



# 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)*



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CHAPTER MEMBER

#90



Volume 31, Number 8

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

August 2018

## How I Started Collecting Stamps

By Skip Ely

Unlike many of you, I did not collect stamps as a youngster. But my father did, and when he passed away in the late 1980's, I inherited his collection. That included two Harris U.S. Liberty albums (regular and plate block), two Harris Citation world wide albums and assorted small boxes of duplicates and supplies. At the time, I was impressed with how much there appeared to be in his collection (little did I know how much more there was to collect!).

But I was still working at the time, and so I didn't do much with it. Sometime in the early '90s, my wife (Beverly) tried bringing the U.S. album up to date. I remember going down to ARTEX with her and talking with Ken Kerruish about what was involved. We purchased a U.S. specialized catalog, some Liberty Supplement pages, a magnifier and some recent U.S. stamp issues.

In subsequent months, we went to the main post office in Arlington, which had a small stamp shop at the time and purchased some additional stamps and supplies. At this point, however, the USPS was issuing many souvenir sheets (like the Legends of Hollywood), and it seemed a bit much to have to buy a sheet of 20 just to get one stamp.

By and by, other priorities came to the foreground and stamp collecting took a back burner in our activities. But after I retired in 2001, I decided to explore what we might further obtain within our budget.

Initially, I began purchasing some inexpensive stamps from Mystic and Kenmore. I also got a subscription to Scott Stamp Monthly. Then one day I wandered back to ARTEX (after Ken had sold it to someone else) and decided to spend a certain amount each month trying to fill in some holes in the U.S. album. I still wasn't sure what to do with the world-wide collection.

Some of you know that Stanley Christmas and I used to work together. One evening, at one of our weather club meetings, I described my situation to him. Stanley suggested I come to one of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club meetings.

The first meeting I attended was the July 2004 Irving meeting. Auction night! I was just blown away by what was being offered at bargain prices. I was hooked! I put in my application to join that night, and I've been an active member ever since.

I often wonder why I love it so. Certainly, it's helped my understanding of 20th century history. I've also enjoyed seeing more of a country's geography and culture. Maybe it's the thrill of the chase, finding uncommon stamps in a mixture or old album. The only thing I don't get into is covers and exhibiting. But that's the beauty of it. There are no set rules to what you can or can't do with philately. Pursue what you like and leave the rest to others. Wonderful!

## Ray Cartier Gets AAPE Diamond Award

By Peter Elias

At the recently held OKPEX, Ray Cartier received the AAPE Diamond Award #101 (given for having received 10 Gold medals at US or Canadian National Level exhibits).



Presentation of Diamond Achievement Award to Ray by Elizabeth Hisey, VP of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors. OKPEX 2018



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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

#### JUL. 24 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: “Album General” by Gary McNamee

#### AUG. 1 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Club Auction, plus a 5-10 min. presentation from Gene Pfretzschner

#### AUG. 11 11 AM MCSC EXPO Planning Meeting

Pizza Garden Restaurant, Bedford

#### AUG. 15 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: TBD

#### AUG. 24 & 25 TSDA Bourse

Richardson Civic Center, Arapaho Rd & US75

#### AUG. 28 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: “War Ration Books & Stamps” by Alliene Franklin

#### SEP ?? BOD & EXPO Meeting

Exact date to be determined

#### SEP. 5 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Karen Cartier - *International Fairy/Folk Tales, Legends and Island Mythology*

## Editor’s Forum

By Peter Elias

You all hear me talk a lot about “personalizing” stamp collecting (which Bob Weidman and I show through the “been there - done that” series of articles). A few years back, the USPS issued 2 sets of 50-stamp sheets that are perfectly suited for many people to write a “been there...” articles about.

The first sheet is the “Big Letter Postcard” series featuring the 50 States (in either as 34¢ or 37¢ versions). I think that we can all agree that we’ve each been to at least 1 US State! So far I’ve picked 34 stamps, since I’m sure I’ve been to those states, and a couple that I don’t remember well from when I was younger (gee, was I driving through hundreds of miles of Interstate during a torrential downpour in Kansas or in Nebraska, or was it South Dakota in 1980 in dad’s brand new Audi 5000S ?).

The second sheet is the “Land of Superlatives” issue from 2005 with 50 39¢ stamps featuring various “tallest”, “loudest”, “longest”, “largest”, etc, superlatives (ranging from nature to things) here in the USA. So far I’ve been able to pick out about 8 stamps that pertain to me.

So, you’ll probably see some more articles from me where again I can truly say “Been There - Done That”! But there is another reason for this as well, in that doing this little exercise, it helps jog the memory of these past events and places! It’s not really that hard, give it a try, it’s fun! If you need assistance with coming up with a “Been There...” article of your own, PLEASE contact me!

## Members in the News

- Peter Elias’ article about St. Vincent post offices was published in the July-September 2018 issue (Vol. 58, Nr. 3) of the “British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group Journal” on pages 11-12.
- Ray Cartier gave a presentation about “The Apollo Project - 50 Years Later” at the OKPEX show in Oklahoma City on June 29-30. His exhibit “The Grey Ghost - The Story of the USS Hornet” received a Vermeil Award.

## Errata

The July 2018 issue listed Albert Little as deceased; that was incorrect, it was former member Tom Little that had passed away.

## Secretary’s Report

By Benedict Termini



### New Members

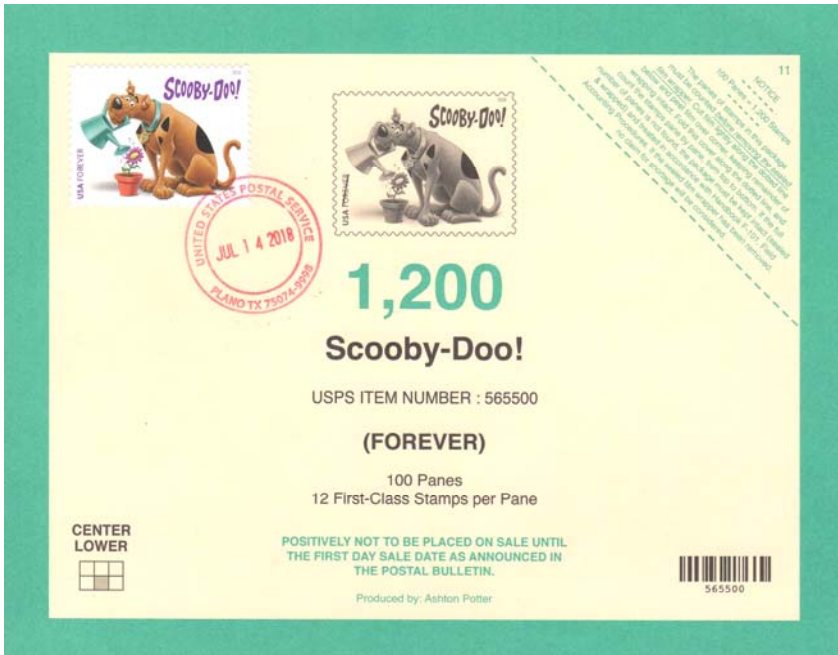
Nancy Carefoot (#605)

### Membership Summary – July 11, 2018

Membership as of June 7, 2018	96
New Members	1
Dropped for non-payment of dues	0
Resignations	0
Deceased	0
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of July 11, 2018	97

# Scooby Doo Deck Card

By Peter Elias



Practically all US stamps get delivered to the post office in shrink-wrapped decks of 100 panes. To ensure inventory control (i.e.: that there are truly 100 panes in the sealed deck), there is a “deck card” on the top. USPS clerks are supposed to carefully slice off part of the shrink-wrap diagonally (see cut-line on the deck card to the left) and then are able to count the panes without breaking the rest of the sealed deck.

After fully opening the deck, clerks usually discard the deck card, so your ability to get one is subject to you being in the right place at the right time. Most post offices only get one deck to begin with, so the chances of getting them is fairly low. Even better is to get the deck card on the first day of issue and then getting it postmarked, like I did on July 14, 2018.

Of course Plano, TX was not the “official” first day city (it was Bloomington, MN), it was never-the-less the first day of issue, and this will make a nice collectible item.

It does take some “collector-friendly” USPS clerks though to be able to get these. Even though I’ve let the clerks at my post office know that I collect these, they don’t always re-

member and many times I either can’t be at the post office during the first day of release, or they simply don’t even have the new issues ordered and on-hand on the day of release.

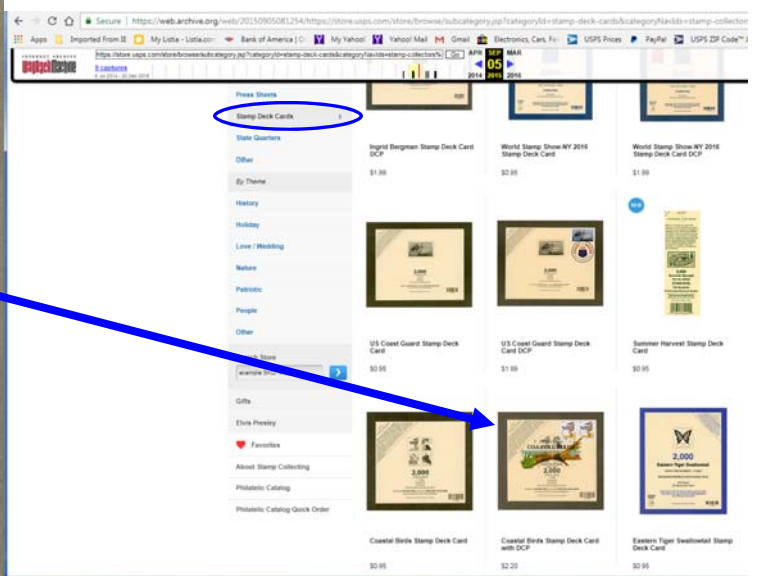
In any case, the 50¢ expenditure for the stamp makes for a nice (and scarce) collectible item (and they even let me postmark it myself)!

Several years ago, the USPS dabbled in actually selling officially first-day postmarked deck cards on their website, but apparently demand was not enough for them to continue this. Below is an image of a USPS-produced deck card that I found [on sale](#) at Amazon.com for \$19.98 + postage. It is a deck card from the 2015 “Coastal Birds” postcard-rate definitive stamps and features a full-color (digitally) printed first-day-of-issue postmark.

Of course, there is no evidence on the current usps.com website about them having sold deck cards in the past, but when I go to the “Wayback Machine” (at archive.org), I can browse the 2015 snapshots (see bottom right) that they took of the usps.com website and see that they had originally sold them for \$2.20 as a first-day postmarked card and 95¢ as a non-postmarked version. Whether or not this Amazon seller will get \$19.98 is doubtful. On eBay, on July 15 as I’m writing this, I only saw 28 lots of deck cards for sale, with starting prices as low as 99¢ (not counting a counterfeit deck, along with a genuine version, offered for \$1,500).



I don’t remember when the USPS stopped selling deck cards, but it is another fascinating area to collect!



## Arlington Meeting Minutes July 11, 2018

By Ben Termini

### Call-To-Order:

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

### Attendance:

There were 22 members and 1 guest (Gracie Davis) present.

### Officer / Committee Reports:

- **Secretary** Ben Termini reported that we had 96 members.
- **Treasurer** Judy Christmas said we had over \$18,000 available to cover operational and EXPO expenses.
- **EXPO Committee** chairman Ralph Poore said there would be a meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM, but the location had not yet been determined. This would be an EXPO-only meeting (not a board meeting). Janet Moyer passed around the volunteer list and asked everyone to sign up. Stanley Christmas said that the multi-frame exhibits were filled up but there was still space available for 1 page and 4 page exhibits. Ray Cartier mentioned that he needed bird pictures for the display at the show. Rich Hildebrandt pointed out that tickets for the awards dinner were available for \$20 each.
- **Sales Books Chairman** Skip Ely said we were holding our own and everything was going well.
- **Newsletter Editor** Peter Elias said the newsletter was doing well and solicited articles.

### Announcements:

- A discussion was held concerning the need for a general MCSC Board meeting. There did not seem to be a lot to discuss. Ray Moyer made a motion that the next board meeting be held at 6 PM on September 5 prior to our regular meeting. The motion seconded by Ben Termini and passed.
- Ray Cartier mentioned that he and his wife Karen had given a talk about stamp collecting to a local coin club.

### Show & Tell:

- Ray Cartier passed around a piece of wrapping paper which had a large quantity of high-value US stamps.
- Stanley Christmas showed a 'grand opening' cover for the Fort Worth Postique, and some covers he had received from Australia which were not cancelled. He also passed around a plaque which Ray Cartier had made to showcase his AAPE Diamond Award.
- Peter Elias showed an article he had written about St. Vincent postal cancels, also some new US stamps, and information about a private stamp printing firm.

### Door Prizes:

Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Jeff Jessop, Howard Savage, Chuck Snow, and Ray Cartier.

### Program:

Diana Davis gave a short talk about cachets she had prepared for various EXPO shows and passed around examples of her work. The club members then enjoyed a giant mixture pick, which included both US and foreign stamps.

### Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

## Eules Meeting Minutes July 18, 2018

By Skip Ely

### Call-to-Order:

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

### Attendance:

12 members and 2 visitors braved the excessive heat to attend the meeting. One visitor was a former member who submitted his application for reinstatement.

### Officer Reports:

- **Treasurer** - Judy Christmas gave the treasury amount.
- **Sales** - Skip Ely said sales had slowed. He was thinking about proposing to the board a discontinuance of the APS circuit books at the end of the year.
- **Newsletter** - Peter Elias said that the next newsletter was almost completed.
- **EXPO** - Stanley Christmas said the exhibits were full except for some one and four page vacancies. He also mentioned that Award Banquet tickets were available from Rich Hildebrandt for \$20. The entrée will be turkey.

### Announcements:

Judy Christmas said the Meet and Eat for Eules in August would be at the *On The Border* Restaurant in Bedford (on Airport Freeway). Details in the next Eules meeting announcement.

### Show & Tell:

- Tom Turner showed an interesting cover he acquired recently.
- Ken Wills had some items he had received in his incoming mail. Mike Smith had two items, one some high catalog value stamps he found in a shoe box collection.
- Peter Elias showed his 1-page bird exhibit for EXPO, as well as some other things.
- Skip Ely talked about some recent donations for the Beginner's section, some of which he thought would be good candidates for the Silent Auction.

**Gift Certificates** - were awarded to Mike Smith and Peter Elias.

### Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned around 8:30 PM.

*Been There,  
Done That*

## Is There Art in Paris (Texas)?

By Peter Elias



... well, I don't know. Yes, I did one time drive to Paris, Texas, but I don't recall seeing any Art Galleries, then again, I wasn't looking for any. I did once see the movie "Paris, Texas" (starring Natassja Kinski and Harry Dean Stanton) ... interesting movie by the way...

As far as art goes, nothing beats the Louvre museum in the "real" Paris, which I visited in the summer of



1991 along with my brother and two pals from the college days. Nothing quite like to absorb 2,000+ years of art & history in just 4 hours!

## Been There, Done That

## Charles De Gaulle Airport

By Pat & Bob Weidman



The largest and busiest airport in France is the Charles De Gaulle International Airport outside of Paris. The picture above is of Pat taken at the Charles De Gaulle airport on December 3, 2017. At the time, we were on our way to a vacation in the Balkan countries. We flew from DFW on Delta to Atlanta. In Atlanta we changed to an Air France flight to Paris. From there, we took another Air France flight to Venice, Italy, where a driver was waiting to take us across the border to our hotel in Opatija, Croatia.



France, Scott #1391, Concorde over Charles de Gaulle Airport

The Charles De Gaulle International Airport was named after Charles Andre Marie De Gaulle, leader of the Free French government-in-exile and the Free French forces during World War II when France was occupied by Nazi Germany. He was also President of France from 1959 to 1969 during

the “Fifth Republic”.

During the war he would broadcast messages to the French people in occupied France. One of his most famous messages was “Whatever happens, the flame of French resistance must not and shall not go out”.

I have always admired Mr. De Gaulle for what he did during the war, leading the Free French in their resistance to the German occupation. I came to respect him even more when he came to President Kennedy’s funeral in 1963. The stamp to the right is France Scott #2207, issued on February 24, 1990.

[Editor note: I found the France Scott #1391 stamp above featuring the Charles De Gaulle airport in my “airports-on-stamps” collection].



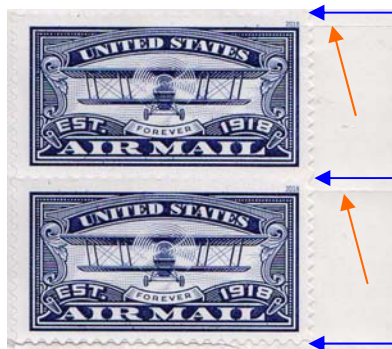
## Rouletting Not in Synch with Die-cuts

By Peter Elias

One of the problems with collecting current USA stamps as singles is that the die-cutting of the stamps is NOT aligned with the rouletting of the backing paper!

A blaring example of this is the new Air-mail issue.

The blue horizontal arrow shows the center of the undulating die-cutting between the stamps. The red diagonal



arrow shows the rouletting of the backing paper of the stamp.

The problem then becomes, that since you have to separate a single stamp from the pane via the rouletting, it leaves a fair amount of the self-adhesive exposed (in this case, almost 2 mm!). This in turn can result in various issues, such as the single stamp getting stuck on other materials due to the exposed self-adhesive and that the self-adhesive gum is now exposed to air, which will probably cause it to age more quickly.

Even if the die-cutting and rouletting are aligned, since the rouletting is “straight” and the die-cutting is “undulating”, the tips of the “perfs” will always have a minor amount of self-adhesive exposed!

The only real solution (other than better quality control at the manufacturer) is to remove the stamp carefully and place it on another backing paper and then carefully trim that.

Another good reason for transferring modern US self-adhesive & die-cut stamps to other backing paper is that it makes for a much better scan. The original backing paper, since it is straight (due to the rouletting) sometimes obscures the undulating die-cutting on the stamps itself and the resulting is less than desirable (and would require a lot of “photoshopping” to clean up, something which I can avoid when having the stamp on different backing paper).



An example of this is shown to the left, where I’ve take one of the Airmail stamps and put them on different backing paper. Since the backing paper isn’t quite a bright white as the stamp, it also

makes the die-cut perfs stand out a bit better and makes for a better scan!

Where to get this backing paper? Simple: go to usps.com, then “mail & ship”, then choose “supplies” and order a free roll of 250 “[Priority Mail Label 107](#)” (or alternatively strips of “[Priority Mail Shipping Label 106](#)”). As you go through using up these Priority Mail stickers, you end up with nice strips of backing paper that are suitable for most sizes of individual stamps!

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## Donations

By Peter Elias

Several people donated several boxes of stamps, covers, albums, philatelic literature, etc to the club.

1. At the TSDA show I was given 4 boxes from someone that donated them to the club.
2. Dallas stamp dealer Byron Sandfield (of Park Cities Stamps) donated 2 boxes containing philatelic literature and various albums, covers and loose stamps in glassines.

I often get emails from people that have "inherited stamps and now what...?". I try to ascertain via email (or phone) roughly what they have and then send them to the appropriate people. In some cases I suggest that they bring the items (if not too many) to one of our meetings so that our members can assess what they have, in others I suggest going to EXPO or the next TSDA bourse or the TSDA website to get the contact info of the local stamp dealers.

I do try to give people some general info such as "practically all mint USA stamps since the 1940's are worth either face if used as postage or 25-30% if sold to a dealer". Sometimes, if they sense that what they have isn't worth much, they might say, "ahh, I'll just toss them...", in which case I usually tell them to at least donate the items somewhere or give them to the club (offering to have someone pick them up - depending on where the live in the DFW Metroplex) or of course drop them off at a club meeting.



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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Jonathan Topper  
10480 Grant Road  
Suite 117  
Houston, TX 77070  
832.518.6558

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Exp. 12/18

## From the President's Desk

by Ray Cartier

Although I've never made a survey as to how many of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club members attend our annual Expo in Grapevine, I'd guess that most of our members living here in the Metroplex go to our show annually and enjoy themselves. I've been to stamp shows in 22 different cities and have always found it interesting to see how each one is run and what some of them may do that is different from what we do. I then compare that to things we do that they don't. For instance, a little thing, but some clubs have electric screwdrivers to mount their exhibits and take them down faster while another has the back sheet as one large sheet, folded from side to side for the page holders so that the plastic strips we use aren't necessary. One show annually had a couple of troops of scouts each year on a Boy Scout Merit Badge two day special. Some don't have an awards banquet in the evening, but an award breakfast, while another has their banquet at a restaurant where everyone buys whatever dinner they want. Several split up the show between several different rooms and others even split the dealers up in two or three locations.

The MCSC Expo is the only one I've ever been to where there was a large silent auction and a chance board. Also our single page and four page exhibit competitions are pretty unique as well. We also have about 26 to 27 dealers at each EXPO, whereas there are bigger shows which have significantly fewer dealers. Some charge admissions or hold them in facilities where the guests have to pay to park. Some have a four day show, like the upcoming show this month in Columbus, Ohio. Some have speakers at each show (ours would except we didn't seem to find people to serve as an audience when we've tried that here in the past).

The "comedy hours" at our banquets which we used to have between Alliene Franklin and Jerry Potter, were some of the funniest Award Banquet evenings I've found at any other show other than the Greater Houston Stamp Show. That show in Houston show usually has an extremely entertaining evening put on by Jay Stotts. With that their "serious" selection for drawing the color to be used in the following year's single frame "Color in the Title" exhibit competition is hilarious!

How many different stamp shows have you been to? Well, besides TEXPEX, which has now disappeared due to a lack of volunteers. Why not pool resources with another collector or two and see what the folks down in Houston do for a show?

OKPEX, the show up in Midwest City, Oklahoma, is nearby to Oklahoma City and it is one of the friendliest shows on the circuit. Both are relatively easy drives either up or down the freeway from here. The Greater Houston Stamp Show is being held on September 20th & 21st this year. And if you go, try to make it to their Awards Dinner. OKPEX was held this year on June 29th and 30th. You might make a note to visit the folks up there next June to see what their show is like. Many of the people up there have dinner together on the night before the show and again after the first night of the show. Our hobby, like any other hobby, gives back more with the more effort each of us puts into the hobby.

*Been There,  
Done That*

## American Legion

By Bob & Pat Weidman



The American Legion is the largest veterans organization in the United States. It was started back in February of 1919 when twenty officers of the American Expeditionary Forces that served in France during World War I got together and formed a committee to advance veterans interests and continue friendships. They also wanted to see that disabled veterans received the care and help that they earned on the battlefields of Europe.

In March of 1919, over one thousand veterans of the war participated in the first caucus that was held in Paris. The second meeting was held in St. Louis, Missouri, in May of 1919 and in September of that year, Congress granted a charter to the American Legion.

The picture above is of me outside of American Legion Post 297 in Benbrook, Texas, where I am a member after transferring my membership from North Carolina. The post is named after Paul Mansir, the first resident of Benbrook to be killed in the Vietnam War. Paul was a field radio operator in Quang Nom province with the Marines. On September 11, 1965 he was killed in action at the age of 22.

The stamp is United States Scott#1369, issued on March 15, 1969 on the 50th anniversary of the American Legion.

By the way, the current national commander of the American Legion is Denise H. Rohan, who served on active duty with the Army (Quartermaster's Corps) from 1974 to 1976. She is the first woman to serve as national commander.



## Members in the News

By Peter Elias

John Barrett received a "Vermeil" award at Huntspex (Alabama) for his exhibit WWI: *Defensive Neutrality-Swiss Style*.

## What Is Wrong With This Stamp?

By Peter Elias



What is wrong with this custom postage stamp?

It's not an issue with the printing as such, it is a "design" issue. While this stamp's subject is about driving safely, some of the elements shown really have nothing to do with driving safety, namely the road signs for Interstate 95 and Route 66. The other illustrations all pertain to actual aspects of driving safely and provide warnings or guidance.

I'm presently working towards some sort of exhibit relating to traffic safety, so I found this one interesting and it may end up in the exhibit some day.

## Granbury Meeting Minutes June 26, 2018

By Eugene Atkinson

On the evening of June 26, 26 members and guests of the Lake Granbury Branch, Mid-Cities Stamp Club, gathered at the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 W. Emerald Bend Court, for the second session Al Hull Estate auction.

Host David Stockbridge dispensed with the usual order of business, allowing auctioneers Skip Ely and Bob Coleman to conduct the sale of 72 individual lots.

Approximately one-third of the lots consisted of United States stamps--mostly recent accumulations which sold at a percentage of face value but a few lots of individual sets and souvenir sheets. The remainder of lots were worldwide albums and country accumulations. Successful bids ranged from a few dollars on small accumulations to more than \$250 for a few U. S. albums. The sale realized a total of more than \$1,480.00.

As bidders settled up their accounts, Jim Myers, Stanley Christmas, and Jim Rickman won club gift certificates as door prizes.

## TV Philately: Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children

By Peter Elias

When watching TV, the miracle of the "||" (Pause) button allows us to see things in detail that we can't as part of a moving picture. This comes in real handy studying postal props used in movies and TV series.



What did the movie propmaster for the 2015 movie "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" get wrong at minute 51:

- While the "stamps" shown on the envelope bear resemblance to real stamps, they are not real stamps but either alterations or reproductions:

- The left stamp above is supposed to be the \$1 "Patriotic Waves" stamp issued in 2015. (Scott #4953). However, if you look closely, it is just a partial image of the stamp design, pasted on top of a some sort traditionally perforated backing paper. On the real \$1 stamp, the color design goes all the way to the edge and the stamp is die-cut, not perforated.



*The real \$1 stamp*

- The right stamp on the envelope is supposed to be the 34¢ Hummingbird stamp from 2014 (Scott #4857). While it appears real, the actual stamp has die-cuts, not traditional perforations as shown on the envelope.



*The real 34¢ stamp*

- The postmark doesn't quite look right.
- The postage paid is incorrect. Given the stamps shown, it adds up to \$1.34; the actual Airmail postage rate was \$1.15 on January 19, 2015 (the date shown on the postmark).

So just what did they get correct? The "stamps" used were "in-period". Otherwise, there is just a lot wrong with this, but then, there's no pause button in a movie theatre!

—> Ready, set, click the PAUSE button!

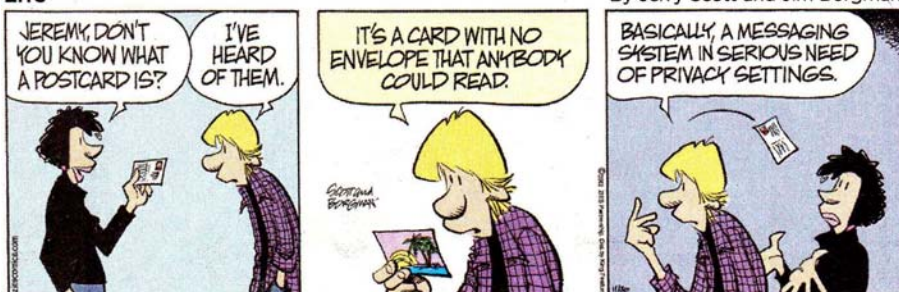
## Comic Strip - Zits (Postcard Privacy)

By Peter Elias

Here's another "Zits" comic strip relating to stamps and postal matters. In this case, the youth is correctly commenting that a postcard is a "messaging system in serious need of privacy settings", although that is probably not the real reason that many people today aren't using postcards very often. One is that they're not sold in as many places, and even if you do find some, good luck finding stamps or an outgoing mailbox to mail them!

ZITS

By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman





# CLASSIFIED BOURSE

## Announcements

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

## For Sale

**US POSTAGE – from our huge surplus: 1c – 20c : 70% of FV; 21c – 50c : 80% of FV.** Send any amount (min \$10), specify group (70%, 80%), and receive mix of values back in FV as indicated above. Clean, F/VF only. Plate or Zip block included for every \$10 remitted. Remit (check or MO) to: J. Myers, P. O. Box 2047, Coppell, TX 75019. TX orders, add 8% sales tax. We cover return postage, S/H charges. Can also take PayPal (same terms). [jasdmyers@earthlink.net](mailto:jasdmyers@earthlink.net) 5/15

**Recalled Legends of the West** (Scott 2870), pane of twenty inside original mailing envelope, Scott 2017 value \$220 with note that panes in original envelope (blue bordered) "sell for somewhat more." I will sell for \$100 plus any mailing costs. Ken Aldridge, [KAldridge@aol.com](mailto:KAldridge@aol.com) 4/18

## Comic Strip - Price of Postage

By Peter Elias

Going through a pile of older stamp-related comic strips, I found this one, that was a commentary on recent postage rate increases. The copyright on the strip is 1991, so it would have been first published around the time that first class postage changed from 25¢ to 29¢ on January 22, 1991, a whopping 16% increase!

The first stamp issued for the rate increase was the "F" (Flower) stamp, Scott #2517, coil stamp #2518 and booklet stamp #2519. Also issued that day were a rather ugly 4¢ make-up rate stamp (#2521) and the first plastic stamp (#2522).

Of course, this comic strip could be relevant anytime that postage rates are increased!



Ed Gamble/King Features Syndicate

## 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](mailto: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](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

Wanting to trade stamps from Trucial States: Yemen, Aden or Equatorial Guiana. Brian Smith, [donnasmithphoto@gmail.com](mailto:donnasmithphoto@gmail.com) 3/18

## MEET & EAT for August & September 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, latecomers can order when they arrive or just come by for a visit. 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

Aug. 1 **Jay Jay Café**, 1001 So. Bowen Rd.

Sep. 5 **China Harbor Super Buffet + Mongolian BBQ**  
(1 Block North of Spring Creek BBQ on the West side of Cooper St).

### EULESS

Aug. 15 **On The Border**, Airport Freeway in Bedford

### GRANBURY

Aug. 28 **Palio’s Pizza Café**  
3710 E. Highway 377, Granbury, 76049

Sep. 25 **Grumps**  
3503 E. Highway 377, Granbury, 76049

## Wanted to Buy

Wanted to buy or trade for: **Worldwide unusual EFOs, postal counterfeits**, Odd US 20th century auxiliary markings, US 1934 and 1935 Christmas Seals on and off cover and publicity material, Korean War postal history from US and other UN contingents, and any other US philatelic material with an interesting story. John Hotchner, PO Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041, or [jmhstamp@verizon.net](mailto:jmhstamp@verizon.net) 2 /15

## For Sale

**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](mailto:peter@pcelias.com) 6/17

**Bugs Bunny Special Die Cut pane of 10** (Scott 3138, CV \$175, will sell for \$100 plus any mailing costs. Ken Aldridge, [KAldridge@aol.com](mailto:KAldridge@aol.com) 4/18

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

**Don't Forget:  
EXPO Planning Meeting - Aug. 11!  
TSDA Bourse - Aug. 24 & 25**