



# San Jose Stamp Club

## Newsletter



Whole number 190

February 2014



**9 - 11-WE WILL NEVER FORGET**

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**Visit our website at:**

**[filateliefiesta.org](http://filateliefiesta.org)**

**Founded 1927, Club show since 1928**  
**Meets 7:00 PM, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays**  
**Hilltop Manor in 3<sup>rd</sup> floor dining room**  
**790 Ironwood Drive, San Jose, California**  
**Driving instructions on the website.**

#### Annual dues:

**Adults/families \$12 ~ Youths \$6**  
**With hardcopy of newsletter \$20**

**APS chapter # 0264-025791**

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#### Contents

Pot-pourrie & The Prez Sez .....	2
The First Rocket Scientist .....	3
More On the UPU .....	4
Author of Lincoln Mystery Letter Identified .	5
A Sultan Battery .....	6
Covers, Cards, Stamps, etc. ....	7
Show Calendar, Want ads .....	8

### USPS postage rate increase:

First Class Letters (1 oz.) will increase by three cents to \$0.49 from \$0.46.

Each additional ounce will cost an extra \$0.21 (up one cent from 2013).

NEW! The USPS has introduced a new First Class letter rate for the "Metered Mail" category, which includes online postage providers and postage meters. This new rate would be \$0.48, one cent below the retail rate of \$0.49 for First Class Letters.

First Class Flats (1 oz.) will increase by six cents to \$0.98 from \$0.92. Each additional ounce will cost an extra \$0.21 (up one cent from 2013).

Postcard rates will increase by one cent to \$0.34 from \$0.33.

Priority Mail Commercial Base (online postage) rates will continue to start at \$5.05 and in some weight ranges and zones, the prices will be reduced compared to 2013.

Priority Mail Express Commercial Base (online postage) rates will increase by an average of 3% and will start at \$16.95 (previously at \$13.09).

First Class Package Service will see an average increase of 5% in 2014.

NEW! A new "Zone 9" delivery zone has been introduced to represent U.S. territories and freely associated states (Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau) for Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express.

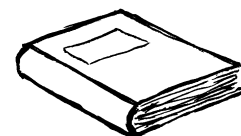
NEW! A new morning delivery service option will become available for Priority Mail Express. For an extra \$5.00 fee, Priority Mail Express packages can be delivered to their destinations by 10:30am.

NEW! Priority Mail International: The maximum weight for Rate Group 2 (Mexico) has been increased to 70 lbs. from 44 lbs.

NEW! Commercial Plus Pricing: The minimum annual package volume threshold for cubic pricing and other Commercial Plus offerings will be lowered to 50,000 packages.

NEW! The following countries are now also eligible for USPS Tracking™: Estonia, Finland, Gibraltar, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Portugal, and Singapore.

Read very carefully—there's some good, some questionable and some overdue. Hopefully this will help the USPS out of their quandary for a while—should have increased 1st class to 50¢.



### Closed Albums

We are very saddened to report the passing of Jacques Nere Refregier. A long time member of the San Jose Stamp Club, Jacques was a dedicated collector of France and precancels. Jacques was born December 7, 1920, and passed on January 12, 2014. He was a Radio Electric employee at United Air Lines and was a Pearl Harbor survivor. A native of St. Pierre des Corps, France. Jacques is survived by four daughters: Lea-Ann, Marie, Jacquelyn and Robin; Grand-daughter Jennifer and brother-in-law, Richard McCartney. A private interment to be held in Omaha, Nebraska. A celebration of his life was held at his home on January 18. God speed Jacques, you are missed.



### \$2 Inverted Jenny

Let's face it, no one who collects U.S. singles wants to buy a mini-pane of six to fill that space, unless you mail a lot of flats or packages.

Dealer/member Richard Clever to the rescue. Richard does mail a lot of flats and buys dollar value stamps regularly including a number of the \$2 Jennys and will sell you a single that he leaves on the backing, usually a corner, at face. See him at a club meeting. You might also inquire of him about a set of singles of the "wave" stamps, mint or used, sorry not at face, but I'm sure he will give all club members a good price.

### DUES

**Dues are due, and while we don't want to lose you, we can't afford to carry you, so please pay them now. Thanks**

**Gung Hay Fat Choy**



## Northern California Trivia

Q The oldest continuously operating theater west of the Rockies is situated in what California town?

A Nevada City.

Q Where in the Sierra Nevada Mountains is an operating steam engine train?

A At the Yosemite Mountain Sugar Pine Railroad.

From *Northern California Trivia* by Ernie & Jill Couch

## Irish Luck

His name was Fleming, and he was a poor Scottish farmer. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog.

There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death. The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse surroundings. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved. "I want to repay you," said the nobleman. "You saved my son's life."

"No, I can't accept payment for what I did," the Scottish farmer replied waving off the offer. At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family hovel.

"Is that your son?" the nobleman asked.

"Yes," the farmer replied proudly.

"I'll make you a deal. Let me provide him with the level of education my own son will enjoy. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll no doubt grow to be a man we both will be proud of." And that he did.

Farmer Fleming's son attended the very best schools and in time, graduated from St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin.

Years afterward, the same nobleman's son who was saved from the bog was stricken with pneumonia. What saved his life this time? Penicillin.

The name of the nobleman? Lord Randolph Churchill. His son's name? Sir Winston Churchill.

Someone once said: What goes around comes around.

"The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed, lest Rome become bankrupt. People must again learn to work instead of living on public assistance."—Cicero, 55 BC

**So, evidently we've learned nothing in the past 2,059 years.**

"He therefore is the truest friend to the liberty of his country who tries most to promote its virtue, and who, so far as his power and influence extend, will not suffer a man to be chosen into any office of power and trust who is not a wise and virtuous man... The sum of all is, if we would most truly enjoy this gift of Heaven, let us become a virtuous people."—Samuel Adams

## The Prez Sez

Anyone who cares about the future of philately has to be concerned that there are too few new collectors coming into the hobby. We can sit around and whine about why or we can take action. What action you ask? I plan write about it in my column over the next few months.

Let's start this discussion with putting a few facts out on the table:

- Stamp collecting is not going to regain the popularity it had from the 1930's to into the 1970's. Boo-hoo, boo-hoo, now get over it and realize it doesn't need to be a viable and thriving hobby.
- There are inaccurate and negative perceptions of stamp collecting in the general public. Ignoring them isn't going to make them going away. Addressing them straight-on is what is going to improve public opinion.
- The entire stamp collecting community needs to empower the APS to create a comprehensive marketing campaign for the hobby. As I wrote about in my August 2013 column, our hobby gained tremendous popularity without any coordinated effort and now is suffering from this lack of effort. It's time to get busy!

First, the hobby needs to target all age groups; men and women; races and ethnicities. The obvious remains true, collecting (anything) is not for everyone, but there is no demographic that cannot enjoy it.

Second, instead of blaming the Internet for killing stamp collecting, we need to embrace new technologies.

Third, invite and encourage creativity. It is critical to get some new energy and style into the hobby. Sorry if this offends anyone, as I've talked to a few who think anything creative as diminishing to our beloved hobby. [Encourage scrapbooking materials] [Invite genealogists] All of these ideas.

These actions will demonstrate to everyone that the tired old stereotype that stamp collecting is only for old men who paste boring stamps into dusty albums is wrong.

Break old stereotypes.

On conference call with new member group at APS.

—Brian

**Help Wanted:** The SJSC urgently needs volunteers to take the following leadership positions. LOTS of help and guidance is available to assist you on these positions. You're not singly responsible for the task - just to take a leadership position. Please ask for more details.

**Membership Coordinator:** Lead efforts to grow club membership. We have a good thing going here and we need someone to lead efforts to spread the word and invite more people come visit a meeting.

**Program Coordinator:** A key part of the success of the club is having meeting programs that grow and enhance our philatelic knowledge. You'll schedule presentations and programs for our club meetings. Contact members and others in the philatelic community for programs. This is an opportunity to be creative. Everyone in the club should expect to contribute to at least one program through the year.

Remember, you're not doing these jobs alone. Please step-up and volunteer. We have so much potential ahead of us. We'll meet it if we all contribute.

—Brian



## The First Rocket Scientist

On October 5, 1882, Robert Goddard was born in Worcester, Massachusetts. Early in life, young Robert suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis which kept him out of school for long periods of time. However, he kept up with his studies and was an avid reader, devouring popular science fiction novels. In fact, it was after reading H.G. Wells' *"The War of the Worlds"* that he first became interested in space exploration.



Robert Goddard, bundled against the cold New England weather of March 16, 1926, holds the launching frame of his most notable invention — the first liquid-fueled rocket.

He later wrote in his autobiography about an inspiration that came to him as a boy. While his family was staying at the suburban home of friends in Worcester, on October 19, 1899, he climbed into an old cherry tree to prune its dead branches. Instead, he began daydreaming: I looked toward the fields at the east, I imagined how wonderful it would be to make some device which had even the possibility of ascending to Mars, and how it would look on a small scale, if sent up from the meadow at my feet."

"I was a different boy when I descended the tree from when I ascended, for existence at last seemed very purposive." Five years later, after graduating from school, Robert Goddard applied and was accepted at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. In 1907, while a student at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts, Goddard experimented on a rocket powered with gunpowder in the basement of the physics building. Clouds of smoke caused a lot of commotion and the faculty, rather than expel him, took an interest in his work. He received his degree in physics in 1908 and was made a Fellow in the physics department at Clark University. There, he received his master's degree in 1910 and in 1911 he received his doctorate.

By 1914, Goddard already had received two U.S. patents: one for a rocket using liquid fuel and the other for a two, or three-stage rocket using solid fuel. Until that time, propulsion was provided by various types of gunpowder.

That year, he began teaching physics at Clark University in Worcester. His thoughts on space flight started to emerge in 1915, when he theorized that a rocket would work in a vacuum, and didn't need to push against air in order to fly. This meant that in the vacuum of space, rocket engines would be able to produce thrust. At his own expense, he began to make systematic studies about propulsion provided by various types of gunpowder. He began experiments on the efficiency of rockets. He bought some commercial rockets and measured their thrust using a ballistic pendulum, a heavy mass suspended by ropes, to which the rocket was attached. The rocket was fired, and the height to which the pendulum rose provided a measure of the total momentum (mass times velocity) imparted to it. Goddard also used an equivalent set-up, where the mass pushed against a spring, instead of being suspended.



Robert H. Goddard, Scott C69, issued October 5, 1964.

His classic document was a study that he wrote in 1916 requesting funds of the Smithsonian Institution so that he could continue his research. This was later published along with his subsequent research and Navy work in a Smithsonian Miscellaneous Publication No. 2540 (January 1920). It was entitled "A Method of Reaching Extreme Altitudes." In this treatise, he detailed his search for methods of raising weather recording instruments higher than sounding balloons. In this search, as he related, he developed the mathematical theories of rocket propulsion.

Funding from the Smithsonian Institution allowed Goddard to continue his rocket research and develop the mathematical theories of rocket propulsion. In 1920, the Smithsonian published his original paper, "A Method for Reaching Extreme Altitudes," in which he included a small section stressing that rockets could be used to send payloads to the Moon exploding a load of flash powder there to mark its arrival. The bulk of his scientific report to the Smithsonian was a dry explanation of how he used the \$5000 grant in his research. Yet, the press picked up Goddard's scientific proposal about a rocket flight to the moon and erected a journalistic controversy concerning the feasibility of such a thing. Much ridicule came Goddard's way. And he reached firm convictions about the virtues of the press corps which he held for the rest of his life. Goddard died in 1945. His last five years of life he was conducting rocket experiments in a special laboratory. He launched sixty-three rockets, eleven which reached true outer space. The location of his special laboratory? Roswell, New Mexico! Shortly after Goddard's death, the U. S. Military established a base there.

Is it too far fetched to suggest that since man-made rockets were launched into outer space from this location, that "spacemen" came down to see where they came from?

If we got one-tenth of what was promised to us in these State of the Union speeches, there wouldn't be any inducement to go to heaven.—Will Rogers

## More On the UPU

The Universal Postal Union (UPU, French: Union Postale Universelle) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that coordinates postal policies among member nations, in addition to the worldwide postal system. The UPU contains four bodies consisting of the Congress, the Council of Administration (CA), the Postal Operations Council (POC) and the International Bureau (IB). It also oversees two cooperatives including the Telematics and EMS Cooperatives respectively. Each member agrees to the same terms for conducting international postal duties. The UPU's headquarters are located in Bern, Switzerland.

French is the official language of the UPU. English was added as a working language in 1994. The majority of the UPU's documents and publications—including its flagship magazine, *Union Postale*—are available in the United Nations' official languages.

### Overview

Prior to the establishment of the UPU, each country had to prepare a separate postal treaty with other nations it wished to carry international mail to or from. In some cases, senders would have to calculate postage for each leg of a journey, and potentially find mail forwarders in a third country if there was no direct delivery. To simplify the complexity of this system, the United States called for an International Postal Congress in 1863. This led Heinrich von Stephan, Royal Prussian and later German Minister for Posts, to found the Universal Postal Union. It is currently the third oldest international organization after the Rhine Commission and the ITU [citation needed]. The UPU was created in 1874, initially under the name "General Postal Union", as a result of the Treaty of Bern signed on October 9, 1874. Four years later, the name was changed to "Universal Postal Union."

### The UPU established that:

- There should be a uniform flat rate to mail a letter anywhere in the world.
- Postal authorities should give equal treatment to foreign and domestic mail.
- Each country should retain all money it has collected for international postage.

One of the most important results of the UPU Treaty was that it ceased to be necessary, as it often had been previously, to affix the stamps of any country through which one's letter or package would pass in transit. The UPU provides that stamps of member nations are accepted for the entire international route.

After the foundation of the United Nations, the UPU became a specialized agency of the UN in 1948. In 1969, the UPU introduced a new system of payment where fees were payable between countries according to the difference in the total weight of mail between them. These fees were called terminal dues. Ultimately, this new system was fairer when traffic was heavier in one direction than the other. As a matter of example, in 2012, terminal dues for transit from China to the USA was 0.635 SDR/kg, or about 1 USD/kg.

As this affected the cost of the delivery of periodicals, the UPU devised a new "threshold" system, which it later implemented in 1991. The system sets separate letter and periodical rates for countries which receive at least 150 tonnes of mail annually. For countries with less mail, the original flat rate is still maintained. The United States has negotiated a separate terminal dues formula with thirteen European countries that includes a rate per piece

plus a rate per kilogram; it has a similar arrangement with Canada. The UPU also operates the system of International Reply Coupons and addresses concerns with ETOEs (Extraterritorial Office of Exchange).

### Standards

Standards are important prerequisites for effective postal operations and for interconnecting the global network. The UPU's Standards Board develops and maintains a growing number of international standards to improve the exchange of postal-related information between postal operators. It also promotes the compatibility of UPU and international postal initiatives. The organization works closely with postal handling organizations, customers, suppliers and other partners, including various international organizations. The Standards Board ensures that coherent regulations are developed in areas such as Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), mail encoding, postal forms and meters. UPU standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in Part V of the "General information on UPU Standards" and are published by the UPU International Bureau in accordance with Part VII of that publication.

### Member countries

All United Nations member states are all allowed to become members of the UPU. A non-member state of the United Nations may also become a member if two-thirds of the UPU member countries approve its request. The UPU currently has 192 members (190 states and two joint memberships of dependent territories groups).

Member states of the UPU are the Vatican City and the 193 UN members less Andorra, Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau. The newest member is South Sudan, which joined on 4 October 2011.

The overseas constituent countries of the Netherlands (Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten) are represented as a single UPU member as are the entire British overseas territories. These members were originally listed separately as "Colonies, Protectorates, etc." in the Universal Postal Convention and they were grandfathered in when membership was restricted to sovereign states.

Andorra, Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Palau have their mail delivered through another UPU member (the United States for the Compact of Free Association states and France and Spain for Andorra).

Palestine was granted special observer status to the UPU in 1999, and in 2008 Israel agreed for its mail to be routed through Jordan though this had not been implemented as of November 2012.

The Republic of China joined the UPU on March 1, 1914. After the People's Republic of China was founded, the Republic of China continued to represent China in the UPU, until the organization decided on April 13, 1972 to recognize the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate Chinese representative. Because of this, International Reply Coupons are not available for Taiwan. Mail addressed to Taiwan is still delivered there, albeit through a third country [which?].

The other states with limited recognition such as Somaliland and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) also route their mail through third countries because the UPU will not allow direct international deliveries. For example, the TRNC's mail goes via Turkey and Somaliland's mail via Ethiopia).

### Congresses

The Universal Postal Congress is the most important body of the UPU. The main purpose of the quadrennial Congress is to

examine proposals to amend the Acts of the UPU, including the UPU Constitution, General Regulations, Convention and Postal Payment Services Agreement. The Congress also serves as forum for participating member countries to discuss a broad range of issues impacting international postal services, such as market trends, regulation and other strategic issues. The first UPU Congress was held in Bern, Switzerland in 1874. Delegates from 22 countries participated. UPU Congresses are held every four years and delegates often receive special philatelic albums produced by member countries covering the period since the previous Congress.



The Universal Postal Union Flag

### Philatelic activities

The Universal Postal Union, in conjunction with the World Association for the Development of Philately, developed the WADP Numbering System (WNS). It was launched on January 1, 2002. The website displays entries for some 160 countries and emitting postal entities, with over 25,000 registered stamps since 2002. Many of them have images, which generally remain copyrighted by the issuing country, but the UPU and WADP permit them to be downloaded.

### Electronic telecommunication

In some countries, telegraph and later telephones came under the same government department as the postal system. Similarly there was an International Telegraph Bureau, based in Bern, akin to the UPU. The International Telecommunication Union currently facilitates international electronic communication.

**I was a bit surprised after I wrote the first article on the UPU how little was known about this organization by stamp collectors. It's hoped this second article will shed a little more light on the UPU and its activities. Type UPU into your browser and a number of sites will come with more information.-ed.**

Early aircraft's throttles had a ball on the end of it. In order to go full throttle, the pilot had to push the throttle all the way forward into the wall of the instrument panel. Hence "balls to the wall" for going very fast. And now you know the rest of the story.

\*\*\*\*\*

During WWII, U.S. airplanes were armed with belts of bullets which they would shoot during dogfights and on strafing runs. These belts were folded into the wing compartments that fed their machine guns. These belts measure 27 feet and contained hundreds of rounds of bullets. Often times, the pilots would return from their missions having expended all of their bullets on various targets. They would say, "I gave them the whole nine yards," meaning they used up all of their ammunition.

### Author of Lincoln Mystery Letter Identified

It's been more than 25 years since workers renovating Abraham Lincoln's home in Springfield found a letter fragment in a mouse's nest inside a wall, but researchers think they've finally identified the mystery letter's author.

The clue was a mention of poetry.

Lincoln had exchanged several letters with a newspaper editor about poetry and politics. So Stacy Pratt McDermott, an associate editor of The Papers of Abraham Lincoln, set about comparing the handwriting on the fragment with a letter that Andrew Johnston had written to Lincoln in 1865 and a note that Johnston had written in 1872 on an old letter from Lincoln.



Advance artwork for the new Lincoln stamp to be issued 2014.

The match was unmistakable. Besides solving a mystery, the discovery sheds light on a lesser explored aspect of Lincoln's character. "It illuminates an interesting part of Lincoln's career in that he enjoyed poetry and tried his own hand at poetry," Papers of Abraham Lincoln Director Daniel Stowell told The (Springfield) State Journal-Register.

Johnston was a native of Richmond, Va., and published the Quincy Whig in Illinois, and Lincoln had written to him on February 25, 1846, to send him a piece of poetry he had requested.

Johnston's reply, sent on March 10 from Quincy, Ill., was the mystery letter. In it he thanks the future president for the poem and asks if Lincoln was its author.

In an April 18 letter, Lincoln responded that he was not, but added that he would "give all I am worth, and go in debt, to be able to write so fine a piece as I think that is."

Somehow, the March 10 letter from Johnston ended up stuffed into a wall in Lincoln's home. Some theories are that it was put there as insulation or by mischievous boys known to stuff things into cracks in the walls.

The fragment was uncovered in 1987 during a full restoration of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site.

That it survived is all the more remarkable because many of Lincoln's documents from before he became president were burned, Stowell said.

"They were cleaning house before he went to Washington in 1847 and again in 1861, and they were considered junk," Stowell told The Journal-Register. "This survived because it was put in a wall for whatever reason."

Information from: The State Journal-Register

**An intense search of the internet failed to produce an image of Andrew Johnston. Contact has been made with the Journal-Register to see if they are aware of any image of Johnston.-ed.**



## A Sultan Battery

Zanzibar's second stamp issue, printed in an unusual mixture of recess and letterpress in 1899, was predicated on the outcome of the shortest war in world history.

The British Empire was always alert to developments in Zanzibar in the 19th century, because of its strategic importance for trade along the east coast of Africa.

Imperial influence was clear from the fact that an Indian post office was opened there as early as 1868, and the Heligoland-Zanzibar treaty of 1890 formally established a British Protectorate over the island.

Initially Indian and later British East African stamps overprinted with the word 'Zanzibar' were used. And even when these were replaced by the first proper issue of Zanzibar in 1896, there was no doubting that Britain remained the power behind the throne. Or was there?

Produced by De La Rue, the first definitive series comprised ten low values from ½a to 8a and five larger-format high values from 1r to 5r. They were quite magnificent and unusual, recess-printed in a range of colours but with the distinctive draped red flags of Zanzibar added by letterpress.



Sultan Seyyid Hamoud-bin-Mohammed-bin-Said,  
Scott 62 - 78, issued 1899 to 1901.

By the time they appeared, however, the local potentate they depicted, Sultan Hamad bin Thwaini, was no more. He died suddenly, almost certainly poisoned, on August 25, 1896, which sparked a brief but bitter struggle for succession.

The British favoured a candidate named Hamoud bin Mohammad, who was quietly sympathetic to their interests. But the contender with the sharpest sword generally won the day in Zanzibar, and the Colonial power was in for something of a shock.

Supported by a posse of 60 armed men, Thwaini's cousin, Khalid bin Barghash, slammed the gates of the Beit el Sahel palace shut in the face of the British and proclaimed himself Sultan, rallying 2,000 more supporters.

The British were furious, and issued an ultimatum for Khalid to disarm and surrender by 9am the following day, August 26. When he declined, he felt the full force of the Royal Navy.

At 9:02am, five British ships anchored in the harbor and opened fire on the palace, cheered on by foreign visitors who had gathered on the roof of the English Club to spectate. Within half an hour Beit el Sahel was badly damaged, the old lighthouse set ablaze and 500 people had been killed or wounded.

At 9:40am Khalid duly surrendered, before escaping through the narrow streets of Zanzibar City to be offered asylum in the German consulate.

The Anglo-Zanzibar War had been the shortest war in history, all over in 38 minutes. And it insured that when a fine second issue of stamps appeared in June 1899, to the same unconventional design as the first, it was Sultan Hamoud whose portrait they bore.

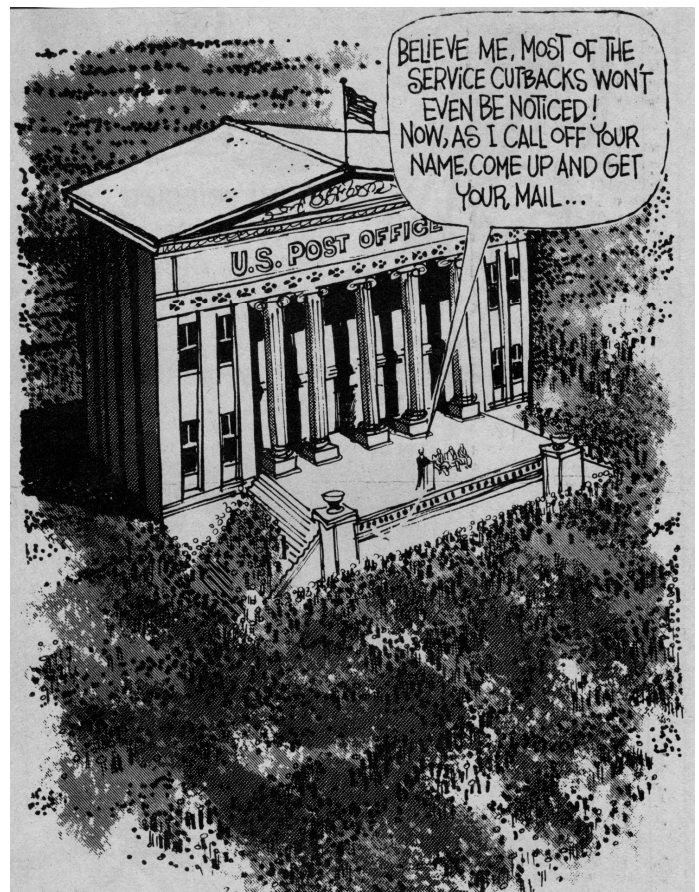


The 'Two & Hlaf' error, Scott 98a. Issued in 1904.

Where the first issue had offered some interesting collectables in the form of permanent plate flaws and rare bisects of the 5a on cover, the second appeared to have no outstanding features—that is, until some stamps had to be locally surcharged in 1904.

The process created several rare varieties, most strikingly and amusingly the 'Two & Hlaf' spelling error, which can be found on both the 2½a on 8a and 2½a on 7½a values.

From *50 Fabulous Stamps of the British Empire*, magazine style 'book', issue date unknown.-ed.





# Covers, Cards, Stamps, etc.

We've all seen them, on television, on the news, in the papers, in viral video clips—outlandish venues for weddings and for proposals. None of this is new. A postcard from the Nut Tree (Do you remember the Nut Tree, did you ever fly in there for lunch?) with a 1983 copyright date reproduces a photograph from 1919. The photo shows a wedding party on the ground after the first aerial wedding on July 28, 1919. From left to right: Alexander Wouter, Chaplain; Lieutenant George Burgess, the groom; Miss Milly K. Schaefer, the bride; Miss Doris Schob, bridesmaid; and Commander Archie Miller. Too bad there isn't a photo of the ceremony in flight—where was everyone located on this “flying machine” with only two seats???



I think the ‘first aerial wedding’ is a misnomer—it should have been ‘first inflight aeroplane wedding ceremony’ as the first ‘aerial’ wedding took place in a balloon 45 years earlier. The following was found on-line: The first aerial wedding took place over Cincinnati, Ohio on October 19, 1874. Hot-air balloon pilot Washington Harrison Donaldson took the bride, Elizabeth Walsh, the groom, Charles Colton, the minister, Howard B. Jeffries, and two witnesses airborne. The party lifted off from Cincinnati's Lincoln Park. The bride and groom were both employees of P.T. Barnum's Roman Hippodrome. They toured the United States of America, performing entertaining feats. This flight was not part of Barnum's show. This flight illustrates the important role that Ohioans have played in aviation. With such important names as the Wright Brothers, John Glenn, Neil Armstrong, and numerous others, Ohioans have been at the forefront of aviation history, accomplishing numerous “firsts,” even seemingly unimportant ones like the first aerial wedding.

When I was a boy I was told that anybody could become President; I'm beginning to believe it.—Clarence Darrow



FEBRUARY MEETINGS ARE ON THE 5TH & 19TH  
MARCH MEETINGS ARE ON THE 5TH & 19TH



## Show Calendar

March 1 - 2

Novapex

Redding Senior Center  
2290 Benton Drive, Redding

Sat 10 - 5, Sun 10 - 4

Free Admission - Free parking

March 22 - 23

Sunnyvale 3 Dealer Show

Sheraton Sunnyvale

1100 N. Mathilda Avenue, Sunnyvale

Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 4

Free Admission - Free parking

The San Jose Post Card Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (excepting July & August)  
in the Hilltop Manor dining room at 7 pm.  
Visit the SJSC website at: [filateliefiesta.org](http://filateliefiesta.org)

## Advertisements

Members may place an ad here to run for three months unless sold. Three at a time or as space allows.  
No politically incorrect, risqué, illegal or offensive material accepted. Editor will edit.

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**SPECIAL** - I've acquired a half dozen Scott 2542, this is the \$14 eagle in flight - the first six club members may buy one for 40% of Scott Cat 15 - 6.00

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