JANUARY 29, 2018
VOL. 91, NO. 4657

Linn's Stamp NEWS

World's Largest Weekly Stamp News and Marketplace

Postal rate change in 1968 led to varieties

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Lena Horne celebrated Jan. 30 on newest stamp in U.S. Black Heritage series; ceremony in New York City

By Michael Baadke

The first United States forever stamp to be issued following the Jan. 21 increase in the 1-ounce domestic letter rate honors Brooklyn-born entertainment superstar Lena Horne (1917-2010).

The new vertical commemorative is the 41st stamp in the U.S. Postal Service's long-running Black Heritage stamp series, which began in 1978 with a 13¢ stamp honoring abolitionist Harriet Tubman.

As a result of the 1¢ postage rate increase, the nondenominated Lena Horne forever stamp will sell for 50¢ when it is issued Jan. 30. The stamp is being issued in a pane of 20.

The stamp pane includes a purple frame with the inscription "41st in a series" at upper right.

The series title, "Black Heritage" is printed in uppercase letters at upper left, with "Celebrating Lena Horne" offset slightly below it.

Entertainer Lena Horne is being honored on a new forever stamp in the Black Heritage series that will be issued Jan. 30 in New York City.

A press sheet consisting of six unsevered panes (120 stamps) is available to collectors for the face value of $60.

Printing and other technical details were not released by the Postal Service in time to be included here. They will be published in an upcoming *Linn's Stamp News* when they are made available.

A first-day ceremony for the Lena Horne stamp will take place Jan. 30 at 10:30 a.m. at the Peter Norton Symphony Space, Peter Jay Sharp Theater, 2537 Broadway at 95th Street in New York City. The Postal Service has advised that anyone who would like to attend the ceremony will need to secure an online reservation at www.usps.com/lenahorne.

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Jersey souvenir sheet depicts flags from another era

By Dingguo Dai

The wrong flag is pictured on a recent souvenir sheet from Jersey.

Jersey Post issued this souvenir sheet Jan. 26 as part of a stamp set looking at the popular culture of the 1960s (*Linn's*, Jan. 22, page 34).

Malcolm English, an award-winning designer, created the illustration for the souvenir sheet.

In announcing the Popular Culture: The 1960s set, Jersey Post described English's artwork as a "playful interpretation of Jersey's main shopping area, incorporating King Street and Queen Street. Bright, clashing colours, typical of 1960s decor are prominent, with lively hues of red, orange, purple and pink decorating the shop-fronts."

The sheet contains a single £2 stamp showing a perfume shop, wool shop and drapers (a dealer in cloth). A Jersey flag is hanging from the second story

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The Jersey £2 stamp from the Popular Culture: The 1960s souvenir sheet shown with a close-up of the Jersey flag at left.

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Gary Posner

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SMQ $4,250 Net $3,850

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SMQ $1,300 Net $1,175

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SMQ $725
Our Price $775
(Worth the Stretch)

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SMQ $800 $895
(Worth the Premium)

#1789B. 15¢ John Paul Jones Perf 12, Mint NH, Choice Centering, Rich Colors on Bright Paper. It is Believed the USPS was Unaware that This Issue Was Printed by American Bank Note Co. with Three Different Perforations: Perf 11 x 12, Perf 11 All Around, and Perf 12 All Around, the Perf 12 All Around Being by Far the Rarest. A VF-Extremely Fine Mint NH Perf 12 Issue with a 2017 PSE Cert Graded VF-XF 85 Never Hinged.
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LETTERS TO LINN'S

U.S. airmail 100th anniversary

As a longtime United States collector, I was pleased to see the varied

United States 10¢ Curtiss Jenny stamp (Scott C74) issued in 1968 for the 50th anniversary of airmail service in the United States.

subjects to be honored by the U.S. Postal Service stamp program. I was disappointed there was nothing to honor the 100th anniversary of the introduction of U.S. airmail service.

David Giles
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Editor's note: It is likely additional stamp issues will be announced for the 2018 U.S. stamp program in addition to those revealed in Linn's *Jan. 1 issue.*

Former USPS vice president

So the U.S. Postal Service hires someone for the position of vice president (*Linn's*, Jan. 8 issue) and agrees to pay him almost $300,000 for his first year, salary plus signing bonus and relocation expenses, and no one bothered to vet his resume? These are the same brilliant people who respond to the diminishing number of people using the mail by raising the cost of postage and think that U.S. commemorative stamps should be about Harry Potter, cartoon characters and Hollywood celebrities who died of drug overdoses and lived sordid lifestyles.

Their incompetence is only exceeded by that of members of Congress who complain about the Postal Service's expenses and cannot seem to agree to close down unneeded posts offices in their congressional districts.

Stan Glasofer
Newport News, Va.

Amazon deal

President Donald Trump's recent comments about the U.S. Postal Service relationship with Amazon, in the *Linn's* Jan. 22 issue, touched on an important subject in my opinion.

Long before Trump was a political figure, I was of the opinion that the U.S. Postal Service was letting Amazon, UPS and others, have the cream and milk without having to pay for the cow.

Several Amazon packages on a doorstep.

The last mile is usually by far the most costly aspect of the package delivery business and obviously that's why Amazon, UPS and others want to off load it to the USPS.

The USPS carriers in rural areas are using their own passenger-size vehicles, and thus are not adequately equipped to do the job. At our small rural post office it is not unusual for mail carriers to have to return to the post office two or three times a day to refill their car with more packages.

Also, some carriers, and thus some small post offices, are open on weekends (though not to the public), just to deliver for the big shippers such as Amazon.

There is no way that the USPS is being adequately compensated for this extra load. In my opinion, at some point in time, USPS management was too easily impressed by the extra revenue that package delivery would bring in, without fully thinking about the much higher additional costs.

Jay Smith
Snow Camp, N.C.

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Engraved duck stamps gone for good? Printing technology cited for change

When the 2007 federal duck stamp was issued, collectors saw the writing on the wall.

The days of engraved printing on federal duck stamps appeared to be over.

With new proposed changes to the duck stamp program, it seems like it's a done deal that engraving is being banished from these popular stamps.

Linn's learned of the changes while researching the Jan. 8 page 1 story about proposed rule changes for the contest that will produce the 2019 stamp.

A section titled "Updating Technological Advances in Stamp Design and Printing" in the same proposal states: "Currently both [section] 91.15 and [section] 91.23 contain regulations and references to a stamp production process that is no longer used. We propose to remove these outdated statements to reflect current technology in this revised proposed rule."

Section 91.15 describes the "Suitability of entry for engraving" and notifies contest entrants of specific items that should be paid attention to when creating the artwork so an engraver can interpret the design correctly. It states that "The engraver is primarily responsible for line interpretation and discipline, creating the miniature image of bird(s) appearing on the stamp."

The United States $15 Ross' Goose federal duck stamp (Scott RW73), issued in 2006, was the last duck stamp printed using engraved elements in combination with offset printing.

The other section, 91.23, is in reference to "Scoring criteria for contest" and notes that entries will be judged on the basis of "anatomical accuracy, artistic composition and suitability for engraving in the production of a stamp."

The United States currently has two postage stamp printers under contract: Ashton Potter and Banknote Corporation of America. Both have the technological capability to produce engraved stamps, so the statement that this production process is no longer used is incorrect.

No longer used by the duck stamp office, yes, but not completely gone.

And calling the process outdated is just offensive.

Engraved stamps are some of the most treasured objects in a stamp collector's album.

While engraved stamps cost more to produce, I would like to remind the federal duck stamp office that it now charges $25 per stamp. Getting a stamp collector to put forth that amount of money for something that is now solely printed via offset without a feel of receiving something for your $25 is hard to accept for some.

If the Postal Service can produce an engraved pane of six forever stamps and sell it for less than $3, as it did in 2016, the duck stamp office should reconsider eliminating the engraving process and dismissing it as "outdated."

It's not essential that engraving be part of the illustration on the duck stamp. Including engraving in the stamp frame, the denomination or even the selvage area would be an improvement.

An interpretation of the artwork as an engraving in the selvage of the pane of one would be stunning, and I think would result in increased sales. ■

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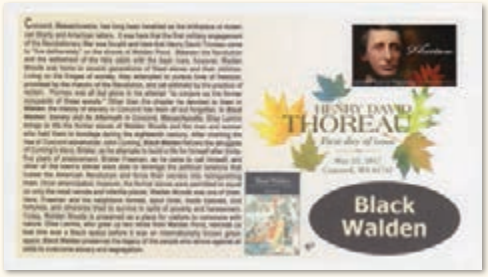

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L-BA1974

First-day invitation stamp mismatch; an early mail-early reminder

First-day cancellations are found on more than first-day covers. Among other media I have seen bearing these cancels are first-day programs, news articles, speech transcripts, historical brochures and magazine covers. A new one to me is the invitation card shown with this column.

But take a second look: The event and the stamps don't match!

The invitation is for the 1986 22¢ Christmas stamp showing the Perugino Madonna from the National Gallery of Art (Scott 2244).

If this lovely souvenir invitation with first-day-canceled-Woodcarved Figurines stamps sets off alarm bells, there is a good reason.

This stamp was issued Oct. 24, 1986, in Washington, D.C. while the stamps on the card are the 22¢ Woodcarved Figurines (2240-2243) also issued in Washington, but 24 days earlier on Oct. 1.

Part of the American Folk Art series, these stamps were issued in a block with the four designs se-tenant (side-by-side). Clockwise from upper left on the card, they show American highlander, cigar store Indian, ship figurehead, and nautical wood-carved figures.

Artistic license reared its' head with the last figure. The model from which the stamp was designed stood in front of the shop of James Fales of New Bedford, Mass., some time during the 19th century. In the original, he was a right-handed sextant user.

The United States Postal Service turned him into a left-handed sailor so that all figures on the block would face inward (as they are shown on the invitation card).

This 22¢ Christmas issue showing Perugino's Madonna is the stamp that belongs with invitation card bearing the Woodcarved Figurines stamps.

Early Christmas reminders

The shadow of Christmas seems to lengthen every year, and nowhere does it appear earlier than with the U.S. Postal Service injunction in the form of a cancellation that instructs "Please mail early for Christmas."

In the U.S. Stamp Notes column in the Jan. 2, 2017, issue of *Linn's*, I showed an Aug. 29 (1998) cancellation with this message from Pittsburgh, Pa., and invited *Linn's* readers to find an earlier example.

Jerry Belber of Brimfield, Mass., reported the new record holder — a cover canceled in Springfield, Mass., in 1992 with the date of July 13.

Can anyone come up with a cancellation even earlier in the year? If so, please contact me, John Hotchner, by mail at Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041-0125, or by email at jmhstamp@verizon.net.

Submitted by Jerry Belber, this cancellation is dated July 13, 1992. This is the current record holder for the earliest month and day in which the United States Postal Service began to press for early mailing of Christmas mail.

Rockefeller center tree

The National Christmas Tree in Washington, D.C., is one of the best known annual decorated symbol of the season. It was even featured on the 1963 5¢ Christmas stamp with a backdrop of the White House (Scott 1240).

Next in line in for pride of place in the national consciousness would probably be the Christmas tree at the seasonal ice rink at Rockefeller Center in New York City. Having waited in line for half an hour to see it, I would say it is an equally popular attraction.

I recently found in my files a photograph that I was given while working in New York in 1991. It portrays the informal start of the Rockefeller Center tradition in 1931 when workmen involved in the construction of the center on the 5th Avenue site placed a small tree, complete with tinsel and gaily colored ornaments in the area that would eventually be the British Empire Building.

In the photo, the workmen are lined up to receive their pay on Christmas Eve.

To place the photo in philatelic context, shown nearby is a Christmas Day, 1931, cancellation of a stamp and 1931 Christmas seal aboard the United States Navy destroyer *USS Perry*.

The 1963 5¢ Christmas stamp.

Snapped in 1931, this photograph shows the informal Christmas tree put up by the construction workers at the Rockefeller Center building site in New York.

Christmas 1931 was noted on the *USS Perry* by use of a "Merry Xmas" cancel.

In the intervening decades, the annual Rockefeller Center tree has reached new heights, and the setting for it is both beautiful and memorable. Wouldn't it make a lovely U.S. Christmas stamp some time in the future?

WWII patriotic covers

The more things change, the more they remain the same. On Dec. 25, 1943, the first of the two patriotic covers shown with this column was sent from Santa Claus, Ind., to an Army private first class stationed at Fort Custer, Mich.

The cachet, "Our Boys in the Service are doing a lot to give us all a Merry Christmas," is equally true today, nearly 75 years after this cover was sent. Freedom isn't free, and many have paid and continue to pay the price.

The cachet on the second World War II patriotic cover has Santa Claus selling war bonds. This message isn't applicable today; saving bonds are still sold, but are not a primary method of financing military operations.

Continued on page 8

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The World War II cover (above) reminds us of the sacrifices of our troops. The other cover shows Santa Claus offering good wishes and selling war bonds.

Continued from page 6

Still, this cover provides evidence that Santa Claus does not just deliver the goods on Christmas Eve. He also is used as a fundraiser for many causes leading up to Christmas day. ■

UNPA Year of the Dog personalized pane

By Denise McCarty

The United Nations Postal Administration will celebrate the Chinese New Year with a Year of the Dog personalized pane to be issued Feb. 2 at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition in Sarasota, Fla.

The Sarasota Philatelic Club will present this stamp show Feb. 2-4 at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail.

The Year of the Dog pane is the ninth in UNPA's Chinese Lunar Calendar series.

The pane contains 10 $1.15 international-rate stamps for use from the UNPA post office at U.N. headquarters in New York City.

The stamp design shows the U.N. emblem in blue on a white background. The year date "2018" is in the upper-right corner.

Packaging designer Tiger Pan created the symbolic dog artwork that appears in the selvage of the pane and on the labels that are se-tenant (side-by-side) with the stamps.

The UNPA said that, according to the artist, "the inspiration of the animal stamp design arises from 'figure-ground reversal', which perfectly interprets the meanings of 'cooperation' and 'sharing.' It conveys a bright prospect of global harmony."

The selvage also includes the U.N. emblem in the upper right with the words "Chinese Lunar Calendar" and "Celebrating the Year of the Dog 2018" in English beside it. Sergio Baradat of the UNPA graphic design team designed the pane of 10 stamps.

The United Nations Postal Administration celebrates the Year of the Dog on a pane of stamps with se-tenant labels.

For ordering information, visit the website http://unstamps.un.org; e-mail unpanyinquiries@un.org; telephone 800-234-8672; fax 212-963-9854; or write to UNPA, Box 5900, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-5900. ■

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No gum
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FWT4..... ★ 50.00
No gum
FWT4..... ◉ 30.00
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FWT19-FWT23 VF..... ★ 300.00
No gum as issued
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2206a..... ★★ 16.00
2286a-2288a ★★ 15.00
2336a..... ★★ 15.00
2417f..... ★★ 13.25
2426c..... ★★ 15.00
2440c..... ★★ 15.00
2442e..... ★★ 13.00
SYRIA
20..... ★ 150.00
no gum
29 VF..... ★ 50.00
30 VF..... ★ 210.00
59a F+..... ★ 19.00
70..... ★ 95.00
no gum
79..... ★ 100.00
no gum
133-136... ★★ 100.00
135 hinged
133-136..... ★ 80.00
135 ..... ◉ 13.50
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C107-C108... ★ 14.00
C109-C113... ★ 18.75
C109-C113 ★★ 35.00
C114-C116 ★★ 28.00
C117-C123 ★★ 25.00
C134..... ★★ 10.50
C143a..... ◉ 42.50
C145a..... ★ 75.00
C156a..... ★★ 135.00
C255-C282 ★★ 12.50
C441a..... ★ 25.00
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Cherrystone's Feb. 6-7 auction offers rare inverts, worldwide material

By Michael Baadke

Cherrystone Philatelic Auctioneers in New York City will offer United States and worldwide stamps and postal history in four auction sessions over the course of two days, Feb. 6-7.

The sale of nearly 1,700 lots includes material from the United States, with some 136 single lots offering postage stamps, proofs, revenues, possessions and more, as well as additional collections and larger lots.

The British Commonwealth, Europe, Asia and South America are represented in the sale, along with featured material from Russia and the Soviet Union, China, France and colonies, and Germany and colonies.

The auction also presents a substantial number of errors, including many inverts from countries around the world.

One of these is the particularly rare 1866 10-kopeck brown and blue Coat of Arms stamp from Russia with center inverted (Scott 23b). The stamp is used on piece, tied with an 1875 Poretschie circular datestamp.

"There are ten recorded examples of this inverted center," Cherrystone notes, "two canceled in Poretschie (others in Kibarty and Kursk), most of the known copies are defective. A splendid showpiece and a great rarity."

The upcoming Cherrystone auction in New York City will offer this very rare 1866 Russian 10-kopeck stamp with inverted center on piece.

The stamp is described as having excellent color with a clear center. It is accompanied by a 2003 Mikulski expertization certificate.

This very stamp on piece was previously auctioned by Cherrystone in April 2010, where it sold for $126,500, including the 15 percent buyer's commission.

In the upcoming sale, the stamp is opening at $45,000.

While much of the Cherrystone sale consists of classic material, some modern items are also included, such as a Canadian error from the 1995 printing of the $2 Truro Provincial Normal School stamp (Scott 1376b). The engraved dark green inscription on this stamp is inverted, printed upside down in relation to the lithographed illustration.

Seventy examples of the error with inverted inscription are known.

The example on offer is described as never-hinged and grading very fine, and includes a 2015 Vincent Greene certificate.

The 2018 Scott *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* lists the stamp with a value of $8,500. The stamp is opening at $4,500 in the upcoming sale.

The auction opens Tuesday with U.S. stamp and postal history lots, starting with several used examples of the 1847 5¢ and 10¢ stamps (Scott 1-2). A horizontal pair of the 10¢ black George Washington is offered, struck with red grid cancels and sporting full margins on all sides.

Described as having vivid color and a fresh appearance, the pair opens with a $1,400 bid. Cherrystone cites a $2,350 Scott catalog value.

Canada's 1994 $2 Provincial Normal School stamp with inverted inscriptions is being offered by Cherrystone in the upcoming auction.

The auction will conclude with large lots and collections, including many country-specific collections and additional worldwide and topical groupings.

The Cherrystone auction is taking place at the firm's Manhattan galleries. The catalog can be viewed at www.cherrystoneauctions.com, with online bidding options available on the Cherrystone website and at Stamp Auction Network.

For additional information contact Cherrystone Auctions, 119 W. 57th St., Suite 316, New York, NY 10019. ■

Auction Announcement

February 23-24, 2018 Public Auction
Halifax, Nova Scotia

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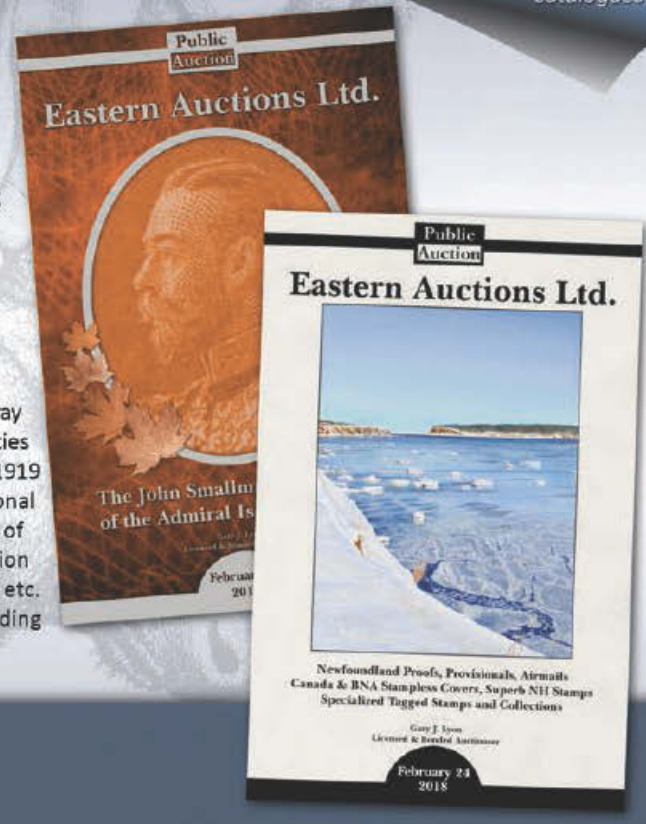

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Postal Service breaks its silence on criticism of Amazon shipping agreement

When Marvin T. Runyon was United States postmaster general, he banned his public relations spokesman from saying "no comment" to queries from the news media.

That tradition died when Runyon, whose wife was a public relations executive, left office in 1998.

It was nowhere more apparent than on Dec. 29, 2017, when Postmaster General Megan J. Brennan and her spokesmen left unanswered charges President Donald Trump made on Twitter about the U.S. Postal Service's package delivery contract with retailing giant Amazon.

Despite the reluctance of the USPS to tangle with one of the president's tweets, there was no reluctance by one of the agency's top public relations officials to challenge a lesser-known critic who also questioned the USPS package business.

Although the U.S. Postal Service did not respond to a Dec. 29, 2017, tweet from President Donald Trump disparaging a delivery deal between the USPS and retail giant Amazon, it did answer a very similar criticism from another source.

Ross Marchand, director of policy at the Taxpayers Protection Alliance, made his allegations in a Jan. 2 op-ed column for *The Hill*, a Washington, D.C., newspaper that typically focuses on Congress.

In it, Marchand claimed "the biggest and ugliest secret lies below the surface in the rampant postal cronyism that disproportionately benefits e-commerce giants such as Amazon."

Like Trump, Marchand claims Amazon is paying the Postal Service too little for package delivery services.

It was "a misinformed and misleading rant" complained David Partenheimer, the agency's public relations manager, in a Jan. 5 response.

Although it was not intended as a response to the president, Partenheimer's comments to *The Hill* easily could be taken to be what the Postal Service also could have said to Trump's demand that the USPS sharply increase its prices for Amazon's parcels.

"Some of our competitors in the package delivery space would dearly love for the Postal Service to aggressively raise our rates higher than the marketplace can bear," wrote Partenheimer.

That would help the competitors "so they could either charge more themselves or syphon away postal customers," he added.

The spokesman continued to praise the Postal Service's pricing policies, saying they were created to give "reliable, universally available and affordable delivery options" to postal customers.

"These strategies are applied fairly and reasonably and reflect the needs of the public and the marketplace," Partenheimer said.

"To suggest otherwise is a detriment to the reader and the consumer," he concluded.

That, perhaps, is a bit more pointed than Postmaster General Brennan wants to be with the president. But it was a strong defense of what has been one of the few bright parts of the Postal Service's revenue streams.

Brennan has long said that packages are a key element in the agency's efforts to deal with the erosion of first-class mail volume.

Letters, long the mainstay of USPS revenues, continue to decline. Parcels are seen as a way to save the organization.

That's a lesson that Brennan hopes the president — and Marchand — can understand. ■

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Canada 176 VF-XF NH PSE Cert. 1 ... $250.00
Nova Scotia 6b XF/Used Rich deep purple. New Greene Cert. ... $4,750.00
US 11X2 10¢ St. Louis Bear, 4 margin w/3 Iga. Tiny Thin. PFC says fairly cancelled but we believe it may be unused. Priced as used. ... $8,000.00
United States Sc. 1355a Walt Disney with ochre color omitted ... $300.00
Conf. States of America #13 F-VF/Used, 4-margin ... $250.00
Mexico registered Postal stationary w/US #632 single + 636 PB w/Fancy Cancel 6 x of small star in rectangle ... $100.00
Canal Zone 85a F-VF/LH Strip of 3 with "ZONE ZONE" ovpt on middle stamp ... $375.00
Guatemala C124a VF/Used inverted ovpt. ... $27.50
UN NY 473 XF Approved Die Proof in Block of 4—Stanla ... $475.00

ATLANTIC OCEAN — PRICE
Danish West Indies #14c F-VF/H inverted frame ... $60.00
Dominica 25-34 VF/LH ... $165.00
Falkland Islands 63-75 F-VF/LH ... $1,600.00
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Peru RA13 F-VF/NH Specimen Ovpt set of 5, normal + 4 unissued colors ... $59.50
Salvador C1a F+ Red Sanabria ovpt. ... $650.00
Uruguay 1521 Original Artwork in Full Color, Naval Conference ... $200.00
Argentina C35-37 Muestra-Specimen overprint ... $50.00
Ecuador C65-69 VF/NH—Sports-Boxing, Tennis, Track ... $65.00
Colombia C1 F-VF/LH –fresh PFC says dist OG—actually very nice OG. Only 40 exist. ... $2,600.00

EUROPE — PRICE
Austria #B110 MI555A XF/Used on piece with WIPA cancel ... $200.00
Austria Death Mask (B178 variety) LH (cv $2,100.00 as NH) ... $900.00
Austria-Lombardy-Venetia 1b, MI 1c F-VF/OG-LH –cut in at top (cv $11,250.00) ... $900.00
Belgium #39 VF/H Scarce Value ... $850.00
Belgium Q132-38 F-VF-XF/NH Extremely Rare Set NH!! ... $1,200.00
Bosnia & Herzegovina 128-40 var. VF/NH Rare Imperf set, 1 val slight Dist. Gum ... $265.00
Czechoslovakia B37-39 F-VF/H. each signed by experts—up to 5 diff. ... $900.00
Hungary #39a VF-XF/NH Scouts-wrong inscription ... $800.00
Great Britain 173 XF/LH APS Cert. ... $175.00
East Saxony 15N1 Var Red shade "Oil Color" withdrawn on day of issue. Signed ... $400.00
France 246 F-VF/NH signed on sheet margin Very fresh ... $950.00
Monaco #10 F-VF/Used signed Diena ... $900.00

AFRICA — PRICE
Ethiopia N1-7 VF/NH ... $150.00
Belgian Congo Q1 XF/Used S-o-N "BOMA" Mar 8 1893 cds as part of Parcel card ... $675.00
Cape of Good Hope 6a—F+ Used—dark green ... $95.00
Egypt M9 VF/Used 1935 Silver Jubilee—Scarce ... $150.00
Diego Suarez #8 XF/Used ... $75.00
French Offices in Zanzibar 1900 Paris Expo Printing on Bristol Paper. Complete as issued ... $350.00
Eritrea Q21A XF/NH Extraordinary Centering – Raybaudi Cert. Great Rarity ... $7,500.00
Somali Coast 177 var (Maury 169a, VF-XF/NH corner margin with vignette omitted ... $450.00

ASIA — PRICE
Iran 1059Ab F-VF Rare, inverted center pos. 22 ... $1,850.00
Japan 163-66 VF/LH ... $185.00
Israel 7-9 Tabs F-VF/Used –nearly cancelled, Ising cert. ... $1,750.00
Korea 132-73—VF/NH complete set ... $599.00
Macao 341-47 F-VF/NH ... $150.00
Hong Kong 144 F-VF/NH ... $200.00
Saudi Arabia L15f—XF-nearly H, double ovpt both inverted, signed ... $350.00
Syria 232-50 VF/LH ... $195.00
Mongolia 21a VF/Used on piece ... $250.00
Cambodia C19-23 Artist Die Proof Set of deluxe sheets of Hanuman Monkey Monuments ... $120.00

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Australia 55 VF/H ... $300.00
New Caledonia J1-J2 VF-XF/LH Fresh! ... $85.00
Cook Island 33a—F-VF/LH denomination omitted. Great Rarity of Cook Islands ... $2,100.00
Niue SG 70 var—block of 4 with left stamps narrow 1st "E" of George ... $375.00
Papua 94-109 VF/NH ... $485.00

PACIFIC OCEAN — PRICE
Hawaii 9 XF+/Used –Left Margin, Unused, Fresh ... $375.00
Guam #11 F-VF/Used Single Line "Guam" in purple ... $300.00
Marshall Islands 837 VF/NH Imperf Block of 4-To Mars & Beyond ... $55.00
New Britain 47 F-VF/Mint ... $325.00
Philippines 223A F-VF/LH Type II PFC Fresh ... $1,350.00

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PHILATELY - THE QUIET EXCITEMENT!
January 29, 2018

Marshall Islands Post renews relationship with IGPC effective Jan. 1

By Molly Goad

Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation (IGPC) has been appointed the exclusive philatelic agent of the Pacific Island nation of the Marshall Islands effective Jan. 1.

This is not the first time IGPC and Marshall Islands Post have teamed up; IGPC was the first international philatelic agency to represent this former United States administrated trust territory when it began issuing its own postage stamps as a republic on May 2, 1984.

IGPC continued as the philatelic agent for the Marshall Islands until Aug. 1, 1989, when Unicover Corp. of Cheyenne, Wyo., took over that role. On that date, the Marshall Islands issued a set of seven 25¢ booklet stamps (Scott 232-237) and a single $1 souvenir sheet (238) marking the 20th anniversary of the first manned moon landing.

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's engagement photos grace two new commemorative $7 stamps from Marshall Islands Post.

Located in Brooklyn, N.Y., IGPC is the world's largest philatelic agency, representing more than 70 international government postal authorities.

"Joining forces once again with the Marshall Islands is a very happy day for all of us," said Sam Malamud, IGPC president. "The history of our two organizations shares a common goal and a driving force to help build the international stamp collecting of the beautiful stamps of the Marshall Islands."

The announcement from IGPC reported that Marshall Islands Post will welcome 2018 with new stamp issues, including $7 commemorative stamps celebrating the recent royal engagement of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, and a sheet of four stamps to honor the Year of the Dog.

The stamps were designed by IGPC and printed by offset lithography. They are available for purchase at all post offices throughout the Marshall Islands and via IGPC. For more information, visit www.IGPC.com. ■

Jersey Post philately head explains incorrect flag as 'an artistic interpretation'

Continued from page 1

of the perfume shop. The same flag can be seen in the selvage on the right side of the sheet above the grocery.

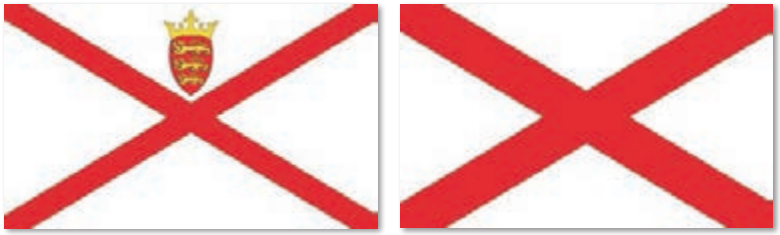
When I carefully examined these flags, I realized that they were wrong.

Shown on the left is the nearby illustration is Jersey's current flag. It features a diagonal red cross, called a saltire, and the badge of Jersey on a white field. The badge shows the three leopards of Normandy on a red shield, topped by a Plantagenet crown.

This flag was adopted June, 12, 1979; proclaimed by Queen Elizabeth II Dec. 10, 1980, for use in the Bailiwick of Jersey as the island's flag; and officially hoisted April 7, 1981.

The current flag is the first to be adopted officially. Unofficially, a plain red saltire had been used since at least the 1830s until April 6, 1981. It is pictured on the right.

The souvenir sheet in Jersey's Popular Culture: The 1960s issue shows illustrator Malcolm English's interpretation of shopping in Saint Helier in the 1960s. However, the Jersey flags pictured in the upper left and upper right weren't adopted until many years later.



An illustration of Jersey's first official flag, adopted in 1979 and officially hoisted in 1981, is shown on the left. The unofficial flag used before then is pictured on the right.

A second souvenir sheet in Jersey's Popular Culture: The 1960s issue includes six stamps se-tenant (side-by-side). These stamps also were produced separately in sheets of 10.

Because this souvenir sheet was issued to recall pop culture of the 1960s, a flag not adopted until 1979 and not officially hoisted until 1981, should not be pictured.

I sent an email to Melanie Gouzinis, the head of philately for Jersey Post, telling her that the Jersey flags shown on the souvenir sheet were incorrect. Gouzinis replied, "You are as observant as always!"

She also explained that the illustrations for the souvenir sheet was not intended to be 100-percent factually correct and called it an artistic interpretation.

Malcolm English also designed the 63-penny Music stamp in the set. This stamp was pictured in the aforementioned article in the Jan. 22 *Linn's*.

The five other stamps feature illustrations by Oscar Wilson, 49p Language; Billy Hilson, 73p Fashion; Bob Venables, 79p Events; Debbie Powell, 90p Food; and Aurelie Guillerey, £1.07 Leisure.

These six stamps were issued separately in sheets of 10 and in a single souvenir sheet with a time line at the bottom. The stamps are se-tenant (side-by-side) in this souvenir sheet.

Hat-Trick Design Ltd. designed the stamps and souvenir sheets. Joh. Enschede printed them by offset lithography.

Dingguo Dai is a philatelic columnist and retired chemist living in Arizona. He writes columns for the Chinese monthly Philately, Shanghai Philately, China Philately News, *and* Shengxiao (Chinese Lunar Zodiac) Philately. ■

Jacques C. Schiff Jr. (1931-2017)

By John M. Hotchner

Jacques C. Schiff Jr., a prominent stamp dealer, auctioneer and renowned error stamps expert, died Dec. 20, 2017.

Born in 1931 and raised in New York City, Mr. Schiff was an avid collector at a young age. He started collecting at age 5 at the urging of his grandmother, who was trying to engage an active boy.

His love of collecting also showed itself in another way. In his early teen years, young "Jack" was an autograph hound, connecting with hotels and venues to be one of the first to greet the stars. He garnered hundreds of autographs and met everyone from Greta Garbo to Babe Ruth.

But it was the stamps that took root. He worked at a local stamp store while in high school, and after four years in the military he turned collecting into a business, working out of his parents' New York City apartment.

He was fascinated by stamp freaks and errors, making them a mainstay of the auction house he founded in 1962.

By the time he closed his Ridgefield Park, N.J., offices in 2012, he had produced and presided over 337 unreserved public auctions, including 33 Elite sales.

Jacques C. Schiff Jr.

His shining moment was his key role in the discovery of the 1979 $1 Candleholder invert error (Scott 1610c). In 1986, Mr. Schiff purchased a partial pane of 85 error stamps, known today as the CIA invert, from employees of the Central Intelligence Agency, who had purchased the stamps at a post office.

The story was widely reported, with Mr. Schiff featured in *Time* magazine and other publications.

He was interviewed by Dan Rather during the media storm, and carried in his wallet a note written by an employee that read "Jack … hurry it up … you have channel 2 in conference room 1, channel 4 in conference room 2, other reporters waiting outside."

Mr. Schiff did not just sell stamps. He became a scholar in the stamp production field and had ongoing discussions with officials and printers at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the United States Postal Inspection Service, Scott catalog editors and well-known experts such as George Brett, all to establish the causes and bona fides of newly discovered U.S. errors, and to assure the catalog listing of them.

His contributions to the hobby and to the trade include service as chairman of the American Stamp Dealer Association's Qualified Auctioneers Committee, consultant to the Philatelic Foundation expertizing service, a major contributor of information and images to the Scott *Catalogue of Errors on U.S. Postage Stamps* by Stephen Datz, and as a long-running columnist on EFO philately in *Stamps* magazine and *Mekeel's*.

Life as he knew it changed irrevocably when he was hit by a car in June 2012. Serious injuries forced his retirement from auctioneering, but he maintained a small mail-order business until his recent passing, the result of injuries sustained in a fall. Survivors include two daughters and a son.

United States 1979 $1 Candleholder invert error stamp (Scott 1610c).

He was a lifelong fan of the New York Rangers of the National Hockey League and was the first president of the Rangers fan club.

Following his retirement, Mr. Schiff was inducted into the ASDA American Stamp Dealer hall of fame, and the Errors, Freaks and Oddities Collectors' Club hall of fame. ■

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New stamps feature Yoko Ono's artwork, Manx and French fashion

The words "Dream" and "Smile" are featured prominently on the first stamps designed by Yoko Ono, an artist, musician, activist and the widow of John Lennon.

The designs also represent the sun and the moon, respectively.

These Danish stamps were issued Jan. 2 in a souvenir sheet of two. According to Postnord, the souvenir sheet is an "extension" of the "Yoko Ono: Transmission" exhibition at the Kunsthal Charlottenborg art gallery in Copenhagen. The exhibition opened Oct. 12, 2017, and runs through Feb. 18.

Yoko Ono designed two stamps for Denmark in conjunction with her exhibition at a Copenhagen art gallery. The stamps were issued Jan. 2 in a souvenir sheet.

The gallery described the exhibition as exploring "the unique ways in which the artist transmits her profound messages of artistic philosophy and peace through numerous channels to reach people throughout the World."

Each stamp bears a denomination of 27 krone, paying the new rate for international letters up to 100 grams. The rate went into effect Jan. 1.

The stamps are se-tenant (side-by-side) in the sheet.

On the stamp on the left, "Dream" is written on a symbolic yellow moon. The word "moon" is at the top of the circle and "Y.O. [Yoko Ono] 2018" at the bottom. Similarly, the stamp on the right features "Smile" on an orange sun.

The phrases "I Love You" and "We'll Meet Again" are repeated in the background of the two stamp designs and in the selvage of the souvenir sheet.

According to the publicity image from Postnord, the last line in the selvage of the souvenir sheet also includes "Yoko Ono Spring 2018."

An announcement about the souvenir sheet on Ono's website http://imagineepeace.com included 10 questions with the artist about postage stamps and letters.

One question asked why she wanted to design stamps.

Ono replied: "Because I was always interested in stamps and how they looked, and whose face is on them. Usually it's somebody very famous."

She was also asked about the messages conveyed by the words on the stamps and in the selvage.

As for the "Dream, moon" and "Smile, sun" printed on the stamps, she said: "The message I want to give them is energy and power and this is the way I send a warm wish for it."

Ono explained that the phrases "We will meet again" and "I love you" referred to whenever she thought about a person "we are meeting in the air."

Isle of Man

An upcoming set of six stamps from the Isle of Man Post Office highlights the work of two Manx-born fashion designers, Justin Thornton and Thea Bregazzi.

They founded the fashion house Preen by Thornton Bregazzi in 1996. In the more than two decades since then, it "has evolved from a small boutique in London's Notting Hill to a globally loved brand stocked across 5 continents and an industry insider," according to the company's website.

The main part of each design depicts a model in a box wearing a Preen by Thornton Bregazzi dress.

Two of these dresses were made famous by the women who wore them.

The Isle of Man Post Office describes the nondenominated first-class stamp as featuring "the red Finella dress that was famously worn by the Duchess of Cambridge [Kate Middleton]."

According to a report by Caroline Leaper in the *Telegraph* newspaper, after first wearing the dress in September 2016, the duchess liked it so much that she also purchased it in black.

The stamp inscribed "EU" for the rate to European countries shows a citrus yellow power dress that was worn both by singer Amy Winehouse (1983-2001) and actress Gwyneth Paltrow.

One other stamp in the set is nondenominated. The initials "ROW" in the lower left of the design stand for "rest of the world." The set is completed by £1, £1.57 and £1.86 denominations.

The Isle of Man Post Office said of the designs: "The images for these stamps were commissioned exclusively for this collection. The model is situated in a box to give the impression that she is inside the stamp. The pictures were shot with a soft focus so that the final images appear almost feel painted. The choice of a red haired model was inspired by Thea's Bregazzi's trademark hair."

Cartor printed the stamps by offset in sheets of 12. They are scheduled to be issued Feb. 1.

The latest heart-shaped Love stamps from France, close-up shown below, also mark the 50th anniversary of the Parisian fashion house Sonia Rykiel.

France

France's La Poste is continuing its tradition of having famous fashion designers or houses create the illustrations for its heart-shaped Love stamps issued in time for use on Valentine mail.

The tradition began in 2000 with stamps designed by Yves Saint Laurent (Scott 2750-2753).

The most recent stamps, issued Jan. 12, were designed by the fashion house founded in 1968 by Sonia Rykiel (1930-2016).

The stamps also commemorate the 50th anniversary of this fashion house, and each design is inscribed "1968" at the bottom.

Sonia Rykiel's fashions are known both for their stripes, especially in red, black and white, and for the use of symbolic hearts. Julie de Libran, the artistic director of Sonia Rykiel, decided to pay tribute to these stripes and heart images, in creating the designs for the stamps.

The new heart-shaped €1.60 stamp includes black-and-white stripes on the stamp and red and black stripes surrounding it. Shown in the center of the stamps are lips with "S'aimer" (love) written on them.

On the 80¢ stamp, red silhouettes of a couple kissing are shown on a white background. The word "baiser" translates to kiss.

Philaposte printed the stamps in sheets of 30. The 80¢ also was issued in a sheet of five. ■

Six stamps from the Isle of Man will feature dresses from the fashion house Preen by Thornton Bregazzi. Thea Bregazzi and Justin Thornton, who were born and grew up on the Isle of Man, founded this fashion house in 1996.

American Philatelic Society opens registration for 2018 Summer Seminar

Registration is now open for the American Philatelic Society's 2018 Summer Seminar on Philately.

The annual gathering will take place June 24-29 at the American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, in picturesque Bellefonte, Pa.

Attendees can choose between 10 different two-day courses or three different four-day courses taught by experts addressing a range of general and specialized hobby subjects.

The four-day classes run Monday through Thursday and are on the subjects of postal history of Great Britain (1510-1850); detecting damaged, altered and repaired stamps; and stamp technology.

Two-day classes taking place Monday and Tuesday are Intermediate Exhibiting; The Prohibition Movement; Topical Collecting 101; Washington-Franklins, Part 1: Identification; and World War II Era Postal History.

Additional courses taking place Wednesday and Thursday are Advanced Exhibiting Seminar; Federal Taxation of Tobacco and Tobacco Products; Three Kings and Two Queens in New Zealand; Washington-Franklins of U.S. Postal Stationery; and Washington-Franklins, Part 2: Expertizing.

Revenue stamp expert Ron Lesher addresses seminar participants. The American Philatelic Society will host its 2018 Summer Seminar on Philately June 24-29 at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pa. Lesher will teach a class on federal taxation of tobacco and tobacco products.

Summer Seminar 2018 will also include a two-part course on collecting Washington-Franklins.

The APS explains that the seminar features "small group learning, daily general sessions and electives on a wide variety of topics, access to the American Philatelic Research Library, circuit sales, stamp and cover gift shop, and the expertizing reference collection, a line-up of evening activities, and seven meals, plus daily snacks."

The course catalog at https://stamps.org/Summer-Seminar provides full descriptions of each elective course.

Additional information on the website describes seminar costs, lodging and meal information

The APS advises that class sizes are limited and early registration is highly recommended.

For more information, visit online at stamps.org. ■

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2017 ISSUES

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Accession 65th Anniversary	M/S	$3.75
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Referendum 50th Anniversary	M/S	$5.00
Gibraltar Military Heritage 9v.	Set	$8.75
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1553-57	100th Battle of the Somme	$5.45
1558	Fifth Wedding Anniversary S/S	$2.50
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2010 Year Set	26 + 8 S/S	$60.00
2011 Year Set	48 + 6 S/S	$75.00
2012 Year Set	46 + 7 S/S	$75.00
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Author Dashiell Hammett: A dark life and a shining legacy of work

By Kathleen Wunderly

American popular culture is a crowded domain, and its people and parts are not recognized equally by everyone. *The Maltese Falcon*, however, in book and in movie form, definitely occupies a prime spot in our cultural awareness.

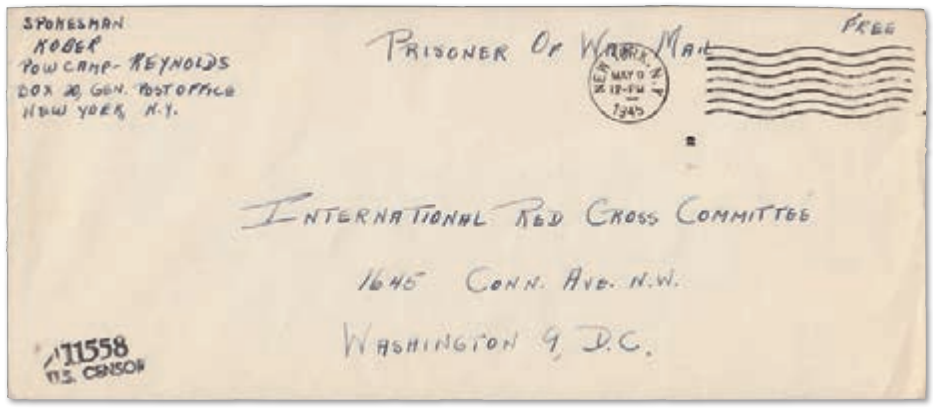
The life and works of Dashiell Hammett, author of *The Maltese Falcon*, are provocative and colorful, and some of their elements can be illustrated philatelically.

Samuel Dashiell Hammett was born in St. Mary's County, near Chesapeake Bay in southern Maryland, on May 27, 1894. He shared his grandfather's first name and his maternal grandmother's maiden name as his middle name. In its original French form the name was "De Chiell," and Samuel's mother insisted on pronouncing her son's name properly as "duh-SHEEL."

He called himself Sam until he began writing under the name Dashiell Hammett, which radio announcers and others Americanized to "DASH-ull." His friends generally called him "Dash," which fit the personality of the tall, handsome and reckless Hammett.

In 1900 his family moved to Philadelphia and then Baltimore, where Sam left school at age 13 to help support them. He went from job to job, working as a freight clerk for the B&O Railroad, an office boy for a stockbrokerage and an operative for the Pinkerton National Detective Agency. Hammett spent eight years with Pinkerton's between 1915-22, with time off for World War I service in the Army Motor Ambulance Corps. He spent most of his short Army career (less than a year) in the hospital, having contracted Spanish influenza and tuberculosis. Nonetheless, he earned several promotions and was a sergeant when medically discharged in 1919.

He was 6 feet, 1½ inches tall, weighed about 140 pounds, and was quite ill, but managed to convince Pinkerton's to rehire him. Six months later he was back in the hospital, the Army declared him 50 percent disabled, and he was able to work only part time for Pinkerton's.



Camp Shenango was renamed Camp Reynolds in September 1943 and then housed more than 1,800 German prisoners of war between April 4, 1944, and Jan. 15, 1946. This cover was postmarked in New York City on May 9, 1945.

A soldier's "free" letter from Shenango Personnel Replacement Depot (Camp Shenango) near Greenville, Pa., May 3, 1943. Serving in his second war, Dashiell Hammett spent 10 days at Camp Shenango in June and July 1943.

In late 1920 he entered a sanatorium in Tacoma, Wash., and stayed almost four months. Hammett used his enforced leisure for education, taking vocational classes and reading everything he could find. He had improved enough to return to Seattle in May.

He moved soon after to San Francisco, again worked for Pinkerton's, by this time with a wife and baby to support. He took courses at a local business college, possibly intending to become a newspaperman, but able to leave his bed only four or five hours a day.

Finally, in the fall of 1922, he found a niche as a writer, publishing a 113-word piece called "The Parthian Shot" in the October 1922 issue of *The Smart Set*, a literary magazine published in New York City and edited by H.L. Mencken. This work would have netted him about $1.25 at the journal's miserly rates of pay, but he had been published in a big-city magazine for sophisticated readers. Hammett was no longer just a useless invalid.

His health again deteriorated drastically, but Hammett continued to write, producing numerous short stories, many of them drawing on his Pinkerton's experience and featuring a detective. This did not pay the bills, his wife was expecting a second child, and he took a job as advertising manager for a jewelry company with stores in the San Francisco area. He worked 60 hours a week, leaving him hospitalized with a lung hemorrhage and hepatitis within six months.

Hammett began writing for advertising trade journals, but continued producing fiction, mostly for a pulp magazine called *Black Mask*. Almost all of his novels originally were serialized in magazines.

The Maltese Falcon was completed in fall 1928, appeared in *Black Mask* as a serial in 1929, and was published in book form on Feb. 14, 1930.

Reviewing the new book on Feb. 23, 1930, *The New York Times* commented that if the term "hard-boiled" had not already been coined, it would have been necessary now, to describe the characters in Hammett's book, "and the hardest boiled one of the lot is Sam Spade."

The Maltese Falcon regularly ranks high in "best ever" lists; the Mystery Writers of America's "100 top mystery novels of all time" has it at number two, after Arthur Conan Doyle's *Complete Sherlock Holmes*.

The Maltese Falcon quickly became a well-received movie, released in 1931 and starring Ricardo Cortez as Spade

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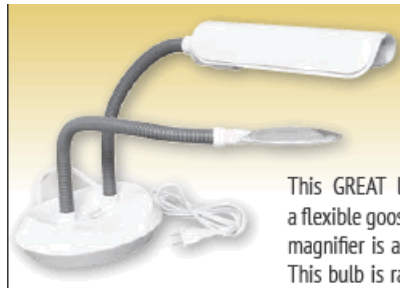

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and Bebe Daniels as femme fatale Brigid O'Shaughnessy.

The Thin Man, published in 1934, promptly was made into a film by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

A few years later, Hal Wallis at Warner Brothers decided to capitalize on Hammett's success. Warner still owned screen rights to the 1931 *The Maltese Falcon,* and Wallis exploited this by releasing a truly dreadful comedy version in 1936 called *Satan Met a Lady*.

In 1941, using a screenplay based directly on the dialogue from the book, John Huston directed another film version of *The Maltese Falcon*. The studio wanted George Raft as Spade and Olivia de Havilland as Brigid, but ended up with Humphrey Bogart and Mary Astor.

Nominated for three Academy Awards (best picture, best supporting actor for Sidney Greenstreet, and best screenplay), Huston's effort is considered the first major film noir and one of the greatest movies ever made. Even its props are esteemed. What was described as the actual black falcon statue used in the film was sold for $4.1 million on Nov. 25, 2013, by Bonhams Auction House to Las Vegas casino billionaire Steve Wynn.

Enjoying increased prosperity and popularity in the 1930s, Hammett still pursued his lifelong beliefs in progressive social causes, especially anti-fascism. He joined the Communist Party in 1937 in the belief that its political agenda was most closely aligned with his own beliefs, especially the need to fight anti-Semitism, fascism and the Nazis.

After the Pearl Harbor attack, Hammett — an aging disabled veteran with tuberculosis — wanted to join the physical battle against fascism, and tried to enlist early in 1942, at the age of 47.

Quickly rejected, he began teaching an intensive course at a writers' school in New York on techniques for producing government propaganda.

The Army relaxed its standards, and Hammett went to an induction center in New York City on Sept. 17, 1942, where the 48-year-old was x-rayed and his TB was shown to be arrested. He was too thin and had terrible teeth, but the Army accepted him.

"This is the happiest day of my life," he said.

Hammett desperately wanted to go overseas, but was assigned to the First Signal Training Battalion at Fort Monmouth, N.J. He had enlisted under his full name and called himself Sam, but was soon noticed as being the author of *The Thin Man*.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, which had kept an eye on him, wrote to the Military Intelligence Service of the War Department on Oct. 6, 1942, to warn that it was believed that Dashiell Hammett had enlisted and he "has been reported to this Bureau as being a Communist Party sympathizer."

Col. John T. Bissell of the MIS replied on Oct. 11 that the War Department files did not indicate that Hammett was "a member of the military establishment or a civilian employee" of the War Department, so "no investigation of this person is contemplated."

Sam Hammett, also known as "Pop" to his young fellow soldiers, safely remained in the Army. His company commander was among those who asked for an autograph.

In May 1943, still in New Jersey, he was promoted to corporal and chose to have all his teeth removed, after being told he had no chance of going overseas with his dental problems. In late June, he was transferred to Camp Shenango near Greenville in northwestern Pennsylvania.

A soldier's letter mailed from APO 980, Adak Island, in February 1944. Dashiell Hammett was stationed on Adak from August 1943 until April 1945.

The 3,300-acre Army facility was officially the Shenango Personnel Replacement Depot, and about a million troops passed though on their way to assignments in World War II. The name was changed to Camp Reynolds on Sept. 21, 1943, and it was a prisoner-of-war camp from 1944-46, housing more than 1,800 German POWs.

Hammett spent about 10 days at Shenango and then went to Fort Lawton, near Seattle, on July 9, 1943. This was a military embarkation port for the Pacific theater.

Was he finally to go overseas?

Well, sort of. Hammett was assigned to the 14th Signal Service Co., with headquarters at Fort Randall, Alaska Territory.

On July 31, he left Seattle for Umnak, a volcanic island in the Aleutians, but was transferred soon after to Adak, another Aleutian outpost.

Adak Island has persistently overcast skies, about 263 rainy days per year, and high winds sometimes exceeding 120 miles per hour.

Quonset huts on the barren tundra housed the soldiers. Hammett wrote to his friend and lover, playwright Lillian Hellman, from APO 980, Adak, saying that he loved Alaska, missed the sight of trees, but found the remote life oddly calming. He gained some weight and strength.

Hammett and six other soldiers launched a daily camp newspaper of four to six mimeographed pages called *The Adakian*, and with Cpl. Robert Colodny (a wounded veteran of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in the Spanish Civil War), wrote a 24-page illustrated booklet called *The Battle of the Aleutians: A Graphic History, 1942-1943*.

The Aleutian Islands campaign of June 3, 1942, to Aug. 15, 1943 was a U.S. military effort to rout Japanese forces seeking to control the Aleutians and block a possible U.S. attack across the northern Pacific. The United

Continued on page 18

Adak Island in the Aleutians, Alaska Territory, had a United States military base in World War II. APO 980 was the Army Post Office for Headquarters, Eleventh Air Force, in use from Aug. 3, 1942, to July 8, 1950. This post office photo is circa 1943, provided courtesy of Paul E. Petosky.

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Continued from page 17

States, in turn, feared that Japan would use the islands as a launch point for aerial attacks on the West Coast. Japan finally withdrew after a three-week U.S. barrage.

A 29¢ stamp in the U.S. miniature sheet issued Aug. 17, 1972, for "World War II: Into the Battle, 1942" (Scott 2697e), notes Japan's invasion of the Aleutian Islands.

Dominica $1 Humphrey Bogart as Sam Spade stamp (Scott 1845a) from 1996 with a dark falcon background.

In April 1945 Hammett was transferred from Adak to Fort Richardson, near Anchorage, and then to Fort Dix, N.J. On Sept. 6, 1945, 51-year-old Hammett was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant and a good conduct medal.

Hammett, as always in poor health, had royalties coming in and did some teaching, but focused on political activism, becoming president of the Civil Rights Congress and a trustee of its bail fund, used for the release of defendants arrested for political reasons.

This role led to national attention for Hammett in 1949, when four men convicted under the Smith Act for criminal conspiracy "to teach and advocate the overthrow of the United States government by force and violence" but free on bail funded by Civil Rights Congress, fled rather than surrender to federal agents.

Hammett and the other Civil Rights Congress trustees were subpoenaed to testify on the fugitives' whereabouts. He refused to reply to questioning, was convicted of contempt of court and served six months in federal prison in Kentucky.

Hammett was investigated by the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1953. There was no official action from that body, but he was blacklisted in Hollywood. He died in New York City on Jan. 10, 1961, of recently diagnosed lung cancer.

John Huston, who worked on the screenplay and directed the 1941 film version of *The Maltese Falcon*, was honored on a U.S. forever stamp issued May 23, 2012. The limited edition first-day cover is by Pugh Cachets.

Though plagued by ill health all his life, he had managed to live to age 66½. An honorably discharged veteran of two wars, he was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Samuel Dashiell Hammett is widely regarded as one of the finest mystery writers of all time, and the *New York Times* obituary of Jan. 11, 1961, referred to him as "the dean of the so-called 'hard-boiled school' of detective fiction."

Various postal issues have celebrated Humphrey Bogart and/or *The Maltese Falcon*. Dominica recalled legendary sleuths of the silver screen in 1996, picturing Humphrey Bogart as Sam Spade on a $1 stamp with a dark falcon in the background (Scott 1845a).

For Interpol's 50th anniversary, Nicaragua issued a dozen airmail stamps in 1972 for famous fictional detectives. The 15-centavo stamp shows Humphrey Bogart as Sam Spade in profile against a background of a falcon statue (Scott C803). A book in the illustration reads "D. Hammett" along the spine.

A 32¢ United States stamp issued in the Legends of Hollywood series in 1997 (Scott 3152) honors Humphrey Bogart (1899-1957). The U.S. Postal Service's news release called Bogart "renowned for his roles in *The Maltese Falcon* and *Casablanca*," and the right side of the stamp pane depicts Bogart in his *Casablanca* role.

A block of four U.S. forever stamps of Great Film Directors issued May 23, 2012, includes John Huston (Scott 4671). The USPS announcement said, "The Maltese Falcon inspired the background art" for the Huston issue: a man in a fedora, holding a falcon statue.

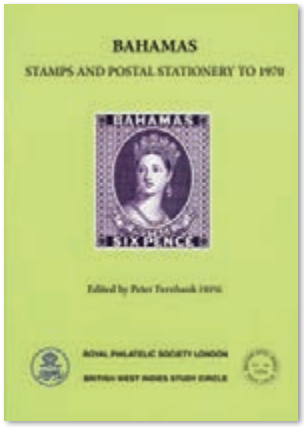
A troubled but brilliant man, with strong convictions but seemingly little willpower against addictive behaviors, Dashiell Hammett battled against lifelong physical problems to serve his country and to produce innovative writings (and media spinoffs) that have enthralled audiences worldwide for decades. Perhaps one day he will have his own U.S. stamp. ■

NEW BOOKS

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue Brunei, Malaysia, & Singapore, fifth edition, 2017, 256 pages, color illustrations, softcover. Lists and values stamps, postage stamp booklets, postal fiscals, and computer-vended postage of Brunei, Straits Settlements, Penang, Malaya, Federated Malaya States, Malaysia, Malaysian States, Japanese Occupation, Thai Occupation, Labuan, Sabah, North Borneo, British North Borneo Company, Sarawak, and Singapore. The publisher notes that a number of new plate, watermark and other varieties have been added to the pre-1970s issues. Price £26.95 plus postage, from the publisher, Stanley Gibbons, 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH, England.

Space Weather: A Philatelic Journey handbook by Garry Toth and Don Hillger, 2017, 206 pages, CD only with color illustrations. Preorders will be taken for a potential printed book version until March 31. The text discusses the "relationship between solar events and their impact on space and Earth through text, postage stamp and cover images." Includes a checklist of stamps and covers. Price for CD is $35 ($30 American Topical Association member price) plus $1.50 postage to U.S. and Canada addresses, $3 worldwide from American Topical Association, Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008, americantopical@msn.com.

Bahamas: Stamps and Postal Stationery to 1970, 2017, 344 pages, color illustrations, hardcover. Edited by Peter Fernbank and published by the Royal Philatelic Society London and the British West Indies Study Circle. According to the publishers, "This new book reflects the extensive latest research into the stamps and postal stationery of the Bahamas up to 1970. It is a substantial improvement upon the 1950 publication by Harold Gisburn, and replaces it as the standard reference work on the subject." A large number of Chalon head series illustrations from the Bradbury collection are included. Additionally, varieties, specimens, artwork and much more are featured for each of the 12 chapters in the book. Price £40 plus postage from the Royal Philatelic Society London, 41 Devonshire Place, London, W1G 6JY, United Kingdom.



The Mysterious Philippe de Ferrari by Wolfgang Maassen, 398 pages, color illustrations, hardcover. The book explores the life and stamps of philanthropist and famous stamp collector Count Philipp von Ferrari. The work delves deeply into Ferrari's life and uncovers new information. The book also pictures many of the significant philatelic rarities that passed through his hands. Available for €60 from the Club de Monte-Carlo, c/o Musee des Timbres et des Monnaies, Terrasses de Fontvieille, MC-98000 Monaco.

New books may be sent for consideration of review via mail to Linn's Editor, Box 4129, Sidney, OH 45365. Book reviews will be published on a space available basis. ■

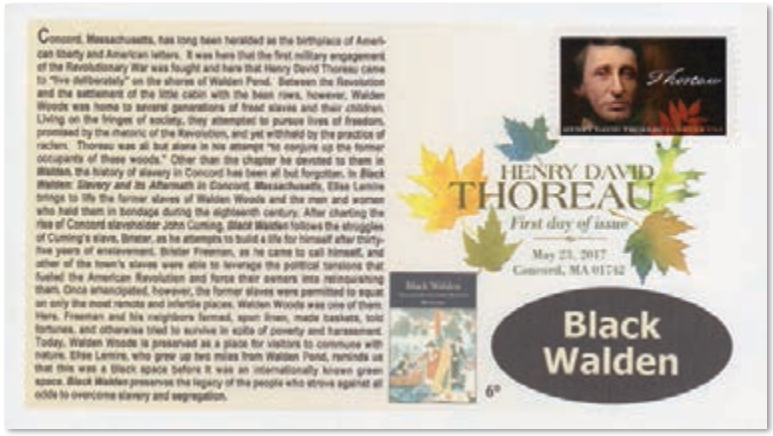
Cachetmaker Don Neal celebrates 'six degrees of separation' connection

"We're all connected," was the theme of a telephone company ad many years ago. Don Neal's 6° (Six Degrees) Cachets are striving to prove it.

"There's a famous, I believe Hungarian, philosopher who came up with the premise of six degrees of separation, that everybody on the planet is connected to someone else within six steps," Neal told me.

The concept was first described by Hungarian author Frigyes Karinthy in a short story called *Chains* or *Chain-Links* in 1929, and popularized in the play *Six Degrees of Separation* by John Guare in 1990.

The play was nominated for both the Pulitzer prize for drama and the Tony award for best play.



The "6°" symbol to the left of the oval "Black Walden" is the name of Don Neal's cachet line. It refers to the "six degrees of separation" theory behind his line of first-day covers.

"I was convinced I could connect black heritage, black culture, black history to any stamp, other than a black stamp, within six steps," Neal said, and so far, he has, for nearly every United States issue since 2008.

Neal is the secretary of ESPER, the Ebony Society for Philatelic Reflections and Experiences, and editor of ESPER's quarterly newsletter, *Reflections*.

The first 6° cacheted cover was for Charles W. Chesnutt, author, lawyer and political activist, honored on Jan. 31, 2008, on a 41¢ stamp as part of the Black Heritage commemorative series (Scott 4222).

Some of the connections have surprised Neal, such as world-renowned astronomer Edwin Hubble (Scott 4226) and African-American John Arthur "Jack" Johnson, the first black world heavyweight champion boxer, besides the fact that both have ties to Chicago, Ill.

In 1898, the infant Hubble and his family moved from Missouri to the Chicago area, and he eventually pursued his education in physics and astronomy at the University of Chicago.

Johnson's third professional fight, his first outside Texas, took place in Chicago in 1899. He boxed there again in 1904 and 1932 and is buried there.

"[Hubble] was going to be a professional boxer, that was one of his ambitions, and rather than see stars in the ring, he rather would see stars in the sky," Neal said.

Some of the connections were not as much fun, such as the Flags of Our Nation series of 60 stamps issued from 2008-11 (Scott 4273-4332). Neal connected each stamp not only to an African-American male, but also to an African-American female.

"East Coast states weren't so difficult, because there was an African-American presence," the cachetmaker said, "but as you started to move west, trying to find prominent African-Americans from Utah and Wyoming and Montana became a real challenge."

Other connections were much easier, such as those for Father Theodore Hesburgh, honored on a forever stamp in 2017 (Scott 5241-5242).

"He was a civil rights leader," Neal said, and someone suggested using a photo of the long-time Notre Dame president with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. That 6° cachet talks about Hesburgh's contributions to the civil rights movement.

Neal has been pleased with the reception for 6° Cachets.

"I started doing the covers for myself, because at many stamp shows, I wasn't able to find the covers, or the subjects on covers that I wanted to collect," he said. "The topic is very finite and very specific."

Other collectors saw his FDCs and wanted to know where he'd gotten them. He started getting requests, and the cachet line grew.

Neal added, "Sometimes people come up to me, knowing what I do, offer me suggestions for my connections."

Neal typically produces 20 to 25 covers for an issue, initially because that was how many stamps were on a pane, but he's sticking to that quantity even with issues that come on 12-stamp and 16-stamp panes.

"I don't need a lot of inventory," he said.

Given his current business, Neal's background is not surprising.

"I'm a retired educator," he said. "I was a high school English teacher for 33 years."

He has been retired for 12 years and his first topical collecting interest was literature, "from Longfellow to Steinbeck."

He still collects FDCs related to that subject and is "just as excited when one of those stamps comes out." This made it especially important for him to find a connection for last year's Henry David Thoreau forever stamp (Scott 5202).

It took him months, and extra research, but the result was a cacheted FDC with detailed text relating to Thoreau's mention of freed black slaves who had occupied Walden Woods and to a 2009 book titled *Black Walden: Slavery and Its Aftermath in Concord, Massachusetts* by Elise Lemire.

The cachetmaker sums up, "It's been a lot of fun."

Neal admits to another reason in addition to the connections aspect for calling his cachet line 6°: The name usually gets him high up in alphabetical listings, because numbers are generally listed before letters.

In the American First Day Cover Society's *AFDCS Directory of Current Cachetmakers*, his is the second listing, after 3-DLaz.

You can contact Neal at Box 5245, Somerset, NJ 08875-5245; or email esperdon@verizon.net.

The *AFDCS Directory of Current Cachetmakers* can be downloaded as a free pdf at www.afdcs.org. There's a button for it on the home page. The direct link is www.afdcs.org/resources/CM_Directory_Nov2017.pdf. ■

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U.S. postal rate changes in 1968 led to unexpected stamp varieties

By Ronald Blanks

United States domestic postal rates were set to perfunctorily rise in step with inflation on Jan. 21, an increase of nearly 2 percent, which works out to a mere 1¢ more for domestic letters and postcards.

Thanks to the existence of forever stamps, there is no fanfare, there are no new make-up-rate stamps, and we didn't see crowds in post offices clamoring for the new denominations.

But 50 years ago, a major rate period began on Jan. 7, 1968, in a very different manner.

United States new issues of late December 1967 through January 1968 yielded the usual first-day covers, panes, plate blocks and singles sought by collectors of the day. Meanwhile, a few new-issue timing quirks allowed possible postal-use covers that are scarce or rare today.

The mailing needs for new postage led to two surprising stamp varieties that came to light months later, collectible today as artifacts tied to the rate change.

But first, some background.

The 1961 United States 1¢ green Andrew Jackson definitive stamps from plate 29184 and others were initially printed as phosphor-tagged stamps. The plates were later reused to print untagged stamps for the Jan. 7, 1968, postage rate change.

The per-ounce rate for first-class domestic letters rose from 5¢ to 6¢ with that 1968 rate change, while most other rates also changed. First-class postcards went from 4¢ to 5¢. Percentagewise, this 1¢ letter hike was a 20 percent increase, or 10 times the 2018 rise. Every cent counted.

Whatever assortment of new stamps and postal stationery the Post Office Department hoped to have stocked in post offices had to be produced on short notice. Authorizing legislation was enacted Dec. 16, 1967, only three weeks before the rates took effect.

A tagged 12¢ Benjamin Harrison stamp from the Liberty series joins a 6¢ Flag on a 6¢ stamped envelope mailed Aug. 21, 1968, as a 4-ounce letter. A new tagged printing of the 12¢ stamp was placed on sale just four months before its replacement by the 12¢ Henry Ford Prominent Americans stamp on July 30, 1968. The close-up photo was taken under shortwave ultraviolet light.

Rate-change use of non-denominated postage was still over a decade away. The 1975 Christmas stamps (Scott 1579-1580B) issued three years before that event were the first U.S. nondenominated stamps but were assigned the existing 10¢ letter rate.

The USPOD risked ordering some new stamps months before the rates became law. The U.S. Treasury Department's Bureau of Engraving and Printing was asked to begin work for the rate most confidently expected, the 6¢ letter, in April 1967. But uncertainty over raising the 8¢ airmail rate to 10¢ led to initial work as late as October for 9¢ stamps that were never printed.

To supply rate-change stamps, the USPOD mostly expanded the Prominent Americans series of definitive stamps launched in late 1965. It issued the 6¢ gray brown Franklin D. Roosevelt stamp in booklet and coil formats (Scott 1284b and 1298, respectively) on Dec. 28, 1967. Panes of 100 had been issued in 1966.

The new booklet panes alone were made available to collectors when they were issued, but since four panes of eight 6¢ stamps would join a pane of eight of a yet-to-be-issued stamp in over-the-counter booklets, the public could not buy the $2 booklets (Scott BK116) until seven days into the new rate period, on Saturday, Jan. 13, 1968.

The new stamp was the 1¢ green Thomas Jefferson, a new design in the Prominent Americans series. Panes of 100, booklet panes of eight and coils were issued Friday, Jan. 12, 1968, in Jeffersonville, Ind. (Scott 1278, 1278a, 1299). Sales in the rest of the nation's post offices were not permitted until the next day.

Someone wanting a few 6¢ stamps and hoping to avoid crowds at the post office might have been able to find a vending machine stocked with a different 6¢ Roosevelt booklet pane, consisting of five stamps plus a slogan label (Scott 1284c).

But that was not until Tuesday, Jan. 9, which was the day after another first day of issue in Buffalo, N.Y., this time for the 2¢ Frank Lloyd Wright booklet pane of five with label (Scott 1280a). This 2¢ design for the Prominent Americans series was first issued in 1966 in panes of 100.

Sold only in machines, the new $1 booklets (Scott BK117) held three panes of the 6¢ stamp plus one pane of the 2¢.

With most new 6¢ stamps issued before the new year began, and new 10¢ airmail stamps available in the next week, these USPOD supplies would almost meet rate-change demands save for one item: 1¢ stamps for make-up postage.

Once the public learned about the new rates, clamor for 1¢ stamps would arise before Saturday, Jan. 13, sales of the new 1¢ Jefferson stamps.

The then-current 1¢ stamp, the 1¢ green Andrew Jackson issued in 1963 in plain panes of 100 and in coils (Scott 1209 and 1225) was supplied phosphor-tagged as of July 6, 1966 (1209a, 1225a).

The invisible taggant triggered upgraded postal machinery to face and cancel collected mail. Since mid-1966, the BEP was tagging regular stamps below 20¢ as they came up for press runs, except for those with fractional denominations.

The U.S. 6¢ gray brown Franklin D. Roosevelt booklet and coil stamps were issued Dec. 28, 1967, for the new 1968 letter rate, but booklets with the booklet panes were not placed on sale until Jan. 13, 1968, seven days into the rate era.

The BEP was hard-pressed to fill the Post Office Department's production orders for the new stamps. In the push to load up on 1¢ stocks, the coating of stamps with taggant was extra work that later came under scrutiny. By January 1968 the USPOD and the BEP agreed on an expeditious move to suspend some tagging.

The last prepared 1¢ Jack-

The 1¢ green Thomas Jefferson sheet, booklet and coil stamps were issued Jan. 12, 1968, and would also be used with 5¢ stamps to fulfill the new 6¢ rate.

son plates had already been to press for tagged sheets when the USPOD allowed the BEP to forego tagging the remaining print runs of 1¢ sheets. These last four plates were part of the final printings.

Untagged 1¢ Jackson plate numbers 29184, 29185, 29389 and 29390 on sheet margins are collectible as artifacts of this decision, an exclusive group in which all untagged printings followed tagged ones. A make-up rate example with an untagged 1¢, but without a number attached, is shown nearby.

These plate numbers didn't get attention until the May 1968 issue of *The United States Specialist*, the monthly journal of the Bureau Issues Association, known today as the United States Stamp Society.

BEP Director James Conlon's update on phosphor tagging noted that the 1¢ Jackson printings "were intentionally issued untagged during the period of the postal rate increase to provide for maximum utilization of plates and press time."

The May *Specialist* also stated that as of March 25, 1968, the Liberty series 12¢ red Benjamin Harrison stamp (Scott 1045) had not been reprinted with phosphor tagging. It noted that the stamp was to be replaced in 1968 by the 12¢ black Henry Ford stamp, a new entry in the Prominent Americans series (1286A).

The significance of these stamps is that with the rate change, 12¢ was the new first-class 2-ounce letter rate. Not until 1975 would each additional ounce cost less than the first ounce, and most patrons were content to use a pair of letter-rate stamps to fulfill the 2-ounce rate.

Yet 50 years ago, as today, sufficient demand existed for a 2-ounce rate single stamp that the Post Office Department always wanted them in stock. The BEP actually certified the 12¢ Ford's first two plates on Dec. 19, 1967.

But an unintended result of the rate change was a depletion in 12¢ Harrison stamp stocks before the 12¢ Ford stamp could be issued on its scheduled July 30, 1968, release date.

When the BEP printed more 12¢ Harrison stamps (at the time the May issue of the *Specialist* was being prepared), it dutifully applied phosphor tagging.

On April 22, 1968, the USPOD announced the tagged variety (Scott 1045a) after the fact, stating the stamps would be placed on sale on May 6, 1968, at Washington's Philatelic Sales Unit. However, according to the August 1972 *Specialist*, three post offices are known to have sold them in April: Ashland, Ore. (April 15), Sidney, Ohio (April 20, covers known), and Baltimore, Md. (April 23 or 24, reports vary).

These two varieties that arose from 1968's postal rates, the later untagged 1¢ Jackson plate numbers and the tagged 12¢ Harrison, share a transient nature. Each was a brief placeholder for a stamp of a new series that replaced them. Album-page captions today of mint or used examples could testify to that hectic period 50 years ago.

In their transience, postal uses of these varieties can be challenging to document. One of the four untagged 1¢ Jackson margin numbers must be attached in a make-up use to show it came from the late printing; rare, but still possible.

And Liberty series aficionados seek a tagged 12¢ Harrison stamp on cover used before July 31. A great rarity would have a previously unknown postmark on or before the April selling dates previously listed.

An untagged 1¢ Jackson stamp was added to a tagged 5¢ George Washington booklet single on this cover mailed Jan. 20, 1968, two weeks after the 6¢ letter rate began. The enlargement is photographed under ultraviolet light. The last 1¢ Jackson stamps were purposely printed untagged, but a plate number must be attached to confirm the stamp is an example from the late printing.

The 2¢ Frank Lloyd Wright stamps were issued Jan. 8, 1968, in booklet panes of five with a label. They would join three panes of a new 6¢ Roosevelt booklet pane of five, also with label, in $1 vending booklets placed on sale Jan. 9, 1968.

Deserving mention are two other 1968 stamps that were somewhat unplanned but saw several years of intended sales.

The tagged 2¢ carmine rose Thomas Jefferson coil in the Liberty definitive series (Scott 1055b) was first placed on sale May 6, 1968, after the Disabled American Veterans requested 2¢ coils for its mailings. The DAV had used thousands of 1¢ coil rolls annually in the 1960s until realizing in the 6¢ era that 2¢ coil rolls would reduce the number of rolls handled by half.

The revised 6¢ Roosevelt coil in the Prominent Americans series, redesigned and perforated vertically (Scott 1305), was rushed to its release on Feb. 28, 1968.

The initial design with horizontal perforations had been issued exactly two months earlier. It drew complaints from first-class mailers that affixing machines placed its design sideways on mail.

As these examples attest, periods of rate changes can generate stamp varieties and narrow windows of postal uses. They offer challenges even decades later to extend collecting beyond major issues released for new rates.

Only the surface of the 1968 period was scratched here, and changes in mail categories beyond first-class have even more history to explore. ■

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Black Heritage series 41st stamp issued

Continued from page 1

"Lena Horne was a trailblazer in Hollywood for women of color and used her fame as an entertainer to become an important civil rights spokesperson," the U.S. Postal Service said in a press release issued Dec. 28.

Born Lena Mary Calhoun Horne on June 30, 1917, she performed as a chorus line dancer in Harlem's famed Cotton Club while in her teens, and in 1934 debuted on Broadway in *Dance With Your Gods*.

The pane of 20 Lena Horne stamps identifies the issue as the 41st in the Black Heritage series. Because of the Jan. 21 rate change, the individual stamps sell for 50¢ and the cost of the pane is $10.

Singing in nightclubs and touring with orchestras led by Noble Sissle and Charlie Barnet, her expressive jazz vocals caught the attention of record companies, and she was signed to appear in film musicals throughout the 1940s.

In 1943 she filmed *Stormy Weather* with Bill Robinson and Cab Calloway for 20th Century Fox. The title song by Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler would quickly become Horne's signature tune.

While continuing her recording career, Horne made her mark as a nightclub singer and popular television entertainer with an ever-expanding fan base.

During her career, she won three Grammy awards, and in 1981 she received a special Tony award for her successful one-woman Broadway musical revue, *Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music*. That same year, she also won the Drama Desk Award for outstanding actress in a musical.

During World War II, she entertained American troops but refused to perform for segregated audiences.

The Postal Service adds that after the war she worked on behalf of Japanese-Americans facing discriminatory housing policies.

"She worked with Eleanor Roosevelt in pressing for anti-lynching legislation," the Postal Service said. "In the 1960s, Horne continued her high-profile work for civil rights, performing at rallies in the South, supporting the work of the National Council for Negro Women, and participating in the 1963 March on Washington."

She was awarded the NAACP Spingarn Medal in 1983, cited as an "Artist humanitarian and living symbol of excellence." The following year she was a Kennedy Center Honors recipient.

President Barack Obama paid tribute to Horne following her death at age 92, saying "she worked tirelessly to further the cause of justice and equality."

The design of the Lena Horne stamp features a detail of a photograph taken by Christian Steiner in the 1980s. The original black-and-white photo was colorized by Kristen Monthei, with a background added "reminiscent of Horne's *Stormy Weather* album, with a few clouds to add texture and subtly make the album reference," according to the Postal Service.

In an earlier Postal Service project, Monthei had colorized the photograph of Ingrid Bergman on the 2015 forever stamp honoring the actress in the Legends of Hollywood commemorative series (Scott 5012).

USPS art director Ethel Kessler designed the Lena Horne stamp.

Two pictorial first-day cancels (one in black and another in color) show the name "Lena Horne" composed with decorative elements, including flowers on the color postmark.

Both will be offered on first-day covers created without cachets by the Postal Service. Requests for a single first-day cancel on a collector-prepared cover will receive the black cancel at no charge. Requests must be submitted before March 30.

First-day cancel ordering information for the new stamp can be found in the box on this page. ■

United States Black Heritage commemorative stamp series (1978-present)

Scott No.	Description	Issue date
1744	13¢ Harriet Tubman	Feb. 1, 1978
1771	15¢ Martin Luther King Jr.	Jan. 13, 1979
1804	15¢ Benjamin Banneker	Feb. 15, 1980
1875	15¢ Whitney Moore Young	Jan. 30, 1981
2016	20¢ Jackie Robinson	Aug. 2, 1982
2044	20¢ Scott Joplin	June 9, 1983
2073	20¢ Carter G. Woodson	Feb. 1, 1984
2137	22¢ Mary McLeod Bethune	March 5, 1985
2203	22¢ Sojourner Truth	Feb. 4, 1986
2249	22¢ Jean B. Pointe du Sable	Feb. 20, 1987
2371	22¢ James Weldon Johnson	Feb. 2, 1988
2402	25¢ A. Philip Randolph	Feb. 3, 1989
2442	25¢ Ida B. Wells	Feb. 1, 1990
2567	29¢ Jan E. Matzeliger	Sept. 15, 1991
2617	29¢ W.E.B. Du Bois	Jan. 31, 1992
2746	29¢ Percy Lavon Julian	Jan. 29, 1993
2816	29¢ Allison Davis	Feb. 1, 1994
2956	32¢ Bessie Coleman	April 27, 1995
3058	32¢ Ernest E. Just	Feb. 1, 1996
3121	32¢ Benjamin O. Davis Sr.	Jan. 28, 1997
3181	32¢ Madam C.J. Walker	Jan. 28, 1998
3273	33¢ Malcolm X	Jan. 20, 1999
3371	33¢ Patricia Roberts Harris	Jan. 27, 2000
3501	34¢ Roy Wilkins	Jan. 24, 2001
3557	34¢ Langston Hughes	Feb. 1, 2002
3746	37¢ Thurgood Marshall	Jan. 7, 2003
3834	37¢ Paul Robeson	Jan. 20, 2004
3896	37¢ Marian Anderson	Jan. 27, 2005
3996	39¢ Hattie McDaniel	Jan. 25, 2006
4120	39¢ Ella Fitzgerald	Jan. 10, 2007
4222	41¢ Charles W. Chesnutt	Jan. 31, 2008
4408	44¢ Anna Julia Cooper	June 11, 2009
4464	44¢ Oscar Micheaux	June 22, 2010
4565	forever (44¢) Barbara Jordan	Sept. 16, 2011
4624	forever (45¢) John H. Johnson	Jan. 31, 2012
4803	forever (46¢) Althea Gibson	Aug. 23, 2013
4856	forever (49¢) Shirley Chisholm	Jan. 31, 2014
4958	forever (49¢) Robert Robinson Taylor	Feb. 12, 2015
5056	forever (49¢) Richard Allen	Feb. 2, 2016
5171	forever (49¢) Dorothy Height	Feb. 1, 2017
to come	forever (50¢) Lena Horne	Jan. 30, 2018

First-day cancels for the new stamp feature Lena Horne's name surrounded by decorative elements.

Nondenominated (50¢) Lena Horne forever stamp
First-day cancel ordering information

Standard ordering instructions apply. Collectors requesting first-day cancels are encouraged to purchase their own stamps and affix them to envelopes. The first-day cover envelopes should be addressed for return (a removable label may be used), and mailed in a larger envelope addressed to FDOI — Lena Horne Stamp, USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services, 8300 NE Underground Drive, Suite 300, Kansas City, MO 64144-9900.

Requests for first-day cancels must be postmarked by March 30.

The Postal Service's uncacheted first-day cover for the Lena Horne stamp is USPS item No. 476916 at 94¢. USPS order numbers for stamps and FDCs also appear in *Linn's* 2018 U.S. Stamp Program on page 23.

U.S. Stamp Program online

Linn's *subscribers can always view the complete U.S. stamp programs for 2017 and previous years online by registering at www.linns.com and clicking on this box in* Linn's *digital edition.*

The 2018 U.S. stamp program is tentative. Stamp subjects, issue dates, formats and locations might change. The United States Postal Service will increase the cost of a forever stamp by 1¢, to 50¢, effective Jan. 21.

Jan. 11, Year of the Dog. One (49¢) forever commemorative stamp, pane of 12; BCA; Lunar New Year series; Honolulu, HI 96820; *Linn's*, Jan. 8, page 14; USPS item No. 564804 (pane of 12), 564816 (FDC at 93¢), 564821 (color postmark FDC at $1.64), 564806 (press sheet at $35.28).

Jan. 18, Love Flourishes. One (49¢) forever special stamp, pane of 20; BCA; Phoenix, AZ 85026; *Linn's*, Jan. 22, page 19. USPS item No. 564704 (pane of 20); 564716 (FDC at 93¢), 564721 (color postmark FDC at $1.64), 564706 (press sheet at $78.40).

Jan. 19, Lemon. One 2¢ definitive stamp, coil of 10,000; BCA; Kenner, LA 70062; Linn's, Jan. 22, page 14; USPS item No. 760415 (strip of 500), 760404 (coil of 10,000).

Jan. 21?, Byodo-In Temple. One $6.70 Priority Mail flat-rate stamped envelope; American Landmarks series; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

Jan. 21, Byodo-In Temple. One $6.70 Priority Mail definitive stamp, pane of four; American Landmarks series; Kansas City, MO 64108; *Linn's*, Jan. 22, page 10; USPS item No. 114104 (pane of four), 114116 (FDC at $7.14), 114121 (color postmark FDC at $7.85).

Jan. 21, Sleeping Bear Dunes. One $24.70 Priority Mail Express definitive stamp, pane of four; American Landmarks series; Kansas City, MO 64108; *Linn's*, Jan. 22, page 10; USPS item No. 119804 (pane of four), 119816 (FDC at $25.14), 119821 (color postmark FDC at $25.85).

Jan. 30, Lena Horne.** One (50¢) forever commemorative stamp, pane of 20; Black Heritage series; New York, NY; **Linn's, *Jan. 29, page 1; USPS item No. 476904 (pane of 20), 476916 (FDC at 94¢), 476921 (color postmark FDC at $1.65), 476906 (press sheet at $60).

Feb. 9, U.S. Flag. Four (50¢) forever definitive stamps in two double-sided panes of 20 and two coils of 100; Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1; USPS item No. 678204 (AP pane or BCA pane); 749704 (AP coil or BCA coil).

Feb. 22, Bioluminescent Life. Ten (50¢) forever commemorative stamps, pane of 20; Fort Pierce, FL; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

March 5, Illinois Statehood. One (50¢) forever commemorative stamp; Springfield, IL; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

March 23, Mister Rogers. One (50¢) forever commemorative stamp; Pittsburgh, PA; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, California Dogface Butterfly. One (71¢) nonmachineable surcharge-rate definitive stamp; pane of 20.

?, STEM Education. Four (50¢) forever commemorative stamps; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, Peace Rose. One (50¢) forever definitive stamp; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, Sally Ride. One (50¢) forever commemorative stamp; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, Flag Act of 1818. One (50¢) forever commemorative stamp; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, Frozen Treats. Ten (50¢) forever stamps; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, O Beautiful. Twenty (50¢) forever commemorative stamps; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, World War I: Turning the Tide. One (50¢) forever commemorative stamp; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, Dragons. Four (50¢) forever stamps; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, Birds in Winter. Four (50¢) forever stamps; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, John Lennon. One (50¢) commemorative forever stamp, pane of 16; Music Icons series; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

?, The Art of Magic. Five (50¢) forever stamps, pane of 20; *Linn's*, Jan. 1, page 1.

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Asterisks** precede entries with new or changed information. New/changed information is presented in ***bold italics.

Stamp printing contractors are identified in the listings using the following abbreviations: AP (Ashton Potter USA Ltd.), and BCA (Banknote Corporation of America).

Details of each issue listed in this program are given in the cited issues of *Linn's*. Stamps are self-adhesive unless otherwise noted.

HOW TO ORDER STAMPS OR COVERS

Mail orders for mint stamps, uncut press sheets, postal stationery, and the Postal Service's uncacheted first-day covers (FDCs) should be sent to Stamp Fulfillment Services, Box 7247, Philadelphia, PA 19101-7097. Postal Service supplied first-day covers are available only in certain formats. They usually cost the face value of the stamps affixed plus 44¢ per cover. The prices of some items, including first-day-canceled stationery, may vary. Orders should use USPS item numbers.

Stamp Fulfillment Services accepts credit card orders by telephone (800-782-6724) or fax (816-545-1212). Orders may be placed from countries other than the United States by calling 816-545-1000. An additional $5 shipping fee is added to standard shipping and handling charges for orders to be mailed to a foreign address.

New issues should be ordered no more than two weeks in advance of the date of issue.

Mail, phone or fax orders have a flat service charge of $1.25 for orders up to $50 if they include only prepackaged items, such as the minimum purchase of a block of four sheet stamps or a pane of definitive stamps. The fee is $1.75 for standard orders totaling more than $50. A $2 fee is added for custom orders.

A detailed sales catalog called *USA Philatelic* lists the prepackaged formats. It is free on request from U.S. Postal Service, USA Philatelic Request, Box 219014, Kansas City, MO 64121-9014. *USA Philatelic* listings include formats and USPS item numbers other than those listed here. ■

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LOTS & COLLECTIONS
#170407 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: 1941-1978. Very well filled collection of about 590 mostly mint hinged on Scott pages. Includes Airmails, Semi-Postals and Postal Tax plus several Souvenir Sheets and Miniature sheets.. Highlights: (M) #C57-61, C86a, C134, C146-C146, C262, C263, F-VF. 2017 Scott $392..... Price $85.00
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#171109 JAMAICA: 1945-1963. Complete collection of 73 Mint and 2 Used hinged on Scott pages. #129-204. Includes #139 Mint, 141 MNH, F-VF throughout. 2018 Scott $236..... Price $72.00
#171105 MONACO: 1960-1972. Collection of 345 diff. mostly Mint, some used mixed in. Hinged on Harris pages. F-VF. 2018 Scott over $200..... Price $55.00
#180103 EUROPEAN LIQUIDATION LOT: Contains only European countries, 19th and 20th Century. Album pages, stock sheets and cards, glassines, packets, etc. Germany and Area will be well represented including Empire issues, Federal Republic, GDR, States, etc. No covers, all off paper, all diff. F-VF. Who knows what you'll find as we dig through piles of material to make up these lots..... Price $89.00
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Flocked paper adds texture to Icelandic Sweater and other stamps

By Wayne Chen

A recent stamp depicting an Icelandic sweater is made of an unusual stamp material: flock.

Iceland Post issued this stamp (Scott 1433), as part of the Sepac series.

Sepac, the Small European Postal Administration Cooperation, organizes multination issues based on a central theme. The theme for 2017 was local handicrafts, and Iceland Post combined an innovative textured printing process to further enhance its traditional knit sweater. As a result, the stamp could be appreciated using the senses of sight and touch.

The word flock has different meanings, but when it comes to stamp production it is a special technique that creates a fabric-like texture on the surface of the stamp. These stamps are generally described as being printed on flocked paper.

Iceland's stamp for the 2017 Sepac theme of local handicrafts shows the pattern of an Icelandic sweater. To add texture, the stamp was printed on flocked paper.

Astrid Ellingsen designed the pattern of the sweater shown on Iceland's stamp, and Elsa Nielsen designed the stamp itself.

The stamp is nondenominated. The inscription "50g Europa" in the lower left indicates that it pays the rate for letters to Europe weighing up to 50 grams. At the time it was issued, the stamp had a face value equivalent to 225 kronur ($2.25).

Joh. Enschede of the Netherlands printed the stamp in sheets of 10, with the sweater pattern shown in the selvage on the left and right edges of the sheet.

While Iceland's stamp was printed by Joh. Enschede, the world's first flock stamps and several other flock stamps that have been issued to date were printed by Cartor Security Printing of La Loupe, France.

On its website, Cartor explains the process: "An imaginative technique that produces stamps designed to explore our sense of touch! Using an exclusive spraying process, Cartor can apply very fine cellulose fibres to the special gummed stamp paper, adding a soft, smooth textured feel to the surface of the stamp. The velvety, fabric-like finish is often used on stamps where the content would be visually appropriate."

A first-day cover of the Icelandic Sweater stamp that was issued April 27, 2017.

Hong Kong Post presented the first flock stamps in 2003, as part of a series featuring the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac.

Issued Jan. 19, 2003, at the same time as stamps celebrating the Chinese New Year and the Year of the Ram, these flock stamps (Scott 1030a-d) show a dragon, snake, horse and ram, respectively. The stamps are se-tenant (side-by-side) in a block of four.

Hong Kong continued this series of flock stamps with a block of four in 2007 depicting a monkey, rooster, dog and pig (Scott 1253a-d), and a block in 2011 with a rat, ox, tiger and rabbit (1432a-d).

Finland used flocked paper on its 2004 stamp showing Moomin characters created by children's author and illustrator Tove Jansson.

Flocked paper was used to create a textured effect on this stamp from Estonia.

In 2011, Hong Kong Post said of its these stamps, "Vibrant and colourful whilst soft and delicate to the touch, the stamps on flock paper lend an air of luxuriance and elegance, ushering in a year of peace and prosperity."

Each of the 12 designs were taken from previous stamps in Hong Kong's Lunar New Year stamp series.

A handful of other nations also have issued stamps printed on flocked paper. These include Russia's 2003 Happy New Year stamp (Scott 6801); Singapore's 2004 set of four marking the 100th anniversary of the International Federation of Association Football, known as FIFA (1091-1094); Finland's 2004 Moomin issue (1218); and a 2005 stamp from Thailand that shows a rose and smells like one as well (2164).

More recently, Luxembourg's 2014 Christmas semipostals showing animals were printed on flocked paper (Scott B492-B493). Post Luxembourg

Continued on page 34

Hong Kong began issuing stamps on flocked paper in 2003 with this block of four showing four animals of the Chinese zodiac. Similar blocks were issued in 2007 and 2011.

TRICKIES BY JOE KENNEDY

Rearrange the letters below to form words familiar to stamp collectors. Then arrange the boxed letters to complete the stamp-related quip.

OH RAT □ □ □ _ _

W DENSE □ □ _ _ □ _

THORN _ □ □ _ □

A TEST □ _ □ _ □

GO PASTE _ _ □ _ □ _ _

United States Pets Scott 5123

The vet said that the strange whinny indicated that the

_ _ _ _ _   _ _ _   _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

586.

Solution on page 34

KITCHEN TABLE PHILATELY

Mixture in review: "$150 Scott 2017 CV [catalog value] $5 up. No CTO [canceled to order]. Mostly 1998-2010."
Total stamps: 17; none faulty
Scott 2018 catalog value: $153.00 (faulty not counted)
Price: $10
Source: Cybulski (Connecticut), from a November 2017 advertisement in *Linn's*
Contents (Numbers are from Scott catalog; unused stamps are indicated by an asterisk): Burma 341, 342, 343, 344; Burundi 694; Great Britain MH283; Kenya 354, 440, 737, 765, 766; Malawi 533A; Sierra Leone 1546, 2155b; Republic of South Africa 1199a, 1444; Tanzania 742.

WORLDWIDE - CYBULSKI

	No. Stamps	%	Catalog Value	% CV
Definitives	15	88.2	$141.00	92.2
Commemoratives	2	11.8	12.00	7.8
Totals	**17**	**100**	**$153.00**	**100**

Average cost = 6.5 percent of Scott value

Cybulski's advertisement struck me as a good opportunity. He was offering high-value stamps that surely could fill some holes in most collectors' albums, including mine.

He promised to send stamps valued at $150 in the 2017 Scott catalog for $10, with all stamps valued at $5 or more. He also stated in his ad that no canceled-to-order stamps would be included.

Cybulski's envelope arrived in my mailbox 13 days after I mailed my payment. Opening the packet, I was greeted by the fewest number of stamps I have received in quite a while. There were 17 in all. To my way of thinking, this was good news because fewer stamps often means higher catalog values.

Eight nations were represented in the order, with the high total of five coming from Kenya.

Almost all the stamps were definitives (regular issues), and most were the high denomination in their respective series.

Cybulski had made light pencil notations on the reverse side of the stamps indicating the 2017 Scott catalog number and value. Only a couple of updates were required so that all values agreed with the current 2018 Scott catalogs.

Three stamps bore the minimum promised Scott catalog value of $5. Although being one of the smallest stamps, the 10,000-leone Northern Shrike inscribed 2006 had the highest catalog value of $22.50, Sierra Leone Scott 2155b.

The other 13 stamps had values from $6 to $20.

The dates of issue ranged from 1985 to 2010. The earliest issue, from Kenya (Scott 354), was a 7-shilling stamp picturing Oncoba spinosa, known as the fried-egg flower. The most recent was the South Africa 20-rand stamp featuring a Zulu neckpiece of lion's claws (Scott 1444).

COLLECTIBLE STAMPS BY SCOTT CATALOG VALUE

CV	Quantity	%
$5	3	17.6
$6 - $8.50	11	64.8
$15 - $22.50	3	17.6
Totals	**17**	**100**

Among the 17 stamps in the reviewed assortment was this issue from Malawi that depicts a colorful starred robin.

FACE DIFFERENT BY YEAR OF ISSUE

	Quantity	%
1985-88	3	17.6
1991-99	8	47.1
2000-10	6	35.3
Totals	**17**	**100**

Perhaps not unusual for definitive stamps, the order was full of stamps showing plants, animals, birds, people and cultural items.

A mushroom takes center stage on a 250-franc stamp from Burundi (Scott 694). A cheetah appears on a 42-shilling stamp from Kenya (Scott 737). A starred robin, with its distinctive yellow breast, is perched on a 10-kwacha stamp from Malawi (Scott 533A).

One last example is a 100-kyat stamp from Burma (Scott 344) that illustrates a Kachin brass gong. This stamp is valued at $20.

One of the commemoratives was the Tanzania 500-shilling Earth station (Scott 742), which honors the 25th anniversary of Intelsat.

Cybulski sent exactly what he promised. I was glad I ordered because his stamps are great for filling in the high-denomination stamps not usually sent with other similar mixtures I have received.

Cybulski invited me to place another order, and the likelihood is good that I will. — E. Rawolik VI

As a service to Linn's *readers, Kitchen Table Philately analyzes the content of stamp mixtures offered to collectors. The pseudonym "E. Rawolik" is used to protect the identities of our reviewers. Most reviewed material is purchased through third parties to obscure the intent of the purchase. Though most of the mixtures reviewed here are advertised in* Linn's, *KTP tries to screen material from all possible sources. Readers are cautioned that mixtures that have not been advertised in* Linn's *do not fall under the protective guidelines of* Linn's *basic advertising policy. The basic catalog used by the reviewers is the Scott* Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue. ■

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Phone _____
Email _____
Event Website _____
9) Number of dealers _____ 10) Number of tables _____
11) Admission charged? ☐ Yes ☐ No

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Add'l words: _____ @ 25¢ per word = $ _____ per issue x number of issues = $ _____

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We reserve the right to reject questionable advertising.

EVENTS CALENDAR

CALENDAR OF EVENTS GUIDELINES
Listings in the Events Calendar are paid advertisements placed by clubs and show organizers who wish to publicize their events. The Events Calendar does not attempt to list all shows and should not be regarded as a complete schedule of upcoming events. *Linn's Stamp News* assumes no responsibility for false or erroneous information.

ABBREVIATIONS USED
FR = Free admission
ADM = Admission charged
DLR = Number of dealers
TA = Number of tables

Arizona

Feb 4 **Phoenix**
AZ Monthly Stamp Show. Holiday Inn, I-17 & Cactus Rd. Hrs: 9AM-3PM. AZ Stamp Dealers Group. Bill Chesser, 4301 N. 35th St., Phoenix, AZ 85018. Ph: 602-956-3497. DLR: 12. TA: 20. FR

California

Jan 26-28 **San Diego**
SANDICAL2018. Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd. Hrs: Fri. & Sat. 10AM-6PM Sun. 10AM-4PM. San Diego Philatelic Council. Bob Eygenhuysen, 12675 Danielson Ct., Suite 413, Poway, CA 92064. PH: 619-920-5055 Website: sandical.org DLR: 24. TA: 42. FR.

Feb 10-11 **South San Francisco**
SF Area Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show. Southy San Francisco Conference Center, 255 S. Airport Blvd. Hrs: 10AM-5PM. Portsmouth Square Company. Scott Griffin, PO Box 1876, Suisun City, CA 94585. PH: 415-601-8661. Email: scott@griffincoin.com Website: www.griffincoin.com DLR: 25. TA: 25. ADM

Mar 3-4 **Redding**
NOVAPEX 2018. Redding Senior Center, 2290 Benton Dr. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-4PM. Redding Stamp Club. Mark Woodward, 1229 Ledell Drive, Redding, CA 96002. PH:530-221-8933. Email: markwoodward@charter.net Website: Reddingstampclub.org DLR:6. TA:12. FR.

Mar 10-11 **Clovis**
FRESPEX 2018. Veterans Memorial Building, 453 Hughes Ave. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-6PM, Sun. 10AM-4PM. Fresno Philatelic Society. Dick Richardson, 695 E. Dovewood Lane, Fresno, CA 93710. PH: 559-431-5013. or send an Email: starstamps@thegrid.net or visit website: www.frespexorg DLR: 12 TA: 12 FR.

Apr 27-29 **Burlingame**
WESTPEX 2018. San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Hwy. Hrs: Fri.-Sat. 10AM-6PM, Sun. 10AM-4PM. WESTPEX, Inc. Clyde Homen, 1491 Bonnie View Rd, Hollister CA 95023-5117. PH: 831-637-7847. Email: cjh1491@sbcglobal.net Website: www.westpex.org DLR: 75+ TA: 75+ ADM

Connecticut

Feb 11 **Meriden**
2nd Sunday Stamp and Coin Show. Comfort Inn, Main St, Meriden, CT. Exit 17 off Route 91. HRS: 9:30AM-4:00PM. DLR: 12 TA: 30 FR. Dealers call 413-743-9460

Florida

Jan 27 **Ft. Walton Beach**
STAMPFEST 2017. Knights of Columbus Hall, 205 N. Carol Ave. NW. Hrs: 9AM-5PM. Panhandle Philatelic Society. Fred Brafford, POB 4051, Shalimar, FL 32579. PH: 850-651-2770. DLR: 10. TA: 20. FR

Feb 10 **Orlando**
Winter Show 2018 CFSC. Marks Street Senior Recreation Center The Oak Room, 99 E. Marks St. Hrs: 10AM-3PM. Central Florida Stamp Club. Francis Ferguson, PO Box 1206, Plymouth, FL 32768. PH: 407-493-0956 Email: ferg@FloridaStampShows.com DLR: 6-7. FR

Georgia

Feb 17-18 **Marietta**
SDAG Winter Stamp Show. The Mansour Center, 995 Roswell St. Marietta, GA 30060. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-3PM. Stamp Dealers Association of Georgia. Wava Neal, PO Box 968, Joelton, TN 37080. PH: 615-828-2304. Email: wavaneal@gmail.com DLR: 10. TA: 30+. FR

Kansas

Feb 17-18 **Wichita**
Cessna Coin and Stamp Show. Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd. Hrs: Sat. 9AM-5PM and Sunday 9AM-4PM. Cessna Coin and Stamp Clubs, R.E. Loft, 10716 E. 31st St S. Wichita, KS 67210. Ph: 316-683-6593. DLR: 34 TA: 60 FR.

Maine

Feb 3 **Saco**
First Saturday Monthly Show. Hampton Inn, 48 Industrial Park Rd., Saco, ME. Exit 36 off I-95, then exit 1 off I-195, then R at the end of ramp. (1/4 mile from Maine Tpk) Hrs: 9AM-3PM. Harry Tong, 1840-1950 Mostly Stamps. PH: 603-978-3459. FR. US and worldwide stamps, covers, collections, discounted postage, appraisals, catalogues, etc. Items from 10¢ to $1,000's.

Michigan

Feb 18 **Lansing**
Lansing Stamp Show. Royal Scot Golf and Bowl, 4722 W. Grand River Hrs: 10AM-4PM. Lansing Area Stamp Club. Jim Adams, 5806 Coulson Ct., Lansing, MI 48911. PH: 517-394-5953. DLR: 7-11. TA: 12. FR

Missouri

Feb 10 **St Louis**
Second Saturday Bourse. Holiday Inn So. County Ctr. 6921 Lindbergh Blvd. Hrs: 9AM-3PM. Gene Stewart. PH: 314-481-9098 or email: genestamps@charter.net DLR: 10. TA: 20. FR

Nevada

May 17-19 **Las Vegas**
55th Las Vegas Numismatic Society Coin show at the Westgate Resort and Casino, 3000 Paradise Rd., Hrs: Thur.-Fri: 10AM-6PM, Sat. 10AM-5PM. Event room rate $60. Silver Dollar Seminar by John Highfill - Mike Fararone. For more info call Dawn at 800-208-1810, info@ckshows.com or CKshows.com. DLR: 180.

New Hampshire

Feb 18 **Nashua**
Nashua Monthly Stamp Show. Holiday Inn, 9 Northeastern Blvd. U.S. Rt.3 to Exit 4. Hrs: 9AM-2PM. EBW Promotions, LLC. Emie, PO Box 3, Wilmington, MA 01887. PH: 978-658-0160. or send an Email: ernie@ebwpromotions.com Visit Website: www.nashuastampshow.com TA: 20. DLR: 8. FR.

New Jersey

Feb 3 **Marlton**
MSC Saturday Bourse. Marlton Elementary School, 190 Tomlinson Mill Rd. Hrs: 9:00AM-3:00PM. Merchantville Stamp Club. Roger Randall, 412 Sedgwick Ln, Marlton, NJ 08053. PH: 609-923-6618. or send an Email: rwrusma64@aol.com. Visit our Website: www.merchantvillestampclub.org DLR: 15. TA: 15. FR

Feb 10 **Bordentown**
Bordentown Stamp Bourse. Senior Center, 3 Municipal Dr. Bordentown, NJ 08505. Hrs: 8:30AM-3:00PM. Co-op. Ryan Terlecky, 80 Steele Way, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006. PH: 215-287-9326 Email: rterlecky@hotmail.com or visit website: www.hamiltonphilatelic.org DLR: 20. TA: 40. FR.

Mar 3 **Marlton**
MSC Saturday Bourse. Marlton Elementary School, 190 Tomlinson Mill Rd. Hrs: 9:00AM-3:00PM. Merchantville Stamp Club. Roger Randall, 412 Sedgwick Ln, Marlton, NJ 08053. PH: 609-923-6618. or send an Email: rwrusma64@aol.com. DLR: 15. TA: 15. FR

New Jersey

Mar 3 **Westfield**
Westfield Stamp Show. Westfield Municipal Building, 425 E. Broad St. Hrs: 10AM-4PM. Westfield Stamp Club. Edward Grabowski, 111 Prospect St., Westfield, NJ 07090. PH: 908-233-9318. Email: edjjg@alum.mit.edu Website: http://www.westfieldstampclub.org DLR: 6. TA: 7. FR.

New Mexico

Mar 10-11 **Las Cruces**
Mesilla Valley Stamp Show. Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM Sun. 10AM-4PM. Mesilla Valley Stamp Club. Richard Hiss, PH: 575-202-1937. DLR: 8. TA: 18. FR

New York

Jan 28 **Melville**
The Melville Stamp & Coin. Catapano Engineering. 585 Rte. 110. Hrs: 8AM-2PM. George Schultheis. PH: 516-557-7096. Email: gsstamps1@hotmail.com DLR: 35. FR

Feb 11 **Syracuse**
Syracuse Stamp Show. Maplewood Inn, 7th North St. Thru-way Exit 36 and Rt #I-81. Hrs: 10AM-4:30PM. Ed Bailey, POB 2338, Syracuse, NY 13220. PH: 315-345-9647. DLR: 9. TA: 18. FR

Mar 3-4 **Cheektowaga**
BUFFPEX 2018. VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Ave. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-3PM. Buffalo Stamp Club. George Gates, 197 Cadman Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221. PH: 716-633-8358 or email: gghg53@aol.com DLR: 12. FR

North Carolina

Feb 3-4 **Charlotte**
Charlotte Stamp, Cover & Postcard Show. St Sarkis Armenian Church, 7000 Park Rd. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-4PM. Big Lick Stamps. Cary Cochran, PO Box 163, Locust, NC 28097. PH: 704-485-4027 or send an Email: carytj@yahoo.com DLR: 8. TA: 20 FR

Ohio

Jan 28 **Cincinnati**
Greenhills Classic Coin and Stamp Show. American Legion Post 530, 11100 Winton Rd. Hrs: 10AM-4PM. Xenia Coin Shop. Jim Huffman, POB 63, Xenia, OH 45385. PH: 937-376-2807. FAX: 937-374-1400. Or send an Email: numismaniaofohio@woh.rr.com Website: xeniacoin.com DLR: 30. TA: 55. FR

Feb 3 **Ashland**
Mid-Winter Stamp & Coin Show. Mozell Hall Ashland County Fairgrounds, 2042 Claremont Ave., Hrs: 10AM-4PM. Ashland Stamp and Coin Club. Tom Zuercher, PO Box 269, Ashland, OH 44805. PH: 419-281-4512. Email: pastortom1323@gmail.com DLR: 15. TA: 15. FR.

Feb 17-18 **West Chester**
MSDA Southwestern Ohio Winter Show. Four Points Sheraton, 7500 Tylers Place Blvd. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM Sun. 10AM-3PM. Midwest Stamp Dealers Association. Jim Bardo, PO Box 5573, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. PH: 847-922-5574 or Email: jfb7437@aol.com visit Website: www.msdastamp.com DLR: 20. TA: 35. FR

Feb 18 **Akron**
Montrose Stamp Show, Holiday Inn - Akron West, 4073 Medina Rd., Intersection I-77 and Rt. 18. Hrs: 10:00AM - 4:00PM. Linconway Stamps. Dave Pool. PO Box 455, Massillon, OH 44648. Ph: 330-832-5992 Email: lincolnway@sssnet.com DLR: 6 TA: 12 FR

Feb 23-24 **Holland**
Toledo Stamp Expo 2018. Holland Gardens, 6530 Angola Rd. Hrs: Fri. 11AM-7PM, Sat. 10AM-5PM. Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo. Clifford Campbell, Garfield Rd, Perrysburg, OH 43551. PH: 419-874-6241 or visit our Website: www.toledostampclub.org DLR: 20. TA: 30. FR. **Now Friday-Saturday Show**

Linns.com

Ohio

Mar 3-4 **North Canton**
McKinley Stamp Club Show. St. George Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St. NW. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-4PM. McKinley Stamp Club of Ohio. Dave Pool, PO Box 455, Massillon, OH 44648. PH: 330-832-5992. Email: lincolnway@sssnet.com Website: mksc.webs.com DLR: 20. TA: 32. FR

Oregon

Feb 3 **Portland**
Portland Stamp Fest. Shilo Inn Convention Center- Willamette I room, 11707 NE Airport Way. Hrs: 10AM-5PM. Gary Hoecker, 12042 SE Sunnyside Rd. #515, Clackamas, OR 97015. PH: 503-698-4128. Email: hoecker@gmail.com or Website: www.garyhoecker.com DLR: 5. TA: 10. FR

Pennsylvania

Jan 28 **Langhorne**
Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show. Sheraton Bucks County, 400 Oxford Valley Rd. Hrs: 9:30AM-3:30PM. Allen Brock, 305-393-6290. Website: coinshows.com and stampshows.com DLR: 55. TA: 65. FR

South Carolina

Feb 10-11 **Myrtle Beach**
Myrtle Beach Stamp & Postcard Show. Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 101 Fantasy Harbour Blvd. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-4PM. Myrtle Beach Stamp Club. Donn M. Ebert, 117 Cedar Ridge Ln., Conway, SC 29526-8916. PH: 843-347-0087. FAX: 843-347-6445. send an Email: lilfort@sccoast.net or visit our event Website: http://sites.google.com/site/myrtlebeachstampclub DLR: 10. TA: 20. FR

Tennessee

Mar 3-4 **Knoxville**
KNOXPEX 2018. Holiday Inn Knoxville-West, 9134 Executive Park Dr., Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-3PM. Knoxville Philatelic Society. Tom Broadhead, PO Box 50422, Knoxville, TN 37922. PH: 865-974-1151. Or send an Email: broadhea@utk.edu or visit our Website: www.knoxstamps.com DLR: 13. TA: 30. FR. Centennial of US Air Mail, Auction Saturday at 6PM.

Mar 10-11 **Madison**
Nashville Stamp and Postcard Show 2018. Fifty Forward Senior Center, 301 Madison St. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-4PM. Nashville Philatelic Society. Tom Tribke, 2911 Windgate Ave., Nashville, TN 37211. PH: 615-833-5161. or send an Email: show@nashvillephilatelic.org visit our Website: http://www.nashvillephilatelic.org DLR: 15. TA: 100. FR

Aug 5-6 **Nashville**
Nashville Winter Stamp Show. Music Valley Event Center, 2416 Music Valley Drive. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-3PM. B&W Stamp Company. Bill Vance, PO Box 968, Joelton, TN 37080. PH: 615-584-4234. or send an Email: bwstamps@aol.com DLR: 7. TA: 20. FR

Texas

Feb 2-4 **Grapevine**
Texas Coin Shows. Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main St. Hrs: Fri. 2PM-6PM, Sat. 9AM-6PM, Sun 9AM-3PM. Ginger Pike, PO Box 356, Howe, TX 75459-0356. PH: 214-535-3465. or send Email: TexasCoinShows@aol.com Website: www.coinshows.com DLR: 70. TA: 72. ADM.

Utah

Oct 9-10 **Salt Lake City**
Utah Winter Stamp Show. Sons of Utah Pioneer Bldg, 3261 E. Louise Ave. Hrs: Fri. 10AM-6PM, Sat. 10AM-4PM. Dave Blackhurst, PO Box 900485, Sandy, UT 84090. PH: 801-580-9534. Email: dblackhu@gmail.com DLR: 10 FR.

Place your event listing online!
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ASDA winter show Feb. 9-11 in Florida; Flag stamp to debut

The American Stamp Dealers Association will present the ASDA Winter Postage Stamp Show Feb. 9-11 at War Memorial Auditorium, 800 N.E. Eighth St. in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

The show hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

Admission and parking are free.

The show will feature a bourse of 11 stamp and postal history dealers, according to a mid-January listing on the ASDA website, along with a United States Postal Service booth, a United Nations Postal Administration booth, and a program providing free informal appraisals of stamps, covers and postcards.

A preliminary image of the United States Flag definitive forever stamp that will be issued in booklet and coil formats Feb. 9 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

The Hollywood Stamp Club also will have a table.

For youth, the show will feature stamps by the bucket and a giveaway of stamp albums.

A U.S. Flag forever definitive stamp is slated for issue on Feb. 9 in Fort Lauderdale. It is anticipated that a ceremony will take place in conjunction with the show, but the U.S. Postal Service did not confirm this prior to *Linn's* press deadline.

The illustration on the Flag stamp is described by the Postal Service as a "striking graphic design of a flag with two crisp folds."

Double-sided panes of 20, which the Postal Service describes as a convertible booklet, and coils of 100 will be produced by both Ashton Potter and Banknote Corporation of America, resulting in four collectible varieties of the new Flag stamp. Additional details will be published in a future issue of *Linn's*.

For more information about the ASDA Winter Postage Stamp Show, visit the website www.americanstampdealer.com/SubMenu/Florida_Winter_Show_2018.aspx. ■

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

Grand-award winners from these stamp shows are eligible to compete in the American Philatelic Society's annual Champion of Champions competition.

2018

Jan. 26-28 **San Diego, CA**
SANDICAL. San Diego Philatelic Council. Al-Bahr Shrine Temple, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. Contact: Bob Eygenhuysen, email eygenhuysen@cox.net; website www.sandical.org.

Jan. 26-28 **Norcross, GA**
SOUTHEASTERN STAMP EXPO. Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs. Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Contact: Scott Mark; email sestampexpo@gmail.com; website www.sefsc.org.

Feb. 2-4 **Sarasota, FL**
SARASOTA NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION. Sarasota Philatelic Club. Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail. Contact: Liz Hisey; email lizhisey@comcast.net; website www.sarasotastampclub.com.

Feb. 16-18 **Mesa, AZ**
ARIPEX. Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs. Mesa Convention Center, 201 N. Center St. Contact: Kevin Lesk, email: kwkual@aol.com; website www.aripex.org.

March 16-18 **St. Louis, MO**
ST. LOUIS STAMP EXPO 2018. St. Louis area stamp clubs. St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road. Contact: Mike Peter, Box 50256 , St. Louis, MO 63105; email info@stlouisstampexpo.org; website www.stlstampexpo.org.

March 22-24 **Cleveland, OH**
MARCH PARTY 2018. Garfield-Perry Stamp Club. LaVilla Banquet and Party Center, 11500 Brook Park Road. Contact: Roger Rhoads; email: rrrhoads@aol.com; website www.garfieldperry.org.

April 21-22 **Westland, MI**
PLYMOUTH SHOW 2018. West Suburban Stamp Club. Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road. Contact: Tim Strzalkowski, email mywssc@msn.com; website www.plymouthshow.com.

April 27-29 **Burlingame, CA**
WESTPEX 2018. Westpex Inc. San Francisco Marriott Waterfront Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway. Contact: Ed Jarvis, email ejarvis@westpex.com; website www.westpex.com.

May 4-6 **Boxborough, MA**
PHILATELIC SHOW 2018. Northeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs. Boxborough Regency, Route 111 at I-495, exit 28. Contact: Jeff Shapiro, email dirtyoldcovers@aol.com; website www.nefed.org.

May 11-13 **Portland, OR**
PIPEX. Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs. Red Lion Hotel on the River-Jantzen Beach, 909 N. Hayden Island Drive. Contact: Tony Wawrukiewicz; email tonywaw@spiritone.com; website: www.pipexstampshow.org.

May 18-19 **Canandaigua, NY**
ROPEX. Rochester Philatelic Association. Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 N. Bloomfield Road. Contact: Tom Fortunato, email stamptmf@frontiernet.net; website www.rpastamps.org.

May 25-27 **Denver, CO**
ROCKY MOUNTAIN STAMP SHOW. Rocky Crown Plaza Hotel-Denver International Airport, I-70 at Chambers Road. Contact: Steve McGill, show chairman, email chairman@rockymountainstampshow.com; website www.rockymountainstampshow.com.

June 8-10 **McLean, VA**
NAPEX 2018. National Philatelic Exhibitions of Washington, D.C. McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corners, 7920 Jones Branch Drive. Contact: William Fort, email wcfortiii@aol.com; website www.napex.org.

June 15-16 **Columbus, OH**
COLOPEX. Columbus Philatelic Club.Rhodes Center, 717 E. 17th Ave. Contact: Marie Gibbs, email kevmar1821@gmail.com; website: www.colopex.com.

June 29-30 **Midwest City, OK**
OKPEX 2018. Reed Conference Center, 5800 WIll Rogers Road. Contact: Joe Crosby, Box 893352, Oklahoma City, OK 73189-3352; phone 405-749-0939; email joecrosby@cox.net; website www.okcsc.org.

July 20-22 **Crystal, MN**
MINNESOTA STAMP EXPO. Lake Minnetonka Stamp Club, Maplewood Stamp Club, Twin City Philatelic Society, Minnesota Stamp Dealers Association. Crystal Community Center, 4800 Douglas Drive. Contact: Randy Smith; email rasmary4@frontiernet.net; website www.stampsminnesota.com.

Aug. 3-5 **Peachtree Corners, GA**
AMERICOVER. American First Day Cover Society. Hilton Atlanta Northeast. Contact: email showinfo@afdcs.org email showinfo@afdcs.org; website: www.afdcs.org/americover/americover.html.

Aug. 9-12 **Columbus, OH**
STAMPSHOW and National Topical Stamp Show 2017. American Philatelic Society and the American Topical Association. Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St. Contact: Manager of Shows, APS, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823; phone 814-933-3803; email stampshow@stamps.org; website www.stamps.org; or Vera Felts, ATA Central Office, Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008; phone 618-985-5100; email americantopical@msn.com; website www.americantopicalassn.org.

Aug. 31-Sept. 2 **Hunt Valley, MD**
BALPEX 2018. Baltimore Philatelic Society. Delta Baltimore Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan. Contact: Michael Carski, email balpex@verizon.net; website www.balpex.org.

Sept. 8-9 **Omaha, NE**
OMAHA STAMP SHOW. Metro Community College South, 2909 Edward Babe Gomez Ave. Contact: Herb Eveland, email tuvaenterprises@hotmail.com; website www.omahaphilatelicsociety.org.

Sept. 14-16 **Milwaukee, Wis.**
MILCOPEX. Milwaukee Philatelic Society. Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 S. 13th St. Contact: Bob Henak, Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Box 170832, Milwaukee, WI 53217-0832; email MaryAnn Bowman maryann15b@mac.com; or Dona Fagan faganfalls@sbcglobal.net; website www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org.

Sept. 14-16 **Tukwila, WA**
SEAPEX. Tukwila Community Center, 12424 42nd Ave. South. Contact: Jack Congrove, email jackcongrove@comcast.net; website www.seapex-show.org.

Oct. 5-7 **Nobleville, IN**
INDYPEX. Indiana Stamp Club. Hamilton County Fairgrounds and Exhibition Center. Contact: Indiana Stamp Club, Box 20005, Indianapolis, IN 46220-0005; email rmarcy1@comcast.net; website http://indianastampclub.org.

Nov. 10-11 **San Jose, CA**
FILATELIC FIESTA 2018. San Jose Stamp Club. Elks Lodge, 444 West Alma Ave. Contact: Jessica Rodriguex, phone 408-656-0623; email jrodriguex@me.com; website https://filatelicfiesta.com.

Nov. 16-18 **Itasca, IL**
CHICAGOPEX. Chicago Philatelic Society. Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd. Contact: Contact: Jerry Nylander; email gnylander@earthlink.net; website www.chicagopex.org.

Nov. 30-Dec. 2 **Orlando, FL**
FLOREX. Florida Stamp Dealers Association and Central Florida Stamp Club. Central Florida Fair Grounds Commercial Exhibit Hall, 4603 W. Colonial Drive. Contact: Francis Ferguson, email show@florexstampshow.com; website www.florexstampshow.com. ■

LINN'S 2018 CANADA STAMP PROGRAM

Canada Stamp Program online

Linn's *subscribers can always view the complete Canada stamp programs for 2018 and previous years online by registering at www.linns.com and clicking on this box in* Linn's *digital edition.*

***Jan. 15, Year of the Dog.** Single nondenominated permanent-rate (85¢) stamp in a pane of 25 and booklet of 10, one $2.50 stamp in booklets of six and souvenir sheet of one; souvenir sheet with $2.50 stamp and $2.50 Year of the Rooster stamp from 2017 (Scott 2960); and two nondenominated ($2.50) international rate postal cards.* **Linn's, *Jan. 22, page 8*.**

***Jan. 15, From Far and Wide.** Five nondenominated (85¢) permanent-rate stamps: "jellybean" houses in St. John's, Hopewell Rocks, MacMillan Provincial Park, Covehead Harbour in Prince Edward Island National Park, and Perce Rock in parc national de l' Ile-Bonaventure-et-du-Rocher-Perce in booklets of 30, booklets of 10 and coils of 100; $1, Pisew Falls Provincial Park in coils of 50; $1.20 Point Pelee National Park, $1.80, Naats'ihch'oh National Park Reserve and $2.50, Arctic Bay on Baffin Island in separate booklets of six and coils of 50; souvenir sheet, contains all nine stamps se-tenant.* **Linn's, *Jan. 22, page 12*.**

Jan. 24, Women in Winter Sports.

February, Black History/Lincoln Alexander and Kay Livingstone.

March, Lotus Flowers.

April, Canadian Illustrators.

April, Queen Elizabeth II 65th Anniversary of Coronation.

May, Native Bees.

May, Junior Hockey Memorial Cup 100th Anniversary.

Summer, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada 150th Anniversary.

Summer, Sharks in Canadian Waters.

Summer, Weather Wonders.

Summer, Birds of Canada.

September, Emergency Responders.

September, Canada Post Community Foundation. Semipostal stamp.

October, Bighorn Sheep. $3 definitive.

November. Christmas.

November, Christmas: Madonna and Child.

Asterisks** precede entries with new or changed information. New/changed information is presented in ***bold italics.

Details of each issue listed in this program are given in the cited issues of *Linn's*. Stamps are self-adhesive unless otherwise noted. ■

CACHETS AND COVERS

Data must be submitted on the special Cover Seal Offer form. Copies of the form may be obtained by writing to Cachets, Covers and Seals, Box 4129, Sidney, OH 45365, and enclosing an addressed stamped envelope.

The form also can be accessed on *Linn's* web site at www.linns.com.

Philatelic and philanthropic organizations may offer cachets, covers and souvenir seals for upcoming events in this column. This free listing will appear only once.

Completed forms should be submitted approximately eight weeks before the event being commemorated is to take place.

Jan. 26 Airmail centenary

The Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs will sponsor a commemorative show cachet and cancel at Southeastern Stamp Expo celebrating 100 years of U.S. airmail service. $2 each or three for $5. SEFSC, Box 71657, Marietta, GA 30007-1657. No. 10 addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) required. ■

Linn's Stamp NEWS

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We reserve the right to change the requested classification.

AUCTION CALENDAR

Jan. 17 **AB Philea**
Sweden, Scandinavia, Europe and worldwide stamps, covers and collections. AB Philea, Svartensgatan 6, Stockholm, Sweden.

Jan. 20 **Daugherty**
Worldwide stamps, covers, revenues, collections, literature, ephemera and large lots at Metroexpo Show, Holiday Inn, Exit 24 off I-495, Marlboro, Mass. Catalog available upon request. H.J.W. Daugherty, Box 1146, Eastham, MA 02642.

Jan. 21 **AVH**
British Commonwealth and worldwide, collections and box lots at Canons Hall, 1-17 Wemborough Road, Stanmore, Middlesex, England. AVH Stamp Auctions, Box 569, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 9NP, England.

Jan. 21 **Spink China**
Sinkiang postal history, the Manhattan collection, China and Hong Kong stamps and covers. Spink, 4/F and 5/F, Hua Fu Commercial Building, 111 Queen's Road W., Sheung Wan, Hong Kong.

Jan. 23-25 **Spink London**
The Brian Brookes collection of St. Kitts-Nevis; the Philatelic Collectors' series sale. Spink, 69 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 4ET, England.

Jan. 25 **Status International**
Australia and worldwide stamps, covers, collections and large lots. Status International Auctions, 64 Parramatta Road, Forest Lodge, NSW 2037, Australia.

Jan. 30-31 **Sparks**
Prince Edward Island, Canada and British North America, and worldwide stamps, postal history and collections. Sparks Auctions, 1550 Carling Ave., Suite 202, Ottawa, ON K1Z 8S8, Canada.

Jan. 31 **Corbitts**
Worldwide stamps, postal history, collections and accumulations at the Novotel Hotel, Ponteland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, England. Corbitts Ltd., 5 Mosley St., Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne & Wear, NE1 1YE, England.

Feb. 6-7 **Cherrystone**
U.S. and worldwide stamps and postal history. Cherrystone Auctions, 119 W. 57th St., Suite 316, New York, NY 10019.

Feb. 7 **Warwick & Warwick**
Worldwide stamps and covers in the ballroom of the Court House, Jury St., Warwick, England. Warwick & Warwick, Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB, England.

Feb. 8 **Kelleher**
The Deacon collection. Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, 22 Shelter Rock Lane, Unit 53, Danbury, CT 06810.

Feb. 17-18 **Rasdale**
Worldwide stamps, covers, collections, estates. Rasdale Stamp Co., 35 Chestnut Ave., Westmont, IL 60559-1127.

Feb. 20-23 **Gaertner**
Germany and worldwide stamps, covers and collections. Christoph Gaertner, Steinbeisstrasse 6+8, D-74321 Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany.

Feb. 20-23 **Kelleher**
Flagship sale. Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, 22 Shelter Rock Lane, Unit 53, Danbury, CT 06810.

Feb. 22-23 **Roelli-Schaer**
Worldwide stamps and covers. Roelli-Schaer AG, Haus zum Seidenhof, Sidenhofstrasse 2, CH-6003, Lucerne, Switzerland.

Feb. 23-24 **Eastern**
Admiral issue of Canada, Canadian and worldwide stamps and covers at the Lord Nelson Hotel & Suites in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Eastern Auctions Ltd, Box 250, Bathurst, NB E2A 3Z2, Canada.

Feb. 26 **Mossgreen**
Stamps and postal history. Mossgreen, 926 High St., Armadale, Victoria 3143, Australia.

Feb. 28-March 1 **Grosvenor**
British Empire and foreign countries, featuring India, Malaya, Singapore postal history. Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions, 399-401 Strand, London, England WC2R 0LT.

March 6-7 **Spink London**
Australian Kangaroo issues, Rhodesia Double Heads, Australian booklets, Great Britain and British Empire. Spink, 69 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 4ET, England.

March 7 **Warwick & Warwick**
Worldwide stamps and covers in the ballroom of the Court House, Jury St., Warwick, England. Warwick & Warwick, Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB, England.

March 9-10 **Kelleher**
Collections, stocks and accumulations of the world. Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, 22 Shelter Rock Lane, Unit 53, Danbury, CT 06810.

March 10, 15-17 **Corinphila Veilingen**
Netherlands and colonies, worldwide, single lots and collections. Corinphila Netherlands, Heemraadschapslaan 100, 1181 VC Amstelveen, Netherlands.

March 15-17 **Postiljonen**
The Gummesson collection of Finland, Part 4; Sweden rarities; Scandinavian and worldwide stamps, covers and collections at Oresundshuset, Hans Michelsensgatan 9, Malmo, Sweden. Postiljonen, Box 537, SE-201 25 Malmo, Sweden.

March 16 **Status International**
Australia and worldwide stamps, covers, collections and large lots. Status International Auctions, 64 Parramatta Road, Forest Lodge, NSW 2037, Australia.

March 20-24 **Koehler**
Germany and worldwide stamps, covers and collections. Heinrich Koehler Auktionshaus, Wilhelmstrasse 48, 65183 Wiesbaden, Germany.

March 23-24 **Hellman**
Worldwide stamps and postal history. Hellman Auctions Ltd., Philatelic Service of Finland, Noutokatu 3, 21100 Naantali, Finland.

March 29 **Colonial**
Great Britain and specialized British Empire. Colonial Stamp Co., 5757 Wilshire Blvd., Penthouse Suite 8, Los Angeles, CA 90036.

April 4 **Warwick & Warwick**
Worldwide stamps and covers in the ballroom of the Court House, Jury St., Warwick, England. Warwick & Warwick, Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB, England.

April 11-12 **Grosvenor**
Specialized Great Britain including King George V Controls, proofs and essays. Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions, 399-401 Strand, London, England WC2R 0LT.

April 13-14 **Schwarzenbach**
Swiss, Lichtenstein and worldwide stamps, postal history and collections. Catalog $20 postpaid by airmail. Schwarzenbach Auctions Zurich, Merkurstrasse 64, CH-8032, Zurich, Switzerland.

April 26-29 **Rumsey**
U.S. and worldwide stamps and covers, collections at the Westpex Exhibition, San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront. Schuyler J. Rumsey Auctions, 47 Kearny St., Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94108.

Auction houses should send information about upcoming public auctions to Auction Calendar, Linn's, Box 4129, Sidney, OH 45365, at least eight weeks before the sale. Catalogs should be sent as soon as available. The information sent should include the date of the sale, address, material to be offered and the price (if any) of the catalog. Mail-bid only sales (including Internet- and fax-bid sales) will not be included in the listings. ■

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AD ABBREVIATIONS

BC	British Commonwealth
CMS	Complete Matched Set
CTO	Cancelled to Order
CV	Catalog Value
Ducks	Federal Duck Hunting Stamps (Scott RW #'s)
Dune	Trucial States or South Arabian issues, most not listed by Scott
EFO's	Errors, Freaks and Oddities
FDC	First Day Cover
FFC	First Flight Cover
IC	Iron Curtain
IRC	International Reply Coupon
LP	Line Pair
MI	Marginal Inscription
MNH	Mint Never Hinged
MS	Matched Set
NG	No Gum
OG	Original Gum
PB	Plate Block
PFC	Philatelic Foundation Certificate
PNC	Plate Number Coil
PS	Plate Strip
RG	Regummed
SAE	Self-Addressed Envelope
SASE	Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope
SCV	Scott Catalog Value
S/S	Souvenir Sheet
SSAE	Stamped, Self-Addressed Envelope

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Announcements

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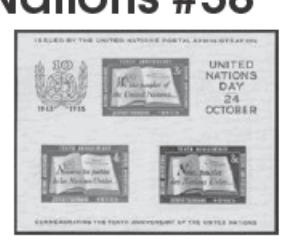

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Harris U.S. & British North American Postage Catalog 2018	29.95	22.45
Micarelli ID Guide to US Reg. Issues 1847-1934, 6th Ed.	39.95	29.95
Scott 2018 U.S. Pocket Stamp Catalog	32.50	25.95
Scott 2018 U.S. Specialized Stamp Catalog	134.99	94.95
Scott 2018 Worldwide Stamp Catalog Volume 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 ....each	134.95	89.95
Scott 2018 Worldwide Stamp Catalogs - Vol. 1-6 Complete Set	809.70	499.95
Scott 2018 Classic Worldwide Stamps 1840-1940	174.99	144.95
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	Mint	Tab		Mint	Tab
1975	4.	5.	1985	22.	28.
1976	4.	5.	1986	21.	29.
1977	6.	7.	1987	34.	41.
1978	6.	7.	1988	18.	25.
1979	5.	5.	1989	40.	47.
1980	8.	10.	1990	27.	32.
1981	11.	13.	1991	30.	36.
1982	16.	22.	1992	37.	53.
1983	17.	20.	1993	21.	25.
1984	13.	20.	1994	28.	35.

	Mint	Tab		Mint	Tab		Mint	Tab		Mint	Tab
1995	35.	42.	2002	42.	49.	2007	52.	53.	2012	67.	67.
1996	32.	35.	2003	47.	52.	2008	64.	65.	2013	67.	70.
1997	34.	38.	2004	30.	38.	2009	54.	55.	2014	67.	70.
1998	52.	58.	2005	39.	40.	2010	64.	65.	2015	72.	73.
1999	35.	37.	2006	42.	42.	2011	65.	65.	2016	79.	80.

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MNH 969, 972, 1079 3¢; 4352 $4.20; 4423 $5.75; 4474 $4.40. Other sheets in series 70% face. APS. Richard Sampson, 2714 Telequana, Anchorage, AK 99517

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February 26	February 5	March 19	February 26

Linn's Stamp NEWS
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Look for 1909 2¢ Seward stamp

United States — William Henry Seward (1801-72) was President Abraham Lincoln's secretary of state. As an anti-slavery Whig, he had previously served terms as governor of New York and as a senator. As the Whigs faded into history, he became one of the earliest members of the Republican Party.

Although the incident was largely overshadowed by Lincoln's assassination, Seward was attacked on the same night by one of John Wilkes Booth's co-conspirators. Seward was stabbed five times in the face and neck, but survived his wounds. His son was also stabbed but survived. His wife died, it was said from the shock of the attack, not long after.

Seward stayed on as President Andrew Johnson's secretary of state and loyally supported that embattled president through the impeachment crisis. In that office in 1867, Seward was responsible for the purchase of Alaska from Russia.

Known contemporaneously as "Seward's Folly," the acquisition of that huge, rich territory at the bargain price of $7.2 million is what he is most remembered for today.

The United States 2¢ William H. Seward stamp (Scott 370) is a good buy at $10 in very fine grade and mint never-hinged condition with no short perforation tips or other flaws.

On June 1, 1909, the U.S. Post Office Department issued a 2¢ William H. Seward stamp (Scott 370) commemorating the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition held in Seattle, Wash., June 1 to Oct. 16, 1909.

The Scott *Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers* values the stamp at $15 in mint never-hinged condition. The stamp is a good buy at $10 in very fine grade and mint never-hinged condition with no short perforation tips or other flaws. ■

Tip of the week

Trinidad — There was a time when every school child in America was taught the importance and achievements of Christopher Columbus. Cities, counties, streets, a Canadian province and a Latin American country were all named for him. Heroic statues dotted the landscape and a national holiday was celebrated in his honor.

Because of some revisionist interpretations, Columbus has fallen on hard times. Some historians have even rebranded his exploits as genocide. Despite all of this, Columbus remains popular with topical stamp collectors.

Many commemorative stamps have been issued for Columbus. One of the earliest and most attractive was issued by Trinidad. Trinidad lies in the Caribbean Sea just 7 miles off the coast of Venezuela.

The 1898 Trinidad 2-penny Landing of Columbus stamp (Scott 91) is in demand and a good buy in mint never-hinged condition at $5.

Columbus made landfall on the island during his third voyage in 1498. Trinidad became a British colony in 1797. Today it is part of the independent republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

In 1898, Trinidad issued a bicolor 2-penny Landing of Columbus stamp (Scott 91). The attractive engraved design shows Columbus and crew members debarking from a ship's boat.

The 2018 Scott *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* values the stamp at $3.25 in unused hinged condition. Although it is not a difficult stamp to find, there is steady demand for it.

The stamp is a good buy in unused hinged condition at Scott catalog value. Try spending a little extra and get a mint never-hinged example, which is a great buy at $5. — H.G & R.M.

LINN'S 2017 U.S. STAMP POPULARITY POLL

Select from the following list the 2017 **commemorative stamps**; 2017 **definitive and special stamps**; and 2017 **postal stationery** that have the best and worst designs in your opinion, as well as those you feel are the most important and least necessary in subject.

VOTE BY THE NUMBER PRECEDING THE ISSUE NAME ONLY

Commemorative stamps

1. Year of the Rooster	2. Dorothy Height	3. Oscar de la Renta
4. John F. Kennedy	5. Nebraska Statehood	6. WPA Posters
7. Mississippi Statehood	8. Henry David Thoreau	9. Sports Balls
10. Total Solar Eclipse	11. Andrew Wyeth	12. Disney Villains
13. Sharks	14. Protect Pollinators	15. Father Ted Hesburgh
16. National Museum of African American History and Culture	17. History of Hockey	

BEST DESIGN_____ **WORST DESIGN**_____ **MOST IMPORTANT**_____ **LEAST NECESSARY**_____

Definitive and special stamps

18. Love Skywriting	19. Liliuokalani Gardens	20. Gateway Arch
21. U.S. Flag	22. Seashells	23. USA Star
24. Uncle Sam's Hat	25. Robert Panara	26. Delicioso
27. Green Succulent	28. Boutonniere	29. Corsage
30. Strawberries	31. Flowers from the Garden	32. The Snowy Day
33. Christmas Carols	34. Alzheimer's	

BEST DESIGN_____ **WORST DESIGN**_____ **MOST IMPORTANT**_____ **LEAST NECESSARY**_____

Postal stationery

35. Northern Cardinal forever stamped envelope	37. Barn Swallow forever stamped envelope
36. Liliuokalani Gardens Priority Mail stamped envelope	38. Azulilo Chilean Blue Crocus forever postal card

BEST DESIGN_____ **WORST DESIGN**_____ **MOST IMPORTANT**_____ **LEAST NECESSARY**_____

Now vote for your single personal favorite stamp issue of 2017. Your choice can be from the commemorative, definitive-special or postal stationery categories. Se-tenant issues (different designs in one pane) are counted as one issue.

MY FAVORITE 2017 STAMP
(please write in number and stamp issue name):

No. _____ **Issue** _____

SEND BALLOT TO: Linn's Stamp Poll, Box 4129, Sidney, OH 45365.

All ballots must be postmarked by March 1, 2018. Photocopied ballots are acceptable. Stamps are pictured in the Dec. 18 issue on pages 20-21.

Stamps printed using flocked paper

Continued from page 24

said, "With fur-effect paper, these stamps are soft to the touch and gentle on the eye."

Also, Portugal's CTT reported that it used a flock technique to "resemble the smoothness and softness of cotton" on its souvenir sheet issued June 16, 2017, as part of its Portuguese Textile Industry set.

In addition to creating flock stamps with a smooth texture, a similar printing technique was used to produce wrinkled-texture flock stamps for Estonia, Malaysia and Switzerland.

The stamps from Estonia and Malaysia show animals.

Issued July 19, 2014, the Estonian stamp commemorates the 100th anniversary of native-bred cattle (Scott 763). Pandas are featured on the Malaysian souvenir sheet of two issued Feb. 25, 2015 (1541).

The Swiss stamp, issued May 7, 2015 (Scott 1561), is designed to resemble human skin.

Swiss Post said that this stamp "represents a piece of the largest functional organ in the human body and features a tactile surface, modelled on skin."

Each of the motifs corresponds to the subtle textured surfaces very well.

I believe that flock stamps belong in their own category of unusual material, differing from other fabric stamps, such as those with embroidery or silk.

The special touch and three-dimensional quality of flock stamps made collecting even more fun. ■

Trickies

Trickies on page 24

HORTA, SWEDEN, NORTH, STATE, POSTAGE.

The vet said that the strange whinny indicated that the HORSE WAS HOARSE. ■

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