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Editorial & ad deadlines for the two months following are Feb. 15, April 15, June 15, Aug. 15, Oct. 15 & Dec. 15.
Sources of New Stamp Collectors

The actual number of people participating in our hobby is certainly a major factor in attendance at stamp shows — the subject of my most recent columns. We can have auctions, exhibits, prize drawings, etc., to make our shows more of an event and draw more people.

But how can we try to get more people to become actual stamp collectors who may wish to attend philatelic shows? I would like to share with you some ideas of how this can be accomplished.

To begin with, I can think of two major groups of people who we might actively recruit — young children and those who collected as youngsters, but have not been active in the hobby since for many years.

I recently attended a local sports card show and took note of the demographics of the crowd (about two hundred attended this one-day show.) Most were close in age to the stamp collecting crowd — men in their 50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s. They were motivated by nostalgia and were trying to acquire cards and memorabilia from their youth.

I also noticed another smaller but significant group attending the show — men in their 30s and 40s with their children, grandfathers with their grandchildren, and entire families with small children. In these cases, the older generations were encouraging the kids to be active collectors.

Bring a Younger Relative
Ask yourself this question: Do you try to take your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews to a stamp show? Presenting the fun, relaxation, enjoyment, and educational aspects of stamp collecting to these youngsters may result in more future philatelists. It certainly can’t hurt and is great bonding time.

Welcome Them Back
The other group that might be mined for recruits are those who collected at one time, but are not currently active. To reach these people, we have to advertise in non-philatelic publications and get them to come to a stamp show or a club meeting to get them to remember the positive aspects of collecting. Such people are really out there.

Several weeks ago, a gentleman about sixty years old came into the shop and identified himself as a former collector who had been inactive for many years. He wished to pick it up again, and ordered a complete Scott National Album for several hundred dollars, so we know that he was serious. There may be more like him that may become future collectors, if we can just make contact with them (advertising.)

There may be other groups that can be cultivated for more collectors. Any thoughts?
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Combined Issues This Time

To help get publication back on a timely basis, this issue combines January–February and March–April. This will put the Stamp Insider back on schedule for the May–June issue. I apologize for the lateness of the last issue and this one as well.

Clubs and other contributors are reminded of the importance of deadlines. As I write this I am missing pages from several clubs. Please take note of the April 16 deadline for the May–June issue.

Advertisers will not be shorted on their contracts, which will be extended by one issue.

Federation Site and Email
The former Federation site — www.nystampclubs.org — has been shut down by webmaster Thomas M. Fortunato, as it was generating almost no traffic. This also means that two email addresses no longer work — astarkweather@nystampclubs.org and hsweeting@nystampclubs.org. The correct addresses are:

Albert Starkweather — astarkweather@stampinsider.org.
Heather Sweeting — hsweeting@stampinsider.org.

Content of the former Federation site has been archived. It contains the organization’s history, bylaws, current and former officers, past conventions and shows list, and covers, among other information.

An online archive can be found at: https://web.archive.org/web/20170912223252/https://nystampclubs.org. Key elements from the old site will be posted on the Stamp Insider site in the near future.

Happy Birthday
Alan Parsons of Elmira turns 90 at the end of March. He has had a long association with the Elmira Stamp Club and the Empire State Postal History Society and remains active in the hobby.

Anniversaries
Several major anniversaries that have philatelic ties occur during 2018, including the end of World War I and the Treaty of Versailles. The first of a series of articles relating to the war — “World War I Training Life / Postcards Tell the Story” by Steve Swain — begins on page 24. Ruth Sabo’s deltiology column features a set of postcards belittling Kaiser Wilhelm II.

The May–June issue will commemorate the inauguration of government airmail service in May 1918 and National Air Mail Week twenty years later.

May–June Copy Deadline — April 16
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On July 1, 1851, the Post Office issued the first of a set of one, three, five, ten, and twelve cent stamps that were used until 1857 (Scott 5–17). These replaced the 1847 five- and ten-cent issues (Scott 1–2). Rates were reduced from five to three cents if the letter was prepaid. Letters sent collect were still charged five cents. The three-cent rate could be paid with stamps or cash. Stamp supplies were limited and many postal patrons preferred to pay in cash rather than use stamps. Even some postmasters were reluctant to use stamps and in many rural areas it was common for small post offices to run out of stamps. As a result, cancels are commonly seen used from July 1, 1851, until postage paid by stamps became mandatory on April 1, 1858.

Postmasters of smaller offices often wrote the town and rate on the envelope. However, many post offices purchased or created handstamps. This was far quicker than writing out the town name and rate. Some of these were used to cancel stamps until the 1870s (bottom right).
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The Robert A. Siegel auction of the J. R. Helton, Jr. collection of used US stamps on March 7, 2018, was a signature event in the stamp auction world. The collection comprised material from the 1847 issues through the revenue issues and, more importantly, featured premium used stamps in superb grades with sixty-two stamps representing the highest grades assigned by Professional Stamp Experts (PSE).

The grading of the stamps played a significant part in the final hammer prices in most of the lots. Stamps that catalogued for mere pennies were sold hundreds of times higher than the opening bids. Examples of this trend were evident in the Columbian issues. Lot 74 was the common one-cent Columbian 9Scott 2300 Lightly canceled, but described as “rich color” with a PSE grade of Superb 98 Jumbo. Only three other stamps share this grade and two graded higher. The opening bid was forty cents, which was consistent with its Scott value in used condition. It sold for $275, not including the eighteen percent buyers premium.

The two Pan American issues (Scott 297 and 298) were offered in Lots 139 and 140. Both were described as having “bright” and “rich” colors, “balanced” and “impressive” margins, were graded XF-Superb 95. The five-cent issue, Lot 139, had an opening bid of $17 and sold for $400. The eight-cent issue, Lot 140, had an opening bid of $50 and sold for $550.

Another beautiful stamp was Lot 244, the two-cent General Sullivan stamp issued in 1929 (Scott 657). Described as having “vivid color” and lightly canceled its grading was the only stamp to achieve Gem 100. It sold for $225 against an opening bid of fifty-five cents!

It was a pleasure going through this auction catalogue. All of the stamps in this sale are gems and the catalogue an important piece of literature that needs to be on every collector’s bookshelf.
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The US Navy Visits Bermuda

During World War I, the United States had a base at Bermuda to provide a refueling stop for the small sub chasers crossing the Atlantic. After the war, from time to time, US ships of all kinds, mostly part of the Atlantic Fleet, visited Hamilton, Bermuda up to and during the second world war.

The WW I navy base was on White’s Island in Hamilton Harbor.

Figure one shows a cover postmarked March 22, 1936 on the USS Shark, a submarine. Figure two shows a New York World’s Fair envelope canceled May 20, 1939, aboard the USS Sacramento, a patrol gunboat. Figure three, postmarked Oct 14, 1935 was from the USS Mac Donough, a destroyer.

The Bermuda Specialized Catalogue [1] mentions that these souvenirs are not very common and some are just rare, making pricing difficult.

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A Draconian Measure

INTERNMENT INTERRUPTED LIVES OF THOUSANDS

By Alvin Sabo

One of the most shameful chapters in the history of our great nation occurred during World War II when almost one hundred and twenty thousand people of Japanese descent, most of whom were United States citizens, were incarcerated in what were euphemistically called relocation or internment camps.

The Japanese surprise attack on the US naval base in Hawaii on December 7, 1941, resulted in approximately two thousand three-hundred deaths and had a profound effect on the American people. It put an end to the America First movement and other isolationist groups. It united us like we had never been united before, and it also produced intense fear and loathing among Americans against the people of Japanese descent, particularly on the West Coast. Propaganda covers depicted the Japanese as something other than human, as shown in the Figure 1 example.

In retrospect, fear of invasion of California and other western states seems absurd, but at the time, it was very real and very plausible to many people. There already existed animosity toward Asians of all types for social and economic reasons and the surprise nature of the Pearl Harbor attack reinforced the preëxisting notion that Japanese were sneaky, untrustworthy, and treacherous. Figure 2 shows both racial and economic bias. Signage on non-Japanese businesses and homes further deepened the racial divide (Figure 3).

The public and California Governor Earl Warren were clamoring to have something done addressing the large concentration of people of Japanese descent on the West Coast. On February 19, 1942, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt promulgated the infamous Executive Order 9066. Contrary to popular opinion, this order did not require the roundup and incarceration of anyone.

Continued on Page 16
INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

Living in the following Area:

All of that portion of the County of Santa Clara, State of California, lying generally north and northwest of the following boundary: Beginning at the point on the Santa Cruz-Santa Clara County line, due west of a line drawn through the peak of Loma Prieta; thence due east along said line through said peak to its intersection with Llagas Creek; thence downstream along said creek toward Madrone to the point where it is crossed by Llagas Avenue; thence northeastwardly on Llagas Avenue to U.S. Highway No. 101 at Coe mens; thence southeastwardly on Coe mens Road to its junction with State Road; thence eastwardly on State Road to Madrone Springs; thence along a line projected due east from Madrone Springs to its intersection with the Santa Clara-San Jose County line; together with all portions of Santa Clara County not previously covered by Exclusion Orders of this Headquarters.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 96, this Headquarters, dated May 23, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o’clock noon, P. W. T., Saturday, May 30, 1942.

No Japanese person will be permitted to move into, or out of, the above area after 12 o’clock noon, P. W. T., Saturday, May 23, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Northern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

- Men’s Gymnasium,
- San Jose State College,
- 4th and San Carlos Streets,
- San Jose, California.

Such permits will only be granted for the purpose of uniting members of a family, or in cases of grave emergency.

The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

1. Give advice and instructions on the evacuation.
2. Provide services with respect to the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, such as real estate, business and professional equipment, household goods, boats, automobiles and livestock.
3. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.
4. Transport persons and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence.

The Following Instructions Must Be Observed:

1. A responsible member of each family, preferably the head of the family, or the person in whose name most of the property is held, and each individual living alone, will report to the Civil Control Station to receive further instructions. This must be done between 800 A. M. and 500 P. M. on Sunday, May 24, 1942, or between 800 A. M. and 500 P. M. on Monday, May 25, 1942.

2. Evacuees must carry with them on departure for the Assembly Center, the following property:
   (a) Bedding and linens (no mattress) for each member of the family;
   (b) Toilet articles for each member of the family;
   (c) Extra clothing for each member of the family;
   (d) Essential personal effects for each member of the family.

   All items carried will be securely packaged, tied and plainly marked with the name of the owner and numbered in accordance with instructions obtained at the Civil Control Station. The size and number of packages is limited to that which can be carried by the individual or family group.

3. No pets of any kind will be permitted.

4. No personal items and no household goods will be shipped to the Assembly Center.

5. The United States Government through its agencies will provide for the storage, at the sole risk of the owner, of the more substantial household items, such as iceboxes, washing machines, pianos and other heavy furniture. Cooking utensils and other small items will be accepted for storage if crated, packed and plainly marked with the name and address of the owner. Only one name and address will be used by a given family.

6. Each family, and individual living alone, will be furnished transportation to the Assembly Center. Private means of transportation will not be utilized. All instructions pertaining to the movement will be obtained at the Civil Control Station.

Go to the Civil Control Station between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Sunday, May 24, 1942, or between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Monday, May 25, 1942, to receive further instructions.

J. L. DeWitt
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding
Continued from Page 14

What it did was to authorize military commanders to create exclusion areas and to remove from those areas anyone they wanted. Ostensibly, it was necessary to exclude people of Japanese descent from the West Coast because of the possibility of espionage and sabotage.

An incident in Hawaii fueled resentment and added to the supposed need for exclusion: During the attack on Pearl Harbor, a Japanese plane crashed and its pilot survived. Initially he was captured by towns people, but shortly after was freed by Japanese-Americans. Facing imminent recapture, the pilot committed suicide, but the specter of Japanese-Americans helping invading Japanese forces became a nightmare to many people.

It fell to Lieutenant General John L. DeWitt (Figure 4), who was in charge of military matters in our western States, to put the executive order into action and he did so by issuing a series of more than a hundred military proclamations or orders to do it. The effect of these orders was to require the incarceration of most of the people of Japanese descent in the Western states. Some Japanese were able to get out of the area without being interned, but most were not so lucky.

What happened with our Japanese citizens was very different from rounding up citizens of the nations with which we were at war, which is routinely done. The US had the Alien Enemies Act under which the government designated Japanese, German, and Italian nationals as enemy aliens and rounded them up. There were also individuals whom the FBI deemed dangerous who were arrested and incarcerated.

This was very different from rounding up American citizens of Japanese descent including those with one-sixteenth Japanese ancestry (one great-great grandparent). It included rounding up Japanese children from orphanages as well as other children and elderly. Had this been done with people of German descent, it might well have included people such as generals Eisenhower and Eichelberger, among others. The parallel of what was done by the Nazis in rounding up Jews is chillingly similar.

Continued on Page 18
The roundup and incarceration occurred only in the west and not in Hawaii where there was a population of Japanese descent of about one hundred and fifty thousand. Business leaders there decided that the Hawaiian economy would collapse without this population and that martial law, which had been declared after the Pearl Harbor attack, would be sufficient to deal with any problems.

The series of orders and proclamations from DeWitt, who in his testimony before Congress showed himself to be an outrageous racist with respect to the Japanese (Figure 5), were so draconian that they required those of Japanese descent to quickly relocate without regard to their property. Unless they were fortunate enough to find a trustworthy Caucasian to handle their property until they were released, they found themselves getting pennies on the dollar for their property and possessions. Some of the deprivations faced by the Japanese are shown in the series of photographs on page 17. They were sent to ten camps, with friends and families often being separated. (Figures 7 through 15 show mailings from the camps. See map on page 20.)

- Topaz (Central Utah) Internment Camp (Figure 7)
- Colorado River (Poston) Internment Camp, Arizona (Figure 8)
- Gila River Internment Camp, Phoenix, Arizona
- Granada (Amache) Internment Camp, Colorado (Figure 9)
- Heart Mountain Internment Camp, Wyoming (Figure 10)
- Jerome Internment Camp, Arkansas (Figure 11)
- Manzanar Internment Camp, California (Figure 12)
- Minidoka Internment Camp (Camp Hunt), Idaho (Figure 13)
- Rohwer Internment Camp, Arkansas (Figure 14)
- Tule Lake Internment Camp, California (Figure 15)

There were, of course, legal challenges to the treatment of the Japanese Americans which culminated in two Supreme Court decisions that were both handed down on December 18, 1944. The first case was Korematsu v. United States, 323 U.S. 214 (1944) and the second was Ex parte Endo, 323 U.S. 283 (1944). The Korematsu case was decided by a six to three majority. Using legal gymnastics often found in court decisions, they decided to only direct their attention, and consequently their opinion, to the requirement for the Japanese Americans to be relocated out of the Western United States and not on the effect of the entire package which was to imprison them. By doing so, they avoided making a decision about whether the government had the power to incarcerate groups of citizens.

Continued on Page 20
The remoteness of the relocation camps meant that postal services were the only connection to the outside world. Japanese Americans line up at the camp post office in Manzanar, California (Figure 16). Postmarks indicate that most mail was handled at the closest post office, although some camps had branches.
Continued from Page 18

The majority decided, in effect, that the War Powers portion of the Constitution took precedence over the Bill of Rights during wartime. They further assumed, without actually examining the matter, that there was a military necessity for the action taken. The dissent, in my opinion, lacerated the majority view. They pointed out that one of DeWitt’s orders required the Japanese not to leave an area and another required them to leave. The only place where they would not be violating the orders would be to go to an assembly area from where they would be transported to a relocation center. Thus the dissent pointed out the absurdity of directing the court’s attention to only the exclusion portion of the case before it.

In the Endo case, the court directed its attention to the incarceration of a completely assimilated woman of Japanese descent of unquestioned loyalty. The Supreme Court, in a unanimous decision, decided that because Executive Order 9066 said nothing about incarceration, it was improper to imprison Ms. Endo and thus set her free.

The Roosevelt administration obviously heard about the impending decisions. The day before they were handed down, it announced that those who were incarcerated were being allowed to return home and Executive Order 9066 was officially rescinded on January 2, 1945.

Taken together, the decisions seem to allow the exclusions of citizens from a significant area of the country, but not their imprisonment, on what appears to be racial grounds. The question remains what the decision in Endo would have been if Executive Order 9066 had specifically authorized the imprisonment of the Japanese. The Korematsu decision has been severely criticized for many reasons, including the fact that the government hid two reports indicating that those of Japanese descent were not a threat. But the court decision remains.
Most Japanese Americans were stoic about the internment and a number volunteered for the Army. Ultimately, about twenty-thousand Japanese Americans were in the service during the war.

They primarily formed the 442nd Regiment Combat Team which fought in Europe. This was the most highly decorated unit of its size and type in the entire war. The decorations included twenty-one Medals of Honor and fifty-two Distinguished Service Crosses.

Cachetmaker Toshiharu Oka, who created the Heart Mountain cachet for the cover shown in Figure 10, commemorated the V-J Day on September 2, 1945 (Figure 18). Oka maintained correspondence with the better-known cachetmaker Etsuo Sayama in Honolulu. The latter created a cover commemorating the Four Freedoms articulated by Roosevelt on January 6, 1941 (Figure 19).

During the 1960s, movements started to redress the injustices inflicted on the Japanese-Americans during the war. This culminated in an act signed by President Ronald Reagan that resulted in payments totaling one billion two hundred million dollars.
Continued from Page 21

The Japanese incarceration and treatment during World War II provides a fascinating area of study. One area of interest highlights covers from Japanese Americans in the US armed forces. Figure 20 is from PFC Lawrence Iwameto to Oka at the Heart Mountain camp. There is also the occasional postal card to be found, as in Figure 21 which shows the barracks structures which were the homes of the incarcerated.

Figure 22 shows the back of a one-cent postcard (Scott UX27) from the Japanese Association of North America with detailed instructions on how to comply with the orders. The information is identical to that on the government poster shown on page 15.

Finally, collecting all of the postmarks from each of the camps is a difficult, but rewarding search, although this can be a pricey endeavor. [Editor’s note: My search for covers not in the author’s collection was frustrating until I found Dick Keiser’s website at www.dickkeiser.com. I was able to find multiple examples for all of the camps except one — Gila River in Phoenix, Arizona. Censored and official business covers make an interesting subset. Some examples are shown below.]

It would be nice to believe that this shameful episode is a thing of the past. However, I fear what would happen today if there were a series of devastating terrorist attacks across the country or an event tantamount to war. I fear that there might very well be an Executive Order compelling the detention of American citizens based on religious or ethnic background. ]
Summer Olympics

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At the outset of World War I, the US Army numbered only two hundred and thirteen thousand officers and men, both Regulars and National Guard, in federal service. It was a formidable task to quickly expand and train this army into an effective force eventually numbering more than three and a half million.

In mid-March of 1917, planning began for building camps capable of housing up to one million men. The Army had selected thirty-two camps (sixteen National Guard and sixteen National Army) for training of the expanded force. The locations of the camps, courtesy of www.wwvets.com, are shown below.

Not having personal cameras, recruits relied on postcards to provide families and friends back home a realistic view of a soldier’s life at a training camp. The cards contained images of activities associated with their training program, their work assignments, where they ate and slept and what occupied their free time. Numerous postcards with photos were readily available, both singles and fold-out sets. Many of the photos were tinted to give the appearance of color photographs.

Postcards portrayed the many elements of a soldier’s sixteen-week training, including physical fitness, bayonet use, marching, grenade throwing, and rifle practice. A card from Camp Dix, New Jersey, shows soldiers during a practice march. An August 1, 1918, card

Continued on Page 26
Dear Friend,

I hope this letter finds you well. I've been thinking a lot about our company's recent move to New York. The transition has been smooth, and I'm excited about the new opportunities it presents.

Best regards,

[Signatures]

---

Greetings from Camp Upton

The Camp

[Postcard image]

Throwing hand Grenades

[Postcard image]

[Additional postcards with military scenes]
Continued from Page 24

from Camp Taylor, Kentucky, portrays bayonet exercise. Practicing throwing hand grenades is shown on a card from Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan. (Figures 1–6)

Even though numerous cards were generic, the captions on many cards give the name of the specific camp at which the troops were mobilized. Shown are cards from Camp Greene, the National Guard camp, in Charlotte, North Carolina, and Camp Upton, New York. (Figures 7–8)

However, there was never a guarantee that the place or activity depicted was from the camp indicated on the caption. For example, two cards use the same image depicting barracks accommodations, one at Camp Custer and the other at Camp Johnston, Florida. (Figures 9–10) A “Practice March” image (with significantly different coloring) is shown on cards from Camp Wadsworth, South Carolina, (Figure 11) and the card from Camp Dix (Figure 1). Quite possibly, the images used were not even representative of the barracks or marching practice at any of the camps.

Although the writing area on postcards did not allow for much detail, soldiers provided some interesting awareness about their daily camp life. A July 3, 1918, Camp Gordon, Georgia correspondence from “Bill” to J. H. Brunning of Lewistown, Illinois, reveals what it was like on a rifle range:

“Tues eve. Back from the rifle range Sunday night. Got out there about 4 o’clock and was out shooting about five. It’s 8 miles out there, took 2½ hours to make it. We carried rifle and full pack. I think we get the 4th off. Don’t expect to have a very big time though. Card shows how we roll our pack. Bill.” (Figures 12–13)

Continued on Page 28
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Continued from Page 26

Using a Camp Devens, Massachusetts, postcard, a soldier wrote “A” and “B” above the buildings in the photo, as his message explained: “A is the store for candy, tobacco, cream, etc. B is the restaurant also a store for other articles clothing, toilet, everything in general.” (Figures 14–15)

A Camp Dix soldier sent his mother a card showing soldiers “at mess”, which is appropriate given the message from the soldier: “I am pretty busy this week for I am working in the kitchen and it’s not such a bad job for we get the best of the eats. We got payed [sic] this morning and the boys are sure having a good time this afternoon.” (Figures 16–17)

For recreation, soldiers would play baseball, basketball and football, as shown on cards from Camp Travis, San Antonio Texas; Camp Upton, Yaphank, New York, and Camp Dix. (Figures 18–20)

[Editor’s note: Sgt. Irving Berlin wrote the fund-raising musical, Yip Yik Yaphank, that included “Oh! How I Hate To Get Up in the Morning.” He also wrote “God Bless America” for the show, but discarded it “for being too sticky.”]

Additional recreation and entertainment was provided by the YMCA (Young Men’s Christian Association) and YWCA (Young Women’s Christian Association). Both organizations were significantly involved in supporting the troops, both during their training programs and on the war front. Many camps — such as shown on the cards from Camp Gordon and Camp Upton — had facilities operated by the YMCA where soldiers could gather for relaxation and camaraderie. (Figures 21–22)

Continued on Page 30
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Continued from Page 28

Many camps also had YWCA Hostess Houses, staffed either by YWCA volunteers or by women employed by the YWCA. The houses were newly constructed, large, and durable buildings, some of which were designed by women architects.

At these locations, women served as hostesses and offered soldiers a place to relax and have some temporary refuge from their daily training activities. The houses also served an important function in mediating public and private space to help control interactions between soldiers and their female friends and relatives.

Many of the postcards soldiers sent back home were available for purchase at the YWCA Hostess Houses. Shown are postcards with images of the exterior of the Camp Gordon Hostess House and its lobby with items for sale. (Figures 23–24)

[Editor’s note: Holiday-related postcards were also available at the training camps. Figure 25 shows a Christmas card mailed from Camp Cody, Deming, New Mexico, on December 23, 2017. The Military Postal History Society has a gallery of nearly six hundred holiday cards posted on its website (www.militaryphs.org/holiday_cards).]

The relatively brief sixteen-week training camp life during World War I has been well documented with the thousands of postcards soldiers sent back home before overseas deployment. Consider beginning a collection of this intriguing chapter in US postal history. The cards are readily available at quite reasonable prices. Numerous collection themes include cards associated with a camp from your home state, colorized vs. black and white, same image but different camps, postmarks, and cancellation varieties.
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Philately and the 2018 Tax Law

By Steve Swain

The information below should not be construed as tax advice. Please consult a tax professional for a complete assessment of your individual tax situation.

The recently enacted 2018 tax reform bill made major revisions to the US tax code for corporations and individuals. It represents the most significant changes in more than thirty years. Are there provisions in the law that potentially affect philatelists? I believe two are noteworthy.

Many organizations are recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Your donations to such organizations are tax deductible to the full extent that the law allows. The tax law did not make any changes to the requirements for any advantages of 501(c)(3) status. However, whether you choose to report philatelic donations as itemized deductions on your 2018 tax return will depend on a comparison calculation.

Taxpayers have an option of using the standard deduction or itemized deductions when determining how much to subtract from their income before their tax is calculated. The new law almost doubles the standard deduction. For single filers, the standard deduction increased from $6,500 to $12,000. For married couples filing jointly, a standard deduction of $24,000 is available. Before filing your 2018 tax return, make a comparison calculation. For itemizing to make sense on the tax return you file in 2019, your total itemized deductions will have to be more than the new standard deduction. For example, if you are a married, filing jointly taxpayer and contributed philatelic items with a market value of $3,000 to a 501(c)(3) organization, and had additional itemized deductions (e.g., mortgage interest and property taxes) of $25,000, your total itemized deductions of $28,000 would be larger than the new standard deduction. However, if the only deductions you had were the $3,000 donations, then you would definitely take the $24,000 standard deduction. Given the increased standard deduction, it is anticipated that significantly fewer taxpayers will itemize their deductions going forward.

The second provision of the new law that may affect philatelists is also associated with itemized deductions, specifically “hobby losses” included in the “Miscellaneous” deductions category. Because hobbies are not businesses, hobbyists (e.g., philatelists) have never been allowed to take the tax deductions to which business people are entitled. However, for decades the tax law did permit hobbyists to claim as an itemized deduction their hobby-related expenses up to the amount of income the hobby earned during the year. An additional provision was that in order to qualify as a deduction, the allowable hobby loss amount had to be greater than two percent of your adjusted gross income. So, not much of a deduction, but at least possibly something.

All miscellaneous deductions, including hobby losses, have been eliminated under the 2018 law. This means that philatelists will not be able to deduct any expenses from their hobby, but they still must report and pay tax on any income they earn from the hobby.

Most of the changes to individual taxes made by the 2018 law are temporary and are set to expire after the 2025 tax year. It will be interesting to see what, if any, lobbying in the interim is successful for the reinstatement of tax provisions that could be favorable for philatelists.

Steve Swain is a Senior Manager in the Tax and Accounting division of Thomson Reuters
Alan Warren Review: Canada’s Prime Ministers


Gary Dickinson has authored many articles and handbooks on the first day covers of Canada. This book is his contribution to the celebration of the country’s sesquicentennial. The focus is the country’s prime ministers and he surveys both the stamps and first day covers of those who held that office.

The current policy is to issue stamps for prime ministers only after they have died, and about a year following their passing. Of Canada’s twenty-three prime ministers, fifteen have been honored with postage stamps. The first chapter carries a table listing all of them, their years of service, the party they represented, and the Scott catalogue numbers for those stamps that have appeared.

Each prime minister stamp issue and its FDCs are described chronologically, starting with a brief profile of the PM. The first ones to be honored were John A. MacDonald and Wilfrid Laurier for whom a set of three stamps was released in 1927. Even at this early date there were quite a few printed and rubber-stamped cachets that were used. The covers are nicely illustrated and the cachet makers identified.

From 1951 to 1955 eight more prime ministers were honored with stamps. These also are illustrated and accompanied by FDCs including maximum cards and a few unknown cachets.

The 1973–1976 Caricature set of stamps depicts seven prime ministers including five who previously appeared on stamps. Combination first day covers are known with these definitives.

The last three ministers and the years in which their stamps appeared are Arthur Meighen (1961), John Diefenbaker (1980), and Pierre Trudeau (2001). FDCs of the last two stamps have limited cachets as the Canadian Post Office had stepped into the cachet business, causing many cachetmakers to leave the scene.

Nearly forty different general purpose cachets are known for all of the PM stamps and these are illustrated in an appendix. Another appendix is a useful cachetmakers index.

Text and illustrations are nicely laid out and the images are sufficiently large to see details. Reference notes appear at the end of each chapter. The subject of this handbook suggests a topical FDC exhibit could be built around the prime minister issues.

— Alan Warren

Texas Journals Combined

The Texas Philatelic Association’s The Texas Philatelist and the Texas Postal History Society’s TPHS Journal have been combined into a single 8½ x 11 inch publication — Journal of Texas Philately & Postal History — published quarterly. The first issue was issued in February. More information is available at www.texasstamps.org.
Commemoratives, Calculators & Postal Guides

This philatelic activity will require a few tools. Since very few beginning philatelists own the latest copy of The Postal Service Guide To U.S. Stamps, you may need to borrow a few from your philatelic friends.

To start you will need a number of three, four, five, and six cent United States commemoratives to place in a large pile. You will also need to have a number of hand held calculators and postal guides. You will also need to develop a very simple worksheet for the purpose of inserting mint stamp values for later calculation.

1. Student philatelists take ten different stamps from the large pile of stamps in the middle of a table.

2. Students will use the postal guides to locate the stamp and find the mint value of that stamp and place its value on a worksheet that should be very easy to make. They must do this for each of their ten stamps.

3. Upon the completion of locating the values of the ten stamps, they can now utilize their hand-held calculators to do the needed addition to find the value of all ten stamps.

This activity satisfies a number of skills. Researching the stamp’s value may take some time, but after a few “discoveries” the student will “navigate” The Postal Service Guide To U.S. Stamps with more ease.

The activity also allows the students to use the calculators properly while inserting the values of the stamps on the worksheet.
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JanuAry/April 2018 • Stamp Insider / 35
I thought I would show an interesting set from fifty years ago — an issue of four stamps showing British bridges that were issued on April 29, 1968 (Scott 560–563). The stamps show some quite well-known bridges, both old and new … well, one new back then of course.

I am showing these so I can follow up with a few comments on how the Royal Mail philatelic scene has changed in a half century.

Let us look at the stamps first. The 4d shows Tarr Steps in Exmoor, Somerset. The steps are, in fact, a “clapper bridge” which spans the River Barie in the Exmoor National Park. The steps are typical of clapper bridge construction and the bridge’s listing assesses it as medieval in origin. The stone slabs weigh up to two tons each. According to local legend, they were placed by the Devil that he might sunbathe.

The date of the Tarr Steps has been questioned — some claiming the bridge was created in the Bronze Age and others date it from about 1400. It has been restored several times due to flood damage. The bridge is 180 feet long and has seventeen spans.

The 9d stamps shows the Aberfeldy Bridge crossing the Tay River in Perth and Kinross in Scotland. This bridge is locally known as “Wade’s Bridge.” This bridge was built in 1773 and designed by the architect William Adam. The town of Aberfeldy is also well known for its association with the Scottish poet Robert Burns.
On the 1s 6d stamp we see the Menai Bridge which connects the Isle of Anglesey with North Wales. The Menai Bridge is more correctly known as the Menai Suspension Bridge. Menai Bridge is actually the town on the Isle of Anglesey in North Wales. The famous architect Thomas Telford designed the bridge. Construction started in 1819 and the bridge was completed in 1826.

A more modern styled bridge is shown on the 1s 9d stamp. This is shown as the M4 Viaduct which is more commonly known as the Chiswick flyover. It was completed in stages with the final section as shown on the stamps, the Chiswick–Langley part of the M4 from central London to Heathrow Airport being opened around 1965.

Remarkably, all four bridges still exist.

This issue appeared in April 1968. The first issue of new commemorative stamps that year. In fact, the first of four issues in 1968 comprised fifteen new commemorative stamps, including three stamps for the Christmas issue.

How times have changed. As I write this, the Royal Mail have so far has announced eighteen new commemorative sets in the stamp issuing program for 2018, including a Post and Go Game of Thrones issue of fifteen stamps on January 23. This is before any Royal Wedding stamps and any other special issues they announce, which seems to be something they do these days.

How many stamps will be issued is not known yet. But based on 2017, I expect to see about at least one hundred and twenty stamps.

Reading the Royal Mail website, I see one can sign-up to receive all new commemorative issues for the year at a cost of £120 (approximately USD $160). Compare that to the yearly cost, as it was in 1968, of £0.75 (approximately one US dollar). In anyone’s language, that is hyperinflation even over a half century! Out of interest, you will find that $1 in 1958 is equivalent to between $8 and $9 (depending on which inflation table you use).

Are the new issuing policies of Royal Mail and other postal administrations good for collectors and philately in general I wonder? Perhaps philately and the collection of new issues is alive and well, and will remain so. But, can people really afford such a cost for, in this example, GB stamps? I will continue to enjoy the early QE II issues, pre-1970 and my favorite of course, George V Downey Heads. I can enjoy collecting these and specializing, something I cannot do with new issues. What about you?
An Olympian Sends a Card To Finland

The first FDC column I wrote for the Stamp Insider in January 2007 was about the Lake Placid III Olympic Winter Games (OWG).

I am always looking for new items to add to my exhibit of Scott 716, the first postage stamp honoring the OWG. Although the OWGs were held in France in 1924 and in Switzerland in 1928, neither country issued stamps.

One of the highlights of my Lake Placid 1932 collection is a Santaway Company postcard used to Finland with a pair of 716s. It shows the Olympic Stadium rink and is one of a series of Santaway post cards available in Lake Placid in 1932.

FDCs to foreign destinations are not usually seen and this card has an extra bonus: It is from a competitor at the games, Marcus Nikkanen. He was a figure skater who participated in the 1928, 1932, and 1936 OWG. His best placing was fourth at the Lake Placid games.

Nikkanen also added a personal message to the card which was sent to George Brodie, Esq. at the American Consulate in Helsinki. I have tried to discover who he was, but to no avail. The American Ambassador to Finland from 1930–1933 was Edward E. Brodie. Perhaps George was the son of Edward.

Mr. G. Brodie, January 25, 1932.

Dear Sir:

I send you some post Cards with the Olympic stamps which were issued today. 1/2 million of these stamps have been sold so I think it must be good business for stamp collectors. — I am in good health and hope everything will be O.K. to the competition. With my best regards to you and the other members of the staff.

Marcus Nikkanen

Mr. G. Brodie, January 25, 1932.

Dear Sir:

I send you some post Cards with the Olympic stamps which were issued today. 1/2 million of these stamps have been sold so I think it must be good business for stamp collectors. — I am in good health and hope everything will be O.K. to the competition. With my best regards to you and the other members of the staff.

Marcus Nikkanen
It has been a cold, snowy winter across New York State. Icy weather dipped down from Canada, and plenty of snow blew in from lakes Erie and Ontario. They probably did not understand “lake effect” snow in Millard Fillmore’s day, but he must have experienced plenty of it growing up in Cayuga County.

It was not Millard’s only bad experience with cold weather. His term in the White House was filled with debate over slavery, and his wife, Abigail, one of the most astute first ladies of the nineteenth century, warned him not to sign the Fugitive Slave Act. He approved it anyway, and that probably more than any other single event cost him the White House in the next election.

He and Abigail nevertheless attended the inauguration of his successor, Franklin Pierce, on March 4, 1853. The early March weather in Washington was cold and windy, and Abigail, who never enjoyed good health, caught a cold which turned into a fever and soon pneumonia. She died just twenty-six days after they left the White House.

Millard was devastated. He returned to Buffalo, and it took a couple of years before he actively reentered society. He dabbled in politics for a while, did some foreign travel and finally remarried in 1858. He and his new wife, Caroline, became important figures in Buffalo, actively supporting various civic programs.

Topical philatelists have few choices in building a collection of first ladies on US stamps. Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Dolley Madison, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Lady Bird Johnson are the only ones. There are others scattered among the exploitive releases of certain foreign post offices. Melania Trump is on a souvenir-sheet from The Gambia, one of the president’s “s***hole countries.”

There is an Abigail Fillmore coin in the First Lady series, but contains a half ounce of gold and, given the price of gold these days, sells for seven to eight hundred dollars on eBay. Few philatelists are likely to spend that much for an item that is just a side part of a collection.

More than a century later Millard continues to suffer from New York’s bad winter weather. Each year the University at Buffalo holds a graveside service for him (he was the university’s first chancellor) on his birthday, January 7. But this year, with single-digit temperatures forecast, the program was shortened to an outdoor wreath presentation in Forest Lawn Cemetery, and the remainder of the observances were conducted inside at an auditorium on campus. ■
The first Scott catalog debuted in 1868. In 2018, each volume of the worldwide Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue was divided into two-book sets and continues with the 2019 editions. Each book is noticeably lighter and easier to use. The Scott catalogs are the most trusted resource to help stamp collectors and dealers identify and value their stamps. The hundreds of new listings, thousands of value changes, and numerous editorial additions and enhancements in each 2019 volume allow you to stay on the cutting edge of the stamp market.
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Belittling the Kaiser

In 1914, at the start of World War I, Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany (1859–1941), believing himself to be the up and coming leader of the world with strong support from the German people, had himself projected on flyers, posters, and postcards as a muscular giant backed by huge armies with the strength to take over the globe.

Powerful new weapons had been developed that he was anxious to unleash on any country stupid enough to defy him. All he needed was a trigger to begin the fight for which he had spent years in preparation.

The assassination of little-known Archduke Franz Ferdinand of the Austro-Hungarian Empire (a close ally of Germany) on June 28, 1914, by a teenager in Sarajevo, Bosnia, was just the trigger that was needed. Country after country, caught in a web of previously established alliances, were drawn into the war. In the four years that followed, millions of young men lost their lives from bullets or disease in what was then known as the Great War.

Although the United States tried to stay out of the war for a long time, by spring 1917, war became inevitable and the US joined forces with greatly weakened Britain, France, and Russia. In an effort by President Woodrow Wilson “to make the world safe for democracy,” the US formally entered the war on April 6.

Two factors were cited as justification: German U-boats resumed unrestricted sinking of American passenger and merchant ships, and the British discovered the so-called Zimmermann Telegram, disclosing an attempt by Germany to lure Mexico to declare war on the US. The entry of fresh soldiers and armaments from the US gave desperately needed relief to the Allied forces and an important psychological boost as well.

A major shift was now seen in propaganda materials, including postcards. In a delightful set of ten American cards (believed to be from a series of twelve) the Kaiser was now depicted as a weak midget and Uncle Sam as an aggressive, muscular giant easily disposing of him. The cards accurately reflected reality as Germany’s defeat, by the now much stronger Allied forces, became inevitable. These cards sell for $10–15 each.

The war ended on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918, first known as Armistice Day and now Veterans Day. In January 1919 the Paris Peace conference convened outside of Paris in Versailles. The treaty ended up humiliating the Germans and demanded huge financial reparations that were impossible for them to meet.

A severe depression followed in Germany, setting the stage for Adolf Hitler, promising revenge and new glory for the Germans, to come to power. Thus, most historians attribute the Treaty of Versailles as laying the groundwork for World War II, less than twenty years later. Historians still argue about what would have happened had the US not entered the war.
Clubs produced a myriad of interesting poster stamps to stick onto mailings and to distribute as souvenirs to promote their special events in the 1930s and 1940s. A huge collection that I recently acquired reveals an astonishing range of themes and designs.

Many clubs produced sheetlets of triangle stamp designs to suggest postage. Figure 1 for the 1934 Suburban Collectors Club show in Riverside Illinois, illustrates a local landmark, a type of image common to many club designs.

During World War II, several clubs produced seals that incorporated “V” for victory. Figure 2 for the November 1941 Detroit Stamp Collectors exhibit and bourse (before the US entered the fray) featured the starkest of these designs, compared with a more sophisticated engraving for the Mound City Stamp Club in 1943 (Figure 3).

Many designs incorporated humor, or included reference to figures from popular culture. In 1940, the World Wide Philatelic Convention used Popeye for one design in three color variants and Betty Boop in four (Figure 4).

Variants were the norm — from simple designs on colored paper to complex engravings in different inks on different grounds. Figure 5 shows how some of these souvenir labels were distributed (the other colors were dark blue ink on pale blue paper and black ink on red paper).

Many clubs chose die-cut shapes. The Kalamazoo Stamp Club used the shape of Michigan (Figure 6). Brooklyn’s Star Stamp Club used a hat for its third anniversary in 1940 (Figure 7).

The exuberance of these hundreds of philatelic souvenirs reminds us that it was a time when stamp collecting was the hobby of kings and presidents, as well as a relatively inexpensive pastime during economic depression and war.
Educating the Judges

If you know how judges will review and assess your exhibit, make it easy for them. If you think they will be looking for something, and you have it, make sure they can find it.

For example, if there are two printings or two papers or two watermarks or two shades, they will look for them. Make it easy for the judges to find them. If your title page says you will do x or y, make sure you do x or y.

If your exhibit deals with an esoteric subject, you may want to include useful expository information on your exhibit pages to help the judges understand the salient background. Jay Carrigan exhibited (among other things) an area with which most people are unfamiliar: Carpatho-Ukraine. In more widely collected areas, an exhibitor may be able to assume a certain level of background knowledge. When exhibiting a relatively unknown subject, however, your exhibit page may have a resemblance to a page from a catalog or a monograph. If the judges do not understand your material, they cannot judge it well.

The figure from Carrigan’s gold medal winning exhibit, Carpatho-Ukraine 1944–1945, illustrates how an exhibit page can educate the judges. In this case the page describes the overprint varieties on some of the Carpatho-Ukrainian stamps of 1945. Carrigan was exhibiting the overprints and wanted to be sure the judges understood what he was showing.

It is not uncommon for the illustration of a small philatelic element to be larger than the item itself in order to convey the requisite information. The illustrations of the overprints that are the focus of Jay’s page are larger than the overprints so the differences can be clearly seen.

One successful exhibitor includes in his synopsis the answers to questions and comments that he has received in previous judges’ critiques. Generally speaking, when a judge asks a question at the critique, it is more often associated with a weaknesses or perceived weaknesses than it is with a strength. This exhibitor anticipates the questions the jury might ask, answers the questions, and turns what might otherwise be perceived as weaknesses into strengths. If a judge has unanswered questions after reviewing your exhibit, it may be reflected in the medal level.
You do not consider yourself a high roller when it comes to investing in your collection, but are willing to pay a fair price for elusive stamps to complete a country-specific or theme-based collection. You want that investment to be supported by actual market conditions reflecting pricing that fairly represents their value. Spend hours searching the internet for market data and dealers who may have items you want at an acceptable price? There is a better way. StampFinder / The Global Stamp Exchange (www.stampfinder.com) just may be the single resource you need.

The brainchild of lifelong stamp collector Richard Lehmann, with three decades experience in financial investing and the current chairman of the board at Lehmann, Livian & Fridson Advisors LLC, StampFinder is the oldest multi-dealer philatelic site on the internet, serving stamp collectors and stamp dealers since 1995. Lehmann maintains that his interest is in promoting stamps as an investment by providing the type of information investors are accustomed to seeing with other investment products they buy. For stamps, such information includes price appreciation histories, current pricing, availability, demand and sales data. This allows a collector/investor to distinguish between stamps that show real appreciation potential from those which are merely expensive.

Most importantly, the site’s focus is not on the hard to buy, hard to value stamps that sell for tens of thousands of dollars. Rather, the concentration is on stamps issued before 1950 which have achieved a value of at least $25 and have proven to be solid, sustainable investments. Lehmann explains that he chose to end in 1950 because that marked a turning point when postal authorities saw stamps as commodities and stamp collectors as customers to exploit.

The foundation of StampFinder’s design and operation is a Universal Stamp Identification (USID) protocol for tying together various stamp catalog systems. It requires a dealer to assign a country code (for example, USA) and a four-numeral section code (for the type of stamp) to every listing. With this arrangement, dealers and collectors have a common link to dozens of different stamp catalogues. StampFinder makes this protocol freely available to all dealers to assure its universal acceptance.

Using StampFinder can be limited to simply searching for stamps offered by multiple dealers associated with the site. Click Stamps under the main menu’s Products category, and select your search criteria from the pulldown menus: Country, Country Selections (e.g., airmail), and Catalog (e.g., Scott, Gibbons, Michel, etc.).
But a more robust use of StampFinder is accomplished with three primary tools: *StampEvaluator* — where you have access to current stamp price statistics and *Stamp Rating Valuations*; *CollectionBuilder* — for building your stamp collection online; and *Want List Service* — so you can locate and bid on those hard to find stamps.

With *StampEvaluator*, you are provided access to rankings of investment grade stamps, approximately 60,000 priced at $25 or higher. This data lets you know if that $100 or $1,000 stamp you are considering is a good investment or is just expensive. *StampEvaluator* is flexible to the collectors’ needs and can be searched by country, catalog number, and even topic, with color images for most listings. Its pricing provides a more reliable guide to the true buy prices for stamps. The Evaluator can be used to build your want list and then have it search the dealers’ inventories on a recurring basis.

*CollectionBuilder* gives you the ability to build your stamp collection online using StampFinder’s online catalogs (including images) and one-click functionality to add items to your stamp collection. Benefits? Wherever you have an internet connection you can access your stamp collection — at shows, at club meetings or share the collection with your friends. Whenever you want, you can request StampFinder to provide a valuation of your collection. And, if you are interested in selling specific stamps or your complete collection, site dealers can convert your collection into a salable inventory for buyers to access.

With *Want List Service*, StampFinder’s automated system searches the dealers’ online inventory and compares that against your want list. A display is provided of the current offerings from multiple dealers on the site, as well as participating stamp auction websites. You specify a bid price so you can take advantage of notifications when that price is available. Your identity is kept confidential and no solicitations will come to you as a result of using this service except when you request it. The service is cell phone or tablet friendly, so you can take your list with you anywhere.

Over the past several years, StampFinder has expanded its offerings and services in an attempt to position the site as a primary source for stamp news and philatelic information. From the site’s main menu, *Resources* provides access to Philatelic News (primarily articles authored by Lehmann), an *Events Calendar* (a search feature for auctions and shows), and links for worldwide philatelic agencies, societies and clubs. Under *Products*, access Software for information about various programs and tools to enhance your collecting activities. A word of caution: Even though the philatelic information and links the site provides are valuable, StampFinder’s offerings are not at all unique and somewhat limited. A “primary” source for stamp news and philatelic information is a rather lofty goal. I think it is fair to say that more work is needed with this feature.

Lehmann contends that “the internet is the life blood of the stamp hobby and the vehicle by which stamps can become a popular investment in addition to being the most universal hobby in the world.” But the internet has its vulnerabilities with less than scrupulous sellers and artificially inflated stamp prices. StampFinder seeks to shield both the casual collector and focused investor from the internet’s inherent risks by providing professional, experienced, and reasoned purchasing and investment guidelines. Visit StampFinder and decide for yourself.
Winged Globe Transatlantic Airmail Stamp
War Forced Pan Am To Use Southern Route

Transatlantic airmail service was inaugurated May 16, 1939, by Pan American Airways. The rate for an airmail letter across the Atlantic was thirty-cents per half ounce, plus thirty cents for each additional half ounce or portion thereof. The Winged Globe airmail stamp (Scott C24) was issued May 16, 1939, to prepay this service.

Pan Am held two main foreign airmail contract routes across the Atlantic from 1939 to 1945. These are designated FAM-18 (Foreign Air Mail contract). The northern route New York City to terminus at Marseilles, France included stops in Newfoundland and Southampton, England (designated 1 on the map). This service was suspended on October 3, 1939, after the Great Britain and France declared war on Germany on September 3, 1939, two days after the Nazis invaded Poland.

The main route then became New York to Marseilles, France with stops at Bermuda, The Azores and Lisbon, Portugal. This is known as the Southern route (designated 1a on the map). [Editor’s note: The map, issued by Pan Am in July 1939, does not reflect the changes to the Southern route.]

After the invasion and surrender of France in 1940, Marseilles as the end point was dropped and replaced by Lisbon, Portugal. Pan Am increased the frequency of flights on this route from one to three weekly. The flight cost $309 — $5,470 in today’s currency — and it took about thirty hours.
The cover shown is from June 18, 1941, before the US entered the war, but after the northern route was dropped. It was likely censored in Bermuda where the British examined all transatlantic mail. To avoid the censorship, Pan Am sometimes would not stop at Bermuda but continue to the Azores. These flights were not able to carry as much mail because of the extra fuel needed.

The cover was mailed from New York Times Square Station post office and addressed to Georg Herzfeld in Lisbon. The reverse of the cover shows transit markings from Lisbon. Censor tape affixed means mail was opened and examined then resealed. This is a British censor marking.

In the upper left of the cover is written, “by Clipper to Portugal.” Pan Am used Boeing B-314 flying boats on its transatlantic and transpacific routes. These were reliable and could carry passengers, mail, and other cargo. They did require refueling along the way. Non-stop flights could be made by load weight had to be severely reduced. This resulted in a far less mail being carried on those flights.

The photograph shows Atlantic Clipper passengers arriving on the Tagus River in Lisbon. Much more could be written on this subject and it has been well covered by researchers and writers. I find it fascinating both philatelically and historically to have this cover in my collection.

**Further Reading**


American Air Mail Society (Foreign Airmail)

[www.americanairmailsociety.org/html/navigating_the_aircraft.html#FAM](http://www.americanairmailsociety.org/html/navigating_the_aircraft.html#FAM)

Arago: Foreign Airmail (FAM) [http://arago.si.edu/category_2040234.html](http://arago.si.edu/category_2040234.html)

Boyle, Thomas H. Jr., *Airmail Operations During World War II* (out of print), ©1998, American Air Mail Society
As an avid history student, as well as philatelist, I am constantly seeking ways to combine my love of stamps with my interest in the New Deal. I recently acquired a remarkable cover that, more than any other item in my collection, blends these two passions.

Between August 5, 1935 and March 24, 1936, someone collected ten different postmarks from across the nation in order to spell out:

AMERICA AID NEW DEAL / NIRA MEANS RECOVERY / FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

The identity of the envelope’s creator is currently a mystery, as is its reason for creation; was it intended to serve a political purpose, or was it merely a curiosity created by someone with an appreciation of philately and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt?

The postmarks tell interesting stories. Of the ten post offices represented on the envelope, only four are still currently operating. America, Illinois; New, Kentucky; Nira, Iowa; and Means, Ohio, were victims of budget cuts during the Great Depression, closing within years of the creation of this cover. While the New Deal is often celebrated for its construction of new post offices, few realize just how many offices were closed at the same time.

The most unusual post office name is “Nira,” which on the cover serves as a stand-in for the National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA). The town was named in 1880 by the county postmaster after his wife; by the 1930s, it was nearly a ghost town. (See “The Strange Case of Nira, Iowa, Stamp Insider November–December 2017, pages 50–51.)

When a stamp commemorating the National Recovery Administration was announced in 1933, people realized the novelty of the town’s name and flocked from all over to receive first-
day cancellations. Despite the brief resurgence in the town’s popularity, the post office shut its doors permanently in 1936.

There does not appear to be any reason for the stamps, except for Scott 732 on Nira and 648 on Roosevelt. Several pay the three-cent rate; other denominations range from one to twenty-five cents.

There is a cover in the collection of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum that is remarkably similar to this one. Between December 10, 1937, and January 15, 1938, Postmaster General James A. Farley spelled out the message FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT / NEW DEAL PRESIDENT in postmarks on his official blind-embossed stationery. Once the message was finished, he then signed the envelope at had it mailed to Roosevelt at the White House.

Given that this envelope was created almost two years after the one in my collection and bears a very similar message, I cannot help but wonder if Farley may have taken his inspiration from the one I have. Both Farley and Roosevelt were avid stamp collectors, and if the original envelope was created by a prominent philatelist, it seems reasonable to think that it might have come to their attention (especially given the patriotic sentiment it expresses).

Obviously this is pure speculation, and the unfortunate truth is that we will probably never know the provenance of the envelope. Regardless, the piece serves as a remarkable testament to the near-reverence that Roosevelt’s supporters felt towards the New Deal.

**Stamps & Cancellations**

**EPTING COVER** — Scott 632, canceled August 5, 1935, in America, Illinois

720, canceled August 12, 1935, in Aid, Missouri

648, canceled March 24, 1936, in Roosevelt, Arizona

696, canceled August 30, 1935, in Deal, New Jersey

704 and 732, canceled October 29, 1935 in Nira, Iowa

642, canceled January 27, 1936, in Means, Ohio

634, canceled February 8, 1936, in Recovery, Georgia

775, canceled February 27, 1936, in Franklin, Maine

699 canceled March 18, 1936, in Delano, Pennsylvania

648, canceled March 24, 1936, in Roosevelt, Arizona

**FARLEY COVER** — all Scott 799, canceled December 10, 1937, in Franklin, Nebraska

canceled December 15, 1937, in Delano, Minnesota

canceled December 21, 1937, in Roosevelt, Minnesota

canceled December 29, 1937, in Roosevelt, Arizona

canceled January 4, 1938, in Deal, New Jersey

canceled January 15, 1937, in President, Pennsylvania (year date error?)
Sir Winston Churchill (1874–1965) served as prime minister of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945 and from 1951 to 1955. A biography describes him as “a British statesman, army officer, and writer” as well as a respected amateur painter. He was educated at Harrow and Sandhurst before joining the army.

He was first elected to the British Parliament in 1900 and held several high posts in both Liberal and Conservative governments through the first three decades of the twentieth century prior to becoming prime minister early in the war.

Several of Churchill’s physical and character traits led to the nickname “British Bulldog.” The Old English Bulldog breed is noted for a stocky body, strength, tenacity, willingness to fight larger animals, and courage. The breed became a regular figure in World War I propaganda posters.

As one writer noted, Churchill embodied the bulldog symbol because “his jowly face, broad body, and steadfast determination to overcome powerful Nazi forces … made him an almost living embodiment of the heroic pooch.”

Churchill appeared on many patriotic postcards and covers during the war. The undated card shown in Figure 1 depicts Churchill and US President Franklin Delano Roosevelt as “The Leaders of Democracy.” This Etchcraft Ltd. of Toronto product was sponsored by Star Snapshot Service, also of Toronto.

The patriotic cover shown in Figure 2 shows Churchill in 1943 with text below his portrait reading, “We shall not flag or fail; we shall go on to the end.”

Canada issued a 5 cent Churchill commemorative (Scott 440) on August 12, 1965, some eight months after his death. Several FDCs for the stamp are shown here.

President John F. Kennedy awarded Churchill an honorary US citizenship in 1963, the first received by anyone. He and Mother Teresa are the only people who were living at the time of their award.
their award among the eight such honors that have been granted. Kennedy’s tribute (Figure 3) reads, “In the dark days and darker nights when England stood alone and most men save Englishmen despaired of England’s life, he mobilized the English language and sent it into battle.”

The “Ship of State” fragment was penned by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

Stephen Anderson’s cachet in Figure 4 includes a tribute from President Lyndon Johnson which includes the words, “He is history’s child, and what he said and what he did will never die.”

Ken Boll’s cachet for Cachet Craft and the Jackson Cover Service (Figure 5) features a photograph of Churchill in army uniform flashing a “V” for victory salute and puffing on his ever-present cigar.

Two FDCs by Canadian makers round out the sample presented here. Figure 6 is by the Grover Stamp Exchange of Windsor, Ontario and depicts a very wrinkled Churchill.

A stylized Union Jack flag forms the backdrop for the cachet in Figure 7 by Caneco, the Canada Envelope Company of Montreal.
GLEN FALLS, NEW YORK
Meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday at
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, City Park, 543 Glen St.
Joe Kopczak, 44 Willowbrook Rd., Apt. 323,
Queensbury, NY 12804-3142,
jkopczak@roadrunner.com, 518-796-6263

SOME OFFICERS REPLACED

Our annual banquet was held in December at the Peppermill Restaurant in South Glens Falls. Fifteen members and guests attended. We enjoyed the chance to include family members in our stamp-related discussions. Thanks to Adolf Meyer for making the arrangements.

At the January meeting, we had a partial replacement of some of our officers. Adolf Meyer was replaced by Gene Slavin as secretary and John Holt assumed the vice president position that has been vacant for several months. Treasurer Carol Elmer and president Joe Kopczak remained in their positions.

In other business, in response to a request for volunteers to serve as APS ambassadors, Kopczak agreed to serve in this position. He has already received some communication from the APS and will be discussing these items with the club in future meetings.

Our February meeting had some complications due to family conflicts and some of our challenging weather issues. Our president was not able to attend because of a family conflict, forcing a call for the recently elected vice president to assume responsibility for the conduct of the meeting. Our scheduled speaker, Bill Hanson, fell on the ice several days before the meeting and fractured his humerus just below the shoulder. Members were notified and requested to bring in stamps and other items to discuss, especially related to the topic of Winter Olympic Games that were in progress at the time of the meeting.

Our March meeting was an auction. Our last auction was in July 2017, so we had plenty of items for sale. After our last auction, we had two programs to educate some of our members how important it is to properly describe auction lots for the benefit of the auctioneer and the increased sales prices the member can receive.

We expect to have speakers for the next several months.

Missent

This cover includes Calvet Hahn’s original album notes. Addressed to “Loudon, Tenn / Via Charles-
ton, S.C. / Mr. S. D. Hopkins.” Missent along the way, it received a
“CHARLESTON TENN. APR 9” and a new circle “PAID 3” interlocking
with the first “PAID 3” (See Elwyn Doubleday’s column on page 8).
What’s a Meyer lemon? A new two-cent makeup rate stamp pictures a Meyer lemon (Scott 5256). You may have seen them in the grocery store and wondered where it got its name, and how it differs from an ordinary lemon.

It is named for Frank Meyer, a Department of Agriculture researcher who discovered it in China in the early 1900s. It is a cross between an ordinary lemon and a Mandarin orange, is sweeter than other lemons, and not as acidic. It was grown in China mostly as a decorative houseplant, but Meyer liked the flavor and imported it.

Although some groves were planted in California, growers soon discovered the trees harbored a virus that, while harmless to the tree itself, infected other types of citrus trees and damaged them. The groves were quickly cut down and burned. Although agricultural researchers eventually developed a variety that did not carry the virus, there was little interest in the fruit for many years.

In the 1990s, celebrity chefs began looking for something different to distinguish their cooking, and began using Meyer lemons to add a touch of the exotic to their dishes. Although ordinary lemons are available year-round, Meyer lemons mature best in cooler weather, and are usually sold only in the winter months, adding to their special charm. Looking for something different in your lemonade? Try a Meyer Lemon to create a bright new flavor. If you like grated lemon rind, that of a Meyer lemon is a bit more fragrant. Making a lemon vinaigrette for your salad? The Meyer might be a bit too weak to stand up to the bold, rich extra virgin olive oil.

If you enjoy various kinds of foods on stamps, you might want to join the ATA’s newest specialty group — the Gastronomy on Stamps Study Unit. Enjoy the fellowship of other stamp collecting foodies, who exchange recipes as well as stamps. Membership dues include a quarterly journal, The Philatelic Gourmet. Dues are $5 electronic, $20 US, $28 patron, $24 Canada, and $28 worldwide. More information is available at www.gastronomystamps.org. David Woltersberger, an ATA member and active member of other units — Cartophilately and Wine on Stamps — is president and a main founder of the group.

— David A. Kent
Bufpex Awards Announced

Bufpex was held on March 3-4, 2018 at the Leonard Post. The bourse featured twelve dealers and the USPS. Forty frames of exhibits competed for awards in ten categories. A youth table was available staffed by club members and visitors stopped by the club table to purchase show covers and purchase guesses for the stamp jar. The club also held a silent auction for material submitted by club members. One hundred lots were sold. Attendance was strong for both days and the club sold out of show covers.

Awards

Alan Davis, Thinking of Buffalo, Founder’s Best in Show Award and Dan Cunningham Award for Best Example of Originality
Alan Davis, The Big 3, Best Foreign Exhibit, Walter Grotke Award for Best Great Britain or British Colonies, and Best Topical Exhibit
Ed Bailey, Five Cent Blue Stamps, Joseph Romito Award for Best Exhibit of Cancellation and U.S. Usages
Ed Bailey, Farley Stamps, Single Frame Award
Paul Moore, Early Buffalo, NY Covers, Bredl Cover Award for Best Exhibit of Covers or Postal Stationery
Larry Reilly, U.S. Postal Service and the New York Yankees, Emil Auer Award for Best First Time Exhibit by a Club Member

Buffalo Cinderellas

A highlight of Bufpex was a presentation by author and former Buffalo resident Rick Barrett, who has published a book centered on the stories of two people and the items they created at the Pan American Exposition. In Buffalo Cinderellas: The Gentleman, The Huckster and the Pan American Exposition, he describes philatelic material from the exposition with covers, stamps and ephemera.

Demand for this material is still strong with the six Pan American Exposition stamps (Scott 294–299) and the subsequent inverts of the one, two, and four cent issues commanding high prices at auction, along with cachets, postmarks, and Cinderella stamps. The book is available from the APS for $49.85 plus postage.
New Haven, Connecticut

www.facebook.com/pages/Connecticut-Cover-Club/147211451982581

Meets at 9:30 a.m. on the third Sunday at Super Stop & Shop, 112 Amity Road; Joseph Connolly, 571 Treat Lane, Orange, CT 06477-2739, jccachet@optonline.net

jccachet@optonline.net, 203-795-3718

Demon … Alcohol

By Andy Doback

At the Norwalk Stamp Club’s Norpex 2018 on March 10, I found a number of interesting covers in several of the dealers’ boxes.

One is a “Souvenir Postcard From Hell!” — nicely cacheted with a dapper devil wearing a cape. It is postmarked in Hell, Norway, on November 11, 1955.

Hell is a village of approximately 1,450 inhabitants. The name is from the Old Norse word hellir, which means “cliff cave” or “overhang.”

It is a tourist attraction for those wanting to pose next to the Hell railroad station sign. There is also a yearly Blues in Hell music festival. The 1990 Miss Universe, Mona Grudt, who is from a village near Hell, listed herself as “The Beauty Queen from Hell.”

Another is a first day cover of Whiskeytown, California. The town was originally named Schilling. It is postmarked on July 1, 1952. The town was flooded in 1962 to make the Whiskeytown Lake. The dam was dedicated by President John F. Kennedy on September 28, 1963.

Whiskeytown was a northern California Gold Rush mining town in Shasta County. The name’s origin has two myths: One is that a barrel of whiskey fell into the creek that ran by the town. The other is that the miners could drink a barrel of whiskey a day. So take your pick … pardon the pun. ■
Queen Victoria and Stamps

With the PBS Masterpiece series Victoria currently airing, I decided to take a look at the Penny Black, the first postage stamp that was issued May 6, 1840. It was part of the Great Post Office Reform of 1839 and 1840.

Rowland Hill is usually given credit for inventing the first stamp. It allowed people to prepay postage and there was less need to handle money. He chose Perkins, Bacon & Petch as the printers of the stamps. Perkins’ D cylinder press was used to print both the Penny Black and Two Pence Blue.

The same portrait of the queen was used throughout her reign which ended when she was 81 in 1901. It is based on a bust by William Wyon, who was commissioned for a medal issued by the Corporation of the City of London for the queen’s visit to the city in 1837 when she was only 18 years old. The obverse depicted the façade of the Guildhall.

The stamp’s black color created a problem since it was hard to see cancellations on them. Beginning in 1841 the stamp was printed in red. These were used for many years after that. Because the stamps were originally only meant for local use, no country name appeared. An agreement with post offices of other nations allowed this as long as the queen’s image was on the stamp. All British stamps still bear a portrait or silhouette of the monarch somewhere on the design.

Victoria appeared on stamps throughout her reign and her image appeared on stamps throughout the empire, including Canada 65 from Victoria’s jubilee in 1897. On that issue we see the queen in 1837 and 1897.

I have included an early New Brunswick issue (Scott 8) and a photo of Jenna Coloman, who plays Victoria in the current PBS series. I wondered if our readers see any resemblance between the actress and the real queen.
Robert D. Barron — 1925–2018

Robert D. Barron, 92, formerly of Elmira and a member of the Elmira Stamp Club and American First Day Cover Society, died on January 15 in Schenectady. He was a frequent contributor to First Days, the AFDCS’ journal. His final article appeared in the January–February 2016 Stamp Insider. It was a revision of an earlier piece in First Days about Civilian Conservation Corps covers.

Barron was born in Friedens, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, on December 4, 1925. After high school, he joined the Navy and served as an aerographer’s mate in the Pacific Theater during World War II.


Memorial donations may be made to the Somerset County Historical Society or the American Diabetes Research Foundation.

NOJEX and ASDA Combine for Fall Show

The North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, Inc., sponsor of Nojex, an annual APS World Series of Philately stamp show, and the ASDA have combined forces for what promises to be the largest show in the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut metropolitan area in 2018.

The Nojex & ASDA 2018 Stamp Show will be on October 19–21 at the Meadowlands Hilton Hotel in East Rutherford, New Jersey, minutes from Manhattan’s Penn Station via NJ Transit. The combined show ends ASDA’s long-standing fall show in Manhattan. Nojex had been held in May, took a bye in 2016, and moved to the fall last year.

A first day of issue by the USPS is expected. A fifty-dealer bourse will include member dealers of the ASDA and the APS. The Mobile Post Office, Ottoman and Near East Philatelic, and New Jersey Postal History societies will have their annual meetings and will conduct public programs.

As a World Series of Philately show, two hundred frames will be available. With free parking, free admission and immediate access to the New Jersey Turnpike, the show will draw upon the twenty million people living within an hour’s drive of the hotel. Rooms at the Hilton can be booked at the special show rate of $129 per night.

Contact Dana Guyer for booth information at dana@americanstampdealer.com or 800-369-8207. A prospectus and entry form may be downloaded at www.nojex.org.
By Gerald Wiley

Perhaps in these days of debate about the best means of providing everyone with adequate health care, a look back at how this was done in the past might be of interest.

Envelopes provided by Merchant’s Gargling Oil Company of Lockport, New York, to hotels and businesses advertised their products, notably Gargling Oil Liniment, “good for man & beast.” It was advertised on the back of one of their envelopes used by the Crowner House in Watertown hotel in 1884.

C. L. Frederick, Druggist of Carthage, New York, sold Frederick’s Lungwort Syrup. According to an 1885 article in the Watertown Daily Times, many who died from pneumonia or other lung disease would still be alive if they had taken a few doses of lungwort.

A cover mailed at Schoharie in 1893 by Dr. T. J. Kilmer & Co. illustrates their Sanitarium and Dispensary and advertised cures for various diseases.

A circular mailed in 1875 from Buffalo advertised Dr. Dimock’s Self-Retaining Auricles for those hard of hearing. (When I started using a hearing aid last year, these were no longer available.)

Although none of the above remedies are still in use, some of those we now have are probably just as effective. They lack the miracle ingredient in most patent medicines — alcohol!
Finger Lakes Stamp Club
Geneva, New York
Meets at 8 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays at the Sawdust Café, NY State Agricultural Experiment Station, except November–February second Wednesdays only
James Darnell, 136 Lock St., Clyde, NY 14433-1117
darnell@rochester.rr.com, 315-923-7355

Winter Takes Its Toll

Winter wreaked havoc on our meeting schedule once again. For the second straight year our annual Christmas party, as well as our December and March meetings, had to be canceled due to inclement weather.

When we met on January 10, we had a New Year’s party, exchanging our Secret Santa gifts — just a few weeks late!

Officers Reëlected — At our meeting at the beginning of November, we elected club officers for 2018. Reëlected were: Dave Himes, president; Jeff Huether, vice president; Shirley Stowell, treasurer; and Jim Darnell, secretary.

Santa Delivers — Some of our Clyde, New York members were surprised to find Santa Claus delivering their mail on Christmas eve. Mail carrier Sean Gardner of Lock Berlin, New York, brought a bit of seasonal spirit and joy along with the mail. With mail customers snapping pictures along his route, mail delivery may have been a little later that day, but no one seemed to mind! This picture was taken at Jim Darnell’s house.

First Day Covers — The club is preparing first day covers for Mr. Rogers and Sally Ride.

Programs

April 11 — First Issues of the Republic of China by Jim Brady
April 25 — How To Prepare a Circuit Book by James Darnell
May 9 — Kiloware Scramble
May 23 — Annual club banquet at Abigail’s

Stampless

This stampless Clyde cover was posted between 1851 and 1857, most likely due to a shortage of postage stamps. It was offered on eBay by “covercrazy” — AKA Elwyn and Anne Doubleday.
The club has been on winter hiatus, so this space is dedicated to collecting star cancels.

Many collectors look for fancy cancels both on and off cover. These cancels are very attractive and boost the look of any collection. To some, stars fall into this category. The figure above right shows an August 11, 1880, star usage from Spencerport in Monroe County.

Probably the first comprehensive work on New York state star cancels was published by the Empire State Postal History Society in 1987 and was written by the late David Proulx, of Baldwinsville, a well-known postal historian. He identified more than six hundred “stars” used in the state, mostly between 1870 and 1890. Since then, many new examples have been found.

Albany County only had a few examples, three of which are shown here — Aquetuck, South Bethlehem, and Knowersville.
**Cooperstown, New York**
Meets at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday, except January & February, at the Tillapaugh home, 28 Pioneer St.
Ellen Tillapaugh
80 Beaver St., Cooperstown, NY 13326-1202
kuchtill@gmail.com, 607-547-5646

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**Venue Reserved for Fall Show**

The Leatherstocking Stamp Club and the Tri-County Stamp Club have made reservations with the Holiday Inn in Oneonta to host their seventh annual Stamp and Postcard Show on October 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dealer reservations are available from Bob Finnegan at rfinneg@stny.rr.com We request that these be made by May 1. Cost is $35 per table, which provides a back table. Initial invitations have been mailed to past participants, but the clubs are always seeking new dealers.

The clubs have scheduled a combined meeting on May 3 at the Clark Center in Cooperstown at 6 p.m. Members and spouses will share in a pot luck dinner, followed by a presentation by Spike Paranya.

**Programs**

- April 5 — Irish Stamps by Steve McCarthy
- May 3 — Pot luck dinner meeting with Tri-County Stamp Club

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**Ganz To Sign Roll of Distinguished Philatelists**

The newest Roll of Distinguished Philatelists (RDP) honorees include Cheryl R. Ganz, former chief curator of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum. She is a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society in London (FRPSL).

At a recent meeting, the board of election — chair Jane Moubray, Tomas Bjäringer, Christopher Harman, Alan Huggins, Rolf-Dieter Jaretzky, Robert Odenweller, Christopher King, and Raymond Todd — also unanimously selected Robert Abensur of France, Gustaf Douglas of Sweden, and Geoffrey Lewis of Australia.

The signing ceremony will be on July 27 during the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in Newcastle upon Tyne.

The RDP was established in 1921 by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain with the approval of King George V, who was the first signatory. An invitation to sign the roll is regarded as the world’s preëminent philatelic honor.

Not including the newly elected RDPs, 380 philatelists from forty countries have achieved this distinction, including fourteen from the United States. More information about the RDP may be found at www.abps.org.uk.
Flyspecking or the Art of Minutia

By Mike Frechette

In my mind, a variety is a distinct difference in the normal appearance of a stamp to the extent that it is immediately noticeable. Flyspecking is the comparison of two stamps to the extent that the only difference between them is very small.

Canadian collectors are notorious for flyspecking. Take, for example, the “blinkie” varieties of the 1957 two cent Centennial issue (Scott 455). The stamp features a totem pole with tiny little eyes. If the eyes are open, they have a dot of color. If closed, they have no color. Hence the nickname “blinkie,” because they look like they have just blinked. The head is about a fifteenth of an inch wide, making the eyes very small. Most collectors never notice the difference. In fact, they would not care because the variety is so minor that it requires a magnifying glass to view. See if you can spot the differences above. Yet the variety commands a premium.

My experience has been that when Scott mentions a variety, it is usually of the kind that is readily apparent when you see it. I have experienced many a “Eureka!” moments when I finally see the true variety and understand what it is. A classic example is US Scott 500, the two cent Washington Type Ia. I have looked at many collections where a collector has stuck a stamp in the space indicated, thinking it was the Ia stamp. It was not. I finally bought one with a certificate to see what they do look like. Once you see one, you will not make the mistake again. It is truly, distinctly different from Scott 499, the inexpensive stamp.

I am reminded of flyspecking every time I receive my monthly copy of Coil Line, the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club journal. They talk about PV (peak/valley) die cuts as if everyone understood what they are talking about. I do not. They write about plate numbers being misaligned, and all sorts of other minor details that baffle most of us. I love plate number coils, but the articles appeal to collectors who are deeply immersed in PNC. When collectors do a deep dive into the minutia of an issue, they are flyspecking.

Delving deeply into the technical aspects of stamps can be an interesting and rewarding pastime, but we cannot all be experts in all aspects of every stamp ever issued by every country. That is one of the beauties of belonging to the NPHS. Everyone has his or her own field of study and is capable of making a decision on whether stamps are or are not what we might wish they were. So if you have a question about one of your stamps, as to whether it is or is not of a certain variety, please bring it in one night, and let us talk about it!
The club held its first meeting of the new year on March 12. President Ron Yeager welcomed back thirteen members. Treasurer Larry Kilmer reported that we had a balance of $423.33.

The Christmas party was held at the Ponderosa restaurant with fourteen members present. Members ordered meals from the menu, with the club picking up the tab.

A white elephant auction was held featuring philatelic and non-philatelic items with the proceeds going to the club. A total of $103 was raised.

Member Tony Evans gave an update on the Boy Scout seminar. He also noted that the APS journal, *American Philatelist*, published a report provided to them by our president.

A motion was made and seconded to provide a $75 donation to the church for the use of their social hall where we hold our meetings. They let us use their facility free of charge.

A motion was also made and seconded to donate $25 to the American Philatelic Society in memory of Leslie E. Crane, Jr., 93, of Wethersfield, Connecticut, a former member who died on March 12. He and his wife, Marian, had lived in Shinglehouse, Pennsylvania, following his retirement as an account executive for Occidental Petroleum in New York City and Los Angeles. During World War II, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge and the Ardennes Forest, earning a Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

A vote by the club suggested that we hold *Olepex 22* at the same location as last year. The president will check to see if the dates suggested are available and will make a report at the April meeting. That meeting will feature a presentation on Civil War stamps from our in house expert and treasurer Larry Kilmer.

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**Two Days**

A letter mailed from Olean on December 29, 186(3?) was delivered in Washington, D.C., two days later, as indicated by a carrier backstamp shown as an inset. The cover was offered on eBay by John B. Amberman.
A Northern Letter from a Southern City

By Ron Breznay

Illustrated is a Union-occupation cover, so called because it was posted with US postage in a southern city during the Civil War — Old Point Comfort, Virginia, on January 4, 1863.

Old Point Comfort is at the southern tip of the Virginia peninsula, opposite Norfolk. Fort Monroe, which is located on Old Point Comfort, was completed around 1834 and served during the Civil War as a Union base of operations for General George B. McClellan’s Peninsular Campaign.

Though Virginia was a Confederate state, Fort Monroe remained in Union hands throughout the Civil War. Following the war, Jefferson Davis, former president of the Confederate States, was imprisoned there for two years.

This cover was mailed from Old Point Comfort to Miss Martha Bannan, c/o John Bannan, Esq., Pottsville, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. The US three-cent stamp is canceled with a cork killer. The name of the sender remains a mystery as the letter’s contents are missing.

John Bannan (1796–1868) was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania. He first worked as an engineer and then attended law school in Reading and was admitted to the bar in 1818. He eventually moved to Pottsville to practice law. He built a Greek revival mansion, Cloud Home, which is a landmark in the city.

Bannan served in the War of 1812 with the First Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. His patriotism never flagged, and when the Civil War broke out, he volunteered to serve. However, he was 65 at the time, so he was not accepted. Instead, he provided assistance to soldiers, their widows, and their families.

His daughter, Martha (1841–1933), attended the private school of Miss Allen in Pottsville. She continued her studies in Philadelphia, with music and literature being her chief interests. Among her accomplishments were poetry and the translation of some of Goethe’s poems and plays from German.
Lancocex, Pennsylvania

www.lcps-stamps.org
Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday, except August, at Bluebird Commons in Woodcrest Villa, 2001 Harrisburg Ave.
Paul Petersen, 1300 Hillcrest Road, Lancaster, PA 17603-2413
pcpetersen@comcast.net, 717-299-5640

Lancopex 2018 Stamp Show Coming

Lancopex, our thirty-third annual stamp show will be on Friday and Saturday, April 27–28 at the Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road. Admission and parking are free. There will be stamp and cover displays, twenty dealers including the USPOD, a show cover commemorating the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the Columbian Exposition, appraisals, and great food. Information regarding directions, dealers, show contact members, and other show information can be found on the club website.

Patriotic Labels Catalogue

Hot off the press is Dick Colberg’s catalogue, World War II Patriotic Labels (2017), eighty-two pages containing hundreds of full-color illustrations of the labels that contributed to the war effort. In his introduction the author points out that he has seen no other writing about this material, and to the best of his knowledge, there has yet to be such a catalogue of these items. He has, however, seen items for sale on eBay.

The images in this publication are from an old accumulation. An example of one of the pages is shown at the right. Colberg invites readers to provide any additional information or examples of these labels. This spiral bound edition has a plastic cover and composition back for durability. Font size and image clarity are most suitable for readability and study.

WW II occurred before the days of television and the internet. With much personal and commercial communication by mail, these labels were the perfect conveyance of the themes that were so important to encourage and gather support from the home front. After all, many sacrifices would have to be made back home in this total war effort.

The theme of “Remembering” is thoroughly represented with Pearl Harbor and other labels of war atrocities, including Hitler’s and other Axis leaders’ faces. A goal was to demonize the enemy. Security and “no loose lips” issues will save lives. Victory Bond drives were common, as were recruiting labels for all the branches of the armed services. Further, nurses, war industry workers, blood drives, scrap metal, and fruits and vegetables were all essential elements for victory. Contact Colberg at appraisestamps@gmail.com.

Programs

April 11 — How We Now Judge Exhibits with Points in North America by Bill Schultz
May 9 — State Symbols of Pennsylvania on Stamps by Vera Felts

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Have you made plans yet to join us for Ropex 2018 on May 18-19? The show will be at the Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 North Bloomfield Road, Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

More than a dozen dealers have signed up so far among an anticipated total of twenty along with the USPS. Stamps, covers, collections, supplies, postcards, coins, and much more await visitors. See our web site for the most up-to-date show information.

The show will commemorate the centennial of US airmail service and the eightieth anniversary of airmail service between Canandaigua and Rochester on May 19, 1938, during National Air Mail Week — May 15–21.

The Court of Honor will include 1938’s National Air Mail Week, a four-frame exhibit by Ropex judge Jeffrey Shapiro of covers prepared to celebrate the nationwide event. It will also feature a single-frame exhibit by Stephen Reinhard — North America Catapult, LZ 127 and LZ 129 Zeppelin Mail, to and from Mexico — showing flights to and from Mexico via ship to shore catapults, the Graf Zeppelin and Hindenburg used to expedite air mail service from 1929 to 1936.

Single-frame competitive exhibits include The Mesozoic Times, Toward United Nations, and Compulsory Registration — Israel.


Programs
April 12 — Everyone a Dealer Night
April 26 — How I Got Into Cachet Making by Kelly Armstrong
May 10 — Small Stamps by Paul Brach
Museum Hosts Three Family Days

The museum held three family days in February at which children and adults made valentines using Love stamps, learned about the Winter Olympic Games by making their own collection of Olympic stamps, and took home stamps featuring presidents to celebrate Presidents Week. Exhibits included Love, Winter and Summer Olympics, and past presidents. A Black History Month exhibit featured famous African-Americans on stamps.

The museum has been working with a children’s stamp club at a local Montessori school and has begun a pen pal program with a student stamp club in Tamil Nadu, India. Both groups receive packets of stamps, first day covers, and philatelic booklets to help them both learn more about US and worldwide stamps plus stamp collecting in general.

Education Director Henry Lukas recently participated in a “People to People” tour of Havana, Cuba. During his stay, he visited the Cuban Postal Museum and was given a private tour by staff members. The museum has an excellent exhibit on the history of communication by mail plus a special exhibit about rocket mail.

The museum’s first Friend of Education Award was recently presented to David Sabot, a senior at the Cambridge School of Weston. Since July 2016 David has been producing a fifteen-minute video titled Going Postal which features stamps that commemorate historic events of the month. Lukas narrates the show and David does the filming and editing adding some very creative animations. The show is broadcast on area cable TV stations, shown to some stamp clubs and in some elementary schools and is also on the museum’s website.

The museum’s website provides information about new USPS issues and shows stamps that commemorate historic events of the day. It is updated daily and includes a trivia question, pictures from museum programs, and lists upcoming events. Included is the schedule for the free May 3 Postal Symposium, A Century of U.S. Airmail, which features four speakers, plus an exhibit of our airmail collection and an inverted Jenny stamp loan by the APS.
I got lucky in the recent auction by the Austrian Philatelic Society (US), and hope to be able to properly house my collection once my house renovation is completed in about four more months.

In the auction I got an 1862 fifteen kreuzer with fine perfs and a spectacular red cancel (ex-registered letter), a 1900 1 krone red, with a clear, full Schaan (Liechtenstein) cancel, a complete sheet set of the 1933 WIPA reprint, Mercury head (newspaper) stamps, some single imperfs of the 1957 definitive buildings series, four censored post World War II covers franked mostly with costume series stamps on business mail to the US, and a complete set of the first Austrian Frama labels. This was my first major additions to my Austria albums in two years.

I will be able to move back into a practically new house: new kitchen, new bathrooms, new bedroom, new library, new heating, a/c and electrical systems. Best of all — insulation in my nearly century-old house.

My collections and references went into storage almost two years ago, and I miss my toys. The house is now resting on piles of railroad ties over a complete new foundation, expanded to open a foundation under the new front and back of the house. It makes my basement so large that my wife wants to relocate my library and collections there! My next job will be to reconfigure my shelves and furniture to fit in a section of the basement. I am in competition with my daughter, who lives in Munich for, floor space because she wants me to set up my Lionel trains in the basement so the grandchildren will have them to play with when they visit. But, I will first make a place for my library and collections.

SIPS has been meeting as usual, with our show-and-tells about our new items, discussions about the local shows, and our chronic complaints about the current disasters being offered by the USPS. But, we meet regularly and happily, sharing our mutual fun that we have with our stamps.
John L. Davis — 1915–2018

The club’s oldest member, John Lewis Davis of Manlius, died on January 2 at 102. He was a member for nearly fifty years and in many capacities, including president for three years.

After graduating from Columbia University in 1936, he joined the family business, Forst Meat Packing, in Kingston, New York.

In 1940 he obtained a commercial multi-engine land/seaplane pilot’s license. Later he became a flight simulator instructor for Curtiss-Wright. Davis volunteered for the Army after Pearl Harbor, serving as a radar technician.

In 1955, he joined the General Electric Company as a technical writer on defense projects including the Polaris missile. His work took him to radar sites in Turkey, Greenland, and Shemya, Alaska. He retired from GE in 1980.

Davis was an avid collector of stamps, coins, minerals, plants, and friends. He was a lifetime member of the Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse and Syracuse Stamp Club, as well as a past curator of minerals for Syracuse University.

Davis changed how we think about old age. While in his 90s he volunteered to help others with their taxes. At 99 he reluctantly gave up his driver’s license, and at 101 he traveled to Atlanta to meet his first great-granddaughter, Carson. Davis lived independently in his own home until he was 102.

Holiday Party
Our holiday party was a great success; approximately fifty people ate, drank and partied at Vito’s Ristorante in East Syracuse. A high level auction drew lots of interest as well as many of the door prizes. Our tradition of great parties lives on.

Auction Schedule Change
To allow sufficient time to auction twenty lots before every meeting, we will now begin them at 7 p.m. on other than regular auction nights. The meeting will continue to begin at 7:30.

Programs*
  May 4 — Comics On Stamps
  May 18 — Auction; no business meeting
*Remember that the club auctions twenty lots every meeting night.
US AIRMAILS HISTORY SHARED

The club had a most wonderful presentation of *United States Airmails* by club member James Collins (left) in December.

He shared an ongoing history of US airmails and concentrated on the many issues found in booklet form. His research and presentation entailed much time and effort and all club members were most appreciative.

The club was on hiatus during January and February. It resumed meeting on March 19.

**Scrapbooking** — Membership learned about another method to combine one’s love of history and philately. Ralph Pistor shared his approach to both. He is scrapbooking philatelic material and historical accounts in a unique way. Two of his pages on the Civil War are shown at the right.

Bob Finnegan’s short presentation highlighted the many valuable philatelic websites available to collectors and exhibitors. Members having laptops were encouraged to bring them.

**October Show** — The Leatherstocking Stamp Club and the Tri-County Stamp Club have made reservations with the Holiday Inn in Oneonta to host their seventh annual *Stamp and Postcard Show* on October 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dealer reservations are available from Finnegan at rfinnegan@stny.rr.com. We request that these be made by May 1. Cost is $35 per table, which provides a back table. Initial invitations have been mailed to past participants, but the clubs are always seeking new dealers.

**Combined Meeting** — The clubs have scheduled a combined meeting on May 3 at the Clark Center in Cooperstown at 6 p.m. Members and spouses will share in a pot luck dinner, followed by a presentation by Spike Paranya.

**Programs**

April 16 — *What’s Behind the Postmark?* by Scott Fielder

May 3 — Pot luck dinner meeting with Tri-County Stamp Club

May 21 — TBA

The June meeting will be a social gathering at a venue to be determined in the spring.
How the Club Was Born

In the spring of 1920, several prominent stamp collectors met in the office of M. J. Horn, 105 Arcade Building, to organize a club “for the philatelists of this city.” According to the April 29, 1920, Utica Daily Press, the following officers were elected: M. J. Horn, president; Charles S. Hibbard, vice president; William J. Fox, secretary and treasurer; and Floyd Harrington, sales and exchange manager. W. J. Barton, A. H. Kirkland and F. Harrington were appointed to a membership committee.

The club became Chapter 66 of the American Philatelic Society on July 1, 1925. The group met in the Arcade Building on the second and fourth Monday of each month until at least 1927. Eventually it moved to the YMCA, 726 Washington St., where meetings were held until 1956. The club next moved to the T. R. Proctor House (Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute) until that building was demolished in 1959.

Michael E. Mead — 1950–2018

Stamp dealer Michael Ernest Mead, 67, of Orleans, Massachusetts, died on March 26. He operated as Britannia Enterprises. He was bourse chairman of Philatelic Show in Boxborough, Massachusetts, for more than thirty years. Mead was a past president of the New England Chapter of the American Stamp Dealers Association, a long-time APS member, and a two-term US representative to the Canadian Stamp Dealers Association.

A native of Peekskill, New York, Mead received a degree in political science from Colgate University in Hamilton, New York, in 1972. He was accepted at Boston University and Boston College law schools, but opted to go to work for H. E. Harris Company in Boston in 1973. He remained with Harris until the end of 1982 as a traveling buyer, appraiser, and collectibles processing manager.

He was accepted at Boston University’s MBA program in the late 1970s, but withdrew after meeting his future wife.

Mead established Britannia in January 1983. In the fall of 1987, he became a certified public accountant for Santerre and Company of Nashua, New Hampshire, for a few years. He devoted full time to his business for the past twenty-five years.

Mead’s business was oriented towards trade shows in the United States, Canada and England. He did some mail order, but always loved doing business face-to-face with dealers and collectors. He was born to travel, having spent at least one night in every one of the lower forty-eight states as well as a good half year in England and Canada.
From the mid-nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century, mail was mostly carried on railroads. A nice collection of postmarks and cancels can be made of mail processed on railroads as they passed through Vermont.

In the 1960s, The Vermont Philatelist published a series on Vermont-named US postal routes with detailed maps of the routes and reproductions of the postmarks used by the mail workers on the trains.

There are other cancels that were not discussed in the 1960s series, mainly because they were Canadian postmarks. However, these Canadian railroads used postmarks that included Vermont place names. The definitive reference work on this material is the 368-page Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations and Related Railway Postmarks including Selected Waterway Postmarks, second edition, edited by Ross Gray and published by the British North America Philatelic Society in 2015 (www.bnaps.org).

It lists eleven cancels with forty-seven variations that include Vermont place names: Beecher(s) Falls & Dudswell Junction (QC 12), Beecher(s) Falls & Lime Ridge (QC 13), Island Pond & Montreal (QC 35–47) (top and middle rows), Montreal & Alburg (QC 134), Montreal & Island Pond (QC 166–186), Montreal & St. Albans (QC 246), Newport & Montreal (QC 362–366) (bottom row), Newport & Richford (QC 367), Newport & Sherbrooke (QC 368), Richmond (Quebec) & Island Pond (QC 467), and St. Albans & Montreal (QC487). The italicized names are the Vermont place names. The names are the locations of the beginning and ending points of the railroad post office. In some instances, they are abbreviated to fit the date stamp—Island Pond as 1 POND and ISL. POND, Montreal as MONT., and Newport as NEWPT.

Newport & Richford (QC #367) is included in the list even though both termini were located in the United States since about ten miles of track traversed Canadian territory.

[Editor’s note: The 1946 Hammond’s Illustrated Library World Atlas lists fourteen American and Canadian lines with trackage in the state — Barre & Chelsea, Boston & Maine, Canadian National, Canadian Pacific, Central Vermont, Clarendon & Pittsford, Delaware & Hudson, Grand Trunk, Hoosac Tunnel & Wilmington, Maine Central, Montpelier & White River, Quebec Central, Rutland, and St. Johnsbury & Lake Champlain.]

(This article originally appeared in the November 2017 Vermont Philatelist.)
Because the club had good success and positive feedback from its first two stamp shows, it has decided to sponsor a third stamp show on October 7, 2018. More details will be forthcoming.

Future club activities are always being planned including another single-page exhibit contest, club banquet in May and club picnic at the end of summer.

Over the past few months the club has remained busy with a wide variety of activities. In November, we were very lucky to have a superb presentation given by Colin Fraser a former Christie’s Auction House employee. Fraser shared selections of stamps and covers from his extensive British Central Africa collection in a pleasant and very understandable manner. With fewer than seventy-five official issues produced in just under twenty years, club members were impressed by the many interesting varieties of stamps and related covers in the collection. The talk was very informative and greatly enjoyed by club members.

In what has now become an annual tradition, the club has added a service project to our usual Christmas meeting and party. While eating cookies and cake, club members made book marks with stamps laminated on them. The finished book marks, with club meeting information on the back, were once again given to our host library and are very popular with the patrons.

**Solving a Sticky Problem**

As a result of discussions among club members, we recently did an in-club demonstration of two methods of removing self-stick stamps. It was left to the club members to choose for themselves which method to use.

One method used “Bestine” or rubber cement thinner. Stamps were dipped into a small container of the product and after a few seconds the stamps were easily removed with little glue residue. The second method used “Pure Citrus” air freshener spray. Applied to the backside of a stamp on paper and waiting a few minutes the stamps can be removed. This method does leave a glue residue on the stamp but can be removed by a little more spray on the glue and carefully scraping it off with an old credit card or other small piece of plastic.

In both cases the backs of the finished stamps can still be a bit sticky and a small amount of talcum powder can fix it. “Bestine” is really n-Heptane, an alkane hydrocarbon product with a petroleum-like odor and does come with some health concern issues. Although “Pure Citrus” is one hundred percent citrus oil, it can be an irritant to some people. It was noted that the “Pure Citrus” seemed to smudge cancel marks on some stamps. What the long term effect either chemical has on the stamps is unknown.
Little Free Libraries Promote Philately

One of the missions of the club is to educate the public about stamp collecting, and in the process perhaps develop new collectors and gain new members.

A recent project along these lines was supplying books about stamps to Little Free Libraries located in the Wyoming Valley.

A Little Free Library is an outdoor dispenser of books on the honor system. They are usually set up as charitable or civic projects. Members of the public are invited to take a book, exchange a book, or leave a book.

Members of the club decided to provide some books about stamps that would be of interest to a general reader. There are four of these libraries in the Wyoming Valley, so we selected an adult book and a children’s book for each. The natural wood library at Kingston and purple library at Swoyersville are shown at the right.

The adult books were *The Wild Side* and *On the Road* by Stephen R. Datz, *Airmail Antics* by Fred Boughner, and *Murder Most Postal* edited by Martin Harry Greenberg.

The children’s books were *Owney, the Mail-Pouch Pooch* by Mona Kerby, *Buffalo Bill and the Pony Express* by Eleanor Coerr; *Tales by Mail Book 1* by Karen Cartier, and *The Empty Envelope (A to Z Mysteries)* by Ron Roy.

We put a label about the club inside each book, inviting readers to consider attending a meeting or checking out our Facebook page.

The club bought the books from the APRL’s excess stock and from used book dealers. We paid less than $32 for all eight books, including shipping.

If your club has a Little Free Library located nearby, you should consider donating some books. It is a worthwhile and inexpensive project which could reap benefits for your club and stamp collecting in general.
Making a List

Most collectors attending a show bring a want list. Some use pocket checklists, catalogs, pocket catalogues, price lists, ATA handbooks, handwritten lists, or spreadsheets. An up-to-date want list can save you time and money. With thousands of stamps it can be difficult to keep your list up to date or remember what you already own.

As a cover collector, I specialize in two New York counties. My want list for covers is merely pages from New York Postal History The Post Office and First Postmasters from 1775-1980 by John L. Kay and Chester M. Smith. I can check off offices I have a cover from. Each county is only three or four pages long. Very simple, but it works.

I originally made handwritten lists for each country I collect. This became cumbersome when it morphed to more than twenty messy pages as items were crossed off. It has taken two years, but I have typed all my lists into an alphabetical Word file that I can edit at any time. Prior to a show, I email the list to my iPad that I carry with me. When I return home, I remove items that I purchased. Sometimes I find I have already filled a space and have not crossed it off. This can occur if I work on merging an album or pages and forget to write down spaces I have filled.

Many collectors ask how I assemble my list. If you have a tablet or device with a voice to type feature, you can make a list quickly. After making sure catalogue numbers are in your album pages, open a new document or email, and dictate those you need. For example, 1 (space) 2 (space) 7 (space), etc. This can be much quicker than typing. As I continue to refine my list, I have added some color coding to it. For example, my list for Bermuda looks like this:

Bermuda 4 10 11 12 13 14 15 53 54 151m 162m 461-4 473 452A 501 503 509 514 538 540 566-75 594-7

Items in green indicate they are very expensive. The letter “m” after 151 means I need a mint copy. I offset different sections of the catalog within a country by making the first letter of that section red. In the example below, semipostals, airmails and postage due sections are easy to spot in red.

French Polynesia 38 50 69 70 133-35 156 158-59 257-8 B2 12B C 1a-e 27 37 40 42 47A sheet 54 63 8 9 15-17 19-27

Specialized collectors may have a more in depth list or one that indicates types, shades, earliest known use, etc. Some companies have specialized programs you can buy, but all you really need is a Word or Excel document. You can add as much or as little information as you desire — such as scarcity, catalogue value, watermark information etc.

Computerized lists can be a real asset to any collector. They are easy to email to dealers, easy to update, reprint, and maintain. Try entering one or two countries every time you attend a show. Soon you will have your own list and can enjoy filling in your albums.
Fourth Sunday Hours
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Watch for Future Dates
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Northeast Shows & Bourses
April
15 — Troy

21 — Manchester, CT

22 — West Seneca

22 — New Haven, CT

May
13 — Meriden, CT
Meriden Second Sunday Stamp & Coin Show, Comfort Inn, 900 East Main St. 9–3:30. Dealer bourse. Ross Wiessman, 973-875-3793, stamprew@aol.com.

18–19 — Canandaigua
Rochester Philatelic Association ROPEX 2018,
Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 N. Bloomfield Rd. 11–6 both days.
STAMPMTMF@FRONTIERNET.NET, WWW.RPASTAMPS.ORG.
20 — Troy
CAPITAL DISTRICT THIRD
SUNDAY STAMP & COLLECTIBLES SHOW, Troy Elks Lodge, 134 N. Greenbush Road. 10–4. George McGowan, 518-479-4396, GEOLOTUS2003@NYCAP.RR.COM.
27 — West Seneca
27 — New Haven, CT
Send listings to:
astarkweather@nystampclubs.org

**STEPEX 2018 Prospectus and Entry Form**

The prospectus and entry form for **STEPEX 2018**, the forty-third consecutive annual show sponsored by Elmira Stamp Club, is available from Alan Parsons, 809 Holley Road, Elmirna, NY 14905; 607-734-2271, ALATHOLLEYRD@AOL.COM.

The show will be October 5 and 6 at Big Flats American Legion Post, 45 South Olcott Road, Big Flats, New York, just off I-86, Exit 48.

The six to twelve dealer bourse will include coin dealers for the first time. The show will also include the USPS, up to sixty frames of exhibits, and youth activities. The show cover and program will commemorate a notable local history event.

Fees are $4 per frame (waived for Club members and junior exhibitors). Single-frame and single-page exhibits are welcome. Five frames is the limit for an exhibit, except entries received prior to June 30 may be allowed up to ten frames if space is available. Nobody may enter more than two exhibits unless the frames have not been fully subscribed by September 29.
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