Collectors Club Philatelist



Cancellations: Struck on Stamps of The U.S. 1851 Issue

Volume 100 Number 5 \$10

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Tel. (212) 683-0559 Fax (212) 481-1269 email: info@collectorsclub.org Executive Secretary:	All Collectors Club meetings currently are held online, via ZOOM, and begin at 5:30 p.m. (Eastern). Although there is no cost, pre-registration is necessary.			
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	Oct. 13	Great Britain Philatelic Society Presentation	(3 different)	
An Authors' Guide for the CCP is available from the	Oct. 20	1917 Perkins Issue of Colombia Santiago Cruz, Bogota, Colombia		

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Collectors Club Philatelist

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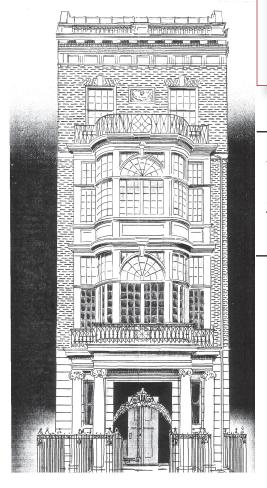
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THE COLLECTORS CLUB

22 East 35th Street, New York, NY 10016 (212) 683-0559

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President's Message

By Lawrence Haber

Welcome to our September-October 2021 Issue.

Undoubtedly, the most significant issue facing us right now is the Board's decision to begin the process of the Club finding our new home by listing 22 East 35th Street for sale. This topic is covered in depth in a separate article on page 265. That detailing is intended to be open, direct and transparent. Should you have any remaining questions or concerns not otherwise covered, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. You can email me directly.

[Editor's note: The following anniversary events have been postponed due to the ongoing Covid pandemic; please see page 264 for more. This "President's Message" was written prior to the last-minute postponement.] On Nov. 10 and 11 we mark the 125th anniversary of the Club's founding, as well as the 100th anniversary of this journal, *The Collectors Club Philatelist*. We will also bestow the Lichtenstein Award on our winners for 2020 and 2021: John Barwis, Patrick Maselis and Mark Banchik. On the 10th, we hold our single-frame exhibit competition. A celebratory dinner will be held at the Harvard Club. Invitations will be going out in mid-September. Remember to save the date, this will be a special event for you.

I am writing this in the brief time between the first major show held since the start of the pandemic, Westpex, and prior to the big national show in Rosemont, Ill, the Great American Stamp Show. None of us knows what the future holds, but what was clear from having attended Westpex is that it was wonderful to meet with old friends and to make some new ones. Clearly, there was a buzz in the air of friends enjoying our great hobby together. We sponsored two talks at Westpex. Both Fredrick Lawrence and Gordon Eubanks provided informative and interesting talks. For the first time, we arranged for our talks at a show to be recorded. The videos are available on our website. As to being at Westpex, it was fabulous to see real material in the frames, to visit dealers, sit down at their booths and leaf through packets of material.

Elsewhere in this journal, in the article about the Board's decision, we set out our mission:

The Collectors Club brings members and friends together, virtually and in person, at its clubhouse in New York City and around the country to educate, inspire and support them in pursuit of their philatelic goals.

"Brings members and friends together." We are not a scholarly society dedicated to the in-depth study of a particular facet of philately. We might have a scholarly journal, but its topics range across the entirely of philately. Really, what we do is bring people together. Due to the pandemic, this has been difficult, but our virtual Zoom meetings have worked to fill the void. Many say we have succeeded in that endeavor and they have enjoyed our programming from home.

There is a common thread connecting our anniversary events, as well as our presence at Westpex and GASS. It is all part of our mission to bring collectors together.

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Back in late June we hosted an open house at the Clubhouse. Although we did not count heads with great precision, more than 50 people attended. It was wonderful to get re-acquainted with friends. Although there was no program, we did place material in the frames, thanks to Joan and Keith Harmer. The last time material was in those frames was way back in March 2020. It was truly a delight to see those frames filled once again; it had been far too long.

As we begin the last quarter of 2021 and approach 2022, you can look forward to joining with other Collectors Club members once again. You can join with us at Napex and Chicagopex 2021 for programs and gatherings. Meanwhile, our virtual programming will continue into and throughout 2022, with a program every other week.

Back at the Clubhouse, we will resume programs on the second Wednesday of each month. These sessions in the Clubhouse will be streamed live through the Internet for you to enjoy in your home.

We have many ways for you to join with members and friends to enjoy our hobby together.

Keep up to date with what's happening in your club:

www.collectorsclub.org

Our online resources are timely, helpful, interesting and informative.

Please spend some time in exploration!



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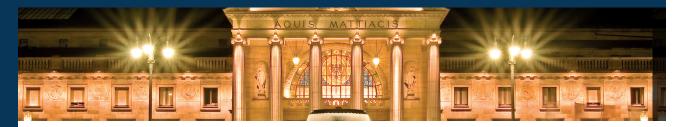
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HIGHLIGHTS

International Mail via Trieste The Rolf Rohlfs Collection
Austria – First issue used in Hungary The Rolf Rohlfs Collection
Gems of Indian States 1864–1950
Faroe Islands Postal History during WWII The Jack Petersen Collection
Dominican Republic since 1863 The Hansmichael Krug Collection
German States The ERIVAN Collection · 6th Auction
Bavaria since 1849 The Eliahu Weber Collection
Duchy of Brunswick The »Victoria Luise« Collection
North German Postal District The Dr. Jan Mazánek Collection
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Editor's Notepad

by Wayne L. Youngblood

This Just in ...

As this issue of *The Collectors Club Philatelist* was going to press, the following important announcement was emailed out to members. Here it is, in case you missed it:

Due to ongoing Covid challenges, the Board of Governors has rescheduled our 125th Anniversary event, previously set for November, to a to-be-determined date in the Spring of 2022. We have concluded that current Covid restrictions in New York, the uncertainties of international travel and concerns about the Delta variant present too many obstacles.

We heard from many excited members and share your disappointment in the need to reschedule, but health, safety and peace of mind take precedence.

For the same reasons, the Board also decided to convert our single-frame competition to a virtual event to be held on Dec. 8, in place of our

virtual approach.

traditional Governors Open House.

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We know that many members love our in-person single-frame competition and looked forward to joining friends at the Clubhouse. Last year's virtual competition was our largest ever. Members from across the globe came together with high-caliber exhibits for a robust competition that all members could view and appreciate, without space restrictions on the number of entries. So, while it is disappointing to cancel the in-person event, there are benefits to a

We will provide details on the single-frame competition and plans for a spring celebration soon.

... in Other News ...

The *CCP* editorial bank is essentially bare. We do not currently have enough material to publish the November-December issue.

If you have either been working on an article or have an idea for a feature please contact me at wystamps@gmail.com.

Similarly, if you've submitted an article for publication, but have not seen it published, please contact me as well, on the off chance it may have slipped through the cracks.

Other members want to hear from you!

www.collectorsclub.org

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Why Would We Want to Move the Club?

by Lawrence Haber

Doubtless, many members have seen the email we recently sent out. Or, perhaps, you saw a news item in *Linn's*. Or maybe you saw me on the popular YouTube series, *Conversations with Philatelists*. Whatever the source, we can be sure that among our members the reaction runs a full gamut.

My purpose here is to speak to you directly and to explain the thoughts, rationales and processes of the Board in reaching a decision.

But first we need to be very clear on a number of points:

- This is not "done." There are still a great many tasks ahead and no final or definitive decisions have been reached.
- We are not selling the Club. We are suggesting that the time has come to move our home.
- We are not eliminating our physical presence in Midtown Manhattan. We will move to a new location in the same area in Midtown as today. We will look for a new home between Penn Station and Grand Central Station.
- We are not going "virtual."
- This is not a financially driven decision, although finances do play a role. Money can't solve the problem.
- Everyone understands and accepts the affection we all have for 22 East 35th. There is no question about that. No one contests that and no one is "happy" about the decision. But the time has come for us to find a new home.

Why?

- The building does not work for our modern needs at the end of the first quarter of the 21st century.
 - The building presents massive issues for visitors with mobility issues.

To enter the front door from the sidewalk, there are five steps. We cannot put either a ramp or handrail in place without a very long, drawnout, expensive and probably futile process with the city. Our building is a landmarked jewel. It is highly probable that a local heritage preservation society would oppose our filing.

Once inside the building, you are then confronted by seven beautiful marble steps. There is insufficient space to place a ramp with a suitable slope. We are also concerned that if we file the required permits for a lift, the city would demand we remedy other non-complying ADA issues.

The elevator is not wide enough for a wheelchair. Widen the elevator shaft? Really? The elevator services the 1st, 2nd 3rd and 4th floors, not the fifth, nor the basement, where we house our journal collection. Widening the shaft is not practical without virtually taking the building apart.

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We do not have a bathroom on the first floor. We do not have bathroom in the basement near the journals. There is only a single bathroom on our meeting room floor, and this is not adequate when we have a large meeting.

The staircase is beautiful but the slope is too steep and the steps are not wide enough. Fortunately, since we do not meet the current building code, we are grandfathered.

• The library's layout is a problem.

Our library is split up across four separate locations in the building. The main stacks are on the 1st floor, journals in the basement, auction catalogs on the 3rd floor in the back and rare books on the 3rd floor in the front.

We are out of shelf space for the main stacks.

• The maintenance of the building is a major challenge.

Our heating plant is more than 20 years old. We had a nine-day outage during the last heating season. The building can get very cold. People resorted to electric space heaters. Fortunately, the wiring held up.

Heat is distributed via a one-way steam system and last season a valve broke, causing significant damage to the ceiling in the entry foyer.

To address ever-changing NYC Department of Building regulations, we recently spent \$12,000 on additional safety equipment for the elevator. We are advised that new regulations will soon take effect with a more than \$20,000 price tag.

We must meet new rules on carbon monoxide monitoring. The initial bid was \$25,000, plus monthly monitoring fees of more than \$500. We got a lower bid, for \$5,000 less. We know that you can buy a CO monitor for \$25 for your home, but this is NYC and we must comply with NYC rules and we get inspected regularly. Inspections never end without a violation being found. Never.

We have had floods in the basement.

The roof is always a worry.

We are – and will – remain subject to New York's ever-changing, byzantine and expensive building rules. As a property owner, we have no alternative but to deal with frequent Kafkaesque situations.

We lack flexible and adjustable space. All our spaces are single purpose and cannot be adapted for different-sized meetings.

There is no kitchen in the building to facilitate serving food and drinks for a meeting.

The building was built more than 100 years ago, and no one could possibly have anticipated the 21st century needs we place on the building. A trivial example: Power outlets in the 1st floor library are very scarce, perhaps rare.

The building was purchased 85 years ago. It was a very different world in 1936 and our needs have evolved. We no longer open the Club at 2 p.m. and close at midnight. We no longer have the pool table or the bridge tables. Most of our members no longer work nor live in Manhattan. The building no longer has the warm, welcoming and inviting ambience that an older-fashioned club

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ought to have, not with the carpets and lack of amenities. I know that is a painful statement to read, but we are not competitive and will never be competitive with the Union League Club.

What have we actually done? We have listed the building for sale with the leading real estate broker in New York. To get to this stage, we reviewed proposals from three firms and the Board selected the best firm. There was little difference in the valuations for the building; it was the service, experience and commitment that impressed us the most.

At the same time that this has been going on, our next-door neighbor, the Community Church, approached us about purchasing our excess development rights, or air rights. This is a peculiar aspect of Manhattan real estate that is extremely esoteric. We engaged highly specialized legal counsel so we would be properly advised and represented. The church's offer will not "resolve" any financial issues we have, nor is it a certainty. The church has been talking about a redevelopment for 25 years. Its redevelopment, as explained to us, would involve demolishing all the buildings next door and replacing them with a single, modern and much taller building. The ambience of the street will change dramatically, assuming the church gets its act together. It is not landmarked, by the way. Our broker will also handle the air rights negotiations.

The marketing and closing process for our building will take time. But we are not now in a position to accept an offer.

First, we must lay out a clear and structured vision for our new home. We will engage professionals to assist in project management and architecture/space planning needs. This is not trivial work and will cost money. What we do know is that 22 East 35th has around 6,800 square feet, plus the basement. We also know that the Philatelic Foundation occupies space on the 4th and 5th floors. There is a great deal of wasted space: The landings on each floor, the staircase and amenities.

We must lay out precise space needs, generate conceptual drawings and work with these professionals to properly describe our vision for our new home. We know that we must have the following attributes:

- When a visitor enters our space, that visitor must be impressed and our members must be proud to belong to this Club.
- Full ADA compliance.
- The library must be contiguous on a single floor.
- Meeting spaces must be flexible and easily adjustable.
- State-of-the-art technology must be easy to install.

There is no way our Board would approve any sale without these plans in place.

There is also no issue that we can find suitable space in Midtown Manhattan that fulfills these requirements. We have reviewed more than 17 current listings to prove that space, at a reasonable price, can be obtained in Midtown.

So, what are the financial issues? The cost of the building is a continuous drain on the Club's resources. Every year we run a deficit and that is largely due to the building. To help mitigate this situation, we are too lightly staffed and are limited in our ability to invest back into the hobby.

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The real estate brokers say the building is worth around \$7.8 million. To be very conservative, let's imagine we walk away with \$6 million. Let's also agree to "lock" this money up in an endowment that would be legally obliged to support the Club. Let's also assume a 5% long-term return. The \$6 million would provide us with \$300,000 a year. We are also ignoring our current investment portfolio and any proceeds from the air rights.

Long-term space in Midtown can be obtained for around \$50 a foot. The funds thrown off from the sales proceeds as invested (\$300,000) could support a footprint of 6,000 square feet (at \$50 per foot) and it is not likely we would need 6,000 square feet, probably a good deal less.

We thereby have the opportunity to ensure the financial viability of the Club forever, and we realize forever is a long time. But, if we do otherwise, we continue to run significant financial exposures both directly and indirectly as we minister over the obsolete structure that we love.

Earlier this year, the Board spent a great deal of time laying out a comprehensive strategic plan.

I would like to quote from that plan:

Vision statement

The Collectors Club aims to engage the most avid and active philatelists. Members include many of the hobby's true leaders. The club promotes the advancement of philately by sharing resources, technology and know-how with members and specialty societies.

Mission statement

The Collectors Club brings members and friends together, virtually and in person, at its clubhouse in New York and around the country to educate, inspire and support them in pursuit of their philatelic goals.

Goals and objectives

- *Provide a social venue for members and specialty societies.*
- Organize a regular program of lectures and displays.
- Sustain a philatelic library and publishing program.
- Recognize hobby leaders through a prestigious awards program.
- Recruit members and solidify the club's position as a national organization for advanced hobbyists.
- Promote philately among the general public.

We *use* the Clubhouse, but the Clubhouse does not define us. Our members and their aspirations for their hobby are what define this Club. I know many of us relish the interactions and exchanges with many great men and women at the Club, but it was those people that touched us, not brick and marble.

We believe that in our new home we will have every opportunity to stay true to the vision, mission and goals and objectives of this Club. We firmly believe that we will succeed in our new home, but if we do not move, I fear we will fail.

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Letters to the Editor

A Graphic Error

I wish to bring two concerns about the article "Transfer of Printing" by Harry G. Brittain in the July-August 2021 edition of the *The Collectors Club Philatelist*. The first is a serious error in composition that needs to be corrected in a future issue so that we have all of the data. The graphs in Figures 14a and 14b on page 217 are incorrect. They are repetitions of the graphs in Figures 12a and 12b on page 215. Also the Graphs in Figure 15 are incorrect. This is a repetition of the graphs in Figure 12a. The captions below each of these figures of the incorrect graphs are correct but we need to see the correct graphs to see what he is really trying to show.

My second concern is one of the major conclusions that Brittain makes in the top paragraph of page 16. There he contends that the inks and whitener used by American Bank Note Co. and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing are both equivalent, and yet the color produced by the former was a carmine and that produced by the BEP was a much lighter color called pink. His conclusion is that "...this difference in color must be the result of a substantial interaction between the printing ink and the different paper composition used by the BEP for the Scott No. 248." He explains this difference in the previous two paragraphs on page 214 and shows these differences in the graphs of Figure 12a (XRD study) and 12b (FTIR study). The reason that he makes his conclusion is that the only difference he can derive from his studies is a difference in the paper composition, so the lighter color must be in the interaction of the same ink on a different paper.

The difficulty I have with this conclusion comes more from common sense reasoning than from evidence that there is something wrong with his studies and the tools he uses. But putting his conclusion into a practical scenario, what he is saying is that if these stamps were on press at the BEP and it first ran through a sheet of paper of the ABNC paper, then immediately ran through a sheet of paper of the BEP, the first would come out carmine and the second would come out pink. Even allowing appropriate drying time for the ink, I find this difficult to believe. Maybe there is something that I don't know about engraved printing but it would be interesting to hear what someone experienced in engraved printing would have to say about this scenario and whether Brittain's conclusion is possible. I do not disagree with Brittain's tools or observations about the differences his studies show. The only thing that I can say is that maybe his chemical analysis of the constituents of ink and paper do not tell the whole story about the colors we see.

Rex Bishop
— via email

Rex, thank you for your letter. You are partially correct. I had just received a correction from Brittain when you wrote, and further correspondence clarified the color issue. His response, along with the correct graphs and captions are found on the following pages. The image mixups, specifically, are an editorial error, for which I apologize.

— Wayne

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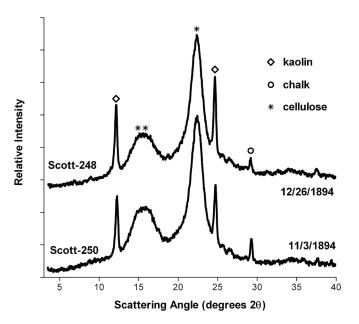
Correction From Author

I just returned from vacation at the Jersey shore, and saw the July-August issue of the *CCP* that contains my paper. It looks great, and the layout is excellent.

But...

It has come to light that in the published version of my paper in the July-August issue of the *CCP*, the images of Figures 14 and 15 were incorrect, and were actually duplicates of previous ones. The correct version of Figures 14a and 14b should be as follows:

Figure 14a. XRD pattern of the stamp on the Scott 250 cover, dated Dec. 26, 1894, contrasted with the XRD pattern of the Scott 248 stamp from the Nov. 3, 1894, cover.



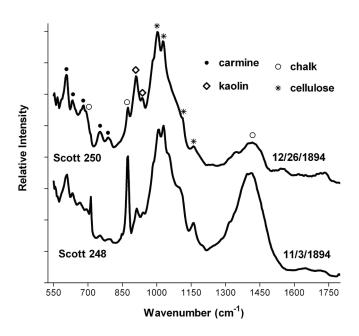


Figure 14b. FTIR spectrum of the stamp on the Scott 250 cover, dated Dec. 26, 1894, contrasted with the XRD pattern of the Scott 248 stamp from the Nov. 3, 1894, cover.

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I wish to add my deepest appreciation to Rex Bishop for pointing out the figure duplications in the published version of my paper.

In addition, the correct version of figure 15 should be as follows:

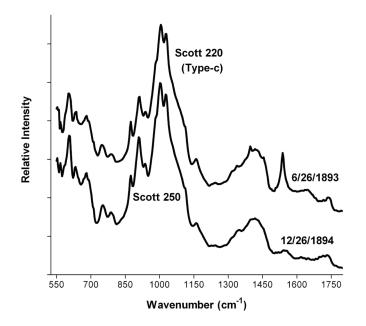


Figure 15. Comparison of the FTIR spectra of the BEP Scott 250 stamp (from the cover postmarked Dec. 26, 1894) and the Type-c American Scott 220 stamp (from the cover postmarked June 26, 1894).

Regarding the color difference comment, I neglected to point out that the Bureau of Engraving and Printing used approximately 50% less kaolin in its printing ink relative to the higher amount used by American Bank Note Co. In addition, the BEP did not use surfactant to properly disperse the pigments in its ink, as had been done by ABNC. So, in addition to the rather drastic difference in paper composition, there was also a difference in ink composition as well. The scientific evidence indicates that the color difference existing between the ABNC Scott 220c and the BEP Scott 248 stamps is a result of all of these factors

— Harry G. Brittain

Thank you, Harry. Although I sincerely regret the placement errors, I'm extremely grateful it has stimulated some discussion on this issue, and hopefully will call more attention to this important article.

Wayne

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Report from Westpex and GASS

by Lawrence Haber

As I write, I'm just back from the Great American Stamp Show (GASS), held in Rosemont, Ill., which abutted O'Hare International Airport (ORD). GASS followed Westpex, with slightly fewer than 10 days separating the two. Westpex also took place across a bay from San Francisco International Airport (SFO), thereby demonstrating philately's appreciation for all things aero.

These being the first major shows with full bourses for a long time in the United States, a World Series of Philately-sanctioned competition and a wide series of talks and meetings, I thought I would share my impressions of these shows. You have no doubt just noticed my use of the first-person singular, hence these will be very personalized impressions and not intended to be full, complete or balanced.

Westpex

I love Westpex. It is a remarkable show. The committee is highly organized, and everything runs smoothly. The bourse is filled with top dealers and exhibit competition is always fierce. It is also a memorable site for me. Back in the 2018 show, I scored 69 points on my exhibit. This is in contrast to the 82 points earned the last time the exhibit was judged. This decline of 13 points for the same exhibit as shown at consecutive shows, is a Committee on Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges (CANEJ) record that – although unconfirmed – I now claim. Nevertheless, despite this setback, I soldiered on and looked forward to revisiting the scene of this debacle. (Oh, how the judges would like me to omit this dialog ...)

The show placed the table for the Club in a fabulous location at the front entrance. It was truly wonderful seeing, meeting and talking with so many of our friends. It had been so long. The last show I attended was Aripex 2020, late February 2020, just before the world changed. There were visitors at our table almost all the time. People were happy to see us, and we were happy to see them. We easily filled two full pages of our sign-in book.

On the first night of the show, a joint dinner was held, sponsored by the Collectors Club of San Francisco. The CCSF did all the work, and it did a great job. The room was packed – not a seat to be spared. I think it was a steak restaurant, not sure where, since I do not know the Bay area. Towards the end of the meal, I was asked to speak, and my topic was "The Postal History of New Haven." This talk had been given once before, to America's foremost stamp club in Westfield N.J. Westfield being so far from the Bay area, I thought it was safe to give the same talk. Unfortunately, the CCSF did make a video of my talk, which I am actively seeking to suppress.

On Saturday morning, we hosted two speakers: Frederick Lawrence, "2018 Philatelic Commemorations of the 1918 Czech Scout Post," and Gordon Eubanks, "Imperforate Classic U.S. Covers." Both these talks were tremendous and were enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience. As a first, from a remote location, we arranged for these to be videotaped and the videos are available in our website's online video archive.

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Now onto the exhibit competition. Our members did very well, Richard Malmgren won the multi-frame Grand Award for *Hawaii Postal Cards*, and Frederico Alberto Brid won the Chairman's Award for *The First Definitive Set of Stamps of the Republic of Panama*, *The Hamilton Bank Note Co Issue of 1906-1907*.

In addition, large grands in the multi-frame section were won by Doug McGill, Alfredo Frohlich and me (21 points better than my last outing at Westpex, not that I'm counting). Multi-frame golds were won by Alan Warren, Behruz Nassre, Richard Hall and Brad Wilde. In the single-frame section Alfredo Frohlich also won a large gold with golds being awarded to David Zemer and Dickson Preston.

Lastly, we signed up nine new members at the show. That's a good number.

All in all, it was an exciting and delightful weekend in San Francisco, and it seemed everyone had a great time getting reacquainted.

Then it was on to Chicagoland for GASS.

Great American Stamp Show – GASS

The Great American Stamp Show is altogether a different scale than Westpex, being a joint meeting of the American Philatelic Society, American Topical Association and the American First Day Cover Society. It is the largest annual philatelic event in the United States. This is immediately evident with the location, a large convention center in Rosemont, Ill.

On the Wednesday prior to the show formally beginning, we sponsored a dinner at a nearby restaurant. The room was filled, and a great time was had by all. There were many compliments on the food, but more so the camaraderie. We will doubtless do something like this next year and I would urge you to make a mental note to attend. We started soliciting tickets well in advance of the date and many were disappointed when we hit the limit of the room. If you missed out, once again, I'm sorry.

Our booth at GASS was shared with our friends from the Philatelic Foundation (PF) and it was truly a delight to be with them for the show. Both the Club and the PF were busy throughout the show with friends and visitors. All were very happy to see and speak with us and it was wonderful to see so many familiar faces and many, many new faces. Our sign-in book had three pages filled at GASS and we were delighted with our reception.

I should also mention what a super job Scott English – and especially Wendy Masorti – did in all the preparations for the show. They brought everything off without a hitch, and this was done under very difficult, trying and rapidly changing circumstances. They, and the entire crew from the APS, are gems. We must never take them for granted.

We were very pleased to sponsor a talk at the show by Cheryl Ganz on "British Airships." It was a fascinating topic, expertly presented, and all the chairs in the room were taken. What is most remarkable about Cheryl's talks is her ability to both take a very high and sophisticated level but also engaging for those not previously interested in the topic. I left the room with an interest in airship mail that I previously did not have. We need more people like

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Cheryl, who can convert other collectors to their specialties. Her talk was, unfortunately, not captured on video, the logistics were just too complicated for us. Hopefully next time.

As to the exhibition competition, Daniel Ryterband, a governor of the Club, won the Champion of Champions award for *A Country Divided: Effects of the American Civil War on the Mails*. We are so delighted for Dan, as he joins a very select group of collectors.

Other members who participated in the Champion of Champions competition included John Barwis, Anthony Dewey, Alfredo Frohlich (twice!), Matthew Kewiga, Daniel Knowles, Jon Krupnick, Lester Lanphear, Richard Malmgren, David McLaughlin, Mark Schwartz (twice!), Eigil Trondsen and Charles Wooster. Not that we are counting, but of the 23 qualifying entries in the C of C competition, 15 were prepared by our members.

In the GASS open competition, single-frame category, another governor, Louis Pataki, took home the grand with World War I Comes to the German Mail in Shantung, China. Anthony Dewey won the AmeriCover Multi-frame grand with the 3¢ Connecticut Tercentenary Issue of 1935 and its First Days. We should also note that the GASS multi-frame reserve grand was won by Hal Vogel for American Heroic Age Polar Expeditions. And, we are extraordinarily proud that one of our young members, Adhyatman Agarwala, won the GASS youth grand with Ecuadorian Slogan-Based Covers Related to the Ecuador-Peru Border Conlfict of 1941.

GASS large golds were awarded to Michael Bloom, Ian Gibson-Smith, Vesma Grinfelds, Vicky Hadley, Jon Krupnick, Behruz Nassre, Robert Pildes, Robert Rose, Ross Towle, Timothy Wait and Bradley Wilde. GASS golds were earned by Alfredo Frohlich, Chip Gliedman, Nicholas Lombardi, Stephen Sufffet, A.J. Valente and Tim Wait. We have such talent among our members, and it was great to see their fine works in the frames.

In the GASS single-frame section, golds were awarded to Cheryl Ganz, Robert and Ellen Rose and Kurt Streepy.

In addition to the grand that Tony Dewey earned in the AmeriCover section of the competition, he also was awarded a gold for his multi-frame *The "Settling of Connecticut" Postal Card of 1986* exhibit. In the AmeriCover single-frame section, Cheryl Ganz won a gold for *Zeppelin Hindenburg & Tipex*.

I apologize in advance if I missed someone or mistyped their names or exhibit titles. I freely admit I am not good with detail work. How it is that I can plate Penny Blacks and Penny Reds is, quite frankly, beyond me.)

With great traffic we equaled our new-member tally at Westpex with nine new members from GASS.

We had a very busy three-week period with two major shows, but the experience was thoroughly enjoyed. The very best part of both shows was being able to reconnect with so many of our existing members, new members and those who are not yet members.

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Cancellations Struck on Stamps of The U.S. 1851 Issue

By Wade E. Saadi

Simply put, the purpose of a cancellation is to prevent the reuse of a stamp. Also, cancellations show that a stamp has fulfilled its intended duty of having prepaid a fee for delivering the mail. But some cancellations are much more than that, as they add interest and variety to the issued stamp. Some are colorful and some are attractive, while others, such as railroad, steamboat and foreign cancellations, can stimulate the imagination as to the routes traversed and the places sojourned during the trek of a posted letter.

Stamps of the U.S. classic era seem to have had a peculiar magnetism to them, as postmasters frequently added ancillary markings to an already canceled stamp, disregarding the fact there was plenty of room on the cover to place the second or third strike. The presentation included all types of cancels and postmarks, not just fancy ones. More than 99% of the featured markings will tie a stamp when on cover, as this is a study of these markings on the stamps. Well-struck markings are very scarce, so obtaining a clear strike of a cancel is the biggest obstacle. More than 45 years of patient searching and classifying has gone into the making of this collection. It is one of the most extensive collections of classic United States cancellations ever formed, including more than 1,000 different markings.

In the 1851 period, the vast majority of cancels were postal markings, of which many were circular date stamps or rate markings, reactivated from the stampless period and put into service as makeshift obliterators. Other preexisting cancels include "Paid," "Way," railroads, "Steam," "Steamer..." and foreign transit markings. Town markings, including straight-line, oval and elaborate, are found.

Grid cancelers were developed specifically to deface stamps and were the first to be put into use. Simple grids are the only geometric seen regularly on this issue. These grids evolved into more ornate designs, often carved into cork or rubber by the local postmaster, although not often seen this early. Grids of dots, squares, wedges and stars are not common.

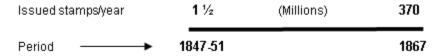
Pictorial cancels are very few in this period. They include strikes of a lyre, running stag, Odd Fellows and "Used & Done For."

One may notice, for example, the 3¢ issue of 1851 has fewer varieties of cancels, when compared to the 3¢ issue of 1861, with its plethora of markings. This is due to the quantities issued of each stamp, which grew significantly over the years covered, and the proliferation of the craft of cancel-device-making. New designs that started as simple grids and cork obliterators, matured over the years into miniature works of art.

Invite another collector to come to the next online Collectors Club meeting!

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Featured items:

Denom	Fig No.	Description	Reference *
1¢	1	Red Small Boston Paid on 1¢ Stamp	SE PM-PG 10
3¢	2	Blue "SONORA, CALIFORNIA/DEC-2 1851" Earliest-known year date cancel on any U.S. stamp.	ASCC-VI-p21
3¢	3	Black "USED & DONE FOR," Fairhaven, Conn.	SE LC-NP 7
3¢	4	Yellow "PAID / 3" in circle, with "Hebron / NH" CDS.	SE PM-PNc 17
3¢	5	Straight-line "Downieville" town, Calif.	SA P16-9
3¢	6	"Lockport / NY" CDS on Valentine cover.	
3¢	7	Blue Shield "Wells, Fargo & Co. / Express / San Franciso," Calif.	SA P348-1
3¢	8	Odd Fellows Symbol, Canton, Miss.	FR-NMb I
3¢	9	Lyre or Harp, Canton, Miss.	PO-Lh 3
3¢	10	Blue Running Stag in Circle, Shelburne Falls, Mass.	SE PA-Dr 1

^{*}SE = Skinner-Eno *United States Cancellations* 1845-1869, 1980

I will describe 10 of the items in more detail as follows.

Figure 1 is a Red Small Boston Paid in Grid on a 1¢ Stamp. The red cancel was only used in the first month of the issue, July 1851. This marking is scarce in red, but especially on the 1¢ stamp, of which there are only a few copies known. The black small Boston Paid in grid was used from July 1851 until January 1852, and is much more common than the red one.

Figure 2 shows a Blue "SONORA, CALIFORNIA/DEC-2 1851" straight-line town cancel on piece. It is the earliest-known year date cancel on any U.S. stamp or cover. There are fewer than 20 of these cancels known, and this date is the earliest of these. Year date cancels before 1854 are uncommon and were not used by many towns; probably fewer

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Figure 1.

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^{*}SA = Simpson-Alexander Simpson's U. S. Postal Markings 1851-1861, 1979

^{*}ASCC = American Stampless Cover Catalog – 5th Edition - 1977



Figure 2.

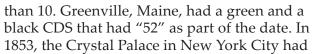




Figure 3.

a special CDS incorporating an "1853" within; this CDS was used less than one month. Tom Alexander wrote an excellent census article and other information on this marking in *The Chronicle*¹.

Figure 3 shows a black negative "USED & DONE FOR" cancel from Fairhaven, Conn. It is the finest known example of this strike. As previously mentioned, fancy cancels used on 1851 imperforate stamps are limited to a handful. The art of designing and carving cork or wood (in reverse lettering) to make canceling devices was in its infancy.

Figure 4 pictures a lemon (or buttercup) yellow "PAID / 3" in circle, with matching CDS. The prevalent understanding is that there exists one other cover with a pure yellow cancel (containing no brownish tint or mustard hue).



LEMON YELLOW "PAID/3" IN CIRCLE HEBRON, NH SE PM-PNC 17



Figure 4.

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The whereabouts of this other cover is unknown and it has not been seen for decades². This light yellow color was not very good at clearly indicating a stamp had been canceled (used), which may account for its scarcity.

Figure 5 shows a Straight Line "DOWNIEVILLE," Calif., town cancel on a strip of three. Cancels from California in the early 1850s are few. The state was just admitted to the Union in 1850, and many of the most desirable uses are from small pop-up towns in the "Gold Rush" area, east of Sacramento. San Francisco was a port of entry for the entire goings on in Sutter's Mill and environs. The shame is that this strip was likely used on a cover, along with a 1¢ stamp, to pay the 10¢ rate for more than 3,000 miles. Figure 5a shows an image of Downieville in the 1850s. There is a certain romance to it, evoking the wonderment of what life was like in a boom town in those years; it's fun to ponder about the trials and tribulations they faced then, that we take for granted nowadays.

Figure 6 shows a "Lockport / NY" CDS on a Valentine Cover to Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Mailing was the only way to personally communicate with others, as the



Figure 5.

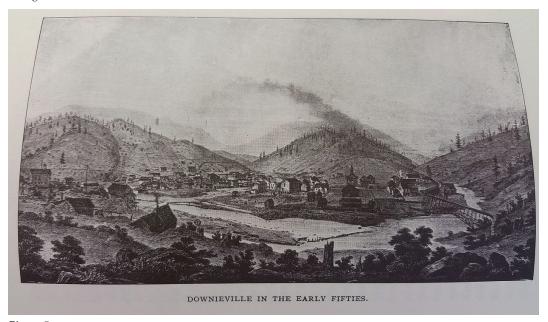


Figure 5a.

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Figure 6.

telegraph was in its infancy and less personal, since it was read and translated by a clerk. The cover was posted Feb. 13 and was elaborately embossed overall.

Figure 7 is a Blue Shield "Wells, Fargo & Co. / Express / San Francisco" cancel

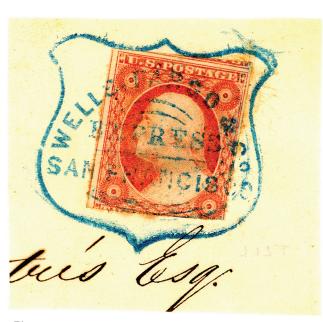


Figure 7.

on piece. San Francisco was the westernmost city on the route and, as an ocean port city, saw a lot of letter traffic, especially while there was "...gold in them thar hills," according to Matthew Fleming Stephenson. The thought of stagecoach mail stirs the imagination of times long passed; a time when mail was moved by horse, boats and ships and, soon, trains.

Figure 8 features an Odd Fellows fraternal organization fancy cancel from Canton, Miss. The Odd Fellows, or Oddfellows, traces its origin as a medieval

guild. It started in England and was chartered in the United States in 1819. Canton had more than a dozen different cancellations, many listed in Skinner-Eno³. Most of them are fraternal cancels, including crosses, triangles and a lyre. Dr. James Milgram has written a comprehensive article on these in *The Chronicle*⁴.

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Figure 8.

Figure 9 is another cancel from Canton, Miss. The lyre, or harp, is a very early cancel showing a musical instrument. To the ancient Greeks, the lyre symbolized wisdom and moderation, probably reflecting the ethos of the Odd Fellows. In 1870, the U.S. Census Bureau reported 1,963 in Canton. It is astounding that a landlocked town with so few people had such a variety of cancels.

Figure 10 features a blue running stag in circle cancel of Shelburne Falls, Mass. Animal cancels are quite uncommon on the 1851 issue, and are mostly found on the 1861 stamps.

The requirement to obliterate federally issued postage stamps was only four years old in 1851. The imagination and creativity of the individual local postmasters was just starting to show itself, as bits of Americana art that are still with us today, some 170 years later.



1. Alexander, Thomas J., Sonora, Calif., "Straight Line," *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, Volume: 32 No: 1 Chronicle: 105, February 1980, pp. 26-29.





Figure 10.

- 2. Siegel Auction Galleries, *The Stanley M. Piller Collection of United States 1851-57 Three-Cent Issues*, Sale No. 748, page 48, Lot No. 197.
- 3. Skinner, Hubert C. and Eno, Amos, *United States Cancellations 1845-1869*, American Philatelic Society, State College, Pa., 1980.
- 4. Milgram, James W., M.D., "Fancy Postmarks of Canton, Mississippi on 1851-57 Stamps and Unusual Canton Markings Used During the Civil War," *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, Volume: 67, No. 4 Chronicle: 248, November 2015, pp. 320-336.

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Small Perforation Holes Found on Stickney Rotary Press Wet-Printed Coil Stamps

by Julian J. Goldberg

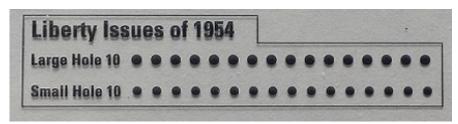


Figure 1. Hole size template on Sonic Precision Imagery Labs, Precision U.S. Specialty Multi Gauge.

An interesting variety found on U.S. coil stamps is the small perforation hole variety first discovered on some of the U.S. Liberty series issue (1954-68) Huck-Cottrell dry-printed coil stamps. The explanation given for these small perforation holes of around a 0.037-inch diameter width was the introduction of the new Huck coil perforator in 1958 for perforating Huck-Cottrell dry-printed coil stamps at the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP).



Figure 2. Stickney bar coil perforator at the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D.C.

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U.S. Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps were perforated by Stickney coil bar perforators so that most U.S. Stickney wet-printed coil stamps have large perforation holes of around 0.042-0.043-inch diameter widths. Some Huck-Cottrell dry-printed coil stamps have been found with large holes made by the Stickney coil perforator from before and around the time that the Huck coil perforator was being fully put into operational use at the BEP. Both small and large size perforation holes gauge around 10 (9.85) perforations per two centimeters.



Figure 3. U.S. Scott No. 1055: wet printed, with large perforation holes.

The small Stickney rotary press with U.S. patent No. 1,115,127 (1914) was used to wet-print U.S. Stickney coil stamps from 1914-62. The printing plate configuration used for Stickney rotary press wet-printed Liberty series coil stamps was two joined printing plates of 170 (17 by 10) stamp subjects for horizontal (sidewise) coils with vertical perforations. These wet-printed coil stamps have large perforation holes from the old Stickney perforator. These coil stamps include U.S. Scott Nos. 1054, 1055, 1057 and 1058b. The Stickney plate configuration of two printing plates of 150 (10 by 15) stamp subjects for vertical (endwise) coils with horizontal perforations was not used for the Liberty series.



Figure 4. U.S. Scott No. 1057 variety, wet printed with small perforation holes.

Some Liberty series Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps made from two printing plates of 170 (17 by 10) stamp subjects and made into horizontal (sidewise) coils with vertical perforations have been found with small perforation holes instead of large ones. These coil stamps are U.S. Scott Nos. 1055 and 1057. This coil stamp variety is now believed to have been perforated by the old Stickney coil perforator instead of by the new Huck coil perforator. This is due to the fact that some earlier U.S. Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps from

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other U.S. stamp issues before the Liberty Issue have also been found with small perforation holes instead of large. More about these other Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps with small perforation holes will be covered further a bit later in this article.



Figure 5. U.S. Scott No. 1055a, dry printed with large perforations.

The earlier printing plate configuration used for Huck-Cottrell rotary press

dry-printed Liberty series coil stamps was two printing plates of 384 (24 by 16) subjects for horizontal (sidewise) coils with vertical perforations. These dry-printed coil stamps have large perforation holes from the old Stickney coil perforator. The stamp sheets [2 by (24 by 8)] had to be separated in half along their middle into two parts before being perforated, since the Stickney coil perforator could only perforate no more than 10 stamp subjects across on any one side. These coil stamps are U.S. Scott Nos. 1054b, 1055a, 1056, 1057a and 1058.

The earlier printing plate configuration used for Huck-Cottrell rotary press dryprinted Liberty series coil stamps was two printing plates of 384 (16 by 24) stamp subjects for vertical (endwise) coils with horizontal perforations. These dry-printed coil stamps have large perforation holes from the old Stickney coil perforator. The stamp sheets [2 by (8 by 24)] also had to be separated in half along their centers before being perforated since, again, the Stickney coil perforator could perforate no more than 10 stamp subjects



Figure 6. U.S. Scott No. 1059 variety, dry printed with large perforation holes.

across on any one side. These coil stamps are U.S. Scott Nos. 1054A and 1059.

The later printing plate configuration used for Huck-Cottrell rotary press dry-printed Liberty series coil stamps was two printing plates of 432 (24 by 18) stamp subjects for horizontal (sidewise) coils with vertical perforations. These dry-printed coil stamps have small perforation holes from the new Huck coil

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Figure 7. U.S. Scott No. 1055b, dry printed with small perforations.

perforator. These stamps are U.S. Scott Nos. 1054b, 1055b, 1056, 1057a, 1057c, 1057d, 1058, 1059A, 1059Ab and 1059Ab.

The later printing plate configuration used for Huck-Cottrell rotary press dry-printed Liberty series coil stamps was two printing plates of 432 (18 by 24) stamp subjects for vertical (endwise) coils with horizontal perforations. These dry printed coil stamps have small perforation holes from the new Huck coil perforator. These coil stamps are U.S. Scott Nos. 1054A and 1059.

However, as previously mentioned, some earlier (pre-Liberty series) Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps have been found with small perforation holes of around 0.038-0.039-inch diameter widths. Stickney coil stamps from the Washington-Franklin Issue (1908-22) include U.S. Scott Nos. 490a, 492a, 495a and 496a varieties with small perforation holes from 1919, while U.S. Scott No. 490, 492, 495 and 496 all have large perforation holes. The printing plate configuration used for these rotary press wet-printed Washington-Franklin



Figure 8. U.S. Scott No. 1059 variety, dry printed with small perforation holes.

series coil stamps was two printing plates of 170 (17 by 10) stamp subjects for horizontal (sidewise) coils with vertical perforations. These small perforation holes of around 0.038-0.039-inch diameter widths were made by a Stickney coil perforator, which usually made large perforation holes with around 0.042-0.043-inch diameter widths. Some holes were extra large, with around 0.046-0.0465-inch diameter widths for some early Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps, such as U.S. Scott Nos. 449 and 450 from 1915.

Some Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps from the Presidential series (1938-39), such as U.S. Scott Nos. 839-847 from 1939, have also been found with small perforation holes, while most of these coil stamps have large

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Figure 9. U.S. Scott No. 496a, wet printed with small perforation holes.

ones. The printing plate configuration used for these rotary press wet-printed Presidential series coil stamps was two printing plates of 170 (17 by 10) stamp subjects for horizontal (sidewise) coils with vertical perforations. Some Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps from the Presidential series, such as U.S. Scott Nos. 848-851 from 1939, have also been found with small perforations, while most have large holes. The printing plate configuration used for these coil stamps was two printing plates of 150 (10 by 15) stamp subjects for vertical (endwise) coils with horizontal perforations. These small perforation holes of around 0.038-0.039-inch diameter widths were made by a Stickney coil perforator, which usually made large perforation holes with around 0.042-0.043-inch diameter widths. Some holes were extra large, with around 0.046-0.0465-inch diameter widths for some early Stickney rotary press wet printed coil stamps, such as U.S. Scott Nos. 449 and 450 from 1915.



Figure 10. U.S. Scott No. 842 variety, wet printed with small perforation holes.

The BEP contracted out its Stickney rotary presses, Stickney perforators and Stickney coilers to other countries, such as Belgium, Canada, Cuba, Czechoslovakia and Sweden. Sweden had perforation 10 (9.85) gauge Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps with small perforation holes from mid-1920 to late 1937. The printing plate configuration used for these rotary press wet-printed Sweden coil stamps was two printing plates of 170 (17 by 10) stamp subjects for horizontal (sidewise) coils with vertical perforations. Sweden Stickney rotary press coils with perf 10 vertically are Sweden Scott Nos. 115-125, 139-141, 145-165, 167-189A, 194-196, 232-235, 237, 242-247 and 251-263.

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These coil stamps are all Stickney rotary press wet-printed coil stamps with small perforation holes from Stickney coil perforators. The next Sweden coil stamps were issued in 1938, but they were neither Stickney press-printed nor Stickney perforated. (Czechoslovakia also had perforation 10 (9.85) gauge vertically Stickney rotary press wet printed coil stamps from 1926-31. They are Czechoslovakia Scott Nos. 123-125, 141, 158 and 171.)

There may be the possibility that the BEP Stickney bar coil perforator that was first used by Sweden in early 1920 to perforate small perforation holes may



Figure 11. Sweden Scott No. 117, wet printed, with small perforation holes.



Figure 12. Sweden Scott No. 140, wet printed with small perforation holes.



Figure 13. Sweden Scott No. 165, wet printed with small perforation holes.

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have first been tried and/or tested before in early 1919 by the BEP on some Stickney rotary press U.S. Scott Nos. 490, 492, 495 and 496 coil stamps, resulting in the small-hole Scott Nos. 490a, 492a, 495a and 496a varieties from 1919. Also, the same Stickney coil perforator that created small perforation holes may have also been used on some Stickney rotary press U.S. Scott Nos. 839-851 coil stamps from 1939. This may have been possible after the same type of perforator may have been returned to the BEP from Sweden sometime in 1938, when Stickney coil printing and perforating in Sweden was being replaced by Goebel coil printing and perforating.



Figure 14. Stickney bar coil perforator at the Swedish Post Office Stamp Printing Works, Kista.



Figure 15. Sweden Scott No. 116, wet printed with small perforation holes.



Figure 16. Sweden Scott No. 154, wet printed, with small perforation holes.



Figure 17. Sweden Scott No. 187, wet printed with small perforation holes.

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Figure 18. U.S. Scott No. 1054 and 1054b, with Sweden Scott No. 116.



Figure 19. U.S. Scott No. 1057 and 1057a, with Sweden Scott No. 170.

This may possibly help to explain how and why small perforation holes have been found on some Stickney rotary press wet-printed U.S. coil stamps.

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Perforation hole size diameter width measurements are from Clark Frazier (cfrphoto), as posted on Stamp Community Forum (SCF, www.stampcommunity.org)

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In Celebration of our 125th Anniversary: A History of our Clubhouse Home

K. David Steidley, Ph.D.

Chair, Archival and Historical Committee

The summer of 1896 in New York City was the hottest in history, and the number of heatstroke deaths was alarming Police Commissioner Theodore Roosevelt. It certainly wasn't improving the mood of 51-year-old John W. Scott, America's premier stamp dealer, as he scurried about town to organize a private men's club for philatelists.

Nevertheless, by Oct. 5, he was done, and the "Collectors Club" had its first meeting in the newly rented house at 351 4th Ave.

Scott had persuaded 100 members to buy a \$25 share in this new corporation. Sixty-six had New York metropolitan addresses, while 33 more were scattered throughout the United States (Figure 1). There was one international member in Shanghai, China. Today, we have 143 international members from 37 countries.



Figure 1. Locations of the 100 charter Collectors Club members.

Scott and his cadre had recruited the cream of American philately for the Club. Many of these dealers and collectors are well known 125 years later: John Luff, Ernest Ackerman, Henry Crooker, Hiram Deats, Charles Mekeel, George Worthington, J.M. Bartels and many others (Figure 2, Ref.1).

Our present-day clubhouse serves as a stable site for the Club activities (and more recently, the Philatelic Foundation) and is one of Manhattan's historic architectural sites. The lore of this building honors not only our history but also its contributions to the overall civic texture.

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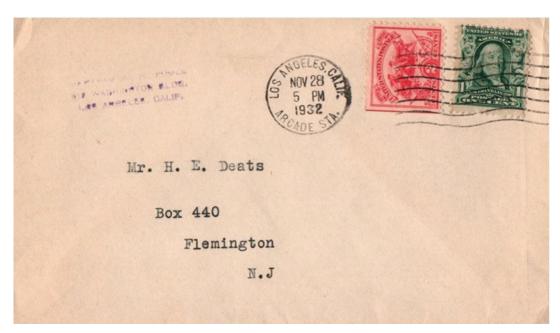


Figure 2. From dealer B.W.H. Poole to Hiram Deats, our first librarian. He served as a member of the grand jury that indicted B. Hauptmann in 1934 for the kidnap murder of baby Lindbergh.

Our iconic clubhouse, a recognized Landmark building, is at 22 E. 35th St., in Manhattan's historic Murray Hill neighborhood, with a population of about 50,000, is about a block away from the Empire State Building (Ref. 2). This residential oasis in Midtown Manhattan was once home to Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt (they worshiped directly across the street) and J. Pierpont Morgan (one block away, who visited the residence routinely, both when it was a home and an art gallery). The area has magnificent structures, such as the Morgan Library (I recommend its lunch for a splurge, just one block away), the Union League Club (a four-minute walk), the Polish Consulate (three minutes) and Stiffen Court at 156 East 36th Street, with 10 well-preserved carriage houses, built in 1863. The next-door brownstone is worth your attention, as it was nicely modified in 1896 by Louis C. Tiffany, who added art glass panels in the door and some fancy wrought iron.

Please come visit us soon and tour the neighborhood as well as the Club. Locals believe that they live in the *de facto* capital of the world but are harmless.

The Murray Hill neighborhood name derives its name from the Murray family, Robert and Mary, 18th-century Quaker merchants, mainly concerned with shipping and overseas trade. Robert Murray (1721-86) came to New York City in 1753 and quickly established himself as a merchant and eventually owned more shipping tonnage



Figure 3. Plaque on E. 35th St. near Park Ave.

than any other New Yorker. His great country estate house, popularly termed Murray Hill, was built on a since-leveled hill on Park Avenue and E. 36th Street, about one block from the Club (Figure 3). The total area was just over 29 acres.

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Say this sentence aloud: "New York City was occupied by foreign troops for seven years," and listen to how incredulous it sounds. That occupation was from 1776-83. Evacuation Day, on Nov. 25, a former big New York City holiday, marks the day in 1783 when British troops departed from the city. As time marched on, the grandchildren of the Murray clan slowly sold off land for cash. Nothing says rich like "Grandfather owned a small farm in mid-town Manhattan."

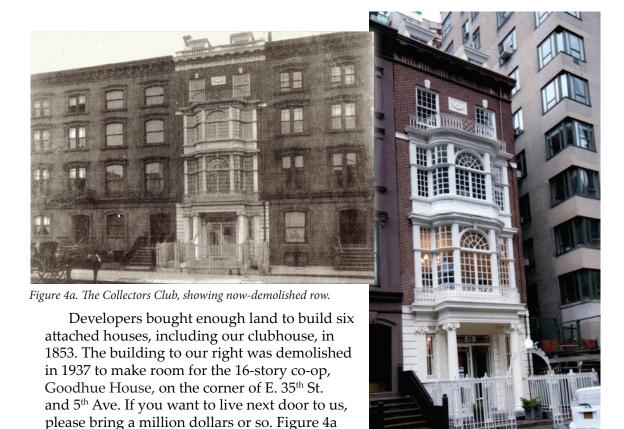


Figure 4b. A modern view of the building.

I will return to the story of our 1937 purchase on East 35th Street, but the Club did *rent* space for its meetings and library for 41 years prior. Figure 5 shows all seven previous locations, with an average stay time of about six years in each. The recitation of the Clubhouse movements about the city reflects the ebb and flow of fashion and money.



Keep up to date with what's happening in your club:

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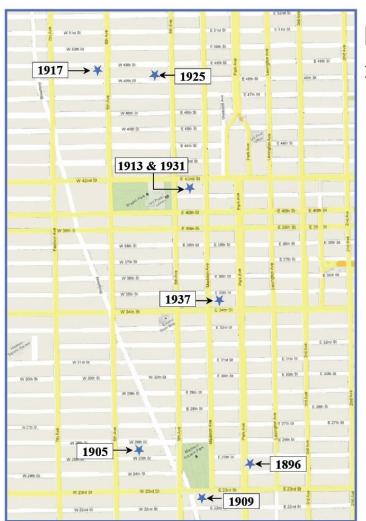
shows the vanished row house, with the current view in Figure 4b. The consequences of this

removal would not be evident until about 60

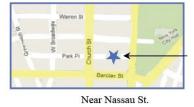
years later, as you will see.

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Eight Moves 1896 - 1937



<u>Date</u>	LOCATION	<u>Notes</u>	
1896	351 4th Ave.	Now Park Ave., South near 25th St.	
1905	24 W. 26th St.		
1909	14 E. 23 rd . St.	Next door to Scott's	
1911	14 Park Place	Kalil Restaurant Bldg., near Nassau St.	
1913	30 E. 42 nd St.	Old Union Carbide & Carbon Corp. Bldg.	
1917	120 W. 49 th St.	Above Zucca's Restaurant	
1925	51 W. 48th St.	Demolished for Radio City	
1931	30 E. 42 nd St.	3 rd floor of Union Carbide Bldg.	
1937	22 E. 35 th St.	Built 1853, redone 1901 -1902	

Figure 5. Clubhouse locations over the years.

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Figures 6 and 7. Photographs of Clubhouse rooms from MeKeel's Weekly Stamp News, Nov. 11, 1897.



Figure 6. The first Clubhouse rental, in 1896, at 351 4th Ave. Assembly room (top left), National Philatelical Society Room (above) and Philatelic Society Room (left).

In September 1896, the Club secured a lease of an entire building at **351** 4th **Avenue** (a mile away from the present Club). It has long since been demolished. Here, in Figures 6 and 7, are photos of our rooms from a special Collectors Club 1897 issue of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*. We know that the billiards room was more popular than the library. The sale of cigars and whiskey was brisk. Remember that this was a 19th-century men's social club, organized not along ethnic, religious or occupational grounds but with the common bond of stamp collecting. Postal artifacts are scarce from this era (Figure 8, Ref. 3).

An overnight room was available to you for \$1 and, by 1904, two members were in permanent residence. The yearly lease was \$1,300 in 1905, but the owner wanted \$1,500 for the next. By July 1905, our boys had promptly duffed their straw bowlers and moved to a new rental on the second floor of **24 West 26**th **Street**. It had three large rooms and a tonier appearance with a rent of only \$840 per year. There were slightly more than 100 members. Across the street, at No. 21 and 23, John Jacob Astor and William W. Astor managed their massive real estate holdings (Ref. 4). The original site at No. 24 is now occupied by a "new" apartment building erected in 1910.

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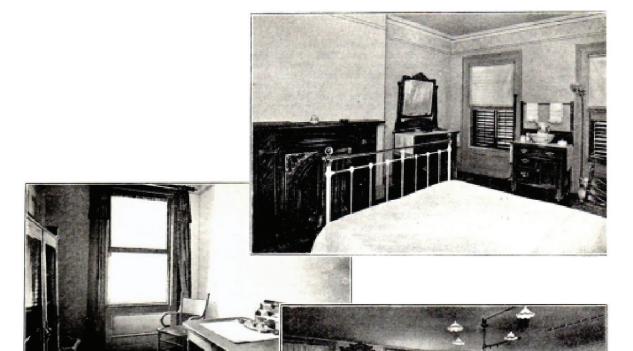


Figure 7. Bedroom (top right), library (above) and billiard room (right).



Figure 8. 1900 letter to English dealer and member.

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Figure 9. 14 E. 23rd St. in modern times from Google street view.

Exactly when or why is unknown, but by June 1909, the Club had relocated to 14 East 23rd Street. The years 1906-10 are the Dark Ages for the Club. This building was next door to Scott's Stamp & Coin Co., at No.18, an identical row house to No.14. While Scott's No. 18 is now gone, amazingly, our No. 14 is still standing and now has a ground floor bar and restaurant with apartments on the upper three floors (Figure 9). The Club culture changed dramatically once Alfred F. Lichtenstein, Charles Lathrop Pack and others joined the Club in 1911.

In February 1911, we moved to the Kalil Building at 14 Park Place (Figure 10), about two blocks from Nassau Street of stamp dealer fame, but far from our previous three sites around Madison Square Park. There was a large restaurant, Kalil's Park Place Restaurant and Rathskeller, on the ground floor (Figure 11). This venue, now demolished, was around the corner from the neo-Gothic Woolworth Building, the

tallest building globally from 1913-30. There we had a large dining room, four pool tables and ample space for a library. The Club was now thriving and had 50 members for its annual dinner. These members were instrumental in organizing the first International Exhibition in New York City in 1913.



Figure 10. Kakil's Building and Park Place restaurant postcard.

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Figure 12. 30 E. 42 St., Union Carbide & Carbon Building.

In December 1913, the Club moved to a newly constructed office building at 30 East 42nd Street. Built in 1913, the 23-story Union Carbide & Carbon building was on the southwest corner of Madison Avenue and 42nd Street (Figure 12), adjacent to the newly opened Grand Central Station. It housed various tenants until its demolition in 2001. I have a postal artifact (Figure 13) from this location, addressed to John Nicolas Luff (1860-1938), a charter member who knew all 11 Club sites. His 240-volume reference collection. formed at the start of the 20th century, is still used by the Philatelic Foundation. Membership would be back to 106 by 1915, but office space does not yield a very club-like atmosphere, and the officers of 1917 thought that the decline in membership to 89 could be traced in some part to that. Incidentally, the list of officers then is now a who's who of philately: Theodore Steinway, president; Alfred F. Liechtenstein, v.p.; Herman "Toasty" Toaspern, secretary; and J.W. Scott, treasurer.

Consequently, they arranged a five-year lease at \$1,020 per year for six rooms on the 1st floor at **120 W. 49th St.**, now long gone (Figure 14). In 1917, life was good, living near the restaurant, Zucca's Italian Garden. In an odd twist years

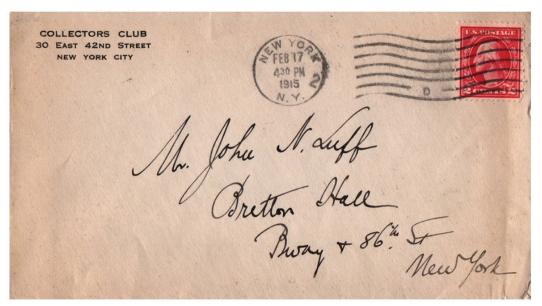


Figure 13. 1915 letter to John Luff with Collectors Club corner.

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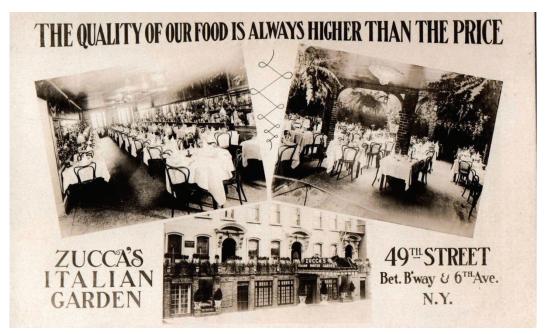
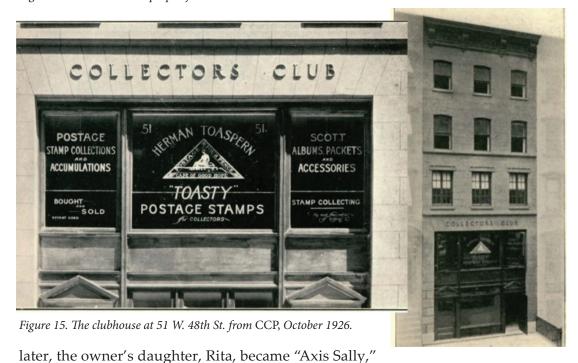


Figure 14. 120 W. 49th St. property at Zucca's Restaurant.

editorship (Ref 5).



broadcasting Fascist propaganda during WWII in Italy. During the next few years, the Club's growth was sensational as membership rose to 465 by 1925, the building fund stood at \$15,000 and the philatelic library was said to be the largest in the world. In 1922, the first woman collector joined and the *Collectors Club Philatelist* first issues rolled off the presses under Harry Lindquist's

The increased need for additional space led President Lichtenstein to move us to **51 W. 48**th **St.** in May 1926 (Figure 15, Ref. 6-9). A complex plan of \$60,000

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interest-free debentures was arranged by Lichtenstein and, perhaps, principally bought by him. The Board of Governors needed to raise dues to provide monies for the move and renovations to the house. As a compromise among Governors, it raised dues only on resident members. This differential payment scheme is still retained. The Club used two floors and rented the remaining three floors



Figure 16. H. Toaspern to Elliot Perry, Oct. 29, 1926.

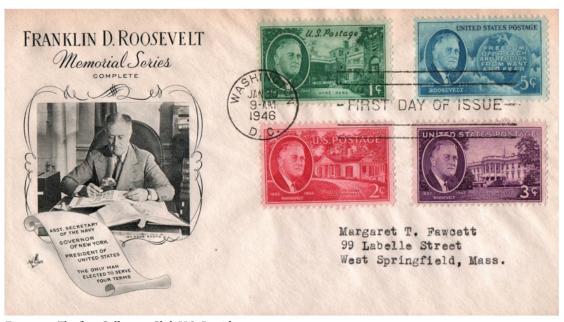


Figure 17. The first Collectors Club U.S. President.

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to four major stamp dealers for a total of \$5,800 per year: H. Toaspern; March H. Hancock, owner of the Matauco Stamp Co.; George B. Sloan; and J.C. Morgenthau. Members were happy with their 1926 location as they organized a highly successful International Philatelic Exhibition for Oct 16-23, 1926 (Figure 16). Franklin D. Roosevelt, at age 43, joined in 1926 (Figure 17). The Club owned the building, but leased the land. Unfortunately for us, Columbia University sold all the land in the area for the Rockefeller Center complex. For the project, 228 buildings on the site were razed. We received \$33,895 for our property, most of it suspected as a donation by Lichtenstein when we purchased the building.



Figure 18. A 1932 letter to one of our few female members at the time.

In March 1931, the Club fled back to its previous locale, **30 East 42**nd **Street**, the Carbine & Carbon building. We sub-leased 2,000 square feet of the 3rd floor from National Cash Register Co. for three years, starting May 1, 1931 (Figure 18). Membership now stood at 759, but would fall to 734 by 1936.

The Great Depression presented an excellent opportunity for buyers. Still wanting a permanent home, the Club purchased the former residence of a major New York City art dealer, Thomas B. Clarke, for \$36,600 in 1937 (Ref.10). This fine old five-story structure (build date about 1855), at **22 East 35**th **St.**, had been glamorized and modernized in 1901-02 by the famed architect Stanford White of McKim, Mead & White, the dominant architectural firm of this era. He and Clarke were personal friends. He added another floor, the rear was extended and a new front was constructed. His new bay windows are considered a masterpiece. The interior was completely redone, with classical columns added to make a stunning portico. The outside wrought iron was painted white, and only decades later, painted black. It had a value of \$65,000 after the renovations.

Unfortunately, in 1906, White was shot and killed at a dinner party by the husband, Harry Thaw, of Stanford's mistress, Evelyn Nesbit (The Girl in the Red Velvet Swing), an actress and showgirl (Figure 19).

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Figure 19. 1908 postcard from New Mexico Territory, featuring Evelyn Nesbit Thaw. Why would this not have been unmailable as lewd under PL&R, Section 5737?

After \$24,000 improvements by the architect-turned-stamp-dealer Clarence W. Brazer in late 1937, we moved in and had our first formal meeting in October 1937. A significant change by Brazer was the addition of steel girders to support the library floor. By the end of 1938, we had 1,011 members.

In the ensuing decades, Club members led and staffed four more international exhibits in Manhattan: Tipex in 1936, Cipex in 1947, Fipex in 1956 and World Stamp Show-NY2016.

Under President Thomas Mazza, the house was structurally rehabilitated with stabilizing rods to stop the bowing of the west wall caused by removing the neighboring row house in 1937, plus the weight of the library and catalog collection on high floors. Additionally, steel beams were added to support the weight of the library, which was moved one floor down. Many other necessary modernizations were made in 1999-2000, but air conditioning installation was the most obvious for most members (Ref.11-14]. The celebration of the renovations was on Dec. 13, 2000, where the Aristocrats of United States Philately were displayed. The *Collectors Club Philatelist* of March-April 2001 shows this stunning display in color, and I highly recommend a viewing online. Membership stood at 868 at the end of 2000.

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In 2016, under President Bruce Marsden, the house was again given a facelift inside and out in preparation for visits by many of our distant members in conjunction with World Stamp Show-NY2016 on May 28-June 4, 2016. Painting, recarpeting and refurnishing were done to all of the public interior spaces of the clubhouse. The President's Medal was later given to Carol Bommarito and Eddie Bridges to recognize their yeomen's efforts in this regard. There were also necessary exterior renovations to the façade and the black wrought iron was repainted white, as it was in 1902. The black color caused some minor consternation with local architectural aficionados, but after I showed them old photos, they were pleased. More importantly, once again, steel beams were added for more structural support.

Today, the Clubhouse stands strong and has never looked better. The Club itself is busy with a variety of services to its members who are determined to guide philately into the next golden age.

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Passenger Mail on *Graf Zeppelin*'s 1933 Chicago Flight

by Cheryl R. Ganz

I am always amazed by how much story one postcard can tell. In this case, it is not the picture side, featuring a photograph of the German airship LZ-127 *Graf Zeppelin* flying over Friedrichshafen, Germany, that fascinates. Rather, it is the message side, where the postmark, sender and message all combine to capture the magical moment mid-South Atlantic Ocean when a passenger aboard the zeppelin wrote and sent this souvenir to his friend.

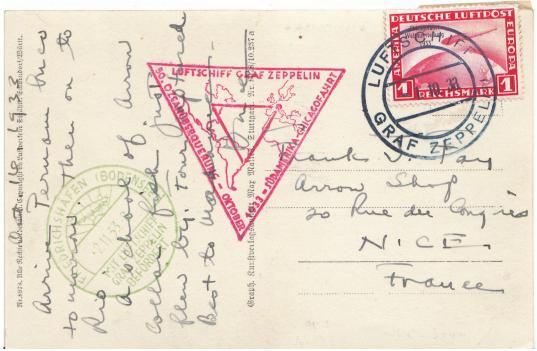


Figure 1. Passenger mail sent by Bruce Bundy during *Graf Zeppelin's* 1933 Chicago flight. This card flew the entire flight and received an onboard postmark with a date error.

Bruce and Anne Bundy lived in Pasadena, Calif., and Nice, France. They enjoyed the socialite life of the Mediterranean's wealthy expatriates. Raised in New York, Bruce Bundy had attended Dartmouth College, served in the AEF in France, written popular songs, played the organ and won golf tournaments in the Riviera and California. He had briefly presided over a Mexican American trading business. Bruce and Anne married in Shanghai in 1931 and lived well thanks to his family's fame and fortune. His father, Harlow E. Bundy, and his uncle, Willard Legrand Bundy, manufactured patented, industrial time clocks, known as "Bundys." Even the Post Office Department used their "workman's time recorder." After a series of mergers, the company became part of International Business Machines and the Simplex Time Recorder Company. Bruce and Anne liked to party and, unfortunately, he drove while intoxicated and injured a motorcyclist in Nice. At one time, he concocted a scheme for wealthy American

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residents of the Riviera to establish a villa colony on a Mediterranean island as a refuge from the dollar's depreciation. He died in 1939 at age forty in Honolulu.

The Bundys traveled internationally, and a flight aboard *Graf Zeppelin* to Rio de Janeiro via Pernambuco, Brazil, would be a great adventure. They boarded the airship on the evening of October 14th in Friedrichshafen on the shores of Lake Constance. This final overseas trip of the 1933 season would extend from South America to North America for a visit to the Chicago World's Fair, known as "A Century of Progress." This, Graf Zeppelin's 347th flight, was also the first leg of *Graf* Zeppelin's triangular route. It had forty-six crewmembers, twenty-three passengers and two American naval officer observers. Celebrity passengers included French balloonist Charles Dollfus, pilot Colonel Master of Sempil from Scotland and radio broadcaster Max Jordon of the National



Figure 2. Bruce Bundy as a student at Dartmouth College. Courtesy The Bundy Museum of History & Art, Binghamton, New York.

Broadcasting Company (NBC). Passengers represented eight nationalities, and five of them would make the entire, twenty-day roundtrip via Brazil and the United States.

Many passengers wrote cards and letters while over the South Atlantic. Dr. Ludwig Fraenkel, a renowned Jewish gynecologist and professor from Breslau, Germany, made this zeppelin trip with his wife, Lili, two years before their escape from National Socialism to Brazil. Writing to their son, they remarked that the only image at sea was the zeppelin's shadow that accompanied them "looking like a big dark fish." Danish passenger N. Pedersen wrote his son, "We passed the Cap Verde Islands this morning at 8 o'clock and are now far out over the Atlantic Ocean. The weather is good, and the Sea is quite pale blue. Here are flying fish and dolphins as usual but we have seen nothing of sea monsters."

Bruce Bundy purchased postcards and special Chicago flight overprinted stamps from the steward. On the third day of the flight, he wrote a card to his friend Frank Fay in Nice. Apparently, Fay owned the Arrow shirt shop. Bundy wrote, "A school of Arrow Collar fish just flew by. Four captured." This must have been an inside joke because flying fish could soar only forty to fifty feet above the water, and *Graf Zeppelin* did not fly that low. Since there does not appear to be a flying fish named "Arrow Collar," this tease most likely refers to the famous white shirts with detachable collars worn by fashionable, iconic "Arrow Collar Men" models in 1920s and early 30s advertisements. Bundy undoubtedly imagined himself as one of these handsome, sophisticated men.

Now comes the story's philatelic highlights. After writing the card, Bundy placed it in the mailbox on the ledge by the lounge's observation windows. The

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postal officer, most likely helmsman Kurt Schönherr, emptied the mailbox to apply the daily onboard postmark. When he noticed Bundy's card addressed to France, he did not apply the cancel. Instead of offloading the card in Brazil so that it could return by ship to Europe, he put the card aside to be canceled on the return flight, after the United States visit. He believed that would provide a faster delivery. His decision meant that the onboard passenger card flew the entire roundtrip from Friedrichshafen to Friedrichshafen, making it a very rare posting. In addition, another unexpected bonus made Bundy's card even more special: After *Graf Zeppelin* made its landings in Brazil and the United States, Schönherr planned to cancel the stamp after the airship departed Seville, Spain, on its final flight leg. On November 1, the flight's last full day, he rotated the date on the handstamp from 31 to 1, but he failed to change the month! He therefore canceled the card with an error date of October 1. This onboard roundtrip card flew on all nine legs of the Chicago triangle flight route for 1 Reich Mark postage, which only covered the lower rate of 75 pfennig for a zeppelin card posted in Europe.



Figure 3. Chief Steward Heinrich Kubis sold postcards aboard *Graf Zeppelin*. Note the mailbox with the post horn decoration sat on the ledge of the observation window for passengers and crewmembers to deposit cards and letters. Courtesy Archiv der Luftshiffbau Zeppelin GmbH, Friedrichshafen, Germany.

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Special thanks to Thomas Bezek, Birthe King, and M.T. Sheahan.

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Graue, Jim. "Graf Zeppelin Chicago Flight: The Second 'Triangle' Flight," *The German Postal Specialist* (October 2008): 405-415.

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Canada #26i O.G. **Realized \$7,956**



Newfoundland #52 Mint NH **Realized \$1,228**



Louis Riel Essay Realized \$7,254



Fancy Leaf Cancel Lacelle #1199 Realized \$643

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Collectors Club Philatelist

Volume 100, Number 5

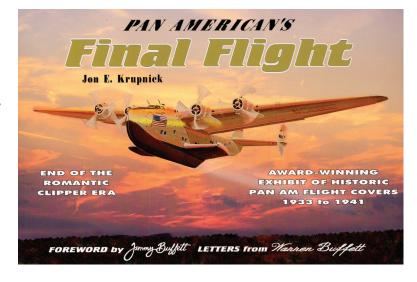
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Book Reviews

Pan American's Final Flight, by Jon E. Krupnick, 120 pages, plus XIV-page introduction, two covers, spiralbound, printed and distributed by Minuteman Press, Toledo, Ohio. ISBN 978-1-7369489-0-3 (11- by 17-inch format) US\$120, ISBN 978-1-7369489-1-0 (7¼- by 11-inch format) US\$75.

The arrival of a new book is always a highly anticipated event. The package arrives.

Before unboxing and unwrapping, there is that singular moment of anticipation: What new worlds or vistas are we about to discover? Will the reality approach, meet or exceed expectations? Does time fly by in eager perusal, where meals are forgotten, or is the volume soon laid aside?



All these thoughts were going through

my mind upon the arrival of a larger-than-expected package from Minuteman Press. What philatelic work would be produced in an "Art Book" or coffee-table-sized format? Add in the lie-flat spiral binding, and I was intrigued.

Jon Krupnick's latest published work (supplied gratis from the author) is a welcome addition to your aerophilatelic library. On initial examination, it is akin to an onion: several sequential layers overlaying each other. That is both the strength and drawback of the present volume.

Upon comparison, both volumes (11-by 17-inch and 7½- by 11-inch) are identical except for size. Before discussing the actual books, some background would be useful. Jon E. Krupnick is an experienced trial attorney who fully appreciates how to build a case (write a book) by use of linear logic (story), combined a with progressive chain of evidence (research).

If taken alone, the actual-sized reproduction (larger format volume) of Jon's exhibit is well worth the purchase! Addition of the Whipple S. Hall Flight cover section, illustrating the various Pan Am-related cachets and markings, only adds to the usefulness of the overall work. The concluding bibliography and index take this work to a level where it is both pleasurable to peruse and useful as a study tool/reference.

This work did not arise de novo. It was preceded by several complimentary works (*Pan American's Pacific Pioneers* [1997]; *Pan Am's Pacific Pioneers - The Rest of the Story* [2000], also including Jimmy Buffett's introduction); and his *Clippers Over the Pacific* exhibit, along with several shorter articles.

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The heart this current volume is the exact reproduction (11- by 17-inch pages) of Krupnick's more recent *Pan Am Clippers Conquer the Pacific: August 1933 to December 31, 1941,* 80 double-sized page (10 frame) exhibit. For those who have not had an opportunity to visit the exhibit "in person," the book is a well-reproduced version that is a pleasure to study. The large size can be a bit unwieldy to manage unless it is lying flat on a sturdy surface. The smaller-sized version (by roughly 50%) is physically easier to manage, though some of the finer detail and text can be a bit challenging.

As to content, this overall work stratifies into several distinct sections. As noted, the exhibit, references, index and supporting research sections stand on their own. The introduction (pp. I-XV), while interesting in and of itself, seems to veer into the realms of personal musing and trophy wall. Yes, this is Jon personally speaking to the reader. The very much hyped Jimmy Buffet introduction originally appeared in an earlier work. Warren Buffet's cameo "American Philatelic Society Omaha Stamp Show" appearance, and the retelling of an early investment misstep are akin to ships passing in the night. The dual nature of Jon Krupnick's work is readily apparent with pp. 81-83.

The most useful sections of this ground-breaking work are the actual exhibit scans, synopsis, added maps and "Whipple Hall's Unique Flight Covers." These sections, along with a very useful index and bibliography, help us to better appreciate Jon's love and appreciation for these formative events. The scholarly approach and research involved show how well the story comes across. If the work was limited to just these sections, it would be considered the standard reference for the subject.

An example of hyperbolic overreach is inclusion of a Judges' *Uniform Exhibit Evaluation Form,* reproduced in its entirety (pp. 82-83). Paraphrasing of key sections of the document, along with the exhibitor's follow-up actions, would have made the point concisely.

Overall, if the overriding intent of this work is to share the exhibit and related knowledge, a digital format where one can expand items for closer study would succeed. The dual-sized production format both rewards and challenges the reader in different ways at the same time.

Personal reminiscences have their place, yet can also – by their unfocused nature – draw well-deserved attention away from the heart of the matter. In the end, is this work a personal remembrance, or a more focused studious work? Balancing both aspects requires a deft touch

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and sensitive editing. It is my hope that future works to come out of Jon E. Krupnick's extensive studies consider these thoughts.

Pan American's Final Flight, by Jon E. Krupnick, is an essential reference and study resource for the Pacific Clipper era. Added personal and anecdotal material may be considered a bonus by some, yet briefly skimmed by others, along with a choice of size formats. Separate the personal musings from the aerophilatelic research to get the most out of this monumental work.

— Mark E. Banchik

The Western Express Companies 1850-1890: Their History, Printed Franks and Handstamps, 3rd edition, by Oscar M. Thomas, 1,122 pages in two volumes, 8½- by 11-inch format, casebound, United Postal Stationery Society, Chester, Va., 2020. ISBN 978-1-7327880-6-0, US\$150 postpaid to U.S. addresses from United Postal Stationery Society, Inc., PO Box 3982, Chester VA 23831 or upsspubs@aol.com.

This work was first published in 2013 and, in 2017, was updated in electronic form. Oscar Thomas was working on an expanded edition when he died in 2016. With the

support of James Blaine, Scott Prior and Ken Stach, Oscar's work was completed, resulting in this third edition. The two-volume book is closely associated with the Western Cover Society. Many of the illustrations are from the society's library and are identified with "WC" numbers.

Volume 1 covers the company names from A-L, and Volume 2 is devoted to M-Z. The entire table of contents appears in both volumes, with the name of the company and the page where it is listed. The purposes of the western express firms were to provide safe and rapid transport of letters, packages, gold dust and specie (money).

The "franks" could be manuscript, hand stamped or printed. They contained the company name, sometimes the town

THE WESTERN
EXPRESS
COMPANIES

1850 – 1890

Their History, Printed Franks and Handstamps

Oscar Melton Thomas

With support from
James Blaine
Scott Prior
Kenneth Stach

3rd Edition, 2020

Published by: The United Postal Stationery Society, Inc.

where they operated and whether the charges were paid or due. There were also auxiliary markings such as "PAID," "NOT PAID," "COLLECT" and "FREE." Each of the markings is assigned a catalog number consisting of a three-letter abbreviation for the firm's name and a three-digit number. The numbers are divided into groups: the 100 series is for hand-stamped and manuscript marks, the 200 series is for auxiliary markings, the 300 series is forwarding agents, the 400 series is for printed or hand-stamped corner cards and so on. The 800 series numbers are for fakes and forgeries.

The companies are listed alphabetically and begin with text that describes where they were located and when they operated. Listed also are the names of the individuals or partners. For example, Bamber & Co.'s Express was established by John Bamber, who

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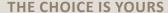
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served as owner or manager from 1858-73. In 1874, it came under the new management of A.D. Whitney, F.H. Smith, B.F. Moore and E.M. Hall, but continued to operate as Bamber & Co.'s Express until it was renamed Whitney & Co.'s Express in 1875. Many of the details came from directories that list the firms.

Many covers are also listed. The detailed descriptors indicate color, envelope type, postmarks, labels, any additional postage applied as stamps and more. The introductory material lists the abbreviations used in these descriptors. The introduction ends with an alphabetical list of the express companies, the geographic area where they operated and the dates of operation. Each of the major company listings ends with a list of reference articles and books for background information.

The illustrations are clear and in color. Despite two volumes, with a total of more than 1,100 pages, the entries are compact and contain an incredible amount of information about the express companies and their covers. For those collecting or seeking information about these firms and their mail, this two-volume handbook is an important resource.

— Alan Warren



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The Collectors Club

Membership Update: June 16 through Aug. 9, 2021. We are pleased to welcome the following new and reinstated (*) members.

Approved by the Board of Governors:

June 29, 2021

Non-Resident

McGrath, Stephen

Coradi, Robert Hanover, Pa.

Gatsu, Nathan Garden Grove, Calif. Laszewski, Dr. Michael Bismark, N.D.

Nessel, Ingo George Brampton, Ontario, Canada

Overseas

Hansen, Max David Freudenstadt, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

Ukiah, Calif.

Peace, Brian Leeds, Yorkshire, United Kingdom

July 28, 2021

Non-Resident

Claussen, Dr. Dane S. Moscow, Idaho
Cumming, George Marlborough, Mass.
Holdner, Gary The Woodlands, Texas
Kennedy, Steve Riviera Beach, Fla.
Madison, Edward Mount Joy, Pa.
Matta, Richard Potomac, Md.
Pollard, Dr. Thomas San Antonio, Texas

Overseas

Pazienza, Dr. Andrea Padua, Italy

Popov, Alex Moscow, Russian Federation

Prabhu, Vedantha V. Shimoga, India

Congratulations to our new members. A membership certificate will be forwarded to the address on file for each. Please do keep us updated as to current address and email so that we can continue to serve you. Electronic outreach is increasingly important as we continue to expand our offerings. Our website (*www.collectorsclub.org*) receives ongoing enhancements based on member feedback. Please contact us at *info@collectorsclub.org* with feedback, comments or questions.

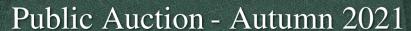
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