drug (165)
 Elderly / Geriatrics (177)
 Health / Fitness (118)
 Hospital Ships (75)
 Hospitals (480)

Human Body

- Blood (230)
- DNA / RNA (54)
- Ears / Deafness (203)
- Eyes (161)
- Blindness / Ophthalmology (461)
- Braille, Louis / Braille Alphabet (121)
- Fingerprints / Footprints (29)
- Hands (2,221)
- Hearts / Cardiology (1041)
- Organ Donation / Transplants (43)
- Medicinal Plants (1,369)
- Mental Health / Psychology / Psychiatry (82)
- Nursing / Nurses (misc/other) (808)
- Nightingale, Florence (22)
- Pharmacy / Medications (428)
- Radiology / X-Rays (93)
- Rehabilitation (43)
- Smoking / Anti-Smoking / Tobacco (505)
- Veterinary Medicine (82)

MILITARY

- Military (misc/other) (3,616)
- Air Force (87)
- Army - Infantry - Militia - Soldiers (1,011)
- Bonaparte, Napoléon (167)
- Military Bomber Planes (572)
- Military Cargo Planes (530)
- Military Fighter Planes (1,250)
- Military Surveillance Planes (114)
- Military Tanks (252)
- Military Uniforms (579)
- Navy - Coast Guard - Marines (272)
- Basilone, John* (8)

Naval Battles (24)
 Navy Admirals (357)
 Refugees / World Refugee Year (292)
 Swastikas (23)
 Warriors (41)
 Warships / Related (621)
 War / Revolutions (misc/other) (2,216)
 American Revolutionary War (220)
 American Civil War (291)
 October Revolution (Russia) (158)
 World War I (253)
 World War II (misc/other) (1,595)
 Enigma Code* (26)
 Battle of the Bulge (11)
 Pearl Harbor (27)
 Transp. - Air, Land, Water (1392)

Weapons

Weapons (misc/other) (152)
 Bows / Arrows (excl. Archery) (319)
 Cannon / Artillery (116)
 Firearms / Handguns / Pistols / Rifles (262)
 Harpoons / Lances / Spears (44)
 Swords / Knives (265)

SCIENCE

Scientists / Sciences (misc/other) (567)

Applied

Abacus (28)
 Communications (1,259)
 Computers (346)
 Electricity / Energy (439)
 Electronic Devices (23)
 Engineering (385)
 Information Society / Internet (99)
 Inventors / Inventions (misc/other) (1,217)
 Bell, Alexander Graham (109)
 Edison, Thomas Alva (28)

Mathematics / Mathematicians (2,304) (add'l info from Study Unit, mathstamps.org)
 Newton, Sir Isaac (73)
 Metric System (210)
 Numbers / Numerals (679)
 Phonographs / Record Players (38)
 Printing / Printing Presses (281)
 Radio (694)
 Robots / Robotics (92)
 Scales / Measuring / Weights (289)
 Scientific Glassware (502)
 Telegraphs (257)
 Telephones / Cell Phones (648)
 Television (527)
 Typewriters (28)

Atmospheric/Earth

Balloons, Weather (113)
 Caves / Speleology (203)
 Climate Change (198)
 Geology / Geologists (75)
 Intl. Geophysical Year (74)
 Intl. Year of the Quiet Sun (47)
 Meteorology / Meteorologists (535) (see also Culture/ Organiz./ UN/ World Meteorology Org.)
 Weather Instruments (299)
 Weather Vanes (224)

Natural

Anthropology / Early Man (150)
 Archaeology / Underwater Archaeology (1,314)
 Aztecs / Meso-American Archaeology (22)
 Atomic Energy / Atomics (359)
 Biologists (2,614)
 Chemistry / Chemists (2,903)
 Phosphates (36)
 Darwin, Charles (237)
 Microbiology (22)
 Microscopes (278)
 Nuclear Power (1133)

Physics / Physicists (540)
 Einstein, Albert (151)
 Quantum Mechanics (30)

SPACE**Astronomy**

Astronomy / Astronomers
 (other) (1,977)
 Brahe, Tycho (13)
 Copernicus, Nicolaus (179)
 Galilei, Galileo (100)
 Kepler, Johannes (50)
 Comets (355)
 Constellations, Stars (1,691)
 Lunar / Planetary (1,102)
 Mars (planet) (357)
 Observatories (255)
 Solar System (501)
 Sun/Moon (1,114)
 Telescopes (270)
 Zodiac (124)

Space Technology

Space (misc/other) (233)
 Astronauts / Cosmonauts
 (other) (453)
 Aldrin, Jr., Edwin "Buzz" (181)
 Armstrong, Neil (218)
 Glenn, John (92)
 Space - Foreign
 Cosmonauts (506)
 Gagarin, Yuri (246)
 Tereshkova, Valentina (95)
 Foreign Manned Space
 Flights (1,188)
 Ground Space Facilities (340)
 Rockets / Missiles (780)
 Satellites (1754)
 Space People (not Astro-/
 Cosmonauts, etc.) (150)
 Space Shuttles (379)
 Space Stations (*Skylab, ISS,*
 etc.) (229)
 US Manned Space Flights (1,849)
 Apollo 11 (191)
 Gemini Flights (75)

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation (misc/other) (300)

Coaches / Carriages (403)
 Motorcycles (756)
 Stagecoaches (134)
 Traffic Safety (292)

Automotive

Automotive (misc/other)
 (3,003)
 Alfa Romeos (27)
 Audis (28)
 Auto Racing (847)
 Cadillacs (104)
 Chevrolets (excl. Corvette) (36)
 Corvettes (76)
 Ferraris / Enzo Ferrari (357)
 Fiats (61)
 Fords / Henry Ford (334)
 Jaguars (car) (51)
 Mercedes / Benz / Mercedes-Benz (365)
 Peugeots (38)
 Porsches (34)
 Renaults / Louis Renault (76)
 Rolls Royce (48)
 Trucks / Buses (747)
 Volkswagens (46)

Aviation

Airplanes (misc/other)
 (3,266)
 Aviation / Aviators (604)
 Airlines (745)
 Airports (725)
 Airships / Zeppelins (955)
 Autogiros (22)
 Bi-Planes / Tri-Planes (997)
 Commercial Planes (2,466)
 Concorde Airplane (345)
 Gliders / Hang Gliders (188)
 Helicopters (856)
 Hot Air Balloons -
 Montgolfier Bros. (78)
 Lindbergh, Charles - *Spirit of St. Louis* (136)
 Private Planes (235)
 Seaplanes (709)
 Trainer Aircraft (188)
 Wright Brothers / *Wright Flyer* (209)

X-Planes / Experimental (193)

Rail Transportation

Trains (misc/other) (2,761)
 Locomotives (2,142)
 Railroads (198)
 Steam Engines (223)
 Street Cars (72)
 Subways (81)
 Trams / Trolleys (143)

Watercraft

(add'l info from Study Unit,
shipsonstamps.org)
 Ships / Watercraft (misc/
 other) (2,815)
 Bligh, William - *HMS Bounty* (30)
 Cable Ships (67)
 Cruise / Liner Ships (441)
Titanic (69)
 Dhows (68)
 Ferry Boats (112)
 Freighters / Cargo Ships
 (443)
 Galleons (72)
 Maritime Disasters (347)
 Navigational Tools/Compass
 Rose (375)
 Nuclear Ice Breakers (65)
 Pirates (95)
 Research Ships (69)
 Row Boats / Galleys (198)
 Speed or Rescue Boats (104)
 Steamships (470)
 Submarines (306)
 Submarines, Research (50)
 Tanker Ships (81)
 Towboats / Tug Boats /
 Barges (169)
 Sailing Vessels (misc/other)
 (3,633)
 Brigantines (33)
 Caravels / Carrack Ships (73)
 Frigates (70)
 Schooners (100)
 Sloops (37)
 Whaleboats (46)

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Didn't find the topic for which you were looking? Customized checklists, produced by searching for key words, are also available.

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

The advertisement features several promotional images:

- A small image of the "U.S. STAMP NEWS" magazine cover.
- The "STAMP NEWS ONLINE" logo with the tagline "To Read them is to love them!"
- A small image of the "Mekeel's & Stamps" publication.
- The "U.S. Stamp News Monthly" logo with two pricing options: "1 year print (30 issues), \$33.50" and "1 year online \$14.50".
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- Text in red: "Or send payment to Stamp News, 42 Sentry Way, Merrimack, NH 03054 (We accept Visa, M/Card, AmerExpr., Discover)".

Lonely Onlys...

Can You “Top” These Topicals?

Mark Sommer

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

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



Left: In 2012 Italy released this stamp (Scott 3137), shown on cacheted first-day cover, commemorating its Anti-Mafia Investigation Department, begun to fight organized crime. Ironically, the anti-Mafia “business” has fallen under suspicion of beginning to resemble exactly what it is fighting.

Center left: Attractive couples aren’t new on

stamps, but the “Old Sparky” furniture in the background is. This issue from Cuba (1978, Scott C313) is likely the only electric chair depicted on a stamp. It marks the 25th anniversary of the execution of the Rosenbergs.

Below: Gibraltar’s world-famous landmark is on these stamps from 2002 – literally. The top layer of the stamps (Scott 917a-d) contains finely pulverized pieces of stone



from the
land-
mark.
Get a
piece
of the
rock!



Study Unit Spotlight

This Month: Errors, Freaks & Oddities Collectors Club

[Editor's Note: This is the 36th 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 "Preprinting Paper Creases," from The EFO Collector. 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!]

Preprinting Paper Creases

David Hunt

[Editor's Note: Although this feature focuses on a single type of EFO – one of which can be found on stamps representing virtually any topic – it points up the fact that EFOs have a valid place in any collection or exhibit, serving to educate both collectors and viewers about the artifact and revealing important production information.]



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On occasion, stamp paper gets bunched or folded over on itself before printing and/or perforating. If this crease is then opened up after printing/perforating, there will be a gap in the printed image or a discontinuity in the line of perforations. For the printing portion, this is known as a Preprinting Paper Crease or PPC. Although perforations are certainly affected with pre-printing creases, crazy perfs caused by creasing after printing (but before perforating) are the subject of a different discussion.



The paper crease may have originated during manufacture at the paper mill or it might have happened as a result of handling by the printer. Remember that printing by engraving – as U.S. stamps were for most of their history – requires that the paper be dampened before printing to better accept the ink. The additional handling may have resulted in creases, but also it may have been that paper expands when wet. This expansion is not always uniform and can result in a waviness or bowing up of the paper, which when pressed flat by the printing press can turn into creases.

You might think automation of printing presses and the increased speed at which they run would cause more PPCs but, in fact, more PPCs exist from the flat-plate printing era. The stamps I have chosen to illustrate this article are indeed from the flat-plate era. I chose examples from the First Issue U.S. Revenues because revenue stamp EFOs have not often been shown in *The EFO Collector*, and because the



A selection of preprinting paper creases found on revenue stamps.



The severity of the crease, as well as number of creases found on a single stamp, increases both the visual appeal and value of an affected stamp.

In First Issue Revenues. Although these stamps representing about as many topics locate. They have a valid place in most any



larger size of the high values makes for a more dramatic presentation of the PPCs.

There was an urgency to produce the First Issue Revenues and get them to users so the government could get revenue needed for the Civil War, so that minor printing faults, which under normal circumstances might have been destroyed, were ignored. This may mean there are more PPCs available in this issue than in other stamps, but they are still uncommon, in my experience, at least.

There are, of course, PPCs on postage stamps you can collect and there have been a few in past club auctions. Perhaps the more interesting PPCs are those on multicolor stamps. John Hotchner's essay on EFOs (see the club website www.efo.org) illustrates a block of the 8¢ American Revolution Bicentennial (Scott 1432) where the PPC affects the engraved lettering but not the litho star. The

A curved crease, such as the one demonstrated on this stamp, is highly unusual.

essay also illustrates several examples of stamps that were creased after printing but before perforating (perhaps we should call these PPCs Pre-perforating Creases, though Steven Datz's catalog uses the term Pre-production Creases to cover everything). ☐

Errors, Freaks & Oddities Collectors' Club

The Errors, Freaks and Oddities Collectors' Club (EFOCC) was founded in 1978 as a means of supporting and promoting the collecting of stamp production errors and varieties – both as its own specialty and as ancillary material to country and topical collections.

EFOCC members enjoy an award-winning full-color quarterly journal, *The EFO Collector*, edited by Cemil Betanov, who also serves as vice president and club webmaster. Wayne Youngblood serves as president. Each issue of the journal contains a members' auction, illustrated feature articles on the types and causes of U.S. and foreign EFOs, news of member activities, club services, new publications in the field and free member ads. EFOCC also has an extensive website (www.efocc.org) with a great deal of useful content, including past issues of the *EFOC* and many articles from the philatelic press over the last 40 years.

Dues are \$20 per year. Additional information and membership applications can be obtained from EFOCC Secretary Scott Shaulis, PO Box 549, Murraysville PA 15668-0549.

Save the Dates for NTSS 2017!

National Topical Stamp Show, Brewing Up Topicals, June 23-25, 2017, Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport Hotel, Milwaukee, Wis. The show will offer programs, meetings, exhibits, dealers and fun for topical collectors. Watch for more news of Brewing Up Topicals. ☐

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Brewing Up
TOPICALS

Beware the Illegal Stamps

William Silvester

Do you remember the time you bought that beautiful souvenir sheet that you thought would be perfect for your topical collection only to later discover they were not real stamps? Or the time you spent \$50 on a sheetlet from your favorite country only to find it was bogus? Or when you went to sell some recent stamps only to be told by the dealer they were illegal? Unfortunately, these scenarios are being played out more and more often as the market is being flooded with these phony stamps.

So what is happening? Why are there so many fake stamps on the market?

It started in the 1990s when the Soviet Union collapsed into a number of different autonomous states. Profiteers took advantage of the confusion to create a flood of fictitious stamps for recently independent ex-Soviet territories. As their productions became more sophisticated and grew in volume – and as their trading networks extended into the wider world – they took the next logical step of producing illegal stamps for an increasing range of real nations in the developing world, astutely selecting those that were in no position to contest this piracy.



Figure 1. Bogus Djibouti souvenir sheet is labeled “Fishes” and shows birds

It was easy, all they had to do was choose a vulnerable developing country, preoccupied with its own internal problems, where communications and legal resources were impoverished. Better still if the rule of law had evaporated, leaving no dominant central authority to check up on bogus issues. Next, float a pilot issue, and if within a few months there's no comeback, you can proceed to milk the name for all it's worth. These days, anyone with a scanner and some serious image processing software can design stamps, and copyright on the imagery stolen is not a real consideration. (Even Disney, which is well known for its fierce defence of its copyright has done little.) Print the stamps in small sheetlets or souvenir sheets, as they are much more convenient and

profitable than large sheets of single values, and leave some imperforated to sell at twice the price or more. It matters little that the Djibouti sheet is labelled ‘Fishes’ and shows birds (Figure 1). No problem that your unlikely Afghanistan sheetlet features Marilyn Monroe, even if the Taliban would never have countenanced such a thing. Before Sept. 11, 2001, no one would have noticed as they could not check on the validity of the stamps because none of them were listed in stamp catalogs yet and, by the time stamps of that year were listed, it was too late.

Before long any country that was in political turmoil became a victim of these bogus stamps. Again, they were not up to date in catalogs due to the turbulent nature of their governments and the catalog editors could not always confirm legitimate stamp issues. Angola, Benin, Comoro Islands, Congo, Djibouti, Haiti, Liberia, Mali, Malawi, Rwanda, Somalia, Timor, Tchad and states of the former Soviet Union, just to name a few of the more prevalent ones, are all victims of this practice. They are always issued in the name of an existing country or region, and they have a face value printed on them. The Scott Catalog tried combatting this scourge to philately by listing illegal stamps in their catalogs but they are unable to keep up with the deluge.

Sometimes the illegal stamps are presented by vendors as being collectibles or cinderellas or locals or labels. The problem is that because they cannot be distinguished from the real postage stamps, they are often taken for real issues by many stamp collectors, and though the first seller might make the distinction the next one might not.

So what’s the big deal? Any stamp collector who would buy them in good faith will be hoaxed and any dealer that purposely sells them is cheating his customers. The new stamp collector will probably find the truth one day and will possibly give up such an – in his eyes – ungrounded hobby. Also, not only are numerous stamp collectors being bilked but the countries fictitiously represented also suffer. The Comoro Islands issued a statement that sums it up nicely: “*The circulation of these stamps is causing moral and economic harm not only to the Comorian postal services, but also to collectors. Their circulation also discredits the Comorian postal services in the eyes of philatelists worldwide.*” Rwanda complained to UPU saying: “*The most outrageous aspect for our country and our administration is the fact that certain miniature sheets illustrate pornographic scenes. This is all the more reprehensible in as much as it is prohibited to use the Post to convey pornographic materials.*” Haiti denounced a proliferation of recent issues: “*We wish to make certain that the philatelic community realizes these colorful issues are nothing more than privately-produced gummed or ungummed labels which were never sanctioned by Haitian postal authorities.*” Malawi, which lists dozens of illegals, asks the UPU to “identify the culprits and have them prosecuted.”

Many small, third-world countries depend on revenue from postage stamps to supplement their economy. With collectors refusing to buy stamps from



Figure 2. This Illegal Comoros souvenir sheet shows a multitude of subjects and a very high denomination to attempt to justify a high price.

them due to their fear of buying illegal issues, the people will suffer along with the failing economy.

Aptly termed “Album Weeds” by writers in the late 19th Century, these modern releases bear none of the charm of the old attempts, but have the similar goal of separating collectors from their money. Most of the items seen appear to be primarily topical in nature. They are colorful, come in unused or ‘used’ condition (CTO), with a fraudulent, printed cancel purporting to be from the country whose name appears on the stamp.

So how can you tell what is real and what is fake? Oftentimes, you can’t. Sometimes, however, it is blatantly obvious. If, for example, a large number of unrelated topics are depicted on the same souvenir sheet, chances are it is an illegal issue. Legitimate issues would not show Elvis, Pope John, owls, Scout emblems and submarines on the same souvenir sheet. These are created to cheat as many topical collectors as possible with the minimum of printing costs. Take a look at Figure 2, the from Comoros Islands. It has a multitude of characters on the selvage to appeal to collectors of actors, pirates and space stamps. Another giveaway is extremely high face values that seem to justify high asking prices. (See the Comoros example again, as it has a very high denomination that none of the Comoros stamps in the Scott catalog come close to.) Often, as well, printed cancels supposedly indicating used stamps

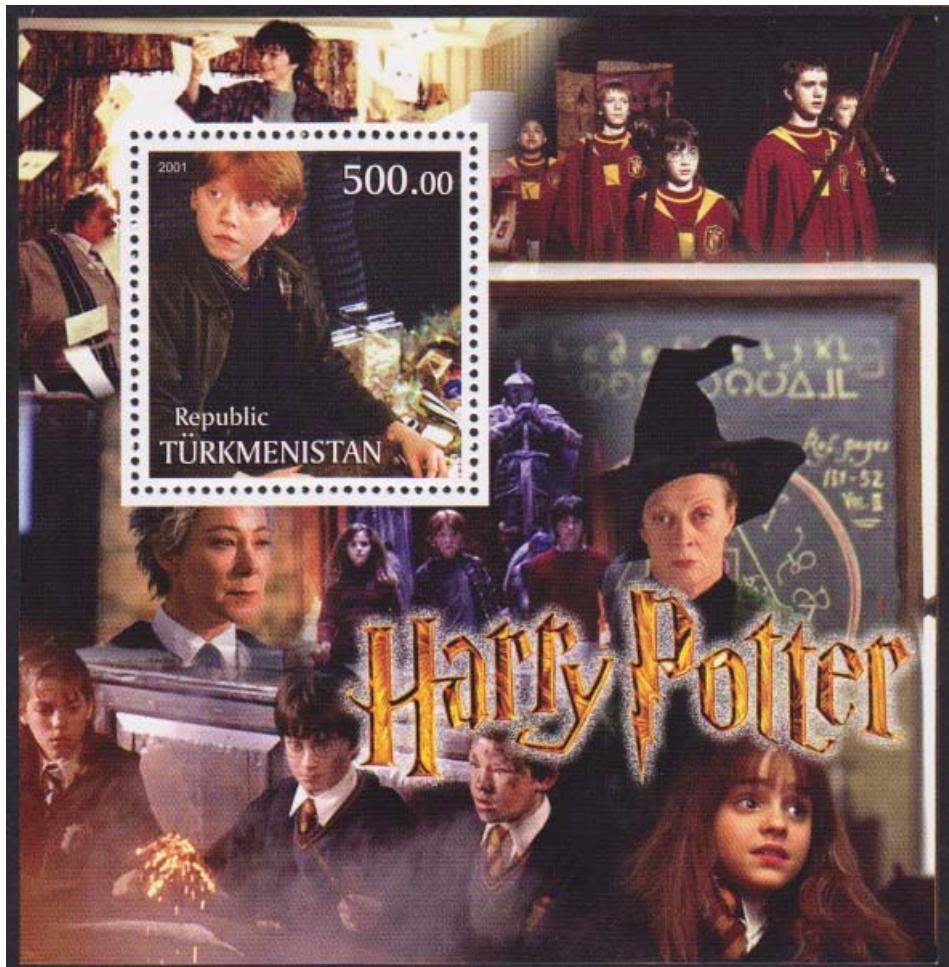


Figure 3. – Legitimate Turkmenistan stamps do not have the words ‘Republic of’ inscribed on them.

don't always have a date on them. Another indication is that licensed products, such as Disney or Warner Bros, will have their name and copyright on the stamps; illegals don't. Often, illegals have a date printed conspicuously on them, so by comparing the legitimate issues of the same date in your catalog it often becomes apparent if it is a bogus issue. Figure 3 shows a souvenir sheet supposedly from Turkmenistan but a check in a catalog will show that the word “Republic” does not appear on any legitimate Turkmenistan stamps.

Sale of illegals will stymie some collectors' interest in philately, because of the lost credibility and bad image of the hobby. This means a massive loss of casual collectors and philatelists alike, which in turn significantly reduces the number of philatelic organizations. These illegals are also insidious in that their colorful subjects (tons of them are Disney knock-offs) appeal to children who waste their money on something no reputable dealer would buy from them (or sell to them), should they wish to, thereby souring them on our hobby.

Hopefully this article demonstrates without any doubts that the illegal stamps are injurious to the image of issuing countries as well to philately as a whole, a fact that hasn't yet been sufficiently understood and publicized. This problem requires concerted action by all in the philatelic industry. Postal administrations should be able to prosecute at every opportunity. Organized philately should ensure that such material is not sold at their events and stamp publications should prohibit their being listed for sale. eBay and other auction sites should institute policies to ban these illegal items from being sold, even if listed under the title of labels or cinderellas. The trade should be able to expel members who deliberately deal in such material where laws are being broken. Philatelic journalists must keep collectors informed that such issues are rubbish and not worth the paper upon which they are printed.

Some of the information in this article is directly quoted, with permission, from www.pwmo.org/Illegals/what-good-wns.htm. That website, maintained by the Philatelic Webmasters Organization (PWO), discusses the World Numbering System (WNS) or The World Association for the Development of Philately (WADP) Numbering System that identifies bogus issues worldwide through its common numbering system. The WNS was created by WADP and implemented in 2002 by the Universal Postal Union (UPU). The PWO is a non-profit organization located in Switzerland that counts more than 350 members from all continents.

The WADP was founded in 1996 to work against the production and sale of illegal stamps. Consequently, it has published a growing number of circulars in which the postal administration members of the UPU have denounced stamps that were illegally issued in their name or in the name of their territorial units.

See the website www.upu.int/en/activities/philately/circulars.html for a current listing of circulars. Access to the actual circulars is unfortunately limited to UPU members, but the listings of countries with illegal issues can be seen. These sites are well worth perusing.

There are several factors that may reduce the production of illegal stamps, such as the economic downturn, the increase and diversification of stamp production by postal administrations and a better awareness of illegal stamps via the UPU Circulars, printed philatelic literature and philatelic websites. This is a great cause for all stamp collectors to support, if just for the sake of the continuing welfare of our hobby.

The author may be reached at williamsilvester.weebly.com. 

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On Topic: Your Opinion

Wayne L. Youngblood

An occasional opinion-based column allowing you to sound off on whatever stamp-related topic is on your mind, or to react to an item previously published in Topical Time. Submissions are welcomed.

What's Wrong With "Illegals?"

In his extremely well-written article on the preceding pages, William Silvester

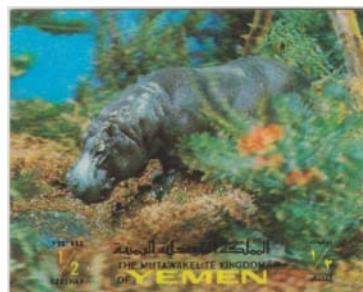


decries the proliferation of recent "illegal issues" – that is, those stamps either "issued" from non-existent postal entities or from those countries in turmoil that are not currently able to release their own stamps. Clearly, those issues are not actually valid for postage (although some get used), nor do they benefit anyone other than the creator. But how is this different than many current

"legitimate" issues from countries that contract out their stamp programs to mass-production stamp manufacturers?

With his discussion, Silvester opened an extremely important dialog that needs to be continued, expanded and examined in depth throughout the hobby from many different aspects as – arguably – bogus issues affect topicalists more than any other segment of the hobby. Certainly, we want to avoid illegal issues whenever possible.

However, a couple of his assertions appear to fall a bit short of the mark: *"Organized philately should ensure that such material is not sold at their events and stamp publications should prohibit their being listed for sale. eBay and other auction sites should institute policies to ban these illegal items from being sold, even if listed under the title of labels or cinderellas. The trade should be able to expel members who deliberately deal in such material where laws are being broken."*



A legitimate lenticular 3-D stamp from Yemen, one of dozens produced for several different countries. These stamps were never intended to be used for postage.

In spirit, these are worthwhile goals to help "clean up" the market, but the policing of the hobby has a long, checkered and ineffective past with – perhaps – the least-effective effort being the notable American Philatelic Society's "Black Blot" program (1962-77). Preceding that effort was the 19th-century Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, another noble – but failed – attempt to rescue collectors from speculators – and themselves. Without tracing the history of these efforts in detail, the most spectacular legacy of both is the very real fact that some of the "worst"

offenders identified by each are now highly valuable stamp issues. Granted, the focus of both was primarily on speculative issues, rather than true “illegals,” but the net effect is still the same. Attempting to limit what one can or cannot collect simply whets desire for the forbidden, with a frequently corresponding effect in valuation.

Let's examine the policing aspect. Effective policing of anything takes a lot of time, effort and consistency. To be able to punish those who are profiteering means to first determine who is doing it and establish intent. To do this, then requires consistently identifying those issues that are “illegal” – a near-impossible task.

Further complicating matters is deciding who is the official arbiter of what is or is not “illegal.” Part of the failure of the Black Blot program was a volunteer committee making the decisions. Scott Publishing, too, tried its own hand at censorship, refusing to list stamps it considered either illegal or speculative for years, and not always on the mark.

Then there's the secondary market. Once these items have been created and sold to collectors, attempting to chase down and prohibit additional sales of them amounts to nothing more than censorship and market manipulation. Besides, once they have become a chapter of philatelic history, they have a place in certain collections, exhibits and studies.

While we can hope the Universal Postal Union and various law enforcement agencies involved with anti-counterfeiting and similar crimes will take a hard line on these criminal activities, attempting to manipulate collectors and the marketplace will backfire. It always does. ☐

When Art Imitates Imitations?

Wayne L. Youngblood

Sometime during the five tumultuous years in which Azerbaijan produced postage stamps (1919-24), an unknown company in Udine, Italy, produced a set of six phantom stamps purporting to be from Azerbaijan (1923). Phantom stamps are complete fabrications; that is, stamps that don't exist in real life, sometimes from countries that don't exist as well.

The “stamps,” shown nearby, are comparable to today's “illegals” in that their entire purpose was to deceive collectors.



The trick worked, apparently, as supplies of the bogus labels quickly dried up while there was still significant demand. In typical free-market response, the bogus stamps were soon forged! It is believed the forgeries were created by a company in Belgium. The forgeries, an example of which is shown above right, are a bit more crude than the “genuine” bogus issues, with rough perforations and gum that is white and smooth. Both sets are now highly collectible. ☐





CINDERELLA CORNER

Arthur H. Groten

Champagne: For Special Occasions

Wine is a very popular thematic subject. Among all wines, Champagne is the one most often associated with the celebration of special occasions. The poster stamps selected here tell, very briefly, the story.



Figure 1.

The center of the Champagne district is Reims (Figure 1). Once the wine is produced it is placed in bottles (Figure 2) and sealed with a cork.

The stamp in Figure 3 is the only one known (in three colors) depicting the actual stripping of the cork from the tree. Most cork production comes from Portugal. The cork as used often has the name of the Champagne maker on the bottom, in this case Couvert, founded in 1818 (Figure 4).

Once bottled, it may be promoted generically. There are a number of such stamps designed by Paul



Figure 2.

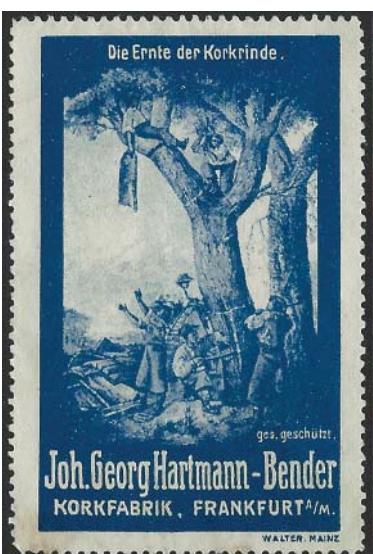


Figure 3.

Vanier: "There is no celebration without champagne....Drink Champagne!" that were produced



Figure 4.

in Epernay, the second center of the Champagne district (Figure 5).



Figure 6.

Then, of course, individual makers advertised their own products, of which there are many. A most amusing one was made by Ballon de Truchsess of Reims that depicts a Kewpie doll, an American craze at the time, holding a bottle of its Champagne (Figure 6).



Figure 5.



Figure 8.

Surprisingly, France has released very few postage stamps related to Champagne. Figure 7 shows Scott 350, depicting a woman with a glass of bubbly. The booklet pane of Scott 267b has advertisements in the selvage. Figure 8 is one of these, for "Champagne/Moet & Chandon/1793."

A short but enticing look at the King of Wines. □



Figure 7.

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

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Walt Disney and 9/11

A personal story

Isidore Baum

In late September 2001, the boyhood home of Walt Disney – Marceline, Mo. – hosted, in the small town of somewhat more than 2,000 people, an international three-day Disney Fair commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Walt Disney. Tens of thousands of Disney fans were expected to attend from around the world, notably from the United States and Canada, but also thousands from Japan and Germany who

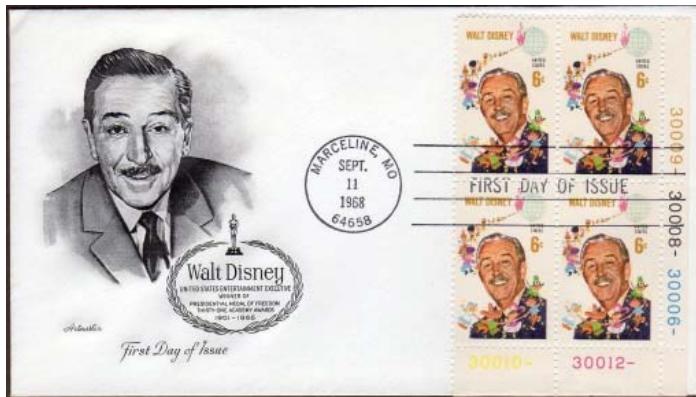


Figure 1. A 1968 first-day cover honoring Walt Disney, canceled at his birthplace in Marceline, Mo.

had booked tours to visit the event, and then hoped to continue on to one of the two Disney Parks in Florida and California. This is the “philatelic” story of that event, told for the first time.

The organizers had made plans for approximately 25-30 vendors of all types of Disney collectibles to

attend the show, all from the United States. I was the only Canadian who applied for – and was later invited – to attend. The show was set to take place starting on noon, Friday Sept. 28, ending on Sunday Sept. 30 at 4 or 5 p.m. Various invited dealers and local entrepreneurs, had prepared and printed up tens of thousands of caps, sweaters, T-shirts, writing pads, key chains and so on, all dated with the show’s dates of Sept. 29-30, 2011. The local Post office also prepared for the event. After all, this was where the U.S. Walt Disney commemorative 6¢ stamp was officially released and dedicated, with a plaque attesting to this momentous occasion. The date – Sept. 11, 1968 (Figure 1). Who could have known?

The trip from Montreal was an 18-hour drive by car, made necessary because of the amount of material I was carrying, and a problem for me at that time. Being of the Jewish faith, I was celebrating the Holiest day of the Jewish calendar – Yom Kippur – which in 2001 fell on Thursday Sept. 27, the day before the start of the show. The holiday being a fast day, ended slightly after sundown. I carefully mapped out the shortest route that would allow me to make it to Marceline just about noon time, and planned to pack everything up ready for “take-off” just as the holiday ended and, after I had my first meal of the day, I had signs prepared, decorations and posters made and displays all ready well before the date.

I also prepared my own covers for this event, knowing there would be at least two special cancels/cachets available at the show. I printed up special business-size



Figure 2. The author's original plan was to prepare 2,000 covers similar to this, with random Disney stamps mounted in the cachet area.

envelopes with four black rectangular boxes serving as the “cachet.” In each black box I stuck an actual Disney stamp – all random and from broken or mixed sets and packets. I had 2,000 covers made (Figure 2). I also made a few hundred with actual souvenir sheets affixed (Figure 3), also as cachets, and again, all at random. All these were to be canceled when I arrived, hopefully with the help of the postmaster with whom I had worked out – by telephone – an arrangement whereby he would help me as much as he could in return for a number of the envelopes I had prepared. Lucky for me, he was both an avid stamp and Disney collector. Everything was good to go, or so it seemed.

And then Sept. 11 struck like a thunderbolt, literally, and the organizers saw their best-laid plans go up in smoke with the Twin Towers. Besides the shock of this catastrophic event and the mourning for the almost 3,000 innocent people who died, the organizers were faced with a serious decision that not only affected their

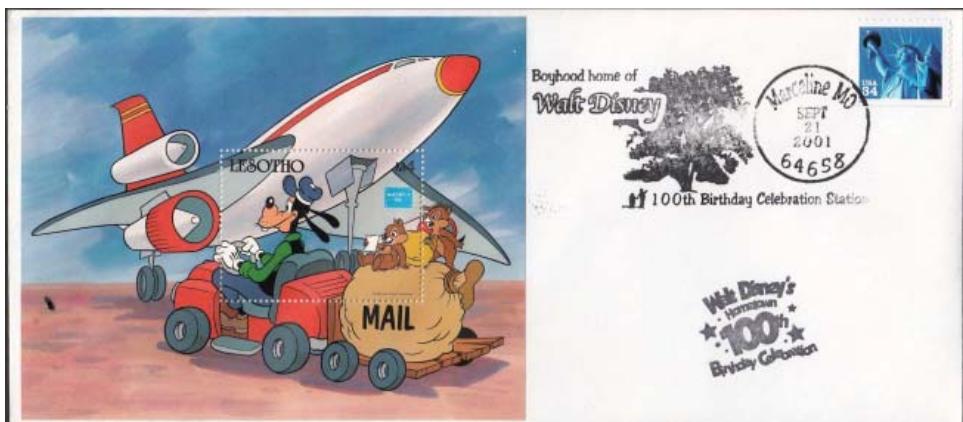


Figure 3. A number of covers were also produced using Disney souvenir sheets mounted in the cachet area.

little town and surrounding areas, but involved the logistics of dozens and dozens of flights from around the world for the thousands who had already booked flights and made plans to attend. After the initial shock had worn off (if it ever did at the time), they came to a decision to continue with the show, and try to do the best they could under the circumstances. They were sure that most vendors would be able to find their way to the show, one way or another. They, of course, did not think at the time of their sole Canadian dealer – Wonderful World of Stamps – me! (By the way, my daughter Shafrit initially came up with the name in 1985 when she was 14 – of course modeling it after Wonderful World of Disney.)

On approximately Sept. 17 or so – 10 days before the show – I was informed of the fact that the show would go on, and that I would have to make my own way to the show with respect to stringent new border controls that immediately came into effect, and I started anew to plan my trip. The only help I had was a letter they sent inviting me to the show, which I could show at the U.S. border control.

I was taking with me ONLY Disney material – stamps, sheets, souvenir sheets, sheetlets, first-day covers, cancels and more – everything connected with Disney philately was considered. And I had, at that time, the largest stock in Canada and one of the biggest in North America.

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But I also considered something that nobody seemed to have thought of at the time, and that was to produce a philatelic memento of the Twin Towers disaster, and tie it to the U.S. Disney stamp issued in 1968 – both with the same date of Sept. 11. There were souvenir sheets available from Grenada and Lesotho, issued some years earlier, depicting the New York skyline with the Twin Towers shown prominently. I immediately ordered 200 of these sheets, without yet knowing what I was going to do with them. I had a small stock of the U.S. Disney stamp and also ordered 200 more, if I recall correctly. These were used to create covers similar to the one shown in Figure 4.

Two days before my trip, my customs broker informed me that going through the Windsor-Detroit corridor would be a nightmare. There were trucks tied up for 24 hours, all as a result of the border having been closed for a number of days after the disaster. He suggested I go through Cornwall,



Figure 4. Adding souvenir sheets that prominently featured the Twin Towers (and tying them with the cancel) provided a Disney 9/11 memorial aspect to some covers.

a rather small border crossing in Ontario, just across from the Quebec border, and perhaps 100 km from my house.

So, between 7-8 p.m. Thursday Sept. 27, after I had a meal that broke my Yom Kippur fast, I took off, arriving at the border an hour later. The border had barriers, and was guarded by a tank and soldiers. A customs officer asked me to “pop my trunk” and looked inside. Strangely, she did not ask me to lift a tarpaulin which covered a ton of stuff on my back seat. After declaring the value, I was asked to step inside and fill out a form. The customs officer politely asked me some questions, and wanted to see a sample of the Disney stamps I had with me. I showed him a few packets, he stamped my form and I hurriedly left calling out to him to give the stamps to some kids.

The trip itself was uneventful, with few cars on the road, no traffic and I made it in record time, driving half the night and arriving before noon on opening day. I immediately set up my booth and noticed; no people – it was empty. I decided to go visit the post office perhaps 200 feet away, to see what I was going to do. The postmaster greeted me as an old friend, and we sat down to discuss what I would do with all the covers and stamps I brought with me – 2,000+ prepared covers and the covers I was to make with the hundreds of the Twin Towers souvenir sheets and the U.S. Disney stamps.

The 2,000+ covers was relatively easy to work out. The U.S. first-class postage rate was 34¢ at the time. The Disney stamp was 6¢. I needed a make-up stamp of 28¢, but none were available. So I went along with adding a 34¢ stamp from available stock, covering a half-dozen different issues, such as the Statue of Liberty (the best choice but limited), Lucille Ball, baseball stadiums and so on. I started applying the stamps, the Postmaster started canceling them and I was off to the races. I noticed the cancels, and realized that Walt Disney’s name was not in the official Walt Disney signature style. I inquired and the Postmaster told me that apparently the organizing committee could not get official Disney approval to use Disney’s signature in the cancel, and a compromise had to be found resulting in the official Marceline, Mo., cancel, which read Boyhood Home of Walt Disney, and which required no

approval. This postmark was designed by Jay Bigalke, current editor of *The American Philatelist*, with input by dealer Ron Sobel, a second stamp dealer at the show from California, who had Jay work on the design for the USPS. The second decorative cancel (or cachet) reading "Walt Disney's Hometown 100th Birthday Celebration" was a cachet used by the organizing committee, if my memory serves me correctly.

I also started applying the Twin Towers souvenir sheets to the blank envelopes I had, and added the Disney stamp and a 34¢ Liberty stamp – a couple of Lucy stamps slipped into this lot (Figure 4). I had all the Twin Towers covers finished first, and went back to the show – which by now had a few dozen people in attendance. I made a rough sign referring to the issue date of the Disney stamp and the Sept. 11 tragedy, and started selling the covers – in multiples. Everyone at the show was at my table, buying the Twin Towers covers, as well as the others prepared earlier at the post office. I quickly realized that I would run out of the Twin Towers covers in very short order, and, indeed, by 4 p.m. they were all gone, with two full days left in the show.

Earlier, at about 2 p.m., realizing I would run out of these souvenir sheets, I immediately called up InterGovernmental Philatelic Corporation in New York (their distributor), and was able to get whatever stock they had on hand shipped to me by Fedex overnight; in all honesty I do not recall the quantity. The postmaster visited my booth, and asked me to come back after the show closed; he would keep the office open for me so I could continue canceling the remainder of the 2,000 envelopes, which I did. Then his wife called, and he had to leave. He then did something I never would have expected. He gave me the cancellation device and a brand-new stamp pad, all the 34¢ stamps I needed and told me to take it to my hotel – in some small town 30 miles away, where I stayed up half the night canceling the remainder of the stamps. By now, I had not slept in almost two days.

But, before going to my hotel, I took a walk down Main Street, and happened into a small antique store – I seldom miss going antiquing in a new place. Staring at me from a showcase was a bundle of blank first-day covers from the original 1968 Disney stamp. I bought his whole stock for perhaps \$20 or \$25, for maybe 200 or so.

I stayed up half the night cancelling them as well and, mercifully, was able to sleep until 9 a.m. Saturday morning, when I had to drive back to the show. The

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next two days were a blur – for me anyway. All the Twin Tower Covers – perhaps 400-500 – were sold; I kept a dozen or so, which I still have. Of the 2,000+ covers, approximately 1,500 were sold. Of the additional 200 or so that I picked up at the antique store and canceled, all were sold, save perhaps a couple, which I cannot find. And, of course, thousands of short sets, and many hundreds of complete sets, souvenir sheets, sheetlets and covers were sold. All this to a few thousand people who were able to show up. I never did get the attendance figures from the organizers, but certainly it was nowhere in the tens of thousands they had expected. I had probably the only successful booth at the show, although Ron Sobel, previously mentioned, also had Disney stamps, as well as other Disney merchandise, and probably did somewhat better than others. We Collaborated on some items.

The show for most booth holders was an unmitigated disaster. Most were left with stock they would never be able to sell, since much of the material was dated explicitly for the show. In the two to three hours before closing, dealers were selling all types of merchandise at way below cost to each other, or trading amongst each other to reduce their large inventories and diversify what they had, hopefully selling it back in their home cities and states, at whatever local shows they regularly attended. Thus the show closed on rather a very sad note.

I slept rather well on Saturday and Sunday night and, on Monday, around 10 a.m., I started out for home, at a more leisurely pace than driving to the show. Arriving at the Windsor, Ontario, border crossing later that evening, I dutifully declared what I had and/or bought, and was asked the purpose of my trip to the United States. When I explained the circumstances, the border guard told me she was born on Sept. 11. I was not sure whether to offer her my congratulations or my condolences. I arrived home safely on Tuesday mid-afternoon, after spending the night in Windsor, and reflected on the strangest exhibition I have ever attended – in a career of well over 1,000 shows and exhibitions, local, national and worldwide. ☐

Isidore (Issie) Baum was born in Montreal, Canada, Jan. 1, 1941. He started collecting stamps at age 9, with the help of Sam Malamud, now president of IGPC, who was then 11 or 12 (they went to school together in Montreal). As a young man, Baum collected worldwide, but at approximately age 13-14 started only on Israel, and continued, adding Judaica as a topic in the 1970s. He lived in Israel for seven years, where he served in the Israel Defense Forces and saw active service in the Six Day War. Issie's young family (wife and son), moved back to Montreal in 1968, where their daughter was born. Baum was a cost accountant by profession (retired in 1995), amateur archaeologist, and has been a stamp dealer (full- or part-time) for about 60 years, beginning at about 15 and is perhaps the longest-continuous stamp dealer in Canada. He specializes in Israel and Judaica collectibles on one site, and worldwide, topicals and Disney on another. Issie may be reached at: www.judaicasales.com, info@judaicasales.com, or (second site) www.topicalsetc.com, info@topicalsetc.com.

Units in Action

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

Bicycle Stamps Club

Bicycle Stamps

Fifteen pages of new bicycle stamp issues



are featured in the *Bicycle Stamps* March 2016 issue.

A significant number of

these new issues are from European countries using a shared design for this year's Europa theme of "Ecology in Europe - Think Green," which incorporates a person riding a bike in the design.

Dues are \$19 in the United States. Contact Bill Eubanks, 21304 2nd Ave SE, Bothell WA 98021-7550.

Email: bpeubanks@frontier.com, or, £12.50 in the United Kingdom. Contact Brian Sole, 49 Westcar Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames KT12 5ER, United Kingdom.

Email: brian.sole@btinternet.com
Web: www.bicyclestamps.tripod.com

Carto-Philatelic Society

The New Carto-Philatelist

The lead article in the July 2016



The New Carto-Philatelist is "Monte Carlo Rally, Routes Across Europe." Author Pierre Moïse explores

the routes from European countries participating in the Monte Carlo Rally between 1955-2011. Eight pages of map-related stamps also appear in this issue.

Dues are \$20 in North America, \$25 elsewhere. Electronic membership

is \$15 worldwide. Contact Marybeth Sulkowski, 1117 Douglas Ave Unit 209, North Providence RI 02904-5374.

Email: mb37zx@aol.com

Website: www.mapsonstamps.org

Christmas Philatelic Club

Yule Log

Christine Sanders focuses on



"Collecting Christmas Meters" in the April-June 2016 *Yule Log*. Sanders suggests that Christmas-related meters are a great area to focus on, considering that collecting Christmas is such

a broad topic. Most Christmas meters were used by commercial and bulk mailers. One of the examples shown in the article was used by the Dallas Power & Light Company wishing customers "A Merry Christmas...say it Electrically!"

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

Email: jp4stamps@windstream.net
Website: web.295.ca/cpc/

Disneyana on Stamps Society

Disneymania

Virginia Sylvester describes several humor techniques used by Disney



animators in "Sight Gags on Disney Stamps" in the July 2016 *Disneymania*. Eight different

techniques or gags were used by the animators and writers to express different types of humor.

The “Spot Gag” is popular on Disney stamps, as it is usually a complete, spontaneous or exaggerated joke. One example of this type of gag appears on a Tanzania stamp where Goofy trips on his shoelaces fumbling a ball and has a zero on his jersey.

Two new stamps were issued to celebrate the opening of Shanghai Disney Resort by China Post in June 2016.

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

Email: disnemation@yahoo.ca
Web: www.disnemation.8m.com/HOME.htm

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

One of the new issues featured in *Reflections* April 2016 honors Canada's No.2 Construction Battalion, with Canada Post issuing a stamp 100 years after the battalion was formed. Black Canadians had tried to join the war effort during WWI without success until

1916. Members of the battalion would serve in France in 1917 attached to the Canadian Forest Corps.

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, Ernest Shinault, Sr, 3523

Douglass Ave, Memphis TN 38111-5721.

Email: eshinaultsr@yahoo.com

Web: www.esperstamps.org

Errors, Freaks, and Oddities

Collectors' Club

The EFO Collector

David Hunt explains what causes



“Pre-Printing Paper Creases” using examples from First Issue U.S. Revenues in *The EFO Collector* Jan-

March 2016.

Folded or bunched-up paper causing this error became evident when the crease opens up after the printing process, causing a gap in the stamp design.

Freaks like this frequently appeared on the First Issue U.S. Revenues, as there was an urgent need for revenue from this series of stamps.

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

Email: dbhunt@ptdprolog.net
Website: www.efocc.org

Europa Study Unit

Europa News

Eight pages of Europa new issues information appear in *Europa News*, May-June 2016.



Seventeen of those new issues continue this year's Europa theme, “Ecology in Europe - Think Green.”

One creative design issued by Serbia shows the “evolution of man” with man throwing a can in a recycle bin.

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Dana Roper provides some study unit history in "The Drexler Affair," a philatelic whodunit of shows and mystery souvenir sheets.

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

Email: tvanloij@gmail.com

Website: www.europastudyunit.org

Halloween Spooktacular Stamps & Stuff

The Babbling Cauldron

In the March 2016 issue of *The Babbling Cauldron*,

William Sylvester helps readers create a Harry Potter topical collection with stamps that were not Harry Potter issues. One of the stamps used



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in the article was issued in the United Kingdom in 1994. The stamp used pictures of a locomotive at King's Cross Station in London. In the Harry Potter stories, students of the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry take a train that leaves from Platform 9½ at King's Cross Station.

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

Email: deniselazaroff@gmail.com

Journalists, Authors, & Poets on Stamps (JAPOS)

JAPOS Bulletin

Jeff Dugdale invites readers on a



journey of "Favorite Children's Literature by British Writers" in a recent *JAPOS Bulletin*. From British classics written by Charles Dickens and Rudyard Kipling to the poetry

of Robert Browning, to J.K. Rowling and stories of Harry Potter, Dugdale identifies popular literature and stamps associated with the authors and their works.

Dues are \$9 in the United States and \$12 elsewhere. Contact Clete Delvaux,

Canada 1

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

Judaica Thematic Society

Judaica News

Gene Eisen provides a biography



of "Mendel Haimovici: Romanian Math Wiz" in *Judaica News* July 2016. Eisen discovered a prepaid

stamped envelope with a cancellation that honored three Romanian-born mathematicians.

Haimovici would study under Italian mathematician Tullio Levi-Civita in Rome and later received his PhD. During WWII he was forced to leave his university position at the University of Iasi. Haimovici would later return to the University of Iasi at the end of the war as full professor teaching and continuing his research on fields of mechanics and elasticity theory.

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

Several new lighthouse issues are

reported in the July-Aug *The Philatelic Beacon*.

The Netherlands released two mini-sheets in May 2016 as part of the Mooi Fishing Place series. One of the mini-sheets in the latest issue in the series shows the North Mole and



Scheveningen lights. The other mini-sheet has the stamps from the entire series in the mini-sheet.

The Lighthouse Stamp Society received a donation of more than 17,000 lighthouse postcards from Richard Julian and they are now a part of the Lighthouse Stamp Society Library, housed at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library in Denver, Colo. Lighthouse Stamp Society Library reference material is available for anyone to use at the RMPL.

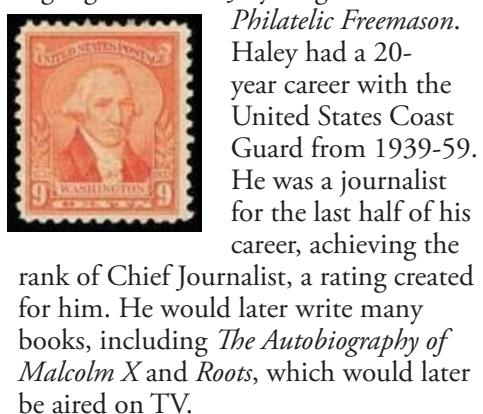
Dues are \$15 in the United States, \$20 in Canada and Mexico and \$20 elsewhere; an electronic version of *The Philatelic Beacon* is available for \$10. Contact Dalene Thomas, 1805 S Balsam Apt 106, Lakewood CO 80232.

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

Masonic Study Unit

Philatelic Freemason

Alex Haley is one biography highlighted in the July-August 2016



Philatelic Freemason

Haley had a 20-year career with the United States Coast Guard from 1939-59. He was a journalist for the last half of his career, achieving the rank of Chief Journalist, a rating created for him. He would later write many books, including *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* and *Roots*, which would later be aired on TV.

Alex Haley received his 33rd Degree in the AASR Prince Hall Southern Jurisdiction.

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.

Email: radpm67@gmail.com
or, Gene Fricks
Email: genefricks@comcast.net

Mathematical Study Unit

Philamath

A biography of Indian



mathematician Radhanath Sikdar, known for calculating the height of Mt. Everest in the Himalayas, is the lead article in *Philamath* January 2016.

In addition to determining

the height of Mt. Everest, Sikdar also developed a formula to convert barometric readings taken at different temperatures to 32°F.

New-issue listings from March 2013-March 2015 are included in this issue of *Philamath*.

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

Email: montystrauss@gmail.com

Website: www.mathstamps.org

Motivgruppe Musik (International Philatelic Music Study Group)

Der Musikus

In addition to 17 pages of music-related new issues in the June 2016 *Der Musikus*, there are also many biographies of musicians, singers, composers and musical instruments on stamps.

One of the musical instruments, the Eskimo drum, appears on several stamps issued by Greenland since 1961.

The Eskimo, or Inuit drum, “qilaat” or “qila,” is a framed drum that is traditionally made from bone on driftwood and the stomach lining of a walrus or from a whale bladder.

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

Email: motivgruppe.musik@gmx.de

Website: www.motivgruppe-musik.de/indexe.html

Petroleum Philatelic Society

International

Petro-Philatelist



“Petroleum Related Currency on Stamps” is the feature article in the Summer 2016 *Petro-Philatelist*. Bill Todd has compiled a list of banknotes and coins showing petroleum-related elements, such as oil wells, derricks and rigs appearing on stamps.

Bahrain recently issued a set of six stamps on a souvenir sheet in 2015 to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the first Bahraini Dinar. A drill rig appears on the ¼ dinar note, which is on one of the stamps in the set.

Dues are \$25 in the United States and Canada, \$40 elsewhere and \$20 for an electronic version worldwide. Contact Feitze Papa, 922 Meander Dr, Walnut Creek CA 94598-4239.

Email: oildad@astound.net

Pitcairn Islands Study Group

Steve Pendleton explores the family genealogy of HMS *Bounty*'s first mate



Christian Fletcher through stamps tracing the Fletcher Christian Heritage in the *Pitcairn Log* July-Sept 2016 issue.

Fletcher Christian has

appeared – and his descendants have appeared – on many stamps issued by Pitcairn and other countries. The most recent Christian descendant, Ben Christian, was honored with a set of four stamps in 2015 as part of the Pitcairn series of famous islanders.

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

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

Plate Number Collectors Club (PNC³)

Reports of the new fruit series coil

stamps seeing postal use and several examples are shown in the PNC *Coil Line* June 2016.

The 5¢ Grapes stamps have been used to pay

minimum bulk standard-class and also in place of non-profit organization presort coil stamps.

The 10¢ Pears coil has also been used instead of presort standard-class coil stamps.

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

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Railroad Unit, Casey Jones

The Dispatcher

Florence Wright takes us on a



research expedition to find the pub named on a British pub signs stamp in "The Interesting Things You Learn While Being a Stamp Collector."

Wright embarked on this virtual expedition on the Internet, Googling the name of the pub and searching maps to see if the pub was located next to a train station or train tracks. Even though the pub had a common name (and thus many possibilities), the author did manage to find the right pub.

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*

Three pages of Rotary-related stamp issues appear in the April 2016 *The ROS Bulletin*. A set of three stamps were issued by India in February 2016 in conjunction with a conference held



Penguins on Stamps Study Unit

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

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

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

Email: possumember@yahoo.com



in Mumbai. One of the stamps in the set shows the Rotary symbol along with a tuberculosis logo. The tuberculosis logo was also used to cancel the stamps on the first day in Mumbai.

Several pages of Rotary new issues appear in the June 2016 ROS Bulletin. Most notable is a new stamp issued by Korea Post to commemorate the Rotary International Convention held in Seoul.

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

Email: gfitz@suddenlink.net

Website: www.rotaryonstamps.org

Scouts on Stamps Society International SOSSI Journal

John Lowe reports on "The Modern



Fake Nauru 1982
Scouting Year
Stamp Souvenir
Sheet" in the May-June 2016 SOSSI Journal. The author discovered that this sheet was

now available as an imperforate sheet and that the gum color used on the

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sheet is white, which is a modern gum and not used in 1982.

Research by Lowe shows that the sheets were created in 2015 and are widely available via online sites such as eBay and ***Delcampe.net***. Several other differences between the original and the fake sheets are compared in the article.

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.
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Ships on Stamps Unit

Watercraft Philately

Allan Fisk leads off *Watercraft*



Philately May-June 2016 issue with “Cunard celebrates the first Queen.” This year is the 80th Anniversary of the launch of the RMS

Queen Mary on

her maiden voyage to New York City, which took four days, 12 hours and 20 minutes.

The RMS *Queen Mary* has appeared on more than 20 different stamps issued by 16 different countries.

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

Wine on Stamps Study Unit

Enophilatelica

The main article in the



February 2016 *Enophilatelica* continues, with the “Made In Italy” souvenir sheets composed of 15 different controlled zones

showing the grapes grown in these zones.

One of the controlled zones is the Chianti DOCG. This is one of the best known Italian wines. The Chianti DOCG is located in Tuscany in central Italy.

Three pages of wine related new issues are listed in this issue of *Enophilatelica*.

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

John Seidl continues his “Dead

country series” with “Bechuanaland” in *The Circuit*, May-June 2016. The Bechuanaland

protectorate and colony were established by the United Kingdom, the protectorate becoming Botswana in 1966.

The first stamps used in 1888 in Bechuanaland were British stamps overprinted with the name of the protectorate.

Editor Bill Harris shares his experience “Collecting Down Under” after his recent trip to the Falkland Islands.

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 Sandy Strzalkowski

New Coordinator...

Welcome to Chapter Chatter! Effective with the next issue, we have a new Chapter Coordinator, Fred Skvara. You may remember he held this position previously. We encourage all ATA chapters to send your ATA publications so we can publicize your efforts here. Please add Fred as your primary contact and send your newsletters to him at fcskvvara@optonline.net or 618 Country Club Dr, Bridgewater NJ 08807-1658. If you have a list of future club activities, please send that, too. Here's a challenge: How about if you ask your program chairperson to schedule something topical at least once a month or every other month? That way your club is sure to be mentioned in Chapter Chatter. Please keep in mind we can only mention topical-related articles, not chapter-related activities or other philatelic subjects.

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

Newsletter editor: Harry Winter.

Newsletter topics: The July meeting program was a slide show about Errors, Freaks and Oddities. There was a report that there had been a special pictorial postmark at the Ann Arbor post office commemorating Gerald R. Ford (June 2016). The July meeting program was a slide show on Errors, Varieties, Freaks and Oddities on U.S. stamps. (July 2016)

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

Newsletter Editor: Bob Mather.

Newsletter topics: The June issue included an article about the upcoming USPS release of educator Jaime Escalante. At the upcoming Milcopex show in September, there is a possibility of the USPS participating in mini exhibits centered about the letter "F." There was also an article about the 1986 joint release by United States and France commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Statue of Liberty (June 2016). There was another article, which covered Computer Vended Postage Stamps (July 2016). This issue also included an article about Donkeys on Stamps and an image of a souvenir sheet from Granada. The article, "Newspaper Stamps – 1875-1898," described what they were used for and included many sample images. The mailing envelope of this issue used the newly released New Horizons stamps. The accompanying article, "Pluto Explored," gave a detailed description of the planet.

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

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

Newsletter topics: The Stamp of the Month is a mixture of the 1¢-8¢ small definitives of Canada's 1967 Centennial series. There was actually a stamp hinged over the picture of the stamp. Paul Hager also included an accompanying article about the series (July 2016). Tom Broadhead's article, "Thinking Outside the Album," discusses attracting new members by intersecting members' various interests and inviting people who share those interests. One example he gave was one member

who is a retired teacher and Civil War buff. Tom also had an article, "Batter Up?," which discusses baseball (Aug. 2016).

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

Newsletter: *Milwaukee Philatelist*, edited by **Jonathan Kumbera**.

Newsletter topics: The August meeting program was presented by Alex Gill, which delved into the 1964-65 New York World's Fair philatelic souvenirs (Aug. 2016).

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

Newsletter: *On Cover*, edited by **Kurt Romig**.

Newsletter topics: President Fred Levantrosser reported that he attended the first-day ceremony for the Eid stamp on June 10. A brief report of other recent new issues was included. There were two clothesline exhibits, one by Dave Kloha on *Asia and the Far East*, and the other by Fred Levantrosser on *Rowing*. Al Raddi offered an image of an Einstein first-day cover. There was also an image of a cachet from 1935 that had a Cinderella souvenir sheet on it. There was an article that featured Great Britain stamps that commemorated the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth date (June 2016). The club's 35th annual picnic was held on July 31 and each member was presented with a special club picnic cachet commemorating the event. The Cover Corner Column included images of a local cachet from Milford, Mich., from 1981 and some Pearl Harbor attack postcards (July 2016).

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

Newsletter: *The Spacefiller*, edited by **Paul Breakenridge**.

Newsletter topics: The show theme for 2016 is College World Series. The July's meeting program was "The 1898 Trans-Mississippi Exposition" (July 2016).

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

Newsletter Editor: **Paul Petersen**.

Newsletter topics: One of the items released during NY2016 was pictured. It featured one of the planet stamps, with the "Science Meets Stamps" Day cancel. Dr. Charles DiComo discusses his recent exhibit about the U.S. 3¢ 1851-1857 issues (June 2016).



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

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

Newsletter topics: The July meeting's program topic was "The Devil's Mail," which is mail connected with terrorism (July 2016). "The Devil's Mail" presentation was continued at the August meeting. This issue included an image of a Swiss stamp, Solar Impulse. Mark Isaac's "On the Cover" column discussed mourning covers from South Africa having a black corner, rather than a black border (Aug. 2016).

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

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

Newsletter topics: At the second meeting in August, the presentations were "US-German Seaports" and "US National Parks" (July/Aug. 2016). The first meeting in September featured an airmail presentation, "CAM 9-Chicago to Minneapolis" (Sept. 2016).

Canada

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

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

Newsletter topics: The front cover features the recently released Star Trek stamps. Dale Speirs included an accompanying article, "Vulcan Mail" (June 2016).

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

Newsletter: *PhilaJournal*, edited by **Susan Butler**.

Newsletter topics: John Wilson's article, Mayhem in the Sand Dunes is about the Trucial States. The article Stamps of the Italian Aegean Islands by Ron Dell'Agnese included the stamp images. Jerry Piotrowski's article, Unusual Postage Stamps discusses Austria's Lederhosen Stamp, which is actually embellished with Swarovski crystals. (Summer 2016)

International

Indian Thematic Society (ATA Chapter No. 102), Ludhiana, India.

Newsletter: *ITS Stamp News*, edited by **Suraj Jaityl**.

Newsletter topics: The cover story features United Nation stamps commemorating International Women's Day. The stamps are a joint issue with India Post. Dr. Avinash B. Jagtap's article, "Bats – The Flying Wonder!," includes many images of stamps with bats on them. Dr. Satyendra Kumar Agrawal wrote an article called "Sea Floor Bahamas, The World's First Underwater Post Office." He writes that on the 75th anniversary of "Sea Floor Bahamas," Bahamas Post issued a set of four stamps to commemorate the occasion. There are many images of the stamps (April-June 2016).

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

Newsletter: *Thematically Speaking*, edited by **John Crowsley**.

Newsletter topics: A "Long Live the Queen!" article features the story of Queen Elizabeth II, from her birth to her 90th birthday. The article includes many images of corresponding stamps. Joan Orr continues her series on "Aerophilately" (part 3). Included are images of some beautiful covers. There were many images of show-and-tell items included, such as golf, swans, elephants and more. ☐

Nordia 2016, Exphimo 2016, German Championship 2016

Foreign Thematic Exhibits

Larry E. Davidson

In this column, we will review the thematic exhibits shown at Nordia 2016, Exphimo 2016 and German Championship 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. * denotes ATA member.

Nordia 2016

This multinational exhibition was held in Jyväskylä, Finland, April 8-10, 2016. The countries participating were Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The Nordia exhibitions are organized in rotation among the Nordic Philatelic Federations. The exhibition was held under the patronage of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA). The Central Finland Philatelic Association organized the exhibition in co-operation with the Philatelic Federation of Finland and the Foundation for Promoting Finnish Philately.

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Multi-frame Exhibits

Leif W. Rasmussen	<i>Hunting and Fishing</i>	90, G
Olli Viljanen	<i>The Worlds Meet</i>	86, LV
Odd Johansen	<i>Bridges – The Fascinating Link</i>	83, V
Pekka Klemi	<i>The Fight against Cancer through the Years</i>	83, V
•Barry Stagg	<i>Parachuting through the Ages</i>	83, V
Kaido Andres	<i>The University of Tartu 1632-2012 (People and Circumstances)</i>	82, V
Eero Pikkukhookana	<i>Chess - Mate – from its Roots in India to today's Competitive Sport</i>	82, V
Alan Watson	<i>Heraldry, the Gentle Science</i>	80, V
Pauli Ihamäki	<i>100 Years of Scouting in Europe</i>	72, S

One-frame Exhibits

Antti Roivainen	<i>From Rails to Air</i>	77
Seppo Salonen	<i>Janakkala – My Home Region</i>	76
Marion Strømnes	<i>Alf Prøysen's Blueberry Tour</i>	76

Open/Display Exhibits

Heikki Virtanen	<i>The Presidents of Finland</i>	92, G
Harry Dunkel	<i>Savo's Oldest Trading House: Gust. Ranin – History 1852-1952</i>	90, G
Henning Jarle Mathiassen	<i>Longer, Higher, Faster – Success, Trouble and Disaster</i>	90, G
Johan Snellman	<i>Steaming Helsinki</i>	88, LV
Alexander Walker	<i>A Counterblaste to Tobacco</i>	86, LV
Poul M. Nielsen	<i>No War Anymore</i>	81, V
Klaus Juvas	<i>The Life and Impact of Jean Sibelius</i>	80, V
Kalervo Lappalainen	<i>Jyväskylä – The Market Place in the University Town</i>	80, V
Heikki Salokannel	<i>A Ballad about Tools – A Story about Tools, Equipment and other Devices for Making Things</i>	75, LS
Sven-Erik Hjelt	<i>Antarctic – The Continent for Science</i>	72, S
Poul Andersen	<i>The Works of Slania</i>	70, S

Exphimo 2016

This national exhibition with international participation was held in Mondorf-les-Bains, Luxembourg, May 14-16, 2016. The theme for the exhibition was "Arts and Culture." It was sponsored by the Federation of Philatelic Societies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (FSPL) and organized by the Philcolux Thematic Association.

Multi-frame Exhibits

Torsten Eckel (Germany)	<i>Albrecht Dürer – Entrepreneur of the Renaissance</i>	91, G
Franz Zehenter (Austria)	<i>Social History of Jazz</i>	90, G
Philippe Ieko (Luxembourg)	<i>Impressionism: A Major Step in Painting</i>	89, G



Peter Stobbelaar (Netherlands)	<i>Spilled the Beans</i>	88, G
Danny Jimmink (Netherlands)	<i>Step by Step to Dancing</i>	88, G
Eva Zehenter (Austria)	<i>Traces of Life. Stories as Life Images</i>	86, G
Willi Schmidt (Austria)	<i>“Say Cheese” – A Journey through the World of Photography</i>	85, G
Hans-Jürg Weber (Switzerland)	<i>Break Dance: “Who are my Relatives?”</i>	76, S

One-frame Exhibits

Danny Jimmink (Netherlands)	<i>Meet on Rings</i>	88, G
Peter Kugler (Austria)	<i>Reading can be Addictive</i>	71, S

General Class Multi-frame Exhibits

Nico F. Helling (Luxembourg)	<i>The Motorcycle: Nostalgia and Use</i>	89, G
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DMTH 2016

(German Championship of Thematic Philately)

This national stamp exhibition was held in Essen, Germany, May 12-14, 2016. The show alternates yearly with the European Championship for Thematic Philately. Every German thematic exhibit may be entered in this exhibition, from regional to international level. All exhibitors were from Germany.

Multi-Frame Exhibits

Arts and Culture

Prof. Dr. Gerd Geburtig	<i>Kosmos Goethe – Fascinating to This Day</i>	88, G
Karl-Heinz Büdding	<i>In the Footsteps of Richard Wagner – His Life, his Works and his Legacy</i>	82, LV
Peter Plüghan	<i>Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart – The Incredible Genius</i>	80, LV
Peter Schlünzen	<i>Johann Wolfgang von Goethe – Life and Work</i>	76, V

History and Organizations

Rainer Erdt	<i>The Sign of the Black Cross – The Rise and Fall of the Teutonic Knights</i>	86, G
Dr. Harald Schultze	<i>Shared Driving Forces in the History of Germans and Frenchmen</i>	82, LV

Everyday Life

Helma Janssen	<i>Our Firefighters – Citizens’ Initiative in Uniform</i>	88, G
•Werner Müller	<i>Money</i>	87, G

Sport and Leisure

Fritz Rüdiger	<i>Olympic Comeback – the era of Baron de Coubertin 1894-1925 and the Games Now</i>	90, LG
Gerd Bethke	<i>WM-Football 1930-1970 – Jules Rimet Trophy</i>	76, V

Transport and Technology

Dr. Stephen Lachhein	<i>How Mankind’s Dream to Reach the Stars Became True</i>	78, LV
Ernst-Dieter Wendt	<i>A Century of Railroads – The Driving Force of Progress</i>	75, V

Medicine and Science

Dr. Gerhard Giso Brosche	<i>There May be Immunity</i>	86, G
Heinrich Welschhoff	<i>The Birth of a New Astronomy – Nicolaus Copernicus and his Heliocentric World View</i>	74, LS
Joachim Löhrken	<i>Antarctica – Exploration of the White Continent</i>	73, LS
Dieter Oehrling	<i>Antarctic Research in the DDR</i>	71, LS

Animals and Plants

Wilfried Fuchs	<i>The Fox and its Checkered Relationship with Humans</i>	90, LG
Monika Müller	<i>Threatened Hunter – Interesting Facts about Big Cats</i>	71, LS

Agriculture and Pets

Hartmut Scholz	<i>The "Biography" of Beer</i>	87, G
Wilfried Fuchs	<i>The Success Story of Wine – From to Vine to Enjoyment</i>	85, G

I would like to thank Koenraad Bracke of Belgium for providing the results of Exphimo 2016. ☐

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 lawrence.davidson@gmail.com.

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YOUTH IN TOPICS

MaryAnn Bowman

Fall Activities

Fall is upon us and many stamp collectors are looking forward to returning to club meetings, stamp shows and other philatelic events. As nights get cooler and there are fewer hours of daylight, one can anticipate more time to enjoy the hobby. Despite the term “closet collector,” there are many of us who fully engage in the hobby and endeavor to share our love and enthusiasm with others. How will you promote the hobby in the months ahead? Remember, October is traditional National Stamp Collecting Month.

Philatelic Sudoku

A simplified game of Sudoku can be made using stamps. Begin by drawing a 5-inch square that has been divided into 16 squares, each 1¼ inches. You will also need 16 stamps, four each of four different colors and/or denominations. Consider using the 1¢, 2¢, 3¢ and 4¢ Prexies, as they are very common stamps to find used.

The goal is to place a different stamp in each empty square. Use each stamp design/color only once in every row and column.

What do these stamps have in common?

A skill learned early in primary education involves looking at a set of items and determining how they are alike. Something similar can be created using stamps.

For example, stamps showing an apple, a red rose and a Santa, might have the color red as the common denominator. It is quite easy to find three or four

stamps that might have some depicted item in common. This activity suits itself to the younger set. These stamps could be placed in a single line of a black stock card, mounted on pages or reproduced as a worksheet.



However, one can also offer similar challenges to older youth while offering practice in using a stamp catalog. On a sheet of paper, list several Scott catalog numbers that relate to a

topic or theme. The child looks up the first Scott number and examines the stamp carefully before proceeding to the next catalog number and examining that stamp as well. After examining three to four stamps, a common thread should be noticed. For example: U.S. Scott No. 873 (Booker T. Washington), No. 1085 (Children of the World), No. 1554 (Dunbar) and No. 2223 (Perry/Hanson) - all feature African Americans.

Another example: U.S. Scott Numbers 1681, 2635, 2066 and 3562 all relate to Alaska.

Quick tip: It is easy to create these catalog listings if using U.S. stamps and a specialized catalog, as the index will list stamps that relate to a particular topic. You might want to mix up the order of the Scott catalog numbers so that the first stamp might be quite obvious (such as in the Booker T. Washington stamp) but the next listed number might be a little more ambiguous, such as the stamp depicting the Children of the World issue.

When working with youth on this activity, it might be helpful to have tag board bookmarks, one for each Scott catalog number, different colors for each set of topics or themes that you are having them determine. When they find the stamp, they can leave one of the bookmarks in the catalog as a place holder in case they wish to go back and further examine the stamp to determine how it is like the other stamps they are looking for.

Youth Activity Areas

Many youth areas at stamp shows are little more than a place for beginning collectors to search through a pile of stamps to take home. Some offer bags of literature to introduce the basics of the hobby. Oftentimes, the activities that one can do in youth areas is determined by the amount of table space available, as well as the pool of ready volunteers.

Some of the World Series of Philately shows are fortunate enough to be able to offer an entire room of activities or even several tables of philatelic fun and learning. I am reminded of a youth area offered by Wiscopex 2000 at its annual convention and exhibition. Spearheaded by Karen Weigt, who was then the youth coordinator for the Badger Stamp Club (Madison, Wis.), an extensive offering of hands-on activities awaited visiting youth.

In addition to the registration table and a Trading Post area, there were six other tables offering activities. Many activities offered a points value. Later, those points could be "spent" at the Trading Post where other philatelic items and supplies were offered.

As the name suggests, at the registration table youth created a name tag, registered for a door prize and received a free packet of stamps and a large envelope to keep and use for holding all of the other items along the way.

The activities could be done in any table order and there were plenty of volunteers wearing a "Youth Helper" tag to aid in the learning process. At Table 1 there was a Scavenger Hunt sheet. Using off-paper stamps, the learner found stamps that properly matched the description and hinged them onto the page. Also at this table, there was a "Stamps and Corner Mounts" sheet. The challenge

was to find an off-paper stamp that correctly fit the mount and to use corner mounts to properly adhere a postal card to the page.

At Table 2 the emphasis was on different types of collecting. Youth chose a Topical Collecting sheet and were encouraged to find and hinge four stamps that related to the topic on their album page. Upon completion, a child could choose a packet of topical collecting stamps. Also at this table, there were several small boxes, each containing two foreign stamps. Using a stamp identifier, also located on the table, the country name was to be identified and the country found in the Scott catalogs. There was also a binder with album pages containing stamps from the countries and each child completing this activity also got to select one of the album pages as a starter collection. For first-day cover enthusiasts, there was a “pin the stamp” on the U.S. state map activity. The child was blind-folded and then sent in the direction of the map. The state that they pinned their stamp to was the state to be used as they searched through a box of first-day covers looking for one cover that was canceled in the state they had pinned. If a child could not find one postmarked with his or her state name, the option was given of finding a cover from a neighboring state or one that began with the same first alphabet letter of the state pinned. Each of the activities at Table 2 offered no points, as the beginner was allowed to keep the pages and covers collected at this station.

Table 3 also had several activities. A game of Wheel of Fortunate Philately,



Stamps with multiple varieties of the same design, such as these Tulip stamps, provide a great opportunity for youth area games.

using philatelic terms, offered points for both winning and losing. A second activity was similar to the previously mentioned “What do these stamps have in common” activity. It offered youth a chance to closely examine stamp look-alikes and find the one that did not match the others. At that time, the stamps used were varieties of the F-series non-denominated and 29¢ Flower stamps, the

29¢ Wood Duck stamp, the 1¢ Omnibus and the 5¢ Washington stamps. Also at this table was an enlarged perforation gauge and enlarged stamps where practice was provided in measuring perforations. Points were given for each of the activities completed at this table.

Free stamps were the incentive to go to Table 4. Everyone received a free manila stock sheet, which was used to hold 15 U.S. off paper stamps and 15 worldwide off-paper stamps. They then picked up an envelope and placed 15 U.S. on-paper and 15 worldwide on-paper stamps inside. No points were given for this activity, but if you continued working on the Postmark Hunt, also offered at this table, you were awarded points. At least five postmarks had to be found and hinged onto the provided sheet.

The Geo-Safari and Electronic Match-It game boards were on Table 5 and points were awarded for completing these tasks.

For those with a creative bent, Table 6 offered the chance for youth to show their hidden art talents. There were instructions for making a “Stamp Collecting

Bug" cap and for designing a cachet for a new issue that was current for the time period.

There were also two activities that were not on a table. One was a Scavenger Hunt through the youth exhibits. Each of five questions was simply answered with a "yes" or "no" as to whether they found the item in the exhibit frames. The frames where the items could be found were identified with an orange dot and a number corresponding to the question. Different philatelic terms were used in the descriptions so that a cancel, souvenir sheet, first-day cover and postage meter on cover would be the items being searched for.

The other activity was a Stamp Twister game offering great fun. But alas, I have run out of room to write more about this activity. You will just have to wait for the next issue, where I will give more detailed information about the Stamp Twister activity and the Wheel of Fortunate Philately.



A Scavenger hunt for youth in the exhibit area can provide great interaction for youth.

audience. Please write to me at the address given following this column. ☐



Geo-Safari and other similar electronic educational games have long been a staple of successful youth areas.

As you might have been able to perceive from this accounting of a very interactive and hands-on youth area, this did not come together without a lot of planning and help in preparing the materials needed for a successful event.

I'd love to hear about youth areas that have impressed you, either for their activities, design or impact made on the intended

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.

ATA Board Elects New Member

Chris Dahle of Iowa has been elected by the ATA Board of Directors to fill the position left by Anthony Wawrukiewicz, who recently resigned from the board for personal reasons. The position is for one year, concluding at NTSS 2017, but may be extended at that time.

Here is Chris' philatelic biography...

Topics collected: Human Rights, Plants (edited *Plants V* handbook).

Other collections: British Commonwealth, Scandinavia, U.S., Canada.

Exhibits: *Exploring the Evolution of Plants, The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*

APS & ATA judge, member of Biology Unit, APS, AAPE, Scandinavian Collectors Club, United Nations Philatelists, Greater Southern Africa Philatelic Association.

Occupation: Research Assistant
in Natural/Health Sciences at
University of Iowa.

Recent Appointments

Fred Skvara – Chapters Coordinator

Rob Henak - Judges Coordinator
and Exhibits Coordinator

Sandra and Andrew Lingler –
Topical Time Indexers.

Please see Page 7 for other
volunteering opportunities. ☎



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Fish on Stamps — Literally!

Wayne L. Youngblood

A new stamp issue from the Faroe Islands gives entirely new meaning to the term “Fish on Stamps.” This is the first issue to apply the term both figuratively and literally. Mounted on each and every stamp is a small piece of skin from the Torsk fish, the Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*). Because of the nature of the tanned skin (which is also used to create purses, belts, wallets and more), the colors in the stamps take on an almost metallic appearance. For obvious reasons, each stamp is unique.

The stamps, designed and engraved by master engraver Martin Mörck, feature an image of the fish at left, the skin at right. The Torsk stamps were released Sept 26 and have a face value of DKK 50,00 (about \$7.54), which pays the rate for “Recommended Letters.” The stamps were printed by a combination of line engraving and offset lithography by Cartor Security Printing in France. It is not known how the skin is attached. ☐



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 57538-57600 and recent reinstatements (membership through Sept. 10, 2016). Membership numbers 57601-57650 will be reserved for ATA Study Units in a new membership management system.**

57540	AAROE, Bill, baaroe@telus.net 23154 Slager Ave, Maple Ridge BC V2X 3C7 CANADA	English Royalty, Birds
57549	AKSENTSEV, Felix, goldenearscanada@gmail.com	
57581	ALVAREZ RODRIGUES, Leonardo	Automobiles, Bridges
57539	AVERBECK, Terry, wavey33@fuse.net	
57565	BABB, Olive	Turtles
57556	BANSAL, Vitesh, vire1808@gmail.com Trade, Commerce, Banking, Pre- and Post-Independence India 11b, Bhavya Block Doshi Apts, 339 Konnur High Rd, Ayanavaram, Chennai Tamil Nadu, 600023 INDIA	
56658	BAUGHER, Daniel, dbaugher@charter.net	

57566	BERTO, Barbara	
57542	BOCA RATON STAMP & COIN CLUB, artess@att.net	
	11636 Orange Blossom Ln, Boca Raton FL 33428-5577	
57555	BOUTIN, Serge	Christmas, Higher Education, Montreal, Golf
17761	BOYLE, Larry	Bees, Scouts, Insects
54402	BRAFFORD, W. Ray, urbrraf@aol.com	
	102 Foxglove Dr, Winchester VA 22602-7667	
57564	BROWN, Timothy, brown1222@yahoo.com	Finches, Loons, Swans
57567	BRUNSKILL, Rick, rickbrunskill@telus.net	Paintings
57546	BURKEY, Steven, tebe48@att.net	Zeppekins, Concorde, Triangular stamps, Number Ones (first stamp issued by a country)
56024	BURTCH, Dean	
57586	COOPER, Dennis L	Scouts, Amateur Radio, Chess
57552	CORNELISEN, Mathew	Vikings, Norse Mythology, Plumeria
54676	DALE, Frank D	
57545	DeLUCA, Damian	
57568	DOMASCHOFSKY, Mike	
57587	EBERT, Douglas R	Naval Covers, Halloween
57558	EARLEY, John E, 2080 NW 107 Terr, Sunrise FL 33322-3436	Science Fiction, James A Farley
57569	FROHLICH, Alfredo	
57585	GINSBERG, Michael, mlgslg@yahoo.com	Judaica, American History, Synagogues, Holocaust, WWII
57583	GOFF, Janet, jsfgoft@yahoo.com	Fairy Tales, Folklore
57584	GREELEY, Anne, anne.greeley@indwes.edu	Art, Artists, Architecture
57541	HANNA, David	
54954	HEIM, Linda	
57570	HOFFMAN, Theresa, tehoffman@alaska.net	Triangles
55420	HOFFMAN, Thomas, ctbslz28@live.com	Baseball, Transportation Coils, US Airmail
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57582	LARSON, Ben, lastliberal@gmail.com	Darwin
	9904 Fairway Cir, Leesburg FL 34788-3627	
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57543	LOPROTO, Vincent, vjl13@gmail.com	Whales, Dolphins
57588	MAHMARIAN, Angela, amgiraffe@aol.com	Giraffes, Papillons
57571	MASTERS, Ken, krmasters@aol.com	Perfins, Penguins
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	9004 Park Meadows Dr, Elk Grove CA 95624-2712	
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	207 Melrose Ave, Cinnaminson NJ 08077-2232	Girl Guides, Sea Turtles, Ships
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57573	MITCHELL, Paul	
57547	NAYLOR, Gerald	Lighthouses, Mushrooms
57538-FM	PACKOWSKI, Susan, susanpackowski@yahoo.com	Religions Art (excluding Christmas and Easter), Dogs, Cats
	1272 W Calle De Sotelo, Sahuarita AZ 85629-8068	Santa, Cats
57579	PARKS, Diana, dianajparks417@gmail.com	
	417 Cedar Ave, Pitman NJ 08071-1885	
57562	PARROTTA, Lou	Politics, Baseball, Entertainment - all autographed
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57009	PRATUCH, Thomas	
57574	ROGERS, Jacob, bobmeapyoshi@yahoo.com	Music
57580	ROY, Cindy, roycha3@aol.com	
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	Rua Aires da Cunha 228, Cotia São Paulo 06706165 BRAZIL	
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	31805 Temecula Pkwy Ste 125, Temecula CA 92592-8203	
56472	SAPONE, Jane	
57576	SCHULZE, Barbara	

57575	SHALLENBERGER, Linda, <i>lindashall@comcast.net</i>	Domestic Cats
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55902	SHEYKHETOV, Boris, <i>loris32@SBCglobal.net</i>	Fencing
57548	SINCLAIR, Craig	
57561	SMITH, Gerard, <i>gerardts@aol.com</i>	Minerals, Trains Bridges, Castles
20311/LM-818	STEPHENSON, George ("reinstating" life member), <i>stepgeo146@verizon.net</i>	
	1440 Southwestern Blvd Apt 8, West Seneca NY 14224-4484	
57553	THOMSON, Roy, PO Box 156, St. Johnsville NY 13452-0156	Architecture
57557	TREMERE, Blair, <i>btremere@hotmail.com</i>	National Parks, Philately, U.S. History
57577	VEGA, Eric	
57544	VERDINI, James, <i>james_verdini@yahoo.com</i>	Classical Composers and Musicians, Maps, Cats, Stamps/Stamp Collecting
	8107 Kelly Oak Dr, Browns Summit NC 27214-9807	
57563	VILLANUEVA, Arturo, <i>avillanueva@dharma-consulting.com</i>	Fishes
	Av. Monte de los Olivos 236 Dpto. 301 Surco, Lima 33 PERU	
57578	WALDRON, Joseph	
54891	YOUNG, Robert	
57551	YOUNG, Roger, <i>rogerwyong@yahoo.com</i>	Medical Subjects, Pharmacy, Private Die Proprietary Medicine Stamps
	21 Brighton St, Charlestown MA 02129-1201	

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KARNEY, Paul (N.Y.)

Deceased Members

54277	HANSON, Robert (Mo.)
52034	JARKOWSKI, Yvonne (Calif.)
56790	NEWCOMB, Joan (Fla.)

ATA Membership Recruiters 2016

The following ATA members have recruited 80 new members through Sept. 10, 2016. Their accounts in the ATA Bucks Bank will receive \$5 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	23	Cassidy, Jared	1
Fisk, Allan	7	Chun, Steve	1
Hayward, Jeffrey	7	Collins, Beth	1
Curiale, Tony	4	Costa, Carol	1
Winnograd, Mark H	4	Crain, Lawrence Roy	1
Davidson, Larry	3	Denys, Jack André	1
Stout, Jean	3	Edholm, Keith	1
Sullivan, Joe	3	Eyster, Lucy	1
Cartier, Karen	2	Homel, Michael	1
Morgenstern, Amanda	2	Owen, John W	1
Scannell, Caroline	2	Ryan, Laurie	1
Smith, Dale E	2	Skvara, Fred	1
Wieting, Amy	2	Stanton, Loraine	1
Balagian, Greg	1	Tabbert, Ron	1
Bruce, Susan	1	Thomas, Bill	1
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Letters to the editor, features and short pieces are always welcomed, as long as they are strongly related to topical and thematic stamp collecting and add to the knowledge base of the hobby.

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ATA website: www.americantopicalassn.org.

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(Routinely mentioned in *Topical Time*)

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www.yvert-et-tellier.fr/

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

Filacap: José Maurício do Prado, editor,
 Caixa Postal 06, Cachoeira Paulista SP,
 12630-970, Brazil
ac.filacap@uol.com.br; www.filacap.com.br

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

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

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

Linn's Stamp News: Donna Houseman,
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Plan now!
ATA will hold its annual meeting June 23, 2017.

Show Calendar

Oct. 7-9, Indiana. Indypex, Hamilton County Fairground & Exhibition Center, 2003 Pleasant Street. Hours are 10-5 on Friday, 10-5 Saturday and 10-4 on Sunday, 26 dealers will attend. Contact Rick Nelson.

Email: janelsonnep@comcast.net

Website: www.indianastampclub.org

Oct. 15, Delaware. Dover Stamp Club Show, sponsored by the Dover Stamp Club, Camden-Wyoming Fire Hall, 200 E. Camden Wyoming Ave, Camden, Del. Hours are 10-4, exhibits, special 65th anniversary cancel, post office, bid boxes, supplies and more. Free Admission.

Contact Melvin Nace. (302) 674-0837

Email: doverstampclub@aol.com

Nov. 5-6, Michigan. AAPEX 2016, sponsored by Ann Arbor Stamp Club. Morris Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor, Mich. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4, 28 dealers, exhibits, ATA table, youth area, free parking and admission. Contact Harry & Dottie Winter (734) 761-5859.

Email: harwin@umich.edu

Website: www.annarborstampclub.org

Nov. 11-12, Texas. The 2016 Mid-Cities Stamp Expo, 29th annual exhibition and bourse, sponsored by the Mid-Cities Stamp Club, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S Main St., Grapevine, Texas. Hours 10-5 Friday, 9-4 Saturday, bourse, cachet, cancel, exhibits, post office, more. Free admission and parking.

Contact: Ralph Poore. (817) 235-8472

Email: rspoore@ralph-s-poore.com

Website: www.mid-citiesstampclub.com

Nov. 12, Pennsylvania. The 70th Annual Johnstown Stamp Show, St. John Gualbert Activity Center, 110 Adams St., Johnstown, Pa. (just 2 blocks from previous show site). Hours: 10-4, dealers, exhibits, youth table, free parking and admission.

Contact: Charles Holtzman, Jr., 522 Highland Ave., Johnstown PA 15902.

Email: chazhjr@msn.com

Dec. 10, 2016, Missouri. Stratford Inn Bourse, 800 S. Highway Dr, Fenton, Mo. Free admission and parking. Hours 10-4 (every second Saturday).

Contact Gene Stewart (636) 343-5757.

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

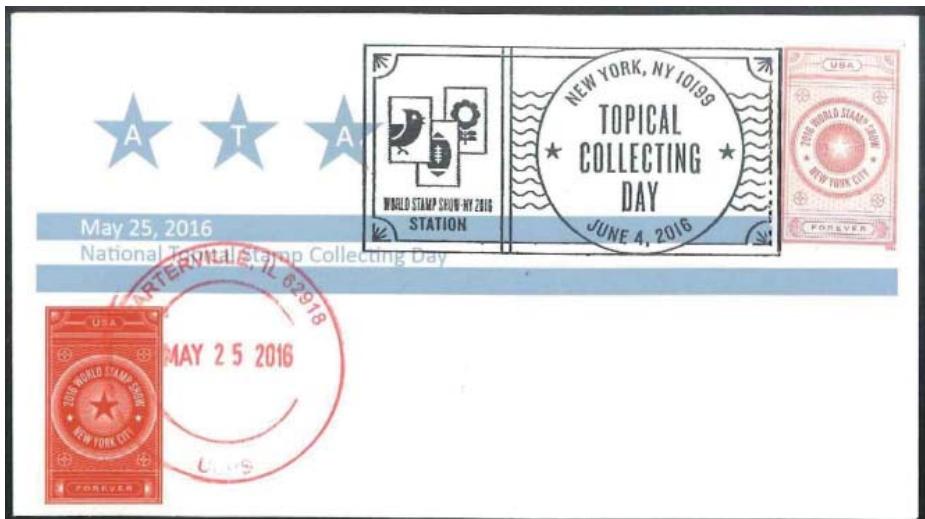


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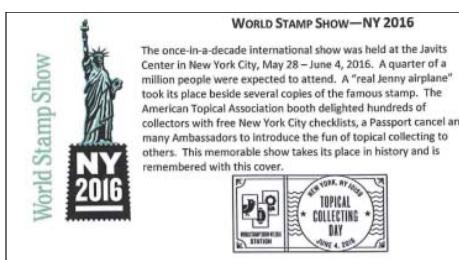
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Miss the NY2016 show?
 Or, attended the show but missed the ATA cachet?
Time to collect a wonderful souvenir!!

Dual canceled cover commemorating
NY2016 and National Topical Stamp Collecting Day

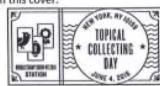


Cachet Insert (double sided)



WORLD STAMP SHOW—NY 2016

The once-in-a-decade international show was held at the Javits Center in New York City, May 28–June 4, 2016. A quarter of a million people were expected to attend. A "real Jenny airplane" took its place beside several copies of the famous stamp. The American Topical Association booth delighted hundreds of collectors with free New York City checklists, a Passport cancel and many Ambassadors to introduce the fun of topical collecting to others. This memorable show takes its place in history and is remembered with this cover.



NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP COLLECTING DAY

The American Topical Association (ATA) was founded in 1949 by 19-year old Jerome (Jerry) Husak. The date of May 25—Jerry's birthday—has been designated as National Topical Stamp Collecting Day. ATA has become the world's foremost organization for topical/thematic stamp collecting. According to ATA records, it has had a total of 55,477 members in its 66-year history.

The ATA offers its members the following:

- Topical Time – award-winning bimonthly journal
- Membership Directory – connecting with thematic collectors in 63 countries
- 1208 Checklists with free updates
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