

San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

August 2018

2018 Club Officers*

President

*Brian Jones 408 300 3377
Bfj39@yahoo.com

Vice President

*David Occhipinti 408 723 0122

Secretary

*Stan Flowerdew 408 378 5550
sflowerdew@earthlink.net

Treasurer

*Richard Clever 408 238 0893
richard@asiaphilatelics.com

Webmaster/Newsletter

Jim Steinwinder 408 644 4090
calcps@aol.com

Blog

Ron Biell 408 323 8702
Rbiell-dsl@sbcglobal.net

Filatellic Fiesta

Chairwoman

Jessica Rodriguex 408 656 0623

Bourse Chairman

Ryan Wellmaker 618-231-1860

Exhibits Chairman

Nestor Nunez 415-290-3044

Club Website

www.sanjosesc.com

Club Blog

www.sjscblog.net

Filatellic Fiesta Website

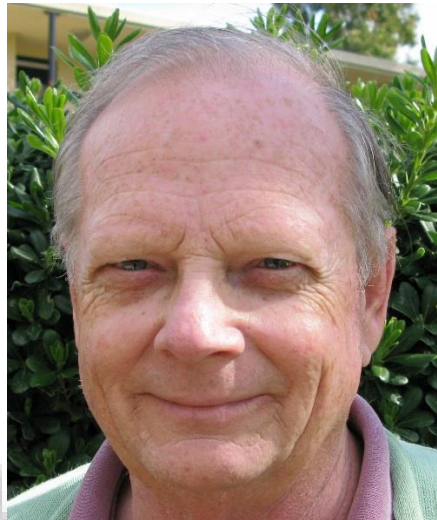
www.filatellicfiesta.com

Correspondence:

San Jose Stamp Club
PO Box 730993
San Jose, CA 95173



the San Jose Stamp
Club on Facebook



Sad News

I am sure that everyone is aware that we lost a very valued club member, Hubert Jansen, in early July. I was both shocked and deeply saddened by his passing.

Hubert was such a delight to be around. As Brian has noted, In a world where so many look at something and think “what can I take out of this”, Hubert was the opposite and was always looking at what he could contribute. I for one ditto that sentiment completely.

It was Hubert that let the club store Filatellic Fiesta frames in his garage until we could arrange new storage at the fairgrounds. Hubert took care of all the new signage we use for the show. He was there for setup and takedown for every Filatellic Fiesta that I’ve been involved with and probably a lot more before I became involved with club. Hubert often brought interesting aeronautical/train covers and material to the club meetings for everyone to enjoy. He kept us aware of various local events that we might like to attend, complete with flyers and directions. He gave delightful presentations at club meetings that I enjoyed and will miss. He was very involved with the annual summer picnic and Christmas dinner every December. He volunteered to work at the various events in which the club has participated, such as the Sunnyvale Antique Faire and the shows at Napredak Hall. He was often at Brian’s house for the various work sessions sorting donations and manage to attend most if not all the Filatellic Fiesta planning meetings.

While Hubert was often quiet or soft spoken at the meetings, he always had insightful input when asked about any number of issues or problems that have been discussed. Never negative, always positive. Such rare qualities to be found in this day and age.

While Hubert was a valued member of the San Jose Stamp Club, he was also president of the San Jose Postcard club. His plate was indeed full, but he always had time to help with any club project. Both clubs are going to miss his positive nature and willingness to be involved in the needs of both organizations.

Let the memories and the example he set be an inspiration and guide for all of us. His kindness, positive attitude and the leadership he displayed were uplifting. I am thankful for the short time I had to spend with Hubert.

There will be a Memorial Mass, Saturday, August 4, 10:00am, at St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish, 1971 St. Lawrence Drive, Santa Clara. Light lunch to follow.

I close with this sentiment from a song by Michael Nesmith, “My only thoughts of him are kind!” Rest in Peace Hubert.

San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

August 2018

Table of Contents

Page

3	The Expertizing of Stamps, Part 1
5	Seven Wonders of the World
8	A Short History of the Chinese Post
9	American Civil War Adversity Covers
11	Stamps Gathered for a Good Cause
12	Some Famous Stamp Collectors

Club Blog & Website

Blog Updates

No Activity

Website Updates

Minutes of 06/20/18 club meeting uploaded.
SJSC in Print page updated.
July 2018 Newsletter uploaded.

Remember the dates!

Aug 1	San Jose Stamp Club Meeting
Aug 15	San Jose Stamp Club Meeting
Aug 18	SJSC/SJPC - Summer Picnic
Aug 25-26	Vintage Paper Show – San Francisco

President's Message

Each month when I sit down to write my "President's Message", I open last months and try to build on that and at least not repeat myself. I opened my July column with the question "Are we having fun?". Of course I had no idea we'd lose one of our most cherished members in the coming month. As you have heard by now, long time club member Hubert Jensen passed away on July 6th. He will be very much missed for his friendship, gentle way and kindness. As I wrote earlier, our culture has developed a dark side to some people who look at something for what they can take out of it. Hubert was one of the special people who looked for what he could contribute. That should not be taken for granted. I will miss him.

As Hubert fought a long battle with diabetes, the SJSC will make a donation to the American Diabetes Association in his memory in lieu of flowers at the memorial.

One of the many things Hubert gave his time to was the SJ Postcard Club. He often showed his aero and train postcards at SJSC meetings. Speaking of the Postcard Club, I'm looking forward to annual joint picnic on Saturday August 18th at noon. Please plan to join us and bring something to share. Watch your email for full details.

Filatelie Fiesta is approaching fast so it is time to get serious about getting busy to help make this another great show. The question isn't IF you're going to help, but HOW. A few of the areas where we need help are:

- Marketing & Promotion
 - Before the show, we need to distribute fliers to libraries & coffee shops
 - Postings on social media sites like Facebook and Nextdoor
- Registration Table
 - Greet show guests and have them sign-in
 - We're planning a couple of raffles to encourage attendance.
- Hospitality Area
 - Free food, water, and coffee is only half of the hospitality equation
 - Engage our guests in a conversation on where they're from and ask if they are a member of their local stamp club. If not, talk up visiting a meeting.
 - This is the best way to recruit new club members and make show guests feel welcome.
- Club Sales & Auction
 - Help with our annual club sales.
 - We hope to hold an auction on Sunday morning.
- Youth Table
 - Before the show, need help soaking and sorting stamp donations.
 - Work with the young people in attendance do the fun projects we have.
 - Several new ones are available, so it isn't always the same ol' thing.
 - It is fun and gratifying to see kids get excited about collecting stamps.

We need everyone's help on Friday for set-up and Sunday afternoon for take down. Don't worry, nobody is expected to do work you're not able. We've hired help to do the heavy lifting, but there is always a lot to be done that can be done by anyone.

I want to close with prayers for Mary-Ann Stanfeld and for Hubert to be at peace.

Brian

The Expertizing of Stamps, Part 1 - By Hans Stolz

Expertizing is the science of ascertaining whether a stamp is genuine or not genuine. Condition is not a factor of expertizing. Condition is merely a matter of value. A genuine stamp with a tear, a thin spot, a hole, a crease or a stain is still a genuine stamp. Besides, quality perceptions are usually imprecise, largely subjective and change over the years.

Having thus defined the term “expertizing”, to do so some fundamental knowledge is needed. It is necessary to know papers, colors, designs, printing processes, printing inks, overprints, separation methods, gums, watermarks, cancellations, handstamp overprints, repairs and alterations.

PAPERS. Nearly all stamps are a paper product. There are a few exceptions. For example the 1852 India ½a red Scinde Dawk is not paper but a wax wafer, and some modern stamps are made using silk, gold and aluminum foil, even plastic.

According to tradition, paper was invented around the year 100 AD in China by Ts'ai Lun. The use of paper was introduced into Europe by the Moors around the year 1100, and in the succeeding centuries the craft of paper-making spread around the world and replaced the use of papyrus, vellum, parchment and sheepskin as a writing surface.

Paper is made by the webbing of vegetable cellulose fibers. The raw materials are wood, cotton, rice, bark, rags, straw and other fibrous material. Modern papers since 1955 may also contain nylon, dacron and orlon fibers. For high quality paper (and most stamps are printed on high quality paper) rag fibers alone are used. The process of paper-making, simply stated, involves the breaking up of the raw material by pounding it to separate the fibers, cooking it in water to form a suspension of individual fibers, and the spreading of this suspension on a mold, which has a porous surface through which the excess water is drained. This porous surface is usually a reinforced sheet of metal mesh having either a square mesh pattern, called a wove pattern, or long wires held together with small transverse wires, called a laid pattern. Depending on the style of the mold, paper is identified as wove or laid. After the wet paper is sufficiently cohesive it is placed on a sheet of woven woolen cloth, called a felt.

Another felt is laid over the sheet of paper and the process is repeated, and finally the stack of interleaved sheets is put in a hydraulic press and subjected to a pressure of 100 tons or more, squeezing out the remaining water. Depending on the fineness or coarseness of the screen and the felt, the finished papers can vary from thin and hard with no visible mesh to soft and thick with a pronounced mesh. Machine paper-making is considerably more complex, but the essential Procedures are identical.

To make the paper suitable for writing or printing, additional treatments are required, and these additional treatments are of importance in expertizing. In blenders the paper pulp is mixed with fillers and sizing, sometimes also with dyestuffs and minute pieces of silk or cloth threads, or even tiny pieces of colored paper.

The filler gives body to the paper. The most commonly used filler is a mineral, hydrous aluminum silicate, called kaolin, also sometimes called China clay. The usual percentage of filler is from 2% to 4%. Experiments have been made with much higher contents, as high as 15% to 20%. A good example of these are the 1908 Washington-Franklin head “Clay Papers”. Modern fillers may also contain titanium oxide or calcium carbonate.

The sizing decreases the paper's porosity, depending on the amount of sizing. It also adds to the strength of the paper. Normally an animal glue with an addition of potassium aluminum sulfate, the so-called paper-maker's alum, is used for this. The alum has the additional benefit of protecting the paper from bacterial deterioration.

The dyestuffs are used to color the paper. Sometimes a fluorescent substance is added to make the paper appear a bright white. The additions of tiny silk or cloth threads produce the silk or granite papers.

Finally, to give the paper a smooth surface, it is subjected to a process called calendering. The paper is passed between highly-polished metal rollers under great pressure. Some papers are also coated with a chalk-like surface to enhance the sharpness of the printing, as well as to make the removal of cancellations impossible.

Continued on next page

San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

August 2018

Expertizing continued...

COLORS. The perception of color is a complex neurophysiological process. The visual perception of colors is associated with the various wavelengths in the visual portion of the electromagnetic spectrum. However the human eye does not function as a spectrograph. It cannot separate colors into its components. The same color sensation can be produced by different physical stimuli. A mixture of red and green lights of the proper intensities appears to the eye as yellow, even though it does not contain light of the wavelength corresponding to yellow. Another complicating factor is that the human brain compensates. If we have a picnic on a sunny day on a meadow under a tree, the faces of the persons there will look perfectly normal, but if a color photograph is made of the scene, the faces look green.

This is caused by the reflected light from the grass and the tree. Photographers are well aware of this and adjust for it by using the appropriate filters. Another curious phenomenon is the effect of temperature. We all may have observed that for example a certain billboard that we pass every day seems to have a slightly different color in winter than it has in summer.

The colors of stamps are always seen by reflected light. These colors are caused by the partial absorption of white light. The pigments that give color to an object absorb certain wavelengths, producing thereby the color sensation of the unabsorbed light.

The light source is of importance. A stamp will appear to have different shades of color in daylight, incandescent light or fluorescent light. Some modern highways, mostly in Europe, are lighted by sodium-vapor lamps, which emit a fully-saturated spectral yellow. It greatly enhances visibility, but plays havoc with colors. Blue and red cars look black, yellow cars look white and women are not pleased that their lipsticks look black.

Many pigments, when illuminated by light of one hue, absorb this light and re-radiate light of a different hue, always of a longer wavelength. This phenomenon is called fluorescence, and is of importance in expertizing. The most effective light source for this purpose is short wave ultraviolet light.

DESIGNS. The design, the printed image, is of crucial importance in expertizing and has been the subject of

many studies and publications, showing the differences in design between the genuine stamps and the forgeries. This is of great importance in expertizing because it will instantly weed out most forgeries. But there is one caveat! A correct design does not guarantee genuineness, as one gentleman discovered to his embarrassment. In 1943 Jean de Sperati was charged with violation of the prevailing laws that prohibited the export of valuables from France. At his trial, Sperati's defense was that the stamps he had shipped to Spain were not genuine and valuable, but were in fact his own reproductions and without value. The court appointed "expert", Dr. Edmond Locard, a physician, was to examine the stamps. His findings, dated January 4, 1944, make for interesting reading.

Dr. Locard, after using a whole paragraph to sum up his qualifications, describes at length how he carefully measured details and dimensions of the designs and correctness of the secret marks. His report concludes with his final authoritative statement that all eighteen stamps are genuine. It was certainly unfortunate for him that he did not know how to distinguish one printing process from another. The Sperati reproductions are lithographed, the genuine stamps are typographed. Sperati then produced a dozen copies of one of the stamps in question. All had the same identical postmark in the same identical position, a phenomenon so unnatural as to be instantly convincing.

PRINTING PROCESSES. Virtually all stamps show a printed image. A few do not, such as the Natal first issue which is embossed only. There are three basic printing methods: engraving, typography and lithography. Most stamps are printed using one or a combination of these methods. Again, here too are exceptions. Some Cape of Good Hope Mafeking issues were made using the old blueprint machine, early Uganda issues were made on a typewriter, the Kume Shima provisional of the Ryukyu Islands was mimeographed. Modern refinements such as photogravure, halftone and offset are variations of these three printing processes.

Engraved stamps show the ink lines slightly raised above the surface of the stamp and show corresponding depressions on the back. The degree of this depends on the relative depth of the engraved lines and on the ink and the paper used. Typography, the exact reverse of engraving, shows a slight raising of the lines on the back.

Continued on next page

Expertizing continued...

More important for our purpose is the fact that the pressure of the typographic printing plate causes the ink to be squeezed toward the edges of the printed surfaces.

This is visible as a fine frameline around the printed parts when one looks through the stamp under high magnification. The degree of this "framelining" depends on the pressure applied during printing and on the viscosity of the ink, and is a typical characteristic of each issue. Lithography produces a flat print, having none of the characteristics of engraved or typographed stamps. It has instead often the so-called lithographic flaws caused by the process of transferring the design to the plate.

Engraved plates are usually made by a relief transfer roller rocking the design into the plate, one at the time. Each impression is therefore identical. Some plates were engraved one stamp at the time, with the result that each design is slightly different, such as the Dragons and Cherry Blossoms of Japan. Typographed plates are usually assembled from identical slugs or clichés, therefore each design is identical. Some plates were typeset from movable type, and thus each design is different, such as the Hawaiian numerals.

PRINTING INKS. Printing inks are similar to paints, in that they consist of finely ground pigments dispersed in oil. The choice of printing ink is determined by the printing technique being used, the speed with which the printing must be done and the paper being used. The simplest form of black printing ink is made of carbon black in varnish or boiled linseed oil, generally with a drier added to reduce drying time. More complex printing methods require inks sometimes containing as many as fifteen ingredients. These include additions that affect appearance and durability, as well as synthetic oils that have the advantage of drying faster than natural oils. Generally inks used for engraving have a high viscosity, for typography somewhat less, and still less for lithography.

Colored inks are made with both natural and chemically produced pigments and almost any color can be produced using a number of different pigments. This is of importance in expertizing because the different pigments usually fluoresce differently under ultraviolet light. The amusing forgery of the red Berlin overprints illustrates this.

Seven Wonders of the World by Ann Mette Heindorff

The Seven Wonders Of The World have always fascinated me, because it is a well known fact that no man can live without beauty and creativity in his life. The spiritual needs of everybody --individuality, "belonging to", compassion and love for someone, meaningful work, recreation and distressing, creativity, justice and fairness, truth and beauty -- are so overwhelming instinctive demands, that they cannot be ignored by anyone wishing to live a meaningful life. Some of the most startling examples of creativity were "The Seven Wonders Of The World", described in a Hellenistic epigram by Antinatos of Sidon (c. 200 B.C.), which mentions the most famous buildings and works of art of Ancient Times:

1) The walls and suspended gardens of Babylon, 2) The Egyptian Pyramids, 3) The Zeus Statue by Phidias in Olympia, 4) The Colossus at Rhodes, 5) The Artemis Temple in Ephesus, 6) The Mausoleum at Halikarnassos, 7) The Lighthouse of Alexandria (Faros).



The above stamp, largely oversized, issued by the Republic of Congo, shows a map of the Mediterranean, with the approximate location of each of the known Seven Wonders of the World.

I was delighted when I first found the very nice set of seven, issued by Hungary in 1980. The same theme was issued by Mongolia in 1990, and are shown alongside with the Hungarian stamps.

Continued on next page

San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

August 2018

Wonders continued...



Suspended Gardens of Babylon. Babylon: archaic for "The Door to God". The town is mentioned the first time about 2250 BC, and had its first Golden Era when Hammurabi made it the capital and built the wall of about 18 km around the city in the 1700th century BC. The Suspended Gardens are believed to have been made by King Nebukadnezar II around 575 BC. It is still disputed by scientists, whether the tall building in the background was supposed to be The Tower of Babel.



The Egyptian Pyramids at Gizeh, Cairo. There are really 7 pyramids, the oldest one being the stair-pyramid at Saqqara, built in the 25th century BC. But the most

well known ones are undoubtedly the three named Mykerinos, Chefren and Cheops, built by the Pharaohs of the 4th Dynasty.



Zeus Statue in Olympia (Greece) by Phidias. Phidias, who lived about 500-430 BC, was a Greek sculptor and one of the most acknowledged artists of The Ancient Times. His colossal statue of Zeus, made from gold and ivory, has disappeared, and is now only known from contemporary coins and Roman marble-copies. I find it rather interesting that the Greek God Zeus has a pretty "Mongolian" look on the stamp from Mongolia.



The Colossus at Rhodes, Greece. Rhodes is a small Greek island in the Mediterranean, directly south of Asia Minor. The statue was c. 30-35 meters tall, showing the Sun God Helios. The statue is believed to be made by Chares and was possibly erected c. 290 BC. It was demolished by an earthquake ca. 230 BC. Rhodes means in Greek "rose".

Continued on next page

San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

August 2018

Wonders continued...



The Artemis-Temple at Ephesus, Asia Minor. In Ancient Time Ephesus was a well known Greek town particularly known for its Cult of Artemis. The temple for this goddess was built in the 5th century BC.



The Mausoleum at Halikarnassos, Asia Minor. Halikarnassos is situated on the coast of Asia Minor, and is today known as Budrum. It was the birth-town of

Herodotus, and possibly also of Dionysus. In the 2nd century BC it was the residential city of King Mausolos, whose sister (and widow!) asked the architect Pytheos to build his tomb "Mausoleion". The building itself has long since disappeared, but the word as such has certainly survived into our times.



The Lighthouse of Alexandria, Egypt. In Ancient Times Faros was a small Egyptian island in the Mediterranean, just off the city of Alexandria. The enormous lighthouse, more than 100 meters tall, was built by King Ptolemaios II 280-279 BC. The lighthouse was in use until it broke altogether c. 1300 AC.

Many other famous buildings of our time could serve as the 8th, 9th, 10th, etc. wonders, for example the Empire State Building in New York, the lighthouse in Belem (Portugal), the Opera House in Sydney (Australia); for the moment we will have to content ourselves with the antique world -- although long gone, these architectural and artistic wonders will still trigger our imagination of a world that is no longer there.

A Short History of the Chinese Post

Regular government postal service is known from the Zhou Dynasty in the 1st millennium BC. During the Yuan Dynasty under Kublai Khan in the 12th century, China was integrated into the much larger Mongolian Örtöö system. Yam (Mongolian: *Өртөө*, *Örtöö*, checkpoint) was a supply point route messenger system employed and extensively used and expanded by Genghis Khan and used by subsequent Great Khans and Khans.

Relay stations were used to give food, shelter and spare horses for Mongol army messengers. Genghis Khan gave special attention to Yam because Mongol armies traveled very fast, so their messengers had to be even faster, covering 200 - 300 km per day. The system was used to speed up the process of information and intelligence.

The system was preserved in Russian Tsardom after the disintegration of the Golden Horde. Marco Polo reported that there were 10,000 post stages during that time. In addition, private letters were carried by the Min Hsin Chu, a system of letter guilds (*hongs*). Later the 1727 Treaty of Kyakhta with Russia provided for the first regular exchange of mail. The Min Hsin Chu were privately administrated postal and transport companies which were set up all over the land but especially in the teeming districts on the China Sea and along the Yangtze River.

Thousands upon thousands of messengers have been in the employ of the Min Hsin Chu. They not only collected letters from stores, offices, homes and villages for delivery to other parts of the country but would also transport money, clothing and other articles for delivery in some distant locality.

Since the messengers of the Min Hsin Chu enjoyed an enviable reputation for trustworthiness and politeness, they were recognized and welcomed throughout China.

So deeply ingrained upon the hearts and minds of the Chinese was the Min Hsin Chu that even as late as 1929 the Government of the Republic of China came to an agreement which allowed the private posts to collect parcels and letters in interior villages and transport them to the coastal cities post offices in large parcels. This system is referred to by the Chinese as "Club Mail" and is primarily the reason for large blocks of cancelled dollar value stamps becoming available to philatelists.

The Min Hsin Chu, of course, was a rather slow means of communication and it was inevitable that the I Chan (Horseman Station) should come into being. This was a courier service, co-operatively administered by the various provinces of China and the costs of operation were supplied pro-rata by these provinces through taxation. However, this system did not afford public postal service to the general public. About twenty-five thousand of the I Chan stations, located about twenty-five miles apart, existed throughout China and there were about two hundred thousand horses employed in this service. The I Chan has been likened to the "Pony Express" of the American West in 1860 - 61.

A policy of isolation was forcibly ended in the 19th century by the Opium War and the subsequent opening of treaty ports; several nations opened foreign post offices from 1844 on. This expanded to involve dozens of cities, mostly on the coast, along the Yangtze River, and in the far south. Shanghai organized its own Shanghai local post in 1865. In the same year, the Englishman Robert Hart developed a mail service for the Imperial Maritime Customs, initially to carry consular

mail to and from treaty ports. The Customs Maritime Service came into existence at Shanghai about 1860 and branches of this service were established in various Chinese ports which were opened to foreign trade in accordance with provisions in the Nanking Treaty of 1842. A large volume of correspondence on customs matters naturally developed between the various Treaty Ports. When the legations of various alien countries became established, the Customs Maritime Service was extended gradually, but increasingly, to include diplomatic dispatches for these foreign consulates. Tientsin was the normal gateway to Peking but was frequently ice-bound in the wintertime, and in 1876, under the direction and supervision, of Sir Robert Hart, an overland postal service was established between Peking and Shanghai via Chinkiang. To aid in defraying expenses, this service undertook to accept letters from the general public on May 1, 1878, and Sir Robert Hart advised that adhesive postage stamps be introduced. China's first postage stamps, the "Large Dragons" were issued to handle payment. The stamps were inscribed "CHINA" in both Latin and Chinese characters, and denominated in candareens.



The 1/2¢ value of the 1897 issue, lithographed in Japan.

Chinese: 大清國郵政;

Pinyin: Dàqīngguó yóuzhèng
Great Qing Land Post

Local delivery of mail was not common and pressures in the Treaty Ports began to build for this service. Hankows Local Post was organized and operated by the municipality from May 1893, and so became the first of the Treaty Port locals.

Initially, all mail to foreign destinations went through Shanghai, but by 1882 there were twelve post offices. On 20 March 1896, an edict directed that the Customs Post become the Imperial Postal Service effective 1 January 1897; the Min Hsin Chu was shut down, as well as the Shanghai local post, and the postal system adopted cents and dollars as the units of currency.

Through the first half of 1897, new stamps were unavailable, and so the existing stock was surcharged in cents, with several variants distinguished by philatelists. Revenue stamps were surcharged as well.

The first new stamps, inscribed IMPERIAL CHINESE POST went on sale 16 August 1897. The twelve values, ranging from 1/2¢ to \$5, were lithographed in Japan. The low values depicting a dragon, the middle values a carp, and the dollar values a wild goose. The paper used for these stamps had a watermark in the form of a yin-yang symbol. China, with a unified postal service, could then gain recognition by the Universal Postal Union.

In 1898, these stamps were superseded by similar designs produced by engraving in London, and inscribed CHINESE IMPERIAL POST on a Chinese supplied watermarked paper of varying thickness. The watermark can be difficult to detect on the thicker paper. New printings of the stamp, beginning in 1899 were on unwatermarked paper, but there are no recorded usages of this variety until 1901. These stamps continued in use until the end of the empire. During that time some colors were changed to comply with Universal Postal Union regulations, and three new values were added.

American Civil War Adversity Covers

by Steve Swain

During the American Civil War, Union navy and railroad blockades isolated the Confederacy from all markets creating shortages of almost every kind of commodity, including paper.

Blank paper on which to write a letter was certainly in short supply. But even more scarce were envelopes to mail the correspondence. Every source of paper imaginable was used to create envelopes: the backs of title pages from books, sheet music, maps, hotel guest registers, insurance forms, advertisement flyers and a host of other paper sources.

Given these dire, adverse situations, collectors refer to these envelopes as “adversity” covers. Below are examples of these extraordinary creations from cities in Georgia, my home state. The fair assumption, therefore, is that these adversity covers were made by Southerners living in those locations. (The flaps of the envelopes have been folded over for viewing the printed designs of the original paper source.)



Adversity cover made from Broadside Advertising



Adversity cover made from a Sheet of East Tennessee & Georgia Railroad Tickets



Made from Railroad Bill of Lading



Made from Columbus, Ga. bank draft

Continued on next page

San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

August 2018

American Civil War Adversity Covers continued...

Some of the most colorful adversity covers were created from wallpaper either cut from surplus rolls or stripped from the walls of living rooms, dining rooms and bedrooms. The envelope was made by cutting a rectangular piece of wallpaper and folding it into the appropriate shape, with the wallpaper design being the inside of the piece.

In 1885, Miss Anna Simpson of Pendleton, SC, wrote an article for *The News and Courier*, describing her creation of adversity envelopes during the Civil War:

"A favorite night's employment was found in making envelopes. No bits of white paper suitable for writing with pen and ink could be wasted on envelopes. Thus it happened that wall paper and sheets with pictures on one side, taken from 'United States Explorations,' served to make envelopes, neat enough. These we stuck together with gum from peach trees."

Below are examples of wallpaper adversity covers that illustrate the amazing varieties of wallpaper used in Georgia Southern homes during the Civil War.



Like *Scarlet O'Hara's* dress made of bedroom drapes in *Gone With the Wind*, adversity covers were a necessary response to the Union's blockade of the South causing severe shortages of many everyday resources. Each cleverly constructed envelope documents one Southerner's determination to persevere. Necessity is most certainly the Mother of Invention.

Stamps Gathered for a Good Cause

By Ivo Aščić (reprinted from the APS Blog)

Missionaries to Africa have had a long and sometimes unsettled history. There's been the good of bringing education and good health practices to the population, of course, while spreading religious beliefs and practices. But sometimes missions have disrupted native culture and been a conduit for the less scrupulous to reap rewards of land and natural resources.



Eritrea Bishop Marko Dobretić appears on a 2007 stamp from Bosnia and Herzegovina (Croat Administration), Scott 177.

Bishop Friar Marko Dobretić (1707-1784) is an African missionary honored on a stamp. Dobretić was born in an area that today is part of central Bosnia, and was honored in 2007 on a stamp issued by Bosnia and Herzegovina (Croat Administration). Dobretić's early studies and

works through the Franciscan order took him to Italy. Dobretić returned to Bosnia in 1757, but in 1772 Pope Clement appointed him as an apostolic vicar and bishop in Eritrea, a state on the Horn of Africa.

This is not the place for religious, historical or political debate, but is where we can share information about the success of an ongoing stamp

donation program that has spurred good works in modern Africa through an ongoing mission program.



Brother Stjepan Dilber in 2011 received the sixth annual Pride of Croatia special recognition award from President Ivo Josipović. Dilber was honored for his unusual and humane way of helping people.

But most people are not aware that stamps can help the hungry and poor people, but Brother Stjepan Dilber, from the Croatian Province of the Society of Jesus in Zagreb, has proven that. Here is his story.

During Brother Stjepan's studies in Austria – when letters were a prevalent medium of communication – the well-studied philatelist realized that postage stamps could help his brother, Ilija, in his missionary work in Africa. In close to 50 years dealing with postage stamps and aiding missions, Brother Dilber has provided money for construction of several churches, schools and also helped in collecting food and education for the poorest children in several African countries just by selling postage stamps.

Several Croatian media outlets reported about Brother Stjepan's unusual method of collecting aid. For this reason, then-President Ivo Josipović of the Republic of Croatia in 2011 awarded Brother Stjepan special recognition as the "Pride of Croatia."

Continued on next page

San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

August 2018

A Good Cause continued...

“Every day I get postage stamps and sometimes the whole collection from contributors and even unknown persons,” Brother Stjepan said. “Organizers of prize games often send us tens of thousands of envelopes with stamps. I take stamps from the envelopes, dry and iron them and then sort them in albums by topic. I sell those stamps at much lower prices than on philatelic market. The whole income from stamps goes to missionaries in Africa for humanitarian purposes.



The link between San Marino and Malawi, one of the poorest countries in the world, is shown on a pair of stamps in 2013. One shows children holding hands, a rainbow and the route between San Marino and Malawi while the other is a photo showing the opening of a school in 1888, 1889.

“Apart from the Croatian missionaries, I have also very good cooperation with highly active Slovenian missionaries of Pater Stanko Rozman and Lojze Podgrajšek in Malawi and Janez Mujdrica in Zambia, to whom I (have sent) donations for 20 years.”

Those who wish to contribute to the collection of aid for the mission (education of poor pupils, help hungry children, building schools etc.), by the donation of postage stamps or any other way (eg, phone cards, coins, etc.), can send to:

Misijski ured, Brat Stjepan Dilber, D.I., Palmotićeve 31, p.p. 699, 10001 Zagreb, Croatia; or by phone number +385 1 4803080.

Some Famous Stamp Collectors



Maria Sharapova

Russian tennis player Maria Sharapova collected stamps when she was a child. This was mentioned during an interview. She was later to regret making this admission as she said that she was afraid that it would not be good for her image!



Anatoly Karpov

Chess Grand Master Karpov has an enormous collection of stamps from Belgium and the Belgian Congo.

San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

August 2018

America's 100 Greatest Stamps



#73 – Scott 905 1942 3 cent Win the War



#72 – Scott 330 1907 5 cent Pocahontas



#71 – Scott 1909 1983 Express Mail

Club Member/Dealers

Richard Clever

Asia Philatelics

P.O. Box 730993, San Jose, CA 95173-0993

Phone: (408) 238-0893 Fax: (408) 238-2539

Email: richard@asiaphilatelics.com

Web Site: www.asiaphilatelics.com

(China, Asia, Ireland, Japan)

Ron Biell

Euro-Asian Stamps

P.O. Box 20562, San Jose, CA 95160

Phone: (408) 323-8702 Fax: (408) 323-8702

Email: rbiell-dsl@sbcglobal.net

Web Site: www.eurasiastamps.com

(China, Japan, Baltics, Russia, W. Europe, Covers Worldwide)

Doug Gary

Douglas Gary

P.O. Box 457, Campbell, CA 95009

Phone: (408) 274-3939

Email: doug_gary@hotmail.com

(USA & Worldwide Postal History, Stamps, Autographs, Postcards)

Deepak Jaiswal

The India Specialist

PO Box 50848, Palo Alto, CA 94303

Phone: (650) 387-3885 Fax: (650) 561-4044

Email: info@stampbay.com

(India)

Walt Kransky

Walt's Postcards

www.thepostcard.com

Email: wrsky@att.net

(philatelic material, covers, postcards)