

Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Arlington Meetings: First Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.
Bob Duncan Community Center, Vandergriff Park
Irving Meetings: Third Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.
Garden & Arts Center, 906 Senter
Lake Granbury Meetings: 4th Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.
Bentwater Activities Center (adjacent to Bentwater Marina)



CHAPTER
MEMBER



#0891-076252

Volume 29, Number 9

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

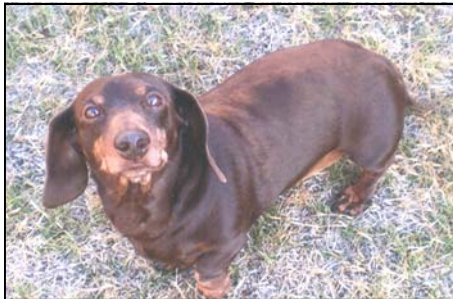
September 2016

Been There, Done That

Dachshunds

by Pat & Bob Weidman

Dachshunds, affectionately known as “wiener dogs” were developed in Germany during the 18th and 19th centuries combining several breeds of dogs. Dachshund is German for “badger hound”. They were bred for hunting badgers, but also used to hunt rabbits, boars, hares, foxes, ermines and even deer.



There are three different coat types and two sizes of dachshunds. The smooth-haired; the long-haired, which may have been bred with spaniels, and the wire-haired that crossed smooth-haired with terriers and wire-haired pinschers.

The two sizes are the standard, that weigh from 16 to 32 pounds and the miniatures that weigh up to 11 pounds. Those in-between are fondly known as “tweenies”!

My first exposure to dachshunds was when my younger sister got one from an aunt whose dog had puppies. Pat’s family had a dachshund when I met her. After we were married a couple of years, we bought our first house and got our first dachshund, who we called Moe. He was a smooth-haired brown in color. After about a year, we got our second dachshund, who we named Heidi. She was also smooth-haired, but a lighter shade of brown.

After we moved to North Carolina, we got Wrinkles, also smooth-haired, but a dark reddish brown color. Princess was next. She was smooth-haired, but jet black in color with just a tad of tan around her mouth, on her paws and under her tail.



When we moved to Texas, we got Penny, also smooth-haired and black & tan. The second picture has Chippy, a smooth-haired who is chocolate and tan. I never knew there were chocolate dachshunds until we got him.

Dachshunds are one of the most popular breeds of dogs. Some of that credit goes to Queen Victoria of Great Britain who owned a dachshund given to her by her consort, Prince Albert of Saxe-Goethe.

The stamp pictured is Antigua & Barbuda Scott Nr. 2215, issued December 10, 1998. It shows a long-haired black & tan dachshund.



Mid-Cities Stamp Club Dues Notice & Stamping Around Update

By Judy Christmas

It is that time of year again to start thinking about renewing your MCSC membership. At the Board & EXPO meeting in August 20, 2016, it was agreed that the Club will charge members extra if they want a printed copy of the Newsletter each month (starting in 2017).

The Club was looking for a way to recover some of the expense for printing out a newsletter each month and this was what they came up with. So starting with the 2017 membership renewal notice in next month’s newsletter, there will be a little difference in the pricing of your dues.

If you do not want a newsletter to be mailed to you then your dues will stay at \$12 or \$18 for a couple. The youth membership will also stay the same. But if you want a printed copy of the newsletter mailed to you then you will need to add \$10 to your dues. Thus, single Club member dues would be \$22 and for a couple it would be \$28 and for a Youth it would be \$16.

You can still be a Sponsor member for \$25 but if you want your printed copy of the newsletter then you would need to pay \$35 for a Sponsor membership. For those of you who choose not to receive a printed copy of the newsletter you will receive an e-mail from the Club with an attachment that will have the newsletter [Editor: this will require that you have a PDF reader installed]. The deadline for all dues is the end of March. For those who have not made their dues payment by then will not be receiving any more newsletters nor will they be listed as Club members in the Handbook. Dues are due by the 31st of December as stated in your handbook. Renewal will appear in the newsletter starting with the October newsletter.

Article Index

Page

Been There - Done That (Dachshunds)	1
Membership Dues Changes	1
Calendar & Secretary’s Report	2
Members in the News	2
Club Meeting Minutes	3, 4, 6
Unobtainium	4
Silent Auction Info	4
The Flying Trunk	5
President’s Letter	5
Newsletter Statistics: July 2001-June 2016	6
Ne Pas Affranchir	7
Club Scott Stamp Catalog Bid Form	7
Comic Strip - Dennis the Menace	8
Member & Dealer Ads	8, 9, 10
Meet & Eat Info	10

Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

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

Stamping Around is published monthly by the Mid-Cities Stamp Club. Material in this [newsletter](#) may be reproduced in other philatelic publications if the source is acknowledged.

Opinions expressed are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club.

2015 - 2016 MID-CITIES OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Mike Smith
First Vice-President – Skip Ely
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. For more information, the editor is reachable during business hours at (972) 671-0077 or e-mail us at:

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>

Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

It happens on occasion: I just printed a page for the newsletter and then discover a typo! Depending on the "severity" of the typo or other anomaly, I either 1) reprint the entire page (or two if it's page that already something printed on the backside) or 2) simply let it go, make an "errata" note in the next newsletter and fix the mistake for the download version of the newsletter. So if you have ever noticed a minor discrepancy between the printed versus download version of the newsletter, now you know why!

A quick glance at my spreadsheet of "philatelic articles" published in this newsletter since 1973 shows that there have been (as of last month), 1,022 philatelic related articles published! And that is NOT counting the articles that are about general club-related matters such as meeting & BOD minutes, pleas for volunteers, etc!

You can read ALL of these 1,022+ articles if you are a dues paying member of the club AND are signed up with the Mid-Cities Stamp Club "YahooGroup"! A few months ago I finished uploading all known newsletters to that site and they are stored in the "Files" section by year, and then individual PDF files for each issue. Issues that came out prior to my tenure as editor are from "scanned" copies, those that I edited were simply converted into PDF files from the Microsoft Publisher original files (and thus also of higher quality).

Also, next year the dues will increase for those members that opt for getting a mailed copy; see separate article.



MCSC Annual Picnic

By Judy Christmas

The MCSC annual picnic is being postponed from October to November this year, as I will be out of town the first part of October. More details will be posted in the October newsletter.

Coming Attractions

2016

AUG. 23 **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**

Program: TBD

AUG. 26-27 **TSDA Dealers Bourse**

Richardson Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho Rd, Fri 11-5, Sat 9-4

SEP. 7 **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**

Program: Club Auction

SEP. 21 **MCSC—IRVING Meeting**

Program: Mike Smith will give a program

SEP. 27 **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**

Program: *How to Make Stamp Mounts* by Stan Christmas

OCT. 5 **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**

Program: TBD & envelope stuffing for EXPO

Note: Annual Picnic has been MOVED to November

OCT. 7—8 **Dallas Postcard Show**

NEW VENUE: Comfort Inn and Suites Plano East, 700 Central Parkway East (Exit 29, East side of Expressway; 3 blocks north of South Fork Hotel on Expressway frontage road, just behind new Furr's Cafeteria, LaQuinta), Plano. Fri: 10 AM-6 PM. Sat: 9 AM-4 PM. \$4.00, good for both days

Members in the News

At the August 10 meeting of the DPCPS (Dallas / Park Cities Philatelic Society), Peter Elias gave a talk about his experiences at the recent NY2016 International Stamp Show.

Secretary's Report

By Benedict Termini



New Members

Membership Summary – August 3, 2016

Membership as of July 7, 2016	106
New Members	0
Dropped for non-payment of dues	(0)
Resignations	(0)
Deceased	(0)
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of August 3, 2016	106

Arlington Meeting Minutes August 3, 2016

By Ben Termini

Call-to-Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Club President Mike Smith.

Attendance:

There were 20 members and no guests present.

Officer / Committee Reports:

- ◆ Secretary Ben Termini reported that we had 106 members, which was the same as the previous month.
- ◆ Treasurer Judy Christmas was absent however President Smith said our finances were in good shape.
- ◆ EXPO Committee chairman Ralph Poore said things were progressing smoothly. He noted that there would be an EXPO Board meeting on August 20, along with the regular Board Meeting (starting at 11 AM). Rich Hildebrandt said that tickets to the awards dinner were \$20 and it would be Italian food but no Dago Red would be served. Ray Cartier said we need 7 more frames of exhibits for the show, and President Mike Smith said that Peter Elias has completed the arrangements for judges.
- ◆ Sales Books Chairman Skip Ely said that sales were good.

Announcements:

- ◆ Stanley Christmas is in charge of the nomination of officers for our next election which will be held this fall. He mentioned that there were several positions that needed to be filled and asked members to consider volunteering for them.
- ◆ Tom Cunningham reminded everyone of the TSDA Bourse on August 26-27.
- ◆ Ben Termini reminded everyone that the Greater Houston Stamp Show was being held on September 16-18.
- ◆ Rich Hildebrandt discussed the club auction which is being held next month.
- ◆ Mike Smith pointed out that the programs for October and November would be reversed, with envelope stuffing in October and the annual club picnic in November.

Show & Tell:

- ◆ Ben Termini showed a unique cover with all four NY2016 stamps, and all with First Day of Issue cancels.
- ◆ Mike Smith showed some crayon precancels from the Far Eastern Republic.
- ◆ Ray Cartier showed an unusual cover from New Zealand and another from Indonesia.
- ◆ Stanley Christmas read a letter he had received from the Pitcairn Philatelic Bureau.
- ◆ Dave Stockbridge talked about Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield and his prediction that the cost of postage could rise to as much as fifteen cents for an ordinary letter.

Door Prizes: Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Dave Stockbridge and Ken Dougan, souvenirs from NY2016 were won by Ralph Poore and Howard Savage.

Program: Ray Cartier and Ben Termini discussed their experiences at the NY2016 show and passed around various items pertaining to the show.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Irving Meeting Minutes August 17, 2016

By Skip Ely

Call-to-Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Smith at 7:30 PM at the Garden & Arts Center in Irving.

Attendance:

There were 11 members and 1 guest present.

Officer Reports:

Secretary – Mike Smith said we had 106 members.

Treasurer – Judy Christmas said our treasury was in good standing.

Committee Reports:

- Sales – Skip Ely said sales were off this month. New club books would help.
- EXPO – Stanley Christmas relayed the news that another dealer has been accepted for EXPO to account for a dropout. That puts us back up to 26. He said Tom Cunningham told him we still have a waiting list.
- EXPO (Additional) – Stanley also said that Ray Cartier was still had exhibit frames to fill. He said Ray also was looking for help with the TEXPEX club shootout exhibit in February. Ken Wills said we needed some quality items for the Silent Auction.
- Newsletter – Peter Elias said the next newsletter would be issued after the Board meeting Saturday.

Announcements:

- Stanley Christmas said we still needed someone to run for President and First Vice President. If those positions aren't filled, we don't have a club.
- Jim Myers mentioned the TSDA Bourse in Richardson August 26-27, and the Houston stamp show three weeks later.
- Mike Smith led a discussion about the venue for Irving next year. Since the current venue isn't free any more, other alternatives were discussed (like other centers, libraries, restaurants, and the like).

Show & Tell:

- Geoff Owens passed around the program for the APS Stamp Show he attended in Portland a couple of weeks ago. He also had some other items, including a tote bag that he donated as a door prize.
- Jack Urish had a question about a U.S. Civil Censorship Cancel he had on a cover from Munich. He also passed around a German Germania booklet of 5, 10, and 15 pf stamps he recently purchased. He also showed a stamp from Norway with a circled "T" that Jim Myers said was a postage due mark.
- Ken Wills passed around a recent newsletter of the International Society of World Wide Stamp Collectors and encouraged anyone interested to join.
- Stanley Christmas talked a little about his interest in Pitcairn Island stamps.

Door Prizes: Gift Certificates were awarded to Ken Wills and Stanley Christmas. Mike Smith was the recipient of the APS tote bag.

Program: The program was presented by Mike Smith, and titled "The Common Design Stamps of the French Colonies".

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned around 8:45 PM.

Minutes of the MCSC Board Meeting August 20, 2016

By Ben Termini

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by President Mike Smith. 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, Alliene Franklin, and Mike Smith.

The minutes of the previous board meeting were approved.

Reports:

- The Secretary (Ben Termini) reported that we had 106 members.
- The Treasurer (Judy Christmas) reported that we had adequate funds (See discussion of budget below).
- Newsletter editor Peter Elias reported that the newsletter was in good shape.
- Sales Book Chairman Skip Ely passed out a sales book summary sheet and said we had made a small profit so far this year.

New Business:

1. The budget for next year was presented by the treasurer, Judy Christmas. The major budget increases were the cost of printing the newsletter and the rental of a climate controlled storage unit.
2. Peter Elias reported that many members were requesting printed copies of the newsletter, even though most members had email addresses and could receive it electronically. (Secretary's note added later: We have 12 members without email addresses). Considerable funds could be saved by sending it electronically to all members who have email.
3. After considerable discussion, a motion was made by Janet Moyer, and seconded by Ken Wills, that: "All members who had email addresses would receive the newsletter electronically as a file attachment to an email. Those who wished to receive a printed copy would be charged ten dollars per year additional. This would be effective as of January 1, 2017." It passed with unanimous approval.
4. A discussion of other ways that the club could save money was held. Janet Moyer (seconded by Stanley Christmas) moved that the budget be accepted and approved. This motion passed.
5. Stanley Christmas, chairman of the nominating committee, reported that members had agreed to fill most of the positions which would be open starting in January 2017. The positions of President and First Vice President were still unfilled.
6. The Irving meeting site was discussed and various possible locations considered. No final decision was made.
7. Putting basic information in the member handbook on the website was discussed and it was pointed out that much of this had already been posted. President Mike Smith will discuss this further with Jim Myers.

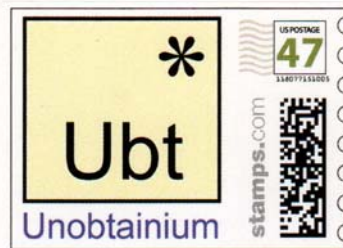
8. Ray Cartier discussed the Chautauqua which is being held in Waxahachie on September 24th. The theme is "Water" and Ray passed around a cover with a cachet he had designed and stated that he had prepared a two-frame exhibit on water which would be shown. Ken Wills proposed that Ray be given a vote of thanks for his efforts.
9. Stanley Christmas proposed that the club purchase the book, "The Path to Gold" by Steven Zwilling, and this was approved.
10. A brief discussion was held concerning bringing one of the annual APS winter shows to Arlington, possibly in conjunction with TEXPEX.
11. Ray Cartier mentioned that Karen Cartier had completed a new book on stories on stamps and asked if it could be sold at the registration desk at the Mid-Cities Expo. This was approved. The club will receive a donation from Karen for each copy sold.

EXPO Meeting:

After a short break, Ralph Poore led a discussion of plans for the Mid-Cities EXPO, including publicity, cachets, dealer bourse, chance board, exhibits, finances, mixture pick, beginners' table, registration and hospitality, the Penny Black raffle, security and the silent auction.

Next Meetings:

- The next meeting of the EXPO committee will be on September 10th at 11 AM at the Pizza Garden Restaurant.
- The next general Board Meeting (which will also include an Expo Committee Meeting) will be on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at 11 AM at the Pizza Garden Restaurant.



"Unobtainium" is a word familiar to owners of older vehicles, usually when they find out that some crucial car parts are just not available any longer, something which holds true for certain 1990 Audi's ...

EXPO Silent Auction

By Ken Wills

You know, don't you, that every lot in the Expo Silent Auction is a gift, and that the Silent Auction proceeds are the principal source of net income to the Club?

All collectors are eager to add to their collection, and in the course of doing so we all end up with stuff we don't really need. A specialist gets a better example of a desirable stamp, so the original one is now surplus. The generalist buys a collection to pick out the stamps needed, and the rest can be discarded.

Your donated "extras" make the Silent Auction succeed. If you haven't already weeded out what you don't need, please do so now and give something nice to one of the committee members — Skip Ely, Tom Turner or Ken Wills.

We will spend a day in October organizing the material to prepare for another successful year.

The Flying Trunk

By Hans Christian Andersen
Condensed by Karen J. Cartier

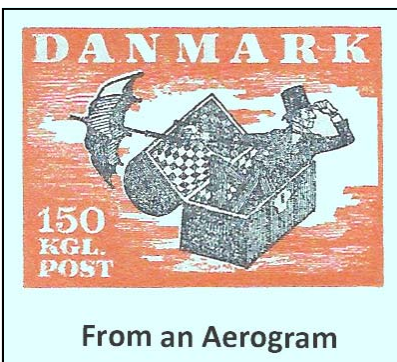
Once there was a very rich merchant who used his money very wisely. When he died, his son, a spendthrift, inherited his small fortune. But with his foolish spending the money was soon gone. All he had left were a pair of slippers and an old dressing gown. With his money gone, so were all of his friends but his landlord gave him an old trunk that had been left in the inn's basement where the now-poor man had stayed for his last year but was now far behind in his rent.

No one knew how long the trunk had languished in the dark basement and it was weather-worn. The landlord was happy to get rid of both the man and the old trunk. The man took the trunk outside that evening and wearing only his slippers and dressing gown, he crawled inside the trunk to sleep and get out of the cold. He muttered to himself how he would love to be in a warm home where he could eat turkey and dressing. Just then the trunk started rocking and rose into the air. The frightened man looked down at the tops of trees and houses as they slid out of view during the fast ascent and then high speed across the night sky. After a short while, sleep took over the man.

He was soundly sleeping when the trunk set down with a loud thump and a bounce. The man got out as quickly as he could and looked around. A nearby signpost told him that he was in Turkey. He had walked only a mile or so when he came across three old women, talking about how a princess whom everyone thought has been killed, was seen in a the window of a tall tower at the rear of the castle on the edge of the town, where she had been locked up.

The man went back to his trunk and as he got in he muttered, "I would certainly like to see that princess in the tower". Suddenly the trunk lifted again and flew to the railing at the top of the tower. He stepped into the room and she was so happy to see someone that she gave him a big hug. Soon he was telling her stories, enchanting her. She was so beautiful that he threw caution to the wind and asked her to marry him and she said, "Yes". She gave him a sword with gold coins attached to it to buy some clothes before going to the king and queen to ask for her hand.

Dressed smartly he called on the royal couple and being a stranger, they asked if had had any stories from afar that were profound, instructive and funny. So he began, "There were some sulphur matches who were proud of their family. They told the story of their youth as matchlings to each other. The tree from which they came was stately and was split into several sections. Their section ended up as matches. Now, an old iron pot heard this story and began to tell his own story. He had always been scrubbed and set over the fire to boil, and



since this was most important it led him to believe that he should really be the leader of the kitchen. Then all the dishes, pots, pans and everything else in the kitchen began to talk at once about their own lives. Soon they began to argue over who was the greatest when suddenly the maid walked in and they all were silent".

With that his story ended. For some reason the story was well-received by the king and queen and when he asked for the hand of the princess, they were happy to see her married and off, telling him that he should go back and get the girl and that they should go and get married on the following day. The happy man ran out and bought some fireworks and then climbed into his trunk. He flew over the heads of the people in the town as he shot the fireworks high into the sky.

The townspeople were in awe. Then he flew the trunk to the woods and settled it down. When the people saw him they declared that he was the god of the Turks and lavished him with food and drink until morning.

But when he returned to his trunk he found that a late exploding firework had set his trunk on fire, burning it to ashes. Since the man could not return to claim the princess, he sadly walked away just telling stories while the princess still awaits his return.

President's Letter

by Mike Smith

The 2016 Chautauqua event will be held in Waxahatchie on September 24th. Ray Cartier has designed a cachet envelope and prepared a two-frame exhibit on this year's theme of "water". The Board of Directors gave Ray a vote of thanks for heading up our participation, and I'm sure Ray and Karen could use some more help at the information table there to promote our hobby.

We have had some recent discussions on whether to keep the current MCSC 3rd Wednesday meeting location in Irving since it requires someone from the club to pick up the key from the Irving City Hall earlier in the week and return it a day or two later. One possibility that is available at no cost is the side room at the Pizza Garden restaurant in Bedford where we hold our Board and EXPO planning meetings. We can discuss this and any other options at the September Irving meeting before we have to let the City know if we plan to renew our contract for 2017 to meet at the Irving Garden and Arts Building.

Stamp of the Month: The Italian poet Dante Alighieri lived from 1265 to 1321. He is also known as the father of the Italian language because his best known literary masterpiece, *Divine Comedy*, was written in his Tuscan dialect instead of Latin, making it the first great work of poetry from the Middle Ages accessible to a wider, less educated audience. Italy Scott Nr. 133-135 were issued in September 1921 on the 600th anniversary of his death and a later series from 1965, Italy Scott Nr. 917-920, includes illustrations of his manuscripts. Other stamps honoring Dante include USA Scott Nr. 1268 and Germany Scott Nr. 1073, which appears to be based on a profile from the Early Renaissance painter Sandro Botticelli.

Keep On Collecting!

Mike



Newsletter Statistics: July 2001 - June 2016:

Numbers:

Number of Newsletters issued (15 years x 12 issues)*:	177
Total Unique Newsletter Pages (I counted this!):	1,977
Total Number of Newsletters printed (60-120/issue):	~ 18,906
Total Number of Pages printed (60- 120 per issue):	~ 211,668
Total Sheets of Paper used (above pages divided by 2):	~ 105,834
Total Reams of Paper used (above divided by 500):	~ 210
Total Weight of Paper used (~5 lbs per ream):	~ 1,058 LBS
Total Number of Staples used:	~ 37,252
Total Number of Laser Toner cartridges used**:	~ 139
Total Hours spent to create all the newsletters	~ 1,656
Average Hours spent to create & mail 1 issue***:	~ 9
Miles driven to the post office to drop off the newsletters:	2,068
(that equates to about \$ 367 in fuel costs).	

Dollars & Cents:

Total Postage spent to mail newsletters:	\$ 6,130.73
Printing & related costs:	+\$ 11,343.39
Total Newsletter Cost to Club (15 years):	= \$ 17,474.12
Average Cost per Year to Club :	\$ 1,164.94

Every time that I look at the above numbers, I am amazed how "large" they've gotten after 15 years of editing this newsletter! Some of the numbers and costs would be much higher if it wasn't for the fact that right now there only about 57 copies of the newsletter that are mailed against a membership of 106. In 2011, 120 newsletters were mailed each month, dropping to about 80 in 2012 and eventually sliding down to the 57 now. I do encourage all to get the download version of the newsletter rather than the mailed one, as it will save the club money (it costs over \$14 to mail a newsletter to one member compared to the \$12 membership fee) and also save me more time and effort as well !

Some of the costs above are reduced though by income from the business card ads from the dealers, which have generated approximately \$180-\$240 per year for the club. However, since I'm only counting the actual re-imburements that I have received, the costs above would have been higher if taking into account the left-over postage from EXPO mail-outs and \$850 in postage from the Werry estate (which resulted in 26 months of free postage!).

Notes:

* In 2009, 2010 & 2013 there were only 11, not 12 issues, since I had to combine 2 issues in the summers.

** I switched to using a different laser printer several years ago which uses different cartridges and has different capacities. As a side note, if an inkjet printer would have been used to print this newsletter, the printing costs would be almost triple or more (and take 6 - 20 times as long to print)!

*** Creating each monthly newsletter includes:

- Typing, editing, formatting & proof-reading articles submitted by others.
- Researching & writing my own articles.
- Scanning and/or photographing items for illustrations.
- Printing the newsletter (currently about 600 pages per month, which is down from 1,200 several years ago!).
- Collating (ranging from 5 to 8 stacks of paper for each newsletter), folding & stapling the newsletter (2 staples per newsletter). Basically the routine is: [shuffle/shuffle/shuffle/shuffle/shuffle/fold/staple/staple] times 58); this assembly task takes about 1 hour each month.
- Applying postage (approx. 58 times each month; 118 times if using the 2 ounce rate); this task takes 20 - 30 minutes each month.

Granbury Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2016

By Eugene Atkinson

Seventeen members and guests assembled at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 25, for the monthly 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 Ct., in Granbury, Texas. In the SHOW AND TELL portion of the evening, Stanley Christmas asked information on why a Richmond, Virginia, precancel would be used on a cover from Palestine to the United States. Daniel Kennedy showed off a Princess Diana cover, Gene Atkinson called attention to the classic U.S. stamps sheet released at the New York Stamp Show, Denny Ludlow had a lot of worldwide maximum cards, and Dave Stockbridge showed a "return to sender" cover rejected for its involvement with the purchase of Australian lottery tickets.

In a PHILATELIC MOMENT, Dr. Ken Jones offered tips to collectors who might be victims of stamp thefts. Police, he noted, might not be familiar with such items and require special consideration and details. Notify the APS, he continued, and in some cases even the FBI. Stamps, he said, were "portable and negotiable" and thus attractive to thieves. Stanley Christmas added that the Texas Stamp Dealers Association should be notified so that their members might be aware of material offered to them for sale.

In other ANNOUNCEMENTS, Brian Smith and Denny Ludlow had some items for sale; a table was set aside for recent periodicals that members might claim; Alliene Franklin is still collecting donations for the "Mystery Box" for this year's EXPO in Grapevine, and Brian Smith is accepting items for the new collectors table in Grapevine. Stanley Christmas announced that the Mid-Cities Club is recruiting officers for next year, and Dave Stockbridge reminded members that the exhibit theme for the club's entry in TEXPEX will be stamps "Whipped wi' de Ugly Stick." He needs specific page titles and names in December. He also announced program subjects for meetings the rest of 2016.

For the BREAK, Al Hull offered what he called his "Harvey Wallbanger" cake, a delicious amalgam of fruit, cake and frosting.

Gary McNamee brought the PROGRAM, an introduction to websites of particular interest to philatelists. Referring to a multi-page handout, he highlighted the work of the American Philatelic Society in its extensive offerings for the enjoyment and use of collectors. Other resources included the USPS website, linns.com, Mystic Stamp Co. links, stamp news now, and freestampcatalog.com.

In CLOSING, Daniel Kennedy and Judy Christmas won gift certificates as door prizes, and David Stockbridge won a packet of worldwide stamps.

Using "lick-n-stick" rather than self-adhesive stamps makes this task even longer.

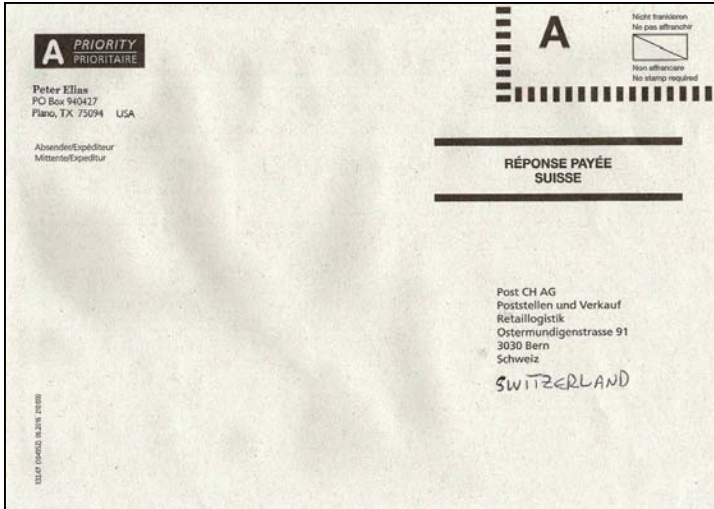
- Dropping the newsletter off at the nearest post office (10 mile round-trip) takes about 25 minute round-trip.
- Converting the newsletter to Adobe Acrobat PDF format and uploading it to the 2 newsletter (Yahoo & Webs) websites.

I am constantly working on making the newsletter more efficient to create (early newsletters were mailed in envelopes, requiring the extra task of folding it twice, applying a mailing & return address label and sealing the envelope).

Keep the numbers at the beginning in mind! Remember, some day, one of you may have to take over this task!

Ne pas affranchir

By Peter Elias

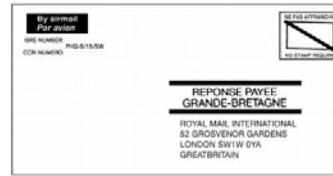


382.7 Foreign International Business Reply Service

Mailers in every country and territorial possession in the world that is a destination point for U.S.-originating international mail may be authorized to distribute IBRS mail in the United States. These items similar to the format in Exhibit 382.7 are accepted without the prepayment of postage for return by air to the destination country. These items are forwarded with ordinary letters and cards to the designated international air exchange office for return to the appropriate country.

Exhibit 382.7

Format Requirements — Foreign IBRS



I brought the envelope shown to left to the Plano post office for mailing. The clerk said it needed postage. I said no, it says “no postage required” as it was an “international business reply” envelope and that postage would be paid in Switzerland by Swiss Post. He said “no”, all overseas mail would have to have postage prepaid. I told him it was a proper IBRS (International Business Reply Service) item according to the USPS’ own regulations.

Regulation #382.7 in the USPS IMM (International Mail Manual) specifically says that no pre-payment is required and even gives an example of a very similar envelope (shown above in the cropped screen shot from the USPS webpage at http://pe.usps.com/text/imm/immc3_021.htm). I even showed him the print-out of the USPS webpage to prove the point, but he was adamant about me not mailing it without paying postage first.

The supervisor I finally spoke with corroborated my side and I was able to mail this envelope. She did say though that I shouldn’t have written “Switzerland” at the bottom of the address (as it only said “Schweiz”, and I figured I’d be helpful by putting in the English translation).

True, this is not the kind of item that postal clerks see often, and thus probably don’t know about, but I’m always amazed that they won’t even accept proof of their own employer’s rules when presented with them. I guess it’s an attitude thing about “*well, I work for the USPS, so you can’t tell me to do my own job*”. As a stamp collector, I often peruse the DMM (domestic mail manual) and the IMM just to make that I understand the USPS rules and regulations; it’s surprising that I often end up knowing more about certain rules than they do! The reason I had to mail this envelope was that Swiss Post inexplicably decided to (all of a sudden) switch their correspondence and magazine from the usual English version to the French version and “*je ne lis pas français*”.

2015 Scott Stamp Catalog Bid Form

Now is the time for one of the great annual stamp club events !!!! Each year the club gives every member the chance to purchase the preceding year’s (that is the 2015) Scott Standard Stamp Catalogs. The catalogs will be sold as 2 lots: Volumes 1 - 6 & the US Specialized. The club will take sealed bids for each lot until October 25, 2016. To bid, please send in a bid for each lot with the following information:

Bid for Scott Volumes 1 to 6 \$ _____.

Bid for Scott US Specialized \$ _____.

BIDDER’S NAME: _____ **Daytime Phone Number:** (____) - _____ - _____

RULES for BIDDERS:

- Submit bids by mail to: Mid-Cities Stamp Club, P.O. Box 2158, Arlington, TX 76004-2158
- Mark the outside of the envelope: “Catalog Bid”
- Bids must be received by: October 25, 2016 (received by, NOT postmarked by!)
- In case of a tie: The envelope with a commemorative stamp used for postage wins.
If a tie still exists, the earliest postmarked entry wins.
- The winning bidder: Will be called to make arrangements for delivery and payment

The winning bidder and amount will be announced at the Arlington November 2, 2016 club meeting.

CLASSIFIED BOURSE

Announcements

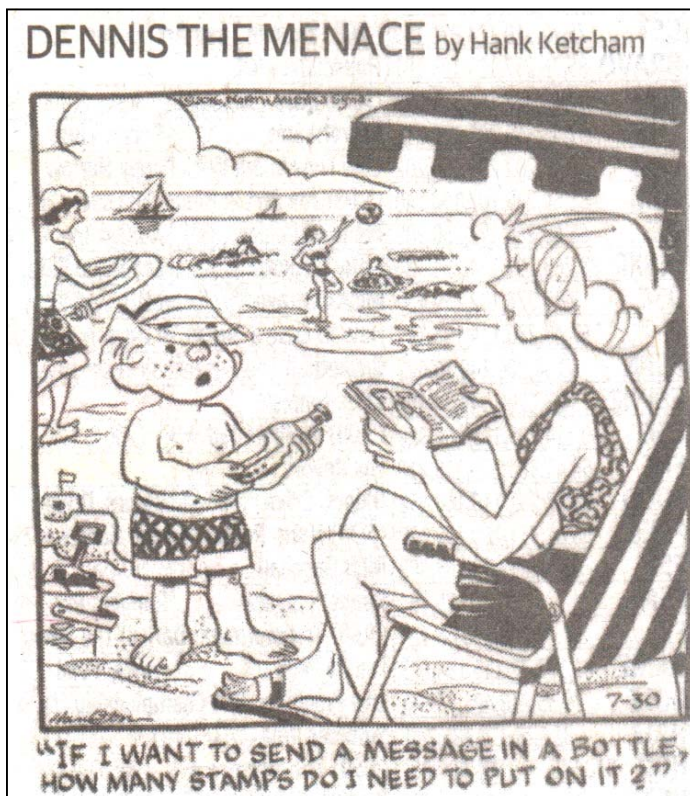
All club members that are current with their dues payments are entitled to FREE ads in this space! Please send ad to: Peter Elias, P.O. Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094-0427, give it to me at a meeting, or e-mail me at: peter@pcelias.com

Wanted for MCSC Mixture Picks

Good US Material on Paper. We need commemoratives (32¢ to present "Forever" values), Airmails, Semi-Postals and high-value definitive stamps. Please no common stamps such as Christmas, Love and other "special" issues. The club will pay \$20 per pound for needed material and may pro-rate smaller quantities. Contact Bob Weidman at (817) 292-4954.

- NOTE -

Donations of any US on paper are graciously accepted! 1/16



It is always nice to see comic strips mentioning stamps. This "Dennis the Menace" comic strip was sent in by Alliene Franklin.

If you see any comic strips that mention stamps, stamp collecting or philately in any sort of way, whether in a positive light or not, please send a copy (or scan to the editor)! Also of interest are "screen shots" from TV series or movies if they show a close-up of a postal item. Sometimes producers just don't get it right, especially if it is an image that is only shown for a second on the screen!

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.
- ◆ CVP and custom order stamps, such as the "PhotoStamps" from Zazzle, Stamps.com, Endicia, etc.
- ◆ Postally used "ATM" stamps, would prefer on cover

Contact me at peter@pcelias.com with scans. 8/14

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

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 5/15

Exp. 12/16

GEORGE WATKINS STAMPS

Philatelic Dealer - Worldwide & Latin America
14810 Tuttle Lane
Iola, Texas 77861-3834
(936) 394-2146 Fax (936) 394-2147
gwkiller@aol.com

George H. Watkins, Jr.



R.J. Peed **Enterprises**

**Coin
&
Stamp
Supplies**

CEO: Rickey Peed
CFO: Karen Peed
P.O. Box 531891
Grand Prairie, TX 75053
972-264-0751 Cell: 214-677-3633
866-478-3182

Web Store at: www.supplies4u.net
E-mail: tall_tex@swbell.net

Exp. 12/16

Exp. 12/16



Specializing in United States Stamps
Member APS, ASDA, NSDA

Kirk McKenzie
kirkmckenzie@cox.net

1001 North Fulton
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74115
918-836-1681



Jonathan Topper
11210 Steeplecrest Dr, Suite 120
Houston, TX 77065

I Buy Stamps and Old Mail
(832) 518-6558
jonathan@topperstamps.com

www.topperstamps.com

Appraisals Stamps Covers Collections
USA Postal History: Military, RPO's, Special Delivery, Advertising covers
Postal Stationery and Machine Cancels

Exp. 12/16



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

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

For online newsletters see <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/mid-citiesstampclub/files>
or <http://mid-citiesstampclub.webs.com/newsletter.htm> →



stampsuniversal.com

Visit us at area Stamp Shows



- * TSDA
- * TEXPEX
- * HOUPEX
- * EXPO

US/WW Classics, Modern, SONs

Visit our new online store
@ <http://www.stampsuniversal.com>

James D. Myers
P. O. Box 2047
Coppell, TX 75019
(972) 304-1671



Exp. 12/16

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

MEET & EAT for September & October 2016

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

September 7 **Campo Verde**, 2918 W Pioneer Parkway,
Arlington, TX 76013 (817) 275-7003
<http://www.campoverde.us/>

October 5 **Spring Creek BBQ**, 3608 S Cooper,
Arlington, (817) 465-0553.

—> Note: October picnic has been moved to November!

IRVING

September 21 **Angelo’s Pasta**, 1330 West Pioneer Pkwy,
Irving

October 19 **Mama’s Daughter’s Diner**,
2412 West Shady Grove (at Story Rd), Irving
(972) 790-2778

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

**Don’t Forget:
Arlington auction - Sept. 7**

cunninghamstamps@aol.com

Exp.12/16

(214) 546-1179

Cunningham Philatelics

Philatelic Consultants

Elusive Items
Stamps and Covers

Collections
Appraisals

THOMAS L. CUNNINGHAM
APS # 082424, TSDA

P.O. Box 863237
Plano, TX 75086-3237

GRADEDSTAMPS.COM

QUALITY UNITED STATES STAMPS

Exp 12/16

STEVEN CRIPPE

Rare Stamp Dealer



PO Box 25477
DALLAS, TX 75225

214.458.0641
scrippe@gmail.com