

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)



#891-076252



CHAPTER
MEMBER

#90



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

July 2020

Been There, Done That

Piran

By Peter Elias



Back in the summer of 1986, I took a brief vacation (about a week) and drove to Italy (from Switzerland that is). The furthest I went on this trip was to Piran.

Where is Piran, you might ask yourself? Well, the stamp kind of gives that away; it is in Slovenia, which was then a part of Yugoslavia. At the time, one would have

needed a special visa to be able to go there if you were an American citizen (as Yugoslavia was a communist country). However, every August, throngs of German tourists went to Yugoslavia since it was an affordable country to visit, and they didn't need a visa; I was one of those tourists, but I only stayed there for the day though.

Piran is located just across the border from Trieste, Italy and is a beautiful resort town on the Adriatic coast. Probably the most "iconic" photo (#1 below) that you'll find on Google is pretty much exactly like the one that I took and is shown below. It shows Tartini Square as seen from the St. George's Cathedral.

Photo #2 (bottom left), which I found on the internet, shows where I actually took the picture from, which was atop the cathedral tower, down towards the Tartini Square below as shown by the blue arrow. I had to dig around my pile of photos from 1986 and found the original photo (just to find out that many photos shown on Google Images show exactly the same view - probably because everyone climbs the cathedral tower in order to take those photos from exactly the same vantage point).

Finding the stamp that shows the cathedral was a bit more difficult. It is Scott #1073, one in a series of 17 stamps issued from 1971 to 1973 depicting various views in Yugoslavia. I couldn't find any sellers of this stamp (nor the series) in mint condition here in the USA at the time, but did find an eBay seller in Poland that was selling just the single mint stamp for a \$1 plus postage. The envelope from Poland took 2 weeks after it was mailed.

Back to the trip; this was roughly 34 years ago, so details of my side-trip to Piran are somewhat foggy (and I only have a "smudge" to show for it in my passport that I had back then; you can probably guess why the Yugoslavian border guard did that ...). It is too bad that the Tartini Square photo is the only one that I seem to be able to find of my brief excursion into Yugoslavia, but what a view!



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Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

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

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2019 - 2020 MID-CITIES OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Immediate Past President: Ray Cartier

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

2020

—> Due to COVID-19 and city / county / state / national emergency ordinances, the following may or may not occur. Some meetings may be “virtual”; see email messages, see messages sent by Skip Ely and others for updated info.

JUN. 23 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: TBD

JUL. 1 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: TBD

JUL. 15 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: Extended Show & Tell and philatelic discussions

JUL. 28 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: TBD

AUG. 5 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: TBD

AUG. 19 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: Extended Show & Tell and philatelic Discussions

AUG. 21-22 TSDA Stamp Dealer Bourse

411 W. Arapaho Rd, Richardson (at US75), Fri 10-5, Sat 9-4

Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

Been There - Done That; going nowhere! That's certainly what is going on right now with COVID-19! But that shouldn't stop you from thinking about where you have been in the past (or someone you knew or something that you owned) and which has been commemorated on a stamp (or potentially a postmark or slogan meter); anything philatelic really!

Going through my old photo albums, I'm constantly finding things that are future “Been There ...” articles; I have a current backlog of something like 40+ articles just waiting to be written; so far I've already accumulated the stamp images and photos for the articles and just need to hammer out a bunch of paragraphs! It's really not as difficult as you think. In about 5 minutes, I hammered out the brief Texas “Been There...” article that you see on the lower left side on page 5.

EXPO Judging Update

Unfortunately our only EXPO judge so far, Robert Zeigler (President of the APS Board of Directors) had to cancel for reasons that he said were unavoidable about 2 weeks ago (most likely personal or family related, but he didn't elaborate). So I sent out some more invites, and just received a call from Patrick Walters who will be happy to serve again this year (and he also recommended two others that I've contacted; one of which, Stephen Washburne, will also be judging again!). Now I'm just waiting for Judge #3!

Philatelic News Updates

The American Philatelic Society has announced that it is canceling “The Great American Stamp Show 2020” (to have been held in Connecticut from August 20-23, 2020) due to concerns relating to COVID-19 and the size of the show and/or the aggressive mitigation required as a result of it being indoors. The APS is working on a “virtual alternative”. The next annual APS Show is planned for Chicago in 2021.

Member Dr. John Barrett (now in Gulfport, MS) reports that Gulfpex 2020 has been rescheduled to October 23-24 and that they're looking for exhibits (with no frame fees!). Contact John at jstrubelboy@aol.com for more info.

Secretary's Report

By Skip Ely



Applications Received

New Members

Scott English (#629)

Deceased

n/a

Reinstatements

n/a

Membership Summary – June 14, 2020

Membership as of May 20 2020	88
Applications Received	0
New Members	1
Dropped for non-payment of dues	(0)
Resignations	0
Deceased	(0)
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of June 14, 2020	89

TV Philately: World On Fire

By Peter Elias

"World On Fire" is a Masterpiece drama presently airing on PBS on Sunday nights. The May 3 episode featured a very quick glance at an envelope that one of the characters receives in the mail about 5 minutes into the episode, because his daughter had epilepsy.



I tried several times to catch the best possible image on my 58" TV, but what you see above is as close as it gets. There is no sender shown and the addressee name and address are out of focus, but on the lower left side there is a 2 line imprint that states that the envelope came from the "National Jugendinstitut" with an address at Grossen Neumarkt 1, Berlin", which translates into "National Youth Institute". Now, was there such a thing as a national youth institute? While we all know that there was the "Hitler Youth" organization, I can't seem to find any references via Google to a "National Jugendinstitut". Even then, that name doesn't quite sound right, while in English we would call something the "National something..." in German, it would be "Nationales something..." (with an "es" at the end of National). So, did they get that right? I'm thinking not (unless someone can correct me!).

What about the stamp? Despite being out of focus, it appears to be one of the 12 pfennig Hitler Head stamps; probably either Scott #511B or (typographed) or #513 (engraved). Both stamps are listed as either carmine or bright carmine, but one can't really tell.

Does the stamp "shown" pay the correct rate? Best I can tell from the German Michel catalog is that there were two domestic rates for a basic letter up to 20 grams: 8pf for "Ortsverkehr" (local/city) and 12pf for "Fernverkehr" (long distance); since this character's address was supposed to be in Berlin, my guess is that the 12pf stamp depicted would be correct for the period.

Whether it depicts a real stamp or one "printed" for the prop envelope, I can't say. The postmark is out of focus as well.

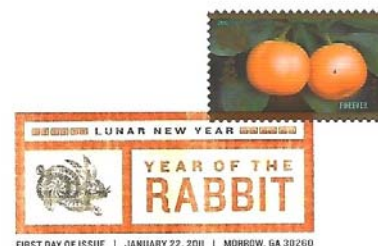
So did they get it correct? Mostly yes (even if a bit out of focus). But I am personally not so sure about the "National Jugendinstitut" part on the envelope.

Philatelic Firsts - Stamp Issue Dates

By Ken Aldridge

Shown are FDC's for Scott #4492 and #4125. The Year of the Rabbit issue (#4492) was the 1st commemorative FOREVER stamp issued by the U.S. Postal Service, on January 22, 2011.

The Liberty Bell Issue (#4125) was the 1st Definitive stamp issued by USPS, on April 12, 2007. Almost four years difference in the issuing of these stamps. This is another one of those decisions that the USPS must have wrestled with, why wait four years? Hmmm, I wonder.....



Bad Design

By Peter Elias



racing here...

In any case, whoever produces this garbage should stop (and people should also stop buying it); I actually didn't buy this as such, it was in a pile of stuff that I got from the APS for the purpose of giving it away, but I'm not going to give away these type of items to new collectors.

Granbury Virtual Stamp Meeting Minutes from June 4, 2020

By Debbie Hathaway

Thanks to the generosity of member Gary McNamee, MCSC Granbury held its first virtual stamp meeting via Zoom on Thursday, June 4th.

With 15 attendees, the first virtual MCSC meeting was a HUGE success. Future monthly virtual meetings are in the works with next online meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, June 30th. If you need access/Zoom/computer help, please contact Rob Hathaway or Rick Howell.

Dave Stockbridge started the meeting with a few general announcements:

- Don't forget to tune in to the APS Stamp Chats to listen to great presentations from members and philatelic authorities from around the world. The talks are presented M-W-F at 3:00 PM and cover many areas of philately. They are recorded and posted on YouTube for your later viewing pleasure. Anybody can view the YouTube recordings, and you do not have to be an APS member to access them.
- APS summer sessions will now be virtual. There are 50 different courses available and they cost only \$10.00 per class. To attend these sessions, you must be an APS member. See their website for more information.
- Ray Cartier reminds everyone to be thinking about exhibiting at the EXPO. He has put together the prospectus for entering 1-frame or multi-frame exhibits, as well as information for a single page or 4-page exhibit. Mini-Exhibits cost only \$1.00 each, so start thinking of what you want to exhibit. Contact Ray for more details.

While we miss the sharing and camaraderie of our physical meetings, members have been busy while staying safe at home:

- Ken managed to finish another book with his stamp collecting hero and still find time to work with his machines.
- Fred had cataract surgery, but is still working on his newspaper wrapper collection. He is waiting for a new wrapper to arrive from Glasgow, Scotland.
- Rob is now a board member for the ISWSC and is slowly working through his backlog of trades and swaps.
- Debbie is working on planning her first exhibit, which will be on mobile libraries.
- Ralph is still working on his postal history collection, especially if it's on postcards.
- Dave has started a new collection on Portuguese colonies and possessions and already is up to 1,600 stamps. Way to go, Dave!

What are you working on philatelically?

Screen shots from the virtual meeting —>

From The President's Desk

by Richard Hildebrandt

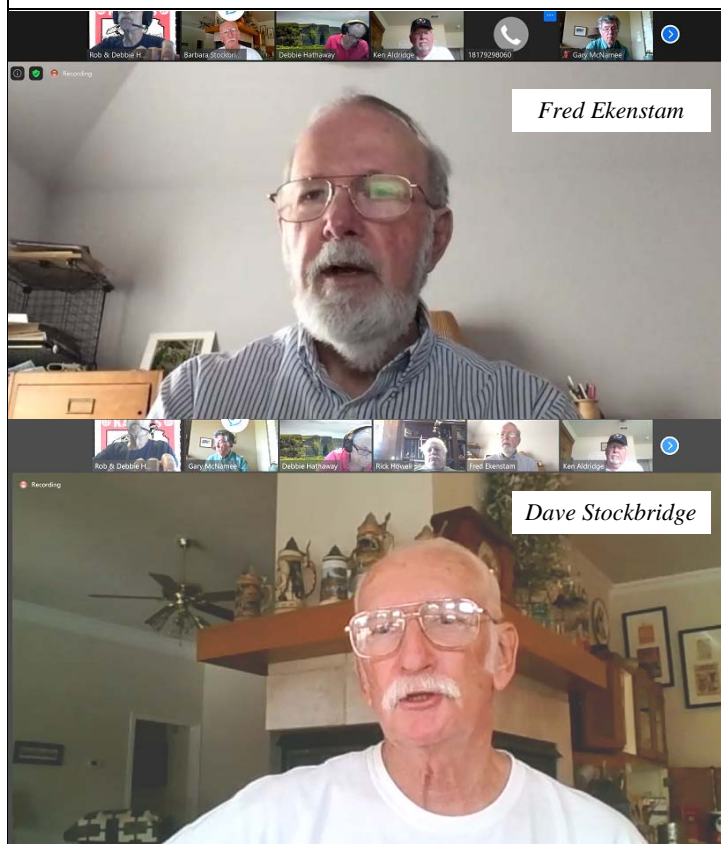
I am sitting here in splendid isolation, well maybe not so splendid, but feeling very isolated with all of my usual social activities on hold. I have been unable to determine if the Bob Duncan Center will be open in time for our July 1 meeting. I will let Skip know which way it is going as soon as we hear something and he will put out the notice to everyone.

In the meantime, there are club officer elections this November and also an EXPO to prepare for. We are seeking volunteers to run for the several positions that the club needs to function properly. If you are so inclined to serve in some capacity, please let me know.

I know from the e-mail messages that I see, that planning continues on schedule for EXPO. Hopefully you have been working on your stamp collections and are preparing exhibits. Contact Ray Cartier if you have any questions about the exhibits. Please be mindful of the need for club volunteers to help at EXPO. Judy will be soliciting your help in the coming months for the various tasks that we have to accomplish at the show. Keep in mind that there are door prizes available for the volunteers each day!

As always, we are in need of programs for the meetings. If you have some philatelic knowledge, don't be shy, share it with the other club members.

Until we can gather again in person, I hope everyone is staying safe and sane.



Bora Bora

By Pat & Bob Weidman

On our South Pacific vacation to French Polynesia a number of years ago, one of the islands that we visited was Bora Bora. In the picture below, Pat is standing outside of the terminal building at Bora Bora. That airport is in a very unusual place. It is not on the island itself. Instead, it is on the coral atoll that surrounds the island. Due to the fact that Bora Bora is a small volcanic mountainous island with very little flat land to put an airport on, it was decided to put it on the atoll!



The resort that we were staying at, was on the other side of the island. After retrieving our luggage, we took a short boat ride that took us over to the resort.



The stamp shown is French Polynesia Scott#615, issue on April 5, 1993. It commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Allied Airfield on Bora Bora that was built during World War II.

Texas

By Peter Elias



Ok, this is an easy one. Most members of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club should be able to write at least one of these articles, since they live in Texas! Did something, anything(?) happen at all while living here that you could possibly write about?

In my case, probably a bunch of stuff, but as far as "Texas & me" goes, I got here as quick as I could. Well, that's people always seem to say... I moved here in 1990 after my job in Kentucky (ooh, that could be another "Been There ..." article!) dried up. After a call back to my former boss, now in Germany (oh wait, yet another possible "Been There..." article), I ended up moving to Grand Prairie as part of my new job here!

How to scan self-adhesive die-cut stamps

By Peter Elias

As a result of writing lots of articles for this newsletter, I often need to provide scans of self-adhesive stamps. While scanning the stamp or sheet isn't a problem as such, the result just doesn't look good.

So what is the problem? The perforation, or in case of most modern self-adhesive stamps, the undulating die-cuts. You just can't see these in most scans, and manipulating the image to make them visible will usually make the rest of the stamp not look good. Most older stamps with traditional perforation holes made this job much easier: all you had to do was insert a black background behind the stamp, and the perforations would show up nicely!



Shown above is a sheet of PhotoStamps that I purchased recently. The stamps feature the typical undulating die-cuts around the edges, but unlike most USPS stamps, are actually separated by a 2.5 mm margin between the stamps and large margins on the outside edges. Looking at the above scan, you can't even see the die-cuts!



To the left is a close-up of one of the stamps (bottom row, 2nd stamp from the left), cropped out electronically from the whole sheet. We still can't see the die-cuts and it wouldn't make for a good illustration!

Shown below left is the same stamp, but now shown with its die-cuts. What a world of difference! So what is the trick? Simple: I had to remove the stamp from its original backing paper and place it on another piece of backing paper, one which is a bit darker than the stamp paper itself, and this makes the die-cuts

stand out so much better! Now, some "purists" may balk at this, and so while the stamp is MNH, it's not on "original backing" paper (hope that doesn't become a thing...), but for many stamps it is difficult to collect or scan a single stamp with original backing paper when all stamps on a sheet are adjoining.

Answer to Ken Aldridge's Article "In God We Trust"

By Rick Howell

It doesn't take much these days to set me off on a dive into history. Ken Aldridge's newsletter article "In God We Trust" last month sent me on a quest to determine the origin of this motto. Many American historians attribute this motto to the words in a song originally titled "Defence of Fort M'Henry" written by Francis Scott Key in 1814 as he witnessed the British bombardment of Fort McHenry during the War of 1812. This poem later became known as "The Star Spangled Banner". Stanza 4 of our national anthem goes like this:

*O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation.
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!*

*Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust.'
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!*

This stanza is quoted on one of the Credo Series stamps (Scott Catalog Number 1142) of 1960-1961, which was issued after the Statue of Liberty stamps that Ken mentioned in his article. The Credo Issue stamp is shown to the right.



Now, even though "In God We Trust" was not officially adopted as the motto of the United States until 1956 by the U.S. Congress under President Dwight D. Eisenhower, it showed up on American coinage as far back as 1864 on a two-cent piece shown to the left.

Eisenhower's Congress made it the official motto of the U.S. and ordered that all currency printed after 1956 must display the motto. The silver certificate of 1957 was the first dollar bill to be printed with the motto. Once again, stamps got there a little late.

So, did the motto actually originate with Francis Scott Key? I don't really think so. Trusting in God seems to be a popular idea worldwide.



The heraldic coat of arms of Brighton, England (shown to the left), officially adopted in 1897, also reflects this sentiment.

The Latin inscription "In Deo Fidemus" in the banner translates "We Trust in God".

In spite of atheist and agnostic sentiments in this country, America was founded on religious principals set out in the Judeo-Christian Bible. This fact is evident if you take a trip to Washington, D.C. and look at the buildings and monuments there. Look at the official documents that were the foundation of our government; the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. History records that Benjamin Franklin who is claimed to be an agnostic by many modern students of history, acknowledged, "Our prayers, Sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered. All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a Superintending providence in our favor. To that kind providence we owe this happy opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity. And have we now forgotten that powerful friend? or do we imagine that we no longer need His assistance [emphasis added].

President Thomas Jefferson wrote, "The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time" and asked 'Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are of God?'

The Bible says:

- "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5)
- "It is better to trust the LORD than to put confidence in man" (Psalm 118:8).
- "He has put a new song in my mouth, praise unto our God; many shall see it, and fear and will trust in the LORD" (Psalm 40:3, NKJV).
- "It is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works" (Psalm 73:28, NKJV).
- "The fear of man brings a snare: but whoever puts his trust in the LORD shall be safe" (Proverbs 29:25, NKJV).

So, we can see that the motto, "In God We Trust" has roots much farther back than the "Star Spangled Banner", and these roots most likely inspired Francis Scott Key in his poetry. It is a source that established America as a great country, and we should not by any means forget it.

How do you house your collection?

By Ken Wills

Some years ago I stopped using albums, and instead keep my collection in stockbooks. I number the pages and keep an inventory in Excel with a cross-reference to the stockbook page.

Albums do provide information about the stamps, but that mostly duplicates what is in the catalogues. The display is esthetically pleasing but only if you have all the stamps. One problem that bothered me is that I often have more than one example of a stamp, because of color differences or alternative perforations that the albums don't provide for. Designing and printing your own pages solves this problem, but that's too expensive and time consuming for a worldwide collector. Then the need to use hinges or mounts also takes much time. I also believe that a dealer would prefer to buy a filled stockbook than a filled album. Finally, stockbooks take much less space on the shelf.

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 \$125 with note that panes in original envelope (blue bordered) "sell for somewhat more." I will sell for \$80 plus any mailing costs. Ken Aldridge, KAldridge@aol.com 12/18

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

Wanted

Postally used "ATM" stamps (i.e.: machine vended), such as Framas, from around the world; would prefer on cover or postcard if possible. Contact Peter Elias at info@stvincentstamps.com 8/14

For Sale

I now have a new website in which I have listed all my used **duplicates (many thousands)**. They are arranged in Scott number sequence within country. Do take a look, and select any that you want. I charge 1/3 catalogue value, post paid. The URL is www.kenwills.net Contact me at wills@airmail.net. Happy hunting! 3/19

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: jstrubel-boy@aol.com 12/14

Canadian Collection housed in Scott Specialty Single Country Album. Starts with Scott#18 through 1970. Mostly mint, some used. 2013 Scott catalog value is \$4,100, now reduced to \$775 OBO!. Will accept US postage at face value as part payment. Contact Dave Linn, (903) 785-7864 or at dklgonefishing@yahoo.com 8/19

Comic Strip - Mother Goose & Grimm (Mailmen)

By Peter Elias



getting hurt on their job. I haven't read anything specific from the US Postal Service regarding dog bites, other than statistics about them (6,244 dog attacks on postal workers in 2017). Just what does the USPS actually state that mail carriers should do when encountering dogs while delivering mail? Are they supposed to try and do what many people say, which is to let a dog sniff your hand first? And act in a non-aggressive manner? There is some guidance in the March 30, 2017 USPS Postal Bulletin at [this link](#).

And here we have another "postal" related comic strip featuring "Grimm" (the dog) from the Mother Goose & Grimm comic strip series, published in the Dallas Morning News on May 12, 2020.

Being as that Grimm is a dog, it seems natural that Mike Peters, the strip's creator, pokes fun at mail carriers a lot (female letter carriers have not yet been featured).

In this strip, it is another poke at mail carriers

Royal Naval Dockyard

By Robert & Pat Weidman



Stamp image from
www.stampworld.com

In the photo below, Pat is standing by the directional sign at the Royal Naval Dockyard in Bermuda. This was back in the Spring of 1992 when we were vacationing in Bermuda. We were staying at the Castle Harbor Marriott resort.

One day we took the public transportation bus in to Hamilton, the capital city. We then changed busses and took the one that went to the far side of the island where the naval base was located.

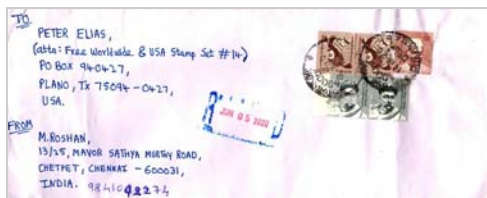
The Royal Naval Dockyard had its' start back in 1795. It was in operation for two hundred years until 1995, two years after our visit.

The stamp shows an aerial view of the base; it is Bermuda Scott #704 that was issued on December 4, 1995 as part of a set of six stamps featuring the military bases on Bermuda.



Covid-19 Postal History

By Peter Elias



\$1 for postage) for the free stamps that I am giving away, and whether I had received the envelope. I replied that I had not due to mail service between India and the USA being suspended. On June 5, the letter arrived and I sent him his stamps.

Sadly there were no postal markings on the envelope regarding the delay; it would have made for a nice postal history item. I have heard that some mail being sent TO India though during that time was returned by the USPS with markings regarding lack of mail service.

In March I received an email message from a 15-year old collector in India stating that he sent me a request (along with

USPS New Issues

By Peter Elias



May 21 was the first day of issue of the "Voices of the Harlem Renaissance" issue. Luckily I was able to get the Deck Card [Editor: shown slightly cropped - too much of a heavy black border that wastes too much toner] and to get a first day of sale postmark. Since there were 4 stamps in the set, I had to arrange the stamps in different spots on the Deck Card so as not to cover up printed areas of the card.

As always, these are a nice collectible item; after all, how many of these will exist?

On a related note, our post office never got the "American Gardens" issue that came out over a week ago prior to this one ... It makes me wonder what the USPS is doing. I mean, do they want to actually sell stamps, or just publicize them? It tends to get a bit frustrating when one wants to buy their stamps and they don't make them available at the local post office...

France COVID-19 Internet Stamps

By Peter Elias



Top Stamp:
Soyons Fort Et Unis = Let's Be Strong & United

Bottom Stamp:
Tous ensemble = All Together

Several countries have already started to issue postage stamps relating to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Some of the countries offering "internet stamps" (i.e.: those that you can print using your own printer), have now made COVID-19 related stamps available.

Since I don't have a need for active French postage, I only did a "SPECIMEN" print of these stamps, as shown to the left.

The two design are "Let's Be Strong & United" and "All Together" as shown above. Stamps can be printed on A4 paper, directly on an envelope or using a Dymo label printer.

stampsuniversal.com

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- * TEXPEX
- * HOUPEX
- * EXPO

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Coppell, TX 75019
(972) 304-1671

Exp. 12/19

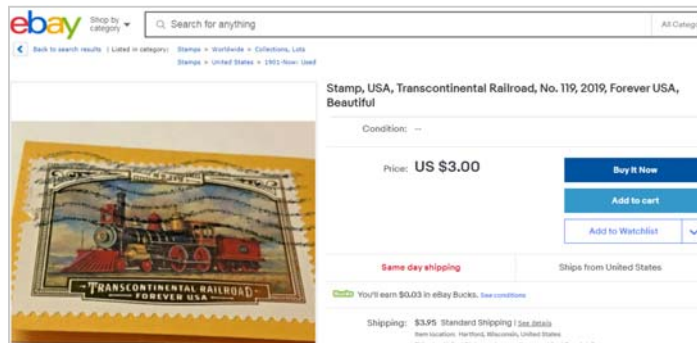


I'm In The Wrong Business!

By Peter Elias

Wow, I should be selling recent US commemoratives on paper for "only" \$3.00 + \$3.95 postage (see cropped screen shot from eBay taken on June 5)! Does this seller know something that I don't? While it would be great to earn that kind of money for a single used stamp, it would be fleecing (to say it politely..) the customer...

This particular seller has 126,771 feedbacks at 99.5% positive. In reviewing his other offerings, various used stamps, all are at \$3 prices, but then he seems to sell a lot of AC and refrigeration items as well ... I'd say, stick to selling refrigeration products...



Be sure to visit the Club website on the Internet:

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

For online newsletters see

or <http://mid-citiesstampclub.webs.com/newsletter.htm> →



OKLAHOMA STAMPS
Specializing in United States Stamps
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kirmckenzie@cox.net

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cunninghamstamps@aol.com

(214) 546-1179

Cunningham Philatelics
Philatelic Consultants

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Stamps and Covers

Collections
Appraisals

THOMAS L. CUNNINGHAM
APS # 082424, TSDA

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

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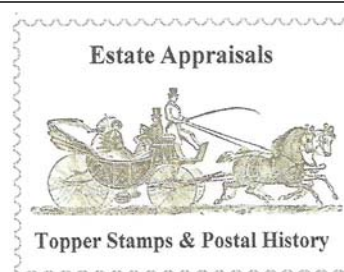
GEORGE WATKINS STAMPS

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

George H. Watkins, Jr.
Proprietor



Exp. 12/20



Topper Stamps & Postal History

jonathan@topperstamps.com
www.topperstamps.com

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

Exp. 12/20



MEET & EAT for June & July, 2020

by Judy & Stanley Christmas

"Meet & Eats" are held before our club meetings. All club members and their guests are welcome. We will gather at 5:00 PM and 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 to 6:30 PM with the Arlington new meeting start time now being at 7:00 PM rather than 7:30 PM.

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

All times & locations below are tentative!

Club meeting dates for July are not yet confirmed!

**If the club meeting times are confirmed, then these are the
scheduled meet-n-eat locations:**

ARLINGTON

July 1 Angelo's, 2590 W. Pioneer Pkwy

EULESS

July 15 On the Border, 2500 Airport Freeway,
Bedford, phone (817) 438-4560

GRANBURY

July 28 Palio's Pizza Café, 3710 E. Hwy 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 - August 21-22

Wanted to Buy

Texas Precancel Stamps. Contact Rick Howell at
Rick.howell1@tx.rr.com

5/19

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 mate-
rial, Korean War postal history from US and other UN contin-
gents, 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

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 Span-
ish ATM stamps! Contact Peter Elias at peter@pcelias.com
6/17

REDUCED: Used Canada thru 2000 all on album pages in
large binder. CV \$1830, will sell for \$200 (11%). Ken Aldridge

Complete set of 10 MNH Celebrate the Century, #3182-3191,
CV 123.00, Face 48.90, sell \$50. Ken Aldridge 4/20

Bugs Bunny Special Die Cut sheet (#3138) on special
album page, CV \$175, sell for \$90. Ken Aldridge,
KAldridge@aol.com, (817) 528-7979 6/20

—> YOUR FREE AD COULD BE HERE <— !
(for MCSC club members only)