



The Greater

Philadelphia Stamp & Collector's Club

Founded 1935

American Philatelic Society - Chapter 18 ■ American Air Mail Society - Chapter 18
Successor to the Philadelphia Stamp Club and The Collector's Club of Philadelphia

August, 2017 Newsletter - Volume 5, Issue 8

Next Meeting - Tuesday, August 15, 2017

Our Featured Topic

for August



SHOW and TELL

Everyone should bring one or more items for discussion that illustrate their collecting interests. Your talk should be about 5 minutes long.

and

Alan Warren and Vince Costello will show a variety of videos from the APS and/or the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library.



Don't miss this informative program

Future 2017 meeting dates

All Tuesdays - All start at 7:30 pm - All at the Giant
Aug. 15th, Sept. 19th, Oct. 17th, Nov. 21st
Dec. 19th - OUR HOLIDAY DINNER

**If You Want To Advertise An Item For Sale
or Donate a Philatelic Item To Our Club,
Let Mr. Ed Know**

If you are interested in coming to a meeting, or finding out more about Philadelphia Stamp & Collector's Club, contact our secretary, Letty Moon.

Message from the Pres.

SEE You at THE
MEETING.

Richard



Minutes From July's Meeting

The meeting started at 7:30 with ten members present.

The program was a Super Show & Tell.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Members were reminded about Merpex in Merchantville, NJ, on Aug. 4th & 5th. Club members received information by email about the bus trip to the National Postal Museum being sponsored by the Reading Stamp Collector's Club. The trip is open to anyone who wants to go and will have two pickup points.

TREASURER'S REPORT: We have \$3962.77 in our account.

There was not Old or New Business needing discussion.

THE 50-50 was won by Steve Washburne, who kept his expense and donated the winnings to the Club. The Club made \$11.

SHOW & TELL

Vince Costello brought in 4 postal cards from the

continued on pg 2

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Stamp Club Meeting Address

GPS and CC

Giant Supermarket
Community Rm,
315 York Rd.
Willow Grove, PA 19090.

Stamp Club Address

GPS and CC

PO Box 446,
Willow Grove, PA
19090-0446

1870s that he bought on eBay. They all had doodling on them, some looking like caricatures of people. One was completely covered with this writing, math symbols and a pentangle. No meaning could be determined for this.

He also showed us exhibition literature from the 1945 SOJEX, 1944 SEPAD, the 5th Annual Exhibition of the West Chester Stamp Club in 1941, the 1936 International Stamp Exhibition in NY, and a National Postal Museum when it was located in Philadelphia.

Norm Shachat showed us some sample pages from the upcoming issue of the *Pennsylvania Postal Historian*. The pages are part of an article which shows scans of stampless covers from the one month period in 1816 when the rates of 1799 were restored for only one month, April 1st to April 30th, after the War Rate Act Repeal period.

Carl Barna brought a 1908 Mexican cover sent from the Yucatan to a Chinese phonograph dealer, named Eng, on Mott St., NYC. Carl has found that there are still people named Eng living at this address, so he is trying to reach them.

Joe Gudonis showed quite a number of memorial covers from various countries, all edged in black. They were from: Czechoslovakia – 1953; a naval blimp – 1934; Middle City Station, Phila. – 1924; British Royal – 1952; Germany – 1942; Spain (no date); Russia – 1940; Gibraltar – 1905 (with a wax seal); and Great Britain – 1875. Discussion followed as to whether there was meaning attached to the width of the black borders on this type of stationery.

Phil Russell showed a printed circular with manuscript dateline “Boston 3 March 1810” addressed to “Capt. Charles Adams, Kingston” asking for his support of the federalist candidates for state office (Governor, Lieut. Governor and candidates for Senators in the County of Plymouth). There are no postal mark-

ings, and such handbills were typically privately carried, often by the same rider as carried the mails. New England merchants were having a difficult time because of Jefferson's Embargo (US Embargo Act of 1807) which essentially prevented all trade, especially with Britain and her colonies. Madison replaced the Embargo with the milder Non-intercourse Act in 1809 which turned out to be ineffective at promoting trade also. The circular explains... “You have perceived the business of our seaports declining, and lately the pleasant sound of the axe and the hammer in our ship yards had almost ceased”. The ongoing Anglo-French war from 1793 to 1815 except briefly in 1802-03 and 1814-15 which complicated relations among Britain, France and the US and Madison's political problems in getting reelected led to the War of 1812, declared on 18 June. “His perceived weakness in his handling of government in general and of international affairs in particular had generated widespread criticism and he faced the possibility of a challenger from within his own Democratic-Republican party, as well as Federalist party opponents. (The Federalists advocated better relations with Britain over France.) The president thought he needed to take a stronger stand against the British in order to regain his party's confidence, which he assumed meant he had to either negotiate a settlement on American terms or go to war. In the end, Madison embarked on a dubious war against Great Britain but skirted the challenges to his presidency, receiving his party's nomination in May 1812 and being reelected the following November”. (Taken from The War of 1812 by Carl Benn).

Ed Weisberg brought in a stack of postcards with cancellation marks of US ships, submarines, aircraft carriers and battleships. He also showed us what appeared to be postcards with “layouts” for suggestions of stamps with trolley cars on them. The cards had photos of a variety of actual trolley cars.

Respectfully submitted by *Letty Moon*

Do You Ever Wonder?



Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up like every two hours?

Georges Creed and the Philadelphia Stamp Club

This cover was provided as a courtesy by one of our previous speakers, Steven Rod, a renowned philatelic historian. After I received it I turned to the Internet to compile the story behind the cover and its addressee.

The Philadelphia Stamp Club in 1930 had an office in a building on Arch Street between 16th and 17th streets (see corner card). The contents are missing from this cover but the hand-stamped cachet on the front and back announce a “United Stamp Societies

Convention” held by the Club on May 30, 1930. The cover is postmarked on that date and bears the 2-cent Carolina-Charleston stamp that was issued the previous month on April 10.

The addressee is “G. L. Creed” on Webster Street in West Philadelphia. This was the collector and dealer Georges Creed. He was born in Paris, France in 1870. In chasing him on the Internet I learned that he moved to Canada and had a stamp shop in Winnipeg in 1914. He helped form stamp clubs in Winnipeg and Toronto. Eventually he moved to Philadelphia.

A 1934 issue of The Philadelphia Inquirer mentions that he exhibited plate varieties of United States stamps and had a specialized collection of plate studies of the 2-cent Columbian. He also collected Siege of Paris mail and its associated balloon mail. Creed exhibited at the Third International Philatelic Exhibition (TIPEX) held at New York’s Grand Central Palace in May 1936. He had four displays: 1) U.S. plate varieties including the double transfer of the 2¢ Black Jackson, 2) Experimental Electric Eye printings, 3) the 1904 Bolivar issue of Colombia,

and 4) a study of the unissued 10¢ brown color error of Mexico’s 1881-82 issue.

In 1938 Georges was living at 5925 Spruce Street in Philadelphia. He was an auctioneer and also an expert on detecting counterfeits. Creed was active in the Society of Philatelic Americans (SPA). In addition to the Philadelphia Stamp Club he was a member of the American Air Mail Society, the Washington Collectors Club, and the Wilmington Stamp Club. He was a founding member of the Philadelphia Evening

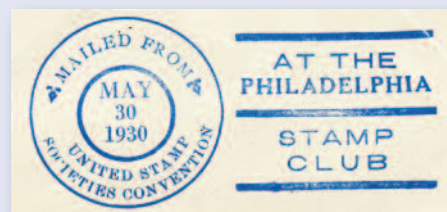
Ledger Stamp Club. He died April 14, 1939 from heart disease at the age of 69.

Georges and his wife had 11 children, several of whom were also active in the philatelic arena including Armand Creed and Fernand Creed. Armand was a dealer, and although he was a member of the Philadelphia Stamp Club he conducted his business for some years in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Armand’s brother Fernand Creed was a stamp dealer in Baltimore before moving to Philadelphia. He was a regional vice president of SPA and also a member of the Philadelphia Evening Ledger Stamp Club as well as clubs in Maryland, Delaware, South Carolina and Washington, D.C. He operated Philly Stamp Company from 1948 to 1981.

Fernand was the uncle of Richard Gittis, another Philadelphia stamp dealer. Fernand and Richard merged their two businesses into the Philly Stamp and Coin Company on Chestnut Street in Philadelphia. Fernand Creed died July 8, 2004 at age 94. Many old timers remember both Fernand Creed and Richard Gittis.

by Alan Warren



Do You Ever Wonder?



If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?

Why are you IN a movie, but you're ON TV?

Why is 'bra' singular and 'panties' plural?

If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of a coconut, why can't he fix a hole in a boat?

Up Coming Shows & Times

- Sept. 1-3 **BALPEX**, Hunt Valley Inn,
Hunt Valley, Md.
- Sept. 8-10 **NOJEX**,
Best Western Robert Treat Hotel,
50 Park Place, Newark, N.J.
- October 5-8 **ASDA Fall Postage Stamp Show**,
Hilton Midtown, New York, N.Y.
- October 21 **Dover Stamp Club Show**,
Camden-Wyoming Fire Hall, 200 E.
Camden Wyoming Ave., Camden DE
- Oct. 27-28 **UNEXPO**, United Nations Exhibition,
APS Headquarters, Bellefonte, Pa.
- November 4 **Reading Stamp Club Show**,
Leesport Farmers Market,
312 Gernant's Church Rd., Leesport PA

Surplus Frames Available

The APS is selling off hundreds of surplus exhibit frames which were used only once during the World Stamp Show-NY 2016. This could be your opportunity to have a few frames for personal use to develop your exhibit or to display at shows, etc.



Each unit, which includes the required legs, provides two faces each that hold 16 standard sized exhibit pages. These ultra-durable frames are about half the weight of those used at most U.S. national and international shows over the past 30 years. The frames also come with new screws re-engineered since New York 2016 for easier setup and added security.

The cost is \$150/unit plus actual shipping from Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. Shipping costs may be avoided by arranging pickup from the American Philatelic Society in Bellefonte.

Basic Specs: Familiar easy load "A Frame" design. Easy to attach anodized aluminum legs 4 foot high by 3 foot wide main panels. Heavy duty security screws. Each front/back unit weighs 24 pounds. Shipped with 2 units per box. Strong and durable polystyrene base. Legs boxed separately. White polystyrene inner panel. Includes custom screwdrivers. Clear 1/8" acrylic face sheets.

Watch a video of the frame setup:
<http://www.ny2016.org/images/ny2016articles/2016-05-the-newframes.mp4>.

To arrange purchase or for additional information, contact Ken Martin at the American Philatelic Society at 814-933-3817 or kpmartin@stamps.org. Or Thomas M. Fortunato Chairman, Marketing & Public Relations, 28 Amberwood Place, Rochester, NY 14626-4166 (585) 225-6822, evenings and weekends. Email: thomas.fortunato@ny2016.org, stamptmf@frontier-net.net.

Awards & Recognition



At the APS show in Richmond earlier this month, Ron Majors received a large gold, the BNAPS best exhibit award, the Postal History Society medal, and the show Reserve Grand award for his "Canadian Postal History: A Rate Study using Decimal Franked and Stampless Covers." Steve Washburne won a large vermeil with his "Portuguese Postal Cards: Empire-Republic Transition 1910-1912." Bob Rufe's "U.S. Special Handling 1925-1959: The Stamps & The Service" was in the show's Court of Honor.s



Ron Majors



Steve Washburne



Bob Rufe

Do You Ever Wonder?

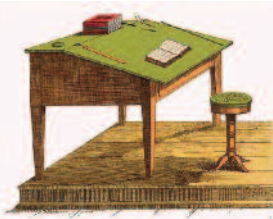


If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Why did you just try singing the two songs above?



A Learning Experience

The Classic Collector

By Peter Mosiondz, Jr.
The Bank Note Issues

Prologue 3

In 1873 the Continental Bank Note Company obtained the printing contract for United States stamps. Not wanting their work to be confused with that of their predecessor, the National Bank Note Company, secret marks were added to the dies of the 1¢ to 12¢ denominations so as to identify these stamps as a Continental product.

The idea was a good one in theory. Continental did not want to be accused of poor workmanship on any stamps that might turn up later if they were the work of the National Bank Company.

We will have more to say on the secret marks as we discuss each value. To introduce the subject here, the secret marks are easily discernible on the 1¢, 3¢, 6¢, 7¢, 10¢ and 12¢ by comparing

your stamps with the illustrations in the Scott Specialized Catalogue.

You will have some difficulty with the identification of the 2¢ by the secret mark since most come nowhere close to the Scott illustration. However, there is a real difference in the color of the Continental versus the National printings. The latter is a light brown shade, whereas the Continental is a distinctive dark brown.

The existence of an intentional secret mark on the 15¢ is open to debate. If there is such a mark, then it has little, if any, significance as an identifier. Most students do not believe that a secret mark was intentionally applied to the dies of the 15¢ denomination. The more likely that it is a National. The National printing of this denomination is almost always a bright orange while the Continental is a yellow-orange. The later American Bank Note Company printings are all re-engraved and can easily be told from the others by a look at the Scott illustrations.

For many decades, students studied the 24¢, 30¢ and 90¢ in vain while attempting to locate a secret mark. None has been found. It is accepted that secret marks were added to the dies, but new plates were not made from these dies.

The 24¢ purple can be as-

sumed to be the National. Again, more on this later, including an alleged 24¢ Continental on ribbed paper.

The 30¢ and 90¢ are identical in design in both hard paper stamps of the National and Continental companies. Again, if the grill is undetectable, take a look at the color of the stamp. The 30¢ National is almost always a jet black, similar to the 30¢ American, while the 30¢ Continental is a grayish-black or, in some instances, a greenish-black.

The 90¢ National is a definite rich carmine color whereas the Continental is a rose-carmine, close to a dull carmine.

With regard to the grills appearing on the Nationals, they are known as the "H" grill which is about 10 x 12 mm with 11 to 13 by 14 to 16 points on all denominations from 1¢ to 90¢. The second grill type, the "I", is about 8 1/2 x 10 mm with 10 to 11 by 10 to 13 points in the grill area. The "I" grill appears on certain 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 6¢ and 7¢ National stamps. The "H" grills often appear very faint with but few points visible.

The Continental, or "J" grills were of an experimental nature and applied to relatively few stamps. The grill area measures about 7 x 9 1/2 mm.

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Do You Ever Wonder?



Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

Why do they use sterilized needles for death by lethal injection?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?