

# 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



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June 2017

### Been There, Done That

#### Pisa

By Bob & Pat Weidman

Back in July of 2013, Pat and I took a trip to Italy, a place I had wanted to visit since I was a kid, and I was going to get the opportunity to do so!

One of the places that we stopped at was Pisa, to see the leaning tower of Pisa. Construction of the tower began in 1173 and ended somewhere between 1360 to 1370. It is a marble bell tower that unfortunately was constructed on unstable ground. It leans 14½ feet (4.4 meters) out of line when measured from the seventh story.

The tower is 51 feet (15.5 meters) in diameter and 180 feet (55 meters) tall. The walls are 13 feet (4 meters) thick at the base and 6 to 7 feet (1.8 to 2.1 meters) thick at the top. There are 15 arches that surround it on the ground floor. Thirty arches encircle the next 6 stories. The top story with the bell tower has 12 arches. The inner staircase has 300 steps.



The tower was closed for repairs in 1990. At the time, the tower was leaning 1/20 inch per year. Engineers stabilized the tower by straightening it 15 inches to prevent its collapse, and it reopened in 2001.

The stamp at the top, showing the leaning tower of Pisa is Italy Scott# 1117, issued on October 8, 1973 for the 800 year anniversary of the tower.



### Been There, Done That

#### Oh Yeah!

By Peter Elias

Back in the formative college years, my main music interests were along the line of New Wave, New Age (synthesizer & instrumental) and occasionally punk rock (no ... I didn't have a Mohawk, but I did hang out with a lot of hardcore punk bands in the early 1980's in East Lansing, MI, see <http://punkdvd.webs.com>).

One of the bands that I listened to was a Swiss band called "Yello", a two-man outfit featuring Dieter Meier and Boris Blank. The song that they're probably most known here in the USA is "Oh Yeah!", which was used in the movie "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" in 1985. You can see the music video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6JkdRaa04g> and there is more background information at Wikipedia at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yello>



### Granbury May meeting change

→ The Granbury May meeting has been moved from Tuesday, May 23 to Wednesday, May 24 due to a scheduling conflict at the Bentwater Activities Center. This change is only for the May meeting.

**NEW:** MCSC "Door Prize Gift Certificates" will now be accepted at the TSDA bourses in Richardson starting June 23!

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# Stamping Around

## Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Peter Elias, Editor ([news@mid-citiesstampclub.com](mailto: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](mailto: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

#### May 24 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: 3rd Donohoo auction

—> Meeting Date change (was May 23, now Wed, May 24 !)

#### JUN. 7 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Ray Cartier – *Sratospheric Balloon flights*

#### JUN. 21 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: TBD

#### JUN 23.-24 TSDA Stamp Dealer Bourse

Richardson Civic Center, Arapaho Rd & US75

#### JUN. 27 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: TBD

#### JUL. 5 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Mixture Pick + 5 to 8 minute volunteer speaker Ray Cartier “*Earliest Days of the Mid City Stamp Club*”

*Also: Submit items for the August Auction!*

#### JUL. 19 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: TBD

#### JUL. 25 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

## Editor’s Forum

By Peter Elias

### Newsletter Volume Dilemma

The following issues of stamping are missing:

- 1986 - Volume 1 - Numbers 2, 3, 4, 5 (May to August issues)
- 1991 - Volume 6 - Number 11 (November)
- 1992 - Volume 7 - Year starts with as Volume 7 issue Nr. 1 in March, so most likely there were no issues in January or February. However, starting in October, the volume number reverts back to 6!
- 1993 - Volume 7 - Issue 11 (December). Note: this year had the wrong “volume” being used, it should have been 8, therefore every successive volume is off by 1!
- 1997 - Volume 10 - another year of an erroneous volume, number, as “volume 10 was also used in 1996 !

So, in reviewing the volume numbers, we are off by quite a few! In 1976, there was a “volume 1”, then no newsletters apparently until 1986, when “volume 1” was used again. Plus since 1986, some volume numbers were used in repeating years (1992 and 1997).

Thus, starting with 1976, as volume 1, 1986 should have been volume 2, 1987 volume 3, etc. Moving forward to 2017, the “real” volume number this year should be “33” (not “30”). When I spoke with one of the employees at the Wineburgh Philatelic Library about this, he advised to just keep the current numbering scheme as it is.

### MCSC & Members in the News

The May 2017 issue of the Texas Philatelist mentions the club winning the “Texas Shoot-Out” and also mentions & features pictures of the various club members that had exhibits at TEXPEX 2017, including Ray Cartier, Stanley Christmas, Peter Elias & Ben Termini. Various club members were also mentioned in the “Chapters in Action” article.

In same issue of the Texas Philatelist, it mentioned that there was a “Coins, Stamps, Guns & Collectibles Show” on May 5-6 in Abilene. I’ve never seen *that* combination of show before! If anyone went, please provide a trip report!

### Secretary’s Report

By Benedict Termini



#### New Members

None

#### Reinstatements

None

#### Membership Summary – May 3, 2017

Membership as of April 6, 2017	99
New Members	
Dropped for non-payment of dues	( )
Resignations	( )
Deceased	( )
Reinstatements	
Membership as of May 3, 2017	99

## The Case of the Prostitute's Bag: Another Philatelic Mystery Solved

By Ben Termini

While browsing through a box of covers at TEXPEX, I found three envelopes with unusual markings that I had never seen before. All were brightly colored and labeled with the name of a journal or newspaper (Journal LA FRANCE, L'Ouest-Éclair) and the name of a railroad station (Gare Bordeaux-Saint-Jean, Gare Rennes). But the most striking aspect of these covers were the words 'HORS SAC' on their fronts in very large print. I thought there might be a story here, so I bought the covers (all three for \$5.00) and did some investigating. Several of the covers are shown nearby.

First of all I needed to find out what 'HORS SAC' meant. My French was rusty. I studied it in school but about all I remembered was 'Voulez-vous coucher avec moi?' and this article is not going there. So I used my trusty google translator, and found that 'HORS SAC' meant 'out of the bag' or in the philatelic sense it referred to an item carried outside of the regular (sealed) mailbags. Sort of like the military term 'hors de combat' meaning 'out of action due to injury or damage.' An internet search yielded little additional information.

So I went to the APS library and searched their online catalog. I found three short articles which I could use (all written by Jean-Luc Trassaert). I called the library and spoke with Fred Baumann. Several hours later all three articles arrived by email, for a total cost of \$6.50. The APS library is truly an amazing resource, not only because of its vast holdings, but because it's staffed by some incredible people, many of whom are volunteers.

So here's the story. The French people, like many of us, enjoy

reading their newspapers in the morning with their coffee and croissants. Most newspapers in France in the latter half of the nineteenth century were printed at night and placed on trains (usually with railway postal cars) to be delivered to various cities. Speed was of the essence, and it would certainly speed

things up if the papers did not have to go through the local post office on arrival. So starting in 1854, the French postal service allowed some newspapers to be picked up at the railway stations. This material was carried out of the sealed mailbag (HORS SAC) and each bundle of newspapers was tied together with a colorful tag franked with postage for the entire bundle. So if there were twenty papers, and the postal rate was one-half centime each, the tag had to be franked with ten centimes. These tags are avidly collected and can be quite expensive.

Later this service was extended to almost all items associated with newspaper production, such as printers proofs, news articles, journalistic correspondence, and illustrations. The items had to be placed in special colored envelopes (such as those shown here) marked 'HORS SAC' and were charged the regular postage rate plus a surcharge for the special service. After the 1940s the envelopes had to bear the name of the sender, the date, hour and place of mailing, and the sender's signature. One of the nearby covers shows this feature.

I imagine (this is pure speculation) that there was a row of post office boxes in the train station. When the train arrived the postal officials put the mail marked 'HORS SAC' into those boxes so it could be picked up by the local newspapers' agents without having to go through the local post office, this allowing the good people of France to have the latest news with their morning coffee.

So there you have it. I apologize for the terrible pun in the title of this article.





In the summer of 2003, I decided to make a career change. I had been in sales for nearly thirty years and was beginning to suffer from burn-out. It was time to do something different. At the time, my niece was going out with a man who was a mail carrier with the U.S. Postal Service. I jokingly said to him "I need to get a nice easy government job like you have". He told me to go take the test that they give for mail carriers. After thinking about it, I decided to take the test

since I had nothing to lose.

I hired on as a rural carrier associate, which is a substitute on a rural route. The first stamp shown is USA Scott#2420, issued on August 30, 1989. I was assigned to a route at the North Richland Hills post office. When the regular carrier for that route was off, I carried the mail that day. Not all routes had a substitute, so on other days I would do other routes. I was also sent to other post offices in the Ft. Worth area.



After a little more than three years, I got my own route. Routes open up when people retire or new sub-divisions go u with more houses. The first route I had was out of the North Richland Hills post office. That route did not have a postal vehicle, so I had to use my own vehicle. I bought a Ford Explorer from a man in Gainesville who put the right hand drive in for me.

The second stamp shows USA Scott#1498, issue on April 30, 1973 and shows a mail carrier in a personal vehicle delivering the mail.



After a few years, I as able to transfer to the Cityview post office which is closer to my house. That route had over 600 houses on it, but it was all sub-divisions in the city, even though it was a rural route. I retired on September 30, 2014.

The MCSC board-of-directors meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by President Ray Cartier. Present were Ralph Poore, Skip Ely, Stanley Christmas, Judy Christmas, Bob Weidman, Ray Moyer, Janet Moyer, Ken Wills, Ben Termini, Tom Cunningham, Peter Elias, Rich Hildebrandt, Ray Cartier and Mike Smith.

**Agenda Items:**

1. Ray Cartier discussed the need for recruitment of new members. Stanley Christmas said he would put membership information in the EXPO mailing which would reach about 1,000 people. Janet Moyer suggested putting a notice in the local Grapevine newspaper. Ray said he will continue to check the listings in the American Philatelist and Topical Time and send invitations to new members of those organizations who live in our area.
2. A discussion was held concerning the apparent demise of the TEXPEX show and whether or not the MCSC should be involved in trying to help keep it afloat. The general consensus was that we should not get involved at this time.
3. Ray brought up the question of buying extra frames from TEXPEX if they became available, and this proposal was placed on hold for the present.
4. Ray brought up the question of publicity for the MCSC Library. Janet & Ray Moyer volunteered to work with the club librarian (Rich Hildebrandt) to sort through our books and make a list which could be sent to members.
5. There was a discussion about continuing to schedule Meet & Eats at Campo Verde. It was decided to continue doing so.
6. Alliene Franklin asked for help putting ribbons on the exhibits. Rich Hildebrandt volunteered to work with her.
7. Ray announced the results of the Linn's stamp preference poll, and said there were three tied winners: Ben Termini, Peter Elias and Ken Wills.

**New Business:**

1. Peter Elias discussed the "volume" numbering of previous issues of the newsletter which was all mixed up (this happened before he became editor).
2. Peter discussed running a survey of the membership regarding preferences for activities at meetings. He agreed to collect the surveys, analyze the data, and supervise the awarding of prizes for members who completed the survey. Various members of the board contributed their comments on the contents of the survey.
3. Skip Ely reported that sales from the stamp books were slowing down and he expected to run a deficit of about \$100 for this year. He mentioned that he was thinking about discontinuing books from the APS.
4. Ben Termini passed around a card that the club had received from the wife of recently deceased member Bill Bradshaw.
5. Judy Christmas (with assistance from Stanley) suggested changing the number of \$10 gift certificates awarded at meetings. Janet Moyer made a motion that we give two at Eules, three at Granbury and four at Arlington. This motion was approved. Judy Christmas will take care of obtaining additional gift certificates and distributing them.

The meeting was adjourned at noon, with an EXPO meeting to follow after lunch.

## Arlington Meeting Minutes May 3, 2017

By Ben Termini

### Call-To-Order:

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

### Attendance:

There were 18 members and no guests present.

### Officer / Committee Reports:

- **Secretary:** Ben Termini reported that we had 99 members with no changes since our last meeting.
- **Treasurer:** Judy Christmas reported that our finances were in good shape and that we had over \$11,000 in our bank account.
- **Sales Books:** Skip Ely said sales were slowing down.
- **EXPO Committee** chairman was not present, but Ray Cartier reminded members that there would be a combined MCSC board meeting and EXPO Committee meeting on May 20 at 11 AM at the Pizza Garden. Peter Elias reported that he had three excellent judges lined up already, and Stanley Christmas (exhibits chairperson) said he would be getting the exhibit prospectus together soon now that his computer problem was resolved.
- **Newsletter:** Editor Peter Elias said things were going fine.

### Announcements:

- Peter Elias mentioned that he could get members hats, shirts and attaché cases with the MCSC logo embroidered on them at a good price.
- Judy Christmas suggested we get hats for the EXPO judges, and this was approved.

### Show & Tell:

- Judy Christmas showed a picture of Stanley with his face all bloody after a fall and denied any involvement.
- Ken Aldridge showed a four cent stamp with a mis-colored background.
- Peter Elias talked about the 'informed delivery' service that is now available from the USPS.
- Ray Cartier passed around a cover produced by one of the founding members of the MCSC which was now quite valuable.
- Ben Termini passed around a book about postmarks he had recently purchased.

### Door Prizes:

Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Judy Christmas and Peter Elias.

### Program:

A spirited auction was held with Skip Ely as the auctioneer and many members acquired philatelic bargains which will probably show up again at the next auction.

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

## Eules Meeting Minutes May 17, 2017

By Skip Ely

### 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 PM.

### Attendance:

There were 12 members present.

### Officer Reports:

- Secretary – Mike Smith gave the membership report
- Treasurer – Judy Christmas gave the treasury amount.
- Committee Reports:
- Sales – Skip Ely said sales had slowed.

### Announcements:

- Mike Smith mentioned the Board and Expo meeting this Saturday, May 20, at the Pizza Garden in Bedford, and the Granbury auction next Wednesday May 24.
- Judy Christmas passed around a thank you card from Bill Bradshaw's wife.

### Show and Tell:

- Jack Urish had several Hungarian and Czechoslovakia items he passed around.
- Ken Wills showed some return envelopes to an invitation where the envelopes were postmarked but the stamps not cancelled.
- Peter Elias discussed the contents of a lot he had recently purchased.
- Stanley Christmas showed an envelope that got delivered to him even though it was addressed wrong.

### Mini-Auction:

Several members had a few items to sell.

### Door Prizes:

Gift Certificates were awarded to Peter Elias and Judy Christmas.

### Program:

The program was "A Look at Some Argentine Definitives Prior to 1978", by Skip Ely.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned around 8:45 PM.

## NEW PROSTITUTE REVENUE CATALOG AVAILABLE

**CATALOG of SANITARY SERVICE STAMPS, VETERINARY INSPECTION STAMPS and TUBERCULINIZATION STAMPS ISSUED by the CITY OF ROSARIO de SANTA FE, ARGENTINA.**

As part of a program to control the spread of venereal disease, the City of Rosario, in the Argentine province of Santa Fe, issued revenue stamps (Sanitarios) to pay the fee for mandatory twice-weekly examinations of registered prostitutes. Each prostitute was given a booklet in which the examination results were recorded. The prostitute (or the madam) had to purchase Sanitarios to pay for the examinations.



The stamp was placed in the booklet and various markings were added at the time of examination. There were five possible results: **SANA** (healthy), **CON REGLA** (menstruating), **ENFERMA** (sick), **OBSERVACION** (under observation), and **RE-PUESTA** (recovered). This catalog covers the entire time period during which these stamps were issued (1893 to 1928), including all known varieties, examination result markings, and overprints. Also included in the catalog are a few stamps of similar design which were issued to pay for veterinary inspections and vaccination against tuberculosis.

44 pages, all major varieties illustrated in color, 8.5 x 11, softbound. Available from the author for \$20 US Postpaid.

Benedict A. Termini  
8520 Meadowbrook Drive  
Fort Worth, TX 76120-5204

817-265-6771  
termini@charter.net

## From the President's Table

by Ray Cartier

## Granbury Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2017

By William Atkinson

The American Philatelic Society, (APS) does more than offer a long string of services to collectors, but they offer help to clubs as well. I just received meeting notes from an APS Ambassador Call-in which lists some of the ideas that came in from other clubs about picking up new members and publicizing their club and shows. Here are a few examples of the responses that other APS active members gave that could be pertinent to the Mid-Cities Stamp Club.

**John from Buffalo NY** wrote: Our club decided to advertise their show in non-stamp collecting venues, such as a local bowling paper and on a flyer for Bingo etc. He estimates that they had about a 40% increase in the number of show attendees. People said they saw the ad and had not collected for years, or that their father collected and they decided to visit the show. John (evidently a dealer as well as a member) bought four nice collections from people brought in by the publicity and the club also signed up some new club members. *"Clubs tend to preach to the choir using traditional stamp collecting venues, but they see results in "going outside the circle" to reach people who might resurrect their collections and bring them into the hobby"*, he added. A show he does in Ohio advertises in a local fireman's paper which has also generated some new customers for him along with potential club members. He also commented that by changing their meeting start time from 7:30 PM to 7:00 PM made an impact on attendance in that members saw that they could get home earlier after the meetings. He added that "time" is a major factor as well.

**Jim from the Southern Nevada Stamp Club** sets up a booth at coin shows and they obtain a room for teaching the Boy Scouts of America Stamp Collecting Merit Badge. They rubber stamp the blank APS flyers they hand out with their club name and information and the club gets credit and a cash incentive for each member they bring in to the APS.

**Chris from the (California) Sequoia Stamp Club** stated that the club has a \$500 scholarship that is administered through the local public schools for seniors who have any type of collecting interest. He also said that the club goes out to where other groups are, not settling for just trying to get them to come to the club's meetings and show. He suggested getting a table at local festivals, farmer's markets or other local community activities and also that the club get active on social media sites as a means to reach out to younger people. *(Note: We've tried that with the Waxahachie Chautauqua for two years, but need to find venues within the metroplex).*

**Tom from the Knoxville (TN) Philatelic Society** added that members drop off their older copies of the American Philatelist in doctor's offices. *(Note: that could go with copies of Linn's, Topical Time, The Texas Philatelist, American Stamp Dealer and Collector Magazine, Stamping Around, etc. I drop*

With Brian Smith hosting, fifteen members of the Lake Granbury Branch, Mid-Cities Stamp Club gathered on April 25 at the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 W. Emerald Bend Ct., in Granbury.

For **ANNOUNCEMENTS**, Brian noted that there were several tables of free periodicals and individual sales items for members to browse.

He urged that next time members bring items for the new collectors table and club "mystery box" at the November EXPO. The May meeting will feature the third installment of the Donohoo estate materials and will be announced for May 23, 24, or 25, depending on scheduling with the Bentwater Center.

In **SHOW & TELL**, Ray Cartier circulated a sample of the plastic used for balloon atmospheric research. Karen Cartier had copies of her new book "Tales by Mail." Gary McNamee had an antique stamp album and Bob Coleman showed off a 1948 Scott catalog. Daniel Kennedy brought an unusual Japanese "peso", which was used during the occupation of the Philippines.

After the **BREAK** with one of Al Hull's chocolate cakes, Ray Cartier discussed precursors to his space exploration collection. Beginning with balloon flights as early 1782 and their utility in the Franco-Prussian War a century later, he concentrated on developments of the early-to-mid 20th century. Ray's collections are in and of themselves eye-popping but his knowledge of the history of lighter-than-air flight is unsurpassed. Costs, depression, and war brought an end to the fascination by the late 1930s.

In **CONCLUSION**, gift certificate door prizes went to Gene Atkinson and Gary McNamee.

*some of mine off from time to time at the library or the dentist's office.)* **Kristen, from the Sequoia Stamp club** also drops them off in car repair or inspection facility's waiting rooms. **Jim from Nevada** added barber shops and stated that they remove the names and addresses from the magazines and include one to three club business cards in each. **One of the APS leaders from Pennsylvania** suggested obtaining the proprietor's permission before leaving them, as they do. Tom also says that they have a stamp acquisition committee that purchases lots and accepts donations to break them down for selling at their meetings for 10-20% of catalogue values. They currently net a few hundred dollars per month that they can plow back into buying collections. They also have a non-profit status [IRS 501(c)3].

**The Mid-Cities Stamp Club needs someone to assist with club memberships.** Above are a number of ideas and one other is looking at the names and cities of new members of the APS and ATA each month and asking the two organizations to submit their addresses so that we can make those people aware of our club and annual show. How about a volunteer or two to help out?

## Been There, Done That

## Schloss Oberhofen By Peter Elias



## News from the Internet By Peter Elias

Schloss ("Castle") Oberhofen is a really neat little castle located on the shores of Lake Thun in central Switzerland.

My wife and I were driving towards the city of Thun in 2000 and decided to check it out.

It's not a really big castle (like the ones you can find in England), but it has a lot of really wonderful items to view, especially incredible stained glass, such as the photo from below shows. The picture of us is on the castle grounds, in what would be to the right side of the stamp shown above.

The stamp shown is a Swiss "Pro Patria" semi-postal stamp issued by Switzerland in May 2017. "Pro Patria" means "for one's country". If you ever go to Switzerland, a visit to the Oberhofen castle should be on your to-do list!

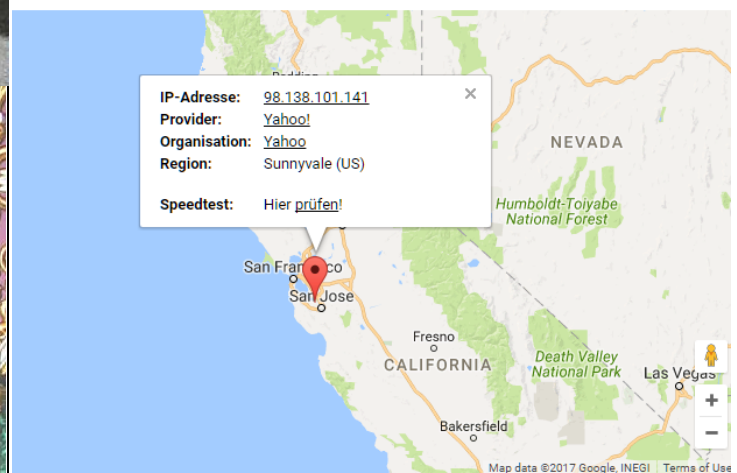
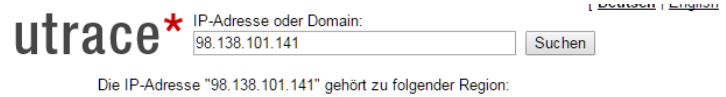


"The Evolution of Mail and Postage Stamps" is the subject of this website: <http://www.frontiernet.net/~stampmf/exhibits/stampcollecting/>. It is 37 pages of very interesting reading and I highly recommend that you read it, perhaps even pass it on to non-collector friends! I've turned this entire webpage into a 37-pages PDF file (which is about 10 MB in size) to make it easier to print or to pass on to others.

Regardless of the "name" of a website, they are all assigned an "IP Address" (internet protocol). The name of the website ("something.com" for example, doesn't tell you where it is at), however, if you know the IP address where the website is located (or from where an email message originated), then you can find out physically where that IP address is located!

For example, I sent a message to the Mid-Cities Stamp Club "YahooGroup" that I use for storing the club's newsletters. The resulting email that I received (since I'm also on that list, says that the email was received from IP address 98.138.101.141.

I then went to a website called [www.utrace.de](http://www.utrace.de) and typed in the IP address into the box and the result is this:



[Alle IP-Adressen](#) | [Ihre IP-Adresse](#) | [Whois](#) | [Statistik](#) | [Widget](#) | [API](#) | [Speedtest](#) | [Impressum](#)

While it may be hard to read the screen shot above, but it shows that this IP address resolves to Yahoo! In Sunnyvale, California and would prove that email originates from where it says it does! Utrace.de is a website in Germany, but you can switch to English at the top; I use this site all the time to help determine whether email messages originate from where they say they do. So if you get a message from "Bank of America", but the email's originating IP address is in Romania for example, then more than likely it's not from Bank of America!

# 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](mailto: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). [jasmymers@earthlink.net](mailto:jasmymers@earthlink.net) 5/15

### *Been There, Done That*

### Assisi

By Bob & Pat Weidman

On our trip to Italy in 2013, one of the stops was Assisi. The picture below is of the Basilica of San Francesco (St. Francis). It is named for the founder of the Franciscan Order, St. Francis of Assisi, who lived from 1182 to 1226.



His real name was Giovanni Bernadone, whose father was a wealthy cloth merchant. Francis' religious conversion came about after an encounter with a leper. Francis believed he had a call from God to repair the church near Assisi.

In 1208 he renounced all of his belongings, including his clothing. He accepted poverty in imitation of Christ. His final years were spent in prayer and solitude. Francis died on October 3, 1226. In 1228, the Catholic Church canonized him, declaring him a saint. His feast day is October 4. The USA stamp featuring Assisi is Scott #2023, issued on October 7, 1982.



## 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 \(NY2016 Vermeil Award!\)](#)
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## Wanted to Buy

**Interesting “stuff”,** such as:

- ◆ Worldwide Revenue stamps on document
- ◆ Worldwide ATM stamps, such as those from Framas, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:peter@pcelias.com) 9/16



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[Philatelic Sleuthing: Spalen](#)  
By Peter Elias

Club member John Barrett knows that I speak German and asked if I could help him figure out what “Spalen” means on the lower ring of the postmark (see cover below). The other word “Aussere” (actually Äussere) means “Outer”, but “Spalen” is not in any dictionary. Now what?

Google to the rescue! I googled (yes, that’s a verb now...) “Äusser Spalen Basel” and ended up at a Wikipedia website about Basel’s ancient city gates, one of which was “Spalentor” (Spalen Gate); perhaps “Spalen” on the postmark is an abbreviation for “Spalentor”? I googled further, trying “Basel 9 postamt” (“9” is a branch number, “postamt” means “post office” in German) and ended up at a Google listing for the post office “9”, which is right next to a street called “Spalenring”.

So all of this then would confirm that “Äussere Spalen” on the postmark refers to the name of the post office branch. When researching, I can highly recommend using Google!



## MEET & EAT for June & July 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 in the club’s broadcast messages. NOTE: All locations are subject to change.

### ARLINGTON

- June 7            Spring Creek Barbeque,  
3608 S Cooper, Arlington, TX  
(817) 465-0553  
<http://www.springcreekbarbeque.com/arlington.htm>
- July 5            Angelos Steak and Spaghetti:  
2590 W Pioneer Parkway, Arlington, TX  
(817) 303-7242  
<http://www.angelospaghetti.com/>

### 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.*

## 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](mailto:jmhstamp@verizon.net) 2 /15

## For Sale

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**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](mailto:stockdave44@yahoo.com) 8/11

**FREE 111-page or 26-page album** of Spanish ATM stamps (provided as a PDF file) with purchase of at least \$3.00 in Spanish ATM stamps! Contact Peter Elias at [peter@pcelias.com](mailto:peter@pcelias.com) 6/17

Mid-Cities Stamp Club “Stamping Around” Newsletter  
c/o Peter Elias  
PO Box 940427  
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**Don't Forget:**  
**Granbury May meeting is on May 24!**  
**TSDA Bourse - June 23-24**  
**(MCSC Door Prize certificates now**  
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