



Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

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

Bob Duncan Center, 2800 S. Center St.

Eules 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 11

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

November 2017



MCSC Annual Picnic

By Judy Christmas

The weather was almost perfect for this year's picnic. Not much wind and the temperature was in the eighties. Twenty-three members were in attendance along with their delicious dishes. Again this year Dave Stockbridge and his helper Ray Moyer (see picture on left) cooked the hot dogs just right. My thanks to all who brought food and those who helped tear down afterwards. And thank you all for coming. This is becoming quiet the social event. I hope to see everyone again next year and maybe even a few new faces. **Thank you!**



MCSC Annual Christmas Party

By Judy Christmas

The annual Mid-Cities Stamp Club's Christmas Party will be held on December 6th at the *Bob Duncan Community Center*.

This year the Club will provide just the meat for this meal. In that light I would like to take a poll of what kind of meat everyone would like. If you would please e-mail with your choice at judy66@swbell.net or text me at (817) 996-6112.

So now everyone will have a chance to bring their favorite side dish and/or dessert. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the Arlington, Eules and Granbury meetings. If you are coming, PLEASE let me know.

We will begin gathering around 6:00 PM with the serving line beginning at 6:30 PM. After everyone has had a chance to eat their dinner, we will begin playing Shanghai Bingo which should be no later than 7:30 PM. We should be finished between 9:00 to 9:30 PM.

To play Shanghai Bingo, we ask that each member and their guest(s) each bring three philatelic type gifts. These should be such items as stamps, stamped covers, stamped envelopes or philatelic supplies. Please place your items in either plain envelopes or wrapped packages so other members cannot tell what is in them. Just be sure to bring three items per person. The more gifts that there are on the picking table, the more fun everyone has and the more likely that you will go home with a nice prize. Just keep in mind that your item should be something you would like to receive in return.

If you have any questions or won't be at a meeting to sign-up please e-mail me, Judy Christmas, at judy66@swbell.net. **Thank you!**



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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

OCT. 24 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: By James Myers (topic is TBD)

NOV. 1 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Ken Aldridge - "The Mighty Mississippi"

NOV. 10-11 MCSC 30th ANNUAL EXPO

Grapevine Convention Center

NOV. 15 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: TBD

NOV. 28 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: By Bob Coleman (topic is TBD)

DEC. 6 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Annual Christmas Party

DEC. 8-9 TSDA Bourse

Richardson Civic Center, Arapaho Rd & US75

2018

JAN. 3 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: TBD

JAN. 13 MCSC BOD / EXPO Meeting, 11 AM

Location TBD

Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

If you have a "classified" ad in the newsletter, please check it to make sure that it is still active, if not, please let me know and I'll remove it or modify it. I realize that some ads have been in the newsletter for close to 10 years, and that's fine, some are for on-going items, but do please let me know the status.

Make Ben's job easier and please pay your 2018 dues before the end of December. If you make it to the various meetings and/or attend EXPO, then he'll gladly take your renewals in person, otherwise please mail them to the club address shown on the bottom of the renewal form (NOT the return address for the newsletter, as that will delay things ...).

If you are submitting stamps or images of stamps to illustrate an article, please try to use a mint copy of the stamp. Used copies do NOT make for good illustrations as the cancel often obscures the stamp design, unless of course the subject of the article or illustration needed IS the postmark on the stamp! The same holds true for stamp exhibits.

While I have previously scanned all available newsletters from prior to July 2001 (which is when I took over as editor), I am presently in the process of taking all those PDF files and running "OCR" against them ("optical character recognition"). This will turn the "image of a letter or number" into an actual letter or number. This makes it easier to search for and also "copy and paste" the text. It does unfortunately also make the PDF file size 10 times larger!

Happy 25th Anniversary to me: In the November 1992 issue of *Stamping Around* I was welcomed as a new member!

Members in the News

- Peter Elias' 2-page article entitled "[France 'Minions' Internetstamps](#)" was published in the Autumn 2017 issue of the *Meter Stamp Society Quarterly Bulletin*.
- Ben Termini's book "[Catalog of Sanitary Service Stamps, Veterinary Inspection Stamps and Tuberculinization Stamps Issued by the City of Rosario de Santa Fe, Argentina](#)" was given great reviews in "*The Philatelic Communicator*" (Volume 51, Third Quarter 2017, Issue 197, page 11) and the "*American Revenuer*" (Volume 70, No. 3, Third Quarter 2017, page 91)

Secretary's Report

By Benedict Termini



New Members

Vernon Sims (#596)

Reinstatements

None

Membership Summary – October 5, 2017

Membership as of September 7, 2017	100
New Members	
Dropped for non-payment of dues	()
Resignations	()
Deceased	()
Reinstatements	
Membership as of October 5, 2017	101

On our 2004 trip to Hong Kong we stayed over on the Kowloon side at the Intercontinental Hotel.. The hotel is near Victoria Harbour which separates Hong Kong island from Kowloon. Looking across the harbor from the hotel, one can see the skyscrapers over on Hong Kong island. In the picture that I took are several of those skyscrapers.

On October 18, 1999, Hong Kong issued a set of sixteen stamps with various landmarks of Hong Kong. Scott #864, the \$1.30 value of that set shows some of the skyscrapers on Hong Kong island looking across Victoria Harbour from Kowloon. If you look closely at the stamp, you can see several of those skyscrapers in I took. The the stamp building crossbeams triangles. right of it is building that the size of At the time I ture I did not stamp with view!



Antique Market Stamps

By Peter Elias

Ahh, they're old, so they must be worth something; I'm sure that's what the seller was thinking when he put these gems into coin holders.

I saw this box containing common 3c Prexies and 4c Lincoln stamps for "only" \$1.50 each at an antique market in Plano recently. As with the article to the right, caveat emptor!



Deconstructing a "Golden" Cover

By Peter Elias

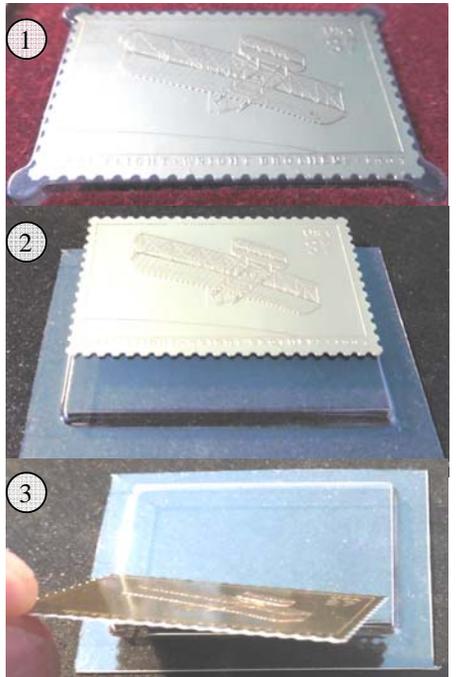


I'm sure that everyone has run across one the above type of covers at some time or other. These "golden" stamp reproduction covers were sold by a company called the "Postal Commemorative Society", which makes it sound like they're a non-profit based on the name having "Society" in it, but they are a for profit corporation.

These items were marketed mostly to people that weren't necessarily serious philatelists and that these items could be "heirlooms" - of course they can, but they're not worth anything - and came with nice binders, all for something like \$14.95 each.

The covers are usually (but not always) first day covers and on the left side is a "golden" reproduction of the stamp that is mounted inside the cover. The appearance is such that it supposed to look like that there is an "ingot" of gold in there (since it is in a "raised" area, around which is soft red felt-type of material. But what are these really? The cover shown above was in badly soiled/stained condition, so I figured why not take it apart!

First (1) I removed the top clear plastic cover. That (2) shows that the "golden replica stamp" is positioned on top of another raised piece of clear plastic.



Looking at the replica stamp (3) here is what you've got: It is a piece of light cardstock, onto which a piece of thin aluminum foil has been glued or laminated and it is then embossed with the design of the stamp.

Yes, there is "24 karat gold" on top of that aluminum foil, but that layer is so thin that all that gold would probably not even fit on a pinhead. If that was solid gold, the "ingot" would certainly be a lot heavier and would also have to be a lot thicker (as 24 karat gold is rather soft).

So are these a "rip-off"? Well, paying too much for any collectible is not a crime. It does take a willing buyer and an (obviously) willing seller. Anything can be "collected", just don't get your hopes up for a potential windfall during retirement!

Diamond Head, with its prominent seaward peak, located along the southeast shoreline of Oahu is among Hawaii's most recognized landmarks. The traditional Hawaiian name for the crater is Leahi. Legend has it that Hi'iaka, siste of the goddess Pele name it because of the resemblance of the summit to the forehead of an ahi fish.

Diamond Head became the common name of the volcano due to the visiting Western explorers in the late 170's. They thought the calcite crystals in the rocks of the crater were diamonds.

Diamond Head is a volcanic tuffcone created about 300,000 years ago. The interior of the crater is 3,520 feet in length. The summit rises 761 feet above sea level on it's south-west rim.

In 1906, Ft Ruger was established for defensive purposes at Diamond Head. In 1962, Diamond Heat State Monument was established. In 1968 it became a National Natural Landmark. Ft. Ruger Historical District is listed on the Hawaii and National Registers of Historic Places 1982-83. The light-house on the southern exterior of Diamond Head was listed on the National Registers of Historic Places in 1980.



H a - waii is one of our favorite places to vacation. Pat and I have been there six times together. I was also there four additional

times thanks to Uncle Sam.

The weather is superb year round and you can't beat the scenery as you can see in the photograph nearby, taken from Waikiki Beach that has Diamond Head in the background.

The stamp is United States Scott #C46, an airmail stamp that was issued on March 26, 1952.

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 AM by Chairman Ralph Poore. Present were Ralph Poore, Skip Ely, Stanley Christmas, Judy Christmas, Bob Weidman, Ray Moyer, Janet Moyer, Ben Termini, Tom Cunningham, Peter Elias, Ray Cartier, Alliene Franklin, and Mike Smith.

Chairman Poore opened the meeting with an announcement that unforeseen issues with his business might limit his participation in the run-up to the 2017 EXPO, but he would make every effort to co-ordinate activities with the other committee members.

Agenda Items:

1. New Storage Unit: Janet and Ray Moyer are looking into this. They were authorized to sign an agreement when they found a unit which was appropriate.
2. Setting up frames at EXPO: Ray Moyer agreed to supervise this activity.
3. A discussion was held about the procedure for getting cabinets from the storage facility to the dealers' areas in the convention center.
4. Show Program: Stanley Christmas volunteered to do the program.
5. Security: This was previously done by Ken Aldridge, who has resigned. Stanley Christmas and Ralph Poore will contact Ken and find out the details, so they can make arrangements for this year's show.
6. Grapevine Postmaster: Stanley and Judy Christmas will meet with him and coordinate the participation of the postal service with the show.
7. Texas Philatelic Association: The status of this organization is uncertain. Ray Cartier will contact Lyle Boardman and find out if they still want a table at the show.
8. Raffle: Janet Moyer discussed this. The prize is a nice four-margin copy of US number one.
9. Dinner Speaker: Discussion was help- about various speakers. It was decided to ask one of the judges (Ken Nilsstuen) to give a short talk on 'Philatelic Politics' and pay an honorarium of \$100. A motion was made by Ben Termini, seconded by Stanley Christmas and approved. Peter Elias will handle this.
10. Alliene Franklin brought up the question of the books sent to us by the Collector's Club of Chicago, and it was agreed that these would be given to the recipient of the President's Award. She also discussed the types of certificates to be awarded.
11. Janet Moyer mentioned that she was working on the volunteer list and would be handling the raffle and the entry tables.
12. Skip Ely discussed the beginning collectors' area.
13. Tom Cunningham mentioned that the dealer bourse was sold out. We have 27 dealers, some of whom are new to the show.
14. A vote was taken regarding the 2018 show and it was unanimously agreed that we should proceed with that activity.
15. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the MCSC Board meeting on January 13, 2018, 11 AM, at a location to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 PM.

Holden Stops Manufacturing Cars in Australia

By Peter Elias

So the first question for many people might be: What is “Holden”? Holden is an Australian automobile manufacturer that is a subsidiary of GM. The company started in 1856 as a saddlery and became an exclusive supplier of GM vehicles in 1924 and a GM subsidiary in 1931. October 20, 2017 is scheduled to be the last day of production at their Elizabeth, South Australia factory.

Many of the more recent Holden cars resemble GM vehicles also built by GM’s German “Opel” division (which has also imported one of their vehicles into the USA rebadged as a Cadillac - remember the Cadillac Catera?). Some of GM’s Vauxhall vehicle also have design similarities with Holden & Opel.

The two Holden cars that did make it to the USA were the Pontiac “GTO”, a muscle car in sheep’s clothing, looking like a sedate 4-door sedan, but packing a powerful V8 and also the “Commodore” models that were Pontiac G8 models.



Image from: <http://australiapostcollectibles.com.au>

If you are a fan of the original Mad Max movie, then the car shown above, a Holden Sandman, was driven by Mad Max’s wife (it was red though, not green). Also in the original Mad Max movie, the “Nightrider’s” car, a “Pursuit Special” vehicle as it was called and used by the MFP (police force) was a Holden Monaro. Monaro’s also look a lot like various Opel cars (especially the Commodore models) from the same era. Monaro’s are also seen in the Mad Max “Road Warrior” and “Fury Road” movies, although the “V8 Interceptor” that Mad Max himself drives is a modified Australian Ford Falcon.

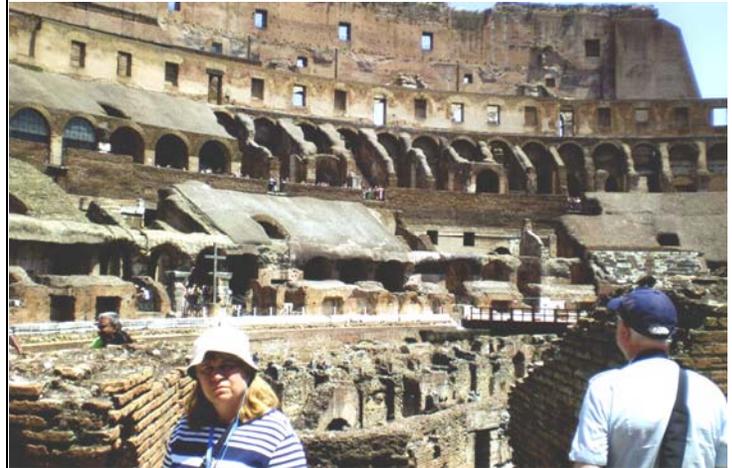
If you want to read up more about “Mad Max Vehicles”, check out this website: <http://madmax.wikia.com/wiki/Category:Vehicles>

From now on, Holden will sell rebadged vehicles from other GM divisions. The stamp shows a Holden Sandman, while the cover above shows the same vehicle as a label attached to an Australian stamp.

Been There, Done That

The Coliseum

By Bob & Pat Weidman



The picture above is of Pat standing inside the Coliseum in Rome. It was taken during our vacation to Italy in 2013. Construction of the Coliseum, also known as the “Flavian Amphitheatre”, began under the reign of the Roman emperor Vespasian in 72 A.D. It was finally completed in 80 A.D. while Titus was Roman emperor. It was built with concrete and sand and was the largest amphitheatre ever built.

The ancient Romans used the Coliseum for celebrations, sporting events and bloodshed (the contests between the gladiators). Today it is one of the most visited tourist attractions in Rome. Over 3.9 million tourists visit it each year!

The stamp showing the Coliseum is Italy Scott#611 that was issued on September 29, 1952.



USPS Goof-Up

By Peter Elias

A lot that I won on eBay was returned to the sender in Canada with a yellow sticker stating “vacant”. I’ve had my PO Box in Plano continuously since 1996 and the envelope was properly addressed! The seller re-mailed it and I finally received it, but, how does this happen to begin with? The USPS computers must have misread something during the “routing / sorting” process...



Arlington Meeting Minutes October 4, 2017

By Ben Termini

Call-To-Order:

The meeting was preceded by the annual club picnic during which many of the members ate too many hot dogs. Judy Christmas and her helpers organized the event in an outstanding manner.

The actual meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Club President Ray Cartier.

Attendance:

There were 23 members and 1 guest (Tommie Dougan) present.

Officer & Committee Reports:

- **President** - Ray Cartier mentioned that the board had recently voted to start the Arlington meetings at 7 PM, starting in January. He also asked for volunteers to give short talks as part of our programs for the coming year.
- **Secretary** - Ben Termini reported that there was no change in our membership. We currently have 100 members. He also mentioned that it was time to start thinking about dues for next year and passed out renewal forms.
- **EXPO - Committee deputy chairman** - Stanley Christmas reported that he had more than enough exhibits to fill our 60 frames, but could use a few more 1-page and 4-page exhibits.
 - Rich Hildebrandt mentioned that dinner tickets are now available for the awards dinner. The tickets will cost \$25 per person and the main course will be prime rib.
 - Janet Moyer passed around the volunteer signup sheet.
 - Peter Elias mentioned that he was in the process of lining up a speaker for the Awards Dinner.
 - Judy Christmas passed around order forms for lunches at the EXPO.

Door prizes:

Gift certificates were awarded to Skip Ely, Richard Urso, Karen Cartier and Judy Christmas.

Program:

The program consisted of envelope stuffing for the EXPO mail out, supervised by Stanley Christmas, with the awarding of extra door prizes.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Eules Meeting Minutes October 18, 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 10 members present.

Officer Reports:

- **Secretary** - Peter Elias reminded us we had 101 members.
- **Treasurer** - Judy Christmas gave the treasury amount.

Committee Reports:

- **Sales** - Skip Ely said had closed the payout on the club books as of October 4. Members with club books should be reimbursed no later than EXPO. He also mentioned that there would be no APS books in November.
- **Newsletter** - Peter Elias talked a little about upcoming newsletters.
- **EXPO** - Stanley Christmas said we had filled all Exhibit spaces. He also said that in talking to the Grapevine Post Office, they may have a fair number of inverted Jenny envelopes for sale at the EXPO Kiosk. He also noted that security would be handled by Doug Davis, who has handled security at TEXPEX in the past.
- **Web Page** - Jim Myers said any appropriate EXPO Committee information that needed to be put on the Web page should be forwarded to him soon.

Announcements:

- Janet Moyer said she and Ray had found a storage unit about three blocks north of the Grapevine Convention Center, which should facilitate storage of the frames at the end of this year's EXPO.
- Judy Christmas passed around a sign-up sheet for the December 6 Christmas party. She said this year the club would only provide the meat, and that club members are asked to bring a dish.
- Tom Turner said he had received a letter from Vince King of the Texas Postal History Association, which said that they were formally becoming just a part of TPA.

Show & Tell:

- Jim Myers had two interesting covers to show, one-over addressed, and one under-addressed.
- Ken Wills had two items that he later put up for auction.
- Peter Elias had a few things to pass around.
- Skip Ely passed around a U.S. Prominent Americans checklist he had put together to help him sort and catalog this issuance (19 images and 64 used varieties, not counting booklet positions).

Door Prizes:

Gift Certificates were awarded to Evan Islam and Janet Moyer.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned around 8:40 PM.

Getting educated about what an SASE is:



Minutes of the MCSC Board Meeting September 30, 2017

By Ben Termini

The 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, Ben Termini, Tom Cunningham, Peter Elias, Ray Cartier, Alliene Franklin, and Mike Smith.

Agenda Items:

1. Ray Cartier discussed adding more speakers to our program schedule for next year. A majority of the respondents in the recent survey indicated they would prefer more speakers. The board voted to include short presentations following the Arlington club's business meetings on the dates of the two mixture picks and the 'clean out your closet' meeting. The goal is to get more members to speak out about their collections.
2. Alliene Franklin suggested changing the start time of the Arlington meeting to 7 PM (It is currently 7:30). A majority of the board members approved this change and it will go into effect in January 2018.

3. Secretary Ben Termini mentioned that he would be sending out the club directory to members by email within the next month. As usual, information members requested to remain private would be excluded. He also mentioned that it was time to start thinking about dues for 2018 and passed out copies of the renewal form.
4. Peter Elias led a discussion of the recent survey of the membership, focusing on ways to make our club a better experience for our members.
5. The value of having a club library was brought up, since so few of our members use it. Rich Hildebrandt will be contacted for his opinion about this.
6. Stanley Christmas asked if the club could spend \$450 to purchase \$1000 worth of stamps for use as postage, and pointed out that this would save us a lot of money. It was approved.
7. Judy Christmas went over the budget for 2018 in detail, and it was approved.
8. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 13, 2018, 11 AM, at a location to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM, with an EXPO planning meeting to follow.

✂ _____ ✂

2018 Mid-Cities Stamp Club Membership Renewal # _____

___ Mr. ___ Mrs. ___ Ms. ___ Miss Name: _____ Date of Birth: ___/___/___
(First) (M.I.) (Last) (Complete if under 18)

___ **Check here if information is unchanged from 2017 and skip to signature line below.**

Home Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Email: _____ Home Phone: (____) _____ Mobile: (____) _____

Collecting Interests: _____

Other Stamp Organizations with membership numbers (if applicable):

___ APS # _____ ___ ATA # _____ ___ TPA # _____ Other: _____

Permission is granted to make the information above available to other club members. Indicate anything you do NOT want shared: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** ___/___/___

Membership Level:

___ \$12 Regular Adult (emailed or online newsletter)

___ \$22 Regular Adult (with mailed newsletters)

___ **\$25 Sponsor Membership**

___ \$35 Sponsor (with mailed newsletters)

___ \$6 Additional Adult (only 1 newsletter copy)

___ \$4 Youth (under 18; add \$10 if printed newsletter is desired.)

**Make check out to 'Mid-Cities Stamp Club' and mail this form with payment to:
Benedict A. Termini, MCSC Secretary, 8520 Meadowbrook Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76120-5204**

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*

Higher than the Highest Post Office

By Peter Elias

On June 23, 1986, I found myself at the Jungfrauoch railway station, which has the highest post office in Europe. It is at 3,454 meters above sea level (11,332 feet). To get there, one takes a steep cog railway inside the mountain that was completed in 1912. At the time I was living on assignment in Switzerland, so I mailed a souvenir cover back to my apartment. In 1999, I found myself again at the Jungfrau (see photo). The photo was taken even higher, at 3,571 meters (11,782 feet), inside the observation tower at the “Top of Europe”. The air is somewhat thin up there, but wow, what a 360 degree view! Part of that view is shown on the cachet on the cover below.



JUNGFRAUJOCH 3454 METER ÜBER MEER
HÖCHSTGELEGENE POSTSTELLE EUROPAS

Peter C. Elias
Siepark A
CH-8597 Landschlacht
Switzerland

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!)**
- **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

President's Comments

by Ray Cartier

Our annual Mid-Cities Stamp Club Picnic and envelope stuffing meeting in October of each year, is an event for members of all three of our club members, as is the annual Christmas meeting in December. These are strong examples of the value of the socializing benefits of the philately, and in particular, the MCSC.

Collectors of stamps (US, foreign, topical or special interests), covers, postcards and/or ephemera, gather together for a meal where we each have opportunities to talk to each other; to share and listen and get to know each other a little better. We all join in by bringing food making this an active event for all, just as our annual Christmas Party is. The interactions are a way in which we can all get to know each other a little better, which is an important benefit of these gatherings.

After a short business meeting in which we usually learn more about the upcoming MCSC EXPO and decisions made at the last Board meeting, we all work together to stuff envelopes to which Stanley and Judy Christmas have already affixed stamps and mailing labels (bless them!). The 900 plus envelopes are all sent out to people who have attended our EXPO in recent years and successfully bring in enough collectors to keep our dealers coming back year after year. With everyone working together the envelopes are stuffed and sealed in short order and those who have participated have chances of winning the several \$10 Gift certificates or Grand Prize certificate, which can be spent with any dealer at our show, or in our auctions both at the EXPO and at our club meetings.

The unity of our members is strengthened as a result of so many of us helping out in this club activity, just as it is in our December meeting, open to all three clubs, in which all members bring something to eat, with the club purchasing the meat products, along with three wrapped philatelic gifts (with some value in the \$3 to \$5 range – but no White Elephants) for our “Shanghai Bingo”. This event started in our club’s first year in 1973 making the 2017 game our 45th consecutive annual Christmas highlight! Again, the participation by all is strength of the gathering and of the club.

At this time we, the club officers, would like to get some additional participation at several of the Arlington meetings, and I’m sure that the Granbury and Bedford leaders would like that as well for those meetings. In the questionnaire that was put together by Peter Elias, “speakers” at club meetings met with one of the most popular aspects of our meetings. The Arlington club normally has speakers in April, June, September and November. In 2018 we will add January to that list. But we need a few more of our members to help out with a program about some aspect of philately. Could you be one of the people who will step up and give us your slant on some philatelic topic?

I’ll volunteer to give one talk at each of the three clubs in the coming year, if wanted.

If you, like many, have a fear of public speaking, then consider giving a small 5 to 10 minute talk. In Arlington we want to do that before our Mixture Picks in February and July as well as on our “Clean out your closet” meeting in March.

Been There, Done That

Princess Diana

By Bob & Pat Weidman



On our trip to Hong Kong in August of 2004, Pat had the honor of having her picture taken with Princess Diana. Diana Frances Spencer, better known as Princess Diana was born on July 1, 1961. When her father inherited the title of Earl, she became Lady Diana Spencer. She married Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, on July 29, 1981. Her title then became Princess Diana.

After her divorce from Charles, Princess Di, as she was affectionately called by the British people, took it upon herself to promote the banning of land mines and traveled the world to advance that cause.

Princess Diana died at the Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris, France, on August 31, 1997 after an auto accident. She was buried on September 6, 1997 in Althorpe, Great Britain. In her short lifetime, Princess Diana became one of the most adored members of the British Royal Family.

The picture of Pat and Princess Diana was taken at the top of the Victoria Peak Tram. We took the tram up to Victoria Peak to get some pictures, and we exited the tram, there was a life size statue of Princess Diana, so I took a picture of Pat standing next to it. The stamp is from Great Britain and part of a set of 5 issues on February 3, 1998.



Contact me for offerings to help in Arlington at (*next column*) raycartier09@gmail.com or at (817) 275-2801. You can contact Dave Stockbridge or Alliene Franklin for the Granbury Club or Ken Wills for the Bedford club.

These talks are not really like public speaking. Think of them as talking about your hobby to family members; but in this case the “family” members will be interested in what you have to say.

[Editor's Note: I found this in a folder of older "to-be-published" items, judging by 12:30 pm comment below, it appears to be from around 1999! There was no author name. Although I had published this before, in the July 2002 newsletter, I figured that ya'll might enjoy it again!].

HOW A STAMP DEALER SPENDS THE DAY:

8:00 am Wake up to hugs and kisses.
8:15 am Weigh in 5 pounds lighter than yesterday.
8:20 am Received call from Linn's Stamp News, they found \$450.00 credit that they owe me.
8:25 am Watch CNN newsflash: Clinton resigns.
8:45 am Breakfast in bed. Fresh squeezed OJ and croissants with bacon/ham.
9:15 am Customer calls. Want to trade his XF NH stamps for no gum stamps.
10:00 am Receive eBay auction notice: All auctions are free of fees this month.
10:30 am Local Postmaster calls: .All current left-over stamps now 20% of face value!
11:00 am Light workout with sexy personal trainer.
Noon New customer calls. Wants UN First Day Covers addressed, will pay \$1.25 each.
12:30 pm Watch CNN newsflash: USA to issue only 20 stamps, no varieties in 1999.
1:00 pm Read news item: 5 million Beanie Babies collectors turn to stamps.
2:00 pm Late lunch with that sexy personal trainer. Lobster appetizers.
3:00 pm Stamps cataloged last night turn out to be NH in better light of day.
3:45 pm Sexy personal trainer states she'll catalog stamps for free.
4:15 pm Watch CNN Newsflash: Collectors need not pay interest fees next 5 years.
5:00 pm Read Post Office notice: Each collector to receive a free topical sheet of their topical choice each year.
5:30 pm Personal trainer cataloging finds silly upside-down airplane stamp.
6:00 pm Receive E-mail from AOL. Collectors & dealers are an asset, all monthly fees are waved for next 5 years.
7:00 pm Wife states "*Go ahead and work on stamps honey, I'm too tired to go mall shopping so I'll just watch TV till you are done*".
8:30 pm Finish appraising collection. Phone the seller who states that too much money, I'll take \$500.00 less.
9:00 pm Watch one TV program (but still thinking about silly upside-down airmail stamp she found).
11:00 pm Hot shower (yes, alone).
11:30 pm Pillow talk, cuddling and raking my brains on how to find 10,000 UN addressed covers for that guy who called at noon.

Below are comments on how a stamp dealer's day is REALLY like:

4:30 am Wake up to another day with bloodshot eyes from cataloging till 2 am.
4:45 am Weigh in 5 pounds heavier than yesterday.
5:00 am No darn breakfast - off to the computer with a cup of coffee,
5:30 am Customer calls, wants to return a lot you sold him 4 years ago.
6:00 am Receive eBay auction notice. None of your lots were sold.
7:00 am Local Postmaster calls: Retroactive postal rates low \$125.00 on last 12 shipments.
8:00 am New customer calls. Wants Tibet 1a (only 3 known). Wants to pay 20% of catalog.
8:15 am Wife wakes up and states "Are you still on that computer?"
9:45 am Coffee spills. US # 292 "XF NH" is now "XF with no gum".
10:30 am Rechecking stamps cataloged late last night, find more than 1/5 have thins in better light of day.
Noon 6th customer calls asking if you want to purchase 6,000 UN addressed covers. His grandfather said they are worth a lot of money.
1:00 pm Late lunch, bologna sandwich.
2:00 pm 8th E-mail from someone in Ukraine offering "beautiful stamps".
3:15 pm Watch CNN newsflash: Clinton drops cigarette tax, but will tax stamp dealers \$1.50 per perforation.
4:00 pm Wife yells out 9th time "Are you going to spend all day behind that dumb computer?"
5:15 pm Finish appraising collection. Phone the seller who states "I don't really want to sell it, I just wanted a free appraisal to find out how much it is really worth."
6:00 pm New assistant phones to tell why she wasn't there at 9 AM.
6:15 pm 12th call of the day from a person who has some "ancient stamps" and knows for sure they are worth a lot of money.
7:00 pm 3rd call of the day from a person who receive some really old stamps from his grandmother.
Caller states, " These are really old, Dwight Eisenhower is on them".
7:35 pm Just spent 25 minutes looking for Scott catalog volume 2. Darn thing was right in front of me under a stamp album.
8:00 pm I call out to my wife, "*Honey, I'll be with you in 15 minutes*".

Exp.12/17



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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> →




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Exp. 12/17

*Been There,
Done That*

Audi 100 Portocard
By Peter Elias



The German mail-order stamp dealer "Waigand" had created a "Portocard Individuell" featuring the Audi 100, which is the same car that I currently own. Mine is a 1990 front-wheel drive version (currently at 358,000 miles!), but I don't know what year the car on the stamp is; although my car does also sport European headlamps (which have a better beam pattern) to replace the US-specification ones.

The "Portocard Individuell" is a stamp product that the German postal service has available, mostly used by companies for advertising or marketing purposes. Folded, they are business card size and generally contain 1 custom postage stamp.



MEET & EAT for November & December 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

November 1 Spring Creek Barbeque, 3608 S Cooper St.
Arlington, (817) 465-0553.
<http://www.springcreekbarbeque.com/arlington.htm>

December 6 Club Christmas Party

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 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

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 6/17

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

Don't Forget:
30th Annual EXPO - Nov. 10 & 11
See you at the show!
→ Dues are due (see page 6)!