



Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Arlington Meetings: First Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.
Bob Duncan Community Center, Vandergriff Park
Eufless Meetings: Third Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.
12750 S. Pipeline Rd, #1C (Central Station Marketing)
Lake Granbury Meetings: 4th Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.
Bentwater Activities Center (adjacent to Bentwater Marina)



CHAPTER MEMBER



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March 2017

Been There, Done That

Falkland Islands Memorial

By Bob & Pat Weidman

On our 1994 trip to South America, we spent several days in Buenos Aires [editor: which means “good air” or “fair winds” in Spanish], Argentina. The hotel we were staying in was just a stones throw from the memorial that the Argentines erected to honor members of their military that were killed in the Falkland Islands War with Great Britain.

The Falkland Islands is an overseas territory of Great Britain in the South Atlantic Ocean which lies 320 miles due east of the southern coast of Argentina. Argentina has long claimed the Falklands as their own which they refer to as Isla Malvinas.

On April 2, 1982, Argentina invaded and occupied the Falklands. Margaret Thatcher, Great Britain’s prime minister, immediately sent British troops to retake the islands.

Over 1,000 men were killed in the numerous air, land and sea battles. The British alone lost 255 and hundreds were wounded. Over 11,800 Argentine troops were captured and held by the British as prisoners of war. Finally in June of 1982, the war ended with the surrender of Argentina’s military forces.

Been There, Done That

YH Santa Maria

By Peter Elias

Back in 1986, I traveled extensively throughout Switzerland every weekend (as spending entire weekends in my 250 sq. ft. apartment wasn’t that great...). I had a car, so getting around was easy enough (much as I love trains, trains and “spur of the moment weekend getaway” travel don’t go well together).

To my make travels in Switzerland more affordable, I had gotten a “youth hostel” membership. Although at age 26 I was hardly a “youth”, the organization does allow for single people and even married couples to stay at the hostels, which are basic, but affordable.

At one point, I found myself in far eastern Switzerland, near the border of Italy / Austria, at the youth hostel in Santa Maria. I only remember one other couple staying there that night, in a building from the year 1537 ! Breakfast was included, and my morning view during



breakfast is shown in the photo nearby; apparently the other guest wasn’t quite awake yet!

The stamp at top from Germany celebrates 100 years of Youth Hostels in that country. Switzerland has 52 youth hostels and is celebrating 90 years in 2017!



The photo above is of the memorial in Buenos Aires honoring members of the Argentine military that were killed in the war.

The stamp is Argentina Scott #1338, issued on April 17, 1982, shortly after the invasion of the Falklands.

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Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Peter Elias, Editor (news@mid-citiesstampclub.com)

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2017 - 2018 MID-CITIES OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Ray Cartier
 First Vice-President – Ray Moyer
 Second Vice-President – Richard Hildebrandt
 Secretary – Benedict Termini
 Treasurer – Judy Christmas

Board of Directors (voting):

Alliene Franklin Ralph Poore Ken Willis

Membership in the Mid-Cities Stamp Club is available to anyone of good character interested in philately. Feel free to attend any of our 3 different meeting sites in the greater Dallas / Ft. Worth area. Dues are \$12 per year (higher for mailed newsletters). For more information, the editor is reachable during business hours at (972) 671-0077 or : editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com

For a membership application write to:

Mid-Cities Stamp Club
P.O. Box 2158
Arlington, TX 76004-2158

or visit: <http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

Coming Attractions

2017

FEB. 24-26 TEXPEX

Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Center, Grapevine.

FEB. 28 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: “Stamps of Memel & Klaipeda “
 by Dave Stockbridge

MAR. 1 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Clean Out Your Closet & Show-n-Tell

MAR. 15 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: Clean Out Your Closet

MAR. 17-18 Greater Dallas Postcard Show

Comfort Inn & Suites, Plano East, 700 Central Ewy (exit 29, north of 15th Street on northbound service road). \$4 Admission charged. Friday 10-6, Saturday 9-4

See <http://www.courthousesquare.net/springdallasshows.htm>

MAR. 28 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: Sale of items from Potter Estate

APR. 5 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Geoff Owens, Speaker (Dallas Park-Cities Philatelic Soc.)

Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

I happened to make it to the first ever “Euleless” meeting on January 18, which took place at member Evan Islam’s business offices in Euleless. Instead of using the more formal “conference room”, we ended up using a more open office area, which worked out fine. If we need to have a presentation requiring a screen and projector, we can use the conference room. The attendance was really good (better than we usually had at the previous “Irving” location) and I hope that it keeps up!

As you’ll notice below, the annual drop in membership is upon us, hopefully a few members will “rejoin”. As of writing this, we are now down to 17 newsletters mailed to members, which makes my job a lot easier (& quicker!) and saves the club a lot of money in postage (which is what makes up a good portion of the cost of mailing the newsletter).



Members in the News

Jack Dykhouse wrote an article published in the January 2017 (whole number 226) issue of THE INDO-CHINA PHILATELIST titled "Additions and Corrections to Previous Articles". It appears on pages 1955 - 1959.

Secretary's Report

By Benedict Termini



New Members

Cynthia James (#592)

Matthew Glen-Walker (#593)

Dropped due to non-payment of 2017 membership dues

Clarke, Dr. Robert T	Dunn, Von	Foster, John
Fowler, E.J.	Green, Donal R.	Grote, Naomi A.
Jeter, Joseph R.	Jones, Nan B.	Little, Thomas E Jr
Nazzaro, Joe	Owens, Geoffrey M	Patterson, Bob
Patterson, Pamela	Peed Ricky J.	Shrestha, Sujan
Tallon, Robert E.	Urish, Jack	Watkins, George
Wester, Sammie	Williams, Jimmy R.	

Deceased

Dr. Kenneth Jones

Resignations

Nan Jones

Membership Summary – February 1, 2017

Membership as of January 5, 2017	113
New Members	2
Dropped for non-payment of dues	(19)
Resignations	(1)
Deceased	(1)
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of February 1, 2017	94

President's Viewpoint

Ray E. Cartier

Back in the latter half of the 1940s, immigrants from Europe flooded into the United States. The Government called them "Displaced Persons" and people who were against having all these foreigners come into the USA and taking American jobs just spit out, "Those DPs!". MY family lived in the near South Side of Chicago in a region in which many of the people from Eastern Europe settled and my parents befriended and got to know some immigrants from Czechoslovakia, Poland, Croatia, Slovenia, Austria etc. My mother saw some of the envelopes that they had from "the old country" as they called it and started culling stamps for me from her friends. That's how my collecting started.

It was not uncommon in the late 1940s for parents to let their kids walk around the neighborhood and I would go alone to a barber whose shop was 3 or 4 city blocks from my home. In Chicago a "block" was always one-eighth of a mile long. The barber had only one chair and I always had to wait, but luckily he had seen that he could make a few extra dollars a week by having 2 or 3 sales books of stamps lying on a table next to the waiting area chairs. I bought interesting stamps from him for anywhere from 1c to 5c each. Also, there was a store nearby that sold 10c and 25c packets of colorful stamps and some of my newspaper route change was exchanged for stamps there as well. I never received an allowance.

In 1950 we moved to one of the nearby suburbs and I found another stamp collector. He and I formed a "Stamp Club" and got three other kids in the neighborhood to start collecting. When I was transferred to a nearby Catholic School in 1951 because the Jr. High was a mile walk away, the nuns let me go through a huge box of stamps that I could take home and share with my club. Also, a few years later, the Lawndale Chicago Boys Club started a stamp club which I joined.

So what did I have that kids today don't have? Friends who saved stamps for me; local shops at which a kid could purchase inexpensive stamps; other kids who collected stamps and traded directly with me; organized collecting through a local youth gathering place.

Kids are transient collectors who, if introduced to the hobby, need to have a support system for acquiring stamps and someone to share their interest and hold it until they grow up enough to want to spend time instead with age appropriate members of the opposite sex. After dating, going to high school and often college, getting jobs, marrying, having children of their own and building a career, many of them return to stamp collecting and many of those become philatelists or collectors who study stamps and covers and join philatelic clubs and organizations.

But priming the pump by helping youth get acquainted with the hobby early enough and finding ways to keep up their interests for a few years has eluded most of us adult collectors for years. So this year I'm experimenting with a new approach. I gave 100 or so colorful stamps to my 7 year old grand-nephew with a few duplicates included. Also I gave him a bag of stamp hinges showing him and his mother how to use them, and a new kid's stamp album that I bought on line. I told him that if he ever found two of the same stamp and mailed the duplicates to

Granbury Meeting Minutes January 24, 2017

By Eugene Atkinson

With unusually pleasant January weather, 18 members and guests attended the January 24 meeting of the Lake Granbury Branch, Mid-Cities Stamp Club.

Host David Stockbridge welcomed the group to the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 W. Emerald Bend Court, in Granbury, Texas.

After a brief introduction, several members produced SHOW AND TELL items they recently acquired.

Also, Brian Smith called for volunteers to operate the new collectors table at the 2017 EXPO next November and discussed some recent correspondence with the editors of Scotts regarding catalog policies.

Judy Christmas reported on the financial standing of the Mid-Cities club and Gary McNamee reminded all that inauguration postmark covers were still available for the Trump administration. Gene Atkinson reported the untimely passing of Mid-Cities member Ken Jones of Stephenville.

The PROGRAM for the evening, "Clean Out Your Closet", was quickly accomplished as members poured over and relocated several tables of philatelic materials from one home to another, all the while enjoying a chocolate-cherry-pecan cake from baker Al Hull. Close-out markdowns on remaining items were hardly required to clear the tables of stamps and supplies.

To CLOSE, Al Hull and Lloyd Willis won gift certificate door prizes. David Stockbridge announced that the February program would concern the philatelic history of Memel.

me, I would trade him five new stamps for each one he sent to me. His mother told me that he was excited about doing that and that he got his non-collecting father to get down on the carpet with him to study the new treasures. She also said that she and her husband would take the youngster to TEXPEX to see and show him what I had told them about the show.

So my grand-nephew now has an easy access to new stamps, through his friend, me. I'll next try to get his mother to help him show his collection to some of the kids he shares some home school time with and possibly have a ½ hour meeting every week or two. We'll send him some stamps to share. From time to time I may come by and talk to them about the hobby and teach them a few things. If he can keep collecting for at least three years I'd deem the effort a success in priming the pump. The kids of today are the collectors who will keep the hobby alive in the future.



Arlington Meeting Minutes February 1, 2017

By Ben Termini

Eules Meeting Minutes February 15, 2017

By Skip Ely

Call-to-Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Club President Ray Cartier.

Attendance:

There were 25 members present. Two new members were present, and Ray asked each of them to stand and talk for a few minutes about their stamp-collecting interests. They were both welcomed to the club with a round of applause.

Officer & Committee Reports:

- **Secretary** Ben Termini reported that we had 84 members who had paid their dues as of the beginning of the meeting, and he had received payment from a few others at the meeting (Secretary's note: as of February 3, our total stands at 94 dues-paying members). Members who had not paid would be dropped after the meeting. The passing of long-time member, Dr. Kenneth Jones was noted.
- **Treasurer** Judy Christmas reported that our finances were in good shape and that we had over \$13,000 in our bank account.
- **EXPO Committee** chairman Ralph Poore was not present however, President Cartier mentioned that there would be a combined Board and Expo meeting on Saturday February 4th. Ray also mentioned that we need a new chairperson for the 'Beginning Collectors' activity at the EXPO. Anyone interested in the job should contact him or Stanley Christmas.
- **Sales Books Chairman** Skip Ely said that the APS was now charging a 5% commission on sales, and that he was going to recommend that the Club raise its commission on all sales to 10% at the next Board meeting.

Announcements:

- Rich Hildebrandt mentioned that the next club auction will be in May and it's not too early to start getting your lots ready.
- Stanley Christmas said that he had some 'blooper' cacheted envelopes from the last EXPO which could be purchased for the bargain price of fifty cents each.
- Ray Cartier discussed a 'stamp popularity poll' he was conducting to see if club members could reach the same result as the annual Linn's stamp popularity poll. He offered a \$10 prize (out of his own pocket) to the person who could come closest to the Linn's result.

Show & Tell:

- Ben Termini showed a stamp he had purchased on eBay, issued by the 'Republica Raul Doria.'
- Ken Aldridge showed a cover with a mailer's permit from New York, and another cover with Korean stamps.
- Dave Stockbridge passed around an unusual mourning cover which had been 'advertised.'
- Ray Cartier passed around an offer for personalized stamps, sent to him by 'Stamps.com.'
- Stanley Christmas showed some covers from Canada with attractive recent stamps.

Call-To-Order:

The second monthly meeting of the Mid Cities Stamp Club met at the Central Marketing Offices of Evan Islam in Eules at 7:30 PM.

Attendance:

There were 11 members and 1 guest present. The guest expressed interest in joining the club and was given an application for membership.

Officer Reports:

- Secretary – Mike Smith reviewed what Ben had said about the number of people that had not renewed their membership by February first.

Committee Reports:

- **Sales** – Skip Ely said that at the BOD meeting last month the club decided to keep the club commission on sales at five percent, and absorb any loss on the postage used to send the APS books back to APS. Additionally, the proposed new sales book format was approved. Old sales books would still be honored.
- **EXPO** – Stanley Christmas noted we were still looking for a theme for EXPO. Any ideas should be forwarded to EXPO Chairman Ralph Poore. Stanley also said we needed a new chairperson for the Beginner's Table. If no one steps forward, we will cancel the activity and try to sell the table space to a dealer.

Announcements:

- Mike Smith noted that TEXPEX would begin next Friday, February 24.

Show and Tell:

- Tom Turner showed a damaged cover from an aircraft accident.
- Ken Wills showed a letter with a valid stamp that had not been recognized and returned to him for more postage.
- Mike Smith showed some Nicaraguan stamps.
- Jack Urish had a number of items he passed around.
- Mini-Auction – Four members participated in offering up to five items in our first mini auction.

Door Prizes:

Gift Certificates were awarded to Ray Moyer and Jack Urish.

Program:

The program was presented by Ken Wills and was titled "Cancelled to Order – More Than You Realize." He defined categories of CTO stamps, and passed around examples.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned around 9:00 PM.

Door Prizes:

Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Bobby Mills and Judy Christmas. A 2010 Scott's specialized catalog was won by Anne Frazer, and Matt Glen-Walker won a pair of confederate stamps.

Program:

Ben Termini gave a short talk on the 'Porte de Mar Stamps of Mexico' and the remainder of the program consisted of a 'mixture pick' and fine philatelic fellowship.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Mid-Cities Stamp Club Board Meeting Minutes, February 4, 2017

By Benedict A. Termini

Call-to-Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:15 AM by Club President Ray Cartier. All of the board members were present except for the webmaster, Jim Myers. The minutes of the last board meeting were approved.

Officer & Committee Reports:

President Ray Cartier discussed the contest he is organizing which awards a prize to the MCSC member who comes closest to the results of the Linn's Stamp Popularity Poll.

Secretary Ben Termini reported that he had closed the books for the 2017 dues year. There were 94 paid members, of whom 23 were sponsor members and 17 had paid extra to have the newsletter mailed to them. Twenty members had been dropped for non-payment of dues. He mentioned that he expects a few of the dropped members to be reinstated.

Treasurer Judy Christmas reported that our finances were in good shape and that we had over \$14,000 in our bank account. There was a discussion of ways to possibly reduce this balance. A suggestion was made (Ben Termini) to contribute to the TPA but this was not approved.

Newsletter Editor Peter Elias mentioned that we had 17 members who requested mailed newsletters. It was suggested that the mailed newsletters be printed in color and this was approved by the board.

Sales Books Chairman Skip Ely reported that the book sales had resulted in a small profit (about \$100) for the club for 2016 and distributed a spreadsheet with more financial information.

Old Business:

1. Ben Termini discussed plans for eliminating the printed club directory which had been produced every two years. Instead the non-personal information such as meeting locations, library books, etc. would be put on the website and the Secretary would prepare a PDF file containing member names, emails, phone numbers, and collecting interests which would be distributed to the membership by email every six months. Ray Cartier said he had talked to the webmaster (Jim Myers) and he was in agreement with the plan. This was approved by the board.
2. Judy Christmas mentioned that the club was finishing up the liquidation of the philatelic estate of Jerry Potter, and that she would write a check to David Potter (Jerry's son) for \$1000 which would finish things up. This was approved by the board.

New Business:

1. Skip Ely brought up the commission schedule for sales book sales. At present the club charges 5% for both APS books and Club books. After considerable discussion, Skip suggested that we should continue the present policy with no changes, and this was approved by the board.
2. Skip Ely brought up the question of the type of books which could be submitted by members. Peter Elias showed pages which he would make available for members to download if they wished to make their own books. It was decided to accept either the standard format or the new 8.5 x 11 format for sales books, and the club will subsidize any loss incurred in printing books (Motion made by Judy Christmas, seconded by Ray Cartier).
3. Ray Cartier brought up the question of membership recruitment and a lengthy discussion was held of how to recruit new members and also how to get more members involved in the leadership of the club. A number of ideas were suggested such as

Comic Caption Contest #6 Results

By Peter Elias

MCSC club members are encouraged to come up with a "caption" to the "comic strip bubble" presented with the Ifni stamp in last month's newsletter, whether witty or thought-provoking (as long as it is fit to be published in this newsletter!). Based on entries received before the deadline, I made a decision based on the best entry received (and as they say "decisions of the judges are final"...).

The stamp chosen was from the USA "Celebrate the Century" series, Scott #3183i from 1998. So, what is "Uncle Sam" thinking? Or perhaps, the phrase "I WANT YOU" needs to be finished! What did you come up with?

I received two entries via email. The winner this month is Richard Urso, with his entry shown in the "bubble" above. Congratulations! I'll get a club \$10 gift certificate mailed out and which can be used for purchases from club & APS sales books and from dealers at EXPO.

The other entry was from Ray Cartier with: "*Are YOU the person who voted for Pat Paulson???*"

The MCSC Board of Directors had given the go-ahead for another 6 contests one year ago, but given the lack of responses, I had put off the 6th contest until last month. So, will there be another comic caption contest? Sadly, I think it is best to not bother.

I WANT YOU... Yes, Superman, you!...and yes, Batman, you too!...OK, and Robin too...but I'm drawing the line with you, Barney Fife!



4. contacting people who had attended the EXPO, and offering a bonus for existing members who recruit new members.
4. Alliene Franklin raised the question of repairing the EXPO exhibit frames. Stanley Christmas said that this should be done in conjunction with the EXPO since the frames were heavy and hard to haul around. A suggestion was made (Termini) that Anne Benner might be interested in repairing the frames for a fee. Stanley Christmas said he would talk with her at TEXPEX and report back to the board at the next meeting.
5. Ken Aldridge asked about the status of the 'Sparkplug' award. After discussion, Ken agreed to accept responsibility for making recommendations to the club president for this award in the future.
6. A short EXPO Committee meeting was held, presided over by Stanley Christmas in Ralph Poore's absence. Suggestions for a theme were made and Stanley said that he would go to meetings of all club branches, and solicit ideas from the membership. He also pointed out that we need a new chairperson for the New Collectors area. Preliminary financial data was presented by treasurer, Judy Christmas.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1 PM.

Save on Postage Fees with PayPal

By Peter Elias

If you sell on eBay, you know that you can get discounts on postage for mailing items that you've sold by using eBay's discounts with the US Postal Service (known as "commercial base rates").

What if you need to mail something to someone that wasn't through an eBay sale? Easy: Use PayPal! The option for creating a discounted shipping label through PayPal isn't visible on the PayPal website though. Here's what you have to do:

Log in to your PayPal account

1. Click on the "internet address" (i.e.: URL) box on your browser; it should read something like "https://www.paypal.com/.....". Highlight whatever is there and replace it with: <https://www.paypal.com/shi/label/create/>
1. You will then be presented with a pop-up screen to fill in the ship-to address, after which, you can then choose the rest of the information, such as the carrier (USPS or UPS), the class of service and other options as seen in the (cropped) screen shot below.
2. Then click on "confirm & pay". Your PayPal account (if funded) will be debited for the amount or your credit card charged (depending on your particular situation).
3. If you have entered the recipients email address where requested, then PayPal should also send them a message with the tracking number of the shipment label.

This can save you a fair amount of money! In the example below, a large flat-rate Priority Mail box will only cost you \$17.05 versus the \$18.85 that you'd have to pay with stamps or what the local post office will charge you! There are similar savings for other types of mail classes (Media Mail, 1st Class Parcel, Parcel Select & Priority Express).

The only downside? You don't get to use stamps, just the USPS shipping label that you get to print. Much as I like to use up the many stamps that I have laying around as postage, in some cases, the savings outweigh the ability to use real stamps, plus for larger box shipments, there sometimes isn't enough room to plaster all the older smaller denomination stamps that would be required to meet the postage rate (plus lick-n-stick stamps don't adhere too well to the plastic tape used to close boxes with ...).

President's Comments

by Ray Cartier

As I sit down to write this, our local World Series of Philately (WSP) stamp show is a week away. Many people have stepped up to make this annual event come to pass. The reason for this show, as well as our own EXPO is the same: 1) to help you and others have a chance to locate some wanted items for your collections, 2) to afford you the opportunity to attend various meetings in which people knowledgeable in a variety of philatelic studies have prepared presentations to add to the knowledge of the attendees, and offer individual collectors a chance to join a group that will help them improve their collections and knowledge about them, 3) to give collectors a chance to view exhibits that may have taken years of showings to get them to illustrate what can be done with a collection, 4) to distribute various magazines, newspapers and flyers which may be of a type that would be worthwhile for a show attendee to subscribe to or join in order to enhance their knowledge and collections.

For those who want to show others what they collect and how they have assembled their collections to inform show-goers, there are frames of exhibits to see. It isn't that each exhibit will pique the interest (s) of every attendee, but there are some very interesting exhibits shown and these exhibits are the reason that the show is called a "Stamp Show" and not just a bourse.

Stamp shows are opportunities to learn more about the hobby that each of us has chosen and also possibly help us to determine a new area in which we can build up a new collection.

Those people who work at putting a stamp show together give of their time, talent and in many cases some of their money for the opportunity to share the hobby with our visitors. It takes many people to come together to make it happen. But what are their rewards for doing all of this? Well, it certainly isn't financial. Those who are working behind the scenes want to keep the hobby alive – to entice others to collect or expand their collections. It builds bonds between those who participate in the creation of a new show while it fills a basic need to find ways to help others.

When EXPO comes around, there isn't always enough help to prevent the event from going from being fun and encouraging to one of wishing that just one more person would sit at a table and relieve another who needs a break for just a couple of hours. Volunteers shouldn't have to work 3 to 5 shifts in order to be there for the attendees. To those of you who do volunteer to help out at the front desk, at the Youth Booth, or the beginner's tables, the Silent Auction, the Chance Board, the cachet table, the assembly and take down of rows of frames, the mounting and dismounting of exhibits, the snack area for workers, the locating of vendors and judges and speakers, the arrangements for the banquet, and other tasks I may not recall off hand – THANK YOU for being there for the rest of us!

For those of you who haven't yet volunteered to help, please consider doing so for our next EXPO and give a volunteer a chance to take time to visit the dealers and the frames. Help build a stronger bond among our club members. That's another positive effect of our shows.

Shipping addresses

Ship from: Edit
Peter Elias
PO Box 940427
Plano, TX 75094-0427
United States
Phone: (972) 671-0077

Origination ZIP code™:
Same as return address
 Other
 Ship to: Edit
Joe Q. Customer
120 E Fm 544 Ste 72
Murphy, TX 75094
United States
anyone@mywebsite.com
 Email note to customer
This note will be sent when you purchase the label.
Thanks for your purchase!
200 characters left.

Shipping information

Carrier name
USPS

Service type
Priority Mail® service (1-3 days)

Package type
Large Flat Rate Box

Package weight
Up to 70 lbs. or less.

Additional details (optional)
 USPS Tracking® (Included)
 Signature Confirmation™ service (\$2.35 USD)
 Display postage cost on label

Add insurance
\$50.00 USD + \$ 0.00 USD = \$50 USD

Mailing date
1/22/17

Shipping cost

Postage cost	\$17.05 USD
Insurance	\$0.00 USD
USPS Tracking®	\$0.00 USD
Total	\$17.05 USD

Payment method
PayPal balance (USD) \$17.05 USD

Calculate Shipping Cost

Confirm and Pay

By clicking **Confirm and Pay** you agree to our [Terms and conditions](#).

Note: If you are mailing an item that contains anything fragile without proper packaging, or that is liquid, perishable, or potentially hazardous, it must be presented to a Postal Service™ employee for acceptance. [Learn More](#)

CLASSIFIED BOURSE

Announcements

All club members that are current with their dues payments are entitled to FREE ads in this space! Please send ad to: Peter Elias, P.O. Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094-0427, give it to me at a meeting, or e-mail me at: peter@pcelias.com

For Sale

US POSTAGE – from our huge surplus: 1c – 20c : 70% of FV; 21c – 50c : 80% of FV. Send any amount (min \$10), specify group (70%, 80%), and receive mix of values back in FV as indicated above. Clean, F/VF only. Plate or Zip block included for every \$10 remitted. Remit (check or MO) to: J. Myers, P. O. Box 2047, Coppell, TX 75019. TX orders, add 8% sales tax. We cover return postage, S/H charges. Can also take PayPal (same terms). jasdmyers@earthlink.net 5/15



News from the Internet

By Peter Elias

Free membership to a stamp club? Absolutely! And no driving at night required! Stamporama is an online stamp club with over 3,500 members, is an APS Affiliate club and can be found at: <https://Stamporama.com> (no “www” is needed). There are articles and exhibits, as well as buying & selling activities. A list of links to other stamp related websites is available, as is a “discussion” area where people can ask questions or discuss philatelic subjects. It’s a nice site that lets you get philatelically involved without leaving the house!

For the love of the hobby

By Peter Elias

As many of you know, I go check out the various APC (automated postal centers) at post offices whenever I get the chance. There are supposed around 98 APC machines here in the Dallas area, however, in the past 5 years, I’ve maybe been to only about 25 - 30 of them. It would be extremely difficult to visit all of the rest, because according to the statistics, the Dallas/Ft. Worth metro area covers 9,286 square miles [see http://www.homesourcedallas.com/dallas_relocation_guide/facts-and-statistics-about-the-dallas-area-3/], which is roughly half the size of Switzerland, and according to what I just read, the DFW area is bigger than 52 of the world’s nations based on square mileage as listed at <http://www.nationmaster.com/country-info/stats/Geography/Land-area/Square-miles> .. rather sobering statistics!

There are about 9 APC machines within a “leisurely” 35 mile roundtrip near where I live here in the northeastern ‘burbs of DFW. But most machines in Ft. Worth area would be at least a 120 mile roundtrip, so one could only visit so many in any given day.

I tracked this back in 2012-2013, with my visits to APC machines: 119 trips, 75 hours of driving, 2,200 miles, 110 gallons of fuel (\$545), 60+ hours in front of the kiosks. When you add in 2014-2016, those numbers would probably be double. And then there is the effort to visit the 8 different “Mail&Go” postage machines in 2011-2012: 53 trips, 32 hours of driving, 900 miles, 45 gallons of fuel (\$157), 30+ hours at the kiosks. Good thing it’s just a hobby!

For Sale

Do you collect **used USA Plate Number Coils**? Select what you want from my [extensive](#) inventory at 1/3 of Scott catalog value. They are listed on my website at <http://web2.iadfw.net/wills/> and from there you will find links to other countries too. Also interested in trading. Ken Wills 9/11

Philatelic Reference CD’s. The following self-running, philatelic reference CD’s, each containing hundreds of scans, are now available:

- **APC Conversions 2012-2014 (NEW!!)**
- **Usage of British Empire War Tax Issues** (exhibit)
- **Airport Philately** (800+ scans of Airports on Stamps)
- **4 Rings—The History of Audi (Great for any car lover!)**
- **My Life on Wheels** (autobiography via USA personalized postage)
- **Vintage Swiss Postcards** (700+ from 1898 to 1959)
- **St. Vincent Philatelic Reference Scans (1,700 items!!)**
- **St. Vincent Postcards** (300+ postcards from 1900 to 2007)
- **Swiss Postcards 1898-1959 (Over 900 postcards !!)**

Special MCSC Member price is only \$ 9.95 each. Non-member price is \$19.95 (+ \$3.45 domestic or \$6.00 international postage) each. PayPal to peter@pcelias.com are accepted. Peter Elias, PO Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094 6/16

MOVED, BUT SALE CONTINUES! Special discounts to MCSC members for Swiss, Austria, Liechtenstein issues, @ 1/3 and LESS of catalog values. Also will accept US postage (any values) @ 50% of catalog. All orders postpaid! I also accept PayPal if you wish! John Barrett, Ph.D. Contact info: jstrubelboy@aol.com 12/14

Wanted to Buy

Interesting “stuff”, such as:

- ◆ Worldwide Revenue stamps on document
- ◆ Worldwide ATM stamps, such as those from Frama, Klüssendorf, Epelsa, Mobba Postage Vending machines and other “on-demand” printed postage (but NOT “ATM Booklet stamps”) from around the world, preferably on cover, postcards or parcel cards.
- ◆ CVP and custom order stamps, such as the “PhotoStamps” from Zazzle, Stamps.com, Endicia, etc.

Contact me at peter@pcelias.com with scans. 4/14

U.S. Liberty Series precancels. Unsorted, on paper, quantities okay. Contact Gene Atkinson at atkinson@our-town.com. 4/15

Postally used “ATM” stamps (i.e.: machine vended), such as Framas, from around the world; would prefer on cover or postcard if possible. Peter Elias, info@stvincentstamps.com 8/14

Wanted to Trade

I have general (unsorted) worldwide & used USA stamps (mostly beginning collector material) available to trade for your items such as worldwide revenue stamps & Framas. Contact Peter Elias at peter@pcelias.com 9/16

Been There, Done That

Take the Bus

By Peter Elias

When I was kid, growing up in Zürich (Switzerland), we didn't have a car. Our means of getting around involved:

1. Lots of walking (it's good for 'ya!)
2. Buses (electric in the city, diesel in the country side)
3. Trams (electric, similar, but smaller than the DART light-rail that operates here in Dallas).
4. Trains (electric)
5. And in outlying areas and mountains, it was funiculars, cog railways, cable cars and chairlifts.

The one thing we did a lot of growing up was "day hikes" in the countryside on weekends. To get there, would basically require items 1 to 4 above (and in that order as well).

After leaving our apartment, we had to walk for about 3 or 4 minutes to the nearest bus stop.

The electric bus line that served our neighborhood is shown on the Zazzle stamp to the right. It was the end of the line at the time and the bus had a circular turn-around.



Sometime after the mid-1990's, they expanded the bus line to go further and the circular turn-around was dismantled. I took the picture above in August 2013 (from what would be about 30 feet to the right of the bus in the stamp). The bus stop now is just a standard one along the road (the bus stop sign is located just behind my wife).

The bus took us a bit further down into Zürich, but then we had to switch to a tram, similar to the one shown below (I took that picture in 1986 on the famous "Bahnhofstrasse" in Zürich. The Bahnhofstrasse (meaning literally "train station



street") is "THE" shopping area in downtown Zürich!

From the main train station, you can catch the SBB (Swiss Federal Railway) to many places. In some regions, you might have to transfer to a regional rail system; these generally run on narrower gauge rails, such as the one shown above.



When trains can no longer get you there, the PTT (Swiss Postal Service) buses take over in the more remote areas, especially on mountain passes and valleys. Shown on the Zazzle stamp is a picture of a Swiss PTT bus that I took in Interlaken.

And what if you need to go somewhere where the buses can't make it (such as up the side of a mountain?). In some areas, there are funiculars and cog railways, such as the one that takes you to the Gornergrat (near Zermatt) where you get a great view of the Matterhorn. In other instances, there are chairlifts (usually catering to hikers in the summer and skiers in the winter). The Photostamp above shows me on a chairlift (in central Switzerland), taken somewhere in the vicinity of Interlaken.



So there you have it, not only did our family NOT have a car while living in Switzerland, we did NOT NEED one either! Of course, once we moved to the USA, not only did we need one car, my parents found out that we pretty much needed two of them immediately: dad for going to work and mom for shopping and hauling us kids around. And once we kids got old enough, guess what? More cars!

Switzerland is a country that has a great public transportation system; what helps is that it is of course a fairly small country (about twice the size of the greater DFW area), but its transportation system can take you practically to anywhere within just a short walk (try that here!)

So while the US stamp to the right (part of the "Go Green" sheetlet) advocates the use of public transportation, it is difficult in many parts of the USA, especially the rural ones. Even though I try to take the DART light rail on occasion (primarily when I need to go to downtown Dallas), the closest DART bus to my house is about 3 miles away while the DART rail station is 5 miles away, so I have to drive to the DART rail station and park the car; which isn't quite as convenient as I'd like.



Wanted to Buy

Wanted to buy or trade for: **Worldwide unusual EFOs, postal counterfeits**, Odd US 20th century auxiliary markings, US 1934 and 1935 Christmas Seals on and off cover and publicity material, Korean War postal history from US and other UN contingents, and any other US philatelic material with an interesting story. John Hotchner, PO Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041, or jmhstamp@verizon.net 2 /15

For Sale

PhotoStamps, ZazzleStamps & PictureItPostage in a variety of different designs. For a listing of available designs and to purchase, go to <http://photostamps.webs.com> and use your credit card to purchase them (via PayPal). 12/15

I have over **10,000 auctions** on delcampe.com @ 35% of Scott or less. Worldwide & US stamps, covers and FDCs. For more info contact Denny Ludlow @ (713) 898-1872 10/15

USPS Commemorative Yearbooks with stamps at face value of postage. For listing of what years are available and price e-mail Dave at stockdave44@yahoo.com 8/11



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Be sure to visit the Club website on the **Internet:**

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More Rescued Stamps: Overprints

By Peter Elias



Last month I discussed “rescued stamps”, which I define as stamps that I fished out of the “freebie” boxes at the “beginning collector” tables at either the MCSC EXPO

or at TEXPEX (or other stamp shows).

With so many “beginning” hands mauling through these boxes, some interesting stamps might invariably be damaged or may not be of interest to a beginning collector,

so they need to be “rescued”! Here’s a few more that I rescued at TEXPEX 2016; these are all overprinted and you don’t see these that often.



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Exp. 12/17

MEET & EAT for March & April 2017

by Judy & Stanley Christmas

"Meet and Eats" are before the club meetings. All club members and their guests are welcome. We will gather between 5:00 and 5:30 PM. The group will start ordering at 5:30 PM. Latecomers can order when they arrive or just come by for a visit (check with the restaurant first if it serves buffet style). Meals should be over around 6:45 PM.

Meet and Eat locations will be included the club's broadcast messages. NOTE: All locations are subject to change.

ARLINGTON

- March 1 Angelos Steak and Spaghetti, 2590 W Pioneer Pkwy, Arlington, TX (817) 303-7242
<http://www.angelosspaghetti.com/>
- April 5 Jay Jay Café, 1001 S Bowen, Arlington, TX
76013 Phone: (817) 861-1060
<http://www.yelp.com/biz/jay-jay-cafe-nbr-2-arlington>

EULESS

Due to the new meeting location, meet-n-eat meeting sites have yet to be determined, the club secretary will e-mail the details once known.

TEXPEX 2017 Updates: Well known stamp artist, Chris Calle, will be speaking at TEXPEX on Saturday, February 25 at noon to the Space Unit Chapter of the ATA and APS. The title of his talk will be 'Space Stamp Design'. Mr. Calle has designed over 30 U.S. postage stamps along with hundreds of foreign stamps. The meeting is open to the public and you can learn about all of his US designs by searching through GOOGLE. He will sign stamps or covers. Member Karen Cartier will be signing copies of her newest book, "Tales By Mail - Book 2" at the show. The book is an attempt to help interest youth in collecting stamps.

*Mid-Cities Stamp Club "Stamping Around" Newsletter
c/o Peter Elias
PO Box 940427
Plano, TX 75094-0427*

Don't Forget:
TEXPEX 2017: Feb. 24 - 26
First Day Ceremony: Feb. 24
Dallas Postcard Show: Mar. 17-19



Jonathan Topper
11210 Steeplecrest Dr, Suite 120
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