



S c r i b b l i n g s

... from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

Sherri Soraci-Jennings, Librarian

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A Serbian Game of Thrones The Feud Between the Obrenović and Karadorđević Dynasties (1804 – 1904), 100 Years of Treachery and Revenge

by Charlie Freise



Serbian borders from 1878 to 1912.

I apologize in advance to those who may not appreciate a good story full of treachery, subterfuge, scandal and revenge with the subject of philately playing a background role. While researching the early stamps of Serbia, the intriguing details of the Obrenović and Karadorđević dynasties proved to be irresistible. This article is the result of my delving into the conspiracies, secret plots and plans for revenge over a period of 100 years. Sit down in a comfortable chair with a favorite beverage by your side and enjoy the story.

Serbia gained autonomy from the Ottoman Empire as a result of two uprisings. The first Serbian uprising began in 1804 and was led by Đorđe Petrović-Karadorđe (figure 1).

Following Napoleon's invasion of Russia in 1813, Karadorđe was forced to flee to Austria where he was arrested and detained. The Ottoman's requested his extradition but Austria turned Karadorđe over to the Russians. In 1817, Karadorđe secretly returned to Serbia. He is considered to be the founder of the Karadorđević dynasty.

Miloš Obrenović served during the first Serbian uprising (1804-1813). In 1805, Miloš was appointed a commander in the rebel forces. His half-brother was killed in 1810, possibly by Karadorđe, and the two became enemies. Miloš successfully led the Serbs during the second Serbian uprising (1815).



figure 1 - Đorđe Petrović-Karadorđe.

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Scribblings

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

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Web Page: www.rockymountainphilateliclibrary.org

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Hours: Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Thursday 5:00 - 8:00 PM

Closed Sundays and Holidays

Librarian

Sherri Soraci-Jennings

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Recording Secretary:	Regina Domenici
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Rod Haenni	Gary Withrow

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Charlie Freise

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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 - by Tonny Van Loij



To start, I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. It seems like there was not much to celebrate in 2023. I noticed very few television commercials had holiday displays or music. Maybe we will have more to celebrate in 2024.

In late November and early December, I was out of the country. I was invited to present my Thurn and Taxis postal history exhibit at the Bangkok, Thailand, 2023 World Stamp Exhibition. This was my first experience attending an international exhibition and I had to rearrange my exhibit to meet the maximum five frame limit. Although my exhibit did not receive a gold medal, I did receive a large vermeil. Overall, I had a wonderful experience visiting Thailand, participating in an international event, the award banquet was exceptional and there was live entertainment.

The triennial elections for Library officers and directors are complete. In this issue the newly elected officers and directors are identified. Please take a moment and thank the outgoing officers and directors for their service in supporting the Library and membership. Also, welcome the incoming officers and directors.

I am saddened to report the passing of two well-known philatelists, Lyman R. and Ruth M. Caswell. Mrs. Caswell was a member of the Library and a founding member of the Women Exhibitors (WE).

As usual, now is the time to call upon the members of the Library for their support. Volunteers are needed to assist at the front desk, sort stamps and help with many of the projects and activities going on at the Library (general maintenance and operations, auctions, video production). Can you spare a few hours each week to help support the Library?

Tonny Van Loij
President

INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICE

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 to make sure the Library is open.

Triennial RMPL Election Results are in And the Winners are . . .

by John Bloor

The polls closed Wednesday night, January 31, 2024, on the triennial election of officers and board members for the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. 423 library members cast 149 ballots (35%). While better than in many previous years, it would have been good if all members exercised their right to participate in the selection of those who will make decisions about the direction of the library over the next three years.

The candidates for library officers were all incumbents running unopposed. Consequently, they will all continue in their same position. They are:

For the Board of Directors there were eight candi-

President: Tonny Van Loij
Vice President: Jim Kilbane
Corresponding Secretary: Paul Domenici
Recording Secretary: Regina Domenici
Operations Manager: Steve Schweighofer

dates: four incumbents and four new candidates. Most of the ballots correctly had votes for four of the eight; a few had votes for more or less than four. The four

candidates who had the most votes were:

Eric Carlson
Rod Haenni
Gary Withrow
Charlie Freise

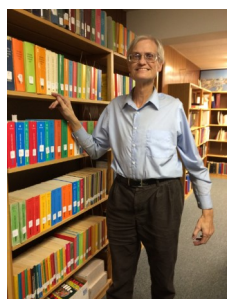
The first three are all incumbents; Charlie is new to the Board but not to the library. Among other jobs which he has taken upon himself are *Scribblings* editor and manager of the young collector program.

The winning Officers and Board members will be acknowledged at the March board meeting. Thanks to all the incumbents for the work that they have done and continue to do. The unsuccessful candidates from this election are encouraged to volunteer for one of the many other jobs at the RMPL and to run again in the next election three years from now. All library members should consider entering the next election as officer or board member candidates.

Library Officers



President
Tonny Van Loij



Vice-President
Jim Kilbane



Operations
Manager
Steve Schweighofer



Corresponding
Secretary
Paul Domenici



Recording
Secretary
Regina Domenici

Board of Directors



Eric Carlson



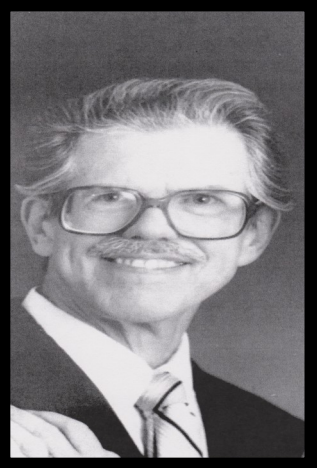
Charlie Freise



Rod Haenni



Gary Withrow



In Memoriam

Lyman R. Caswell

September 1928 - January, 2023

Ruth M. Caswell

May 7, 1935 - August 7, 2023



Lyman R. Caswell was a native of Indiana, growing up in Rockport. It was here, while in second grade a teacher encouraged his interest in science and he was introduced to philately. His father, a chemist, further inspired him to pursue a career in chemistry.

Lyman attended Indiana University receiving a Bachelor of Science and Master's degree in Chemistry in 1949 and 1950. He received a Doctor of Philosophy in Organic Chemistry degree from Michigan State University in 1956. He served as a Professor of Chemistry at Upper Iowa University from 1956 - 1961 and at Texas Woman's University from 1961 until his retirement in 1995. He directed sixteen master's theses, nine doctoral dissertations and published some forty research papers.

After retiring, he devoted his time researching the history of chemistry and philately. The family moved to the Seattle area in 1995 and became involved in the Northwest Philatelic scene. He was an original board member of SEAPEX contributing to its development. Lyman was named a "Northwest Distinguished Philatelist" by the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs in 2013. He served as a member on the board of directors and was a past president for the Society of Hungarian Philately. He published multiple articles in many philatelic journals. Lyman exhibited his material related to Hungarian postage due stamps at PIPEX, ROMPEX and SEAPEX for many years.

Lyman was an Emeritus Member of the American Chemical Society, the Society of Atheism Sigma Xi, the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association, the Institute for Analytical Philately, the Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain and the Hungarian Society for Philatelic Research.

Ruth M. Caswell was a native of Indiana and attended Purdue University. She pursued a degree in education and moved to Washington state where she completed a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music and Masters of Education degrees at the University of Puget Sound. She received her PhD in Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1983.

Ruth taught Teacher Education at Western Illinois University and was a Professor of Education at Texas Woman's University. Her husband, Frank Hansen, passed away in 1999. While at TWU she met her future husband, Lyman Caswell and he introduced her to the world of philately.

Ruth, along with three men, founded SEAPEX, served as the president for the first three years and served on the board for a number of years. Ruth and two other women founded Women Exhibitors, chaired the organization for several years and at the time of her passing was a board member at large. Ruth was named a "Northwest Distinguished Philatelist" by the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs in 2013. She exhibited her material related to literacy at PIPEX, ROMPEX and SEAPEX for many years. She received the SEAPEX Distinguished Service Award in 2018.

Ruth believed that music enhances our lives and was actively involved in live concerts as a performer and attendee. She loved handbells and rang in several ensembles, as a soloist and in duets. Ruth directed two ensembles, the International Artists Carillon and the Anderson Island Ringers. She was a freelance organist and implemented a Pipe Works program for the American Guild of Organists for local schools. She was a member of the Ladies Musical Club of Seattle, serving on the board and as treasurer.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Beginning in 2024, membership renewal forms will not be mailed out with *Scribblings*. Members will receive renewal notifications as a separate letter with a preprinted return envelope for dues payment. This change will shorten the amount of time required for the mailing of *Scribblings* and eliminate the possibility of a renewal letter being sent to someone other than the intended member.

Additionally, mailing labels have changed to include a member's renewal date in the upper right-hand corner of the label. This serves as a reminder when a member needs to renew. When payment for a member's renewal has been recorded, the renewal date on the mailing label will become the new renewal date.

Thanks for being a member of the RMPL!

RMSS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



The 2024 Rocky Mountain Stamp Show is fast approaching and the need for volunteers to help set-up and close-out the show is never more urgent.

We need 2-4 individuals to assist in managing the front registration desk, handing out admission tickets, show programs, greeting visitors and providing general support for cachet sales and show information.

A team of 10-12 individuals is required to assist in unpacking and setting up the exhibit frames. The same is needed for the show close-out when we have to take down the frames and repack them. This is a physically demanding task; lunch is provided. Without additional assistance we cannot complete set-up in time for the exhibitors to begin mounting their material.

A group of 4-6 volunteers is needed to assist arriving dealers move their material into the exhibit hall, as well as assist them when they depart the show.

And last but not least, we are looking for individuals to step up and take over some of the functions in the preparation and planning for the annual show. Many of the committee members are in their 70s, some in their 80s. Without an influx of new volunteers willing to step forward it will become increasingly difficult to continue operating.

The Rocky Mountain Stamp Show is one of the largest shows west of the Mississippi. This is the 73rd annual show. Will we be able to make it to the 80th?

If you are interested in becoming a more active participant at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show contact Andrew Kelley at stamps@andrewkelley.net for more information on volunteering.

RMPL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have a couple hours to spare during the week? Would you like to support the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library? Help is needed in every area of the Library and its day-to-day operations.



Do you know how to use a vacuum cleaner, dust mop, broom and cleaning supplies? We need additional volunteers to help with the routine cleaning and maintenance of the Library.

Do you know how to use a hammer, screw driver and power tools? We need additional people to help with routine maintenance, changing lightbulbs, repairing shelving units, moving furnishings, and other small tasks.

Do you like sitting at your kitchen table sorting stamps? The Library is always looking for people to assist in sorting and organizing the stamp sales books.

Do you know how to operate a cash register and POS (Point of Sale) software? We are searching for volunteers to assist at the front desk, answering the phone and taking care of the sales and closeout operations for the day.

Are you familiar with video production? The Library Video Production team has many projects on the book and looking for individuals with technical experience in video editing, sound editing and general production tasks.

Do you know how to use a large production copy machine? We have one person printing eight philatelic journals and additional help is needed in this area.

Are you interested in learning how to organize, prepare and conduct a philatelic auction? We are looking for assistance in this area.

If you are interested in becoming more active at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, please contact us 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.

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figure 2 - Prince Miloš Obrenović I.

The second uprising resulted in the Ottomans granting autonomy to the Principality of Serbia. Miloš (figure 2) founded the House of Obrenović, assumed the throne and ruled as Prince of Serbia from 1815-1839. He was an autocratic ruler, highly disliked by the general population, and he refused to share power. When Đorđe Petrović-Karađorđe, secretly returned to Serbia in 1817, Prince Miloš had him murdered for fear that Karađorđe's presence would cause the Ottomans to renege

on the concessions made after the second Serbian uprising. The death of Đorđe Petrović-Karađorđe resulted in a feud between the two dynasties lasting into the 20th century with the Serbian throne changing hands multiple times.

In 1839, Prince Miloš Obrenović I abdicated the throne and his first son, Milan Obrenović II (figure 3) assumed the throne. Milan was terminally ill and died about one month after becoming ruler of Serbia. The throne passed to Miloš' second son, Prince Mihailo (Michael) III (figure 4) who reigned from 1839 to 1842. When his government was overthrown in 1842, he was replaced by Prince Alexander I (figure 5) of the house Karađorđević. Prince Mihailo III went to Austria and lived in exile where he managed the large estates of his father.



figure 3 - Prince Milan Obrenović II.



figure 4 - Prince Mihailo Obrenović III.



figure 5 - Prince Alexander Karađorđević I

Prince Alexander Karađorđević I reigned from 1842 until 1858. This was a troubled period for Serbia with multiple attempts by sympathizers of the Obrenović dynasty to overthrow the government.

Prince Alexander refused to take part in the Crimean War as an ally of the French, British and Ottoman Empire against the Russian Empire. His controversial position earned him the ire of these countries. Internal policy conflicts and struggles with the winning powers of the Crimean War resulted in the convocation of the Saint Andrew's Day Assembly. In December 1858 the convocation forced Prince Alexander to abdicate

resulting in his exile and the overthrow of his government whereupon the Obrenović dynasty returned to the throne.

Prince Miloš Obrenović I regained control of the throne in 1858 and ruled until his death in 1860. Following the death of his father Prince Mihailo Obrenović III assumed the throne and ruled until his assassination in 1868. It was suspected but never proven that his death came at the hands of Karađorđević sympathizers. Having no children, Prince Mihailo III was succeeded by his adopted nephew, Prince Milan Obrenović IV at the age of 14 (figure 6).

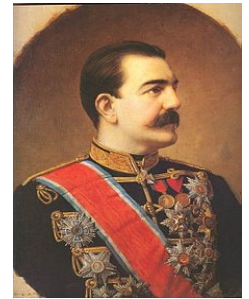


figure 6, Prince Milan Obrenović IV (aka) King Milan Obrenović I.

Serbia was a semi-autonomous Ottoman Empire principality until the last of the Ottoman forces were expelled from Belgrade in 1867 and the Serbians declared independence.

The first Serbian stamps were issued on May 1, 1866, and honestly, they are a bit less than awe inspiring. As Serbia was considered a vassal state, the country could not make postal agreements with other countries or issue postage stamps. The first stamps were only used to mail foreign newspapers from Belgrade to cities within Serbia. Residents of Belgrade received their newspapers through the Austrian Post Office. These first newspaper stamps were designed by Mr. Anastas Jovanović. They were letterpress printed by the State Printing Works in imperforate sheets of twelve stamps (4x3). Collectors can easily reconstruct an entire sheet as each stamp has unique flaws.



figures 7 and 8 left, 1866, 1-para newspaper stamp, Scott #2.

right, 1866, 2-para newspaper stamp, Scott #3.



The 1 and 2-para stamps (figures 7 and 8) were printed on April 26, 1866 and issued on May 1, 1866. The 1-para stamp is yellow-green in color and was printed on bright pink paper with a total circulation of 2,040 stamps. The 2-para stamp is red-lilac brown in color and was printed on blue paper with a total circulation of 1,944 stamps. The stamps have low print runs as they had to be ready by the May 1st release date and they quickly sold out.

Additional printings of the two newspaper stamps were completed on May 13th, November 10th and December 10, 1866. Some collectors and authors believe the last printing was never placed on sale. As expected with multiple printings there are many color

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shade and paper varieties. The gum on the second printing has small bubbles, the third printing does not, and on the fourth printing the gum was unevenly applied and has visible brush strokes.

Two issues of newspaper stamps featuring the image of Prince Mihajlo Obrenović III were released between 1867 and 1869 (*figures 9, 10 and 11*). The first issue was released on March 11, 1867. These stamps were printed in sheets of 50 (10x5) and perforated. The second printing was released in November 1868. They were printed in sheets of 100 (10x10) and were imperforate. Some of the imperforate sheets had a gutter between blocks of 50 stamps. Although no official documentation exists, differences in color, paper type and gum support the belief of a third printing and issue of these newspaper stamps.



figure 9, 1867-1869, examples of the Prince Mihajlo Obrenović III newspaper stamps, 10, 20 and 40-paras, Vienna printing, perf. 12, Scott #4, 5 and 6.



figure 10, 1867-1869, examples of the Prince Mihajlo Obrenović III newspaper stamps, 1, 2, 20, 40 and 10-paras, Belgrade printing, perf. 9½, Scott #7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. The 10, 20 and 40-para stamps were also printed on pelure paper.



figure 11, 1867-1869, examples of the Prince Mihajlo Obrenović III newspaper stamps, 1 and, 2-paras, Belgrade printing, imperf., Scott #14 and 15.

Prior to the establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874, a new postal treaty between Serbia and the Austro-Hungarian Empire was signed. With the death of Prince Mihajlo Obrenović III and Prince Milan Obrenović IV assuming the throne in 1868 a new set of newspaper stamps was necessary. The new postal treaty required denominations of 15, 25, 35 and 50 para, additional stamps were printed in values of 1, 10, 20 and 40-paras. The stamps feature the portrait of 14-year-old Prince Milan Obrenović IV (*figures 12 and 13*) and were printed by Belgrade State Printers (Državna štamparija Beograd) by letterpress and were in use for 11 years. They were reprinted multiple times on various paper types and in many different colors and shades. Eugen Derocco, "The father of Serbian philately," organized the printings into five groups based upon the appearance of the stamps. His classification system is still in use today and is found in most world stamp catalogs.



figure 12, 1868-1879 Prince Milan Obrenović IV newspaper stamps, 1 through 50-paras, Belgrade printing, perf. 9½, 12 and compound, Scott #16-



figure 13, 1872-1879 Prince Milan Obrenović IV newspaper stamps, 1 and 2-paras, Belgrade printing, imperf., Scott #25 and 26.

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Prince Milan Obrenović IV (*figure 6*) had an interesting childhood. His family was forced into exile and he grew up in Moldavia. His parents divorced shortly after his birth and at the age of seven his father was killed while serving as a foreign mercenary in the Romanian army while fighting the Ottomans near Bucharest. His mother gained legal custody of him; however, as the mistress of Alexandru Ioan Cuza, ruler of Romania, she wanted nothing to do with her children from her previous marriage. Milan was adopted by his cousin, Prince Mihailo Obrenović III. In 1868, his adoptive father Prince Mihailo III was assassinated. Prince Milan IV was declared ruler of Serbia and a regency was established until he came of age. During this regency period several attempts were made upon Prince Milan IV's life. Although never proven, it is suspected the attempts were made by Karađorđević sympathizers or members of his own government. Prince Milan IV married Queen Natalie of Serbia and they had one child, Alexander, who was born in 1876. In 1878, during Prince Milan IV's reign Serbia was recognized as an independent country by the international community but the country remained a principality until 1882. In 1880, a new set of definitive stamps featuring the portrait of 26-year-old Prince Milan IV was issued with values ranging from 5-para to 1-dinar (*figure 14*).



figure 14, 1880, set of six Prince Milan IV definitive stamps, perf. 13 and 13½, Scott #27-32.

In 1882, Serbia was recognized as an independent Kingdom and Prince Milan Obrenović IV became King Milan I of Serbia. King Milan I unexpectedly abdicated the throne in 1889 and went into exile.

In 1889, at the age of 12, Prince Alexander Obrenović I (*figure 15*) was declared King of Serbia under the regency of his mother Queen Natalie. A new set of stamps was issued in 1890 to commemorate the new prince (*figure 16*). Prince Alexander, in 1893, at the age of 16, proclaimed himself of full age. He dismissed the regents and the government and assumed

royal authority. In May 1894, he arbitrarily abolished the liberal constitution of his father, King Milan I, and restored the more conservative 1869 constitution.

Later in 1894, having difficulties managing his responsibilities, the young King asked his father, King Milan I, to return to Serbia and appointed him Commander-In-Chief of the Serbian Army. Until 1898, King Milan I was regarded as the “de facto” ruler of Serbia.

In 1897, Prince Alexander I, met Draga Mašin, a maid of honor to his mother. Draga

was twelve years his senior, unpopular with Belgrade society, and had a disreputable history. It was widely believed that Draga was infertile and since Alexander was an only child it was imperative for him to secure the succession of the Obrenović dynasty.

Without consulting his father, nor his advisors, the young king announced his engagement to Draga Mašin during the summer of 1900. At the time of the announcement, his father, King Milan I, was on vacation and making arrangements to secure the hand of the German Princess Alexandra Karoline zu Schaumburg-Lippe, sister of Queen Charlotte of Württemberg, for his son or the current Serbian Prime Minister, Dr. Vladan Đorđević. Upon learning of the announcement King Milan I and Prime Minister Dr. Vladan Đorđević resigned from their offices and Alexander had difficulty forming a new cabinet. His mother, who opposed the marriage, was banished from the kingdom.



figure 15, 1888 Postcard, portrait of Prince Alexander I, age 12.



figure 16, 1890, set of seven Prince Alexander I, definitive stamps, 5-para through 1-dinar values, perf. 13 and 13½, Scott #33-39.

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN Stamp Show

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The 30th Annual Silent Auction
Held at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show
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Lot 693

Lot 281

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Auction Managers: Paul Domenici and Gary Withrow

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The marriage of Prince Alexander Obrenović I and Draga Mašin took place in August 1900 amid great unpopularity (*figure 17*). This weakened the Kings position in the eyes of the military leadership and the country as a whole. He tried to reconcile the differences and established a more liberal constitutional initiative of his own, instituting a two-chamber system of government. This appeased the political parties but did little to calm the military leadership. Between 1894 and 1900 two additional sets of stamps were issued featuring various portraits of King Alexander I (*figure 18*), a third set of stamps was issued in 1901 (*figure 19*).

In 1901, a small group of politicians and military officers, led by Captain Dragutin Dimitrijević, also known as "Apis," and Novak Perišić, a young Serbian Orthodox militant who was in the pay of the Russian Empire, began to foment plans to force the abdication of King Alexander I. Novak Perišić was also the leader of the "Black Hand Secret Society" which would later assassinate Archduke Franz Ferdinand in 1914. They soon realized that forcing his removal would only aggravate the hostility between the Obrenović



figure 17, King Alexander Obrenović I and Queen Draga, circa 1900.

and Karađorđević dynasties. In late 1901, the military leadership decided to kill King Alexander I and Queen Draga.

In March 1903, the constitution was suspended by King Alexander for a period of approximately 30 minutes. This gave him enough time to publish decrees dismissing and replacing the old senators and councilors of state.

This arbitrary act increased dissatisfaction in the country, with his cabinet and in the military leadership. The military leaders and politicians plotting to assassinate the King and Queen continued with their plans and sought to place Peter Karađorđević on the throne. Initially Peter rejected their offers but eventually they came to an agreement. Peter wanted nothing to do with the planning and would assume the throne only if the assumption was approved by the National Assembly.



figure 18, 1894-1900, set of eight Prince Alexander I definitive stamps, 1-para through 1-dinar values, perf. 13 x 13½, printed on granite paper, Scott #40-47. A second printing, on ordinary paper, was issued in 1898, perf. 13 x 13½, and 11½. The second printing added a 1-para value and did not include the 1-dinar values, Scott #48-54. In 1900 and 1901 the 20-para stamp was surcharged 10-paras. In 1901, the 1-dinar red-brown stamp was surcharged 15-paras.



figure 19, 1901-1903, set of nine Prince Alexander I definitive stamps, 1-para through 5-dinar values, perf. 11½, Scott #59-67.

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Peter Karađorđević had a long and tumultuous history with the House of Obrenović, Peter's father, Prince Alexander Karađorđević I, was forced to abdicate the throne to Prince Milos Obrenović in 1858. While in exile Peter traveled to France and joined the French Foreign Legion in 1870. He fought in a number of battles, was captured by the Prussians, and eventually escaped. Between 1875 and 1878, he led a band of 200 guerillas while fighting against the Ottoman Empire. He discovered Prince Milan Obrenović IV was plotting to assassinate him over fear that he would try to wrest the throne from the Obrenović dynasty. Peter escaped to France and wrote to Prince Milan IV explaining his position and requesting they stop the feud between the two dynasties. Over the next few years Prince Milan IV ignored the pleas from Peter and tried repeatedly to have him charged with Treason. In 1879, Prince Milan IV brought charges of high treason against Peter, he was found guilty in absentia and sentenced to death by hanging.

Peter Karađorđević continued to avoid the sentence and in 1883 he moved to Montenegro where he married the eldest daughter of the Prince of Montenegro. The marriage upset two Serbian states, Russia and the Austria-Hungarian Empire as well as disrupting the political stability of the region. With the death of his father in 1885, Peter became the head of the Karađorđević dynasty. His financial situation was dire and he received support from his father-in-law, his brother and the Russian Empire. In 1885, he conspired with Russia to invade Serbia and overthrow the Obrenović dynasty. At the last-minute Czar Nicholas abandoned the idea leaving Peter feeling betrayed and leading to a long-lasting animosity between the two leaders. Peter eventually moved to Geneva with his three children, he remained there until 1903 (figure 20).



figure 20,
King Peter
Karađorđević I.

On the night of May 29, 1903, the royal palace was invaded. King Alexander and Queen Draga hid in a cupboard in the Queen's bedroom. The conspirators searched the palace, eventually discovering the royal couple and murdered them.

King Alexander I, was childless at the time of his death. With the death of Alexander I, the new King, Peter Karađorđević I, was ready to assume leadership over the Kingdom of Serbia.

The assassination of King Alexander I and Queen Draga resulted in the extinction of the Obrenović line and resolved the century-long feud between the Karađorđević and Obrenović dynasties. Peter expressed satisfaction with the out-

come of the plot, as well as regret for the bloodshed that had occurred, describing it as "neither gentlemanly, nor worthy of the 20th century."

Prior to the assassination of King Alexander Obrenović I, a set of ten definitive postage stamps was in the planning stage (figure 21). The stamps were much larger and featured a more mature portrait of the King. The stamps were not issued initially, but a number of sheets did make it into circulation. The new King, Peter Karađorđević I, had the stamps overprinted with the Serbian Coat of Arms. Of course, the overprint obliterated the image of King Alexander Obrenović I (figure 22).



figure 21, 1903-1904, this set of 10 stamps featuring King Alexander I were in production but never released, perf. 13½ and 11½, no Scott #s assigned. The 3 and 5-dinar values (not shown) are unknown without the coat-of-arms overprints.



figure 22, 1903-1904, set of King Alexander I stamps with the coat-of-arms overprints obscuring his portrait, perf. 13½ and 11½, 1-para to 5-dinar values, Scott #68-77. The overprints are known in multiple colors and with two different types. The 5-dinar stamp was also surcharged 1-para.

continued on page 12

continued from page 12

In 1904, a new set of eight large horizontal stamps were printed to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Karađorđević dynasty and the coronation of King Peter I (figure 23). The stamps feature the images of Đorđe Petrović-Karađorđe, and King Peter Karađorđević I.



figure 23, 1904, set of 5 stamps featuring King Peter Karađorđević I and Đorđe Petrović-Karađorđe, 5-para through 50-para values, perf. 13½ Scott #s 79-83.

The new stamps were popularly received and celebrated throughout the country. It was not long after their issue that something strange was noticed. From beyond the grave, King Alexander Obrenović I and the Obrenović dynasty had the final revenge. When the stamps are turned upside down, look at the two faces, the death mask image of King Alexander Obrenović I (figure 24). This image is found on each of the lower values from the set of stamps. Was this an unintentional accident of design or was the engraver a sympathizer for the assassinated King Alexander Obrenović I?

King Peter Karađorđević I reigned from 1903 through 1921. He was extremely popular with the people of Serbia. As king, he advocated a constitutional arrangement for the country and was famous for his libertarian politics. The rule of King Peter was marked with great political liberties, freedom of the press and the rise in the worldwide national, economic and cultural presence of Serbia. This period is sometimes dubbed as a golden age for Serbia. He was the first King of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes (1918-1921).

Due to his age, King Peter proclaimed his son, Alexander, heir to the throne. In August, 1921, Alexander Karađorđević became the King of the



figure 24, 1904, King Peter Karađorđević I and Đorđe Petrović-Karađorđe "Death Mask stamp," 25-para, perf. 13½, Scott #82.

Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, and later in October 1929 he became the first King of Yugoslavia. King Alexander Karađorđević established a Royal Dictatorship in 1929 which made him extremely unpopular, so much so he nearly retired from public life for fear of assassination. The Karađorđević dynasty ruled until the dissolution of the Monarchy in 1945.

Note: The RMPL has a number of catalogs and books available for research and learning more about the postal history of Serbia.

Sources:

Encyclopedia Britannica

The Postal History and Postage Stamps of Serbia, by Mirko R. Rasic, Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund, 1979.

The History of Serbia. The Greenwood Histories of the Modern Nations. by John K. Cox, Westport, CT: Greenwood Press. ISBN 9780313312908.

A History of Modern Serbia, 1804-1918, Vol I and II, by Michael Boro Petrovich, New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. ISBN 9780151409501.

The Serbian Revolution and the Serbian State: <https://staff.lib.msu.edu/sowards/balkan/lecture5,Petrovich>, Michael Boro. 1976.

<http://muzejpozega.rs/index.php/portfolio/milos-obrenovic-srpski-knez/>

https://eudocs.lib.byu.edu/index.php/autonomous_Serbia,1804-1918.

Portraits and photographs obtained from "The Royal Family of Serbia" <https://royalfamily.org>

Images of stamps in this article are from these websites:

www.stamp-collecting-world.com/serbiastamps.html

<https://worldstampsproject.org/postage-stamps-principality-serbia-varieties-types/>

<https://www.stampworld.com/en/stamps/Serbia/Postage%20stamps/1880-1889>

<https://colnect.com/en/stamps/years/country/245-Serbia>

Second Saturday Programs at the Library

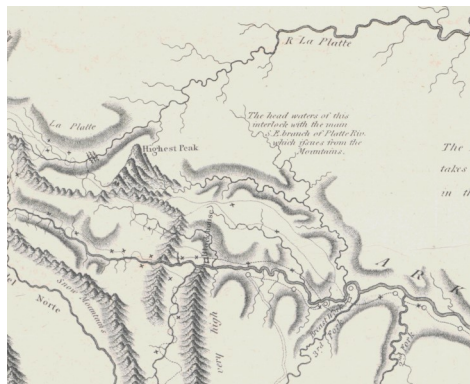
Second Saturday programs are sponsored by the RMPL and attract a friendly group of folks who are interested in a specific subject, or who are interested in learning more about an area of philately that may be new to them. **Contact Jim Kilbane, aurora_80017@yahoo.com, if you are interested in presenting a program.**

March 9, 2024 - 9:00 AM

Presenter: Wesley Brown

"How the Expeditions of Pike, Long and the Spanish put Colorado on the Map"

This is a historic non-philatelic-related presentation covering the early exploration of the southwest. Fathers Dominguez and Escalante, Governor Juan Bautista de Anza, Lieutenant Zebulon Pike, and Major Stephen Long, each led important expeditions into Colorado. Before these expeditions, the place that would become Colorado was a blank on the Map. These expeditions in the late 1700s and early 1800s into uncharted territory, only known to the native population, resulted in the earliest printed mapping of the wondrous country that became Colorado.



April 13, 2024 - 9:00 AM

Presenter: Even Brande

"Postal Service and Communication in Nazi-Occupied Norway 1940-1945"



Even Brande will share both previously told stories and family stories on how the occupation of Norway on April 9, 1940 impacted mail delivery and communication during World War II.

During the war, multiple postal systems evolved, both official and unofficial. The Norwegian postal system provided both legitimate and underground mail delivery. The Germans occupying Norway operated both a military mail system and a government system. Even will further talk about the role of the Norwegian resistance movement and the impact they had on the outcome of the war. The presentation will further explain the roles of a neutral Sweden and the Norwegian exile government in London. If World War II and postal history is something you enjoy, then this is a presentation you don't want to miss.

The RMPL and a Navy Lieutenant's Correspondence

by Paul Albright and Charlie Freise

It is funny how a simple collection of family correspondence can unexpectedly turn into something of historical importance. The Lt. Clayton Blout correspondence was purchased by stamp dealer Joe Neri as part of an estate back in 2016 or 2017.

The correspondence was a massive collection of letters mailed to, and from, Lt. Blout, his parents, brother, and others beginning in 1942 through 1956. It was retained by the family and they no longer wished to keep the material.

Joe Neri donated the material to the Young Stamp Collectors during the 2017 Rocky Mountain Stamp Show. There were five boxes full of correspondence.

Don Dhonau, Dan Nieuwlandt and Charlie Freise started going through the boxes of correspondence during the show. Charlie discovered a particularly amazing letter written by Lt. Blout. This letter was a

detailed first-hand account of the first atomic bomb test at Bikini Atoll in 1946. Additional correspondence was found detailing the travels of Lt. Blout to and from Bikini Atoll. Charlie went through every letter, writing brief notes detailing the contents for future reference. Eventually, a three-frame exhibit was prepared and shown at the 2018 Rocky Mountain Stamp Show. The exhibit won a silver medal.

The collection of correspondence was passed along to Paul Albright and another researcher. Sometime in 2023 the collection made its way to George Mason University.

On January 29, 2024, Paul Albright received notification from George Mason University informing him the Clayton Blout correspondence collection was officially transferred to the Library of Congress for inclusion in their manuscript division.



Covering the World

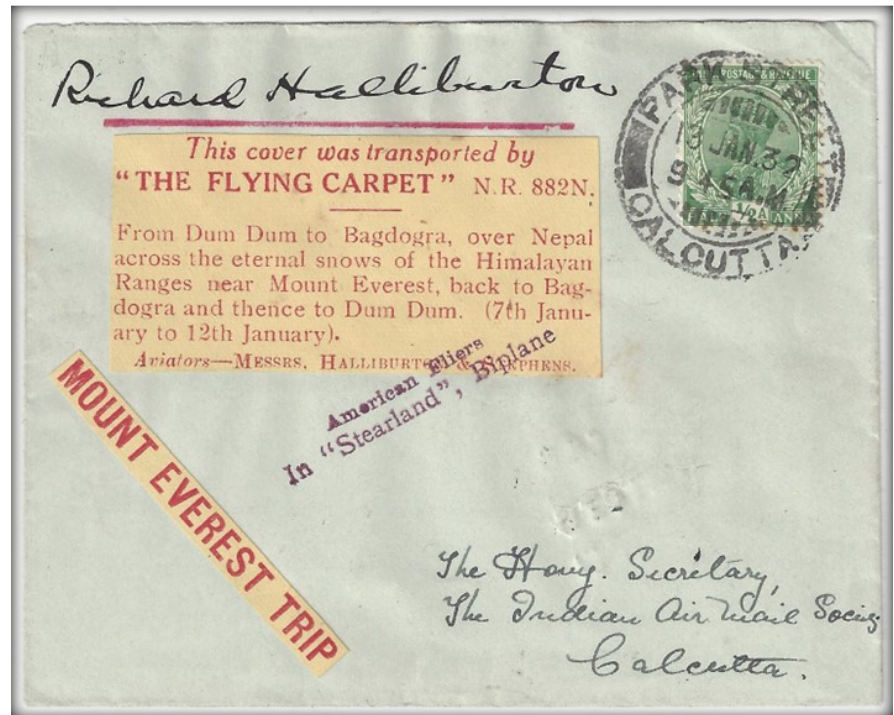


The Flying Carpet Flight to Mt. Everest

by Eddie Hackstaff and John H. Bloor



Moe Stephens (seated) and Richard Halliburton (standing) with the Flying Carpet.



Cover carried on the Everest flight, signed on the front by Halliburton and on the back (not shown) by Stephen Smith.

The cover for this issue was provided by Eddie Hackstaff, one of our library volunteers. In his words "As a pilot, philatelist and mountaineer myself, this [cover] has it all."

December 1930 saw the beginning of one of the 20th century's greatest flying adventures. It was a dream of Richard Halliburton, a travel writer and lecturer, to explore the world. Over the next 18 months, in attempting to achieve this goal, he would create a truly amazing story.

On December 25, 1930, Halliburton, with Moe Stephens as pilot and mechanic, took off from Los Angeles, eastbound, in a modified Stearman CB-3 named the "Flying Carpet." After arriving in New York, the biplane was disassembled, crated, and placed on a ship to England. Once in England, it was reassembled and they were off on their flight over the Alps and on to Fez, Morocco where they performed aerobatics at an air meet. From Morocco, they crossed the Sahara Desert on their way to Timbuktu (in Mali). They then worked their way to Persia (modern day

Iran) where they met up with famous German aviatrix Elly Beinhorn.

From Persia, all three travelled together in their two aircraft to India where they were invited to perform aerobatics at the Calcutta/Dum Dum airport for the Maharaja of Nepal. After the show they received the stunning news that they were granted permission to fly over Nepal to Mt. Everest!

Before leaving for Nepal, the group met Stephen Smith. Smith is known as the "Father of Indian Aerophilately and Rocket mail." Smith provided Halliburton with 50 covers to be carried on the Mt. Everest flight.

In early January 1932, Halliburton and Stephens in their Stearman, and Beinhorn in her Klemm KL-26, left the Dum Dum airport for Siliguri, in northeast India, where they spent the night. The next day they took off and flew parallel to the Himalaya range until Mt. Everest was in sight. Beinhorn's Klemm aircraft

continued on page 15

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*Stearman Biplane,
United States, 1997,
Scott #31421.*



*India Scott 1427; honoring
Stephen Smith (1891-1951)
rocket mail pioneer.*

After the flight, the covers were signed by Halliburton and Smith, cancelled in Calcutta, and provided to the members of the Indian Air Mail Society. Even though only 50 covers were flown, they are not considered scarce and can be found each year in auctions.

Although the close approach to Mt. Everest was perhaps the most spectacular leg of the trip, it was not part of the original plan, taking only five days of the 18-month adventure. Upon reaching the Pacific Ocean, the aircraft was again put on board a ship and they ended up back in California where it all began. Altogether, they flew over 33,000 miles and visited 34 countries.

could not reach an altitude above 12,000 feet and was forced to turn around early. Halliburton and Stephens in the modified Stearman turned toward Mt. Everest and were able to reach an altitude of 20,000 feet. They were able to fly within 15 miles of Mt. Everest before turning around. Not since 1925 when Alan Cobham flew within 40 miles had Mt. Everest been approached from the air. One year after this daring feat the British would be successful in flying over the summit with a massive, well-funded and engineered expedition.

This flight is described in more detail in Richard Halliburton's book *"The Flying Carpet,"* (1932; Garden City Publishing). Much of this story was condensed by Eddie from this book.

Note: This cover is exactly what we want for this column. Please send me your favorite cover for the next issue of Covering the World.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

While reviewing *Scribblings* take note of the many day-to-day activities going on. Volunteers are in the Library working everyday sorting stamps and updating the sales books. The Video Production Team completed three new productions since the beginning of the year. We are printing three new philatelic journals: The Auxiliary Markings Journal, Forerunners (Philatelic Society of Greater South Africa) and Postal Himal (The Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle).

A dealer's bourse was held at the Library in late January. The 6th Annual Country, Cover and Postcard Lots Auction was held in February. The auction management team is preparing for the 30th Annual Silent Auction at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show. From what I have heard, this year's silent auction has some fantastic material.

When was the last time you stopped by to attend a Second Saturday program? Why not make plans to attend the March and/or April presentations and visit with other enthusiasts of philately?

The Library has a core group of volunteers who dedicate many hours to ensure the Library remains operational and our shared hobby and interests remain satiated. As always, the need for volunteers is never ending. Seriously think about helping out at the Library a couple hours during the month.

Charlie Freise
Editor

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARIAN

We've received some wonderful donations. The Library's holdings of Western History, railroads, Czechoslovakia, British Commonwealth and United States Post Offices has been greatly expanded. These are wonderful books! I can't wait to see more donations. What can you bring to our library?

A man came into my office with a VHS tape in hand saying "I'd like to check this out, but I don't have a player." We have converted all our old VHS tapes to DVDs. These items can be checked out and actually watched. Thanks to Joe Lanotte for converting the VHS tapes to DVD format.

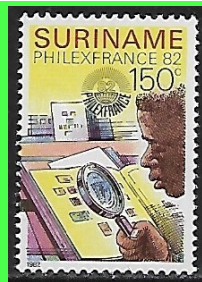
Our inventory of the main collection has been completed and we are missing a few books. Please look around and see if you have some of our materials? We would appreciate the timely return of these items.

Our Library continues to be a happening place. Often we have 15-20 people here doing research, sorting stamps, or just chatting about philately. We'd like to see you in the Library. And if you have some time to volunteer, we would appreciate that as well.

Sherri Soraci-Jennings
Librarian

Young Collectors Corner

by Charlie Freise



Visit CYPHERStampClub.com to learn more about stamp collecting.

What is the difference between imperforate and perforated stamps?

Perforated stamps have little holes between the stamps for easy separation; imperforate stamps do not. In 1840 after the first stamps were printed, postal workers used scissors to cut the stamps apart. Large businesses had workers use razors to cut rows of stamps, several sheets deep, to speed up the stamp separation. This was quick, but many of the stamps ended up with uneven margins and sometimes portions of the stamp were missing. In 1847, the first machine was invented to perforate stamps using small blades that cut into the stamp margins. This is called rouletting. The stamp sheets were folded and torn apart. The blades of the machine required constant sharpening and replacing. By 1857, nearly all stamps issued throughout the world were perforated. Imperforate stamps have been issued by countries due to shortages of materials, internal political conflicts, on-going wars, by accident, error and even by design.



At the January 2024 CYPHER Stamp Club meeting the children were given the task of searching for stamps to create their own "Stamp Zoo." The stamps featured animals that are commonly found

in a zoo. Machaia Clift, Jessica Clift, Liat Martin, Dan Nieuwlandt and Regina Domenici are working on the "Stamp Zoo" project.

OOPS! - DID WE DO THAT?

Sometimes during the production of a stamp a mistake is made in the design and the stamp is printed before the error is spotted. Some of the errors on the stamps below are very difficult to spot. Can you find the design errors in these stamps? (Answer key is on page 23).

IMPERFORATE STAMPS



Great Britain,
1840,
Scott #1.



United
States, 1851,
Scott #11.



Mexico,
1866,
Scott #27.



Austria,
1920,
Scott #232.

PERFORATED STAMPS



Nigeria, 1992, Scott #615E.



Japan, 1980, Scott #1391.



1



2



3



4

RMPL VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

by Joe Lanotte and the RMPL Video Team

In 2023, RMPL Video Productions launched 5 new videos. Four of the videos are 2nd Saturday Program productions and one is a more formal presentation, by Pat McNally, about the postal history of Zeppelins, from their inception in 1898 to the dismantling of the Graf Zeppelin II in 1940. We published our first video of 2024 in early January: "Queen Elizabeth II in Retrospect," by Steve McGill. This program discusses the changes in mail handling and postal security in the UK during the Queen's reign. Ravi Vora's 2nd Saturday presentation "United States Consular Services and Stamps" was released later in January. The most recent video, "Puerto Rico's Early Airmail History," was released on February 8, 2024.

RMPL video production began in 2013. Over the period of 10 years the team of volunteers have produced 45 videos. All of the productions are available for public viewing on both our website and on YouTube. To date, our videos have been viewed over 70,000 times.

If you have not recently visited our website, we invite you to do so. See for yourself the wide range of topics that are covered, including: forgeries and fakes, postal security, world history, US history, air mail and subjects aimed at youth. We are sure you will find something that is of interest to you.

We strongly urge you to consider sharing your expertise and knowledge in whatever field of philately interests you the most. Rest assured, there are plenty of people out there who appreciate you sharing your knowledge with them and making their collecting experience more enjoyable.

If you have already made a presentation in front of a group, then you are halfway there. If have a PowerPoint deck, the only other thing needed is a script. If you haven't already done so, you will need to write down what you would say about each slide. That's all that is needed for a script. With the script and the PowerPoint deck, either you or someone else with a microphone can read the script. Unless you would like to appear in the video, standing in front of a video camera is not necessary. Once the script is recorded, the process moves into the hands of the video team for editing before final production of the video.

Even if you haven't presented your subject to a group, you can still share your expertise via a video. This requires you to create a PowerPoint deck and a script. The video team is always available for assistance if



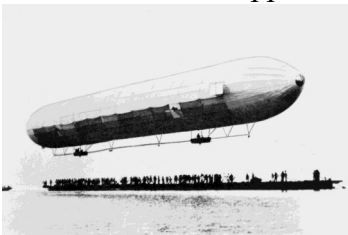
you are unsure as to how to accomplish this. Again, it is a simple and easy process and will pay big dividends to the collecting public.

Video production is performed by RMPL volunteers who donate their time and talents. The group is continually searching for folks who would like to help in the production of videos. If

sharing your knowledge is not something you are comfortable doing, you might think about supporting the video production effort. You can donate your time and assist in the video production process or financially support the program. Technology is constantly changing and requires periodic purchases and updates of new video equipment and software in order to remain up to date with video standards. If you decide that you want to provide financial support, please be sure to clearly indicate that the donation is for video production.



Ferdinand von Zeppelin



The first flight of LZ 1 over Lake Constance



Steve McGill
"Queen Elizabeth
Philatelic
Retrospective"



Ravi Vora
"US Consular
Services and Its
Stamps:
An Overview"

What is New in Library Stamp Sales?

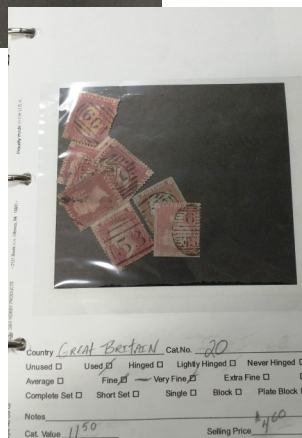
by Ron Lampo

The success of the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library is due largely to two things: the strong volunteer corps doing much of the heavy lifting for the organization and the generous donation of materials made not only by collectors, but also by the general public. At the intersection of the volunteer corps and the mountain of donations lies the Stamp Sales Program. If you have ever visited the library, it is hard to miss the floor-to-ceiling bookcases on the east wall of the main room of the 2038 building. What's in all those binders in those bookcases? I'm glad you asked!

Generally, donated items first pass through the office of the Stamp Manager, Dasa Metzler. Dasa organizes the donated stamps by country and places them into boxes for volunteers to sort. Stamp sorting volunteers have signed up for a country, or group of countries, with which they are familiar - think Central America or Spain & Colonies. Sorting volunteers come to the Library a few times a month to spend time going through their boxes and placing stamps onto stock sheets housed in the large blue 3-ring binders. Stamps in these binders are of lower catalog value and sell for a dime each. Stamps that have a higher catalog value go in the smaller 3-ring binders and are priced at 40% of catalog. The Library has 120 large binders and 290 smaller mini-binders full of stamps looking for a new home. Certainly, there is something here for your collection.

As you might expect, the United States section is quite a bit healthier than the general worldwide section. Volunteers sort US stamps into the following categories: mint, used, booklet panes, plate blocks, blocks of four or more, and line pairs. Currently the US section is being revamped to better serve our collectors. One interesting upcoming addition to the US section is Plate Number Coil Singles. This is a work in progress that will hopefully be completed by the end of the summer.

If you're a regular reader, you know that the Library can always use volunteers. If you love to sort stamps (and really, who doesn't?) we would love to have you come to the Library on a regular basis to help with



some of the backlog. The top countries we need help with are: Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mozambique, Turkey, and Vatican City. If the area you collect isn't listed, perhaps you would like to learn something about a new area. Likewise, if the area you collect isn't listed, someone else is keeping up with it. For that reason alone, you should visit the library with your want list to look in the binders to fill in some spaces.

New Publications for our Members

UNITED STATES

Forts of the West: Military Forts and Presidios, and Posts Commonly Called Forts, West of the Mississippi River to 1898,
by Robert W. Frazer

Railway Mail Service - Sixth Division, March 1914: Comprising States of Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Illinois: Schedule of Mail Trains and List of Express Pouches (USPOD)

Schedule of Mail Routes, No. 207, February 18, 1949: Fourteenth Division, Railway Mail Service Comprising Nebraska, Colorado, and Wyoming (USPOD)

Schedule of Mail Routes, No. 280, April 21, 1931 (US Post Office Dept.)

Schedule of Mail Routes, No. 506, January 11, 1934: Eighth Division, Railway Mail Service Comprising Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, Samoa and Utah (USPOD)

Schedule of Mail Routes, No. 511, October 7, 1953: Eighth Division, Postal Transportation Service Comprising Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, Hawaii and Pacific Islands (USPOD)

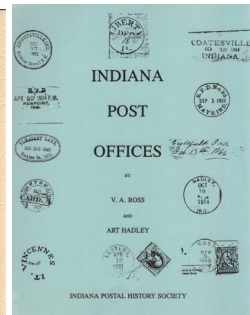
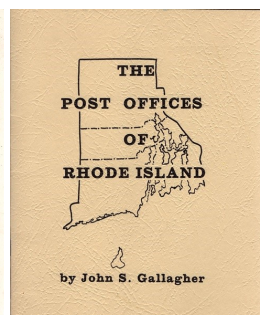
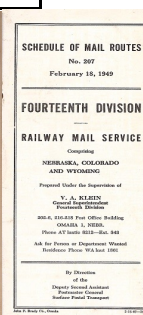
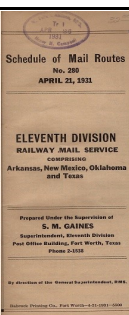
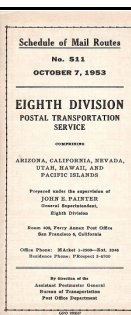
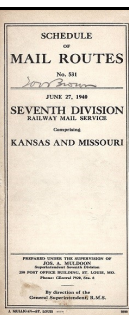
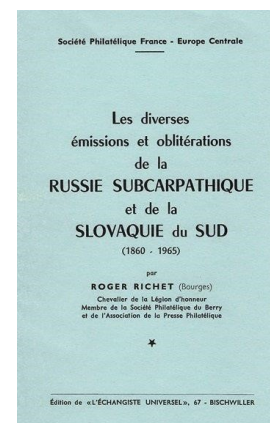
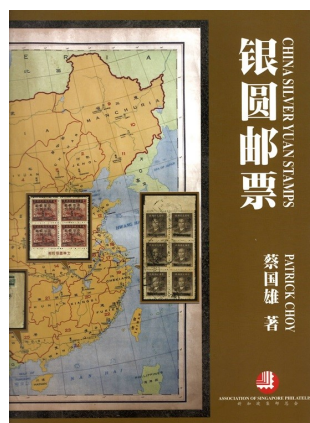
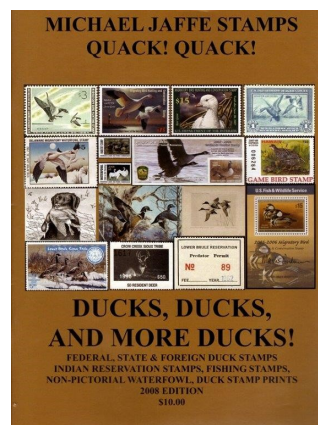
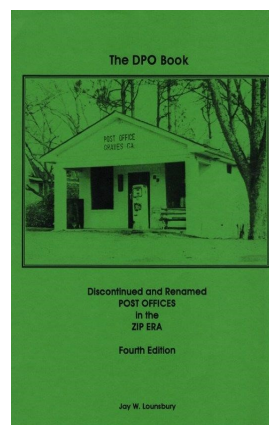
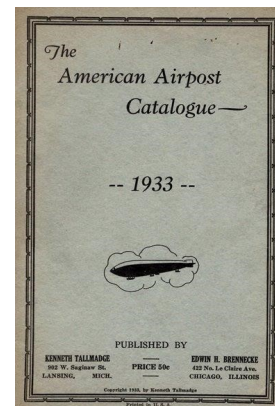
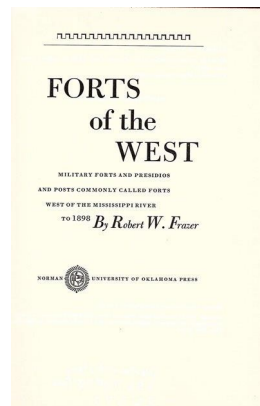
Schedule of Mail Routes, No. 531, June 27, 1940: Seventh Division Comprising Kansas and Missouri (USPOD)

ASIA

China Silver Yuan Stamps, by Patrick Choy

Les diverses émissions et oblitérations de la Russie Subcarpathique et de la Slovaquie du Sud (1860-1965), par Roger Richet

Philatelic Study Report 2023-2: Space-related Poltava Philatelic Commemorations-1960 to 1992, by James G. Reichman



New Publications for our Members

EUROPE

100 Heller Hradcany II: Pladebeskrivelse af Plade I og II, af Evald Larsen

A Century of "Notices to the Public" 1782 - 1880, by Paul Wijnants

A Treatise on the Subject of Czechoslovak Postage Stamps, Part VIII: Czech Postmarks from the Beginnings to the Year 1918, by Emil Votoček

Altdeutschland Spezial-Katalog und Handbuch, by Hans Grobe

Austrian Post Offices Abroad, Part One: Austrian Lloyd: Adriatic Lines, Mediterranean Lines, by S.D. Tchilinghirian, and W. S. E. Stephen

British Postmarks: With Special Reference to the "1844" and Subsequent Numbered Obliterations, by F. Hugh Vallancey

Catalogue des Obliterations Mecaniques de Moselle, by Camille Roth

Chronik der Oberpostdirektion Freiburg: Teil I, 1945-1950, by Berta Schäfer

Chronik der Oberpostdirektion Freiburg: Teil II, 1950-1975, by Berta Schäfer

Die Postempel auf der Freimarkenausgabe 1867 von Österreich und Ungarn, von Edwin Müller

Die Poststempel der Hamburger Landgebiete: bis zum Anfang des Zwanzigsten Jahrhunderts, by Ernst Meyer-Margreth

EUROPE (continued)

Edwin Mueller's Handbook of the Pre-stamp Postmarks of Austria, by Edwin Mueller

Ganzsachen Österreich Spezialkatalog und Handbuch, von Franz Schneiderbauer

Katalog POFIS Československé Celiny 1918-1992: I. díl., by Jan Starec

Les émissions, surcharges, oblitérations et vignettes des Sudètes (1880-1970), par Roger Richet

Moselle: Première Partie: Bas-Rhin 1944-1947, by Jean-Pierre Bournique

Official List of town Equivalents: in German or Hungarian and Czech or Slovak languages

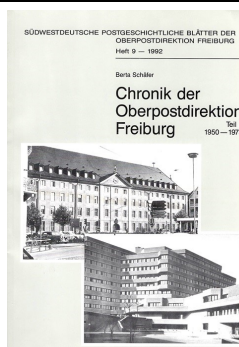
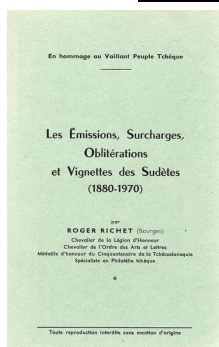
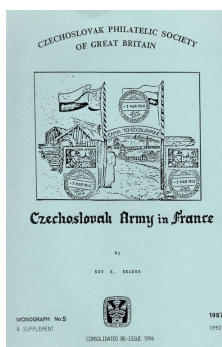
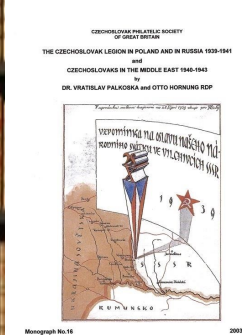
Posta Telegraf i Telefon u Bosni i Hercegovini, by Milan Ljiljak

Post offices of Alsace-Lorraine

Prifix Catalogue Spécialisé Illustré des Timbres-poste du Luxembourg avec les Cotations des timbres Europa

Repertoire des Obliterations Mecaniques Utilisees a Metz, by Stanley J. Luft

Repertoire des Obliterations Mecaniques Utilisees dans les Bureaux de Poste (sauf Metz), by Stanley J. Luft



New Publications for our Members

EUROPE (continued)

Scots Local Cancellations: A History of Their Usage, Types and Degrees of Rarity,
by C. W. Meredith

Scots Local Cancellations 'Matched Pairs': A Review of the Alternative Types,
by C. W. Meredith

The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe: A Practical Guide to Their Collection, Identification, and Classification; Especially Designed for the use of Those Commencing the Study, by W. A. S. Westoby

The "Brunswick Star" with Notes on the "Pillar Stamp" Duplex Obliterator,
by James Arnot

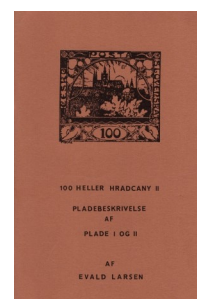
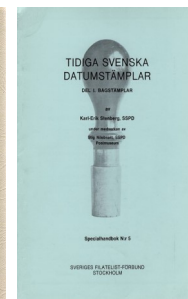
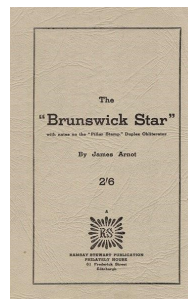
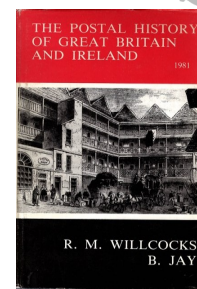
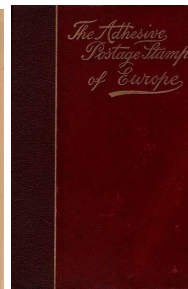
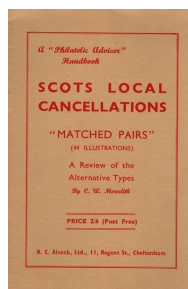
The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Vol. IV: The Empire in Australasia

The Postal History of Great Britain and Ireland: A Summarized Catalogue to 1840,
by R. M. Willcocks and B. Jay

Tidiga Svenska Datumstämplat: del I, Bågstämplat, av Karl-Erik Stenberg

Tidiga Svenska Datumstämplat: del II, Fyrkantstämplat, av Karl-Erik Stenberg

Wider die Zerstörung in der Philatelie: Zur Aufbewahrung und Bewahrung Philatelistischer Schätze, by Wolfgang Maassen



NORTH AMERICA

Canada : The Admiral Stamps of 1911 to 1925, by Hans Reiche

Canadian Duplex Cancellations of the Victorian Era 1860-1902, by E. A. Smythies

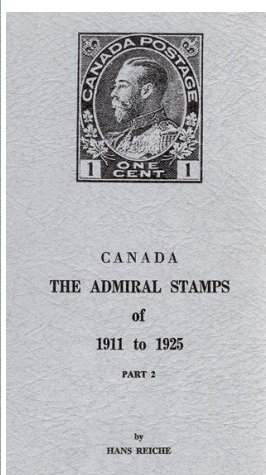
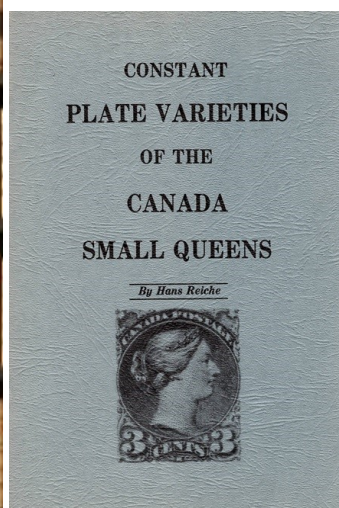
Canadian Fancy Cancellations of the Nineteenth Century, by K. M. Day and E. A. Smythies

Canadian Manuscript Town Postmarks,
by David Handleman and Jacques Poitras

Constant Plate Varieties of the Canada Small Queens, by Hans Reiche

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND and the SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS

Franklin's Guide to the Stamps of Papua & New Guinea: An Illustrated Handbook of the Stamps of British New Guinea, Papua, German New Guinea, Australian Occupation of German New Guinea, North West Pacific Islands, The Territory of New Guinea, Military Occupation and Administration of the Territories 1942-45, Australian Commonwealth Used in Papua and New Guinea, The Territory of Papua and New Guinea,
by Mark Franklin



RMPL Board of Directors Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting January 18, 2024

Board Members Present: Tonny Von Loij, Jim Kilbane, Rich Palestro, Bill Douglass, Eric Carlson, Steve Schweighofer, Gary Withrow, Paul and Regina Domenici. Visitors: Charlie Freise and Linda Veres (Library bookkeeper). Rod Haenni was absent.

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

Old Business

The November meeting minutes were approved by the Board via e-mail in December.

Treasurer's report (Bill Douglass): Both the year-end balance sheet and profit/loss statement were reviewed by the Board. Bill will send Board members a proposed 2024 budget for comments and recommendations prior to the next meeting.

Cash register overage (Paul Domenici): There has been an unresolved \$1000 cash register overage. This is mainly due to auction items rung up on the credit card terminal but unprocessed at the register.

Action items finished in December:

1. Treasurer and bookkeeper performed a review of accounting transactions.
2. Desk volunteers were re-educated on the credit card transaction process.
3. The overage will automatically be reconciled with financial transition to 2024.

Next steps Paul Lee's "Parks, Postmarks and Postmasters" revised book publication (Jim Kilbane):

A Board decision will be made pending the Committee's recommendation.

Membership recruiting follow ups:

1. Charlie is still waiting for a response from the local Boys and Girls Clubs about his request to publish CYPHER information in their quarterly newsletter. He contacted several home-school programs and has not received any response.
2. Paul is following up with the Denver Post / Denver Gazette to publish an RMPL article.
3. Steve Bonowski said promoting the RMPL in his hiking group is ill-timed due to leadership changes.

4. Gary reported it is not financially possible to advertise in Boys Life magazine.

Outside shed security (Steve Schweighofer): Items stored outside will be moved downstairs when the weather allows.

Board of Director election proposed improvements (Regina Domenici): In March, once the 2024 Board is in office, a decision will be made on the following proposals:

1. Increase the total number of directors from 4 to 6.
2. Decrease the Board term to 2 years.
3. Stagger the number of positions open for election annually to promote strength.

New Business:

Caswell bequest (Tonny Van Loij and Bill Douglass): Tonny reported the RMPL received \$166,000 from member Ruth Caswell and her husband Lyman Caswell, who passed away in January and August 2023. The Finance Committee met and recommended investing in a CD and \$120,000 be moved to five different existing Vanguard accounts.

Annual volunteer appreciation dinner (Paul Domenici): The annual volunteer dinner is returning. It is scheduled for December 7th at the DoubleTree Hotel (RMSS hotel).

Membership recruiting: Membership recruiting at stamp shows appears to supply the best return for effort. The RMPL will have a presence at the May Rocky Mountain Stamp Show and send a recruiting ambassador to the Great American Stamp Show in August.

Insurance (Tonny Van Loij): Tonny reported insurance renewal costs increased 20% over the year for the same coverage. This appears to be a competitive rate in line with other quotes.

Meeting adjourned 5:35 PM.

The next meeting will be March 21, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Domenici
Recording Secretary

DONATIONS

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 20, 2023 through January 18, 2024. Thank you!

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

**Estate of Charles F. Boubelik
Walter C. Emery Family Foundation
Estate of Lyman R. Caswell and Ruth M. Caswell**

Anonymous	Chris Frey	Betty Kuehner	Stephany Sarsfield
Herman Axelrod	Robert Gibson	Diane MacLean	Bill Schattle
Peter Bergh	Marc Gonzales	Elizabeth Maes	Daryl Schmitt
Michael Bizzaro	David Goss	Will Mahoney	Dick Seeley
William Blankemeier	William Gum	Benjamin Mapes	Marc Silberman
Stephen Bonowski	Rod Haenni	Theodore Maynard	A.F. Siraa Md
Michael Burnham	Jerry Hager	Patrick McCarty	Gabriela Sirotkin
Kenneth Campbell	Ronald Hancock	William McCracken	Robert Smetana
Eric Carlson	Said Handal	Steve McGill	Charles Speltz
William Churlik	Keith Hart	Clifford Mestel	Stephen Stainsby
John Cool	Thomas & Sandra Higel	Dasa Metzler	Henry-York Steiner
Kenneth Creamer	Joseph W Hills	Jeff Modesitt	Ellen Tallman
Robert Debus	Ernest Hinck	Jeff Morse	Linda Torgersen
Donald Dhonau	Gene Holgate	Stephen Nadler	Jack Van Ens
Sue Dunn	Ryan Hughes	Randy Nilson	Tonny Van Loij
David Durbin	Ned Husman	Kimberly Opekar	David Vanderhoop
Harold Effner	James Iacino	Norman Pence	Patrick Walters
Jerry Eggleston	Edward Jarvis	David Petersen	Robert Whyte
James Ehernberger	Sherri Jennings	William Plachte	
Walter Figel	Robert Kessler	Steven Reeder	
Charles Freise	Judith Koenig	Jon Rummel	

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to new members who have joined the library from November 20, 2023 through February 1, 2024.

Anonymous	Theodore Maynard
Frank Caprio	Jeffrey Montgomery
Russ Koffler	Jay Morgan
Gianfranco Marcantonio	David Stark

Please Note: New members and membership renewals received after February 1, 2024, will be acknowledged in the next issue of *Scribblings*.

Answer Key to "Oops! Did we do that?" activity from page 15.

1. Italy, 1997, Scott #2167. The basketball hoop is closed, the ball will never drop so no one can continue playing.
2. Lesotho, 1991, Scott #868. No wonder Donald Duck is having troubles solving the Rubik's cube. There are 9 blocks on the top and 12 blocks on each side.
3. Denmark, 1985, Scott #785. The park bench is missing support legs on the left side.
4. Belgian Congo, 1948, Scott #257. The train engine has no wheels.

Scheduled Library Events



The RMPL Operations Manager, Steve Schweighofer, maintains a calendar of reserved club times. Clubs should check the calendar regularly and notify Steve (steve.schweighofer@comcast.net) 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
 Thu: 5:00 - 8:00 PM
 Closed Sundays and Holidays
 Phone: (303) 759-9921
 Email: rmpldenverco@gmail.com

MARCH 2024

Mar 2 Sat - meeting 10 AM
 Scandinavian Collectors Club

Mar 2 Sat - meeting 1 PM
 Topical Philatelists In Colorado (TOPIC)

Mar 9 Sat - 9AM
Second Saturday at the RMPL
 Presenter: Wesley Brown
"How the Expeditions of Pike, Long and the Spanish put Colorado on the Map"

Mar 9 Sat - meeting 10:30 AM
 Mexico/Latin America Club

Mar 10 Sun - meeting 1 PM
 Denver Postcard Club

Mar 13 Wed - meeting 7 PM
 Denver Germany Stamp Club

Mar 14 Thu - meeting 2 PM
 Cherrelyn Stamp Club

Mar 16 Sat - meeting 9:30 AM
 CYPHER Stamp Club

Mar 17 Sun - meeting 1 PM
 Great Britain and Commonwealth Collectors Club

Mar 21 Thu - meeting 4 PM
 RMPL Board Meeting (visitors welcome)

Mar 26 Tue - meeting 7 PM
 Rocky Mountain Stamp Show Committee

Mar 27 Wed - meeting 2 PM
 Denver Stamp Club

APRIL 2024

Apr 6 Sat - meeting 10 AM
 Scandinavian Collectors Club

Apr 6 Sat - meeting 1 PM
 Topical Philatelists In Colorado (TOPIC)

Apr 10 Wed - meeting 7:00 PM
 Denver Germany Stamp Club

Apr 11 Thu - meeting 2 PM
 Cherrelyn Stamp Club

Apr 13 Sat - 9 AM
Second Saturday at the RMPL
 Presenter: Even Brande
"Postal Service and Communication in Nazi-Occupied Norway 1940-1945"

Apr 13 Sat - meeting 10:30 AM
 Mexico/Latin America Club

Apr 13 Sat - meeting 12:30 PM
 Rocky Mountain Aero and Astrophilatelic Club

Apr 14 Sun - meeting 1 PM
 Denver Postcard Club

Apr 20 Sat - meeting 9:30 AM
 CYPHER Stamp Club

Apr 21 Sun - meeting 1 PM
 Great Britain and Commonwealth Collectors Club

Apr 23 Tue - meeting 7 PM
 Rocky Mountain Stamp Show Committee

Apr 24 Wed - meeting 2 PM
 Denver Stamp Club

MARK YOUR CALENDAR !

30th Annual Silent Auction - May 24 - May 26, 2024
held at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show

The 2024 Rocky Mountain Stamp Show - May 24 - May 26, 2024