

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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#90

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

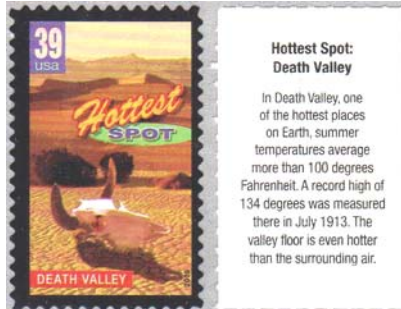
September 2018

Been There, Done That

Furnace Creek

By Peter Elias

Since it is around 109°F at DFW Airport as I am writing this on July 21, I figured this is a “relevant” article! On July 4, 2001, I was in Las Vegas, and Annie and I took a day trip out to Death Valley. We stopped at Furnace Creek, which is about the only



place in Death Valley that has “traveler services”, ranging from a campground, a store, a restaurant and even a post office (the Zip Code is 92328).

Furnace Creek is aptly named; the photo shows me in front of a thermometer that reads about 117°F (compared to only 113°F at the time of writing this now and 122°F scheduled for July 22). It definitely felt like standing in a blast furnace that day! Talk about making your

blood boil!

We had lunch at the Furnace Creek Restaurant, and I do remember having an excellent Portobello Mushroom burger!

I’ve been Death Valley several times in the past. One of my favorite trips was in early 1990, when an old college friend and I went for a “photo shoot” in Death Valley. While I shot some video in color on 8mm Video, all photos that I took were done as black & white negatives. One of my favorite photos is to the left. While color is great, black & white makes it look better in this case (not that I was trying to emulate Ansel Adams...); I even made this photo into a US custom stamp! I do recommend going to Death Valley though in the winter months ...



Club Officer Elections

By Ray Cartier

The club's officers for 2019-20 will need to be elected soon. I will not be running for President again, and we need some of our members to offer to help lead the club over the next two years. The current officers are Ray Moyer [1st VP]; Richard Hildebrandt [2nd VP]; Ben Termini [Secretary]; Judy Christmas [Treasurer]; Alliene Franklin [Director]; Ralph Poore [Director] and Ken Wills [Director].

Our non-voting Directors are Stanley Christmas, Tom Cunningham, Peter Elias, Jeff Jessop and Mike Smith.

If any of the above are willing and able to run again for their present, or for another office, please advise me.

Our newest ideas for helping our club grow and improve often come from members who have not served before. We need a few new faces to help in identifying additional ways of reaching out for new members or to improve our club or our EXPO. Please, seriously consider helping to keep our club vibrant.

Members of the Granbury and Eules clubs are also encouraged to volunteer to help in the leadership of the MCSC.

[Editor Note: The election ballot has to be published in the October newsletter, which will be mailed approximately on September 22, so please contact Ray by early or mid-September at latest!]

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Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

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

Stamping Around is published monthly by the Mid-Cities Stamp Club. Material in this [newsletter](#) may be reproduced in other philatelic publications if the source is acknowledged. Opinions expressed are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club.

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 only \$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

2018

AUG. 24 & 25 TSDA Bourse

Richardson Civic Center, Arapaho Rd & US75 in Richardson

AUG. 28 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

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

SEP 5 BOD Meeting - Arlington

To be held at 6 PM prior to regular meeting

SEP. 5 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Ray Cartier - *The French Navigator & Explorer - Jacques Cartier*

SEP. 14-15 Texas Precancel Society Fall Meeting

Comfort Inn, 301 Capitol St, Grapevine, 9 AM—5 PM

SEP. 19 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: TBD

SEP. 25 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: “Stamping With Golf” by Ken Aldridge

SEP. 29 Chautauqua, Waxahachie

Ray & Karen Cartier will represent the club with a table at this annual event.

OCT. 3 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

Take a look to the left. The current slate of club officers and board of directors will expire at the end of 2018. Are YOU ready to serve your club? The ballot needs be published in the October newsletter (and votes counted at the annual meeting on November 7). Please get a hold of Ray Cartier if interested in serving your club so that he can get you on the ballot!

As we're heading into the last quarter of the year, a reminder that the last three issues (October, November & December) will be sent to the American Philatelic Society for their annual “Chapter Newsletter Competition”. Over the years I've made various changes as recommended by the judges, such as adding an index.

The one thing that the judges do like to see more of though, is more articles about members themselves. Obviously the “*Been There - Done That*” articles help in that respect, but I think that they are also looking for more articles about YOU, the members themselves, such as the “member biography” articles that we had several years back.

So, if you haven't yet done a “member biography”, please consider doing so! It's not hard, just a paragraph or two about what you collect (or exhibit) and why, how you got started collecting, your favorite stamp or cover, etc. A recent headshot is also useful, as it puts a “face to the name” (since many members don't make it to the meetings).

Members in the News

- In the July/August 2018 issue of the ATA's *Topical Time*, Chapter Chatter editor Fred Skvara, who reports on various club chatters, finds that the “*Been There - Done That*” series of articles very interesting, and points out those recently (April issue of *Stamping Around*) written by Tom Cunningham, Peter Elias and Bob & Pat Weidman.
- Peter Elias received a pin from the APS for 25 years of membership!

Miscellaneous

- A copy of each newsletter is emailed to the ATA's Chapter Chatter editor; Fred Skvara recently stepped down from that position and Ann Byerly (ATAchapters2018@gmail.com) has taken his place.

Secretary's Report

By Benedict Termini



New Members

Richard T. Howell (#606)

Membership Summary – August 2, 2018

Membership as of July 11, 2018	97
New Members	1
Dropped for non-payment of dues	0
Resignations	0
Deceased	0
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of August 2, 2018	98

MCSC EXPO Meeting Minutes August 11, 2018

By Skip Ely

The MCSC EXPO Committee met at the Pizza Garden in Bedford at 11:00 AM on August 11, 2018. Present were EXPO Chairperson Ralph Poore, Treasurer Judy Christmas, and Committee members Stanley Christmas, Alliene Franklin, Rich Hildebrandt, Bob Weidman, Mike Smith and Skip Ely.

- **WELCOME** – Ralph Poore opened the meeting by saying he will be extremely busy the next couple of months but will watch his email for any EXPO related items. He suggested the subject line say “MCSC EXPO” so that he will be sure to see it.
- **PREVIOUS MINUTES** – The previous Expo meeting minutes were accepted without reading, except for a correction noted by Alliene Franklin. She said it was Stanley (not she) who suggested that cash be given instead of crystal for some awards (which she supported).
- **BOURSE** – Tom Cunningham was unable to attend but sent an email summary of bourse status. He said all tables but one are sold, and he had alternatives for that. He said all dealer matters are under control and gave a detailed account of specifics.
- **AWARDS** – Alliene Franklin showed a framed certificate Ray Cartier said he could prepare inexpensively instead of plaques. It was agreed to accept his offer.
- **BEGINNING COLLECTORS** – Skip Ely said he was continuing to sort through donations for useful material for both the beginners and silent auction areas. He outlined a few things he was thinking about doing to help beginning collectors, including a sign that says, “Ask me about watermarks, tagging, soaking stamps”, etc.
- **BANQUET** – Rich Hildebrandt said he had sold about eleven tickets so far.

- **EXHIBITS** – Stanley Christmas said all frames have been filled.
 - **FINANCE** – Judy Christmas said everything was in good shape.
 - **REGISTRATION** – Ralph Poore mentioned he had received a note from the Comfort Inn in Roanoke offering the same rate as the Comfort Inn in Grapevine. Stanley said he would include that information in the flyer to dealers and in the mail out.
 - **JUDGES** – Peter Elias has indicated previously that we have three judges confirmed.
 - **LUNCHES** – There was a discussion about having the club subsidize lunches for club volunteers. It was decided to table the issue until next year. Rich Hildebrandt said he could probably help with retrieving and distributing the lunches at the show.
 - **MIXTURE PICK** – Bob Weidman said he has tried to find some new suppliers for mix pick items, as some previous ones no longer seem to be in the business.
 - **MAIL OUT/PROGRAM** – Stanley said he needed to get with Tom for a list of dealers and their contact information for the program.
 - **SECURITY** – Mike Smith said we will have the same security detail as last year.
 - **SILENT AUCTION** – Skip Ely said he thought we had plenty of small material but wasn’t sure we had any big-ticket items yet.
 - **OUTSIDE SIGNS** – A couple of options were discussed. Rich Hildebrandt said he might be able to do it if we can’t find someone.
 - **EXPO CHECKLIST** – Ralph went through some of the summer items from the Master Expo Checklist. Only a few action items remained.
- NEXT MEETING** – A final Expo meeting was scheduled for October 6 at Dave’s BBQ in Pantego. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM.

2017 Scott Stamp Catalog Bid Form

Now is the time for one of the great annual stamp club events !!!! Each year the club gives every member the chance to purchase the preceding year’s (that is the 2017) Scott Standard Stamp Catalogs. The catalogs will be sold as 1 lot: Volumes 1 - 6. (Note: the “US Specialized” catalog is not available this year). The club will take sealed bids until October 26, 2018. To bid, please send in a bid with the following information:

Bid for Scott Volumes 1 to 6 \$ _____.

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

RULES for BIDDERS:

- Submit bids by mail to: Mid-Cities Stamp Club, P.O. Box 2158, Arlington, TX 76004-2158
- Mark the outside of the envelope: “Catalog Bid”
- Bids must be received by: October 26, 2018 (received by, NOT postmarked by!)
- In case of a tie: The envelope with a commemorative stamp used for postage wins.
If a tie still exists, the earliest postmarked entry wins.
- The winning bidder: Will be called to make arrangements for delivery and payment

The winning bidder and amount will be announced at the Arlington November 7, 2018 club meeting.

Arlington Meeting Minutes August 1, 2018

By Ben Termini

Call-to-Order:

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

Attendance:

- There were 21 members and no guests present.

Show & Tell:

- President Cartier started the meeting with show & tell.
- Peter Elias showed some bird pictures he was planning on entering in the EXPO.
- Ray Cartier showed a cover with a mistaken spelling of 'Philadelphia' in the cancellation and also an unusual cover from Russia with a US 29 cent stamp attached.

Officer & Committee Reports:

- **Secretary** Ben Termini reported that we had 97 members.
- **Treasurer** Judy Christmas was absent.
- **EXPO Committee** chairman Ralph Poore was not present, however, Ray Cartier mentioned that there would be an EXPO meeting on Saturday August 11, at the Pizza Garden at 11 AM. Rich Hildebrandt pointed out that there were still tickets available for the Awards Dinner, which could be purchased for \$20 each. A bargain.
- **Sales Books Chairman** Skip Ely said sales were slow but steady.
- **Newsletter Editor** Peter Elias said the newsletter was doing well and solicited articles.

Announcements:

- President Ray Cartier mentioned that the club would be electing new officers this fall and that the ballot would be in the October edition of the newsletter. He asked members to consider running for office.
- Ray said that his suggestion that the club purchase a box of four frames from TEXPEX (if available) had been approved by a majority of the Board of Directors. He will follow up with the appropriate TEXPEX officials.
- Ray also mentioned that Karen Cartier had written a new book entitled 'Dragon Tales' and that she would be speaking at the next club meeting in September.
- The next meeting (September 5) will be preceded by a Board meeting at 6 PM, to discuss the budget for next year. Accordingly the Meet and Eat gathering will start at 4:30 instead of the usual 5:30 PM.

Door Prizes:

- Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Brian Smith, Tom Turner, Rich Hildebrandt and Norma DeWald.

Program:

- Gene Pfretzschner gave an interesting talk on how he became a stamp collector, which was well received. It was followed by a club auction.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Eules Meeting Minutes August 15, 2018

By Skip Ely

Attendance:

There were 5 members present.

Officer Reports:

These were suspended due to the small attendance.

Committee Reports:

Stanley Christmas gave a brief summary of the EXPO meeting the previous Saturday.

Announcements:

Mike Smith mentioned the TSDA Richardson Bourse next Friday and Saturday (August 24-25).

Show & Tell:

Stanley Christmas passed around three Canadian covers that had been sent to him recently.

Mike Smith had three souvenir sheets to show.

Program:

Skip Ely previewed his talk to the Dallas/Park Cities Stamp Club next month on "Music and Philately". This led to a variety of discussion topics, one involving watermarks and perforations.

Door Prizes:

Were won by Mike Smith and Stanley Christmas.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Chautauqua 2018

By Ray Cartier

For the 3rd time in four years the MCSC will have a presence at the annual one day Chautauqua event in Waxahachie. I just got this promo piece from them and thought that possibly a few MCSC members might be interested in a free family day at their event. We will have either two frames of "Humor on stamps" or a table top display of the same, to go along with this year's theme, along with a table to sell some event covers and promote philately in the area.

Comic Strip - Dennis the Menace

By Peter Elias



This Dennis the Menace comic strip was published in 1996 on February 7.

Of course today, kids wouldn't be asking the question about "licking" stamps, since US stamps are now self-adhesive!

Today's kids might even be asking what a stamp is to begin with since few kids get "snail mail" (other than an occasional birthday or "holiday" card).

Been There, Done That

Kilauea

By Pat & Bob Weidman

I'm sure all of you have heard about the recent volcanic eruptions of Kilauea in Hawaii. Kilauea sits on the southern side of the big island of Hawaii. It is one of the more active volcanoes on the face of the earth and has been that way for a number of years. In fact, back in the 1840's, Kilauea became a tourist attraction and has been that way ever since. It is estimated that 2.6 millions people visit Kilauea each year.

Pat and I have been to Hawaii a number of times and have gone to the big island to see Kilauea at least twice. The first time we stayed in Kona or the west side of the island. We had a rental car and one day decided to drive around the island to see all of the sights. When we got to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, it was late in the day, so we went back early the next day, which was a good idea because we spent the whole day there and still didn't get to see everything!

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park became the eleventh national park in the United States on August 1, 1916 when President Woodrow Wilson signed it into law. It was also the first national park in a U.S. territory (Hawaii did not become a state until 1960). Originally it was called Hawaii National Park. Renamed Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, it became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987.

A World Heritage Site landmark or area is selected by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization having cultural, historical, scientific or other

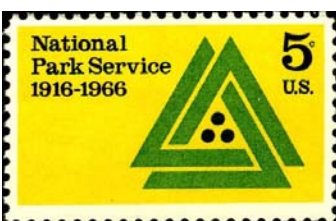


significance and is legally protected by international treaties.

The picture above is of Pat and myself standing in front of the Kilauea crater.

The 39¢ stamp to the right is USA Scott #4067, issued May 27, 2006 as part of the American Wonders sheet of 50 stamps. The 5¢ stamp below is Scott #1314, issued August 25, 1966 for the 50th anniversary of the National

Park Service.



Been There, Done That

STEM

By Peter Elias

On April 6, 2018, the USPS issued a set of stamps honoring "STEM" - Science, Technology, Engineering & Math.

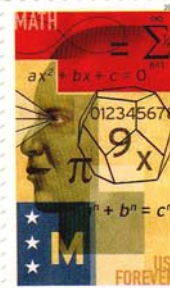
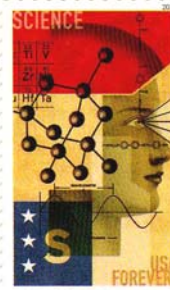
In 1985, I received my "Bachelor of Science" degree in Packaging Engineering from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Michigan State University.

Yes, I know, most people have never heard of "Packaging Engineering". The Chemical, Civil, Electrical & Mechanical Engineering fields are much more well known. But each year, MSU has over 200 students graduating with a Bachelor Degree in this field, and some also with Masters & PhD degrees!

Packaging as a field that employs over a million people in this country. Remember, practically all goods we buy have to be "packaged" for retail & shipping. Someone has to design the packaging materials, the equipment to make the package; the equipment to fill the package, the labels and the graphics. Even legal aspects are obviously involved! It is a field that can take you anywhere and is a combination of several disciplines (including all four depicted on the STEM stamps).

In 1984, as part of an internship in Germany, I helped Clark Equipment (they make industrial equipment, such as the "Bobcat" loaders and excavators) save money in packaging material costs in their German warehouse from where they were shipping spare parts to Europe & Africa.

After analyzing what they were doing (using extremely thick & expensive triple-walled corrugated boxes in conjunction with steel straps which in turn cut into the cartons), I recommended that they switch to lighter cartons and "stretch wrap" them (which provides even pressure). They were skeptical at first, but a trial run convinced them!



Michigan State University

Upon the Nomination of the Faculty of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

has conferred upon
Peter C. Elias
the Degree of

Bachelor of Science

Given under the Seal of the University at East Lansing in the State of Michigan on this fifteenth day of March in the year Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-five.

Malcolm G. Dade, Jr.
Chancellor, Board of Trustees



Cecil Mackey
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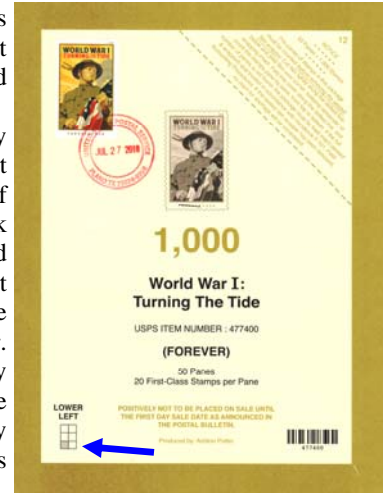
Exp. 12/18

USPS Deck Card: World War I

By Peter Elias

July 27, 2018 was the issue date for the latest USPS stamp honoring World War I.

Again I was lucky enough to be at the Plano post office on the "first day of issue" and get the "deck card", on which I then placed one of the stamps and had it postmarked, creating a nice "first day of issue" souvenir. All stamps are now generally released nationwide on the same day; the official first day of issue city was listed as Kansas City, MO.



It's difficult as it is to get these deck cards, as most post offices may only get one deck (which is normally 100 panes of stamps, in this case only 50). The original press sheet consists of 6 panes, in this case, the stamps were from the "lower left" corner of the press sheet (see arrow). Getting a complete set of all 6 deck cards would be quite a challenge, even more so if all were postmarked on the first day of issue! Ready, set, collect!



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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[From the President's Desk](#)

by Ray Cartier

It's early on a Saturday morning, and when my wife and I returned home from the Friday evening live music dance at the Eunice Senior Center last night, there was an email to me from Peter Elias, reminding me, that once again I had to get my President's column into him so that he could get the newsletter out.

The dance we went to last night inspired this article. Most of us who attend MCSC meetings have a one-dimensional knowledge of each other based on what philatelic pursuits we undertake. But many of us have other interests and hobbies which we may share with others in our group, to round out who we are and perhaps in doing so, we could expand our friendships. For example, at the dance we again met with Ken and Tommy (Tommie?) Dougan. Ken is a member of our club. They are usually there on Friday nights. I also found out that Ken is a volunteer at the Frontiers of Flight Museum in Dallas, where I have a cover exhibit on display through the end of October. I have MCSC business cards & a note about the upcoming EXPO, affixed to both ends of the 8-frame display, and asked Ken last night if he would check weekly to see if more were needed. That would save me several trips to Dallas.

It is possible that many of us could find other bridges to friendship with each other if we ever learned more about others interests and am asking you to send me a listing of your outside interests so that if there are others with similar interests stated, more of us may be able to enhance some of our friendships. As an example, Karen belongs to an Arlington Embroidery Guild that is looking for members. She does plastic canvas work herself. I'm into senior bowling on Monday afternoons at Spare Time Lanes. I love fishing, but my fishing friend passed away last year & I haven't been out on Joe Pool Lake for awhile. Maybe we have some latent bowlers or fishermen out there who might enjoy them with others. Karen & I are into card games, board games and Mexican railroad dominoes, but our closest game-night friends moved down to the Houston area.

If you have interests and would like to find some others in our club who share similar interests, send me a list of the things that you like to do and if you'd like to meet others who might share those likes. Building friendships can also help the club as it can help us stay involved in keeping the stamp club an interesting place to attend and a place to share both philately and other hobby interests with others.

On a closing note I'd like to ask you fellow amateur photographers if you have a bird photo that you can enter into our FREE contest at the 2018 EXPO. I still need a few other bird photos and will take any that are sent to me by email or mail, enlarge them to 8 X 10s and enter them into our "Most Popular Bird Photo" competition. The winning entry will get a sheet of personalized postage stamps showing their selected photo as their prize. We have local Audubon Society members manning a table at our show, and want to introduce them into possibly tying our hobby interest with theirs.



[PRESS RELEASE:](#) [Karen Cartier's](#) [Dragon Book](#)

Karen's release of her newest book, *Dragon Lore*, at the APS Stampshow/National Topical Stamp Show, came as a surprise tie in to the show theme, *There Be Dragons*.

The book opens with a dozen factual pages on dragons, followed by 12 tales of Asian Dragon Lore. The balance of this book then centers on 18 tales of European Dragon Lore. Each of these stories is accompanied by color reproductions of eighty-one postage stamps which picture the tales from twenty-nine different countries.

The cover of this book is from an original 15 inch by 19 inch paper cut dragon, which was a gift to her husband by a couple from Taiwan who were friends of Ray's from when he worked at General Dynamics on the Taiwan Indigenous Defense Fighter contract. The design was meticulously cut out with razor blade knives from a variety of colors of paper.

Karen opened her book with comments about dragons, stating "*There are the good, beneficial dragons that are represented in the Asian countries, as well as the vicious, demonic dragons from European countries*". She points out the differences found in dragons in color, number of claws, numbers of legs or no legs and those that are winged, or are only found in the seas. She describes the power ascribed to dragons by monarchs who used dragons as their standards. Illustrations of different types of dragons help the viewer to better understand their roles in history, including, in the East: Qiglong; Zhulong; Huanglong; Xuanlong; Bailong; Lungwang; Fucanglong; Shenlong, Yinglong, and Dilong. In the Western lore she describes the: Wyverns; Amphiptere; Heraldic; Guivre; Vouivre, Serpentine, Lindworms and Basilisk.

Representatives of the U.S. Postal Service noticed that she had placed a row of the four new dragon stamps on the inside cover of a few of her new books for *First Day of Issue* postmarks to celebrate the combined first day of their stamps and her book. The then had a USPS photographer take photos of her with her book for internal USPS publicity.

The stories are timeless and have been crafted by Karen to both entertain both young and old while passing along significant information about these mythological creatures from around the world.



Granbury Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2018

By Eugene Atkinson

WELCOME:

Host David Stockbridge greeted fourteen members and guests at the July meeting of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club, Lake Granbury Branch.

The club meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 W. Emerald Bend Court, in Granbury. The session began with spirited buying, selling, and trading stamps and perusing the philatelic periodicals table prior to--

SHOW & TELL:

- Bob Coleman showed a \$3.5 million stamp--the U. S. Statue of Liberty issue which will cost the USPS that amount to compensate the sculptor whose work was used without permission.
- Brian Smith discussed "Cinderella" stamps and mentioned he had successfully completed chemo treatments.
- Julie Rimmer exhibited the board game "Stampin," while Justin Rimmer showed off little Phoenix, well on his way to becoming the club's youngest member--or its mascot.
- Denny Ludlow said that Cyndi Spurlock was in the hospital for a brief time, showed a French Andorra souvenir sheet issued for Europa, and passed around a World War II Victory postmark cover.
- Lloyd Willis had supersized first day cover from Jordan with a Dead Sea Scrolls souvenir sheet.
- Alliene Franklin circulated a get-well card for Daniel Kennedy.
- Dave Stockbridge announced that a local woman was wanting to sell a small U. S. collection--consisting mainly of the Zeppelin air mails, the 1893 Columbians and some others of the early 20th century. He also said the club was needing volunteers for the one-page exhibit at this year's EXPO. And then--

Gary McNamee asked "**WHERE IN THE WORLD**" did a nation equate 100 stotinki with 1 lev. Lloyd Willis promptly responded "Bulgaria."

After a **BREAK** for birthday cake and trail mix, there was the **PROGRAM:**

Gary McNamee described software packages Album Gen and EZStamp. Produced in Ontario, Canada, the latter contains a detailed inventory of stamps, images, descriptions and market prices, all of which can be migrated onto the former for creating individualized album pages. Gary led the group step-by-step from locating images, transferring them to an album page, rearranging sets as desired and adding all useful information prior to printing.

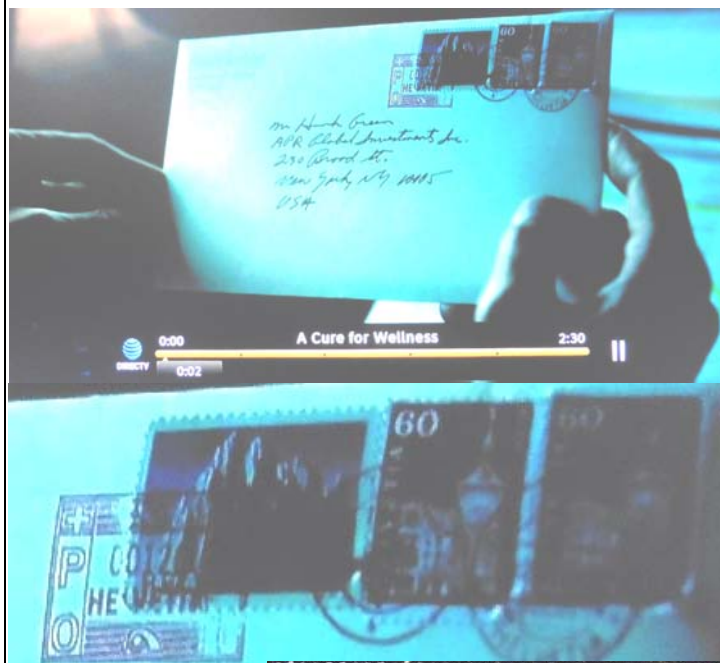
CLOSING:

- Bob Coleman, Justin Rimmer, and Brian Smith won club gift certificates as door prizes.
- The next meeting will be on August 28 with Alliene Franklin presenting.

TV Philately: A Cure for Wellness

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.



The movie "A Cure for Wellness" was released in 2016 and appears to take place at the present day. The storyline is about a young executive that has to retrieve the CEO of his company from a "wellness" facility at a remote location in the Swiss Alps.

Early in the movie there is a shot of an envelope received from the CEO. As usual, here the philatelic fun begins. Did the props department get it right? Let's analyze what is there.

At first glance, the envelope does appear to bear stamps from Switzerland. They are the Scott #507, 20 centime stamp featuring the Kreuzberge Alpstein mountains issued in 1969 and 2 of Scott#391, the 60 centime definitive stamps featuring the clock tower in Bern from 1960. While the stamps shown appear real, I think that they are copies, since the perforations at corners of the do not match how Swiss stamps are perforated, which is via comb, not line perforations.

Let's move on to the postmarks. The middle and right cancels are different in style (there would be no reason for that in real life). They are both difficult to read, but the right one does bear semblance to actual Swiss postmarks.

The left "postmark" isn't one. It is a recreation of a Swiss postage meter, but the layout doesn't come close to any actually in use. It's similar to Pitney Bowes meters used in the 1980's to 1990's, but they do NOT have an "O" at the lower left corner, the Posthorns should be in the corners (not the center) and HELVETIA is never at the bottom of a meter!

The postage paid is incorrect, sFr 1.40 is shown, it should be sFr. 1.80. Even adding the fake meter value of sFr 1.20 doesn't make any sense. And the post office would not add a meter impression on the stamps! So yet again, they got it wrong!



Image courtesy of the [International Postage Meter Stamp Catalog](#)

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

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 4/18

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

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

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

Wanting to trade stamps from Trucial States: Yemen, Aden or Equatorial Guiana. Brian Smith, donnasmith-photo@gmail.com 3/18

Comic Strip - Funky Winkerbean (Waiting In Line)

By Peter Elias

A snarky remark by a post office patron (last person in line) makes the guy in front of him get miffed about the situation, since he's also standing in the long line at the post office. There's definitely truth to the comment, as I also seem to spend many hours each year waiting in line at the local post office. By all accounts, I probably spend an average of at least 5 to 10 minutes in line each day (sometimes longer), so at least 20 - 30 hours each year just waiting in line! They should pay me for that!

FUNKY WINKERBEAN

By Tom Batiuk



MEET & EAT for September & October 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

Sep. 5 China Harbor Super Buffet + Mongolian BBQ
4:30 PM!! 1 Block North of Spring Creek BBQ on the
West side of Cooper St).

Oct. 3 Club Picnic at the Bob Duncan Center

EULESS

Sep. 19 Pizza Garden Restaurant
Bedford

GRANBURY

Aug. 28 Grumps
3503 E. Highway 377, Granbury, 76049

Sep. 25 Palio’s Pizza Café
3710 E. Highway 377, Granbury, 76049

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

Don't Forget:
TSDA Bourse - Aug. 24 & 25
Board Mtg at Arlington - Sep. 5
Texas Precancel Society - Sep. 14 & 15

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

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 4/18