

# Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

*Arlington Meetings: First Wednesday @ 7:00 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



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

February 2018

## Been There, Done That

### Teufelsbrücke (Devil's Bridge)

By Peter Elias

cross by an old woman when the Devil was taking a break when exhausted from carrying the rock, forcing the Devil to abandon the rock and flee [Editor's note: the preceding two paragraphs

In 1986 I found myself at the "devil's bridge", located in the Schöllenen Gorge near the St. Gotthard mountain pass.

Recently I remember watching a recent episode of "The Grand Tour" (with the same guys



from the former British TV series "Top Gear" where they were in Switzerland with high-end sports cars. At one point they were stopped at a bridge with a tunnel entrance and I re-

are paraphrased from a Wikipedia reference at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sch%C3%B6llenen\\_Gorge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sch%C3%B6llenen_Gorge)].

The blue arrow points to the drawing of the Devil and the goat located on the left side of the tunnel (a bit difficult to see on the photograph).

membered seeing the red devil painting on the side, same as is shown on the 1997 stamp from Switzerland and of which I took a photo back in 1986!

So why is it called the "Devil's Bridge"? Googling around, I find that there are several bridges with that kind of a name. The reference to this particular bridge, "Teiffels Brücken" was first recorded in 1587. The legend itself was related by a Johann Jakob Scheuchzer, who in 1716 said he was told of a local legend stating that the people of Uri (a Swiss Canton) recruited the Devil for the difficult job of building the bridge and that he requested to receive the first thing to pass the bridge in exchange. Since most people expected that the Devil wanted the soul of the first man to cross the bridge, they sent across a dog, luring it by throwing a loaf of bread and the dog was promptly torn to pieces by the Devil. The Devil, being enraged by having been tricked, wanted to throw a large rock to smash the bridge, but then came across a holy man who scolded him and forced him to drop the rock, which could still be seen on the path below Göschenen.

A modern retelling of the story (in 1915) had it be a goat that was sent across the bridge instead of a dog and instead of a holy man scolding the devil, the rock was marked with a

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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

### 2018

**JAN. 23**      **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**  
Program: TBD

**FEB. 7**      **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**  
Program: Mixture Pick & Bob Weidman presentation

**FEB. 21**      **MCSC—EULESS Meeting**  
Program: DVD - "Doctoring of Postage Stamps - Philatelists Beware" (courtesy of the DPCPS).

**FEB. 27**      **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**  
Program: David Stockbridge - "European Dead Countries of the 20th Century"

**MAR 3**      **EXPO Board Meeting, 11 AM**  
At the Pizza Garden Restaurant in Bedford

**MAR. 7**      **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**  
Program: Show&Tell Evening; Peter Elias (tentative), others, please bring two Show & Tell items!

**MAR. 16 & 17**      **TSDA Bourse**  
Richardson Civic Center, Arapaho Rd & US75

**MAR. 16 & 17**      **Dallas Postcard Show**  
Comfort Inn & Suites, 700 Central Ewy, Plano, \$4 admission

**MAR. 21**      **MCSC—EULESS Meeting**

## Editor's Forum

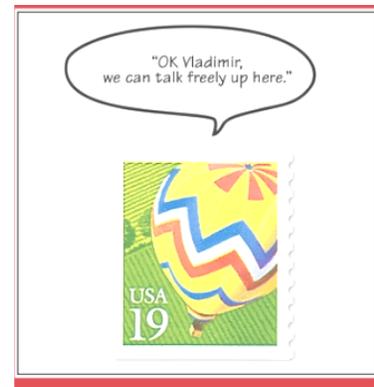
By Peter Elias

2018 Membership dues were due at the end of December 2017. If you have not yet mailed in your dues payment to Ben Termini (or given it to him at a meeting), please do so now and avoid being dropped from the membership roster in February!

If you submit articles, please send them as plain text (no fancy fonts please!) and no extraneous formatting, as I'll have to undo all that and put it into the standard style used for the newsletter. Any photos or images should be at least 300 dpi and I can manipulate them for the newsletter as needed.

## Members in the News

Ray Cartier won the "cartoon caption contest" (see below) in the Linn's Stamp News (December 25, 2017 issue); this gets him a 13-week extension of his Linn's subscription.



The November cartoon caption contest featured the 1991 19¢ stamp showing a colorful hot air balloon. The winner of the nonphilatelic part of the contest is Ray Cartier, who brought today's front pages to life with his entry. The next cartoon caption contest will be announced in Linn's Jan. 8 issue.

Peter Elias contributed several articles to issue 318 (Winter 2017) of the Meter Stamp Society Quarterly Journal:

- Rare Upside Down SSK Flag Stamp (pg. 12)
  - Defect in Plano TX Cookie Stamp (pg. 13)
  - Small "FOREVER" on Flag SSK Stamp (pg. 14)
- > Remember, if you are a member of a specialty philatelic society or study group and have an article published, please let the editor know!

## Secretary's Report

By Benedict Termini



### New Members Reinstatements

#### Membership Summary – January 3, 2018

Membership as of December 6, 2017	106
New Members	
Dropped for non-payment of dues	( )
Resignations	( )
Deceased	( )
Reinstatements	
Membership as of January 3, 2018	106



I received Christmas greetings from a former boss of mine in an envelope bearing a German custom postage stamp (called “Briefmarke Individuell” in German = “individual postage stamp” in English) that shows a view of the Hohentwiel castle located on an extinct Volcano at the foot of the town of Hilzingen (in southern Germany west of Lake Constance, the city of Singen is on the other side, all fairly close to the Swiss border).

I discussed the Hohentwiel previously in the August 2017 issue of *Stamping Around*, where I showed a few pictures I took along with an older German stamp from the 1930’s that depicted the castle.

A nice surprise in the letter I received were the four mint stamps showing different scenes of the Hohentwiel, presumably taken by my former boss (with the exception of the fourth stamp, which shows a medieval drawing of the castle that can be seen when taking the tour).

A major free-way runs near the castle and the volcano, luckily it runs in a tunnel underneath and thus traffic and sound pollution don’t spoil your experience of being there!

I’ve now twice stayed on at the [Laurentius Hof](#) (hotel) on a gently sloping hillside that has a fantastic view of the Hohentwiel, and have hiked up to the castle several times between 1986 and 2013.

If you’re in southern Germany, check out the Hohentwiel! The view from the top is fantastic, you won’t regret it! ... and the hike to the top will do you good!

When selling on eBay, there are often “listing fees” involved in addition to the “final selling fees”. The listing fee for a lot of items, such as stamps, is 30¢ per listing. For many people, eBay now gives you up to 50 free listings per month; that is only the “listing fee” is free, there are still “final valuation fees” in effect (generally these are around 10% of the final amount that an item has sold for, including any shipping and handling fees).

Depending on how you use those 50 free listings, they don’t go that far. 12 listings at 7-days “auction” each, if they don’t sell and you relist them 3 more times, that will run through 48 “listings” and the relisting fees can seriously eat into what little you might make (especially if the lots are less than \$10 in value)! You can of course make those listings “fixed price” listing types and then you can specify up to a 30-day listing and this way, you’ll truly get all 50 listings for one month.!

Let’s say that you want to get \$10 for an item (bottom line). So, you could list it as an auction with a minimum bid amount (and it has to be low enough to entice your potential buyers), so let’s say you make that \$4.99, the least you’ll want to part with it for, and then put in a \$10 buy-it-now price on that lot.

The other option is to do a \$10 “fixed price” auction, but then you get to add the “make offer” option, which in this case, the lowest offer you’ll entertain might be \$4.99 (but the potential buyer doesn’t see that price); they’d have the option to make an offer and eBay would automatically accept it for you (if you set it up to automatically accept offers at or above your price).

The “fixed price” listing is a way to get more days out of a listing, especially if you don’t expect the item to sell quickly.

What happens if you never-the-less run out of your 50 free listings per month? You can always pay the 30¢ per listing fee. In some cases, eBay will send you special offers for you to list an additional number of items for free (I’ve seen that range from 50 to 500 free listings), but those listings have to be done in just a few days though ...

Another way to get additional free listings is if you go to eBay’s alternate sites! So if you run out of your free listings at ebay.com, try one of the following: ebay.ca (Canada), ebay.co.uk (England), ebay.fr (France), ebay.de (Germany) or ebay.es (Spain). You’ll have to login into eBay as you normally would and then start the listing process. This process sometimes looks a bit different at the foreign sites than at the ebay.com site, and of course those sites might not be in English to begin with, in which case you might need to use Google to translate the site.

Additionally, shipping options are quite a bit different since if you’re selling on the British site, it’s assuming that you be shipping the item from England, not the USA, but there’s ways to set this up properly. And don’t forget that you’ll need to do some currency conversions manually to figure out what your selling and buy-it-now prices (and postage) would be in the local currency.

And as always, prior to listing your item, see what others are selling it for and what the same or similar item has actually sold for (so look at the “sold listings”, not just the “closed listings”). Lots of items are constantly being listed and don’t sell, especially if the demand isn’t there or the seller’s price is unrealistic. I always try to undercut any similar listings from a price perspective, as sometimes, getting some money for an item is better than no money!

Good luck in selling on eBay!



## Arlington Meeting Minutes January 3, 2018

By Ben Termini

### Call-to-Order:

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

### Attendance:

- There were 19 members and 2 guests (Gracie Davis and Janice Tilma) present.

### Announcements:

- Ray read a letter from the APS requesting that we appoint an Ambassador to that organization and outlined the many benefits of doing so. He asked that anyone interested in the position contact him. Ray also read a letter from the Smithsonian Postal Museum.

### Officer / Committee Reports:

- **Secretary** Ben Termini reported that we had 105 members of whom 74 had paid their dues for 2018, and encouraged anyone who had not paid next year's dues to do so. Non-paying members will be dropped from the rolls in February.
- **Treasurer** Judy Christmas was absent.
- **EXPO Committee** chairman Ralph Poore mentioned that there would be a combined Board of Directors and EXPO meeting on Saturday, January 13, at the Pizza Garden Restaurant in Bedford starting at 11AM. He discussed the last EXPO and pointed out that while attendance was down slightly from the previous year, all of the dealers and collectors had had a satisfactory experience.
- **Sales Books Chairman** Skip Ely said that sales were good so far this year.
- **Newsletter Editor** Peter Elias was absent.

### Show & Tell:

- Ray Cartier showed some FDCs he had made in 1967, prior to the invention of moveable type and also passed around an interesting space cover.
- Ken Aldridge pointed out that he had written another book, and showed some interesting Christmas cards he had received, some of which had no stamps or cancels, although I don't know what's so unusual about that. He also showed an interesting cover he had received from Denmark, with a Christmas stamp.

### Door Prizes:

- Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Ben Termini, Ralph Poore, Tom Turner, and Jeff Jessop.

### Program:

- Ray Cartier gave a presentation on 'Tales from the Space Program' illustrated with some of his many outstanding covers. It was very well received.

### Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

## Eules Meeting Minutes January 17, 2018

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 nine members present.

### Officer Reports:

- **Secretary** – There was no report.
- **Treasurer** – Judy Christmas gave the treasury amount.

### Committee Reports:

- **Sales** – Skip Ely said he had two APS circuits available, as we received a separate one for the Eules meeting due to confusion with the circuit request from last year. This will be corrected in the future.
- **Newsletter** – Peter Elias was absent.

### EXPO Summary:

- There was a short group discussion about the EXPO planning meeting last Saturday (those minutes are elsewhere in this newsletter).

### Show and Tell:

- Skip Ely passed around a couple of "nuggets" he found in one of the EXPO donations that he thought might be used for the Silent Auction.
- Jim Myers had several interesting covers to show.
- Stanley Christmas showed some early Great Britain stamps he found in the Bob Werry collection.

### Program:

- A conversational period of various and sundry topics followed the formal part of the meeting.

### Door Prizes:

- Gift Certificates were awarded to Stanley and Judy Christmas.

### Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned around 8:40 P.M.

## Comic Strip - Pluggers (Forever Stamps)

By Peter Elias

The comic strip "Pluggers" relies on submissions from



A plugger includes her "forever stamps" in her will.

readers for the premise of each day's panel and represents the "wisdom" of hardworking people across the country (i.e.: "pluggers"). In this case, the wisdom is in putting "forever stamps" in a will. I suppose that you could do that, but wouldn't the stamps, as "assets" be a part of the deceased's estate anyway? If there's a lawyer in our group, can that be clarified?

Exp. 12/18



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Exp. 12/18

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




### Comic: The most junk mail

By Peter Elias



A recent "Blondie" comic strip (December 30) had Dagwood had his mailman give him an award for the receiving most junk mail! That's rather interesting, as my own personal experience has the quantity of junk mail being severely reduced (I know, bummer...) since 1996!

When I first got my PO Box in 1996, I needed to get a size that could hold 2 "medium" flat-rate boxes as far as size goes and be able to hold mail for up to a week since I was traveling on business a lot at the time. These days, after a week, the box would barely be 1/4 full!

The picture shows the typical amount of mail I now get in one day. So there definitely has been a decrease in junk mail in the past 20 years. No trophy for me!



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Exp. 12/18

# Board of Directors & EXPO 2018 Planning Meeting January 13, 2018

By Skip Ely

The MCSC EXPO Committee met at The Pizza Garden Restaurant in Bedford at 11:00 AM on January 13, 2018. Present were EXPO Chairperson Ralph Poore, Treasurer Judy Christmas, and Committee members Stanley Christmas, Tom Cunningham, Peter Elias, Bob Weidman, Ken Aldridge, Alliene Franklin, Mike Smith, Ken Wills, Janet & Ray Moyer, Ray Cartier and Skip Ely.

- **WELCOME** – Ralph Poore opened the meeting with a review of action taken at the last EXPO regarding suspicious characters known to the philatelic community. He then surveyed the various committee chairs for reviews of their respective areas.
- **AWARDS** – Alliene Franklin had nothing to offer for now.
- **BEGINNING COLLECTORS** – Skip Ely said he thought the new location in the foyer worked well. He commented that due to various donations, he went back with more material than he started. He is still in the process of sorting through the new material.
- **BOURSE** – Tom Cunningham said some dealers may not be back, but he expects to be able to replace them with others. He said there was an issue with how people wanting to sell material were directed to certain dealers, but he will resolve it for the next EXPO. He said he wants to rearrange some of the dealer locations.
- **CACHETS** – There was a short discussion of the theme cachet. Last year it was put the cachet on the program rather than on separate envelopes.
- **CHANCE BOARD** – This will be moved to the main part of the foyer where it will have more visibility.
- **EXHIBITS** – Stanley Christmas said that the current frames were in good shape. But he said we needed someone to help organize set-up and take-down of the frames.
- **FINANCE** – This item was tabled until the next meeting, other than to say the last EXPO covered expenses, plus some.
- **REGISTRATION** – Janet Moyer said this went very well, as everyone showed up who had signed up for duties.
- **JUDGES** – Peter Elias said he was already working on it, and we had several judges that had expressed in interest in participating.
- **LUNCHES** – Judy Christmas said the lunch orders went very well. She said she faxed the order in to Jason's Deli this year, which greatly simplified things.
- **MIXTURE PICK** – Bob Weidman said he thought the mixture pick area needed better exposure, instead of being hidden behind the exhibits. Stanley Christmas said he would get together with Bob to discuss alternatives.
- **PUBLICITY** – There was a brief discussion of efforts in this area.
- **SECURITY** – Mike Smith said this went well, and hopes

to continue using the same people.

- **SILENT AUCTION** – Ken Wills said the auction did not do as well as in some previous years, but still exceeded its target. He said we needed more quality donations to improve revenue for this year.
- **OUTSIDE SIGNS** – Ralph Poore said we needed two people to assume responsibility for putting up and taking down the signs.
- **SNACKS** – Ken Aldridge talked a little about what seemed popular and what was not, so next year he will have more of the former and less of the latter.
- **TRANSPORTATION** (of frames and storage cabinets) – This went well this year due to the efforts of Evan Islam. Next year should be simpler since the items are stored in a closer location.
- **LABOR** – Ralph Poore said we need a couple more people to help some dealers move their stock in and out.
- **THEME FOR NEXT YEAR** – Ralph Poore led a discussion on potential themes based on the projected USPS stamp program. A decision will be made at the next meeting.
- **BOARD MEETING** – There were no agenda items, and the board meeting as such was short and sweet. Skip Ely distributed a sales report for last year.
- **NEXT MEETING** – This was scheduled for March 3 at 11 AM at the Pizza Garden Restaurant. An additional meeting was also tentatively scheduled for May 12 at a location yet to be determined. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

*Been There,  
Done That*

## Caramel Heads

By Peter Elias

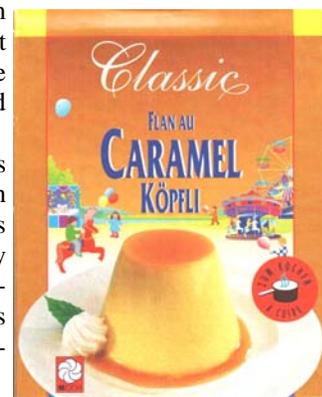
While “Flan” is traditionally a Spanish desert, growing up in Switzerland, we knew it as “Caramel Heads” (shown as “Caramel Köpfli” on the package below; “Köpfli” being Swiss German for “small heads”).



This package, from my favorite supermarket chain in Switzerland, has flan as a powdered mix to which you add milk and then heat on a stove and then poured into a small desert dishes (the brown liquefied sugar mix is poured into the dishes prior to pouring in the hot flan mix); then everything is put in the refrigerator for several hours). In local supermarkets here you can also find similar mixes from the Goya brand.

There are a variety of flan recipes out there if you want to make flan totally from scratch (just google it...), but most recipes call for: eggs, cane sugar, condensed and evaporated milk and vanilla extract.

To me, the best flans have just a bit of “texture” when eating it. One of the best flans I’ve had around here was actually a coffee flavored flan in a Vietnamese restaurant in Plano that is unfortunately no longer in business.



## From the President's Desk

by Ray Cartier

The club's New Year is underway and at the meeting of your Board of Directors on Saturday, January 13th we covered many of the successful factors about our last EXPO.

Then we started the planning needed to get underway to ensure that we have a full slate of dealers, that exhibitors will show us a wide range of the various philatelic activities for which they have found a passion, to obtain the judges and various awards for those who will share their interests with us, for the annual banquet, how to seek more items for the silent auction and prepare the packets for the chance board, obtaining items for the beginners booth, the publicity needed to attract people to the show, the finances, the snacks for the workers and dealers at the show, deciding on a show "Theme" that can tie in some way to 2018 US Postage Stamp issues and also help get publicity to non-philatelic groups with an interest in our theme, the agreement with the hotel for special rates for guests and the use of a room for the social gathering after the show closes on Saturday, setting up and taking down the exhibits, the manpower and security services needed along with the all-important physical help needed in set up, placing signs on Main Street.

We must address these factors, and more each year if we are to bring philately to the forefront of up to 400 different philatelists every year. A stamp show takes a lot of work and talent to make it successful and the Mid-Cities Stamp Expo has been termed one of the best small stamp shows in the country by some. We have been able to get some of the highest ranking individuals from the APS, the ATA, and other large philatelic organizations to come to our show to judge or to visit. Several have complimented us for what we have been able to do with EXPO. In actuality we have a show that outshines some of the major World Series of Philately shows in the country!

The reason for the success of our shows is our cadre of volunteers who freely give of their time so that others can enjoy all of the benefits that come from bringing dealers, exhibits and learning opportunities for all who attend. From year to year we might lose one or two of our volunteers and if the show is to continue, we do need volunteers to assist in some of these areas, as well as some who can help out at the reception desk and at some of the other activities to relieve some of the burden of those who work throughout the show to assist in the many functions that we have from the reception desk to the mixture pick and chance board and in several other areas, for an hour or two on one or both days of our show.

Help us keep the EXPO as good as it is by offering to help out in some way when the request for volunteer help is asked for in the pages of our newsletter or at our meetings. Do you have an idea to help make our show even better? Our Show Chairman, Ralph Poore, would be glad to hear from you. It's your club after all!

## *Been There, Done That*

## Vittoriano Building

By Pat & Bob Weidman

Victor Emmanuel II, born March 14 1820, was the king of Sardinia from 1849 until March 17, 1861. At that time, he assumed the title of King of Italy. He ruled until his death on January 9, 1878.



The Vittoriano Building, officially known as Monumento Nazionale a Vittorio Emanuele II is a huge white marble monument in central Rome. It dominates the Piazza Venezia and is a tribute to King Victor Emmanuel II who was the first king of a united Italy since the sixth century.

The monument was designed by the Italian architect Giuseppe Sacconi. It was inaugurated in 1911 and completed in 1935. Since 1921 it has also been the tomb of the unknown soldier in Italy.

The picture above was taken on our 2013 vacation to Italy. The stamp, Scott #2780, was issued on November 11, 2006.



Stamp image from [www.stampworld.com](http://www.stampworld.com)

## Comic Strip

### LESSER-KNOWN PIVOTAL MOMENTS IN HISTORY



show a Post Office building next to the Pizza place...].

This comic strip about "Lesser-Known Pivotal Moments in History" was sent in by member Alliene Franklin.

[Editor's Note: I personally find this backwards... to me it would make more sense if it showed a Pony Express Rider" saying "as long as we're delivering mail, why not deliver pizzas" and also

# 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

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## Number 88 - No Way!

By Pat & Bob Weidman

Several months ago I purchased several packs of stamps that Bob Werry's family had donated to the club after he died. The stamps were 3¢ and 4¢ denominations from back in the 1930's to early 1960's. I was using them for postage.



About a week I was about to use the stamp shown above, Scott #1091, which was issued on June 10, 1957 for the International Naval Review. I noticed an aircraft carrier on the stamp and was curious to see which one it was. On the bow of the ship is a number, which identifies the ship. Out came my magnifying glass. To my surprise, the number is "88".

There was no aircraft carrier the number 88 and there still isn't! As they are built and commissioned, they are assigned a number that goes up by one over the previous ship.

The latest aircraft carrier of the US Navy is the "USS Gerald R Ford", which is assigned number 78 and is named after our 38th president. Since the newest carrier is number 78, there is no way that they could have been a number 88 back in 1957!

[Editor's note: According to a "Google" search: USS Saratoga (CVN-88), a fictional nuclear-powered aircraft carrier that served as the flagship for a U.S. naval task force during the events depicted in the 2014 American monster film Godzilla. In real life, there is a CVN-79 under construction, to be called the "USS John F. Kennedy", due to be commissioned in 2020, and the CVN-80, the USS Enterprise, waiting to be commission by 2025; both of these are of the "Gerald R. Ford Class" of ships. Both of these will replace older aircraft carriers, the USS Nimitz & USS Dwight D Eisenhower.]

## 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:

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**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](mailto: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](mailto:peter@pcelias.com) with scans. 4/14

**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

—> YOUR AD HERE! (members only) <—

**Been There,  
Done That**

**St. Mark's Square**

By Pat & Bob Weidman



St. Mark's Square, the Piazza San Marco, is the largest public square in Venice, Italy. Generally known as Ia Piazza, it is dominated by St. Mark's Basilica.

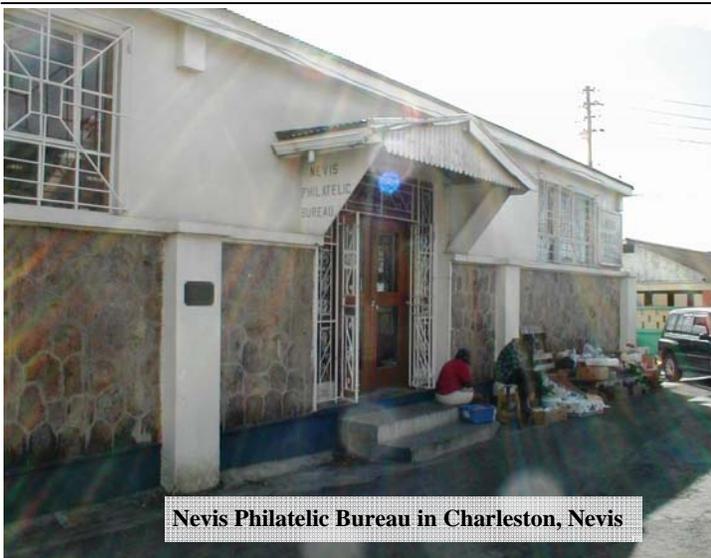
Construction on the square started way back in the year 1160, making it over 800 years old. It is "Venice on Parade" where everyone and anyone comes to see and to be seen. On our Italian vacation in 2013 while in Venice, Pat and I went to St. Mark's Square as we wanted to see the largest and most important square in all of Venice.

The photo was taken looking into the square with my



Stamp image is from [www.stampworld.com](http://www.stampworld.com)

back to the water. It is showing the left side of the square. The stamp is Italy Scott# 989 and was issued on September 30, 1968. It is a painting of St. Mark's Square by the Venetian painter Antonio Canaletto 1697-1768; its title is "The Small St. Mark's Place".



Nevis Philatelic Bureau in Charleston, Nevis

**Been There,  
Done That**

**Nevis**

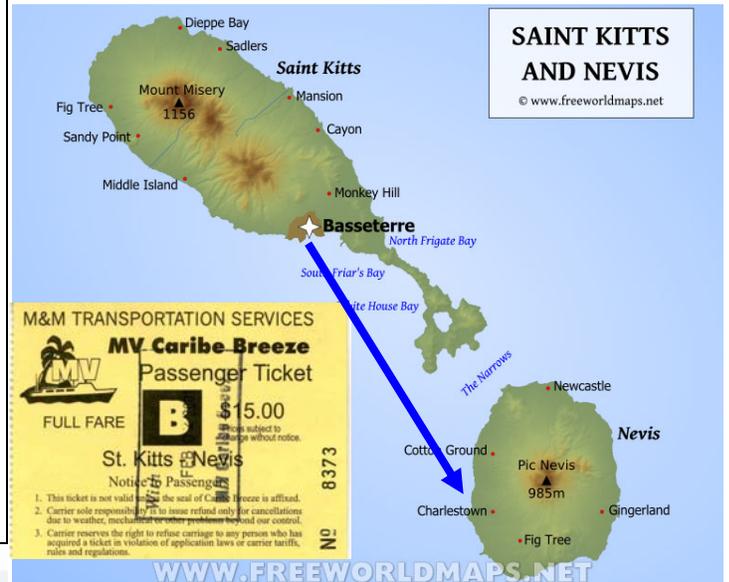
By Peter Elias

In February 2001, Annie & I were on our honeymoon on St. Kitts (previously known as St. Christopher). Getting there we flew via Miami to St. Kitts' "Golden Rock" airport (shown is Scott #342), the airport is now known as "Robert L. Bradshaw International Airport" (code SKB) on American Airlines.



While I don't remember the details, the Dallas to Miami segments were on a jet (most likely an MD-80), while the Miami to St. Kitts segments were mostly like an ATR-42 (or ATR-72?), and if it wasn't an ATR, it might have been a Boeing 757. But I digress...

So if you're on St. Kitts and want to visit the neighboring island of Nevis (since the country is now known as "St. Kitts—Nevis), how do you get there? Basically you have two basic choices: a boat or a very short-hop flight between the two islands. During our trip, we had a rental car in St.



Kitts. We only wanted to do a day trip to Nevis (birthplace of famous American founding father Alexander Hamilton!) and taking the ferry was the better choice. Since we had to leave the car in Basseterre, we took the "MV Caribe Breeze" (MV = motor vessel) to Charleston (13 miles), a fairly quick ride.

Luckily our rental car contract allowed us for a free rental on Nevis, and we did a leisurely drive around the island. We did get to see a bunch of items (such as a museum relating to Alexander Hamilton, and I did manage to go to a post office along the way and also sneak in a visit to the Nevis Philatelic Bureau before our ferry ride back (as a philatelist on a vacation, I just can't help it...!).

I do highly recommend visiting St. Kitts and Nevis (whether for philatelic reasons or not...), it was a great place for a honeymoon. I've written two other articles about St. Kitts, in the March 2001 & February 2017 issues.

## MEET & EAT for March & April 2018

by Judy & Stanley Christmas

“Meet and Eats” are held before our club meetings. All club members and their guests are welcome. We will gather at 5:00 PM start ordering at that time. However, late-comers can order when they arrive or just come by for a visit. The Chinese restaurant is a buffet style. Meals should be over around 6:15 PM to 6:30PM with the new meeting start time now being at 7:00PM rather than 7:30PM.

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

### ARLINGTON

March 7 Angelo’s Steak & Spaghetti  
2590 W. Pioneer Parkway, Arlington

Apr. 4 Jay Jay Café  
1001 So. Bowen Rd.

### EULESS

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

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

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→ Last Call for 2018 Dues ! ←**

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