

THE STAMP FORUM NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 5

APS Chapter 1591

June- July 2017

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A Visit to
WESTPEX 2017



Switzerland
Postal History

Editor's Message

Welcome to our 5th edition of the newsletter!

Several new members have joined and posted since the last newsletter.

We have a couple of new young(er) ones who regularly post and it would be great if we had a "junior collector" section in our newsletter.

Tell us how you got started, a few pics of your favourites, nothing in depth required. We all started somewhere and you might get someone else interested in the only hobby that teaches you world history, geography, major events, arts, people and places and just about every other field that you can think of.

For the old(er) members, this is your newsletter. We have one more newsletter, (August-September), before we conduct the APS Articles of Distinction competition. We also want to represent in the APS Chapter Newsletter Competition next January, so we need your contributions. You all have special areas of interest so let's share them. BTW, TSF will celebrate its 4th anniversary on July 19th.

We have all waited for summertime (especially us Northern types) but we have over 2 months to contribute, so.....

Nelson Laviolette (Falshung)

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U.S. STAMPS



STATE OF OHIO PREPAID SALES TAX RECEIPTS; 1935—1961

By Steve Tomisek (tomiseksj) *(Click on images for a larger picture)*

Background and History:

The Great Depression caused a crisis in state government finance. In 1933, 11 states adopted sales taxes as a method of state finance, prompting others to follow suit.

By decade's end, over 30 states had implemented sales taxes for at least one year and most of those taxes continued beyond the financial crisis. To prevent collapse of the public school system, Ohio's legislature passed the Ohio Retail Sales Tax Law of 1935, establishing a 3% sales tax, effective on January 1, 1935. There had been taxes on cigarettes and gasoline but the law subjected most items sold in retail stores to taxation.

Two sales tax systems were simultaneously introduced in Ohio in 1935, punch cards and paper receipts. The latter system was used from January 1935 through December 1961 and involved paper sales tax receipts, commonly referred to as "sales tax stamps." Like the punch cards, these provided evidence of prepaid sales tax.

The receipts were designed and procured by the State Tax Commissioner. They were ultimately delivered to county treasurers and various agents for sale to licensed vendors, in advance, at a 2% discount of the face value purchased as compensation for handling and canceling the prepaid tax receipts. The county treasurers and agents received a 1% commission on the proceeds of their sales.

As the tax was collected from a retail sale, the merchant was to cancel a matching amount of receipts by tearing them in half. The vendor's receipt (or stub) was kept for their records and in case of a state audit; the consumer's receipt was to be given to the customer with the bill of sale as proof of tax paid.



The Higbee Company Receipt with Attached 6c Consumer's Receipt

Reference Material:

Several catalogs identifying Ohio Sales Tax Stamps (OSTS) have been published, the two most widely used being the "*U.S. State Revenue Catalog*" by Hubbard (1960 and later editions) and "*United States Sales Tax Tokens and Stamps: A History and Catalog*" by Malehorn and Davenport (M&D) (1993). In 2012, Monte C. Dean (moxking) produced a catalog incorporating all of the information discovered since M&D had been published. In "*Ohio Sales Tax Revenues: Stamps, Punch Cards, Tokens and Related Memorabilia*," Dean provides what I can attest is an easily understood identification system built upon the work of his predecessors that allows for incorporation of new discoveries without changing the numbering system. Dean cross-referenced his index of 270 types and 681 major varieties with those of Hubbard and M&D. The current State Revenue Catalog doesn't include a listing of OSTS but its new editor has expressed his intent to include an "easy-to-use" listing in the next edition.

Identification Parameters:

Numerous factors are considered when identifying these stamps, including printer, denomination, design type, paper color, print and inset colors, to name a few. Stamps may be differentiated by following this methodology:

Identify the Printer: Seven printers produced OSTS: American Bank Note Company, Columbian Bank Note Company, Merrick Lithograph Company, Reserve Lithograph Company, Strobridge Lithograph Company, Superior Printing and Lithograph Company, and Warner P. Simpson Company. Not all printers produced each design type and denomination. An imprint near the bottom of the stamp identifies the printer on most stamps; the Simpson stamp did not have an imprint.



U.S. STAMPS



Determine the Denomination: Stamps were issued in twelve denominations: 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 6¢, 9¢, 12¢, 15¢, 30¢, 60¢, \$1.50, \$3.00 and \$15.00. The first three design types were issued in each of the twelve denominations; the fourth design type was only issued in the 1, 2 and 3 cent values.

Identify the Major Design Type: Four major designs appear chronologically. The first series of OSTs, printed in both mono- and bi-color, is the only one with full panel engraving on both the Vendor's Receipt and Consumer's Receipt halves. From 1935 to 1938, numerous vendors were collecting the tax from consumers on retail purchases but not delivering the consumer's receipt as the law required. To correct this situation, Ohio's Legislature enacted a redemption feature which allowed charitable organizations to collect consumer's receipts and redeem them for 3% of their face value. In 1939, a major design change was adopted, likely coincident with the redemption program. The new full panel, bicolor design appeared on the Consumer's Receipt; the left half only showed that it was the Vendor's Stub, a convention continued on subsequent designs.



Evasion was still a serious problem when the third design change was implemented in late-1954. In announcing the change, the Tax Commissioner said the purpose was to educate the public because vendors had profited by collecting the tax but failing to provide the consumer the receipts as required by law. Stamps of this design type, printed in both mono- and bicolor, instructed the consumer to "always obtain from the vendor..." the receipt for all taxable purchases. The final design, approximately half the height of the previous three designs, appeared in the 1960-61 timeframe. Only Reserve Lithograph Company printed these stamps with a single color ink.



Major Design Types

Determine the Paper Color: Three major paper colors were used for the first design type: buff, white and stone. Major paper colors of the second design type were stone, orange, yellow and turquoise. Third design type colors were turquoise, bright green, dull green and light or pale green. Lastly, the fourth design type papers were turquoise and very pale green. A number of paper color variations exist; further, environmental changes can alter a stamp's appearance. For the colorblind collector like me, this can be the most difficult aspect of the identification process.

Determine the Print and Inset Colors: The earliest and latest stamps were produced using only one color of ink; however, the majority of OSTs produced were printed with two colors of ink. Bicolor stamps were printed for the



Print and Inset Color Examples

first three major design types; the fourth major design type was printed mono-color. On bicolor stamps, the print color typically includes the frame, scrollwork and printer's imprint; the inset color includes the numerals or their frames.

Consider Additional Details: Control letter, serial number and color, separation method, watermark, specimen markings, etc.

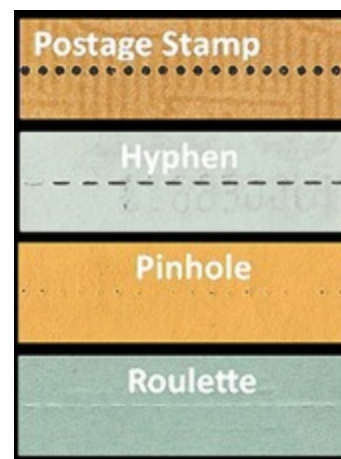
U.S. STAMPS



Control Letter and Serial Number

Control Letters and Serial Numbers: One or both of these elements, their respective colors, and their presence or absence, may factor in to identification. The control letter was printed at the same time as that of the stamp but the serial number was added in a separate production stage.

Perforation Types and Measurements: Several different types of separation methods were employed over the course of the OSTS system. Determination of the perforation type and its measurement are frequently required for identification and often are the only difference between some major varieties. Perforation types used were: postage stamp (round



Perforation Types

holes punched through the paper); hyphen (rectangular punched holes that are completely punched through); pinhole (a series of small holes that appear as if made by a pin); and, roulette (a series of small cuts, slits or impressions, rather than full punches through the paper). Some OSTS were issued imperforate, while others may appear imperforate, usually due to a poor strike.



Common Watermark Types

Watermarks: Most OSTS were printed on watermarked paper and, in general, the watermark belonged to one of two types. The first type consisted of the word “OHIO” in three sizes: the smallest can usually be seen with the naked eye; the midsize is usually discernible when held up to a light source; in most cases, the large size watermark can be quite difficult to detect. The second type consisted of different sized maps of Ohio on a background of straight lines. The map type of watermark was also used on state issued punch cards. Five types of map watermark have been identified by size, with size being determined by the approximate measurement across the top of the map. Two scarce watermarks appear on Reserve Litho stamps: a wave pattern on three design type I issues and a straw pattern on two design type II issues.

Other Factors: Several other elements will sometimes support identification, such as printer’s imprint size and/or lettering, old or new emblem (State seal) style, particulars about the serial numbers, and “specimen” markings.

Production and Distribution:

OSTS were printed by lithography on watermarked paper that had been prepared according to specifications established by the State of Ohio; counterfeiting was a major concern.

Paper sheet size is unknown but assumed to have been large enough to print some multiple of 100 stamps. As with the paper, little is known regarding the ink supplier(s) for the majority of OSTs; however, the color of the inks used for printing each denomination was specified by the state.

The application of serial numbers, where used, was separate from the printing process but the mechanism used to complete that process is uncertain.

Similarly, perforations were applied after the printing process. The State specified that there was to be a division between the two halves to make for easy separation but it did not specify what type of perforation method was to be used.



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After cutting, the lower denominations of OSTs were typically stapled together in booklets of 100, most likely because 100 was the minimum amount that could be ordered for those denominations. Higher denominations could be ordered in quantities less than 100, so staple holes found in unused pairs were likely a result of their having been stapled together during transfer to the vendor.



Stamps and Booklets in a Vendor's Dispenser

Collecting Challenges and Concerns:

An estimated 49.3 billion OSTs were sold during the 26 years the system was in operation, with a face value of approximately \$3.35 billion. It is likely that sizeable amounts of receipts exist from remaining stocks, so collectors should exercise caution before expending large sums of money (advice I should heed). What might have appeared to be a scarce or rare item could become commonplace with the release of a previously hoarded or newly discovered supply.



OSTS Multiples

Very few of the OSTs that were actually issued for distribution have been discovered with errors; most of the major errors found are likely printer's waste, trial printings, or sample book examples. Columbian Bank Note Company sold off their remaining stocks of OSTs in the late 1960's and early 1970's, including a dozen or so of what Dean has described as "training books." These books contained stamps that were never intended for distribution, a number of samples of errors, nearly complete sets of what are referred to as blocks (uncut multiples of se-tenant pairs), and examples of what are now listed as specimens. Accordingly, collectors are cautioned to consider whether or not an item could have been manipulated, after printing, into becoming an error.

A number of different cataloging systems exist and there is little instructive online information regarding OSTs. Online searches will return numerous lots of Vendor's Stubs and/or Consumer's Receipts being offered, often at astronomical prices; lots containing attached pairs of unused OSTs are encountered less frequently. The stamps are rarely, if ever, identified by a cataloging system, and image quality often precludes positive identification. Even well-known dealers' listings rarely include identifying information. These conditions make valuation and purchase of individual OSTs types needed for one's collection difficult. Separated halves, regardless of scarcity, have minimal value, usually no more than a few cents each. Attached pairs may be valued from as little as \$0.25 to more than \$100. The common booklets of 100, such as the mono-color design type 3 and 4, may be obtained for a few dollars each.

Conclusion:

Those of you who frequent the forum may already be aware of my passion for collecting this interesting state revenue. For those who aren't, a more in-depth discussion of the Ohio prepaid sales tax and its instruments, as well as my collection, may be viewed on the forum's U.S.: Back of Book board. If you are interested in starting a collection of your own, send me a forum private message with your full name and mailing address and I'll get some of my duplicates in the mail to help get you started.

Sources Consulted:

- "Ohio Sales Tax Revenues: Stamps, Punch Cards, Tokens and Related Memorabilia," by Monte C. Dean, 2012.
- "United States Sales Tax Tokens and Stamps: A History and Catalog," by Merlin K. Malehorn and Tim Davenport, Jade House Publications, 1993.
- "The Prepaid Sales Tax Receipt as a Method of Collecting Sales Tax in Ohio," by John W. Peck, Proceedings of the Annual Conference on Taxation under the Auspices of the National Tax Association, Vol. 45 (1952), pp. 632-636.
- "Ohio Receipts: Speculations," by Richard Johnson, American Tax Token Society Newsletter 61.
- "New Sales Tax Stamps for Ohio," The Daily Reporter, Dover, Ohio, June 2, 1954.
- "Plan New Tax Stamp," News-Journal, Mansfield, Ohio, June 3, 1954.
- "Ohio's Pact to Support Local Governments Has a 76-year History," by Aaron Marshall, The Plain Dealer, March 27, 2011.



STAMPS OF CANADA



Canada Post 150 years Celebration in Stamps - By Editorial Staff *(Click on images for larger picture)*

In honour of Canada 150, notable Canadians will help unveil stamps celebrating 10 unforgettable moments since 1967. Maple leaf-shaped stamps will be a first for Canada Post. Canada Post has enlisted the help of several distinguished Canadians to unveil 10 special commemorative stamps that celebrate the most significant moments in the life of the country since it proudly marked its Centennial. The impressive Canadians include a country music star, a world-renowned architect, successful business leaders, influential community activists, legendary athletes and an astronaut. Separate unveilings will occur, each one at a location chosen to illustrate the story behind the achievement, event or milestone that the stamp commemorates. With each stamp unveiling, videos with these notable Canadians, other key participants and archival footage will tell the story of that stamp subject.

The first of the 10 stamps was unveiled on April 27 in Montreal. The remainder are being revealed separately over five weeks, culminating with the unveiling of two stamps on June 1. On that day, all 10 Permanent™ domestic-rate stamps will be available in various formats – at post offices and online, via mail order or phone. Here are the first 4 up to May 10th.

World-renowned architect **Moshe Safdie** and Canada Post unveil stamp depicting **Habitat 67** complex to celebrate Expo 67.

Stamp is first in a set of 10 that will capture unforgettable moments of the last 50 years as country celebrates Canada 150.

Safdie unveiled the stamp in the very building that forever placed his signature on his adopted city.

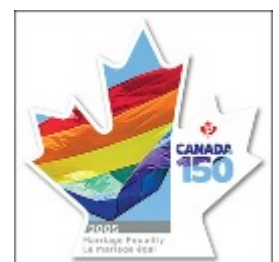
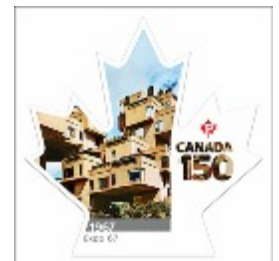
The Constitution and The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms: The proclamation of the Constitution Act, 1982 on April 17, 1982, by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II signified a symbolic step in Canada's independence as a nation. In addition to giving Canada full control over future constitutional amendments, the Act embodies the Charter that guarantees essential rights and freedoms for citizens and everyone who lives in Canada. The stamp depicts a section of the cover of the printed Act.

Canadian Innovation: Highlighting the achievements of Canada's innovators, this stamp depicts the Canadarm I, which made its operational debut on the Space Shuttle Columbia (STS-2) on November 13, 1981. Canadian Space Agency astronaut **Jeremy Hansen** was at a Toronto school to unveil a stamp with an image of Canada's most famous robotics accomplishment – the Canadarm. The stamp commemorates Canada's achievements in space, science, technology and innovation.

Hansen was on-site at Glen Ames Senior Public School on April 28 to unveil the stamp and meet with Grade 7 and 8 students from the school's robotics club as they prepare to travel to California to compete in an international robotics competition.

Marriage Equality: On July 20, 2005, Canada became the fourth country in the world to pass federal legislation that gave all citizens the right to marry the one they love. The stamp depicts a section of a rainbow flag, which is a familiar symbol of pride for the LGBTQ2S (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer, Two Spirit) community. This stamp will also be available in a booklet of 8 stamps.

The agency unveiled the stamp in Toronto on Tuesday at a local centre that serves as a hub for the city's LGBTQ community.



Each of the 10 maple-leaf shaped die-cut Permanent domestic-rate stamps measures 40 mm X 40 mm and is printed in 6 colours plus tagging. The self-adhesive stamps are available in a booklet of 10 (4 million stamps). A gummed pane of 10 stamps, with circle perforations 4.5 cm in diameter, is also available (80,000 panes). Official First Day Covers, one for each stamp design and each cancelled in OTTAWA ON, are available in a pack of 10 (10,000 packs).



STAMPS OF CANADA



Battle of Vimy Ridge - One Hundred Years

Issued 100 years after Canada's soldiers launched an assault on a ridge held by the Germans near the French town of Vimy, these stamps recognize the service and sacrifice of the Canadian Corps in the Battle of Vimy Ridge. To recognize this important battle in Canada and France, this issue includes two stamps – one designed by each country. Together on joint souvenir sheets, the two designs are linked by different portrayals of the Canadian National Vimy Memorial.



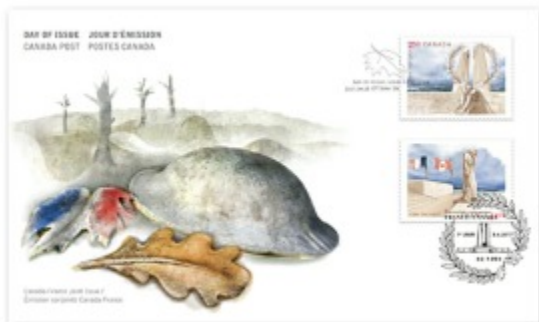
200,000 Booklets of 10 Stamps



130,000 S.S.- Canada



100,000 S.S. - France in Euros



8,000 Joint Official First Day Cover



10,000 Official First Day Cover

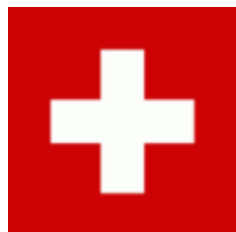


STAMPS OF THE WORLD



Switzerland Postal History *(click on images for a larger picture)*

By: Gerben Van Gelder (SWH) - reprinted in his memory with permission



General issues: Federal republic 1850-Present

Country name on general issues: None, Helvetia, Confoederatio Helvetica

Special issues:

▪ Cantonal issues: Basel 1845, Geneva 1843-1849, Zurich 1843

▪ Postal district issues: Post district I 1849-1851, Post district VII 1850

▪ Private issues: Hotel post 1864-1883 Belalp, Maderanertal, Rigi-Kaltbad, Rigi-Kulm, Rigi-Scheideck, Stoos

- Private issues: Air post 1913 Aarau, Basel, Bern, Burgdorf, Herisau, Langnau, Laufen, Liestal, Lugano, Sion, Solothurn
- International organizations:
 - League of Nations 1922-1944
 - United Nations 1950-1963
 - International Bureau of Education 1944-1960
 - International Labour Organization 1923-Present
 - International Refugee Organization 1950
 - International Telecommunication Union 1958-Present
 - Universal Postal Union 1957-Present
 - World Health Organization 1948-Present
 - World Intellectual Property Organization 1982-1985
 - World Meteorological Organization 1956-1973
 - International Olympic Committee 2000-Present

Currency: 1 Franken, Franc, Franco = 100 Rappen, Centimes, Centesimi 1850-Present

Population: 3,315,000 in 1900, 8,179,000 in 2016

Political history of Switzerland

The history of Switzerland as a distinct political entity started in 1291 when three cantons formed the Swiss Confederation. In the following centuries the Confederation gradually expanded. Five cantons joined the Confederation in the 14th century, five more in the late 15th and early 16th century. Full independence of the Confederation was recognized in 1648.

The Confederation took its final shape during the French and Napoleonic Wars. In 1803, six territories that had been associated with, or subject to, existing cantons were admitted to the Confederation as cantons.

At the end of the Napoleonic Wars, during the Congress of Vienna in 1815 – where the map of 19th century Europe was drawn – three more cantons were joined to the Confederation, bringing the total to twenty two.

Thus, in 1815, the borders of Switzerland were established as we know them today. Within these borders, the number of cantons eventually increased to twenty six.

In 1979, Jura was detached from Bern and established as a separate canton. In 1999, the constitution was amended and three cantons were divided in two cantons each – a de jure confirmation of a de facto status that had existed for centuries.

Within its borders Switzerland has two exclaves: the German exclave of Büsingen in the canton of Schaffhausen and the Italian exclave of Campione d'Italia in the canton of Ticino.





STAMPS OF THE WORLD



From confederation to federation

In the 16th century, the Protestant Reformation had significant impact on Switzerland. Several cantons turned Protestant while other cantons remained Catholic. Tensions between the Protestant, more liberal cantons, and Catholic, more conservative cantons, soon developed. These tensions led to conflicts several times and continued into the 19th century. In 1847, the tensions escalated into a short civil war. In the aftermath of the war, the Swiss decided to transform the confederation to a federation in which the cantons transferred their sovereignty to a federal government. A federal constitution – based on the United States model – was adopted in 1848. Switzerland has been a federation since then. Although the cantons



relinquished their full sovereignty, they enjoy a large degree of self government until today – with their own constitutions, parliaments and courts. A further characteristic of the Swiss political system is the high degree of direct democracy – the referendum plays an important part in Swiss politics.

Neutrality

In its external policy, Switzerland has, for centuries, adhered to a policy of neutrality. Swiss neutrality was first recognized internationally when the Swiss Confederation gained full independence in 1648. It was confirmed at the Congress of Vienna in 1815. Thus, Switzerland has retained neutrality in many of the conflicts that were part of European history, including WWI and WWII. In the second part of the 20th century, Switzerland has declined to become part of the European Union, although the country has aligned itself with developments in the European Union as a member of a number of European institutions and through a range of treaties. Switzerland joined the United Nations in 2002. The strict policy of neutrality is probably one of the reasons why many international organizations have set up their headquarters in Switzerland.

Wilhelm Tell is the Swiss national figure. Tell is supposed to have lived around 1300 and symbolizes the fight for freedom of the Swiss Confederation. The statue is found in Altdorf, canton Uri and dates from 1895.



Economy and demography

Switzerland industrialized in the second half of the 19th century. In the 20th century Switzerland developed into a services economy. Banking is one of the strong sectors of the Swiss economy. Switzerland is one of the wealthiest nations in the world. On the United Nations Human Development Index, Switzerland ranks third.

The Swiss population reflects its location at the center of Europe. The largest ethnic group is German at 65%, followed by the French at 18%, the Italians at 10% and the Romansch at 1%. German, French, Italian and Romansch are official languages in Switzerland. Switzerland is one of the countries with the highest number of foreign residents – 24% of the total number of residents.



STAMPS OF THE WORLD



Postal history of Switzerland

The first stamps issued in Switzerland were issued by individual cantons. Zurich was the first canton to issue stamps in early 1843.

Zurich issued stamps in two denominations – one for local mail, inscribed ‘Local-Tax’, and one for cantonal mail, inscribed ‘Cantonal-Tax’. Geneva followed suit later in 1843.

In Geneva the first stamps were issued in pairs. Each individual stamp was valid for local mail and inscribed ‘Port local’. The pair was valid for cantonal mail and was, above the two individual stamps, inscribed ‘Port cantonal’.

The canton of Basel-Stadt issued a stamp for local mail in 1845. All these cantonal issues rank in the very high catalog value range.



1968 – Issued at the 125th anniversary of Swiss stamps

In 1849, the postal services were taken over by the federal authorities. Switzerland was now organized into a number of postal districts.

During a transitional phase, before the first stamps were issued by the federal authorities, these districts were allowed to issue stamps for use in ‘densely populated areas in which significant amounts of mail was sent’.

Thus, in 1849 and 1850, stamps were issued for local mail in Post District I, which comprised the canton of Geneva and part of the canton of Vaud.

A further issue appeared in Post District I in 1851 – after the introduction of federal stamps.

It is suggested that this issue appeared because Geneva resented the fact that denomination of the first federal stamps was in German ‘rappen’ rather than French ‘centimes’.

Furthermore, in 1850, a stamp was issued for local mail in Post District VII which comprised the cantons of Zürich, Schaffhausen, Thurgau und Zug. Like the cantonal issues, the postal district issues all rank in the very high catalog value range.

General issues



Local Mail

On the federal level, the first stamps were issued in 1850. The first issues were inscribed ‘Ortspost’ or ‘Poste Locale’ and were valid for use on local mail. Later in 1850, stamps were issued inscribed ‘Rayon I’ and ‘Rayon II’.

In 1852, a stamp was issued inscribed ‘Rayon III’. ‘Rayon’ is probably best translated as ‘range’ as the Rayons indicated the distance mail could travel when franked with the Rayon I, II, and III stamps. That distance was calculated in both hours of road travel and kilometres:

Rayon I was valid for mail travelling up to 2 hours or 9.6 kilometres,

Rayon II for mail travelling up to 10 hours or 50 kilometres, and

Rayon III for mail travelling up to 40 hours or 200 kilometres.

A Rayon IV existed for distances above 40 hours or 200 kilometres.

Mail for Rayon IV was franked with two Rayon II stamps.

Interesting though these stamps may be, they are above the means of the average collector, as the catalog values are again in the very high range.



Rayon I



Rayon II



Rayon III



STAMPS OF THE WORLD



The cantonal, postal district and the first federal issues were all valid until 1854, when they were superseded by the first ‘Sitting Helvetia’ issues. Starting with this issue the stamps of Switzerland are inscribed ‘Helvetia’.

Helvetia is the Latin name for Switzerland and provided a neutral alternative in a country with four official languages. Switzerland, from the ‘Sitting Helvetia’ issues until the present day, mainly issued stamps with themes of national interest.



Semi-postals



Switzerland is known for the significant number of semi-postals that are issued. In particular, two series of semi-postals have a long history. The first series are the ‘Pro Juventute’ issues that first appeared in 1913. Pro Juventute is a foundation, established in 1912, that raises funds to support the interests of children. Since 1915, a set of ‘Pro Juventute’ stamps is issued yearly. Likewise, ‘Pro Patria’ semi-postals are issued on a yearly basis. Pro Patria is a foundation that was established in 1909 and raises funds to support cultural and social goals. Since 1910, postcards have been issued. ‘Pro Patria’ semi-postals have been issued since 1936. The ‘Pro Juventute’ issues are easily identified as they are inscribed ‘Pro Juventute’ since the first issue in 1913. The earlier ‘Pro Patria’ issues are less easy to identify because the ‘Pro Patria’ issues are inscribed ‘Pro Patria’ since 1952 only.

Private issues

The Michel catalog refers to private issues known as ‘Hotel Post’ stamps and lists private air post stamps issued in the context of the Schweizerische Nationale Flugspende in 1913

Private air post stamps were issued in 1913 in the context of the Schweizerische Nationale Flugspende, a campaign launched by the government to further the awareness of the public for the need of military aviation. In a range of cities, flights were organized for the promotion of the campaign. These flights also carried mail and, with permission of the postal authorities, stamps were issued by the local organizing committees to be used in addition to the regular stamps used to frank the mail. The covers were furthermore cancelled with specially prepared cancels. Michel lists eleven such issues – all of different designs and all ranking in the high catalog value range.



1913 - Private Post



The first Hotel Post issues appeared in 1864. At the time, the Swiss postal service was in development.

Tourism had developed rapidly in Switzerland, since the mid 19th century, and hotels were often found at locations not yet reached by the postal services. As a service for their guests, hotels would transport mail to the nearest post office.

The Hotel Post stamps were issued by these hotels to cover the cost of this service. As the postal services were expanded, the need for these issues diminished and, in 1883, the Hotel Post issues were prohibited.



International organizations

Switzerland is home to a range of international organizations. For a number of these organizations, official stamps have been issued by the Swiss postal service. The issues are either Swiss stamps overprinted with a designation for the respective organizations or definitives inscribed ‘Helvetia’ and a designation for the organizations. The designations generally are in French. An overview:



STAMPS OF THE WORLD



The **League of Nations** was established in 1920 as an intergovernmental organization with the aim to maintain world peace by preventing wars and settling international disputes through negotiation and arbitration. In 1946, the League of Nations was dissolved to be succeeded by the United Nations. The League of Nations had its seat in Geneva. Stamps were issued for the League of Nations from 1922. All stamps issued for the League of Nations are overprinted Swiss stamps. Mint items generally have significantly higher catalog values than used items because it was, until 1944, an explicit policy not to sell mint items to the stamp collecting world. The last stamps were issued in 1944.



International Bureau of Education – IBE. The IBE was founded in 1926 and is a center of excellence for the development of curricula in the field of education. The IBE was founded as a private organization and became an intergovernmental organization in 1929. In 1969, the IBE became an institute of UNESCO. The IBE has its seat in Geneva. Stamps were issued for the IBE between 1944 and 1960.

International Telecommunication Union – ITU. The ITU was founded in 1863 as the International Telegraph Union. Thus, it is one of the oldest intergovernmental organizations. Since 1949, the ITU is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for information and communication technology. The ITU has its seat in Geneva. Stamps have been issued for the ITU since 1958. The most recent issue dates from 2003.



World Intellectual Property Organization – WIPO. The WIPO was established in 1967 as a specialized agency of the United Nations. It is the successor of the United International Bureau for the Protection of Intellectual Property that had been established in 1893. Its aim is to promote the protection of intellectual property world wide. The WIPO has its seat in Geneva. Stamps have been issued for the WIPO in 1982 and 1985.

Universal Postal Union – UPU. The UPU was founded in 1874 and was integrated into the United Nations system as a specialized agency in 1948. The UPU coordinates postal policies of member countries and the worldwide exchange of mail. The UPU has its seat in Bern. Stamps have been issued for the UPU since 1957. The most recent issue appeared in 2012.



International Olympic Committee – IOC. The IOC was founded in 1894 and organizes the Olympics. It is the only organization not related to the United Nations for which stamps are issued. The IOC has its seat in Lausanne. Stamps have been issued for the IOC since 2000. The most recent issue dates from 2008.

World Health Organization – WHO. The WHO was founded in 1948 as a specialized agency of the United Nations. Its aim is 'the attainment by all people of the highest possible level of health'. The WHO has its seat in Geneva. Stamps have been issued for the WHO since 1948. The most recent issue dates from 1995.



GENERAL INTEREST ARTICLES

I Left My Heart in San Francisco: A Visit to WESTPEX 2017

By Chris Dorn ([Beryllium Guy](#)) ([Click on images for a larger picture](#))

I had the good fortune to live in the San Francisco Bay Area for more than 15 years, from 1992 to 2007. That time period in my life also happens to coincide with my becoming an active stamp collector again after more than a decade of inactivity.

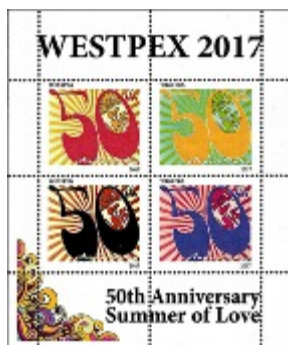
As it happened, the first stamp show that I attended after starting to work on my stamp collection again was WESTPEX, sometime in the late 1990s.

So, it seemed fitting that the first stamp show I attended after moving back to the Western U.S. in 2015 was this year's WESTPEX, in its 57th annual edition. The show was held from the 28th to 30th April, and I was able to attend for the first day and a half.

One of the things that made this stamp show experience my best ever, was the fact that I attended as a representative of The Stamp Forum (TSF). At the show, I told anyone who would listen, including the American Philatelic Society (APS) Executive Director Scott English, what a great promoter of the hobby a site like TSF is.

Also, thanks to input from numerous TSF members, I was given some requests of interest in specific subjects, which became "quests" for me to find during the show. It was a philatelic scavenger hunt, and I was feeling up to the challenge!

It was great being back in my old stomping grounds, and as if to emphasize that point, imagine my surprise when I stepped up to the registration desk, and the first person I met was none other than Gayle Hamilton, President of the Philatelic Society of San Leandro, my local stamp club during my Bay Area years. It was an omen of more good things to come!



Quest #1: My next stop was at the WESTPEX Souvenir counter, where I was able to acquire some 28 cinderella seals and souvenir sheets to fulfill a promise to Michael Hide ([Londonbus1](#)) to help fill in some open spaces in his need list.

They had a great archive of past show souvenirs, and I was helped greatly by Jessica Rodriguex ([jrodriguex](#)), her colleague Bob, and Kristin Patterson. Kristin is the author of *WESTPEX – The First 50 Years*, which is an excellent book on the history of the show and its souvenir issues and cachets.



The oldest WESTPEX seal I found on the list was from 1964, and the newest, of course, was the 2017, designed to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Summer of Love, which famously took place in San Francisco.

Anyone remember the song "San Francisco (Be Sure to Wear Flowers in Your Hair)"? That song was written by John Phillips of The Mamas and the Papas and sung by Scott McKenzie, and I haven't been able to get that tune out of my head since the show! The design of the WESTPEX 2017 souvenir sheet is very much in keeping with the psychedelic flower-power movement of 50 years ago and brought all the memories of that time flooding back to me.

Quest #2: TSF member [tridentcrazy](#) asked me to be on the lookout for anything on Ukrainian provisional post issues. I figured that this was a long shot, but I noticed that the Polonus Polish Philatelic Society was one of this year's supporting organizations, so it gave me some reason to hope.

I ended up finding some very interesting material on 1926-1927 Warsaw-to-Lvov local post. Lvov is today the westernmost major city in the Ukraine, but back in 1926, it was part of Poland.

GENERAL INTEREST ARTICLES

Quest #3: I wanted to find cinderella material for Londonbus1, tomiseksj, and others who collect this area. Cinderellas are a part of philately with which I had almost no experience prior to joining TSF.



At WESTPEX, I learned to my surprise that the world's first Christmas seals were not issued by the U.S. as I had always assumed (shame on me), but by Denmark in 1904.

Left, a pristine block of four of the world's first 1904 Christmas seals, and a beautiful cover from 1905 with Danish Christmas seals tied to the cover.

Quest #4: TSF member tregeor asked me to look for Queen Victoria issues. I know that his specific interest is in stamps of Great Britain, but I took a broader approach and looked for British Commonwealth as well. Unfortunately, there was very little QV material in the exhibition, so I went to the bourse to find some items of interest.

Right, three different Queen Victoria portrait designs in items acquired at WESTPEX: Queensland, Scott #83 used (Chalon head design); Lagos, Scott #36 unused; and Montserrat, Scott #6 unused.



Quest #5: I was asked by TSF Moderator Steve Tomisek to attend the APS Town Hall Meeting hosted by APS Executive Director Scott English and to report back on what was discussed. Scott focused his talk on three main areas: Membership, Marketing, and Education.

Left, Scott English was very visible at WESTPEX, not only at scheduled events like the Town Hall Meeting, but also talking to individual collectors at the APS booth. (Photo courtesy of the [WESTPEX facebook page](#))



APS Membership peaked at 56,000 in 1988. The retention rate is an excellent 91%, and the leading cause of losing APS members is death, which is a combination of telling statistics, because it shows the tremendous loyalty of established members, but also suggests that the overall demographics of the current membership are continuing to get older than would be desirable.

31% of all new members are in the 60-69 age group, and only 12.5% of new members are under the age of 50.

So what is the APS doing about this situation? In his role as Executive Director, Scott is personally heading up a \$150,000 fund-raising campaign to upgrade the membership database and the website.

The financial results of the World Stamp Show – NY 2016 have also benefited the APS fundraising efforts.

This leads right into the second point, which is Marketing. The APS used to do a lot of direct mail marketing campaigns, but that is in the process of being replaced by e-mail.

The APS also started a blog in October 2017, and there are new posts every day. Scott also encouraged members to follow the APS on Facebook and Twitter.

GENERAL INTEREST ARTICLES

The third and final main point of the talk was Education. Scott explained that the APS was originally started to give members a safe place to buy stamps, but over the years it has developed into much more than that. Scott believes that part of the answer to getting more younger members into the APS is to make stamp shows more of a family event. He admitted that there will be some challenges in doing that, but that it is an important step to take.



The Youth Area was quite well attended at this year's WESTPEX. Note the presence of Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts and their leaders in the group.

(Photos courtesy of the [WESTPEX facebook page](#))



Scott said that the number one request from members is for an online, on-demand philatelic library, and that the APS is working on it. The plan is to have the first segment of that online resource go live by the time of the APS Stamp Show in Richmond, Virginia in August.

The old way of doing things, according to Scott, is that the APS expected support from chapters but didn't really give much support in return. To improve that situation, the APS has started its Ambassador Program, and already has 41 ambassadors signed up. The idea is for the ambassadors to keep local stamps clubs informed about the latest from the APS once a month at local meetings and get feedback from the chapters to give back to the APS.

The APS's mission today is to protect collectors and build communities. Recruiting is important, but if you are afraid to ask others to join, just be a good member! Scott also responded to some questions, the most important of which was about Circuit Sales. Currently about 10% of APS members use Circuit Sales, but that activity will eventually go away. It currently makes enough money to justify continuing to offer the service, but not enough to meet sustainable financial targets.

Scott concluded by saying: "Your ideas are only as good as your ability to get other people to act on them." He uses this principle as the criterion for measuring success or failure of new programs at APS moving forward, and he made it clear that if new programs that are implemented do not give the desired results, the APS will replace those with other new programs.

WESTPEX Summary: Overall, I really enjoyed my time at the show. I saw old friends, made new ones, told others about TSF, tried to do some things on behalf of TSF members, learned what is going on at the APS, and I got some nice stamps in the bargain.



A few more items I picked up at the show

Who could ask for more than that?

From The TSF Member Archives



Reminiscing About Olden Days *(click on images for a larger picture)*

Beryllium Guy

I remember my Dad taking me to a few stamp shops in Cleveland, where I grew up, and there was even a Stamp & Coin Dept. in our downtown department stores where I could look around while my Mom shopped for other things.

My favorite thing, though, was sending away my 10c or 25c in the mail to one of those stamp companies that advertised in the back of Boys' Life magazine or on matchbook covers. And of course, they sent along approvals, which I generally could not afford to keep.

I can remember checking the mail every day after I sent in for one of those introductory offers to see what stamp treasures awaited me. Sometimes, I still send away for a mixture from an ad in Linn's just to have that same thrill again....



Coastalcollector

The old days of going to the stamp shop as a kid was to me a thrill like none other. My dad would drop me off and let me stay for hours.



The local dealer in the town I grew up in would have those shiny new Apollo issues displayed in counter books. I would flip through the pages looking at all the issues I wish I could have and occasionally could afford a new set like Liberia 549-554 and C186.

But the most fun I had was when he would go back to the safe and pull out stockbooks full of used stamps like Germany and I could find varieties and nice cancels. He would provide me a copy of the latest Scott's catalog, a pencil and piece of paper and let me write down the price of each one then total them up and sell them to me for 1/3 cat. price. I would spend hours and hours at his table and talk to him and listen to other more experienced collectors and learn new things all the time. One interesting tidbit about this dealer, he was also the town's undertaker and his store was only open on weekends!

Most brick and mortar stores are gone and you have to go to shows to get some of the same experience..but it's not the same thrill.

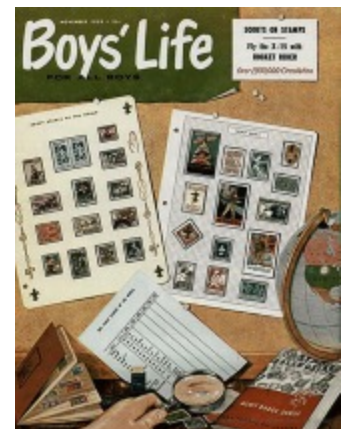
I use to also get those orange stamp bags from H.E. Harris at Woolworth's and they were still on paper. I would spend hours soaking and sorting. It's been a long time since I did that.

Jerry B

In my town there was one dealer. This dealer took a few kids "under his wing" and taught us the "how to" of stamp collecting. On Saturday we would go to his house for our "schooling". Afterwards we could pick stamps at relatively nothing. Remember minimum value of 3 or 5 cents?

Most of our purchasing, however, were packets or approvals advertised on the back pages of comic books. The scouting magazine "Boys Life"also had stamp ads.

Continued next page...



From The TSF Member Archives



The big thrill was trips to New York City. My aunt would first take me to Gimbel's to get any supplies or Israeli stamps. Then lunch and afterwards a trip to Nassau Street. You had to be there to appreciate the area. One stamp shop after another. Best part of the trip was that my aunt paid for everything.



Another memory from New York were some of the "character" dealers. I know one who carried around an accountant's case filled with stamps. Not the cheap stamps but things like zeppelins. He would wander around stamp shows. To purchase an item, one would look at the stock in some out-of-the-way area. One would then "reserve" the item, not purchasing at the show. To purchase, one would have to make a trip to a designated Diner in Queens at a designated corner table where the dealer set up shop. You would then pay for and receive your item. This dealer was from Brooklyn, or Queens, and dressed as a cowboy right out of a Gabby Hayes movie - Stetson hat, boots, belt buckle, etc..



In the 60's and 70's I was collecting US stamps. For new issues I would purchase them at the Grand Central Station Post Office. The postal worker at the philatelic window would purchase a few sheets, or coils, of stamps with his own money. To purchase any stamp(s) one would leave him a want list. After a few hours you would return to get your stamps and pay for them. There was one "problem" that no one complained about. If you asked for 2 stamps, one may get 4 or 5. Regarding plate blocks or plate number coils, those items were reserved for his "regular customers".

One had to be in New York in the 50's, 60's and 70's to really appreciate the New York stamp market.

bobby1948

I do not remember who assembled them (maybe H.E. Harris?), but I used to buy similar bags of stamps on paper, only the bags were white and made of cloth. I was always hoping to find treasure, but mostly found common US and Hungarian definitives.

There would always be a few "exotic" stamps from Liberia or Mozambique, but looking back I now realize the bags were "salted" with just enough of the less common stamps to keep the young collectors coming back for the elusive treasure we were sure was in the "next" bag.

The local stamp shop! I would spend hours there and never was given the "evil eye" or suffered a harsh word from the proprietor, even though I seldom had more than a dollar or two to spend.

I do not mean to imply, however, that things were so much better back in those days. I still find most dealers (at stamp shows and bourses) to be friendly, respectful, and patient. And I imagine the "olden" days had its share of grouches and curmudgeons, I just choose not to remember them (hey, they're my memories, I can edit them as I wish).



tregeor

It isn't so much stamp shops that I remember but 50 years ago when I was 12 or 13 I remember every Monday when we were in class at school there was a wait of 20 to 30 minutes for the teacher to do admin. or something.

Providing we were quiet he left us alone and about 5 or 6 of us had an unofficial sort of stamp club. We'd bring in stamps that we'd got at the weekend or perhaps something we couldn't identify to see if our friends knew what it was.

Strange how the talk of old stamp shops brought that to mind after so many years!

From The TSF Member Archives



tomiseksj

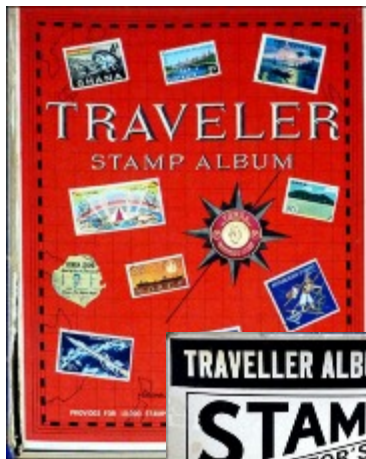
It's funny how stamps can sometimes trigger memories of "olden days."

This afternoon I was looking through one of the many packets of stamps that rod222 had sent, this one back in late 2015 (yes, I'm that far behind), and I came across this strip of five Australia stamps (Scott 741a-e; May 7, 1980) commemorating A. B. Patterson's (1864-1941) "Waltzing Matilda."



The stamps triggered memories of an elementary school music class in which the teacher had us singing "Waltzing Matilda."

madbaker



I remember the Orange bags; in my town they were on a lower shelf at the local Woolco, along with packets, those plastic magnifiers and lots of hinges. I wish I had bought more hinges back then.

My memory though was dreaming about albums. I had a small black and white H.E Harris catalogue that listed all the albums they offered. (It may have come with the Traveller Album I had as a kid.)

I would dream about all the different options and whether I wanted the album with 60,000 spaces or the one with 80,000 spaces. All of them were way beyond the means of a 12 year old. Funny how with inflation, and changing tastes, they are still out of reach! (I've since progressed to lusting after a full set of Internationals and the like.)

Am I the only one who, when receiving an auction catalogue, or dealer list, dreams of one day winning the lotto and buying the entire sale? Just to go through, slowly. I can never decide which lot to bid on / buy. Must be a similar disease to the dream of the biggest album.

Anping



This triggered a memory of my time at Chapel Hill Junior School in Aden, when I was 10. One of the teachers was a collector and would provide a first day cover service for GB stamps, such as the 1966 World Cup issue and 900th Anniversary of the Battle of Hastings etc. These were postmarked with the Aden British Forces Post Office handstamp. I still have a few somewhere.

This is really what set me off 'scrounging' stamps from anybody I could pester.



From The TSF Member Archives



Anping (click on images for a larger picture)

Taiwan cover from cinderella/fantasy producer

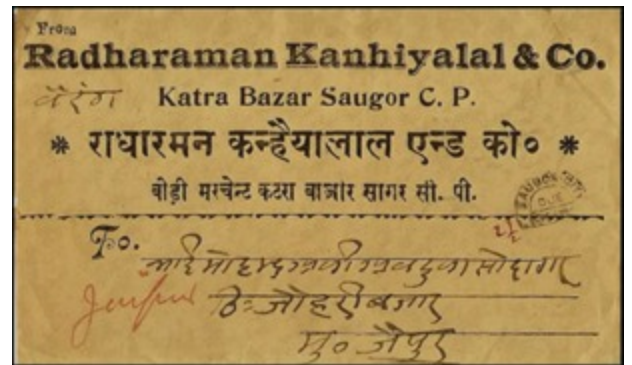


This is a mailing I received from a dealer in Taiwan, who produces a whole raft of fantasy stamps, forgery reproductions and other weird stuff.

This is a 'mixed franking', in that there are genuine postage stamps in addition to fantasy stamps from his Imperial Coldland Government. The fantasy stamps are in the top row.

The reverse is, well, eye catching. It certainly woke me up when I received it.

No postage stamp? Use a match box.



This I thought was a bit crafty; more a bare faced cheek really. This was sent by a merchant of all people, in the hope that his matchbox label would defy the eagle eyed postal authorities (no chance; they learned from the British).

Well it didn't work Mr Kanhiyalal; It was spotted and attracted a postage due fee. But then again, maybe it did work. Mr K. wasn't out of pocket but the recipient had to cough up. Maybe that's the way to make your millions!

Great Britain: Millennium cover



I don't know if anyone bothered with commemorating the end of the old millennium; I certainly didn't. But I spotted this a few weeks ago and thought it a very attractive design, which is fairly typical of A.G. Bradbury's efforts.

TOPICAL STAMPS



Delandre Naval Vignettes, By: Nelson Laviolette (falshung) *(Click on the image for a larger picture)*

One of Delandre's many schemes was the invention of the Delandre vignette which was a popular form of label or poster stamp during World War I.

Although these cinderellas were actually produced by several would-be artists he gathered, the collection of some 4,000 known varieties have become known as Delandre's.

His works covered many military themes of that period but one of the favourites was his depiction of naval vessels of French and British origin.

British Ships



HMS Agamemnon was ordered in 1904. She was laid down on 15 May 1905 and launched on 23 June 1906.

The ship was armed with four BL 12-inch Mk X guns arranged in two twin gun turrets. Her secondary armament consisted of ten BL 9.2-inch Mk XI guns, plus 24 QF 12-pounder guns. She also mounted five submerged 17.7-inch torpedo tubes. Most of her



engagements were in the Dardanelles Straights of the Aegean Sea. Later she was used as a target ship and then scrapped in 1927.



HMS Centurion was the second of four King George V-class dreadnought battleships built for the Royal Navy in the early 1910s. Her service during the First World War generally consisted of routine patrols and training in the North Sea.

In 1926 Centurion was converted into a target ship and participated in trials evaluating the effectiveness of aerial bombing in addition to her normal duties. During the Second World War, the



ship was rearmed with light weapons and was converted into a blockship in 1941. The ship was deliberately sunk during the Invasion of Normandy in 1944 to form a breakwater.



HMS King George V was the lead ship of her class of four dreadnought battleships built for the Royal Navy in the early 1910s. She spent the bulk of her career assigned to the Home and Grand Fleets, often serving as a flagship.

Her service during the First World War consisted of routine patrols and training in the North Sea.

In January 1923, the ship returned home and

became a gunnery training ship at Devonport. The ship was sold on 27 January 1927 to be broken up.



HMS Dominion was a King Edward VII-class battleship of the Royal Navy, she was named after the Dominion of Canada. She ran aground in August 1906 in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence.

She was a parent ship for the raids on Zeebrugge and Ostend, and, decommissioned in May, ended the war as an accommodation ship. She was disposed of in 1919 and scrapped in 1924.



TOPICAL STAMPS



French Ships



Voltaire was one of six semi-dreadnought battleships built for the French Navy in the first decade of the 20th century. Shortly after World War I began, the ship participated in the Battle of Antivari in the Adriatic Sea and helped to sink an Austro-Hungarian protected cruiser. She spent most of the rest of the war blockading the Straits of Otranto and the Dardanelles.



After the war, she was modernized and became a training ship. She was condemned in 1935 and later sold for scrap.



Condorcet was of the same class as the Voltaire. The ship participated in the Battle of Antivari and spent most of the rest of the war blockading the Straits of Otranto and the Dardanelles.



After the war, she became a training ship. In 1931, the ship was converted into an accommodation hulk. Condorcet was captured intact when the Germans occupied Vichy France in November 1942 and was used by them to house sailors of their navy (Kriegsmarine).

She was badly damaged by Allied bombing in 1944, but was later raised and scrapped by 1949.



The **Léon Gambetta** was a French Navy armoured cruiser. The Gambettas were larger than previous armoured cruisers of the class, but they lacked the heavier firepower. They also were vulnerable to underwater attacks.



Léon Gambetta was part of the French fleet based at Malta blockading the Austrian Navy in the Adriatic. The cruiser was patrolling

unescorted on a clear, calm night just to the south of the Otranto Straits when she was torpedoed by the U-5. The Léon Gambetta sank in just 10 minutes. Out of 821 men on board, 684 were lost along with all commissioned officers. There were 137 survivors.



Latouche-Tréville was one of four Admiral Charner-class armored cruisers built for the French Navy in the 1890s. The ship spent the bulk of her career in the Mediterranean as a training ship or in reserve. The ship was recommissioned in 1914, and escorted convoys for several months before she was assigned to the eastern Mediterranean to support Allied operations and



bombard the Ottoman-controlled coast. Latouche-Tréville became a training ship in late 1917 and was decommissioned in 1919. She was stricken from the navy list the following year and was sold for scrap in 1926.

If you enjoyed this little trip back 100 years, there are many more of the Delandre warships and his regimental labels on the [TSF Delandre thread](#).

CINDERELLAS & LOCALS



LONDONBUS1 CINDERELLA CORNER. PART 4.

By: Michael Hide (Londonbus1) (Click on images for a larger picture)

Events.....Buys and Musings.

During a recent busy working trip to the UK, I managed to find the time to visit two Philatelic events.....and went off in search of some Cinderellas !



The Annual Southern England Stamp Show held in a leisure centre in Farnborough, Hampshire was the first of those and I was pleasantly surprised to find a number of the many dealers with decent stocks of Cinderellas and Ephemera. It is not always the case. I had set off at the crack of dawn for the 2-hour drive which is not something I would normally do, but it was well worth the effort and the venue was easy to find and well signposted.



The day before the show, at the same venue, an attempt was made to complete the largest Stamp Mosaic ever and to get into the Guinness Book of Records at the same time. The attempt was successful and Souvenir cards were hurriedly produced to sell at this 2-day event, the proceeds from which went to a Children's Charity. So it was no more than a blip then when the Souvenirs did not arrive on time and those enthusiasts like myself were kept waiting. The stock of cards had been sent to the wrong venue !!



Machin Stamp Mosaic

Prices of Cinderella material have been rising steadily over the last year or two so finding bargains was not easy and a lot of haggling took place to secure some items. It appeared that at least two of the dealers present had recently acquired some Belgian and French collections as there was much to admire (and purchase) from those countries.

Shown below are a number of sets or part sets that I found to be of exceptional beauty or interest including the unusually named 'Exposition de Chrysanthes & Fruits' held in Paris in November 1907 !



Exposition de Chrysanthes 1907



Air Post exhibition 1943



Reinatex 1952

CINDERELLAS & LOCALS



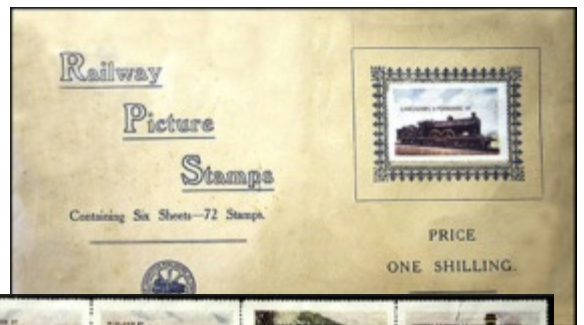
I had long been after a reasonably priced set of the 1952 Reinatex Exhibition in Monte Carlo and a couple of very minor faults helped me secure an excellent bargain for the set of 9.

Some of the items need much more research and I will show and tell more (hopefully!) in future Cinderella Corners.

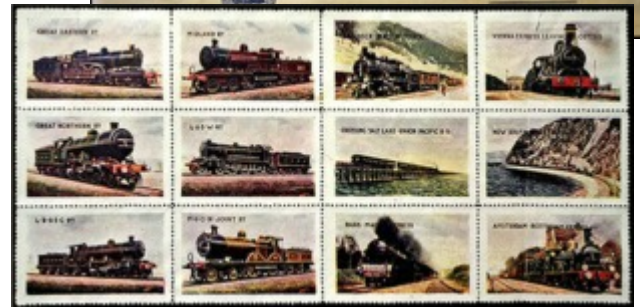
In that regard, any information on these French and Belgian items shown will be gratefully received !



Family commitments meant that I only managed to attend the morning session of the March 4th Cinderella Stamp Club meeting but it was worth it if only for the wonderful display of Railway Poster Stamps by Charles Kiddle, brother of the late Cinderella Expert Francis. As usual he displayed items most of us had never seen before and may never see again ! My two photos do not do justice to the fine collection.



I couldn't resist but to add a bit of non-Cinderella fun with a showing of some rather nice Philatelic furniture in the mens cloakroom of the Royal Philatelic Society where the meeting took place !!



I picked up a few items from the dealers present at the meeting and a few of these are shown here.





CINDERELLAS & LOCALS



WHAT ARE THEY ?

Now does anyone know what these are ? The sender of the first correct answer to arrive in my Forum (TSF) Message box will win a super stockcard of Cinderellas. Shouldn't take too long then !!



DID YOU KNOW ?

Did you know that the first issue of the Swedish Local 'Stockholms Stadspost' was printed with Danish language characters !! (Well, actually only one).

The Stockholms Stadspost first issues of 1887 consisted of 6 values, 1,2,3,4,5 and 10 Öre.

Anders Jeurling set up this local post and he ordered his stamps from Danish Printers C.Ferslew & Co. of Copenhagen but they did not send Proof printings back to Sweden and when the stock of stamps arrived they were found to have been inscribed with the Danish 'Ø' !!



A second printing was hurriedly ordered with the correct denomination and they arrived in time for the opening day, December 6th.

Supplies of these local stamps soon ran out due their popularity and the stocks denominated in Danish were brought into use until new orders arrived!!

There are many differences between the printings and future printings too and the issue would make for a fascinating sideline to any Swedish or Scandinavian collection. The number of varieties are many.

The stamps depict King Eric IX as the central figure. He reigned in Sweden from 1156-1160 and was made a Saint by the Roman Catholic Church upon his death.

A very nice read about this issue can be found from this 1949 **Posthorn Journal** of the Scandinavian Collectors Club of New York. York.

LBI's TSF NEWSLETTER GIVEAWAY.

Many congratulations to firstfrog2013 for winning the 'Ideal' prize draw from the last Newsletter. I believe it was his second win in a row so he is 'on a roll'!!

This time (Giveaway No.4) there will be a 'MYSTERY' prize for one lucky name drawn out of the hat. Details will be up on the forum once this Newsletter is online. You will not be disappointed. At least one of the items mentioned here will be included in the packet!

Next time I will be showing some scarce and not-so-scarce items from British and USA Philatelic Exhibitions and sharing with you my frustrations of searching for 'cheap-but-rarely-seen' items !

I am sure you all have experiences of that!!

Until next time.....Londonbus1.

FAKES & FORGERIES

Airmail Forgeries of Paraguay - By: Nelson L. (Falshung) *(Click on the image for a larger picture)*

Paraguay is somewhat unusual in that although a few regular issues between 1869 and 1881 were forged, the emphasis was placed on the airmail issues between 1929 and 1937.

Most collectors think that forgeries are relegated to only older expensive stamps, however, Paraguay is proof that this is not the case.

There is not a lot of information available on these but my research and findings indicate that probably more than one forger was responsible as there are very good forgeries and some that are particularly crude.

We will do a side by side comparison. **Forgeries are on the right.**



1929 C7

On the forgery, the star has a heavily shaded background.

The rays are not well spaced.

The U.P.U. on the left is very small and indistinct.

The feathers are lacking detail.



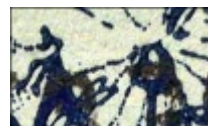
1929 C9

On the forgery, There is no color spot in the eye

The color spot on the letter seal does not have an hourglass shape.

The cloud lines have many breaks

Several letters are not the same size or thickness and the serifs in PESOS are short



1930 C20

This forgery is rather crude with many issues, particularly in the cap the definition in the rays

Many letters are misshapen and not the same size.



FAKES & FORGERIES



1930 C22

This is a fairly well detailed forgery.
 There are background detail and shading issues.
 The key trait is in the clock and cross shown above.



1933 C62

A reasonably good forgery.
 The genuine is often poorly printed so the forgery can blend into a collection easily.
 The forgery lacks many details, in particular, note the base of the left tree.



1935 C100

A crude forgery
 The background is missing lines
 The bottom writing is barely legible.
 The inner frame line is one thick line instead of 2 fine ones.

*This is just a sampling of the Paraguay airmail forgeries.
 Many more can be found on the TSF thread "Falshung's WW Forgeries"*

Stamp Oddities

(click on images for a larger picture)

PARADISE LOST



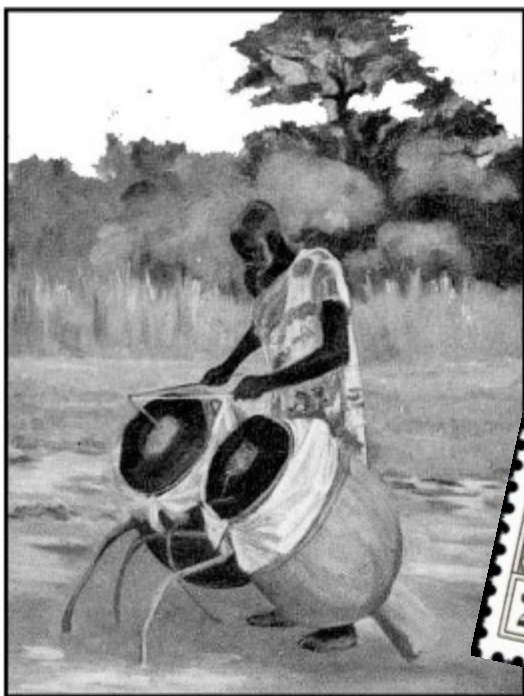
THE SCENES DEPICTED ON THE ONE PENNY AND FOUR PENNY STAMPS OF NEW ZEALAND IN 1898, WILL NEVER BE SEEN BY THE TRAVELERS. THE VOLCANIC TERRACES AND FORMATIONS SHOWN, WERE DESTROYED WHEN THE MOUNTAIN EXPLODED IN 1895.



Contrary to most beliefs, the earliest flying machine to be depicted on a stamp is the one designed by Leonardo Da Vinci in 1480. There is some conjecture that according to some of his notes, it did fly?



THE MAN WHO DESIGNED THIS MEXICAN STAMP, ISSUED IN 1874, WANTED TO BE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT IT WOULD BE CONFUSED WITH NO OTHER DENOMINATION. ITS VALUE IS GIVEN ON THE STAMP SIX TIMES IN FIGURES, ONCE IN TEXT AND ONCE IN A ROMAN NUMERAL.



This 1948 stamp depicts the "talking Drums" used by African tribes to communicate with one another. This system was said to work faster than the telegraph.



THE BATTLE OF BROOKLYN STAMP IS PROBABLY THE ONLY COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ISSUED TO HONOR A BATTLE WHICH WAS LOST. WASHINGTON'S FORCES WERE DEFEATED IN THIS FIGHT, BUT IT GAVE HIM A CHANCE TO DELAY THE BRITISH AND WIN A SMASHING VICTORY FROM GENERAL HOWE A FEW WEEKS LATER AT HARLEM HEIGHTS.

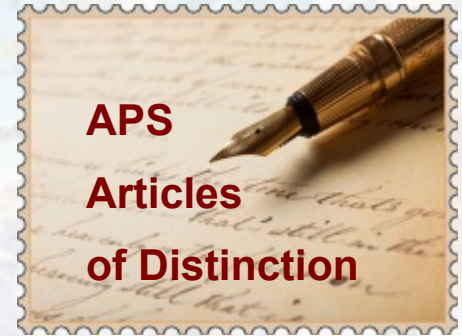
THE STAMP FORUM



Chapter 1591 APS Representative's Report

By Steve Tomisek (tomiseksj)

Philatelic Articles of Distinction: APS began its "Philatelic Articles of Distinction" program in 2012 to honor authors who had submitted philatelic articles to their Chapter/Affiliate newsletter or publication. As of this writing, over 50 entries have been added to the archive on the [APS website](#). Our Chapter began publishing a newsletter in Fall 2016 and we'll be conducting our first annual "best article" competition during September. The article selected by majority vote of our membership will be submitted for posting on the APS website and its author will receive a certificate of achievement from APS. The article will be uploaded and archived by topic with a link to our forum. There is one newsletter issue remaining before the 2017 competition so you still have time to submit an article for consideration. There is no limit on the number of times an author can receive the "best article" award so write early and write often!



2017 Chapter Report: The annual Chapter Report, due by July 31, is used to verify Chapter information in the APS database; our report was submitted during May. We have again asked that our "American Philatelist" be mailed to the MWR Library at Fort Belvoir, VA for deposit. The report also serves as a "free dues" application for the following year; however, we are not eligible because we don't maintain a membership list with full names and mailing addresses and at least 1/3 of our membership are not APS members.

Stamp Show – APS National Summer Convention: StampShow 2017 in Richmond, Virginia marks the 131st annual convention of the American Philatelic Society. Each year, stamp collectors, exhibitors, historians and members of the general public gather to socialize, increase philatelic knowledge, and exchange stamps. The 2017 show will feature 100+ dealers, societies, live auctions, literature and philatelic exhibits, more than 100 meetings and seminars, and first-day-of-issue ceremonies for new stamps. The show is FREE and open to the public. It will be held from August 3-6, 2017 at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. The Marriott Richmond is the host hotel. At present, the USPS will issue its Protect Pollinators stamps on the opening day of the show.

Summer Seminar 2017: Thinking about attending Summer Seminar on Philately? Learn from the experts about exhibiting, EFOs, U.S. philately, postal history, expertizing, revenues, Astrophilately, confederate stamps, and zeppelins. Summer Seminar will be held at the American Philatelic Center, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania from June 25-30, 2017. Class sizes are limited, so register today to get the course of your choice. More information and registration is [available online](#).

Forum Membership:

As of this writing (May 10), we are one member shy of having 400 members on our rolls, having joined 19 new members in the roughly two months since my last update. Only 7 of those new members have created a thread on the New Member Introductions board so we still have work to do in determining how best to encourage the newly-joined to participate.

Having less than half of these new members participating isn't ideal; however, those who have chosen to engage are actively doing so and they bring a great deal of needed expertise to the Forum. We still have quite a few members who have not logged in to the forum for over a year and a similar number who have yet to post their introductions so are unable to participate in discussions.

If you have ideas on how to increase member participation, please send them to me (tomiseksj) via the Forum's private messaging system.

THE STAMP FORUM



The Stamp Forum Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of The Stamp Forum. Opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by the forum and the forum cannot be responsible for the accuracy of any information printed herein.

FORUM STAFF

FOUNDER: Jack Witcher (Admin)

MODERATOR TEAM:

Anthony Chue (canadianphilatelist)

Lloyde "Bud" Hartley (stoltzpup)

Michael Hide (Londonbus1)

Steve Tomisek (tomiseksj)*

***APS Chapter Representative**

EDITOR: Nelson Laviolette (falschung)

Forum staff may be contacted using the private message system



Membership is free; apply online.

Members enjoy ad-free viewing when signed in

Once you have made your introduction, staff will add you to the ****Members**** group. You will then be able to post in all the boards except the Buy Sell and Trade (for this you will need 50 quality posts and membership for at least two weeks).

Voluntary donations support ad-free viewing.

Send information requests to stampforum.net@gmail.com