

Vol. 31 - No. 2 www.rmpldenver.org 2038 South Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224-2412 (303) 759-9921 March / April 2023 Email: rmpl@qwestoffice.net

IN THIS ISSUE More Than Japanese Postal Stationery

More Than Japanese Postal **Stationery** by Carol Mobley1 **President's Message** by Tonny Van Loij 2 **Rocky Mountain Stamp Show 2023** Advertisement 3 2023 Denver Post Card Show Advertisement4 How Ugly can a Stamp be? by Eddie Hackstaff 5 Covering the World by John H. Bloor7 Mosi oa-Tunya, The Smoke that Thunders by Charlie Freise8 Second Saturday Programs "Classic Stamps of Nepal" by Eddie Hackstaff9 "The Princely House of Thurn and Taxis" by Tonny Van Loij9 New Publications for our *Members*......10 Board Minutes - January 19, Notes from the Editor 15 New Members15 **Donations**.....15 Scheduled Library

by Carol Mobley

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figure 1- hand-painted government postal card dated April 10, 1898.

I consider myself a novice when it comes to postal history. When I recently acquired this post card (*figure 1*), I felt that to write about it was a good way to dip my feet in the water. This postcard is considered art. The front of the card has an original "gansai" water color image. A kimono- clad woman is in the foreground; bamboo, the sun (or perhaps the moon) with several flying birds is found in the background.



figure 2 - artists signature.

Japan issued government postcards exclusively until 1900 when they began to allow privately published cards. This card is postmarked in 1898 making this an unusual find. In this instance, a company purchased the government cards. These were then hand-colored or painted by hired artists and sold. In the lower left hand corner is found the signature of the artist who is unknown to me (*figure 2*).

When I picked up the card, one of the first things I noticed was the early 1898 usage. The card was sent from Kobe, Japan, to an addressee in Chicago, Illinois. Postal cancellations are found on the card from each stop along the journey: Kobe, Yokohama, San Francisco and Chicago.

continued on page 4

Scribblings

Scribblings

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

2038 South Pontiac Way Denver, CO 80224 **Phone:** (303) 759-9921

Email: rmpl@qwestoffice.net

Web Page: www.rmpldenver.org

Instagram: The RMPL

Hours: Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Closed Sundays and Holidays

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Sherri Soraci-Jennings

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Scribblings is published bimonthly by the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. The RMPL is a chartered Colorado nonprofit corporation and is an IRSdesignated 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Membership subscriptions over that for the contributing membership, and donations of appropriate philatelic materials, may be deductible for US income tax purposes. The Library is a volunteer organization. Financial donations, philatelic books, stamps, supplies and donations of your time are welcome. The Library Bylaws are available for review at the Library or you may obtain a copy upon request.

A basic membership with the RMPL is \$25 per year and includes book checkout privileges and six issues of *Scribblings*. Call for more information.

Officers and Directors may be contacted through the RMPL.

From the Desk of the President hy Tonny Van Loij



It is hard to believe another year has passed without too many problems.

The pandemic did not force us to close the library and hopefully not too many members were affected.

This past year we saw an increase of more than 40 new members. Thanks to our great team of volunteers we accom-

plished quite a bit. Steve Schweighofer came up with a great solution to save space by moving duplicate copies of books, periodicals and catalogs.

Repaying the parking lot of the annex building (2048 S. Pontiac Way) was accomplished. The sidewalk in front of the building was paved over making the building more accessible for all members.

Paul, Gary and auction volunteers have achieved unbelievable results with the recent auctions. Let us hope the strong market for philatelic material continues in 2023. The proceeds from the Library auctions are one of our main sources of revenue.

I hope we will not experience any major expenses this year. Everyone has experienced a significant increase in utility expenses recently. The RMPL was not spared and our energy bill nearly doubled from last year. Our property insurance increased by 20%. If any of our members are feeling generous and would like to help offset the increased utility expenses, any donations are welcome and greatly appreciated.

Enough said. I hope you all will have fun, find new material for your collections and attend the RMPL auctions.

Tonny Van Loij

President

HOURS OF OPERATION

In the event of inclement weather the Library may close unexpectedly. Prior to venturing out, particularly when it is snowing, it is advisable to call ahead and make sure the Library is open.



GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

EXPANDED HOURS OF OPERATION

Beginning Thursday, March 2, 2023, the Library will be open every Thursday from 5 - 8 PM. <u>This is a</u> three month trial period.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY CLASS

Are you a driver age 50 or over? Would you like to receive a discount on your auto insurance? Would you like to learn the current rules of the road, defensive driving techniques and how to operate your vehicle more safely in today's increasingly challenging driving environment? If so, then consider attending the AARP Driver Safety Class at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic

Library. The class is 4 hours long and the cost is \$20 for AARP members (please bring your membership card) and \$25 for nonmembers (cash or check only, credit cards cannot be accepted). The class will be held on March 15, 2023 from 9:45 am to



2:00 pm. Please arrive no later than 9:45 am for registration. Please be sure to bring your driver's license with you to class. You can register for the class by calling (303) 906-5197.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Additional help is needed in almost every area of RMPL operations, especially back-ups for publishing and stamp mart operations. If you are interested in becoming more active with the RMPL, whether it is helping publish *Scribblings*, sorting donations for our stamp mart, or helping with library maintenance, please contact the Library at 303-759-9921.

SECOND SATURDAY PROGRAMS NEEDED

Sponsored by the RMPL, the Second Saturday programs are generally about an hour long and focus on a specific subject. The subject matter is not limited to philately. Attendance is open to anyone who has a desire to learn something new about a specific subject, or enjoys discovering something new about an area of philately unfamiliar to them. Please contact Jim Kilbane at: aurora_80017@yahoo.com for more information.

2023 ROCKY MOUNTAIN STAMP SHOW

This is a continuing call for volunteers to commit a few hours of their time to help at this year's stamp show. A number of individuals have already come forward and this is greatly appreciated. However, additional volunteers are needed to manage the registration desk, assist with floor management, mounting exhibits and to assist with cachet sales. We need a hearty, dedicated team to set up and take down the exhibit display frames. Please contact Ron Lampo at <u>chairman@rockymountainstampshow.com</u> for more information on volunteering.



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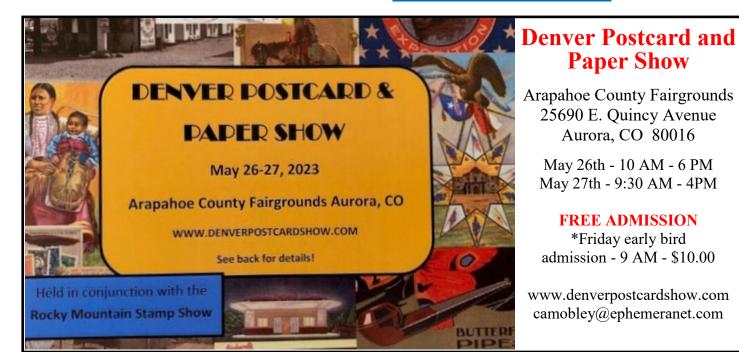
figure 3 - reverse side of card with Yokohama, San Francisco and Chicago receiving cancellations.

The sender, on a trip, was in Kyoto heading to Yokohama the next day. He was writing from Kobe aboard the SS Manila, April 10, 1898. The printed 1 sen postage (a sen is 100th of a yen) is accompanied by an additional 3 sen Imperial Japanese Post stamp *(figure 3)*.

Posted in Kobe, Japan, on April 10, the card arrived in Yokohama, Japan, on April 12. From there it traveled by ship to San Francisco, California, where it arrived on April 30, 1898. From San Francisco, the card was transported by train to Chicago, Illinois, where a May 4, 1898, receiving cancel was applied. It is amazing to consider the card took 18 days to cross the ocean in 1898. Today, a ship takes nearly 17 days to travel from Japan to Seattle.

While researching this card, I discovered some interesting facts about the SS Manila. The ship, a steelhulled schooner, was launched in 1883 and named SS Carriedo. In 1886, the ship was acquired by the Spanish and renamed SS Manila. One month after this passenger was aboard, May 4, 1898, the ship was intentionally run aground in Bacoor Bay of the Philippine Islands. This was the exact date the card arrived at its final destination, Chicago, Illinois. The ship was subsequently commissioned by the United States and renamed the USS Manila. It was used in three campaigns during the Philippine Insurrection. The ship was decommissioned in July 1903, sold a number of times and eventually sank as a result of a collision on May 21, 1923.

This small postcard, printed on thin paper with a handpainted watercolor image, survived 125 years to tell a very interesting story. You can find your own treasures at the Denver Postcard and Paper Show, May 26-27, 2023, held in conjunction with the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show. For more information visit: www.DenverPostcardShow.com



How Ugly can a Stamp be?

by Eddie Hackstaff



figure 1 - Scott #RB1, United States, 1871.



figure 2 - Scott #2955, United States, 1995, courtesy of History.com "The 11 Most Controversial Stamps in US History."

To be clear, we all have our personal opinions of ugly stamps, so let me clarify. This article will not discuss damaged stamps *(figure 1)* that may be torn, stained, off center, or a list of other faults that make a stamp undesirable.

This article will also not discuss Errors, Freaks, and Oddities (EFOs) that are a favorite collecting area for many in our hobby. Lastly, this article will not discuss unpopular or controversial stamps *(figure 2)* that may be considered ugly just because of the subject matter.

What I will discuss in this article is the Nepal first issue stamps that were in use from 1881 - 1907 and then again from 1917 - 1930. They were issued in



figure 3 - Scott #1, Nepal, Sripech and crossed kukris issue.

three denominations, one anna, two anna, and four anna. This article will focus on the one anna stamp. The stamps featured a central design of crossed kukris (khukuris) below a Nepalese crown (Sreepech or Sripech). The kukri is a curved knife commonly used by the Nepalese Gurkhas. Both the kukri and Sreepech are common themes found on many stamps from Nepal. The first issue stamps are often referred to as the "Sripech and crossed kukris issue." The stamps were initially printed in England on European paper which made for a beautiful stamp *(figure 3)*. After the initial printing, the plates were transferred to Nepal and the next issue was printed on good quality native Nepalese paper that contained thicker wood fibers.

As time went on, the paper quality continued to decline to the point that large fibers of bark are commonly found in the stamps. Also, over time the plates continued to wear and this was especially evident in the one anna design where stamps began to lose much of the design (*figure 4*). In 1903, in an effort to reestablish part of the design, the frame lines were recut (*figure 5*). Finally in 1907 the new Sri Pashupati design was introduced (*figure 6*) and the first issue plates were retired and placed into storage.



figure 4 - Scott #13, Nepal, Sripech and crossed kukris issue.



figure 5 - Scott #23, Nepal, 1903, Sripech and crossed kukris issue.

figure 6 - Scott #26, Nepal, 1907, Sri Pashupati issue.



continued on page 6



continued from page 5

In 1917, the telegraph was introduced to Nepal. The telegraph fees were paid with stamps. To meet this new demand, the first issue plates were brought out of storage and the first issue stamps were printed once again. Initially an effort was made to clean the plates, this resulted in a mottled look to the stamps (*figure 7*). The end result being the one anna stamp looking more like a solid block of color with no discernable wording or design (*figure 8*). The two anna and four anna stamps didn't fair much better, however; the one anna suffered the worst from plate wear.

Considering the stamp was printed and released knowing it was almost a solid block of color, it cannot be considered a damaged stamp. As it was intentionally printed, despite knowing how it looked, it is not considered an EFO. And, having no discernable wording or design, it can't be called unpopular or controversial. I feel sorry for the collector that tries to identify this stamp without any knowledge of the first issues of Nepal.

So, does this stamp, basically a block of color, deserve to be called one of the ugliest stamps? Or, as so well said, "beauty (or ugliness) is in the eye of the beholder," *(figure 9)*.



figure 8 - Scott #23, Nepal, 1917, Sripech and crossed kukris issue.



figure 7 - Scott #24, Nepal, 1917, Sripech and crossed kukris issue.



figure 9 - Scott #4444j, United States 2010, "Achilles" by Barnett Newman.

The Legend of the Curupira - Brazil

by Charlie Freise

The Curupira folklore was probably first documented in Brazil by the priest José de Anchieta in 1560. Long before the arrival of the colonizers, natives told stories of a fantastic being living in the forests. The name Curupira means "child's body" in the tupi-guarani language. Although there are regional variations, he is described as being in the form of a boy with flame-colored hair and backwards feet. Various powers are attributed to him including the ability to cast illusions and enchantments, extraordinary speed, transmutation and great strength. The Curupira is a guardian of the fauna and flora. He does not tolerate those who threaten to harm the environment and he helps those who are lost or in need. Like all children, he enjoys gifts and harmless mischief. His most powerful weapon against hunters, loggers and other villains is his cunning. Full of tricks, he misleads the wrongdoers causing them to become lost in the woods. His backward feet have the effect of confusing hunters

who may try to follow his tracks. He can imitate sounds of both nature and the human voice to confuse his targets. His most severe punishment would be to transform the predator into prey, for example, make an evil hunter

become a helpless woodland critter. Today, the myth is especially useful in teaching environmental awareness to children and adults.

Curupira Legend, Brazil, 2011, Scott #3180a, from a souvenir sheet of four stamps.







The cover for this issue *(figures 1 and 2)* was provided by Gary Withrow, the auction website manager for the RMPL. He saw the cover on eBay and was attracted to it because of the diagonal etiquette specifying, in Latvian, French, and German, that the cover was to travel by airmail.

It was sent from "Leepaja" (also spelled Liepaja), Latvia, to Geneva, Switzerland. It was posted on 30 August, 1924, and has a Geneva receiving cancel of 3 September, 1924 - four days to travel 2,300 kilometers, not bad for 1924. It is franked with Scott C1a and C2a on the front and a single Scott 119 and two copies of Scott 115 on the reverse. The airmail stamps were issued in 1921 and the stamps on the reverse in 1923.

The amount of postage paid is complicated. The two airmail stamps totaled 30 rublis (Latvian rubles). In 1922, there was a currency change from rublis to lats at a rate of 50 rublis = 1 lats (= 100 santims). Face value of the stamps on the reverse is 20 santims (0.20 lats). Thus, in 1924, the postage paid was 0.6 + 0.20 = 0.80 lats. It is not clear whether this is correct for a registered airmail letter to Switzerland since international postal rates for Latvia are not readily available.

The airmail stamps were issued on July 30, 1921 for several special flights at a National Industrial Exhibition on July 31, 1921, according to the *American Airmail Catalog* (Vol. 1, 5th Ed., page 186). They were the first Latvian airmail stamps issued and the imperforate types are relatively uncommon on cover. According to the *2022 Scott Classic Catalogue* "counterfeits exist of Nos. C1-C13."

In addition to two registration markings, there is an interesting rubber stamp that reads "Mit Luftpost Befordert Bahnpostamt 4" *(figure 3)*. In English this is "Airmail as far as railway post office 4". This type of instruction is not uncommon on early airmail when there were many fewer air routes than today.

This is another interesting and educational cover. I hope you enjoyed it. Please continue sending me covers - maybe yours will be in the next issue.



figure 3 - red boxed auxiliary marking -Airmail as far as railway post office 4.

"Mosi oa-Tunya - The Smoke that Thunders"

Scribblinas

by Charlie Freise



Aerial panoramic view of the Victoria Falls of the Zambezi River, border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. Diego Delso, CC BY-SA 4.0 File: Cataratas Victoria, Zambia-Zimbabue, 2018-07-27, DD 16-20 PAN.jpg.

The mighty Zambezi River travels nearly 1,600 miles from its source in Zambia, through Angola and along the borders of Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique where it empties into the Indian ocean. Half-way along the river is found one of the seven natural wonders of the world, "Mosi oa-Tunya" (the smoke that thunders).

The Zambezi River's gentle meander through the African landscape is dramatically interrupted as the river plunges over a knife edge cliff into a transverse vertical chasm more than 5,000 feet wide and 350 feet deep. While not the widest, nor the tallest waterfall,

Victoria Falls is considered the largest curtain of falling water in the world surpassing Niagara Falls in New York and Iguazu Falls in Argentina.

The falls were well known to local tribes, and Voortrekker (Dutch speaking settlers) may have known of them, as may the Arabs under a name equivalent to "the end of the world." Europeans were skeptical of their reports, perhaps thinking that the lack of mountains and valleys on the plateau made a large waterfall unlikely. A map drawn by French cartographer Nicolas de Fer in 1715 shows the falls clearly marked in the correct position. It also shows dotted lines denoting trade routes that Dr. David Livingstone followed 140

years later. A map from 1750, drawn by French hydrographer and geographer Jacques Nicolas Bellin for Abbé Antoine François Prevost d'Exiles marks the falls as "cataracts." The map also notes a settlement to the north of the Zambezi as being friendly with the Portuguese at the time.

In November 1855, David Livingstone became the first European to view the falls while traveling from the upper Zambezi to the mouth of the river between 1852 and 1856. On November 16, 1855, Dr. Livingstone traveled along the Zambezi River in a canoe guided by local Makalolo people. During this

journey the Makalolo took him to the very edge of "Mosi oa-Tunya." They landed on one of two small islands upstream from the falls, now known as Livingstone Island. Seeing the sight for the first time Dr. Livingstone was so overwhelmed he abandoned his scientific observations and wrote, "No one can imagine the beauty of the view from anything witnessed in England. It has never been seen before by European eyes, but scenes so wonderful must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight." Dr. Livingstone, whose heart lies buried in Africa, named this great wonder after Victoria, his British queen.



figure 1 - set of the Rhodesian Victoria Falls commemorative stamps, 1905, Scott #s 76 - 81, bearing a British Association, Bulawayo, September 11, 1905, cancellation commemorating the opening day of the Victoria Falls Bridge.

Rhodesia issued a set of six stamps (*figure 1*) on July 13, 1905, to commemorate the opening of the Victoria Falls Bridge and the 50th anniversary year of the discovery of Victoria Falls by Dr. Livingstone. The stamp issue was delayed until September to coincide with a visit by the British Association (an investment company building the Victoria Falls Bridge). The stamps were used in Southern and Northern Rhodesia and printed by Waterlow and Sons Ltd., London. The design was based upon a photograph by Percy M. Clark.

continued on page 9

Second Saturday Programs at the Library

Second Saturday programs are sponsored by the RMPL 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, aurora_80017@yahoo.com, if you are interested in presenting a program.*

March 11, 2023 - 9:00 AM

Presenter: Eddie Hackstaff Title: "Classic Stamps of Nepal"

Eddie Hackstaff will introduce attendees to a little known area of philately. Discover the interesting history and production processes of the classic stamps of Nepal.



continued from page 8

Victoria Falls is comprised of five separate falls, four located in Zimbabwe and one in Zambia. The Devil's Cataract (230 feet high), Main Falls (305 feet high), Horseshoe Falls (311 feet high) and Rainbow Falls (354 feet high) are all found in Zimbabwe. The final feature, the Eastern Cataract (331 feet high), is situated in Zambia.

The spray from the falls rises to an average height of 1,300 feet. At peak times the spray can reach distances twice that height. This makes the surrounding rainforest the only place on earth where it rains 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Visitors, on nights with a full moon, are able to observe a lunar rainbow. A lunar rainbow is exactly the same as a rainbow seen during daylight, including the shape and color scheme.

During peak flow in mid-April, more than 165 million gallons of water flow over the falls every minute. The average annual flow rate is 284,260 gallons per second (compared to Niagara Falls with an annual flow rate of 635,851 gallons per second).

April 8, 2023 - 9:00 AM

Presenter: Tonny Van Loij Title: "The Princely House of Thurn and Taxis"

A PowerPoint presentation covering the Thurn and Taxis family and their dominance of the European postal service from 1460 through 1867.



Victoria Falls was declared a World Heritage site in 1989 and it is a very popular destination for tourists.



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New Publications	for our Members	
UNITED STATES		-1
A Contemporary Account of the First United States Postal Card: 1870 - 1875	A CONTEMPORTY ACCOUNT OF THE REF	
Hebert's Reference Guide of Plate Number Singles: Mint and Used United States Stamps and Related Issues, by Rick Burdsall	LEVEL DE LEV	
Pan American's Final Flight, by Jon E. Krupnick	UNITED POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY	
Postal History of Santa Fe New Mexico, by David F. New	LINIED FOR LANK AT LINKAGE VAN CALLENT William Alling Zieller, 2010 beaut William Alling Zieller, 2010 beaut Caller of States, Caller Caller Caller of States, Caller Caller Caller of States, Caller Caller Caller of States, Caller Caller Caller of States, Caller Caller	
Saga of the U. S. Air Mail Service, 1918-1927	The Rocky Mountain. Gold Rush Collection	lanitet et.
Rocky Mountain Gold Rush Collection: 1858 - 1870, by David F. New	AIR POST 1921-1932	
Ten Years Among the Mail Bags; or, Notes From the Diary of a Special Agent of the Post Office Department, by J. Holbrook	Ar which of a first mark allow a class of the light are which of a first character allow a class of the light are which of a first character allow a class of the light are which are which are which and the light of the light of the are which are which	TELEVILLE
AFRICA	The second secon	
Mauritius: No. 2 The TO PAY Manuscript and Handstamp Markings 1860-1876, by J. W. B. Ruffle	"AZAD HIND" AND "CHALO DELHI" STAMPS	
Seychelles: No. 1, the Cancellations and Instruc- tional Markings, 1860-1980, by B. M. McCloy	By HERRET & FRIEMAN HONG KONG POSTAL STATIONERY Dest Fabric Physical Townson	
ASIA		
Airpost 1921-1932: an Exhibit of the Most Elusive Chinese Flight Covers and Markings From the Chinese Classical Airpost Period	HANN SCHOENFRED Annual to al fage 1944, 1936	
Asia: An Identification Primer, by Charles S. Petty	ASIA (continued)	
Azad Hind and Chalo Delhi Stamps, by Herbert A. Friedman	Muc-Luc Suu-Tap Tem, Viet-nam, Cambodge, Laos (Catalogue de Timbres-Poste pour Collec-	
Commemorative Postal Cards (Japanese)	tions du Viet-Nam, Cambodge et Laos)	
<i>Empress Dowager Jubilee and its Surcharges:</i> 110th Anniversary of Empress Dowager Jubilee Issue	The Postal History of British Malaya: Vol. I, by Edward B. ProudPostal Stationery of China: Imperial and	
Hong Kong Postal Stationery, by Hans Schoenfeld	<i>Republic to 1949</i> , by Donald R. Alexander and Paul J. Kadull, Jr.	Harlite
The Local Republican Overprints of 1911-1912 [China], by E.N. Lane	Postal Stationery of Taiwan, Republic of China, by Donald R. Alexander	
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New Publications	for our Members	
Great Britain	POSTCARDS	
Creat Druan Cueen Elizabeth II Decimal Issues	Bruno Wennerberg 1866-1950: A Tribute to his Postcards Relating to World War I, by Peter Collins	
	Raphael Tuck & Sons Postcards of the Unit- ed States: Including Canada, Mexico and Caribbean	
	Seychelles: No.11 Picture Postcards 1903- 1956, by S. Hopson and J. Luke	
	MISCELLANEOUS	
EUROPE (continued)	1929 Postal Union Congress, by Alan Griffiths	
Postal Usage of the Decimal Machin Series 1971 - 1996: Vol 1 - Inland, by Martin P. Nicholson	The Comprehensive Check List for Philatelic Literature Collectors: A Catalogue of Nearly 600	
Postal Usage of the Decimal Machin Series 1971 - 1996: Vol 2 - European Destinations, by Martin P. Nicholson	United States and Canada Philatelic Papers and Magazines From 1864 to January 1895	
Poste Estensi: Trattato Storico e Storico-Postale 1453-1852, by Giuseppe Buffagni	Eighty-Eighth American Philatelic Congress: August 2022, APS Stamp Show. The Congress Book	
Postmarks of England and Wales, by James A. Mackay	Mail in the Air: Writings About Aerophilately	
Maksumargid ja Vekslipaberid Eestis (Revenue Stamps and Revenue Stamped Papers in Estonia), by Ants Kulo	<i>Ormond Plating Cards,</i> compiled by Jeffrey Gendler, designed by Clive Akerman	
Venemaa Maksumargid Eestis 1875-1917 (Russian revenue stamps in Estonia), by Ants Kulo	Official Precancel Catalog for Alaska, Canal Zone, Caroline Islands, District of Columbia, Guam, Hawaii, Phoenix Group, Puerto Rico, Samoa, Virgin Islands, United Nations, by	
The Smaller Channel Islands Catalogue, by Anders Backman and Robert Forrester	W. A. Jurgens	
The Stamps and Postmarks of the 1924/1925 Empire Exhibition, by W.G. Stitt Dibden	Death's Railroad: A Philatelic History, by Herbert S. Herman	
1953 Coronation Issue, by Giles Allen	Gineque Roffagel POSTE ESTENSI	
NORTH AMERICA	Trattato Storico e Storico-Postale 1453 - 1852	
The Canadian Expeditionary Force in Siberia, 1918-19, by Edith M. Faulstich	Storia e storia postale dal 1453 al 1814	
SOUTH AMERICA and CARIBBEAN	* Philadelle Philadell	
Barbados [A Talk Given by Leslie S. Wheeler]		
Saint Vincent: With Notes, Publishers and Prices, by Francis H. Napier and E.D. Bacon	ACCARL ACCARL	



Board of Directors Meeting January 19, 2023

Board Members Present: Tonny Von Loij, Jim Kilbane. Rich Palestro, Eric Carlson, Steve Schweighofer, Paul and Regina Domenici, Gary Withrow. ZOOM attendees: Rod Haenni. Absent: Bill Douglass. Visitors: Ken Luke and Roger Rydberg - via ZOOM.

The meeting was called to order at 3:50 pm.

A financial report was not available due to the absence of the Treasurer.

Old Business

Policies (Eric and Regina): submitted a preliminary RMPL "General Policy" document for Board review.

Standard rental agreement: Eric presented a standardized rental agreement for outside dealers/clubs who conduct business in our meeting room.

Space utilization committee (Steve, Rod, Gary): The need for additional storage to place approximately 100 donated postal scales was identified.

Security update (Steve): The necessary parts to rekey all outdoor locks were ordered and this service will be scheduled when possible. Cost: \$1,123.00. Steve maintains an accurate record of volunteer key possession.

Computers (Steve): The Microsoft 365 subscription will be renewed.

Special Delivery of Dreams Scholarship (Gary, Rich, Regina): The application deadline is March 1, 2023. To date, 74 applicants have been reviewed by the committee with ten top finalists selected. The committee will interview the finalists and present the best five candidates to the Board at the March 16th meeting. The Board will select the two winning candidates to be announced on BOLD.org by March 30, 2023.

Handicap access update: The wheelchair ramp was installed in the annex building parking lot.

Extending Library hours: Effective Thursday, March 2nd, the Library will begin a 3-month trial and open for an evening shift every Thursday from 5 PM to 8 PM. There is no change to the Thursday daytime hours.

School Community Outreach: Background: This project promotes philately in high schools by using postcards as a basis for student essays. A recommendation was made to form a committee to follow up and assist in reading the essays. Update: Due to a lack of volunteers, the formation of a committee was tabled at this time.

Opportunities for increasing membership: Bryan Trigg had recommended appealing to younger members of national historical societies. Suggestions included publishing an introductory article in historical society newsletters, emphasizing our extensive reference material and our auction website or hosting a membership table at RMSS, separate from the auction table. **Update:** Due to a lack of volunteers, the formation of a committee was tabled at this time.

New Business

February 2023 Auction report (Paul and Gary): The RMPL Country, Cover and Postcard Lots auction is scheduled for February 25th. If you haven't already done so, please take a look at the catalog and scanned images of the lots at www.rmplauctions.org. If you are unable to attend the live auction on February 25th and plan to submit a bid sheet by mail it is recommend that you do so by February 10th to ensure timely receipt. Individuals may submit bids by email (auctionmgr@rmplauctions.org) or by opening a bid sheet on our website. Participation in the auction is a great way to support the RMPL, and you will get some nice philatelic material in return. We hope to hear from you soon! May auction: An auction advertisement will be placed in the March APS magazine and notice of the 50 Swiss auction lots will be published in the Swiss philatelic newsletter.



RMPL Board of Directors Meeting

continued from page 13

Purchase of automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) in case of cardiac arrest at the Library: Ken Luke presented information for obtaining AEDs for each building. The Red Cross can provide training. Tonny will investigate the insurance impact if we purchase AEDs.

New Insurance premium: Increased by 20%, Tonny will investigate changing insurance providers.

Increased utility bills: Our December utility bill doubled to \$1100 and the unusually cold weather contin- Regina Domenici

ues. A recommendation was made to obtain locked cases for the thermostats.

Membership update: Last year, 44 new members joined the Library.

The meeting adjourned at 4:37 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

The RMPL Museum is Now Open

by Gary Withrow

Over many years the library has received numerous donations of historical Postal Service-related equipment, souvenirs and memorabilia. A decision was made to establish a museum where many of the items would be placed on display so they can be appreciated



by Library members and the general public. The Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library Museum, located in the meeting room, is open during regular business hours. For access to the museum please contact the on -duty volunteer in the main library. The museum may also be viewed by appointment, contact Gary Withrow withrowgw@yahoo.com to schedule an appointment. We are looking for additional postal-

related items to add to our collection. Cash donations are appreciated and will be used to support and expand our current collection.





DOMATIONS

The library thrives on the enthusiasm and generosity of its members. The following societies, clubs, and individuals made donations to the Library since the last donation listing. These donations were made from November 21, 2022 through January 19, 2023. Thank you!

SOCIETY AND CLUB DONATIONS

Denver Stamp Club Colorado Chapter Postmark Collectors Club

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Anonymous **Dianne Baynes** John Bloor Stephen Bonowski Wes Brown Lewis Bussey John Cool Mike Craig Joanne Curran James Ehernberger Nolan Flowers Wendy Goldschmidt Kathleen Graham Ernest Hinck Joseph Lanotte Steve McGill Dasa Metzler Andrew Murin Terrence Murphy

David New Randy Nilson Stephen Pacetti Alexander Papp **Richard Porto** David Reitsema Michael Rogers Mary Rush Karen Schmidt Charles Schultz Dick Seeley Martin Severe Kednun Sitterlev **Robert Smetana** Barbara Smith Paul Stettner Walter Talbot Andre Tiquet

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to new members who have joined the library from December 1, 2022, through January 15, 2023.

Tim Cowgill, Denver, CO - collects US, FDCs, duck stamps, dead countries and postcards.

Scott D. English, Bellefonte, PA, Executive Director, American Philatelic Society - collects South Carolina postal history, Cuba and political.

Gary Hammons, Northglenn, CO - collects US, Germany, Russia and worldwide.

Brian Hunger, Palisade, CO - collects EFOs (errors, freaks and oddities) and US covers.

Winfried Krepf, Westminster, CO - collects Germany, antique postcards and international postcards.

Paul Kurtz, Boise, ID - collects worldwide before 1950, postmarks and various postcard subjects.

James Mesaros, Denver, CO - collects US and topicals.

Robert Mrowka, Boulder, CO - collects Poland, Hawaii and Tibet.

Linda Sanfilippo, Thornton, CO

Jen Simpson, Parker, CO - collects postcards.

Steven (Steve) H. Strauss, Ft. Collins, CO - collects birds on stamps, he is a member of the Bird Stamp Society (UK) and editor of their quarterly publication, *Flight*.

Please Note: New members and membership renewals received after January 15, 2023, will be acknowledged in the next issue of *Scribblings*.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Here we are, two months into the new year and spring is quickly approaching. The longer days and warmer temperatures bring a renewed level of energy and a desire to get things done. Sometimes the desire to get things done is more a result of the targeted prodding, suggestions, or sudden appearance of a dreaded honey-do list prepared by a significant other.

Gary Witt

Maybe this is the time we find the opportunity to dust off our stamp collections. Like the birds returning in the spring, spread your wings and expand your horizons. Consider joining one of the many local clubs, volunteering at the RMPL or RMSS.

On March 2, 2023, the Library will begin a three-month trial period of extended hours of operation. Members requested this as they are unable visit during the day. If the Library is to continue the expanded hours then consider volunteering during the evening if you can't during the day.

Select members have dedicated 30 or more years of service ensuring the continued success of the Library and Stamp Show. A younger generation needs to step forward to take over the planning, management and operations of both. Without an influx of new volunteers the institutional and historical knowledge will be lost and both entities will cease to exist.

It has been a very long time since we have seen a list of new members that long. Take a moment and welcome our new members. Encourage them to share their philatelic knowledge and experiences with the rest of the members.

Lastly, I thank Carol Mobley and Eddie Hackstaff for writing the articles found in this issue of *Scribblings*. It is good to see new writers sharing their interests and knowledge with the rest of the membership. I encourage more members to do likewise.





The RMPL Operations Manager, Steve Schweighofer, maintains a calendar of reserved club times. Clubs should check the calendar regularly and notify Steve (<u>steve.schweighofer@comcast.net</u>) of any updates or changes. Requests to reserve meeting space and time for philatelically related meetings other than those listed here must be approved and scheduled with Steve well in advance. Call the Library or the appropriate club to confirm the place and time.

Hours of Operation: Mon - Sat: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Closed Sundays and Holidays Phone: (303) 759-9921 Email: rmpl@qwestoffice.net

MARCH 2023	***APRIL 2023***	
 Mar 4 Sat - meeting 10 AM	 Apr 1 Sat - meeting 10 AM	
Scandinavian Collectors Club Mar 4 Sat - meeting 1 PM	Scandinavian Collectors Club Apr 1 Sat - meeting 1 PM	
TOpical Philatelists In Colorado (TOPIC) Mar 8 Wed - meeting 7 PM	TOpical Philatelists In Colorado (TOPIC) Apr 2 Sun - meeting 1 PM	
Denver Germany Stamp Club Mar 9 Thu - meeting 2 PM	Denver Postcard Club	
Mar 11 Sat - 9AM	Apr 8 - 9 AM	
Second Saturday at the RMPL	Second Saturday at the RMPL	
Presenter: Eddie Hackstaff	Presenter: Tonny Van Loij	
Title: "Classic Stamps of Nepal"	Title: "The Princely House of Thurn and Taxis"	
 Mar 11 Sat - meeting 10 AM	 Apr 8 Sat - meeting 10 AM	
Mexico/Latin America Club Mar 11 Sat - meeting 1 PM	Mexico/Latin America Club Apr 8 Sat - meeting 1 PM	
Colorado Postal History Society Mar 12 Sun - meeting 1 PM	Rocky Mountain Aero and Astrophilately Club Apr 12 Wed - meeting 7 PM	
Denver Postcard Club Mar 16 Thu - meeting 4 PM	Denver Germany Stamp Club Apr 13 Thu - meeting 2 PM	
RMPL Board of Directors (visitors welcome) Mar 18 Sat - meeting 9:30 AM	Cherrelyn Stamp Club Apr 15 Sat - meeting 9:30 AM	
Denver Young Collectors Mar 19 Sun - meeting 1 PM	Denver Young Collectors Apr 16 Sun - meeting 1 PM	
Great Britain and Commonwealth Collectors Club Mar 25 Sat - local dealers bourse 10 AM Mar 28 Tue -meeting 7 PM	Great Britain and Commonwealth Collectors Club Apr 25 Tue - meeting 7 PM	
Rocky Mountain Stamp Show Committee Mar 29 Wed -meeting 2 PM	Rocky Mountain Stamp Show Committee Apr 26 Wed - meeting 2 PM	
Denver Stamp Club	Denver Stamp Club	
MARK YOUR CALENDAR !		
Local Dealers Bourse	AARP DRIVER SAFETY CLASS	
March 25, 2023	March 15, 2023, 9:45 AM - 2:00 PM	

See page 3 for details.

Cost: \$20.00 for AARP members, \$25.00 for nonmembers. Bring your driver's license and AARP membership card with you to class.