



Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Arlington Meetings: First Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.

Bob Duncan Center, 2800 S. Center St.

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



#0891-076252

Volume 30, Number 4

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

April 2017

TEXPEX 2017 (the last one?)

By Peter Elias

Yes, you read that correctly. At TEXPEX 2017 it was announced that this might not be a TEXPEX 2018 (or beyond) show unless several people come forward to run it going forward. The current contract for the DFW Hilton Lakes Conference Center was not been renewed [I don't know the reason], and two of the main people involved in planning and running the show are either retiring or moving away.

That said, the Texas Philatelic Association (TPA) is also facing people issues. Needed immediately are a secretary, treasurer, journal editor and webmaster. The people currently in these positions are either retiring or have been doing it "temporarily" for several years. There is also an empty membership director position.

Please note that TEXPEX and the TPA are different organizations (although some of the people involved in either are / were the same).

That said, TEXPEX 2017 was seen as a good and successful show from what I could tell (based on comments by others). Attendance for the 3-day show (February 24-26) was approximately 350. 26 dealers were present and they seemed pleased with the results.

The Mid-Cities Stamp Club had 4 members that contributed 6 exhibits at TEXPEX and all did very well:

GOLD:

Ray Cartier - *Project Skylab: The Story of the First American Space Station and Its Crews*

Benedict Termini - *Porte de Mar Stamps of Mexico and Their Forgeries*

Benedict Termini - *Prostitute Revenues of Rosario de Santa Fe*

LARGE VERMEIL:

Peter Elias - *Introduction to Spanish Thermal ATM Postage Labels, Their Varieties and Usages* [also AAPE Creativity Award]

VERMEIL:

Stanley Christmas - *The Life Cycle of the 4½¢ White House Stamp* [also AAPE Gold Award of Honor]

LARGE VERMEIL (Single Frame):

Ray Cartier - *Apollo Soyuz Test Project*

Being on the board of directors of the TPA, I did attend the Board of Directors meeting, but no other society meetings.

Since my current collection & exhibiting areas are a bit specialized (modern ATM stamps, especially usages of Spanish ATM stamps), I found absolutely nothing at the dealer tables. Instead I "sifted" through some of the items at the beginner's table, and found a couple of items that will serve as inspiration for a couple more "Rescued Stamps" articles coming up! Normally at this point I'd say "see you at next year's TEXPEX", but that remains to be seen! [more about TEXPEX on pages 2 & 8]

2017 APS Sparkplug Award

Longtime member and former club president David Stockbridge received the club's "Sparkplug" award. He has been instrumental in getting the Granbury chapter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club up and running.



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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 Wills

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

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.)

Also: *Submit items for May auction*

APR. 7-8 TSDA Stamp Dealer Bourse

Richardson Civic Center, Arapaho Rd & US75

<http://tsdastamps.com>

APR. 19 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: TBD

APR. 25 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: TBD

MAY 3 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Club Auction

May 17 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: TBD

May 20 11 AM MCSC Board of Directors & EXPO Meeting

Location: TBD

May 23 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

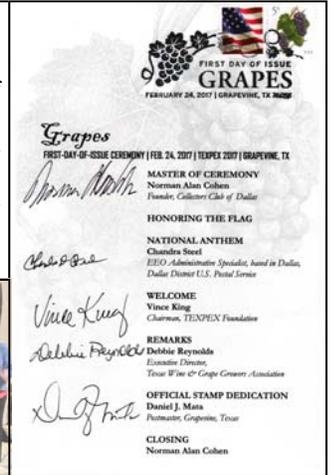
Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

It's not too soon to start thinking about exhibits for this year's EXPO! Yes, there are about 5 of us that exhibit regularly, at EXPO and at national shows, but there is some "new blood" needed! No one expects you to come up with a huge multi-frame exhibit out of the gate. Start small. I've had one exhibit (the one about the History of Audi), start as 1-page, then progressing through 4-pages, 1 frame and finally 4 frames! If you need any help at all, there are several members in the club that are willing to help you with your exhibiting questions; Ben Termini, Ray Cartier and myself.

More TEXPEX Results

February 24 saw the unveiling of the new 5¢ "Grape" stamp shortly after TEXPEX opened. Program cards were handed out to attendees and you could buy a 5¢ stamp and get a 1st Day cancel along with signatures of the dignitaries.



Members in the News

Ray Cartier won a Gold medal for his exhibit "How We Got Men to the Moon" at the AmeriStamp Expo in Reno, NV. The exhibit also won the "Most Popular" award. That along with previous awards got him the invitation to exhibit at next year's AmeriStamp Expo (Birmingham, AL) in the "Most Popular Champion of Champions" competition. Since this exhibit won the reserve Grand at last year's Texpex, he has been invited to the Rocky Mountain show's George Brett Cup Invitational for any 20th Century exhibits which have won a WSP Grand or Reserve Grand; the show will be held in Denver in August.

Peter Elias contributed a brief update in the Spring 2017 edition of the Meter Stamp Society Quarterly Bulletin about the new German ATM stamps that were issued in January.

Secretary's Report

By Benedict Termini



New Members

Barbara Poplun

Reinstatements

Bob Tallon, Jack Urish, Naomi Grote, Robert Clarke

Membership Summary – March 1, 2017

Membership as of February 1, 2017	94
New Members	1
Dropped for non-payment of dues	()
Resignations	()
Deceased	()
Reinstatements	4
Membership as of March 1, 2017	99

Arlington Meeting Minutes March 1, 2017

By Ben Termini

Eules Meeting Minutes March 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 24 members and 1 guest present, Tricia Stenger, who said she had inherited an old book of stamps and needed help in deciding what to do with it. Since we are a very talkative group, she got lots of advice.

President Ray gave a short recap of the TEXPEX show which was held the previous weekend. He also pointed out that our club had won the "Shootout" for the second year in a row and our prize was a nice copy of US #1.

Officer / Committee Reports:

- **Secretary** Ben Termini reported that we had 97 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 March 2, our total stands at 99 dues-paying members). He also had comments on the recent TEXPEX show.
- **Treasurer** Judy Christmas reported that our finances were in good shape and that we had over \$12,000 in our bank account.
- **Sales Books:** Skip Ely said sales were going 'amazingly well.'
- **EXPO Committee** chairman Ralph Poore reminded members that there would be a committee meeting at Angelo's Restaurant this coming Saturday, March 4. He asked if any members had suggestions for the theme of this year's show.
- **Recruitment Committee:** Chairman Mike Smith was absent but Ray Cartier gave a short report on efforts to contact potential new members.
- **Newsletter:** Editor Peter Elias talked about the need for more articles and his efforts at 'rescuing' stamps which had been put in the mixtures at the beginners' table at TEXPEX. He suggested that members might want to use a particular stamp as a starting point, research it, and write a short piece for the newsletter.

Announcements:

- Rich Hildebrandt mentioned that the next club auction will be in May and items for the auction should be brought to next month's meeting.
- Ray Cartier announced that **DAVE STOCKBRIDGE** had won an APS SPARKPLUG AWARD. He was presented with the award, gave a short speech, and received a round of applause.
- Ben Termini announced that the new-format membership list would be sent to the membership by email sometime within the next month.
- Dave Stockbridge announced that the next Granbury meeting would include a sale of the remaining stamp items from Jerry Potter's estate.
- Judy Christmas passed around a sympathy card for one of our members who was hospitalized and invited all those present to sign it.

Show & Tell:

- Ben Termini showed a mourning cover from Mexico addressed to Muskogee in the US Indian Territory (now in the great state of Oklahoma).
- Alliene Franklin showed a postcard with instructions concerning mailing of airmail covers.
- Peter Elias passed around some new stamps and discussed the postcrossing.com, a website dedicated to people mailing each other postcards.

Call-to-Order:

The mid-month monthly meeting of the Mid Cities Stamp Club met at the Central Marketing Offices of Evan Islam in Eules at 7:30 P.M.

Attendance:

There were 11 members present.

Officer Reports:

- Secretary – Mike Smith said that Ben had reported that when all was said and done with renewals, we have 99 members.
- Treasurer – Judy gave the treasury amount.

Committee Reports:

- Sales – Skip Ely reported on several new club books.
- EXPO – Stanley Christmas reported on some of the issues decided upon at the EXPO meeting Saturday March 4. He said the theme would be based on the new five cent grape stamp (that was first-day issued at TEXPEX on February 24). He also discussed the decision to try and find a storage unit closer to the Grapevine Convention Center so the frames and storage cabinets won't have to be moved so far. Finally, he mentioned that Skip Ely had agreed to chair the Beginner's Table.

Announcements:

- Mike Smith reported on the uncertain future of TEXPEX.
- Judy Christmas passed around a get-well card for one of our EXPO dealers. She gave an update on Dave Stockbridge's situation.

Show & Tell:

- Ken Wills showed a cover with three pennies taped on it to cover additional postage. He also passed around a stock book showing how he is currently saving his stamps, instead of using an album.
- Jim Myers passed around an example of a label based on the four cent Dag Hammarskjold stamp of 1962.

Mini-Auction:

Ken Dougan and Steve Carpenter offered items for auction. Door Prizes: Gift Certificates were awarded to Ken Dougan and Ray Moyer.

Program:

The program was "Clean Out Your Closet."

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned around 8:40 PM.

- Stanley Christmas showed some duplex cancellations.
- Tom Turner showed a cover with a postmark from Orange, Texas.

Door Prizes:

Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Judy Christmas and Jim Camak. A copy of the TPA Journal was won by Dave Stockbridge.

Program:

The program was "Clean Out Your Closet" and members were able to purchase many interesting items which will probably show up again at next year's event.

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

Mid-Cities Stamp Club EXPO Planning Meeting Minutes, March 4, 2017

By Skip Ely

The MCSC EXPO Committee met at Angelo's Pasta and Steak House at 11:00 AM on March 4, 2017. Present were EXPO Chairperson Ralph Poore, Treasurer Judy Christmas, and Committee members Ken Aldridge, Alliene Franklin, Stanley Christmas, Peter Elias, Bob Weidman, Rich Hildebrandt, Diana Davis, Brian Smith, and Skip Ely.

FRAME TRANSPORTATION:

- The first item of discussion was the need for transportation and set up of the frames and two file cabinets needed at EXPO (since previous arrangements for transportation will not be available this year).
- It was agreed that we needed to see if previous labor sources (Tom Turner's son and friends) would be available again this year, and to rent a U-Haul if personal pickup trucks and/or a trailer were unavailable.

SELECTION OF A THEME:

- The next item of business was the selection of a theme. After a short discussion, it was decided the five-cent grape stamp would be a good theme since the EXPO was held in Grapevine. Further, grapes are associated with celebrations and this will be our 30th EXPO.

CACHET:

- Related to this was the subject of a cachet. It was ultimately decided that the cachet would best work as a program cover, and Diana Davis agreed to work something up. There will be no separate cachet envelopes for sale.

BEGINNER'S TABLE:

- It was announced that Skip Ely had volunteered to chair the beginner's table.

BUDGET:

- A short budget discussion followed. It was decided that we probably will need more money for the transportation and labor of the frames and cabinet.
- The business cards that Peter printed up have been well received, so more were ordered.
- The Award Banquet tickets will be raised from \$20 to \$25 to hopefully assure an even better dinner.
- Stanley relayed a proposal from Ray Cartier to raise the exhibit fee, but this was decided against.
- Finally, Stanley offered to research finding another storage area closer to the Grapevine Convention Center to facilitate transportation of the frames to and from the EXPO.

STRATEGIC PLANNING:

- Ken Aldridge asked about the need for a Strategic Planning Committee to map out the future of EXPO. After a short discussion, it was agreed this would be useful, but in the context of the entire club. The topic will be brought up at the next BOD meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

- The next EXPO meeting will be held May 20 (in combination with the next BOD meeting) at a site yet to be decided. The meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM.

Granbury Meeting Minutes February 28, 2017

By Eugene Atkinson

Host David Stockbridge welcomed 18 members to the February 28 meeting of the Lake Granbury Branch, Mid-Cities Stamp Club (1800 W. Emerald Bend Ct., Granbury).

In a segment called SHOW & TELL:

- Denny Ludlow asked comments on a gold foil release from Guyana and showed a post card from Chichen Itza (Mexico).
- Cyndi Spurlock sought information on checks and receipts from a recent garage sale.
- Gary McNamee had a specialists album for United States "back of the book" and overseas possessions.
- Judy Christmas asked members to sign a card for Eddie Thomas.
- Stanley Christmas showed off a Wonder Woman sheet, different U.S. "flag cancels" and some "duplex" postmarks.

In a series of ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Dave Stockbridge, Gene Atkinson, and Stanley Christmas discussed the recent TEXPEX and prospects for a 2018 event.
- Dave thanked the nearly one dozen members who contributed a page to the "shoot-out" frame and briefly discussed participation in the event next year. He also called for donations to the EXPO Mystery Box and New Collectors table for November.
- Alliene Franklin noted that some circuit books were available to members, circulated a ballot for the *Linn's* 2016 stamp popularity survey and awarded Dave a certificate of appreciation for his work in gathering the TEXPEX frame for the last two years.
- Dave asked volunteers to give club programs in August, September and November and announced that the program for March would be the final sale and auction of the Jerry Potter estate.

During the BREAK, members sampled Al Hull's chocolate/mayonnaise/snickers cake as well as an assortment of fudges.

In the PROGRAM, Dave Stockbridge discussed the stamps of Memel, a post World War I territory disputed between Germany, Poland, Russia and Lithuania. Its mostly German and Lithuanian peoples produced stamps between 1920 and 1923 by first overprinting stamps from Germany and France. Following a 1923 invasion they released stamps under the Lithuanian designation of Klaipeda. Most, Dave said, are not especially expensive, but are hard to find, especially in postally used condition and on cover.

In CLOSING, Judy Christmas and Alliene Franklin won gift certificates while Cyndi Spurlock and Jim Case took home packets of world wide stamps as door prizes.

Been There, Done That

US Navy

By Bob Weidman

On January 20, 1961, I joined the United State Navy at the age of nineteen years, two months and eight days. I, along with several other recruits from Pittsburgh, where I was living at the time, reported for boot camp at the United States Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Illinois. It was not a fun time to be in northern Illinois. It was one of the worst winters in history. I am not a person that likes snow, ice or cold. That's why I live in Texas now! Somehow I survived those twelve weeks.

After boot camp, I had orders to report to Attack Squadron 94 - "the Mighty Shrikes" - who were home based at the U.S. Naval Air Station in Lemoore, California. The squadron had Douglas A-4 Skyhawks, a light attack aircraft. I was assigned to the line crew and became a plane captain. My plane was number 413 and my job was to take care of that million dollar aircraft. That included fueling, inspecting before a launch and after a recovery, plus at the end of the day, the inspections were to check for fuel and hydraulic leaks, tires that needed replacing and any battle damage after returning from a mission. I also rode brakes when the plane was being moved and cleaned it when it wasn't flying, as well as strapping the pilot in and went through all the hand signals with a pilot before a launch.

Our squadron was part of Carrier Air Wing Five, which deployed to Vietnam in 1968, 1969 and 1970 aboard the aircraft carrier USS Bon Homme Richard.

I also got to visit places like Subic Bay in the Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore and Sasebo and Yokoruka, Japan.

In addition, I made some lifelong friends that I still keep in touch with. On December 10, 1970, I separated from active duty at the age of twenty-three years and twenty-eight days.

The headshot picture is of me shortly after returning from our first deployment in 1968. The other picture is of me going through hand signals with the pilot before take-off. Notice the three five-



hundred pound bombs under the wing.

The stamp at the top is USA Scott #935 that was issued on October 27, 1945, commemorating the US Navy.

President's Comments

by Ray Cartier

In 1964 I had just started my first real job in Material Control at a manufacturing plant, after getting out of the Air Force. There was an older man working there who was about to retire. He had been very sick but he told me that he started collecting thousands of sheets of stamps throughout the depression and into the 1940s and was going to sell all of them and have a golden retirement. He told me that stamps were printed by the government and that guaranteed that like printed money, they would retain or increase their values. There were stories in the daily newspapers of significantly higher prices paid for zeppelin stamps than they had cost, and there was a sheet of stamps with an upside down airplane on it, for which I recall seeing an ad in my stamp album that said that just one of those had just sold for \$25,000!

Those news stories are what had made him, and thousands like him, who had never joined a stamp club nor subscribed to any philatelic publications to create their dream of riches in retirement.

I didn't have more than my childhood knowledge of stamps, but I held back my concern for him that there might not be anyone willing to pay thousands of dollars for his stamps.

There were thousands upon thousands of people like this man who didn't trust banks and "invested" in stamps and in the 1960s they were all trying to dump their holdings to a smaller collecting market. There was far more supply than demand and today one can still buy sheets of 3¢ stamps for face value or 10% less. When he paid \$1.50 per a sheet of stamps, incomes might have been around \$3 to \$4 per day and that \$1.50 he spent on each sheet was worth a lot more then than it was when he retired.

There is a value in belonging to a club, to an organization like the American Topical Association or the American Philatelic Society. There is also a value in joining one of the Study Units of those major organizations and that is information. But there is much more than that. Belonging to philatelic organizations opens your eyes to a much wider picture of philately. We never stop learning and the more you learn about the hobby the more opportunities you have to learn about other facets of the hobby and probably about other people who share your interests. Those societies help us find attendees for our stamp shows and furnish us with lists of collectors in our area. If your interests are topically related you can find others who share your exact interests and with whom you can trade both stamps and information.

You can enhance your appreciation of your hobby by continuing to learn about it and by meeting other collectors. But what most people don't know is that by actively participating with your club or these organizations the return pleasure you can get from this hobby can be doubled, tripled or quadrupled. The more active you are in philately the more enjoyment you'll get in return. It is a proven fact.

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

*Been There,
Done That*

Almens

By Peter Elias



Shouldn't every post office look like this? Most likely the postmaster even lives there! Parking might be an issue though...

This is a picture of the "Almens" post office that I took in 1986 during a year-long work assignment in Switzerland.

Almens is a small village of 228 (in 2013), up only slightly from 201 in 1803! According to [Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org), it merged in 2015 with a couple of other nearby hamlets and villages to form the municipality of Domleschg. I don't know what happened to this post office though.

The photo shows 15 PO Boxes next to the yellow mail drop box by the door.

The map shows the location of Almens, which is in the Grisons region of southeastern Switzerland.



For Sale

Do you collect **used USA Plate Number Coils**? Select what you want from my [extensive](http://web2.iadfw.net/wills/) 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](#) (NY2016 Vermeil Award!)
- [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)
- [St. Vincent Philatelic Reference Scans](#) (1,700 items!!)
- [St. Vincent Postcards](#) (300+ postcards from 1900 to 2007)
- [Vintage Swiss Postcards 1898-1959](#) (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

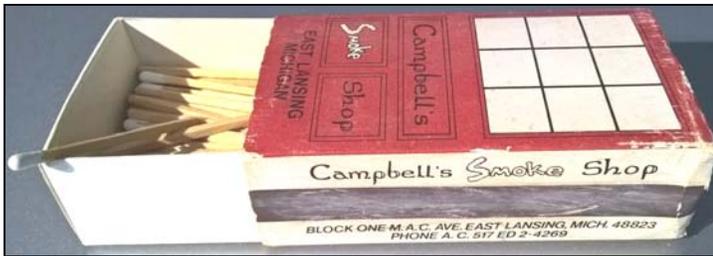
Been There, Done That

Oval & Unfiltered

By Peter Elias

MCSC Wins Texas Shootout

By Ray Cartier



It's amazing what memories an old box of matches can bring forth! To wit: the 35 (or so) year old box of matches shown above, that I found out while searching for something in my garage.

So what memories exactly does this bring forth? Well, prior to the year 2000, I was a pack-a-day smoker. I started smoking when I was 18, so in 2000, after 22 years of smoking, I called it quits. My parents never smoked, so how did I end up down that path? Easy, in high school, I had "co-op" job at Dow Corning Corporation; this job entailed working in a laboratory setting, helping to prepare silicon dioxide sample for Photo Mass Spectroscopy analysis (yup, quite a bit different than many high school jobs, such as working at a fast food place...).

How does this relate to philately? After finding that old box of matches, it triggered a memory of me participating in a skit at a public access TV show that I used to work with back in the college days. On one of these skits, we did an "interrogation" scene with a female student bound on a chair and a single overhead spotlight. It started with a close-up of me taking an oval, unfiltered Egyptian cigarette out of the flip-top box, lighting it and blowing smoke into the face of the female student while interrogating her, I mean, "asking" her: "Für wem arbeitest Du"? ["for whom do you work"]. That said cigarette came from "Campbell's Smoke Shop" (see box of matches) in East Lansing, Michigan. It was the only store that carried all sorts of interesting cigarettes from around the world, including "clove" cigarettes from Indonesia, which were very popular the time.



After pondering those memories, I then started thinking about cigarettes on USA stamps, and where now history often gets white-washed when a photo is used that shows the subject with a tobacco product, such as the Robert Johnson stamp (Scott#2857) from 1994, in which the original photo showed him with a cigarette dangling from his lips. Compare that to the 1982 stamp (Scott #1950) that shows Franklin D. Roosevelt holding a cigarette in his left hand.



History is history, and I believe that things should be por-

trayed accurately, even if it's not PC (politically correct) at the time. No, I am not advocating smoking, but people need to realize that at the time that the original photo was taken, that was how it was. Next thing will be that American Indians won't be able to be shown smoking a "peace pipe" ...

Your effort to help our club with its TEXAS SHOOT-OUT competition at TEXPEX resulted in our Club being the champion for the second consecutive year, narrowly beating out the Houston Club.

We had our choice of a used U.S. #1 (Scott 2013 Catalog Value \$475) or a Great Britain #1, the Penny Black (with a Scott 2013 catalog value of \$300).

Ben, Stanley and I decided to take the U.S. Stamp since we won a Penny Black last year. That was put in a lottery at our last show with the money going to the club's treasury.

Ben has suggested a new way of using the first prize in later years, should we win it again, which will be an agenda item at our next Board Meeting. Meanwhile, this one will again be placed in a lottery at the next MCSC Expo. I'll be bringing the exhibit pages to Wednesday's meeting. So once again, thank you for your productive efforts and our shared award.

Next year's theme will be "Travel". It opens the way for showing stamps showing places to visit, or autos, ships, planes, feet, or any other means of transporting. Someone at the show suggested showing the movement of Leaf Cutter ants and that would be appropriate. Or you can just show people on a beach lounging or playing volleyball or swimming. Just try to show philatelic items and make it to be fun and enjoyable, which are judging criteria overall. A couple of stamps showing babies crawling would fit in well there. Think about it. I hope that we can get 15 different people to submit entries next year as we try for three in a row.

[Editor's note: "Travel" is a great topic, and should fit in great with the "Been There - Done That" article series that various members have written about for the newsletter. So here's your chance to get a page done for the next club exhibit AND provide an article for the newsletter!]

trayed accurately, even if it's not PC (politically correct) at the time. No, I am not advocating smoking, but people need to realize that at the time that the original photo was taken, that was how it was. Next thing will be that American Indians won't be able to be shown smoking a "peace pipe" ...



Anyway ... this whole memory trail brought me to thinking about "quitting smoking". While I don't recall the USA having issued any stamps that advocate quitting tobacco products, there are several countries that have issued stamps about that subject, such as Cape Verde, Italy, Tunisia, Australia, Bophuthatswana and others (the images nearby I found while "googling" the term "quit smoking postage stamp").



There you have it: from an old matchbox to a potential "thematic" stamp exhibit about tobacco or quitting smoking!

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More Rescued Stamps: TEXPEX 2017

By Peter Elias

My personal philatelic “fun factor” at TEXPEX 2017 came from sifting through the various boxes of stamps at the “beginner’s table”. But this year there seemed to be not as much interesting stuff, quite a lot of it was common US stamps on & off-paper, and less of the oddball foreign items that seem to pique my interest. Part of that reason was that there were 2 guys that had already picked through a lot of the material before I had a chance to start going through it. Yet never-the-less, a couple of items caught my eye and I set them aside and will use them for upcoming articles. Some of these stamps could certainly spark the beginning of a collection of either a country or a theme / topic (not so much for me, but YOU, the reader!).

That said, I was looking through some folders of unsorted stamp stuff at home, and I seem to have a bunch of stuff that has accumulated over the years that is also interesting and will serve as inspiration for future articles. Stay tuned...



MEET & EAT for April & May 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

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>

May 3 Campo Verde: 2918 W Pioneer Parkway,
Arlington, TX 76013, Phone: (817) 275-7003
<http://www.campoverde.us/>

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.*

Mid-Cities Stamp Club “Stamping Around” Newsletter
c/o Peter Elias
PO Box 940427
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Don't Forget:
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