



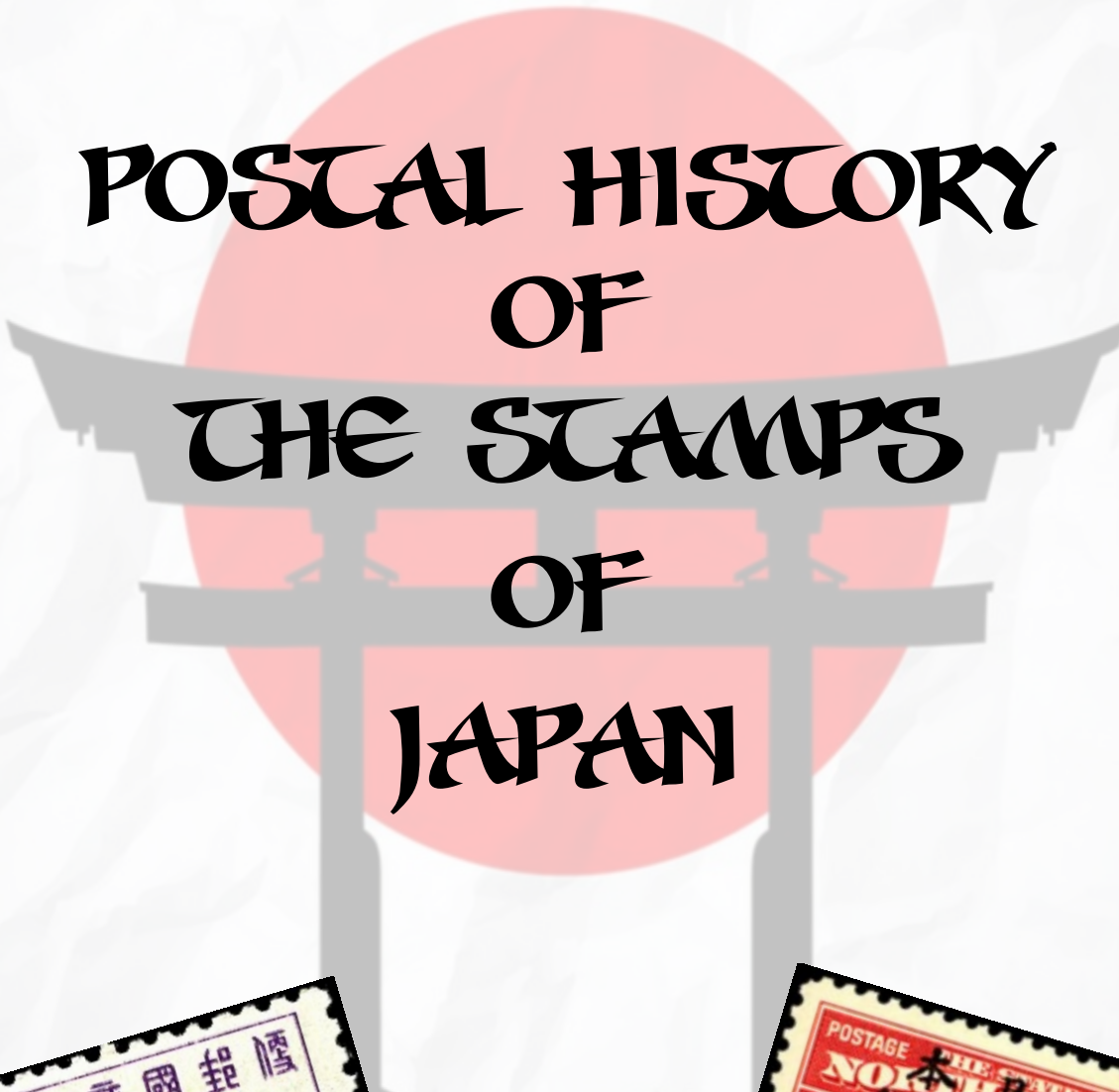
**THE STAMP FORUM  
NEWSLETTER**

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APS Chapter 1591

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*In This Issue*



**POSTAL HISTORY  
OF  
THE STAMPS  
OF  
JAPAN**



# Staff Notes

We've added over 30 new members since our last Newsletter was published and we have passed the 500 member milestone. Of those recently joined, 3 have reached the 50 post milestone for full membership and a fourth is well on her way toward that end. Full membership status (having been a forum member for at least 14 days and having made at least 50 quality posts) allows members to participate in the Buy, Sell, Trade portion of the forum and join in the many giveaways that are offered. The health of our Forum depends upon member participation so I encourage all who have joined us to add to the wealth of information and friendship that we share.

Those of you who follow the Newsletter and announcements related to it on the Forum are aware that we entered our first APS Newsletter Competition during January, 2018. Entrants were required to submit 3 printed color copies of the last 3 Newsletters published during 2017 for the judging panel's evaluation. The 2016 competition's results were announced during May and I anticipate this year's results will be announced at approximately the same time.

Regardless of where we will place, all can be proud of the quality content that our members have submitted and also the Newsletter's professional appearance owing to the efforts of its Editor, Nelson Laviolette (falschung). That being said, the Newsletter can only continue as a quality product if it receives the active support of our membership. We need philatelic content of all types, from human interest pieces (e.g., philatelic memories, why I collect, etc.) to in-depth research articles. If you can post on the Forum you can write for the Newsletter so please help us out by trying your hand.

Lastly, Londonbus1 and I continue to work on restoring images that have been blocked by Photobucket. We are aware of LB1's blocked images but would appreciate being informed of others that you may happen across during your travels on the Forum. I'd appreciate your either sending me a personal message (PM) or using the "report post" function to bring the problem(s) to my attention.

Steve Tomisek (tomiseksj)  
Moderator/APS Ambassador

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## A Postal History of the Stamps of Japan [\(click on images for a larger picture\)](#)

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

**General issues:** Empire 1871-1945, Empire under Allied supervision 1945-1952, Empire 1952-Present

**Country name on general issues:** Imperial Japanese Post, Nippon, Japan in Japanese characters

### Special issues:

- Offices abroad: China 1900-1922, Korea 1900-1901
- Occupation issues WWII
  - Andaman & Nicobar Islands 1942-1945
  - Burma 1942-1945:
    - Burma Independence Army: Henzada issues 1942, Myaungmya issues 1942, Pyapon issues 1942
    - Japanese administration 1942, Japanese administration/Shan States 1943
  - China 1941-1945:
    - Kwangtung: General issues 1942-1945, Canton 1945, Swatow 1945
    - Mengkiang 1941-1945
    - North China: General issues 1941-1945, Provincial issues 1941-1945: Honan, Hopeh, Shansi, Shantung, Supeh
    - Nanking government 1941-1945
  - Hong Kong 1945
  - Malaya 1942-1945: Straits Settlements, Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Malacca, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Penang, Perak, Selangor, Trengganu, Malayan Postal Union
  - Netherlands Indies 1942-1945:
    - Java 1943-1945
    - Sumatra: Local issues 1942-1943, General issues 1943-1945
    - Naval Control Area: Local issues 1942-1943, General issues 1943-1945
  - North Borneo 1942-1945, North Borneo/Brunei 1942-1945, North Borneo/Sarawak 1942-1945
  - Philippines 1942-1945: Japanese administration 1942-1943, Second Philippine Republic 1943-1945
- Japanese administration of Formosa
- Australian forces in Japan 1946-1947
- Prefecture issues 1989-Present

### Related issues:

- Azad Hind 1943
- Thai occupation of Malaya 1943

**Currency:** 1 Sen = 100 Mon 1871, 1 Yen = 100 Sen, 1 Sen = 10 Rin 1871-Present

**Population:** 43 847 000 in 1900, 127 300 000 in 2013

## Political history Japan

### Modernizing Japan

Japan is an empire consisting of a group of islands located in eastern Asia. Until the mid 19th century, Japan is a feudal state, almost entirely closed from foreign influences. Under pressure of mainly the United States, Japan is forced to open up from the 1850's. Japan makes concessions to a number of foreign powers with respect to diplomatic and trade relations. In 1869, emperor Meiji ascends to the throne and starts what in Japanese history is called the 'Meiji restoration'. Japan in the coming years is transformed from a feudal state into a centrally governed empire with a modern economy and a powerful military



*Heian Jingu Shrine - Kyoto*

## The first steps on the road of expansion

Along with the modernization of Japan, a period of continuous expansion starts in the late 19th century. In 1875, a treaty is signed with Russia by which Japan acquires the Kurile Islands to the north of Japan. In exchange, Japan relinquishes its claims on the Sakhalin peninsula. South of Japan, the Ryukyu Islands, in the 19th century, are tributary to both China and Japan. The Ryukyu Islands are unilaterally annexed by Japan in 1879.

## The First Sino-Japanese War

In 1894, Japan starts the First Sino-Japanese war. The aim being mainly to bring Korea within the Japanese sphere of influence. In 1895, China and Japan sign a peace agreement in which China relinquishes its claims on Korea. Furthermore, China cedes Formosa and acknowledges the Japanese annexation of the Ryukyu Islands.

In 1900, Japan is one of the eight countries to form the international coalition that invades China to quell the Boxer rebellion, and to ensure the continuation of the extraterritorial rights of foreign powers in China.

## The Russo-Japanese War

The next step in Japanese expansion is the Russo-Japanese war in 1904-1905. The cause being the increasing influence of Russia in Manchuria. Russia occupied Manchuria in 1901 during the international invasion of China to suppress the Boxer rebellion, and in subsequent years has enforced its position in Manchuria.

In the Russo-Japanese war the Japanese show military superiority. In the 1905 peace agreement, Russia withdraws from Manchuria that now becomes part of the Japanese sphere of influence. As a further result of the war, Russia withdraws from Korea, that in 1905 becomes a Japanese protectorate and in 1910 is annexed by Japan to become an integral part of the Japanese empire. Finally, Russia cedes the southern part of Sakhalin – acquired by Russia in 1875 – to Japan. The Russo- Japanese war puts Japan on the map as a military power to be acknowledged.



## World War I

In WWI, Japan sides with the Allies and attacks the German leased territory of Kiaochow in China and the German colonies in the Pacific Ocean. At the end of WWI, the Caroline, Mariana and Marshall Islands are entrusted to Japan as mandated territories.

## Invading Manchuria

Japanese expansion continues with the invasion of Manchuria in 1931. Japanese interests in Manchuria already being substantial, Japan now aims to gain full control over the industrial potential of Manchuria. A potential that has to serve Japan in its plan for further expansion.

The Japanese in Manchuria form the nominally independent empire of Manchukuo and put the last heir of the Chinese Qing dynasty on the throne. The territory of Manchukuo is further extended in 1933 when the Chinese province of Rehe is annexed. The invasion in Manchuria is met with strong international opposition that results in Japan withdrawing from the League of Nations in 1936.



## The Second Sino-Japanese War

In 1937, Japan initiates the Second Sino-Japanese war. Japan, between 1937 and 1942, conquers parts of Inner Mongolia, North, Central and South China. To administer the conquered territories, Japan sets up nominally independent governments along the lines of the Japanese military command structure.

Thus, local governments are formed in Menkiang – Inner Mongolia, North China, Central China and Kwangtung – South China. In 1940, these are formally subordinated to the National Government seated in Nanking. De facto the local governments retain a large amount of self government.



**Gilbert Islands, Nauru and the Solomon Islands.** The British Gilbert and Solomon Islands and the British Australian-New Zealand mandated territory of Nauru were occupied by Japan in 1942 as part of the envisaged defensive perimeter around Japan of which bases in the Pacific formed a part. The Solomon Islands were one of the first objectives in the Allied counter attack, the battle of Guadalcanal in 1942 being one of the major battles in the Pacific theater of war. Many of the islands in the region were, however, bypassed and were occupied until 1945.

**Guam and Wake Island, Attu and Kiska Islands.** Guam and Wake Island were United States military bases in the Pacific and, as such, primary targets in the Japanese offensive in the Pacific directly following the attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941. Guam was occupied until 1944, Wake Island until 1945. The Attu and Kiska Islands are scarcely populated United States islands, part of the Aleutian Islands of Alaska. The Japanese occupied the islands in 1942 with future strategic goals in mind. The islands were freed in 1943.

**Hong Kong.** British Hong Kong is occupied by Japan in 1941. A military administration is installed, Hong Kong being under martial law for the duration of the occupation. Nearby Portuguese Macau is not occupied during WWII, due to the fact that Portugal is a neutral country in WWII.

**Malaya.** The British possessions on the Malayan peninsula are invaded by Japan in 1941 and occupied from 1942 – both the Straits Settlements and the Malayan States. Those Malayan States that have been tributaries to Thailand until 1909 are, in 1943, put under Thai administration.

The Japanese form the administrative area of Malaya to administer the Straits Settlements and the Malayan States. Labuan, an island off the coast of Borneo and, at the time, governed by the British as part of the Straits Settlements is also occupied by Japan and administered as part of the administrative area of North Borneo. The more remote Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean also administered by the British as part of the Straits Settlements is equally occupied by Japan while the Cocos Islands also located in the Indian Ocean and governed by the British as part of the Straits Settlements are not.



1942 – Malaya. Seal Military Postal Authorities on Straits Settlements

**Netherlands Indies.** The Netherlands Indies are occupied by Japan in 1942. The Japanese form three administrative areas in Netherlands Indies: Java and Sumatra – initially part of the Malaya administrative area are administered as army areas, the rest of the Netherlands Indies are grouped together to form the Naval Control Area which is administered by the navy. The Riau Islands are, for the duration of the Japanese occupation, part of the Malaya district.

**New Guinea.** The Australian mandated territory of New Guinea was occupied by Japan in 1942, upon which the Japanese installed military administration in New Guinea. The larger part of Dutch New Guinea was equally occupied as part of the Netherlands Indies. Papua escaped from Japanese occupation.



1942 Red Cross

**Philippines.** The Philippines – a United States Commonwealth territory at the time are invaded in 1941 and occupied by Japan during 1942.

Here too, the Japanese support the nationalist factions to set up a nominally independent republic, the Second Philippine Republic, in 1943.

The first Allied forces land in the Philippines in 1944, all of the Philippines to be returned to United States rule in 1945.

**Portuguese Timor.** Portugal being neutral in WWII, Portuguese Macau was not occupied by Japan. Portuguese Timor was possibly involved in the war because, in 1941, Australian and Dutch forces had landed on the island to protect it from a Japanese attack. The Japanese occupied the island in 1942-1943.

## World War II: turning the tide

A turning point in the war is the Battle of Midway, in June 1942, where the Allies, for the first time, decisively defeated the Japanese Navy. The long supply lines in the extended Japanese empire and the much larger arms production capacity of the United States make the Allies gain the upper hand in the war. In 1945, Russia breaks the neutrality pact and joins the Allies in the fight against Japan.

After the nuclear attack on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan decides to capitulate in 1945.



1945 – Iwo Jima

## The aftermath of the war

After capitulation, Japan is occupied by the Allies. The United States are in the lead, supported by the 'British Commonwealth Occupation Force', consisting of forces from several parts of the British Commonwealth. The Japanese empire is downsized to what it was in 1895 at the start of the Japanese expansion.

The actual transfer of power to the appointed ruling countries will take until 1946, often with an intermediary phase of occupation by the Allies. The Allied occupation of the Japanese mainland ends in 1952 when the peace treaty with Japan is signed.

An exception are the Ryukyu islands, that are in part returned in 1952, in 1953 and in 1972. On Okinawa the United States will have one of their largest air force bases, the base being of importance during the Cold War. The Kurile Islands, are after the war, annexed by Russia which is still an issue between Japan and Russia.

After WWII, Japan, supported by the United States, develops into a modern democracy and an economic world player.

## Postal history Japan



### General issues

A postal service for official government mail goes back a long time in Japan. In 1871, this service is opened for the general public and the first stamps are issued. As the Japanese empire extends, so does the postal service. Japanese stamps are used most notably on Formosa from 1895, in Korea from 1905 and in the former German colonies in the Pacific – the Caroline, Mariana and Marshall Islands – from 1914.

### Offices abroad

As Japan opens up to foreign powers, these foreign powers open offices abroad in Japan:

France has an office in Yokohama from 1865 until 1880 where French stamps are used.

Great Britain has three offices in Kobe, Nagasaki and Yokohama from 1859 until 1879 where, from 1864,

stamps from Hong Kong are used.

The United States have offices in Hakodate, Kobe, Nagasaki and Yokohama from 1867 until 1874 where United States stamps are used. Japan itself also has offices abroad. These being in China from 1876 until 1922 and in Korea from 1876 until 1905.

In the offices in China and Korea Japanese stamps are used until, from 1900, Japan issues stamps specifically for use in the offices in China and Korea. These being Japanese stamps with overprints in Japanese reading 'China' and 'Korea'.

Once Korea becomes a Japanese protectorate in 1905, the postal services in Korea are fully integrated with those of the Japanese empire and, subsequently, Japanese stamps are used in Korea until 1945.



1895 - Korea

## Issues for the occupied territories in WWII: a closer look

A closer look at the stamps issued for the territories occupied by Japan in WWII:

**Andaman & Nicobar Islands:** Issued in 1942, overprints are listed in Michel for use on the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. These being issues from British India overprinted with a new face value in the Japanese military currency – a currency Japan issued for its military and, in some occasions, forced on the local populations of the occupied territories. Subsequently, as the Andaman & Nicobar Islands were nominally transferred to Azad Hind, stamps were prepared by Azad Hind for use on the islands. The stamps were printed in Germany but never actually used on the islands.



1942 – North Borneo 'Imperial Greater Japanese Post, North Borneo'

**Brunei, Labuan, North Borneo and Sarawak:** The British possessions on Borneo were grouped together in the administrative area of North Borneo. Available stamps from Brunei, North Borneo and Sarawak were overprinted in Japanese and were valid throughout the administrative area of North Borneo.

The overprints would read 'Imperial Japanese Government' on stamps of Brunei, North Borneo or Sarawak and 'Imperial Japanese Post North Borneo' or just 'North Borneo' on stamps from North Borneo.

The overprints exist in several varieties and in different colors as the overprint was applied both by the central authorities and by local post offices. Two sets of Japanese design have been issued in 1943.

**Burma:** Following the Japanese occupation of Burma, stamps are issued both by the Burmese Independence Army and the Japanese administration. In 1942, the stamps of the Burmese Independence Army are locally issued in the cities of Henzada, Myaungmya and Pyapon.

These issues are Burmese stamps with the overprint of a peacock, the national symbol of Burma also seen on some regular issues of Burma. As of 1943, stamps are issued in the name of the State of Burma. In 1943, stamps are issued specifically for use in the Shan States – throughout the history of Burma states with a special status.

**China:** After Japan has conquered parts of China, from 1937 on the local governments installed in Kwangtung, Mengkiang and North China issue stamps as of 1940.

The National Government installed in Nanking also issues stamps as of 1940 – used in the provinces in Central China actually under its control. The North China government issues stamps on a general and a provincial level, the provinces being Honan, Hopeh, Shansi, Shantung and Supeh.

In Kwangtung local issues appear in 1945 for use in Canton and Swatow. The stamps issued are, for the better part, overprints on stamps of the republic of China. Some overprints have a commemorative character such as overprints for the surrender of Singapore to the Japanese and the 10th anniversary of the establishment of Manchukuo. Mengkiang, North China and the Nanking Government have also issued definitives of their own design.

The overprints would generally be the name of the region in which the stamps were to be used.



1941 – North China, Hopeh

**French Indochina:** In French Indochina the French colonial administration was left in place and so was the postal service. Stamps issued by the colonial administration have been used throughout the Japanese occupation of French Indochina.

**Hong Kong:** In Hong Kong Japanese stamps were in use. In 1945, Japanese stamps with an overprint of a new face value were issues for use specifically in Hong Kong.





1942 Dai Nippon Yubin

**Malaya:** The Straits Settlements and the Malayan States were grouped together in the Malaya administrative area and so was the postal service.

To the Malaya administrative area were added the Riau Islands off the coast of Singapore and for a time in 1942, Sumatra, both part of the Netherlands Indies.

Available stamps were overprinted and though overprinted locally, were valid for use throughout the Malaya administrative area.

Thus, overprints are found on stamps of the Straits Settlements, Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Penang, Perak, Selangor, Trengganu, and the Malayan Postal Union.



1942 – Malaya, seal Japanese governor on Kelantan

A first series of overprints uses the seal of the Malayan military postal authorities in Japanese.

A second series of overprints is in Latin script reading 'Dai Nippon 2602 Malaya'.

A third series of overprints is again in Japanese and reads 'Greater Japanese Post'. Aside from these three generic overprints that have been applied in most of the Malayan states, more specific overprints exist in the individual states including the settlements of Malacca and Penang – for example, using the seal of the governor or an additional overprint of a new face value.

In 1943 and 1944, stamps of Japanese design were issued in addition to the overprints.



1943 Malaya occupation stamp



1943 Singapore Occupation

**Netherlands Indies:** The Netherlands Indies are split up into three administrative areas: Java, Sumatra and the Naval Control Area. The Riau Islands are transferred to the Malaya administrative area. On Java, initially, stamps of the Netherlands Indies continued to be used, albeit only those stamps that did not show the portrait of the queen of the Netherlands or it was defaced.

On Sumatra and in the Naval Control Area local overprints on issues of the Netherlands Indies would be used. These overprints were applied locally and exist in many forms. On Sumatra the stamps of the administrative area of Malaya were, in addition, used in 1942 when Sumatra was part of the Malaya administrative area.

Finally, stamps of Japan are found to be used in the Netherlands Indies. As of 1943, definitives of Japanese design and inscribed in Japanese are issued for Java, Sumatra and the Naval Control Area respectively.



1942 Japanese Occupation defaced pair



1943 Philippines occupation stamp

**Philippines:** The Japanese administration issues stamps for the Philippines as of 1942.

These are Philippine stamps overprinted with bars and a new face value, later with overprints in Japanese and definitives in Japanese. As of 1943, stamps are issued by the Second Philippine Republic.

These bear the name of the country in Latin script: Pilipinas.



1942 Red Cross stamp

In other territories occupied by Japan, the stamps of Japan would be used. Manchukuo issued stamps of its own.

## Issues after WWII

Japan continues to issue stamps for general use directly after WWII. The Japanese administration in Formosa – active from the capitulation of Japan in August 1945 until October 1945 – issues stamps for use on the island to supersede the stamps of Japan.

These again are superseded later in 1945 by the stamps of the republic of China. Australia issues stamps in 1946 and 1947 for use by the Australian forces that are part of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force, these being overprints on Australian stamps reading ‘B.C.O.F. Japan 1946’. The United States issue separate stamps for use on the Ryukyu Islands until they are returned to Japan in 1972.



1980 Modern Art

### Prefecture issues – Furusato issues

From 1989, Japan has issued the so called ‘prefecture’ or ‘furusato’ issues. To understand the prefecture issues it is useful to know more about the administrative divisions in Japan. Japan is organized in 47 prefectures – hence the name of the issues. The prefectures are grouped together by Japan Post in regions. Japan, until 2005, counted 12 postal regions, since 2005 there are 13 regions.

The prefecture issues can probably best be described as stamps issued to promote the prefectures.

Most stamps promote one prefecture, some two or three prefectures. The stamps are *issued* by post regions (districts). and are valid for use throughout Japan. They are *released* to the public, however, primarily on the regional level: they are generally available only in the prefectures of the region to which the prefecture for which a stamp is issued belongs.



1990 Fukushima prefecture



Aichi Prefecture (issued in October 2006)

Outside that region they have limited availability – in the early years of the prefecture issues, they were only at the Tokyo main post office, currently, in the main post offices of all other prefectures. Thus, the prefecture issues can be qualified as somewhere in between national and local issues.

To identify the prefecture issues, three elements in the design are of importance.

First, the prefecture issues can, until 2007/2008, be distinguished from the national issues by the different font that is used for the ‘Nippon Yubin’ or ‘Japan Post’ inscription in Japanese characters.

Second, the prefectures issues are inscribed with the name of the prefecture or prefectures for which they are issued – a string of three or four Japanese characters.

Third, all prefecture issues can be identified by their design as they are all of a different design.

The prefecture issues are an important part of the stamp output of Japan: between 1989 and 2007 Japan has issued some 800 prefecture stamps compared with some 1100 national issues.

JAPAN: PREFECTURE ISSUES			
1 Hokkaido	北海道	25 Shiga	滋賀県
2 Aomori	青森県	26 Mie	三重県
3 Akita	秋田県	27 Hyogo	兵庫県
4 Iwate	岩手県	28 Osaka	大阪府
5 Yamagata	山形県	29 Nara	奈良県
6 Miyagi	宮城県	30 Wakayama	和歌山県
7 Niigata	新潟県	31 Tottori	鳥取県
8 Fukushima	福島県	32 Okayama	岡山県
9 Toyama	富山県	33 Shimane	島根県
10 Nagano	長野県	34 Hiroshima	広島県
11 Gunma	群馬県	35 Yamaguchi	山口県
12 Tochigi	栃木県	36 Ehime	愛媛県
13 Ibaraki	茨城県	37 Kagawa	香川県
14 Ishikawa	石川県	38 Kochi	高知県
15 Gifu	岐阜県	39 Tokushima	徳島県
16 Yamanashi	山梨県	40 Fukuoka	福岡県
17 Saitama	埼玉県	41 Saga	佐賀県
18 Tokio	東京都	42 Nagasaki	長崎県
19 Chiba	千葉県	43 Oita	大分県
20 Fukui	福井県	44 Kumamoto	熊本県
21 Aichi	愛知県	45 Miyazaki	宮崎県
22 Shizuoka	静岡県	46 Kagoshima	鹿児島県
23 Kanagawa	神奈川県	47 Okinawa	沖縄県
24 Kyoto	京都府		

## Hunting the 10d

by: Jim Jung - [click on images for a larger picture](#)

This is a beautiful stamp that is well liked and highly desirable to collectors of Canadian stamps. It is the stamp that graces the cover of Winthrop Boggs' book, "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada", the bible of Canadian stamp collectors. The design was created from a sketch by William Henry Griffin, Deputy Postmaster-General of Canada from 1868-1888. Henry Griffin spent his entire life working as a public servant for the post office, starting April 24, 1831 and retiring on June 30, 1888.

The 10d stamp was printed on a paper that is described as thin, crisp, transparent paper in Unitrade and numbered as Scott 7. This is quite different than any other paper seen on a Canada stamp. It was also printed on thick, white, opaque paper and numbered as Scott 7a. This 2nd paper is sometimes referred to simply as thick wove paper. The stamp is difficult to find in Very Fine condition, often with tight margins or with thins or rebacked on this thin paper that is easily damaged.

The 10d was used to pay for the Transatlantic rate to Great Britain via the Cunard Line Steamer service. All letters going to England, Scotland, Ireland and onwards to Europe used the 10d stamp as pre-payment. The Cunard Line had voyages between Boston and Liverpool with stops at Halifax in both directions for the duration of the use of the 10d stamp. Later voyages of the Cunard Line in the Decimal Era added New York and Queenstown as stops to land mail.



*Beautiful Mint copy on thin crisp transparent paper and the back showing the gum and transparency of the paper.*



*Major Re-entry pos 1 (Unitrade 7iii)*

It's difficult to hunt for this stamp because there are fewer copies of the stamp than other stamps from this time period. It is also very expensive so you will see fewer copies to hunt. It is uncommon to find a hoard of 10d stamps unless you are visiting the largest dealers. The stamp was released in January of 1855 and was used until July 1, 1859 when the First Decimal Issue was released. There were 172,200 copies of the stamp printed on sheets of 120 stamps, 12 wide and 10 high. That is only 1435 sheets. Boggs, in his Vol. 2, records that the first delivery (thin crisp transparent paper) was ordered on Nov 13, 1854 and consisted of 100,080 stamps (834 sheets) and the second delivery (thick white opaque paper) was ordered July 20, 1858 and comprised 72,120 stamps (601 sheets). When you finally see the 10d at auction, if it has one of the following varieties or re-entries, it will likely sell for a high price, unless no one notices the variety.

Here's some knowledge on what to look for when you see this stamp in an auction and you want to know if it has a variety or re-entry that increases the value of the stamp.

There are two well-known re-entries at positions 1 and 29. These look very similar with position 29 being the stronger of the two. As you can see in the images, the re-entry marks are prominent around the letters of CANADA but there are lesser marks around the oval and in the letters of TEN PENCE. There is a heavy line through the bottom of CANADA. The position 29 Re-entry is the strongest variety on this stamp and most collectors will notice, so bidding will be high if you see position 1 or 29 at auction. Even a damaged copy can go over \$1000 from what I have seen at recent auctions. But the other re-entries on the 10d are not as well-known and could go unnoticed or collectors may not see the appeal that pushes them to bid more. These are the stamps that I have found at auction and won in the \$300-\$400 range that a typical nice copy of the 10d would sell for but I like the extra Re-entry that is on the stamp. In the last couple of years, the Unitrade catalog has started to list these re-entries.

The Position 1 re-entry has the line in the bottom of the letters of CANADA but this line and other marks in PENCE and around the oval are not very strong. There is quite a difference, but because the marks are in the same places around the stamp, these first two re-entries get mixed up at times.



*Re-entry pos 29 (Unitrade 7ii)*



The next strongest re-entry on the 10d Cartier is from Position 53. Again there are marks in the letters and doubling of the oval on the right side, but in different places than on Position 29.

This Re-entry is just as strong or stronger than the Position 1 re-entry. The re-entry can be seen in the top of the letters of CANADA and the bottom of the AGE of POSTAGE as well as letters in PENCE.

*Left, Position 53 Re-entry (Unitrade 7iv),  
Courtesy Mike Smith*

This is the last re-entry listed in the current Unitrade. This one has a lower catalog value but this may be based on Auction Sales prices. Since this is not well known, it would receive lower bids than the Re-entry positions above that have been catalogued for years. This is one that could increase in value and one that you could get for a lower price. The re-entry is on the left frameline and runs from the top to the bottom. There is also some doubling around the letters of CANADA and in the upper left corner, in 8d stg.



*Position 90 Re-entry (Unitrade 7v)*



This re-entry at position 70 is not listed but very strong as far as re-entries go. Look at the left side of the oval and you can see the extra line in the oval whitespace and what appears to be doubling of the top of the letter C of CANADA.

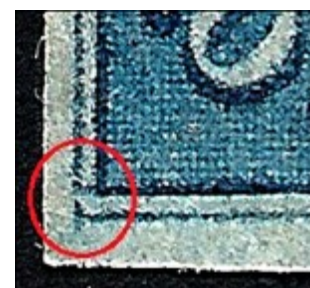
There are also some small marks on the right side in the dot after the E of PENCE and at the top of the GE of POSTAGE.

This re-entry is a strong contender to be the next Unitrade listing on the 10d stamp.

*Left, Position 70 Re-entry  
(Unlisted in Unitrade)*

There are a large number of smaller re-entries and flaws on this stamp. For a good list of these wonderful stamps, take a look at [Ralph Trimble's web page](#) showing many of the re-entry plate positions at this link.

Now here a few odd ones that I have found that are smaller but interesting.



1855 10d Cartier, paying the 10d Transatlantic Rate from Montreal to London, tied to Cover Front with a 4 Ring 21 Montreal postmark. There is a clear MONTREAL NO 17 1858 double arc despatch in black and LONDON NO 30 58 PAID receiver with ms Paid, both in red and Per Royal Mail Steamer routing. This cover was carried by the Cunard Steamship America (Holder of the Blue Riband) departing Halifax on November 18, 1858 and arriving in Liverpool on November 29, 1858.

Covers bearing the 10d Cartier are becoming scarce to find at Auction and when they do appear they can be expensive running into the \$1000 or higher range for nice or even poorer quality covers. The destination is important for collectors of Postal History.



### References

[Re-entries Website](#) - Ralph E. Trimble

*The Unitrade Specialized Catalog of Canadian Stamps* – Editor D. Robin Harris FRPSC

*The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada* – Winthrop S. Boggs

*Canada's Pence Era* – Arfken, Leggett, Firby and Steinhart

*Atlantic Mails* – J. C. Arnell

## A SHORT PRIMER ON BIDDING ON LOTS AND COLLECTIONS

**By:** Bobby Barnhart (bobby1948)

When you delve into the bidding wars on collections, lots, and albums, be prepared because you will occasionally get some really disappointing assortments, and sometimes an outright pile of junk. But that is all part of the gamble. Just get over it and dive back in.

Unless you dropped a bundle on an outright scam, just forget about it, make a note of the seller and do not bid on his/her stuff in the future. But if you are lucky - and you can make your own luck by bidding carefully and conservatively - you will, more often than not, receive a nice selection of stamps to keep you busy for quite awhile.

First and foremost, bid only upon lots which address your goals. If you are seeking pre-1940 French colonies, how satisfied do you think you'll be with a collection described as "thousands of different stamps from Latin America"? Sure there might be a few stamps from French Guiana, Inini, or other French possessions, but the vast majority will be from distinctly different areas and, most likely, post 1940 as well.

Next, do not be fooled by the images which accompany selections offered. Very often sellers will choose the more appealing items in a selection to illustrate the offering.

If you think the offering is too good to be true, it probably is. There are many expensive stamps which have been reprinted and outright forged, many of which cannot be declared genuine without examination.

If you come upon an interesting lot but the images are blurred or out-of-focus, forward a request to the seller for clearer or better images.

If a seller ignores such a request, or says he/she has an issue with his/her scanner or camera, keep your bid low, or better yet, don't bid - there are many honest, reputable sellers out there with good camera skills who will go the extra mile to accommodate buyers.

Beware of "cherry-picked" collections, that is, lots or collections where the better stamps have been removed prior to being offered. There is no sure way to tell if a collection has been culled, but I have found that a sampling of better countries will usually indicate whether a collection is a good value or merely the left-overs from someone else's prior purchase.

I usually examine Australia, Canada, Germany, Great Britain, and Italy, but you should go with the areas with which you are most familiar.

On a final note, keep your bid conservative, but your initial bid should be the maximum you are willing to pay. If you follow the auction and see that time is expiring soon and someone is inching up on your maximum bid, or has already exceeded it, be very cautious about entering into a last minute bidding war.

It is very easy to get caught up in the excitement and ultimately bid much more than you anticipated (or even more than you can afford). In fact, after entering my initial bid, I usually will make a note of the time the auction is slated to end, and only then check to see if I won or lost.

Buying lots or collections is fun and can be very rewarding. But the fun quickly fades if you suddenly realize that you just emptied your checking account, next week is your wedding anniversary, and you haven't purchased a present

(I hope for your sake your spouse collects stamps...).

## Under the Covers, the Inside Story: Private Isaac L. Horn

By Steve Tomisek (tomiseksj) - (click on images for a larger picture)

For me, one of the more enjoyable aspects of collecting covers is trying to learn as much as I can about the cover, its sender and the recipient.

Countless hours can be spent in this pursuit and sometimes there are monetary costs involved as well.

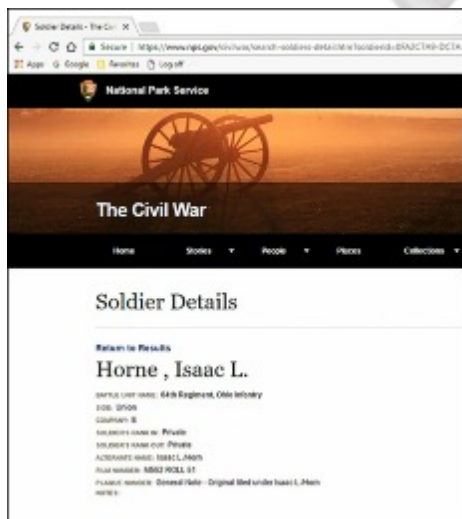
During February 2017 I acquired my first Civil War Patriotic Cover – a creased and soiled cover bearing a three cent rose Washington stamp (Scott 65) that had been roughly opened at right. The cover was addressed to Mr. Isaac Horn, Company E, 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Bardstown, Kentucky and had a West Windsor, Ohio manuscript postmark dated January 23<sup>rd</sup>. A letter was included in the lot but I would have to wait until the cover arrived before learning what its content might reveal.



I'd bid on other Civil War patriotic covers in the past but always fell short so you can imagine my joy when the auction closed and I was the winning bidder.

I only had one other cover that had been sent to a Civil War participant during the conflict (see Vol. 1.3 of the Newsletter) and I was eager to add this one to my collection. I suspected that its tattered condition was the result of Horn having carried it with him during his time in service.

As is my practice, I immediately set about trying to learn what I could about the recipient, Isaac Horn, and his unit, the 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Ohio Infantry.



A Screenshot of the NPS Civil War Site

The National Park Service's [Civil War website](#) is a tremendous resource when performing research on the Civil War – it provides a wealth of information on both the battle units and people involved (e.g., soldiers and sailors, politicians, activists, etc.).

The information obtained on the 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Ohio Infantry (Union) provided the first indication of the timeframe during which the cover had been mailed. Specifically, the regiment was formed in Mansfield, Ohio and mustered in on November 9, 1861. It moved to Louisville, Kentucky on December 14<sup>th</sup> and on to Bardstown on December 25<sup>th</sup>. After attaching to the 20<sup>th</sup> Brigade, Army of the Ohio, the 64<sup>th</sup> saw duty at Danville and Ball's Gap, Kentucky during January and February, 1862.

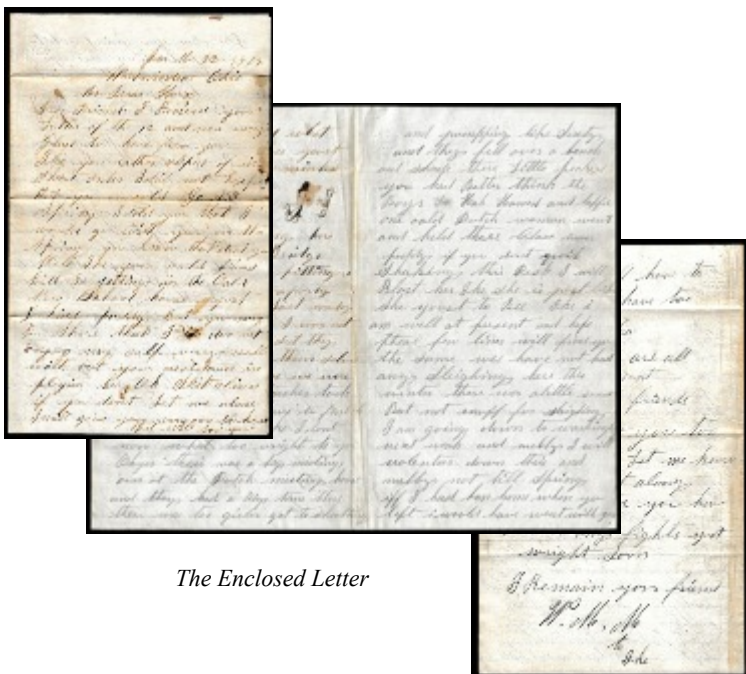
Given that the cover was sent to Isaac Horn at Bardstown, Kentucky, I was able to conclude that the cover had been mailed January 23, 1862 – this was subsequently confirmed by the date on the enclosed letter.

After reviewing the unit information, I next searched for information on the addressee. The only details I found on the NPS site was that Isaac L. Horn was a Private assigned to the 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment's Company E and that he remained in that rank when mustered out.

From the website [OhioCivilWar.org](#) I was able to learn that Private Horn enlisted on December 8, 1861 at the age of 19 and that he was discharged in Nashville, Tennessee on a Surgeon's certificate of disability on December 23, 1862.

No reason for the discharge was given but the site revealed that Horn died on February 7, 1863 and was buried in the Pavonia Milton Cemetery.

Shortly after the auction closed, the cover and its content arrived and I set about trying to decipher the handwriting of the letter's drafter, identified only by the signature line as "W. M. M." and a single reference to himself as "Bill" in the letter's content. Horn was known to the writer as "Ike" and apparently they had been friends and classmates. Horn had written to Bill on December 12<sup>th</sup> and the letter acknowledges receipt of that correspondence.



The Enclosed Letter

The writer expresses his surprise that Horn had enlisted when he did, rather than in Spring and assures him that he would have gone with him had he only known Horn was going to enlist.

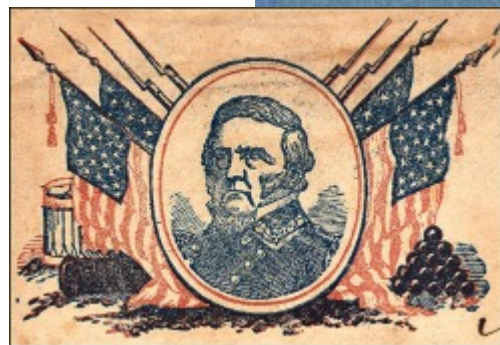
He provides Horn with updates on some recent local happenings, lets him know that his parents are fine, and announces that he may volunteer while on a trip he was taking the following week.

He closes by asking Horn to write back soon and to let him know if he has been involved in combat.

In an effort to learn more about the cover's cachet, I found an offering on Amazon for a hardbound catalog for Nutmeg Stamp Auctions' Public & Mail Auction 27 held June 21-23, 2000. The sale involved disposition of the Jon E. Bischel collection of Civil War patriotic covers.

The catalog's 380+ glossy pages contained over 6,000 lots with each lot being shown with a color image. I thought it might be useful in identifying the cachet so I added it to my small philatelic library.

As luck would have it, the cachet was described in the auction catalog as "General [Winfield Scott], Flags and Cannon, Red & Blue design, Portrait in Oval Frame . . . (W-275var)." The "W-275var" is in reference to a listing in the auction catalog *The George Walcott Collection of Used Civil War Patriotic Covers*, published in 1934 by Robert Laurence.



I'd been able to learn much about this cover; however, despite my best effort, I couldn't find any more online information regarding either Horn's combat experience, the basis for his disability discharge, or his cause of death. During the 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment's service, 6 officers and 108 enlisted men were killed or mortally wounded and 1 officer and 159 enlisted men were lost by disease.

I couldn't help but wonder if Horn had been wounded in action and later died of those wounds or if he had succumbed to disease.

During September, after several months of searching with no success, I requested a copy of Horn's military service file from the [National Archives](https://www.archives.gov) in Washington, DC. I'd never requested a file from the Archives but the process seemed fairly straight forward: submit the request online and if information was found, only then would you be charged the service fee.

In October, I received a copy Private Horn's compiled military service record which consisted of the Company Descriptive Book on Horn which included several Muster Rolls and the Surgeon's Certificate of Disability that I had been hoping for.

With these documents in hand and the history of the 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Ohio Infantry, it would be possible to gain a clearer picture of Horn's time in service and his untimely demise.



Horn's Military Service Records

Born in Richland, Ohio in 1843, Isaac L. Horn traveled to Camp Buckingham near Mansfield, Ohio to enlist in the 64th Regiment, Ohio Infantry on December 8, 1861.

At the time of his enlistment, the 19 year old farmer with brown hair, blue eyes and florid complexion stood 5 feet 6 inches tall. Enlisting as a Private for a term of 3 years, Horn was mustered in to the Regiment's Company E. During January and February, 1862, Horn was present as his unit performed duty at Danville and Ball's Gap, Kentucky.

From March through June 9th he was absent from the unit while hospitalized in Nashville, Tennessee, but there is no indication as to the cause of his hospitalization. During his absence, the 64th participated in the Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee, the siege of Corinth, Mississippi, and the pursuit to Booneville, MS.

Private Horn returned to his unit on June 10, 1862 as it performed duty along the Memphis and Charleston Railroad through mid-August.

From August 21 through September 26th the unit marched toward Louisville, Kentucky in pursuit of Confederate General Braxton Bragg's forces. The regiment was involved in the [Battle of Perryville](#) on October 8th. From October 16th to November 7th the regiment marched to Nashville, Tennessee.

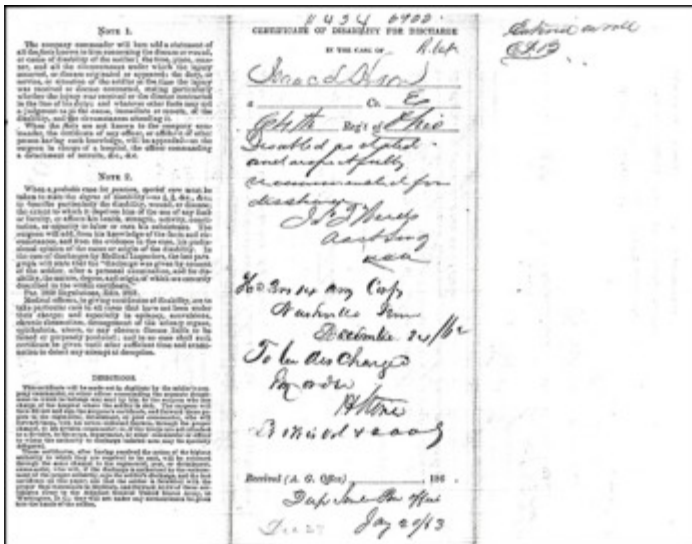
At some point during November, Private Horn was again hospitalized at General Hospital No. 16 in Nashville and he would remain there until his disability discharge on December 23, 1862.

According to the Certificate of Disability for Discharge, Horn's commanding officer, First Lieutenant Warner Young certified that Horn had been unfit for duty for all of the previous 60 days, noting that he believed Horn's disease was contracted "while in the discharge of his duties."

The Surgeon, Dr. Fred Seymour, found Horn incapable of performing the duties of a soldier due to tuberculosis, noting "much emaciated recovery very uncertain." Of the approximately 1.1 million casualties on both sides of the Civil War, slightly more than 388,000 were due to disease. About 14,000 soldiers died from tuberculosis with many more having latent forms of the disease.



Disability Discharge Certificate



Disability Discharge Certificate Reverse



Isaac L. Horn Tombstone

Private Horn returned home following his discharge where he likely died of his disease. This was certainly not the outcome that I had envisioned for young Isaac when I began my research. Having gained this insight into the life of "Ike," however, I have a greater appreciation of the cover and its intrinsic value has increased. The Horn cover now occupies a special place in my collection and I look forward to acquiring and researching my next Civil War patriotic.



## The Forgotten Arctic Explorer

By Nelson Laviolette - (falshung) ([click on images for a larger picture](#))

When the names of pioneer polar flight explorers come up, Byrd, Amundsen and Ellsworth are prominent.

Wiki provides a listing of some 125 Arctic explorers.

Rarely is the name **Umberto Nobile** mentioned.

Umberto, aside from being an excellent pilot, was an aeronautical engineer.

During WWI, Nobile spent the war overseeing airship construction and designs.

After the war he started up a successful company to manufacture airships but faced serious opposition.

In the early 20's, due to political pressure in Italy, he spent some time in the US working for Goodyear.

He eventually returned to Italy and began construction of a new airship but again faced opposition from competing companies and high ranking military officials.



*Nobile and his mascot Titina*



*The Norge*

In late 1925 Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen requested that Umberto provide an airship and be the pilot of a North Pole flight. The airship was named the Norge (Norway).

According to records, although the flight was successful, they were beaten by Byrd who flew to the Pole by plane. Later both Byrd's co-pilot and his personal log appeared to show that he did not reach the North Pole.

Nobile did however pilot the Amundsen airship Norge over the Pole landing in Alaska.

Whether Amundsen, who basically was a passenger, or Nobile should get top credit became a hot dispute particularly when Mussolini ordered Nobile to go on a speaking tour to promote Italy's achievement.

Nobile became a loved celebrity in Italy and was featured in many periodicals.



*The massive airship Italia*

Nobile had grander ambitions and set his sights on a North Pole flight despite hostile threats from competitors and high ranking fascist military officials who were not interested in airships.

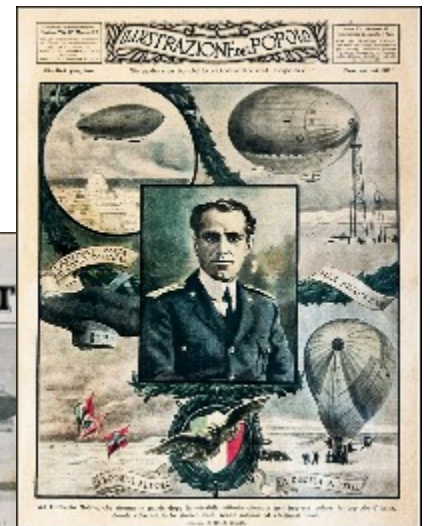
The new airship, the Italia, with an all Italian crew did reach the North Pole but on its return ran into a storm and crashed.

Apparently Nobile and several crewman were thrown from the cabin which broke up on impact. The others in another section were blown away and never recovered. Fortunately most supplies and radio equipment survived.

Eventually, their fate became known and a multi country search and rescue was formed.

Russia was a main contributor.

Even Amundsen joined the search but his plane crashed and nothing was ever recovered of the crew or plane.



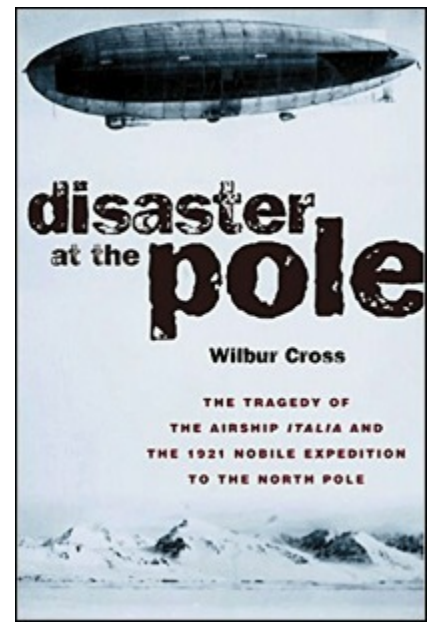


The whole event became the stuff of legends and even a movie fictionalizing the events called *The Red Tent* starring Sean Connery and Peter Finch was released in 1969.

Several books were published about the events and Nobile produced a biography of his flights. Interestingly, the Cross book's title has the crash happening in 1921!

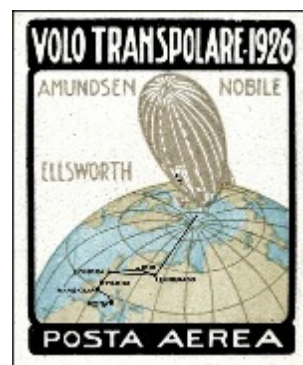
In Italy Nobile did not get a good reception by officials who saw the opportunity to squash him and even accused him of deserting his men.

Eventually he was forced to resign from the Air Force. He went to Russia to work on their airship program and then to the US to teach aeronautics.



In 1945, the Italian air force cleared Nobile of all charges relating to the Italia crash, reinstated him and even promoted him to lieutenant general. He became a member of parliament and died in Rome on July 30th 1978 aged 93.

A search for Italian stamps in the Sassone catalog and others did not reveal any that were issued in his honour other than a series of high value aerogrammes.



Fortunately, some Cinderellas and labels were produced in 1926 & 1928 and they command some good values. A few countries did publish airship stamps of the Norge and Italia but any of Nobile appear to be non existent.



North Korea 1979



Norway Norge airship

## Visiting Stamp Shops Around the World – Article #2

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

This article is the second in a series about stamp shops which I was lucky enough to be able to visit when I traveled regularly around the world on business.

Since stamp shops are becoming less and less common all the time, being replaced by “virtual” stamp shops on the internet, it has now become more challenging than ever to find traditional stamp shops. In my experience, however, I have enjoyed these opportunities so much, that I have found it to be well worth the effort it takes to find these jewels of the stamp collecting hobby where they still exist.

Featured in this article are shops in: Tokyo, Japan; Karlsruhe, Germany; and Las Vegas, Nevada, U.S.A.

### Hidden Gem in Tokyo



*Street view of the Tokyo Philatelic Museum*

I first went to the Philatelic Museum several years ago, and returned there again in September 2017. The museum has a combination of display boards which show both permanent features and temporary ones which change every three months. The seasonal display at the time of my visit was a topical collection of “Working Vehicles” on stamps from around the world, which showed a variety of trucks, fire engines, police cars, earth-moving and construction equipment, and more.

It was very well assembled and nicely displayed, but I had forgotten that everything written on the boards is only in Japanese, so although I could admire the stamps, I could not easily understand the descriptive text, which was too bad.

Tokyo has been a regular business travel destination for me for more than 25 years, so it stood to reason that I would have some free time over weekends during which I was looking for things to do, and finding stamp shops was high on my list.

There were two places in Tokyo (that I could find) where more than one dealer was located in the same place. And one of those places was also co-located with a Philatelic Museum. So, I went to check out the museum and try my luck with the dealers.

The museum and dealers are in a rather unobtrusive building located in the Toshima neighborhood of Tokyo, and fortunately for me, there was a simple “straight shot” connection on one of the subway lines between my usual hotel in central Tokyo and one of the two nearby train stations.



*Museum Shop inside the Tokyo Philatelic Museum*



*Museum Brochure Cover with artist's rendering of the building*

On the second floor of the museum is a library with a very extensive collection of catalogues, reference books, and periodicals. I was able to spend a few minutes relaxing quietly there and reading through some of the periodicals, several of which were in English. They also had a full set of the latest standard Scott catalogues, and many, many more. There were some collectors seated at the tables with stock cards full of stamps which they were busily identifying using the catalogues.

After having a good look around at the displays and the library, I went next to the museum shop, where they have a good selection of stamp-related ephemera and packets of modern stamps, largely arranged by topical subjects. After looking there for awhile, I decided it was time to see the dealers, in search of some older, classic stamps, and I was not disappointed!

My first stop was at a dealer named Toshio Wada. Mr. Wada has his classic Japan material organized into large binders with stock pages, and I had a good look through those. I was able to find a couple of early issues that I needed, and I also spent some time studying his Japan Offices in China overprints. I have a few of those stamps already in my collection, but as I am a big fan of overprints and surcharges, I could not resist trying to fill some of those empty spaces in my albums.



Japan Offices in China #1, #4, #6, #8, #10, #12

Wada-san (Japanese equivalent of “Mr. Wada”) had recently acquired two collections which had nearly full sets of the Offices in China stamps, so I was able to look through those for very fine or better copies to add to my collection, and he offered me a substantial discount, so I chose quite a few stamps.



Japan Offices in China #18

After reaching my limit with Wada-san, I went to the next stall to my old favorite,

Mona Lisa Stamps, owned and operated by Charles Bernard, an American ex-patriate who has lived in Japan more than 40 years.

Charles is always interesting and fun to talk to, and he usually has some clearance items with special discounted prices which are a very good deal.

On this occasion, he offered me a wide selection of mint, never-hinged souvenir sheets from the 1960s through 1980s at face value, so I picked up 10-20 of those to use as trading material with a friend of mine who loves souvenir sheets.

Then I moved on the Japan classic material, where I found a copy of Scott #88 in mint, hinged condition, with beautifully bright deep ultramarine color, and great centering. It is simply the nicest copy of this stamp that I have ever been able to find, after many years of looking.



Japan #88 & #110

I was also able to find a very fine used copy of Scott #110, which was issued in 1905 to commemorate the forced joining of the Japan and Korea postal services.

This stamp was issued on the 1st of July that year, on the day after Korean stamps were officially withdrawn from sale.

This stamp was used in Japan itself, but also in the Japan Offices in China and Korea.



Charles Bernard and his wife at Mona Lisa Stamps

Charles and his wife, who works by his side at the stamp shop, kindly allowed me to take a photo of them with their display, and told me to come and visit them again the next time I am in Tokyo, which I promised to do.

If you look in the photo just behind Charles, you will see a picture of the Mona Lisa on the wall, after which the shop is named.



Japan #32 & #41

## When in Baden....



*Street view of the Walsch Stamp-Coin Shop*

Perhaps readers of the TSF Newsletter have noticed that in my posts about visits to stamps shops, I have the tendency to “go local” in material that I seek out and acquire, and Baden was no exception. During my month-long work trip in Germany in June and July 2017,

I spent most of my time there in the town of Karlsruhe, located in the state of Baden-Württemberg, in southwestern Germany, not too far from the border with France. The city has a population of just over 300,000 people.

On one sultry Friday afternoon in July, I left work early and went to downtown Karlsruhe with my good friend and work colleague who, knowing my love of stamps, took me to the Walsch Stamp-Coin-Weapons-Gold & Silver shop, which he told me, to his knowledge, was the only remaining brick-and-mortar stamp shop left in town.

Walsch is a family-run business that has operated for a few decades, and today is run by Marco Walsch, the son of the founder and original owner. Marco explained to me that stamp business, which once was the shop’s biggest revenue area, is today smaller than precious metals, coins, and old weapons & military items.

Despite that explanation, as I began to ask Marco about his stamp inventory, it was clear that he knew his stuff when it came to stamps, especially those of classic Germany and German States.

Since Karlsruhe is located in the original state of Baden (prior to the amalgamation of Baden with Württemberg and Hohenzollern to form present-day Baden-Württemberg), and I had virtually no stamps of classic Baden in my collection, this seemed like a good opportunity to add to my collection without the need to check my current holdings.



*Shop brochures showing items on offer*



*Baden Stockbooks #1 - #10*

Marco handed me a couple of large-format stock books, and I saw upon opening them that they were packed with many copies of the early issues of Baden.

I was especially pleased by this since I was looking for stamps of higher than average quality, and I knew that a larger stock gave me better odds of finding individual examples to my liking.

I was able to find several 4-margin copies of the earliest issues of Baden (Scott #1-10) to add to my collection at very fair prices.

I am already planning to visit Walsch again whenever I next find myself back in Karlsruhe!



*Some of the stamps I purchased*

## Gambling in Las Vegas?

As a member of the APS (American Philatelic Society) for the past 17 years or so, I have become a regular reader of the Society's monthly magazine, *The American Philatelist* (AP). As with all stamp periodicals that I read, I always peruse the classified ads in the back, whether I am truly seriously looking for anything or not! Who knows what I might find there?



*Jim Forte Postal History Shop*

I have noted over some time that there has been a regular advertisement in the AP which asks the question: "VISITING LAS VEGAS? Stamps, Covers, and More." Well, who could resist an opening like that? Not me, that's for sure! From my home in northern Arizona, I live about a 4-hour drive away from Las Vegas, so it is a nice place to go for a 2-3 day getaway. Neither my wife nor I are big gamblers, but we have been known to patronize a casino now and again, typically donating our hard-earned money to what we used to call "one-armed bandits", but which these days are effectively electronic video games designed as paid, personal entertainment machines.

To prevent ourselves from getting too carried away by the "gambling bug" while we are in Las Vegas, my wife and I normally set a daily vacation spending limit while we are here. My wife generally uses her daily allowance in the casinos, while I take mine to the Jim Forte Postal History and Stamps Plus shop out on West Sahara Avenue, a few miles away from the Las Vegas Strip.

As the first business name suggests, the shop specializes in postal history, and as near as I can tell, they have some beautiful pieces there. Thanks to my time on TSF over the past year, I have learned to appreciate postal history much more than I ever thought that I would. As I cannot even keep up with my stamp collection, however, I have no plans to expand my collection to include postal history, despite its obvious attractions!



*From Stamps Plus: Belgium #138*



*From Stamps Plus:  
Malaya #70*

In addition to the postal history, Jim Forte also owns a business called Stamps Plus, which handles selling of individual stamps, sets, collections, and accumulations. Jim's associate, Allan Solnik, is in charge of the Stamps Plus operation, and he has been my primary contact during my visits to the shop. As I have now been there a few times, Allan knows my collecting interests, and he is able to steer me towards the pre-1930 worldwide issues which can potentially fit into my collection.

The shop is easy enough to find if you have the address, but it is located in what I would call either a business or office park, so it is not readily visible from the street. One needs to drive into the office park and proceed along the rows of low buildings to find number 8919, Suite 140. But the shop is well worth the finding, as I have had some excellent experiences at Stamps Plus, buying premium-quality items at very fair prices.



*From Stamps Plus: Luxembourg #66-67*



*From Stamps Plus:  
Mauritius #89*

Stamps Plus also now runs a monthly stamp auction on-line, and is one of the primary sponsors of a local stamp show in the Las Vegas area. I have found a few very nice items in the on-line auction, and I will continue to visit Jim and Allan whenever I am in town, and I hope to make it out to one of their stamp shows one of these days, too.



*From Stamps Plus: Mexico #317, #432, #632*

# A Beginning Collector's Guide: Soaking Stamps

By Editorial Staff

## Stamp Collecting 101

Collectors will frequently acquire stamps that remain attached to portions of the envelope or wrapper they had been affixed to while performing their postal duty. When there aren't any markings that make it desirable to keep the stamps "on piece," collectors may opt to remove them from the paper.

*The process of soaking described in this article is intended solely for stamps with water-activated gum; removing self-adhesive stamps from paper will be described in a subsequent article.*

**Preparation:** Trim the envelope paper, taking care not to cut into the perforations or otherwise damage the stamp. Set aside stamps on brightly colored paper (typically red or green) or those with postal markings made with red or purple ink as problems may result if not carefully handled.

For example, the color from the envelopes or the marking inks may run and discolor the stamps being soaked. Items such as these are best dealt with individually. Another potential problem involves stamps that were printed with aniline or fugitive inks intended to prevent their reuse (i.e., the ink will bleed when exposed to water or an aqueous solution).



**Soaking:** Fill a shallow container with several inches of cool-to-lukewarm water and float the items with the stamps facing up. Don't soak too many at a time as you don't want the stamps to stick to one another. Let the stamps float until the glue dissolves and the stamps easily slide off the paper. Wet paper is weak and will tear easily so you'll need to handle the stamps very carefully. Some stamps will take longer to release than others so be patient – trying to "help" the stamp release could have unwelcome consequences.

After the stamps have released from the paper, rinse them in fresh water to ensure that all of the glue has been removed. You may want to use a second container of fresh water to hold the stamps as they release from their backing paper. You'll also want to change the water in the soaking container frequently to keep it clean. Consider using tongs to lift the wet stamps, rather than your fingers.

**Drying:** There are several options for drying stamps that have been soaked off paper. The stamps may be placed to dry on a dish towel, paper towels, or old newspapers (don't use papers with colored ink that might adhere to the wet stamps).

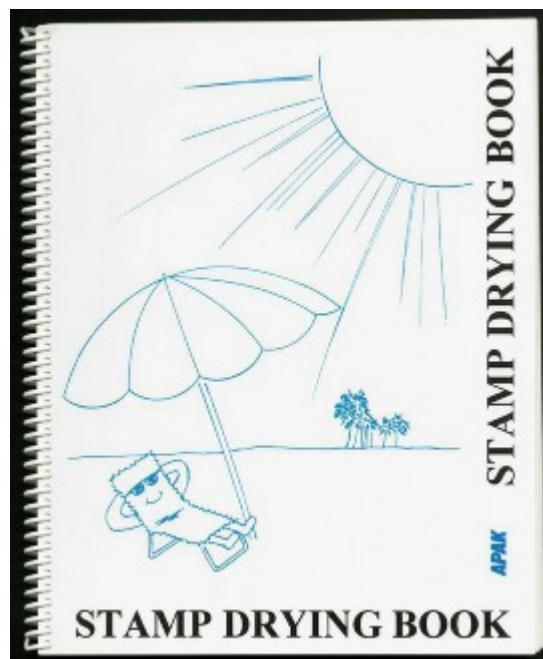
Lay the stamps in a single layer so they aren't touching each other and leave them to dry on their own (they may curl or look wrinkled as this occurs). Once completely dry, lift the stamps with your tongs and put them between the pages of a book (e.g., phone directory, dictionary, etc.).

After a few days they will have flattened and will be ready to add to your collection.

As an alternative, you can use a drying book that has been designed to accomplish both the drying and flattening processes simultaneously.

Before placing the wet stamps in the drying book, blot them to remove the excess moisture that slows the drying process and may cause the book's pages to ripple.

With the book on a flat surface, place some weight on top of it and your stamps should be flat and dry in 24- to 48 hours.



## CINDERELLA CORNER, Part 8.

By Michael Hide (Londonbus1) - ([click on images for a larger picture](#))

### Advertising your wares ! Victor Short & Others

One of my Philatelic New Year resolutions for 2018 was to cut down on the number of topics/countries I collect and to start to concentrate more on just few specific subjects. We all know that resolutions do not always work out as planned but that doesn't stop us trying !

With that in mind I have decided to narrow my collections of advertising labels, sheets and ephemera to those of a philatelic nature. Stamp and accessory dealers and collectors !! I may even break my own rule of never including covers or cards, but time will tell on that one !

### Philatelic Historian, Victor Short.



Some of the most collectable items of modern day advertising are those from the UK's Victor Short. Member of the Cinderella Stamp Club and Editor of the excellent 'Philatelic Paraphernalia' (Journal of the Philatelic History Society), he started to advertise his interests in the mid-1980's by producing labels based upon the 1900 Manchester P.S. War Fund issue.



Both the original and 'altered' advertising examples are shown. You can see how the wording around the central vignette has been changed to show his collecting interests.

To make the sheet even more interesting, each label is different with one label retaining the inscription 'Manchester Philatelic Society War Fund' but with One Penny changed to One Copy !!



As with the original issue, they were printed in sheets of 12 and like all of his creations, were printed by the Arborn Press in Orpington, Kent, UK. The sheets in my collection or those seen elsewhere, all have large to very large margins. They were all printed on invisibly gummed paper. All are bi-coloured (different colours for each year of issue). The sheets are imperforate except in 1990 and 1991 when they were also perforated 11.



These labels, like many other advertising labels, were used for a variety of purposes.

To seal envelopes; On Bills or receipts; sent as a gift commemorative label or even as a Philatelic Collar ! (See the example with GB Machin affixed). Most labels used in these ways were signed and dated.



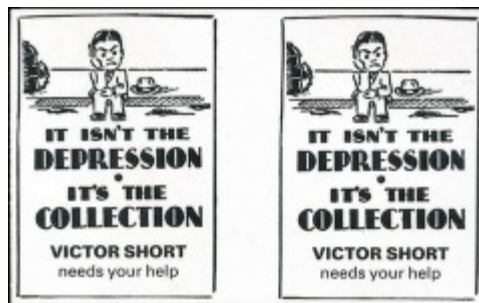
Later, another classic British Cinderella label was reproduced to include Mr.Short's affection for the Ideal Stamp Album ! The design of the 'Ideal' stamp, issued for the 1912 London International Stamp Exhibition, was altered to include the words 'Ideal Stamp Albums Purchased'. All of these labels are imperforate and exist (so far as I am aware) in 12 different colours plus a couple of shade varieties. Colours are: Black, Black on Cream, yellow, yellow-green, Purple, gold, red, blue, orange-brown, greenish yellow, grey-green and reddish violet. Both the original and some of the colours noted are shown here.







I am not sure how a debt-collecting label could be used but the following item is based on such. This one is adapted from an American label and exists in a few varieties. The original label (left) was printed in error and includes 3 lines of text that should have been excluded. These types are scarce



and can be found in Black, Deep Olive-Green and Magenta. I am quite enamoured with this issue and am still searching for the odd variety, readers please note !!!!



Last but not least is the very old and often used method of advertising on the back of used postage stamps. A simple rubber handstamp or something a little more elaborate, a pinch of imagination and there you go, a cheap and individual way to advertise your Philatelic business.

The East London firm, Errington & Martin, had great success with this almost a century ago and it has continued sporadically since from dealers worldwide. Sadly, so often they are discarded by collectors as worthless junk, history assigned to the bin as it were !



The handstamps on the Victor Short 'labels' are in various colours and wording. A few are most often on used GB Machins.

To keep collectors interested, the handstamps can also be found Tete-Beche on blocks and pairs !!

His labels were available to buy in sets of the series seen here and all monies were donated to a local AIDS Charity. It somehow makes these labels all the more collectable because of this.

I am not complete with any of the series seen here. If anyone comes across any of these types of labels during your philatelic travels, please let me know through the TSF Message Board. Thank you.

### Others.

I am sure that in the future, there will be a 'Part 2' to this topic but for now here are a few more examples of Stamp Dealer Advertising Labels.

Across the Atlantic, The Tatham Stamp & Coin Company of Springfield, Massachusetts produced some fine Cinderella items advertising their business, many commanding high prices today as the popularity of these labels increase. One such label reproduced the



design of the 'Ideal' Stamp just as Victor Short did many years later. Details are sketchy up to now but many colours have been seen, most commonly in blocks of 4 both perforated and imperforate.

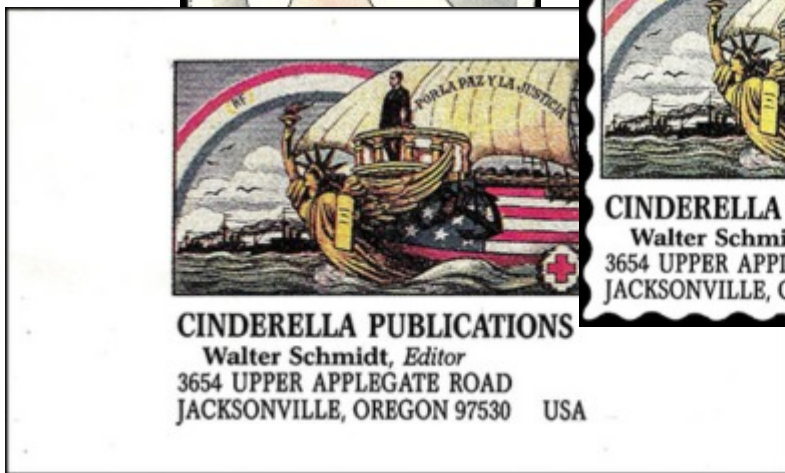
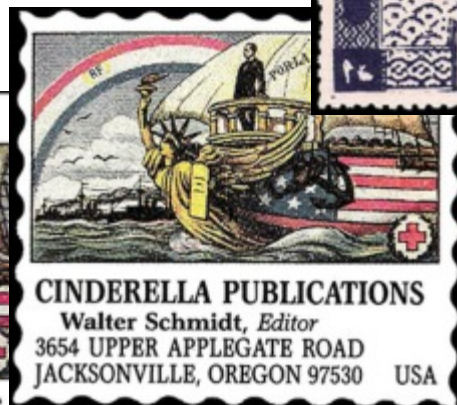
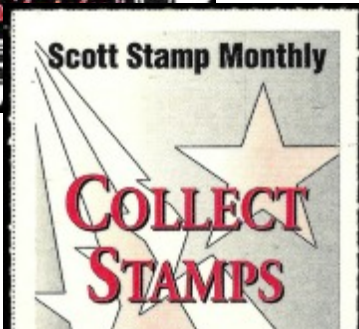
Also larger labels exist and examples of both are shown here. The inscription around King George V reads 'Tatham Stamp & Coin Co., Springfield, Mass.'



Here are a few more to whet your appetite for a future visit to Philatelic Advertising. Included is one from Robson Lowe promoting his Regent Stamp catalogue with the stamp 'Value' as the price of the book. Also a couple of varieties from Cinderella Expert Walter Schmidt and others!! To be continued.....



Ack:Cinderella Stamp Club, eBay,



### TSF Newsletter Giveaway No.8

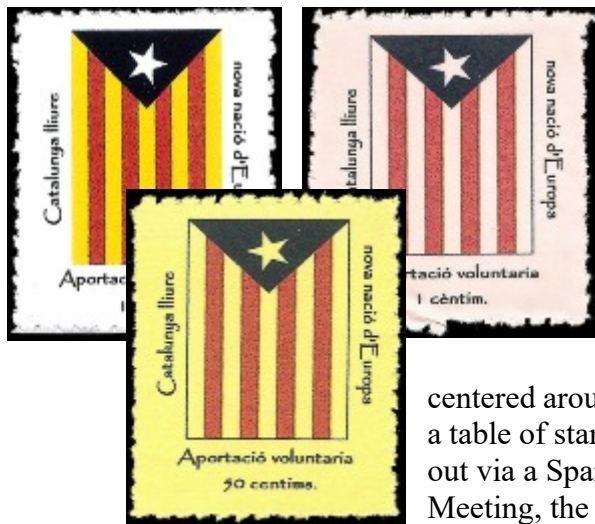
I will be giving away some Cinderella literature in the form of back copies of CSC's Private Post. I hope these may interest a collector or two here and you never know, they may want to start a new collection !!! As a bonus, I will include a couple of stockcards of nice Cinderellas safely tucked away inside the journals. The Private Post is a publication about British locals, parcel stamps, strike mail and the like and has some very good information contained therein. Copies are 1983 and 1985.

You can enter by sending me, through the TSF message board, your forum name or wait until it is announced on the board where you can add your name to the thread. Details and pictures to come once the Newsletter is published. Congratulations to dgdecker and Beryllium Guy for winning Newsletter Giveaway Nos.6 & 7. I am pretty sure your prizes will have arrived by the time you are reading this ! Well Done.

Good Luck and Happy Collecting.

### CATALONIA: DREAM ANOTHER DAY.

Was it a dream ? To fight for decades to be independent, to get to the big day, in this case October 1st 2017 and then to have it all taken away so cruelly. Was it a dream ? Over 2 million Catalonians thought it was more than that, some risking their lives in the aftermath of the referendum and the independence declaration. One such supporter, a friend of mine and one of those who narrowly escaped a police beating, has sent to me a special set of Cinderella stamps that could easily be mistaken for a Catalonia Republic issue or forerunner ? Maybe that was in the mind of the designer Bernardi Mota, when he produced these fine items ? (There are flags involved here so I have got to like them haven't I !!!).



Let us go back to the year 2011 and to the small Catalan town of Artesa de Segre. Situated 135kms from Barcelona and with a population of just 3500, it would not seem to be the ideal venue for a stamp meeting. But that is what has been taking place on the last weekend in August for the last seven years !

Bernardi Mota, a stamp collector in his thirties, decided to promote the hobby during the Agricultural Fair held that August weekend in an attempt to get the townspeople interested. He made up stamp packets for children and set up a table. Much of the Fair was centered around the Melon Harvest, and it must have seemed quite unusual to see a table of stamps at this type of event ! A meeting was held too, invitations going out via a Spanish Stamp Forum. 5 attended this inaugural Artesa de Segre Stamp Meeting, the number rising to 20 in 2017 !!

At this time, the Catalan Independence Movement was gaining momentum and Bernardi produced a Starred Flag Cinderella ("Estelades") for the occasion. You can see below one of the few covers serviced with the 'cancelled' Cinderellas.

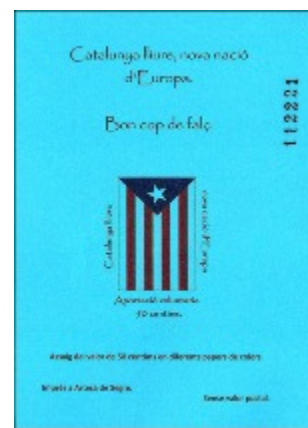


In recent years the meetings have grown, most attendees from local areas but some from further afield and Spanish areas !! In 2017, with the referendum on the horizon, a set of Cinderella Stamps and sheets were produced, and most likely with independence in mind ! You will see some of these here. Around 50 sets only were produced. I was very kindly sent a selection by my friend Joan from Barcelona. I do not know if this is a complete series.

Singles, all with rough perfs. All are valued, all depict the flag of Catalonia in paper colours except the 1 Euro value: Peach-coloured paper....1 Centim; Pink Paper....10 centims; Bright Green....5 Centims; Light Blue....25 centims; Bright Yellow....50 Centims; White Paper (Flag in Original colours), Self-Adhesive....1 Euro.



Miniature sheets are all imperf and depict the flag in the paper colours. All are valued at 50 centims. Paper colours: Light Green, Cream, Pink, Yellow, Orange, Vermillion and Light Blue. Sheets are numbered but I have no idea what the number may signify. I have shown an error which was included in my envelope !!



All things being good, I hope to make a trip to Catalonia later in the year and will learn more about the Artesa de Segre Stamp meetings and Barcelona & Catalonia Cinderellas. So a follow-up report may well be in the offing !!

I wish to thank Joan Molina for his help, his sending of beautiful Catalonia Cinderellas and his knowledge of such items. Joan has authored what must be the longest Cinderella thread on the Internet of almost 50 pages and it can be found at SCF (Stamp Community Family) under the heading 'Barcelona and Catalonia Cinderellas'. It is well worth the read.

More from me next time,

Londonbus1

## From The Member Archives

Continuing from the December newsletter, more mailbox posts from TSF members  
**(click on images for a larger picture)**



*Edinburgh, Scotland, 1991*



*Main train station in Stuttgart, Germany*



*Post Office in the Kudanshita neighborhood in central Tokyo, not far from the Royal Palace.*



*Seen in Vancouver during Christmas visit.*



*Las Vegas, a solid brass letter box in the lobby of the Palace Station Hotel.*



*PTT postbox from Izmir in Turkey*

# Stamp Oddities



**THE QUETZAL BIRD DEPICTED ON MANY OF GAUTEMALA'S STAMPS WAS CHOSEN TO BE THIS COUNTRY'S NATIONAL EMBLEM BECAUSE IT WILL NOT LIVE IN CAPTIVITY...AND NEITHER CAN A FREE NATION.**



**IN THE EARLY DAYS OF STAMP COLLECTING THERE WERE MANY FORGERS. THE MOST DARING OF ALL WAS SAMUEL ALLEN TAYLOR WHO ISSUED STAMPS WITH HIS OWN PICTURE ON THEM AND SOLD THEM TO COLLECTORS AS THE REAL THING.**



**In 1893 the US issued a set of Columbians. However, the 1c depicted Columbus with a clean shaven face. Shortly after, he lands and has a full beard!**



# 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)**

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**Lloyde "Bud" Hartley (stoltzpup)**

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**Steve Tomisek (tomiseksj)\***

**\*APS Ambassador/Chapter Representative**

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Forum staff may be contacted using the private message system



Membership is free; apply online.

Use our image host or one of your own choosing.

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).

We are a Chapter of the American Philatelic Society.

Send information requests to [stampforum.net@gmail.com](mailto:stampforum.net@gmail.com)