

Scribblings

...from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library



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The Leeds Patent Envelope: An Unusual Use

by Stephen B. Pacetti

The grubby looking cover in *Figure 1* looks, at first blush, like an ordinary Civil War soldier's letter from New Bern. Upon closer examination, however, it has an interesting story, particularly the odd envelope used. But first, some background is needed.



Figure 1

Although North Carolina seceded from the Union on May 20, 1861, New Bern remained under Union control for all but about 10 months. "As a center of agriculture, munitions and naval supplies for the Confederacy, New Bern was an important target for the North to capture. Turpentine factories, shipbuilding yards, and even inventors of the first bombs for the South were all based [there]."¹ Furthermore, it provided a sheltered inland port, which along with Union control of most of the North Carolina coast, was important in the North's highly successful blockade of Confederate shipping.

Thus, New Bern was captured after a short battle on March 14, 1862, by a Union force led by Brigadier General Ambrose Burnside. A hospital and lookout post was established in the First Presbyterian Church, which still stands today (*Figure 2*). Stationed there, as an army Chaplain, was the Rev. William C. Whitcomb.

Born February 8, 1820 in Marlborough, New Hampshire, Whitcomb was commissioned as a Chaplain on July 5, 1862. A staunch abolitionist, he authored *A Discourse on the Recapture of Fugitive Slaves* in 1850, which is in print today. He died in Morehead City, NC from malarial fever on October 29, 1864.

The letter is addressed to Mrs. Albert Goff. Albert Goff, a farmer, lived in Attleboro, Massachusetts. His wife was Ruth. Their eldest son and daughter were

(continued)

The Leeds Patent Envelope: An Unusual Use *(continued)*



Figure 2

William and Isabelle, who would have been about ages 20 and 21, respectively, in 1864. William enlisted in the Massachusetts 24th Infantry on October 21, 1861.² At the time of this letter, the 24th Infantry was in New Bern.³ I believe the letter writer, here, was William Goff, writing to his mother. It is odd that it was addressed “Care of Isabelle”.

The Act of July 22, 1861 provided that Union noncommissioned soldiers could mail a letter without prepayment of postage, and that the postage would be collected upon delivery. The envelope had to be clearly marked as a “Soldier’s Letter” and a commissioned officer (or equivalent) had to sign a “certificate” on the envelope so attesting.⁴

This letter was mailed in New Bern, as shown by the black, double circle NEW BERN/AUG 28 1864/N.C. date stamp. The postmaster correctly hand stamped “Due 3” for the 3 cents postage due upon delivery. At upper left, is Chaplain Whitcomb’s certificate showing it to be a genuine soldier’s letter that did not require prepayment of postage. In the upper right corner is a manuscript “35”, probably written by someone to indicate the 35th letter received from the writer.

Now, for the unusual part—what’s with the square hole in the upper right with the tic-tac-toe lattice? This is a Leeds patent envelope, named after the patent owner Lewis W. Leeds of New York City.⁵

The first to obtain such an envelope patent was Benjamin Morison of Philadelphia, who called his invention an “Improved Envelope for Letters, Documents, etc., Requiring to be Mailed”.⁶ Oddly, his “hole” was in the upper left corner of the envelope. It was round and did not have a lattice of any type.

When Leeds filed for his own patent, he found that Morison had beaten him to it. Morison, however, never pursued his idea, and in late 1861, Leeds purchased the patent for \$5,000, with the assistance of his brother Barclay, also of Philadelphia.



Figure 3

Lewis Leeds’ concept was a die cut opening in the upper right corner, with a lattice. He and his first partner in the venture, Calvert Vaux (pronounced Vorks) enlisted famed postal stationery printer George Nesbitt to develop an envelope with the die cut hole shown in *Figure 3*.⁷

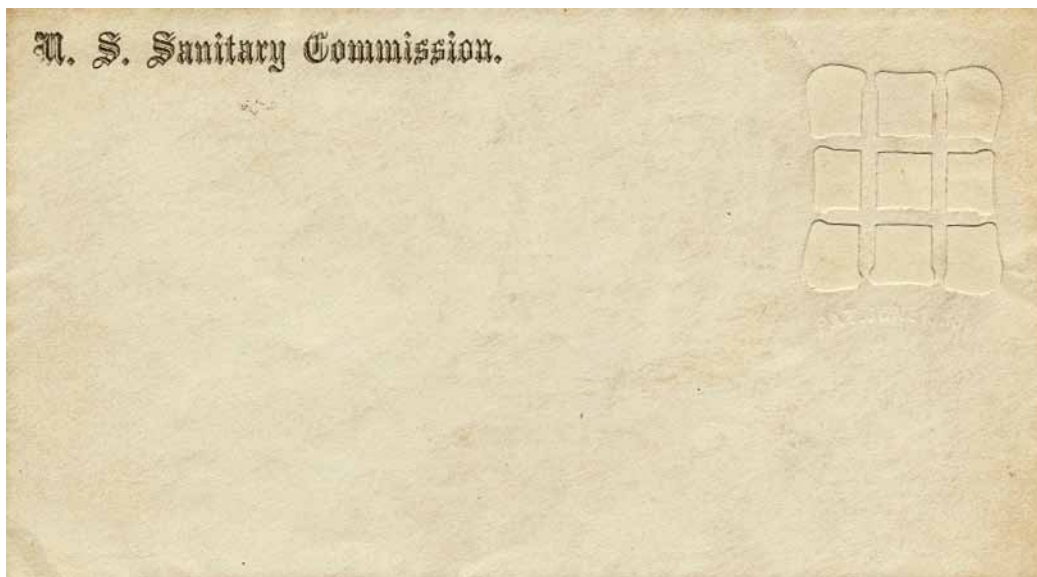


Figure 4

Later, after Vaux dropped out in January 1862 and Franklin joined Leeds in the envelope venture, they hired printer and envelope maker William P. Lyon, who developed the die style shown in *Figure 1* and *4*. (Note that the envelope in *Figure 4* bears a

printed "U.S. Sanitary Commission." corner card. (This becomes relevant to the story shortly.) Lyon was to not only produce the envelopes, but to advertise and sell them.

The whole idea behind the patent envelope was to interest business people, not the general public. The November 11, 1862 New York Times ad shown in *Figure 5* explains the envelope's purpose. You place the postage stamp directly over the die cut hole lattice. Part of the gum adheres to the lattice, the other to the letter sheet inside. Then, the postmaster strikes a socked-

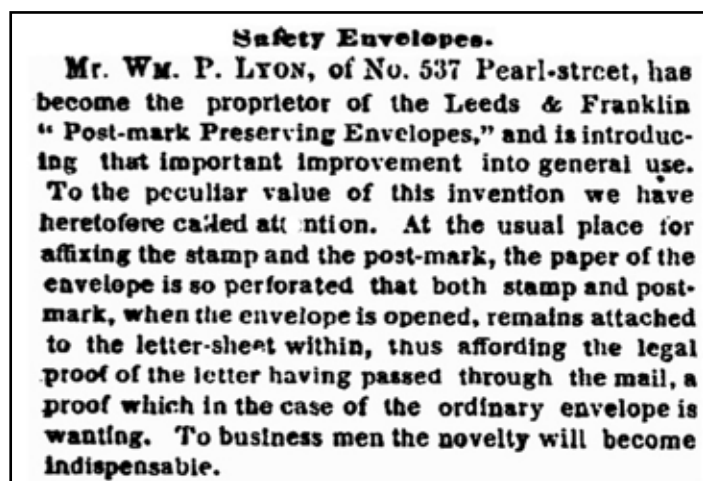


Figure 5

on-the-nose date stamp to cancel the stamp. When the addressee removes the letter, the canceled stamp and lattice are torn from the envelope, and remain with the letter as proof of mailing and the date. *Figure 6* shows the reverse of an 1861 1 cent, removed from a letter, with the lattice remnant still adhering.



Figure 6

The problem with the whole idea Leeds had was that it required extra work at the post office to precisely strike the date stamp, and, most importantly, that the Post Office Department had issued a specific policy to postmasters in July 1860 to not cancel postage stamps with a date stamp. The date stamp was to be struck on an unmarked portion of the envelope so as to be easily read. Thus, despite the efforts to sell the

Stamp Sealing and Postmark Preserving Envelope, as Leeds called it, the venture was a failure.

Now, about the U.S. Sanitary Commission connection: Lewis Leeds' primary business was as a heating and ventilation consultant. He worked with the Commission to advise it on ways to improve the ventilation in Union hospitals and camps. The thinking among public health officials at the time was that diseases were airborne in a "miasma" and were spread in this manner.

For reasons unknown, the Commission purchased 29,500 patent envelopes from Lyon. Some were printed with the Commission corner card, some plain.

One of the Commission's main activities was its so-called Sanitary Fairs and similar events, to provide a little aid and comfort to Union soldiers. It is my speculation, then, that William Goff, or perhaps Chaplain Whitcome, obtained the envelope in *Figure 1* at a Sanitary Commission event, or by some other distribution method. There is no record that Leeds patent envelopes were ever sold commercially to the public.

With so many patent envelopes in the Sanitary Commission's hands, one might think that they are not uncommon in the collecting market. In fact, they are scarce. Those with the Commission corner card are very scarce. What became of them all is a mystery.

Endnote:

An article titled, "The Leeds Patent Envelope: A Review and a Possible New Earliest Known Use", written by me, may be found in the May 2007, No. 214, issue of the *U.S. Philatelic Classics Society Chronicle*.

Since then further research has pointed up a few errors in the article, as well as additional information about the Leeds envelope. If any reader has a patent envelope—in their collection, I would very much appreciate receiving a scan at: sbp57@comcast.net

¹ New Bern, North Carolina History, <http://www.new-bern.nc.us/HistoryNB/>

² William Goff reenlisted as a corporal, September 3, 1864 and was mustered out on January 20, 1866.

³ I am indebted to my wife, Julianne H. Pacetti, the family genealogist, for researching Chaplin Whitcomb and the Goff's.

⁵ This same privilege was extended to Union sailors and marines on January 21, 1862.

⁶ Sometimes called a Leeds and Franklin patent envelope, after Leeds' second partner in the envelope venture, Joseph F. Franklin.

⁶ Patent No. 28767, June 19, 1860.

⁷ Note the expert detail of the design, (Figure 3).

The black insert is to show how the envelope might look with a letter sheet inside.

A Brief Introduction to Collecting Liberia

by Travis Searles

When you mention Liberia to stamp collectors, many ignore you and some even giggle. It is obvious that Liberia has been catering to collectors by printing a huge variety of non-Liberian related stamps and this is not just a recent belief. Liberia's reputation for printing unneeded stamps has been discussed for over a century! Nevertheless, the early stamps of Liberia, whether needed or not, offer attractive and challenging opportunities for the collector.

The Republic of Liberia was formed on July 26, 1847 by freed American slaves who were mostly repatriated by the American Colonization Society, a private organization that believed ex-slaves would have greater freedom and equality in Africa. Modeling their government after the United States, a constitution was written and elections were held with J. J. Roberts being elected the first president of Liberia. The city of Robertstown is named in his honor. The capital of Liberia is Monrovia which was named in honor of United States president James Monroe.

English is the official language of the country and this is one of the many reasons that I chose to collect Liberia. I wanted to collect a country which had a language that would be easy for me to understand and I also wanted to collect stamps from a country that wasn't as well known or collected as the stamps of the British Empire. In fact, Liberia is one of two African countries that were never colonized by Europeans.

The first stamps of Liberia were issued in 1860. These stamps picture Lady Liberty sitting on the ocean shore with a sailing ship in the background. They were lithographed in London by Dando, Todhunter and Smith and were the only postage stamps issued in Liberia for over twenty years. The collector must be careful with these first issues because many forgeries exist, some being extremely convincing. There are even specialists who identify and collect these different forgeries.

Some of the more popular stamps are the pictorial stamps issued between 1892 and 1918. Printed in England, these engraved, mostly bi-color stamps, depict famous politicians, country symbols, and native flora and fauna. The topical collector will be busy collecting elephants, monkeys, lizards, hippos, birds, flags, coins, ships and more. The specialist has many opportunities with die proofs, trial color proofs, overprints, plate varieties and errors which include inverted centers.



1906 75c pictorial issue showing an inverted Liberian pigmy hippopotamus



1909 5c pictorial issue showing the gunboat Lark which was given to Liberia in 1848 by Queen Victoria. It was sunk in 1917 by a German torpedo, ending Liberia's navy.

Along with the regular issues, there are semi-postal, airmail, registration, postage due, military, officials, postal stationery and revenue stamps available to collect. Most official stamps were distinguished by an "OS" overprint representing Official Service. Initially regularly issued stamps were overprinted



1918 Trial ColorProof.
\$2 pictorial issue showing Liberia College which was incorporated in 1851. The issued stamp is light violet and black.

with the word "Official" on the stamp. It was hard to tell the regular issue from the official stamps so a large "OS" was added. Later issues would have the "Official" dropped and just use the "OS" while a color change was added to help distinguish them from the normal stamps.



1916 10c overprint on the 1880 24c seated liberty stamp.

Other collecting interests include quite a few triangle stamps and a large amount of overprinted stamps. The first overprinted stamps were produced in 1892 as Liberia did not have any dedicated postage due or official stamps. Many other overprints followed with most showing up during the First World War. Just before the war, Liberia switched from English to German printers. Once war broke out, the stamps produced in Germany were either seized or destroyed en route. This created a shortage of postage stamps in Liberia, so previously issued stamps were overprinted with the current postage rates.

There are three major resources on Liberian Philately: *A Century of Liberian Philately* by Col. Henry Rogers, *Liberia Specialized Catalog 1975* by Lothar von Saleski, and the *Liberia Series Booklets* by Philip Cockrill. The RMPL has the first two books and several of the Cockrill books available. Other resources include the Liberian Philatelic Society and the Philately of Liberia website (www.philib.org) which pictures almost every stamp and variety issued up to 1960.

I have just touched on a tiny little bit of this often overlooked country. One advantage of collecting an overlooked country is that many of the errors, proofs, and varieties are available at fairly reasonable prices. If you have not looked into the stamps of Liberia, I encourage you to at least check out the stamps of Liberia from 1860-1960. These are very attractive stamps and come from a country that shares some of its history with the United States.

If You Must Fake Something, Go Big!

by Joe Lambert

This picture is of a damaged stamp which wants to be a used #322, one of the earliest coil issues and a great rarity. It is also not known (or listed) used. Wow, if only this could be real, damage and all!!

As with most rarities, however, they have that name because there aren't many of them. The earliest coil stamps distributed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing were experimental and were sold only to vending machine operators.



This experiment was of limited time (mostly in 1908) and of limited scope (in the case of #322, only 36,500 were issued). Moreover, according to Armstrong *United States Coil Issues of 1906-38*. "Coils were a new thing, and at first, did not receive a heart-warming greeting. Collectors and dealers maintained the attitude that a coil was even worse than a straight edge since two sides lacked perforations. Therefore, it was the general consensus that coils were of no philatelic value. How things have changed!!!

This particular fake fails for a few reasons - it is too short, it is not the right color, and it is not the right type of this stamp (see Armstrong, op.cit. regarding the last two of these).

Flat plate coils are undoubtedly the most frequently faked items in U.S. philately - even the lowest cataloged ones are very often faked. Beware always - and most especially beware of the rarities - of which very, very few genuine examples remain. There are many fakes out there which are considerably more deceptive than the example here - which is so silly and off the wall as to deserve its own picture and article.



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RMPL BOARD MEETING - MARCH 15, 2012

With all members in attendance, a fond farewell was bid to former RMPL Board members Jan Marie Belle and Roger Cichorz, and welcomes extended to the returning members of the Board and John Bloor and Steve McGill, the two newly elected members. Among notes for the record, the RMPL had received very positive comments in recent philatelic publications - including the *American Philatelist*, *Collectors Club*, and *Linn's*.

Old business centered on three topics, which were dispatched fairly quickly.

First, was the matter of a summer picnic. The Board agreed to again host a summer picnic in the late afternoon, beginning at 6 pm on Saturday, August 25th at the library. It will be a pot luck affair, with hot dogs and hamburgers supplied by the library. More details to follow.

In the matter of a building maintenance fund, no action was taken, as the present budget provides a contingency fund that can be used for this purpose.

Finally, with regard to the Tulsa Community Fund, it was agreed to discontinue that fund and establish a UBS fund for the Librarian's Fund. That fund will begin with a capitalization of \$80,000 (\$26,000 from the Tulsa Fund) and will be increased every year by approximately \$5,000 (or more, if increased sources of funding are secured by the library). The Librarian's fund is intended to provide a reserve from which a Librarian might be paid, in the event that our librarian, Ellengail Beuthel, decides to step down from her position.

New business items were resolved expeditiously. RMPL representation at the Sacramento APS Stampshow will be by Vice President Jim Kilbane, and, or anyone else displaying any interest in attending.

Tours of the RMPL were scheduled for May 18th, 19th and 20th during the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show. The Annual Volunteer Party was settled upon for Friday, December 7th at the White Fence Farm.

Details on the RMPL auction to be held at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show were reviewed.

The likely June/July departure of our librarian volunteer Megan Welsh upon completion of her graduate studies was discussed, and the Board's fondest farewells extended for a magnificent job well done.

The final arrangements for the visits of the Scandinavian Collectors Club of the United States for Thursday, May 17th and the Mexican Elmhurst Philatelic Society (MEPSI) on the evening of Friday, May 18th were discussed.

Board members were advised of the accessibility of the RMPL to the Royal Philatelic Society of London's archives through our public computer.

Finally, the decision was made to proceed with the purchase of a new copier/printer following the outcome of the RMPL auction. An upper limit for expenditures was settled upon, which is not being disclosed at this time as negotiations are proceeding with three potential vendors.

In closing, it was noted that the CHERPEX Stamp Show has been rescheduled to September 23rd and 24th.

WHAT'S NEW ON THE SHELVES?



Complete Catalogue Set Stanley-Gibbons 2011

Some call the Stanley Gibbons six volume, color, 6,000 page, 160,000 illustration "Stamps of the World" the bible of stamp catalogues. The 2011 publication now graces our library shelves. Like any "world" catalogue, the SG version covers primarily the basics and identifies itself as a "Simplified" catalogue. But don't panic if you are an advanced collector! Alongside the world catalogues are six SG specialty volumes that cover Great Britain from Victoria to Elizabeth II and two volumes that list the GB and Commonwealth issues of George V and George VI. The specialty color catalogues include perforation and watermark varieties, selected plate flaws, postage dues and officials, and booklets. These are very nice additions to our library!

The Prez' Observations

Surviving A Century or More:

February was a bad month for me as President of the RMPL, compounded by the extra day in the month that added to my ill temper for further things going wrong. Those kinds of days make you wonder whether it's worth the time, effort and energy that so many people have put into the library to make it a smooth, functioning and viable organization with a future.

That answer generally comes quickly to mind after observing this place for nearly 18 years - despite the ups and downs, the vagaries of each day, and the distemper arising from coping with over 500 personalities in the membership, you're darn tooting that it is worth the time, and I do hope that all of you (as members) will be able to make contributions to the RMPL as it grows and evolves in the future.

Which brings me to the pop quiz for this month. Have you ever wondered how many stamp clubs have survived the decades of changing personalities running these special bedrocks of organized philately? I have had the pleasure of being associated with a number of stamp clubs in the Denver Metro area, and there too can be observed conflicting personalities at work to promote the hobby.

Knowing this, I decided to contact Ken Martin, Executive Director of the APS to find out which are the ten cities in the U.S. with stamp clubs that have been affiliated with the APS the longest (this does

not mean the oldest stamp clubs, as it may have taken some clubs years to decide to affiliate with the APS). Ken dutifully responded to the request (thank you) and I was pleasantly surprised to see the towns and communities that were and were not included on the list.

Here are presented a list of 20 cities, why don't you wildly speculate as to which ten are the oldest! And don't sneak a peek to page 18 of this issue, which cites them in order. Bottom line, some of these organizations date back nearly 125 years and they have managed to survive changing leadership, conflicting personalities, changed market conditions, lousy hinges, proliferating fakes and counterfeits, speculators and promoters, different locales etc. If they've been able to do it, bad February days are not likely to deter the RMPL from fulfilling its mission far into the future. And the list of cities: Manhattan, NY; Brooklyn, NY; Boston, MA; Pittsburgh, PA; Philadelphia, PA; Denver, CO; Chicago, IL; Des Moines, IA.; Omaha, NE.; San Francisco, CA.; Cleveland, OH; St. Louis, MO; Milwaukee, WI; Detroit, MI; Atlanta, GA; Washington, D.C.; Twin Cities, MN; Seattle, WA; New Orleans, LA.; Nashville, TN.

See "Answers" on Page 18

Sergio

PERIODICAL PICKINS

by Sergio Lugo

Tired of the same old stuff in the way of philatelic periodicals?

Well, how about something that comes out of no place, or more specifically completely out of the sky!!

Yes, I'm talking about that redoubtable topical periodical of the Parachute Study Group entitled *Let's Talk Parachutes*. Never heard of the journal? Well, we hadn't either until one day we got a donation of them, covering the years 1974 to 1980, supplemented by another periodical devoted to the same topic entitled *Parachutes*. Our holdings of *Let's Talk Parachutes* spans Issue # 1 (April 1974) through Volume 8 (December 1980). We don't know if it was discontinued after that. As stated, the Parachutes Study Group promoted the newsletter. They apparently discontinued at some point and renewed their newsletter in 1995, as we have Volume 6 issues of 2001 and 2002 by the same study group, but this time named *Parachutes*.

The newsletter was simply that - a discussion of parachutes and parachutists, and a listing of stamps with parachute-related stamp pictures. The organization also went in for listings of parachute related cancels and covers that had been produced. As the organization matured, discussions became more historically reflective, with articles ranging from the early design of parachutes to the Normandy air assault on St. Marie Eglise, France. In addition to its studies of military paratrooper operations, the periodical also gradually grew to include civilian parachuting associations and events. In black and white, the successor magazine, *Parachutes*, was a much finer quality production. Neither periodical contained any advertising. Unfortunately, we do not know when either the first or the second periodical ceased publication.



OP-ED - Featuring Your Opinions

The Post Office Deserves to Be Preserved *by Ronald Hill*

A 2006 Law is Bankrupting the Post Office - Neither rain nor sleet nor snow may have stopped the Pony Express, but the nation's oldest and second-largest employer is now under attack. Claiming the United States Postal Service (USPS) is bankrupt, critics are pushing legislation that would defuse the postal crisis by breaking the backs of the postal workers' unions and mandating widespread layoffs.

But the "crisis" is an artificial one, created by Congress itself. In 2006, Congress passed the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA), which forced the USPS to put aside billions of dollars to pay for the health benefits of employees, many of whom hadn't even been hired yet. Over a mere ten-year period, the USPS was required to pre-fund its future health care benefit payments to retirees for the next 75 years, something no other government or private corporation is required to do. If PAEA had never been enacted, USPS would now be facing a \$1.5 billion surplus.

The USPS is a profitable, self-funded venture that is not supported by the taxpayers. It is funded with **postage stamps** - one of the last vestiges of government-issued money. Stamps have value and can be traded at par, and they are backed, not by mere government "fiat," but by labor. **One stamp will buy the labor to transport your letter 3,000 or more miles. (in the case of Hawaii)**

The USPS is one of the few businesses the government is allowed to operate in competition with private companies; it is the only US agency that services all its citizens six days per week; and it is perhaps the last form of communication that protects privacy, since tampering with it is against federal law. In 1999, the USPS employed nearly a million people, and today, it employs around 600,000. Where are those workers to go when the post office is no more?

The US Postal Saving System Can Save the Post Office-it worked before - There are other ways to mitigate the crisis than slashing employee benefits and customer services. Instead of focusing on cuts, the post office should approach the problem from a business perspective and find a new way to make money. One way to keep the USPS alive is for it to go back to including some basic banking services in its product line.

Banking in post offices is not new. Many countries, including Germany, France, Italy, Japan and New Zealand, have a long and successful history of it - and so does the United States.

From 1911 to 1967, the US Postal Savings System provided a safe and efficient place for customers to save and transfer funds. It issued US Postal Savings Bonds in various denominations that paid annual interest, as well as Postal Savings Certificates and domestic money orders. The US Postal Savings System was set up early in the 20th century to attract the savings of immigrants accustomed to saving at post offices in their native countries, to provide safe depositories for people who had lost confidence in private banks and to furnish more convenient depositories for working people than were provided by private banks. (Post offices were then open from 8 AM to 6 PM, six days a week, substantially longer than bankers' hours.) The postal system paid two percent interest annually on deposits. The minimum deposit was \$1 and the maximum was \$2,500. Savings in the system spurted to \$1.2 billion during the 1930s and jumped again during World War II, peaking in 1947 at almost \$3.4 billion.

The US Postal Savings System was shut down in 1967, not because it was inefficient, but because it was considered unnecessary after private banks raised their interest rates and offered the same governmental guarantees that the postal savings system had.

The Kiwibank Model: Postal Banks to Serve Local Communities - Postal banks are now thriving in New Zealand, not as an historical artifact, but as a popular new innovation. When they were instituted in 2002, it was not to save the post office, but to save New Zealand families and small businesses from big-bank predators. By 2001, Australian megabanks controlled some 80 percent of New Zealand's retail banking. Profits went abroad and were maximized by closing less profitable branches, especially in rural areas. The result was to place hardships on many New Zealand families and small businesses.

The New Zealand government decided to launch a state-owned bank that would compete with the Aussies. They called their new bank Kiwibank, after their national symbol, the kiwi bird. But the government team planning the new bank faced major challenges. How could they keep costs low while still providing

services in communities throughout New Zealand?

Their solution was to open bank branches in post offices. Kiwibank was established as a subsidiary of the government-owned New Zealand Post. The Kiwibank web site states: Back in 2002, we launched with a thought: New Zealand needs a better banking alternative - a bank that provides real value for money, that has Kiwi values at heart, and that keeps Kiwi money where it belongs - right here, in New Zealand. So we set up shop in PostShops throughout the country, putting us in more locations than any other bank in New Zealand literally overnight (without wasting millions on new premises!).

Suddenly, New Zealanders had a choice in banking. In an early "move your money" campaign, they voted with their feet. In an island nation of only 4 million people, in its first five years Kiwibank attracted 500,000 customers away from the big banks. It consistently earns the nation's highest customer satisfaction ratings, forcing the Australia-owned banks to improve their service in order to compete.

Postal Banking Japan-Style: Funding the Government's Debt With Its Own Bank - Another interesting model is Japan Post Bank, now the largest publicly owned bank in the world. Japan Post is also the largest holder of personal savings, making it the world's largest credit engine. Most money today originates as bank loans, and deposits are the magic pool from which this credit-money is generated. Japan Post uses its excess credit power to buy government bonds. By 2007, it was the holder of one-fifth of the nation's debt.

If the USPS were to add commercial banking to its product line, it, too, could use its own bank-generated credit to help relieve its debt problems. The USPS is being forced to fund the health care costs of its employees for 75 years into the future, and a large portion of this unreasonable burden is composed of interest charges.

The Post Office Deserves to Be Preserved - The USPS is a venerable institution that is older than the Constitution. It should be saved, and it can be saved. One way is to support HR 1351, a bill introduced by Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-Massachusetts) to repeal the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act.

OP-ED - Another View

Does The Post Office Deserve to be Preserved? *by Sergio Lugo*

My problem areas of your comments above are as follows:

1. You should consider that postal savings banks will lead to another bureaucracy!
2. Postal employees here would share your argument - namely the health insurance provisions are what is fundamentally driving the issue. They have also pointed out to me that not a single U.S. agency has fully funded its health insurance programs - except the USPS.
3. I would stress two factors, however, that also seem to be at play: namely (a) the internet's slashing of first class mail, and (b) Congress' abject refusal to let the postal service operate as a business, a reform that Congress insisted on in the late 1960s; and which Congress has refused to pry its hands off of throughout the last decade to allow the U.S. post office to operate efficiently.
4. Finally, I would add that despite protestations about privatization - American consumers should pay close attention to such things as the following: (a) the amount of parcels sent by private express companies (FedEX, UPS, etc) - something's amiss there when those companies are sending out materials by the truckload through the USPS; (b) they should also pay attention to the rates charged by foreign nations for comparable U.S. services - they will be aghast at what rates will increase to in the event of privatization and, finally, (c) they should also pay attention to the extent that services have been eliminated by countries that have gone to privatization. The American system has been built on principles of fairness and service to all social and geographic sectors of the nation - those principles are of little interest to private for profit companies.

Captain Tim's Ivory Stamp Club Album from 1935

by Paul M. Holland

This item of depression-era Americana was produced for the widely followed radio program on stamps aimed at schoolchildren, presented by Capt. Tim Healy, Australian explorer and adventurer, who related exciting and interesting tales about stamps. The 132-page album with space for 4,000 worldwide stamps was available free in-store with a purchase of 2 large or 4 medium sized bars of Ivory Soap (see below). Furthermore, you could send off for many different packets of stamps, which were offered at 2 packs for 5 cents along with extra soap wrappers. For a dime, you could also get a "Stamp Collector's Outfit" which included a pocket stock book, 25 approval sheets to mount stamps for trading with friends, a pair of stamp tongs, water mark detector, and 10 glassine envelopes.

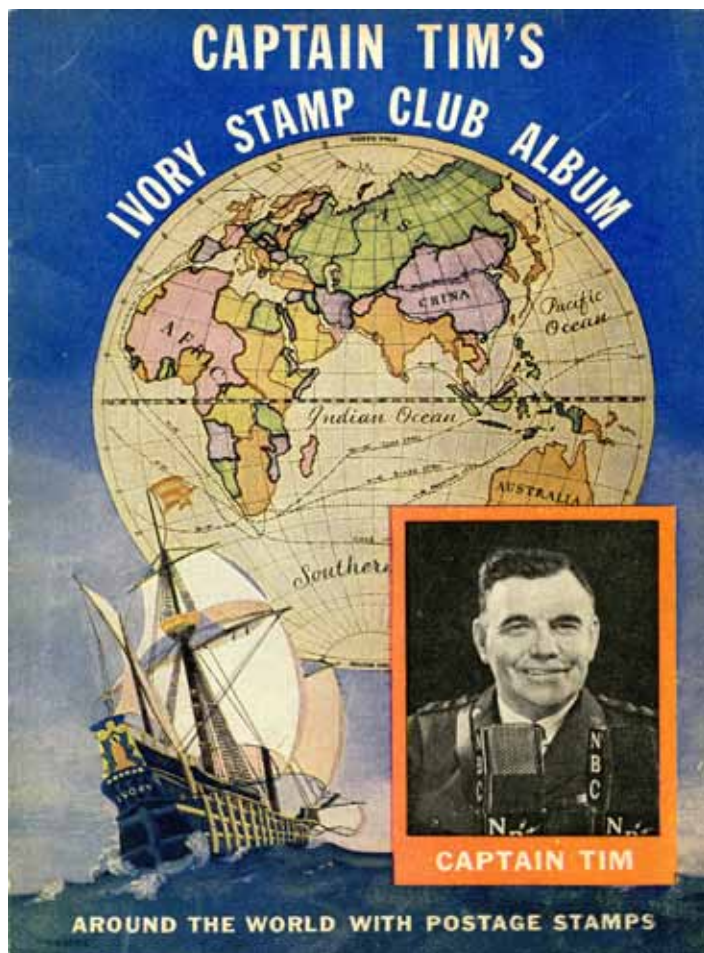
Stamp stories included "The Spark that Set the World Afire" which began "I expect to be greeted with flowers, not bombs!" angrily cried the Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand. Later that day in 1914, while the arrogant Archduke and his wife were visiting Sarajevo, "some thirty assassins lined the Archduke's way" and "a Serbian patriot stepped from the crowd, pistol in hand, and fired a volley of shots", an "event which precipitated the most disastrous war in history". The

stamp of course, is Scott B15 of Bosnia and Herzegovina, showing the Archduke and his wife, which could be obtained with others of the set in Stamp Packet No. 4. Other exciting stories about stamps were "Chinese Pirates" and "Cuauhtemoc, Last of the Aztecs".

A Gallery of Famous Collectors was presented in the stamp album, topped by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and King George V, along with Suggested Rules for starting Local Ivory Stamp Clubs, which included: "Rule 1. Every Ivory Stamp Club member should keep healthy and strong by using Ivory Soap every single day". Captain Tim Healy himself was the genuine article, an Australian army veteran of the Great War, world traveler and adventurer.

The Ivory Stamp Club of the Air began in 1934 after Capt. Healy walked into the New York advertising agency where Doug Storer worked. Storer had been the first person to package radio advertising in the 1920s when there were only a few stations, and had a problem. He had \$10,000 left to spend on Procter & Gamble's radio advertising, and after being enthralled by Tim Healy's stories about stamps, he decided to try a 15 minute radio show sponsored by Ivory Soap, twice a week at small radio stations in Hartford, CT and Worcester, MA. When these tales of derring-do involving stamps recounted by Capt. Tim proved to be a hit, the show was expanded to three days a week on the NBC Blue Radio Network.

The success of the Ivory Stamp Club not only helped sell a lot of soap for Procter & Gamble, but launched the fortunes of H. E. Harris, who was contracted to produce



the stamp albums (such as this one, and several earlier versions) and provide packets of stamps. By 1936 there were an estimated 2.5 million members of the stamp club and H. E. Harris & Co. claimed to have sold more than 400 million stamps, making them "The World's Largest Stamp Firm".

One can't help feeling nostalgic about this era during the middle of the Great Depression, when stamp collecting enjoyed a surge of popularity among all age groups. While this was surely aided by having a famous stamp collector in the White House, much of the credit for this (especially among the young) may also have been due to the Ivory Stamp Club and Captain Tim.



1934 Ivory Stamp Club stamp albums featuring Capt. Tim

The "Eureka!" Moment (or is it just wishful thinking?)

by Peter J. Ditlow

Everyone who has been collecting for a while hopes to make the next great discovery of a previously unreported variety or error. That gem that will turn your collection from something average into something special, or by selling will enable you to finance your stamp buying for the rest of your life.

The stamp press reports on such finds frequently. Most would be classified as Varieties, not in the class of an "Inverted Jenny", but still having a value of several hundred dollars into the thousands of dollars. When reported we go to our collection or duplicates to see if we have missed this new find. It could be lurking there just waiting for your reappraisal.

For those who specialize in any particular area, the opportunity for finding the unreported gem increases since you have become an expert (or at least very knowledgeable) in that area. And with the increased availability of material due to the Internet the world has become your market place, offering an expanded source of opportunities.

While we would all like to find items that are of considerable value, a Eureka moment can consist of something that has no great value but adds to our enjoyment of our hobby and gives us something a bit out of the ordinary to add to our collection.

The first item to be presented (below) is an actual Eureka moment.

This is a common looking business post card found in a small collection of covers. It was mailed from Mostar, Herzegovina on 4/26/1907 to Freidlam, Bohemia. It has a 5 heller, 1906 issue stamp paying the postcard rate within the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The cancel from Mostar is a mediocre strike.

When researching the cancel it was found that the literature (both in German and English) listed three ring cancels from Mostar. All listed as "K. und K. MILIT. POST / MOSTAR" with the differences being in the size. They were 15/27 mm, 18/29 mm and 16/30 mm. The above example has a size of 16/26 mm. While it could be a mistake in measuring that would account for the difference, a comparison of the two cancels shows that they are different.

There is a visible difference in the cancels and a measurable one. The 15/27 cancel has letters that are 4 mm tall while the 16/26 has letters that are 3 mm tall. None of the literature published to 2000 had this cancel listed. While the value of this item may not be much more than the other three cancels, it can definitely be classed as a Eureka Moment. It adds a special flavor to this cancel collection. What may be more important to me as a collector is that "I" found it and was the first to describe it.



15/27



16/26

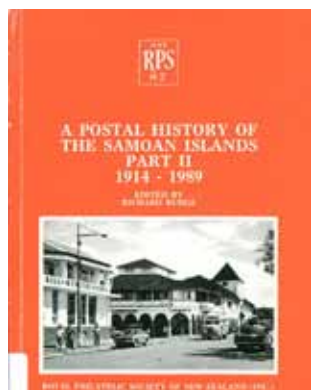
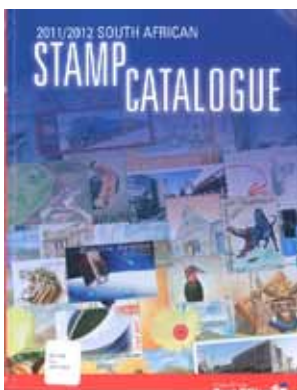
Was es Los?

Next issue: an actual "Wishful Thinking" moment.

WHAT'S NEW ON THE SHELVES?

UNITED STATES

- Florida Post Offices*, by John S. Gallagher
Louisiana Post Offices, by John J. Germann
 with Alan H. Patera and John S. Gallagher
Mississippi Post Offices, by John S. Gallagher
 and Alan H. Patera
Nevada Place Names: A Geographical Dictionary,
 by Helen S. Carlson
North Dakota Centennial on U.S. Philately, by Agnes M. Plath
Our Storehouse of Missouri Place Names, by Robert L. Ramsey
Place Names in Alabama, by Virginia O. Foscoe
Place Names of the White Mountains, by Robert Julian
 and Marry Julian
*Planty's Photo Encyclopedia of Cacheted FDCs: "The Classic
 Period", 1923-1935*, by Earl Planty and Michael Mellone
Postal Markings of United States Expositions,
 by William J. Bomar
Postmasters and Post Offices of the United States 1782-1811,
 prepared by Robert J. Stets
*U.S. Postal Markings, 1851-1861 and Related Mail Services with
 Standards of Condition and Estimates of Rarity*,
 by Tracy W. Simpson



AFRICA

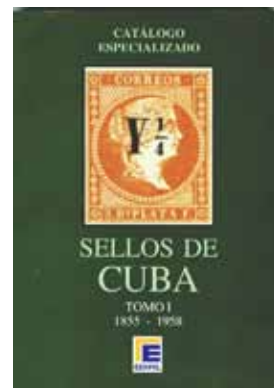
- Orange Free State Philately, volumes 1, 2, & 3*,
 by Robert W. Hisey and R. Timothy Bartshe
The South African Stamp Catalogue,
 pub. by the South African Post Office

AUSTRALIA and OCEANIA

- 1981 Stamp Collectors Year Book*,
 pub. by the Australian Stamp Promotion Council
Fiji: The Stamps and Postal History, 1870-75,
 by J.G. Rodger and R.F. Duberal
Philatelic Handbook of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands,
 by D.H. Vernon
*The Postal History of British New Guinea and Papua,
 1885-1942*, by Roger Lee
The Postal History of Fiji 1876-1910, by J.G. Rodger
The Postal History of Fiji 1911-1952, by J.G. Rodger
*A Postal History of the Samoan Islands Parts I (up to 1914) and
 II (1914-1989)*, ed. by Richard Burge
The Post Offices and Postal Cancellations of Fiji,
 by H.M. Campbell

EUROPE

- British Empire Civil Censorship Devices, World War II:
 Section 2, United Kingdom*, by A.R. Torrance
 and K. Morenweiser
Croatia (in Croatian), by Vladimir Fleck
Festschrift: 100 Jahre Innsbrucker Philatelistische Vereine,
 by Hans Moser et al.
Ganzsachen Österreich Spezialkatalog und Handbuch,
 by Franz Schneidebauer
*Katalog der Deutschen Firmenlochungen (German Perfin
 Catalog), part 1 (A-J) and part 2 (K-Z)*
Montenegro: CRNA GORA, by Vladimir Fleck
The Pioneer Period of Hungarian Airmail,
 by Victor G. Berecz, Jr.
Spezialkatalog: Notmassnahmen in Österreich, 1945-1948,
 by Herbert Stephan



LATIN AMERICA

- Primer Centenario de los Primeros Sellos Postales en Centro
 America: 1 de Diciembre de 1862-1962*
EDIFIL 2012 Catálogo Especializado; Sellos de CUBA

COLORADO

- Colorado: The Zipcodes (1986)*
Postal Zip Code Directory: State of Colorado (1963)

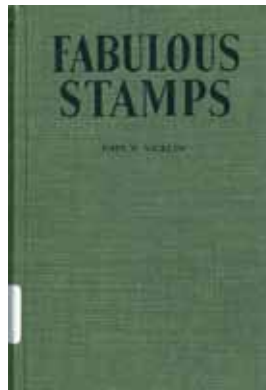
MISCELLANEOUS

- The Boy's Book of Stamp Collecting*, by Douglas B. Armstrong
Duck Stamps: Art in the Service of Conservation,
 by Scott Weidensaul
*The Englishman Who Posted Himself and Other Curious
 Objects*, by John Tingey
Fabulous Stamps: The Romance of the Rarities,
 by John W. Nicklin
*General Regulation of the F.I.P. for Exhibitions (GREX): Their
 Interpretation*, by Eliseo Ruben Otero
*"Paquebot" and "Ship Letter" Cancellations of the World,
 1894-1951*, by M.S. Studd
Style Guide for the First Day Cover Cachet Catalogs,
 by Hal Ansink

NON-PHILATELIC

- Hammond's Complete World Atlas*,
 published by C.S. Hammond & Co.
The Voyage of Mariner 10: Mission to Venus and Mercury,
 by James E. Dunne and Eric Burgess

WHAT'S NEW ON THE SHELVES?

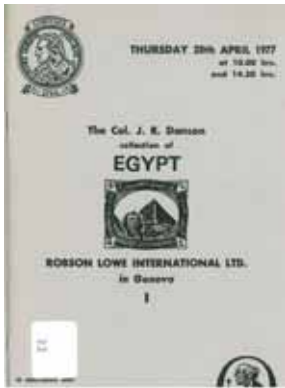


TOPICAL

Automotive Philatelic List: Four-Wheel Vehicle; no Tracks or Farm Equipment, by Kevin Kirkpatrick
How to Collect Topical Stamps, by John H. Groet
Judaica: The Holocaust 1938-1945, Volumes I and II, by Dasa Metzler and Mark Vainer

UNITED NATIONS

Britain, the League, and the U.N.: A Philatelic Study, by William J. Barnes
Postal History of the United Nations, by Norris G. Robinson
Postal History of United Nations Conferences (Monograph 3) and Supplement (Monograph 4), published by United Nations Philatelists
United Nations Philatelic and Numismatic Catalog and Handbook, published by Lindner
United Nations Philately Catalog and Supplements, volumes 1 & 2, by Arleigh Gaines



AUCTION CATALOGS

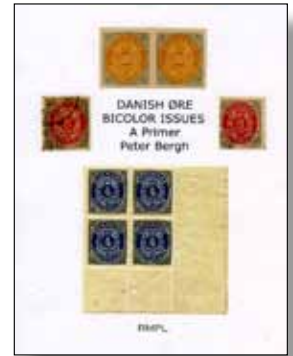
The Artemis Collection of United States Fancy Cancellations, Catalog for a Robert A. Siegel auction October 2011
The Col. J.R. Danson Collection of Egypt, Catalog for a Robson Lowe auction April 1977
The Lois Evans Exhibition Collection, Japan 1846-1900, Catalog for Dynasty Auctions Company, Ltd. auction Aug 2011
The "Sapphire" Collection of Illustrated Advertising Covers, Catalog for an H.R. Harmer auction May 2007
The Albert D. Laehder Collection of United States Stamps & Covers, Catalog for a Robert A. Siegel auction Oct 2011
Postal History from the Archives of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Catalog for a Robert A. Siegel auction Oct 2007

BOOK REVIEW by Sergio Lugo

Danish Bi-Color Issues, A Primer, by Peter Bergh
New Book Published by RMPL

In a masterful discussion, RMPL member Peter Bergh has managed to encapsulate a complex subject into the space of eighty (80) pages in the third book published by the RMPL.

On sale now through the RMPL is Peter's study of the Danish Bi-Color issues of the 1870s in a thorough going analysis of these extraordinary examples of two color printing of the 19th century.



Unusual for the RMPL's publication program, this is a very specific, detailed investigation of a single issue of stamps. Our previous texts have provided overarching details for a wide range of stamps/postal history in a given period of time; in this study, the focus is on providing details on a single stamp series. During the years of their use, between 1875 and 1905, the ten (10) issues in the series went through numerous printings and countless modifications in cliches and ovals. The variety of details in the series has already prompted one massive study in a 2,000 page tome - namely Lasse Nielsen's *The Bicoloured Stamps of Denmark, 1870-1905*, published in 2001. That comprehensive study, however, is enough to boggle the mind of any advanced collector, let alone those just starting to take an interest in them (or for that matter those with no interest in the series).

But it has been our good fortune that Peter recognized the need for a considerably simpler, and slimmed down presentation that would entice the beginning and/or intermediate specialist to devote time and attention to the issue in a serious manner. Peter has done that, in a flowing, colloquial manner that should be appealing to most of our readers, as a result of extensive editorial revisions by editor Sergio Lugo and others. While numerous references to Nielsen's work and that of other advanced specialists are presented throughout the primer, the leadin to the subjects preceding those references helps the beginning specialist gain an intelligible understanding of those special dimensions of the bicolor issues. And the linkage to those special authorities contained in Peter's references reflects a keen appreciation of the many insights gained by him in three decades of studying the issue.

The book is intended as a specialized reference document, accounting for another difference from earlier RMPL books. That is, it is ruggedly constructed with wire spiral binding so as to allow the student of the series to lay the book flat while consulting literature on the stamps or, alternatively, working with the stamps themselves. The stamps illustrated are enlarged to highlight the specific dimensions under discussion, without the need for magnifying glasses that would be necessary for some of the "flyspecking" work that might otherwise be necessary.

Divided into ten (10) sections, the lengthiest treatment in any section is devoted to Frame Types and Flaws, as well as to Printings and Shades, together with Postage Rates. All three of these sections provide enough information in them to provide the reader a knowledgeable font of facts and figures on the subject.

The book, as noted, is available through the RMPL at a cost of \$35, shipping and handling included within the United States. To order, just place a call to the Library at 303-759-9921, or e-mail us at rmpl@qwestoffice.net.

Distinguishing the Ceres Issues

by Stanley J. Luft

Distinguishing the lithographed Bordeaux issues from the also imperforate, typographed Cérés issues of the colonies, both of which are shown in Fig. 1, is not difficult once you know the important characteristics. While many of us already know how to do this, a review for new collectors is always useful. As a quick reminder, the Bordeaux stamps are generally more coarsely printed. The points of the wheat sheaves barely extend beyond the head, and the background lying beyond the circle of pearls that surrounds the effigy consists of curved "bricks" rather than undulating lines and dots. On the other hand, the Cérés stamps for the colonies look just like the perforated Cérés stamps of France, having been printed from the same plates and at the same time.

Hervé Drye, former president of Col.Fra (the specialist society in France for philately in the Colonies and other possessions), published some additional criteria for distinguishing the low-face values, which are shown in Table 1 below. You, the reader, should determine for yourself whether these last criterion also apply to the 2c, 4c and 5c values. M. Drye (and I) have done our part.

References

1. Anon., "Collectors' Forum," *Linn's Stamp News*, 20 Aug 2007, p.36.
2. Drye, H., "Regards sur les timbres-poste de cette période (1871-1876)," *Bulletin COL.FRA*, No. 105, third quarter, 2003.



Bordeaux issues		Paris-printed Cérés issue	
B of REPUB touches underlying curved line		B does not touch underlying line	
First S of POSTES is close to overlying curved line		First S of POSTES is farther from overlying curved line	
One curved line above second S of POSTES		Two curved lines	
O of POSTES is oval shaped		O is almost round	
10 curved lines to left of left 1 of value		Only 8 lines	

Digital eScribblings

One of the most satisfying aspects of the RMPL is the growth we've witnessed with *Scribblings*. The other side of that coin is its cost.

Beginning about 5 years ago, the size of *Scribblings* began increasing as did the costs. In 2006, the costs of sending the then 8 page *Scribblings* (and ancillary material such as the auction catalogs) amounted to \$16 per member. This past year, those costs have climbed to slightly more than \$21.00. The costs of the copier/printer have never been factored in. Therefore, the above cited costs are understated.

Our newsletter began with the RMPL's establishment at Peoria Street in 1993. It was then a single, two sided page; at that time the basic membership was \$15.00 - with roughly 40% of the membership at that level. Since then, *Scribblings* has evolved to roughly 16 to 20 pages, with the basic RMPL membership enjoyed by roughly 30% of our compatriots.

The obvious should have struck home by now - namely, while membership dues have stayed the same for almost two decades, there has been an inexorable march upwards in costs of publishing and distributing *Scribblings*. The RMPL Board has been actively attempting to resolve the resulting deficits. Steps taken have included: (1) rigorously containing the size of *Scribblings* in each issue; (2) using as much donated postage as possible; (3) buying discount postage; (4) purchasing a new copier/printer to reduce the average printing cost; (5) increasing dues (a decision that has been put off until January 2014); (6) subsidizing *Scribblings* with auction revenues; (7) encouraging \$15 Basic members to voluntarily become \$25 regular members; and (8) investigating the option of voluntary e-*Scribblings* versus hard copy *Scribblings*.

We will NOT substitute an electronic version of *Scribblings* for the hard copy you receive, unless you say so. The discussions we have presented in this year's *Scribblings* have been to familiarize you with the issue so that you can make an informed decision on the matter in the near future. In the next issue (July/August) of *Scribblings* we will be asking you to advise us of your druthers regarding an electronic *Scribblings*. That issue will include an SASE that will ask you to decide whether you will take an e-*Scribblings*. Those who answer yes, will begin to receive notification of an e-*Scribblings* with the January-February issue. Those who answer no, will continue to receive a hard copy *Scribblings*.

Those who fail to return the SASE will receive the e-*Scribblings*. In light of the very high cost of mailing outside the United States, RMPL members living abroad will receive notification of an e-*Scribblings* and e auction catalogs. Any new members joining the RMPL will be asked to indicate their preference on the membership list, but any new members at the Basic membership level will only have the option of an e-*Scribblings*. As noted above, the RMPL Board will revisit the membership dues issue again in January 2014.

Thank you for your time in reviewing and better understanding this matter. Please feel free to talk with RMPL Board members as the occasion arises, or write to us about it.

May-June 2012

History of the World Through Stamps; OLLI Fall Class Begins September 10

Another eight-week class, sponsored by Denver University's Adult Lifelong Learning program called OLLI, begins in September in Denver and will offer presentations and discussions of a wide variety of philatelic subjects in addition to a visit to the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library.



Ron Mitchell presenting one of the recent OLLI programs

Learning history through the study of stamps has provided a popular and interesting program for many of the OLLI class members. Since 1840, with the introduction of postage stamps to pay for forwarding mail within cities, countries and around the world, virtually every country in the world has since printed their history, culture and propaganda on stamps. These tiny pieces of history have fascinated collectors and historians for more than 170-years.

RMPL members, Steve Nadler and Tim Heins, will be the Facilitators for the Fall class in Denver. Many of the presenters will have new subjects to offer in the Fall class. Future presenters are needed now for classes starting in the Fall which will be at OLLI Central, at the Central Christian Church, South Cherry Creek Drive in Denver. For more information or to offer a program for the Fall classes, contact Tim Heins at timheinscpa@msn.com or Steve Nadler at schlomox@msn.com.



Digital copies of all issues of *Scribblings* since January 2008 are available now on the RMPL web page, www.rmpldenver.org.



March-April 2008 (online)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN STAMP SHOW

Second Annual One Frame Club Exhibit Competition

Once again the Great Britain and Commonwealth Collectors Club has issued a challenge to all Colorado stamp clubs to compete for the best "club" exhibit at the upcoming Rocky Mountain Stamp Show.

Last year, much to the GBCCC's surprise, the award was carried away by the Scandinavian Collector's Club.

Each one-frame exhibit will contain 15 exhibit pages plus one page describing the club and any information it wants to share with the public about its interests, meeting times, and membership. For each frame, no more than three, and preferably only one or two pages, can be submitted by any one club member. If you belong to more than one competing club you can put pages into each club's exhibit.

This competition offers club members who are hesitant to undertake a full exhibit a chance to dip a toe into the world of exhibiting. It also promotes more club participation in the RMSS and provides an opportunity for each club to promote itself by showing what its members collect. If enough clubs enter, it is hoped that a group of judges will again decide our winner.

Entries at Press Time:

Great Britain & Commonwealth Collectors Club
 Scandinavian Collectors Club
 Collectors Club of Denver
 Denver Germany Stamp Club
 Aurora Stamp Club
 TOPIC: Topical Philatelists In Colorado

ISLANDS IN THE STREAM

History of Two Islands Linked

by Ronald Hill

The Isle of Man issues a wide variety of stamps and philatelic ephemera. Occasionally the topic chosen offers a rare bit of obscure history not found in history books.

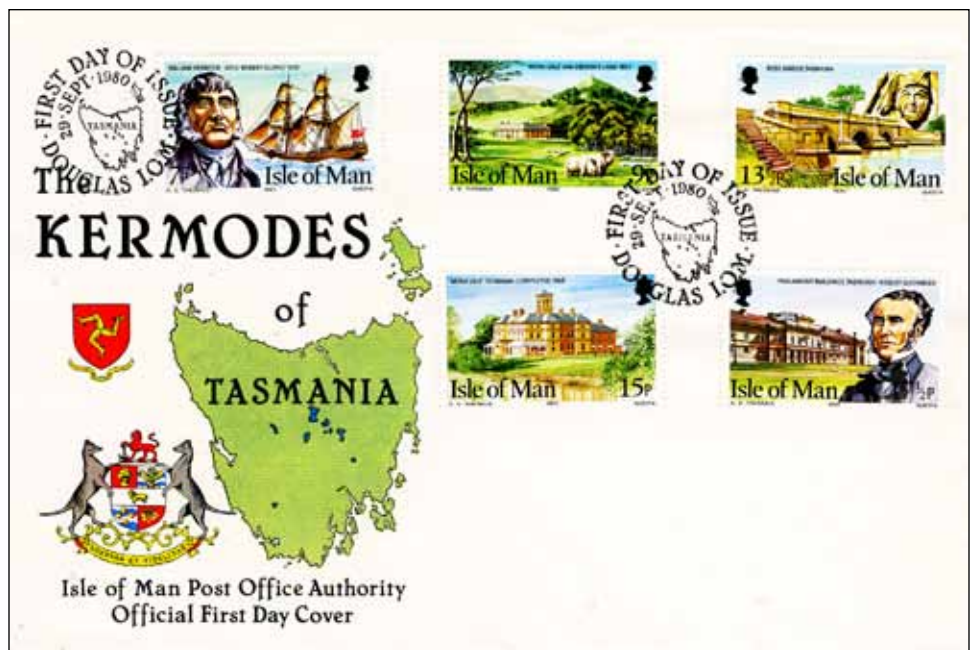
William Kermode, born on the Isle of Man, was a Liverpool merchant and seaman. He first arrived in Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land (now Tasmania) in November 1819 on the brig *Robert Quayle* (named for his son). He settled in the town of Ross and became prosperous.

His only son, Robert Quayle Kermode, also born on the Isle of Man, arrived in Van Diemen's Land in 1827 and became a prominent wool merchant and member of Parliament. He built the present mansion, *Mona Vale*, which, over the years, has frequently hosted visiting British royalty.

The Isle of Man first day cover and stamps shown here were issued 29 September, 1980 and honor the pioneer Kermode family and their arrival in Tasmania in 1819.

The Five Stamps:

- 7p - The arrival of William Kermode on the brig "*Robert Quayle*".
- 9p - The first stone house at *Mona Vale* showing Merino sheep which brought fame and fortune to the family.
- 13½p - Ross bridge built by convict labor, with a carved likeness of William Kermode and wool bales.
- 15p - The present *Mona Vale*, known as the "calendar house" since it has 365 windows, 12 chimneys, 52 rooms, and 7 entrances. (days of a year, months, weeks and days in a week)
- 17½p - The Parliament Building, Hobart with a portrait of Robert Quayle Kermode.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN STAMP SHOW

May 18, 19, 20, 2012

Complete Information at www.rockymountainstampshow.com

Exhibit frames are still available for YOUR exhibit.

Contact: Exhibit Manager: exhibits@rockymountainstampshow.com



The RMPL Silent Auction at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show

by David Weisberg

The RMPL silent auction at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in May looks like it will be another good one. Among the 780 lots already prepared are a large number of very nice used classic U.S. material as well as a large amount of better newer U.S. material. This is a great opportunity to fill in some of those gaps in your collection that you have been waiting to find at a reasonable price.

If you are a postal stationery collector you are probably aware that modern International postal cards used during the correct rate period sell for extremely large premiums. There will be a number of these cards in this auction.

This year we will have more large lots and country collections than in past years. We decided to offer some of these at the RMSS auction rather than wait until the next Large Lot Auction in late 2012. This includes a France collection with a catalog value of around \$15,000, a U.S. used collection cataloging around \$5,000 and a number of others.

The auction catalog is included with this *Scribblings*.. The lots will be available for viewing one week before the auction.



MEPSI at RMSS and the RMPL Library

For the fourth time, MEPSI, the Mexico-Elmhurst Philatelic Society International, will hold its annual meeting at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show May 18-20, 2012. And this year is special, as it also is the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Puebla, where a ragged Mexican army repulsed elite French troops on their first attempt to conquer Mexico. The date was May 5, 1862, and the celebration of this event is known across Mexico as Cinco de Mayo. For years now our City of Denver has had the largest Cinco de Mayo festival outside of Mexico.

The MEPSI members' Friday evening supper and social will be held at the RMPL. For over 62 years MEPSI has been dedicated to the support and promotion of the philately of Mexico. Mexico is a fascinating country for stamp collectors, philatelists, postal historians, and anyone interested in its long, dramatic history. Colorful stamps, fancy cancels, and enlightening covers abound, but Mexican stamps have two unique advantages: many rare stamps available well below prices for other countries' rarities, and an early system of district overprints designed to thwart theft. MEPSI sells numerous publications about Mexican philately and many are currently being digitized for easier distribution. Our award-winning quarterly journal, *Mexicana*, is available at the RMPL and is also available in digital format.

Please visit our table in the RMSS Exhibit Hall and feel free to ask about MEPSI - we are here to help you. Or visit the society web site at www.mepsi.org. Also MEPSI will present the following three seminars (open to the public) during the show.

Friday 3 pm: *Mexican Postal Stationery* by Jerry Winerman.; **Saturday 1-2 pm:** *Greatest Hits of the Revolution* by Nicholas Follansbee
Saturday 2-3 pm: *How I wrote the book: Mexico's 1914 Denver printing* by Ron Mitchell

NEW MEMBERS

The library is pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined the library in the past two months.

Bill German, Broomfield, CO

Collects Postmarks and Postal History

Leslie Watt, Boulder, CO

Roe Emery, Englewood, CO

Collects US

Everett "Scooter" Jones, Longmont, CO

Collects Everything.

(grandson of member Tom Bailey)

Richard H. Truly, Golden, CO

Collects US and International

DONATIONS

The library thrives on the enthusiasm and generosity of its members. The following members have made donations to the library over the past two months. We thank each and every one who has contributed.

Herman Axelrod

Steve Brown

Clarence Burton

Ken Chrisoffersen

Roger Cichorz

Frank Dietz

John Elsey

Nolan Flowers

Fran Fraser

Alan Hanks

Matt Helm

Ronald Hill

Mark Hynes

ICPS

Kenneth Jaros

Stan Kliebenstein

Joe Lambert

Ron Lampo

Carl Love

Stanley Luft

Mike Maselli

Jim Mathisen

Mike Milam

Jeff Modesitt

Terry Murphy

William Plachte

Norm Ritchie

Lew Sforzini

John Sinski

Richard Smith

George Snyder

Eric Sonsthagen

Tom Suprenant

Maggi Susman

Paul Thomas

UPSS

Leslee Waggener

Ann West

Martin Wilkenson



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Scribblings (PDF)
since January 2008 online

Answers From Page 7

Chicago (1887); St. Louis (1887); Pittsburgh (1889); San Francisco (1889); Cleveland (1890); Midwest (1894); Philadelphia (1904); Denver (1907); Milwaukee (1907); Detroit (1908).

SHOWS & EVENTS

SCC Meetings at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show

The Scandinavian Collectors Club will hold its annual meeting in Denver at the RMSS stamp show, May 18-20, 2012. The board of directors meeting will begin at 3:00 pm on Friday, May 18, and the general meeting at 10:00 am on Saturday, May 19.

The SCC Banquet will be held Friday at Ted's Montana Grill, a short distance from the Crowne Plaza DIA Hotel, the show hotel. Cocktails are scheduled for 6:00 pm and the meal at 7:00 pm.

Prior to the show, there will be a series of presentations relative to Scandinavian philately held on Thursday, May 17, at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. The local SCC Chapter 27 will provide a complimentary wine and cheese bar for the Thursday seminars. Tentative schedule for the seminars:

1:00 PM	Alan Warren	First Day Covers of Denmark
1:45	Jerry Moore	Swedish Perfins
2:45	Mats Roing	Stockholm Local Delivery
3:30	Break	
4:00	Roger Quinby	Mixed Franking in Finland, 1891-1918
4:45	Geoff Noer	An Introduction to Faroe Islands Postal History Before 1975
5:45	Paul Albright	Tour of the SCC Library and the RMPL

For further information contact Jerry Eggleston at jfe3@mindspring.com or by phone at 970-453-1206.



SECOND SATURDAY PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

Second Saturday programs are sponsored by the library and attract a friendly group of folks who are interested in a specific subject or who are interested in learning more about an area of philately that may be new to them. Contact Jim Kilbane if you would like to present a program.

e-mail: aurora_80017@yahoo.com

The programs begin at 9:00 AM and are over by 10:00 AM.

Doughnuts and coffee are complimentary and all are welcome.



MAY 12, 9:00 AM
Library member Steve Schweighofer will present WIPA 1933 mail transportation labels for the Second Saturday program for May 12.



JUNE 9, 9:00 AM

Philately in French Indo-China, Viet-Nam, Laos, Cambodia

by Richard K. Aspnes

President, Society of Indo-China Philatelists





What's Happening at the RMPL...

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Thursday 2:00 - 8:00 PM. Closed Sundays and Holidays. Phone: 303.759.9921

Meeting times and places sometimes change. It is best to call the library or the club to confirm the place and time. A calendar of reserved club times is kept by Operations Manager, Don Beuthel, at the library. Clubs should check the calendar regularly and notify Don (303-755-9328) of any changes or updates. All requests to reserve meeting time and space other than those listed here must be approved and scheduled by Don well in advance.

MAY 2012

May 2 - Meeting-Aurora Stamp Club.
6:30 PM trading, 7:30 PM meeting/program

May 9 - Meeting - 7:00 PM
Denver Germany Stamp Club

May 10 - Meeting 6:30 - Denver Postcard Club

Second Saturday at the RMPL

May 12 - 9:00 AM
Program by Steve Scheighofer

May 12 - Meeting - 10:00 AM
Mexico/Latin America Study Group

May 12 - Meeting - 11:30 AM
U.S.S. Colorado Chapter, USCS

May 17 - Scandinavian Collectors Club
Meetings and seminars - See page 18 for schedule.

May 18 - MEPSI - Dinner meeting. See page 17 for details.

May 18-19-20 - Clubs that will meet
at the Rocky Mountain Show this month.
Check with club for location and meeting times.

Metro Denver Young Stamp Collectors Club
Scandinavian Collectors Club

TOPIC - Topical Philatelists in Colorado
Great Britain & Commonwealth Collectors

May 29 -Meeting 7:30 PM Rocky Mtn Stamp Show

JUNE 2012

Jun 2 - Meeting 10:00 AM
Scandinavian Collectors Club

Jun 2 - Meeting - 1:00 PM
TOPIC - Topical Philatelists in Colorado

Jun 6 - Meeting-Aurora Stamp Club.
6:30 PM trading, 7:30 PM meeting/program

Second Saturday at the RMPL

Jun 9 - 9:00 AM
Program by Richard K. Aspnes

Jun 9 - Meeting - 10:00 AM
Mexico/Latin America Study Group

Jun 9 - Meeting - 11:30 AM
Rocky Mountain Aerophilatelists

Jun 13 - Meeting - 7:00 PM
Denver Germany Stamp Club

Jun 14 - Meeting 6:30 - Denver Postcard Club

Jun 16 - 9:30 AM - Metro Denver Young Stamp
Collectors Club

Jun 17 - Meeting - 2:00 PM
Great Britain & Commonwealth Collectors

Jun 25 -Meeting 7:30 PM Rocky Mtn Stamp Show

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