

THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA STAMP & COLLECTORS CLUB

Successor to the Philadelphia Stamp Club
and The Collectors Club of Philadelphia, Founded 1885
American Philatelic Society – Chapter 18



<https://www.gpscc.org>

September 2023

Volume 11, Issue 8

NEXT MEETING

September 19, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Community Rooms
GIANT Supermarket
315 N. York Rd., Willow Grove, PA

Dinner:

For those who would like to join us for dinner beforehand, we will meet at Willow Tavern, about a block from GIANT, at 5:00 p.m. for cocktails followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m.

210 York Rd., Willow Grove, PA

IN THIS ISSUE

	<u>Page</u>
President's Message	1, 4
September Program	2
Upcoming Events	3
August Meeting Minutes	5
Awards and Honors	6
"Lindbergh Again Flies the Air Mail," February 1928	7-8
Did You Know?	9
CLUB SECRETARY NEEDED!	9
Philatelic Gathering	10
Collect Crypto Stamps?	10



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – SEPTEMBER 2023

Paul F. Miller

Last month, I told you about the “must see” Smithsonian National Postal Museum. It is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE Washington, D.C. 20002 (just across the street from Union Station) and is open every day from 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. ET. Admission is free!

I literally ran out of room in my prior President's Message section, as I wanted to continue describing some very interesting facts about the actual National Postal Museum itself.

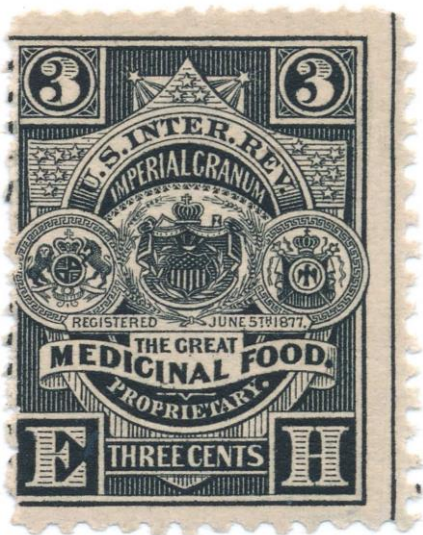
The Smithsonian's National Postal Museum is located in the historic City Post Office Building, which was constructed in 1914 and served as the Washington, D.C. post office from 1914 through 1986. The Museum occupies 100,000 square feet of the building with 35,000 square feet devoted to exhibition space. The Museum also houses a 6,000-square-foot research library, a stamp store and a Museum shop. The picture in this article is the Museum's historic lobby. (Fantastic!)

The National Postal Museum houses one of the largest and most significant philatelic and postal history collections in the world and one of the world's most comprehensive library resources on

(Continued on page 4)

**PROGRAM SEPTEMBER 19, 2023:
UNITED STATES RS104 & RS105 - IMPERIAL GRANUM, EDWARD HEATON &
JOHN CARLE**

GPSCC member **Louis Gotlib** will present "United States RS104 & RS105 - Imperial Granum, Edward Heaton & John Carle." In the Scott catalog, RS stamps are private die medicine stamps, a type of revenue stamp used during the second half of the 19th century. The subtitle of Louis's presentation is, "How one stamp led me on a search all about an historic family of New Haven, some historic buildings and more than I ever wanted to know about baby food supplements." You won't want to miss it!



Scott RS 104



Louis Gotlib with his slide rule collection.



Tin of Imperial Granum

Granum was a wheat/milled gruel meant to be added to baby formula or milk for premature infants or for those not gaining.

FREE DUES FOR 2023 OFFERED FOR NEW MEMBERS!

We will continue to offer free membership to new members through 2023 thanks to the idea that came up last year from one of our members to encourage new stamp collectors to join the Club!

So now is a good time to spread the word to friends to try out a membership in an active local stamp club!

Contact any officer for more information.

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UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS 2023-24

2023: Oct. 17 – Nov. 21 – Dec. 19 (Holiday Dinner)

2024: Jan. 16 – Feb. 20 – Mar. 19 – May 21 – Jun. 18

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 7 – [Merchantville Stamp Club](#) monthly bourse, Martin Luther Chapel School Gym, 4100 Terrace Ave., Pennsauken, NJ

October 14 – [Southern Delaware Stamp Show](#), St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 425 North DuPont Highway, Dover, DE

October 20-21 – [UNEXPO 2023](#), American Philatelic Society, Bellefonte PA

October 28 – [Eastern PA Stamp Show](#) (EPASS), bourse only, Schnecksville Fire Company, 4550 Old Packhouse Rd. Schnecksville PA (sponsored by Allentown Philatelic Society)

November 4 – [Reading Stamp Show](#) (bourse only), Leesport Farmers Market, 312 Gernants Church Rd., Leesport PA

December 30 – [Gettypex Stamp Show](#), Gettysburg Fire Company, 35 North Stratton St., Gettysburg PA



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – SEPTEMBER 2023 (CONTINUED)

philately and postal history. The Museum's many exhibition galleries present America's postal history from Colonial times to the present, while its collections contain prestigious U.S. and international postal issues and specialized collections, archival postal documents and 3-D objects.

With more than 40,000 volumes and manuscript holdings, the National Postal Museum's Library Research Center – a branch of Smithsonian Libraries – is among the world's largest philatelic and postal history research facilities. The library is open to the public by appointment only.

The National Philatelic Collection was established at the Smithsonian in 1886 with the donation of a sheet of 10-cent Confederate postage stamps. Generous gifts from individuals and foreign governments, transfers from government agencies and occasional purchases have increased the collection to today's total of more than six million items.

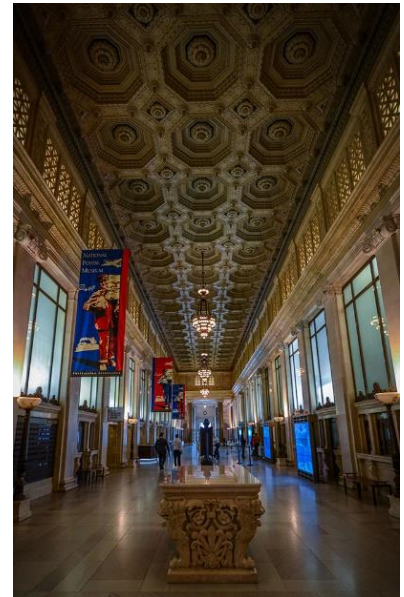
From 1908 until 1963, the collection was housed in the Smithsonian's Arts and Industries Building on the National Mall. In 1964, the collection was moved to the museum that is now known as the National Museum of American History. There, the collection expanded to include postal history and stamp production. The collection was then moved to its present location and the National Postal Museum opened on July 30, 1993.

In addition to one of the world's largest collections of stamps and philatelic materials, the National Postal Museum has postal history material that pre-dates stamps, vehicles used to transport the mail, mailboxes and mailbags, postal uniforms and equipment.

The National Postal Museum opened on July 30, 1993. It was created on November 6, 1990, in a joint agreement between the Smithsonian Institution and the United States Postal Service.

The National Postal Museum receives funding through three primary sources: the United States Postal Service, the Smithsonian Institution's annual federal appropriation, and gifts from private individuals, foundations, and corporations.

As stamp collectors, we are truly lucky to have such a wonderful Museum that celebrates the hobby and its history!



Lobby of the National Postal Museum

The **National Postal Museum** will host the **20th Maynard Sundman Lecture** Thursday, November 2, at 4:00 p.m. ET at the museum and also online on Zoom. Admission is free, but [reservations](#) are required. Noted philatelist **Cheryl Ganz** will speak on "U.S. Zeppelin Postage Stamps."

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 15, 2023, GPSCC MEETING

VP Phil Russell started the meeting in the absence of President Paul Miller.

Secretary's Report: Letty will reach out to the Community Room contact from Giant, Robin Franklin, to reserve the use of a room for our meetings for all of 2024. Hopefully, the dates will start to appear in the newsletter next month.

An announcement was made about the next Philatelic Gathering to be held on Saturday, August 19 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Meetings are held at the Chester County Historical Society Building, 225 N. High St., West Chester. The speakers will be John Howker on "Stamped Envelopes" and Bill Schultz on "The Enclosed 5-cent Rate U.S. Covers".

Treasurer's Report: Our account remains at \$4,587.03. The bank that we are using has changed their requirements for smaller accounts and will soon start charging us \$15 per month since we have less than \$5000 in our account. Bruce is reviewing the situation.

Program: Our member, Bill Schultz, spoke on Enclosed 5-cent Rate U.S. Covers. He covered the years 1845 to 1847 when there were not yet paper stamps and the amount of postage paid was hand stamped on the cover. His interest was in handstamps of the number five within a shape: circles, ovals squares, etc. He used the pages of an exhibit that he has shown and passed these around so that we all had a chance to see them up close.

Show & Tell & Discuss: Terri Kelly brought in seven different types of postcards, many from Sweden, and some Moroccan stamps. They were available to take for anyone with an interest.

The question came up for Bill Schultz about whether the contents of the stampless covers were of interest to collectors or judges of exhibits. He said that for the most part, no, they were not, and the contents were usually dull and business like. This would be called Social Philately. In the future, perhaps five years or more, this may become of more interest.

Our September speaker will be our member, Louis Gotlib.

Respectfully submitted by Letty Moon.

LETTERS TO LINN'S SEPTEMBER 23, 2023

I was happy to see Thomas Luly's World Classics column on the stamps of Tibet in the August issue of *Scott Stamp Monthly*. It is a nice overview of that intriguing country's issues. He warns readers that fakes are rampant and says the major literature resource is Arnold Waterfall's book *The Postal History of Tibet*. Luly also mentions the Nassau Street dealer Frank Warner. As a youngster, I bought my first Tibet items from Warner. Because Tibet stamps were easily forged, I also wondered about Tibet covers. Warner recommended that one should smell a Tibet cover. If it smelled of yak dung, then it must be genuine, having come down from the Himalayan Mountains on the back of a pack animal!

Alan Warren Exton, Pa.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Vern Morris' "Evolution and Impact of Blood's Local Post 1842-1862" received a prix d'honneur in the Champion of Champions competition at the Great American Stamp Show (GASS) in Cleveland in August. In the open competition Vern received a large gold and the reserve grand award for his "Evolution and Development of the USPO to 1799." During the show **Bill Schultz** was the invited after-dinner speaker at the American Topical Association's banquet.



Vern Morris



Bill Schultz



Mike Wilson

Our editor **Mike Wilson** has a nice article in the 3rd Quarter 2023 issue of Kelleher's *Stamp Collector's Quarterly*. It is an extension of the program he gave to the club in January about a Penny Black cover and its contents. He indulged in wonderful research that uncovered several storylines.

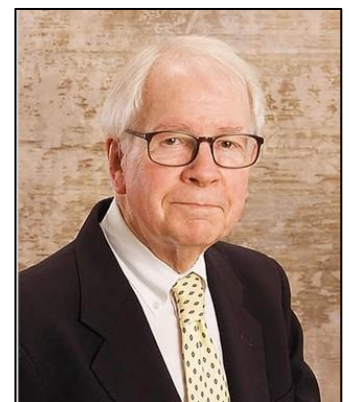
Congratulations to member **Vince Costello** who received his American Philatelic Society 25-year membership pin at GASS in Cleveland.

At the BALPEX show in Hunt Valley, Md., over Labor Day weekend, **Vern Morris** received a large gold, the United States Stamp Society's Statue of Freedom award, the Baltimore Philatelic Society's Ed Ruckle award, and the show's Grand Award with his "Evolution & Impact of Blood's Local Post: 1842-1861." Vern took another large gold and the Postal History Society award for his "1776."

Mark Schwartz also took a large gold, the United States Philatelic Classics Society (USPCS) medal and the American Philatelic Congress award with his "The Postal History of Salem, Mass. – Domestic Mail through Sept. 1883; Foreign up to UPU." Mark received another large gold for "The Introduction of the First Federal Handstamp." **Alan Warren** served on the BALPEX jury.



Mark Schwartz (l.) accepts the USPCS medal from BALPEX Awards Chairman Richard Taschenberg



Alan Warren

Submitted by Alan Warren

"LINDBERGH AGAIN FLIES THE AIR MAIL," FEBRUARY 1928

Mike Wilson

Charles A. Lindbergh became a household name after he made the first nonstop flight from New York to Paris in May 1927. But he didn't rest on his laurels after that feat. To the contrary, he used his fame to promote airmail service. This cover is from one of those promotional flights.

On February 20-21, 1928, Lindbergh flew a series of flights between Chicago and St. Louis on a route referred to as "CAM 2."

CAM stands for "Contract Air Mail." In the 1920s, in an effort to help create a private aviation industry, the postmaster general contracted with private companies to carry mail over specific routes. CAM 2 was the route between Chicago and St. Louis (with intermediate stops in Springfield and Peoria) and was awarded to the Robertson Aircraft Corporation (RAC). Lindbergh was hired by RAC in 1925 and flew mail over CAM 2 until he left in February 1927 to work on the *Spirit of St. Louis* in San Diego. Lindbergh's notarized "Certificate of the Oath of Mail Messengers" for CAM 2 is shown in Figure 1.

CERTIFICATE OF THE OATH OF MAIL MESSENGERS	
REQUIRED BY ACT OF CONGRESS OF MARCH 5, 1874	POSTMASTER GENERAL
APR 20 1928	
RAILWAY ADJUSTMENTS being	
I, <u>Charles A. Lindbergh</u>	
employed in the care, custody, and conveyance of the mail (as <u>Asst. Mail Messenger</u>) on	
Route No. <u>C.A.M. 2</u> , between the Post Office at <u>Chicago</u> ,	
State of <u>Illinois</u> , and <u>Saint Louis, Missouri</u> , do solemnly	
swear that I will faithfully perform all the duties required of me and	
abstain from everything forbidden by the laws in relation to the establishment of post offices and	
post roads within the United States; and that I will honestly and truly account for and pay over	
any money belonging to the said United States which may come into my possession or control;	
and I also further swear that I will support the Constitution of the	
United States: So HELP ME GOD.	
<u>Charles A. Lindbergh</u>	
Sworn before the subscriber, <u>a Notary Public</u>	
for the <u>City</u> of <u>Saint Louis, Mo.</u> , this <u>13th</u>	
day of <u>April</u> , A. D. 1928; and I also certify that the person above	
named is properly qualified under the Postal Laws and Regulations to perform service and to	
receive pay therefor as mail messenger, and is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, not under	
sixteen years of age.	
<u>My commission expires</u>	<u>Emilie Koster</u>
<u>November 16, 1928.</u>	<u>Notary Public.</u>
<small>The person who takes the oath should sign his name above the Jurat.</small>	
<small>This oath may be administered by a duly commissioned postmaster, but not by a deputy postmaster, assistant postmaster, acting postmaster, or clerk employed in a post office.</small>	
<small>This certificate must be returned to the office of the Second Assistant Postmaster General, Division of Railway Adjustments.</small>	
<small>Postmasters are not permitted to charge any fee for administering the oath.</small>	
<small>Form 1627</small>	

Figure 1 – Lindbergh's Oath of Mail Messengers

So less than a year after his historic flight to Paris, Lindbergh was carrying mail on his old airmail route, but this time with considerable fanfare. Tens of thousands of self-addressed covers were carried by Lindbergh over this route.

Figure 2 is a photo of Lindbergh standing next to his Douglas mail plane prior to departing Chicago in the early morning hours of February 21. The mail compartment was just forward of the rear cockpit.



Figure 2 - Lindbergh prior to Chicago-St Louis Flight, February 21, 1928. Source: Henry Ford Museum.

"LINDBERGH AGAIN FLIES THE AIR MAIL," FEBRUARY 1928 (CONTINUED)

The cover shown in Figures 3 and 4 was one of the many covers carried during this occasion. It has a nice bright red cachet depicting the *Spirit of St. Louis* and an eagle - that would be "The Lone Eagle," one of Lindbergh's nicknames. There's a horseshoe-shaped auxiliary marking with "Lindbergh Again Flies The Air Mail" and a "Via Air Mail" marking noting the route was "C.A.M. 2."

This particular cover was postmarked in Milwaukee on February 20, 1928. It was received in Chicago early in the morning of February 21. It then made the flight to St. Louis where it was received and postmarked around 11:00 a.m. on February 21. It was then delivered to an addressee in St. Louis.

The stamp is apropos. It was issued on June 18, 1927, as a tribute to Lindbergh. It was the first time a living person was honored on a U.S. stamp. It depicts the *Spirit of St. Louis* and Lindbergh's route over the Atlantic Ocean. In the U.S. Scott Catalog, it is number C10, "C" being Scott's designation of an airmail stamp. The denomination of 10-cents covered the rate for an airmail letter at the time.

The addressee on the letter was Mr. Ernest Augustus Moseley of St. Louis. Ernest was born in 1892 in Bloomfield, Missouri, about 155 miles south of St. Louis. He married Gertrude Johnston in Bloomfield in 1916, and one of his two daughters was born there in 1917. By 1920, he was living in St. Louis where his second daughter was born. I don't know why he moved to the big city, but he lived in that metropolitan area for the rest of his life. He worked as a bank clerk or teller and held other clerical positions like a mail order clerk. He passed away at age 84 in 1976 and was buried at Mount Lebanon Cemetery in St. Louis. He was survived by his two daughters; his wife Gertrude passed away in 1974.

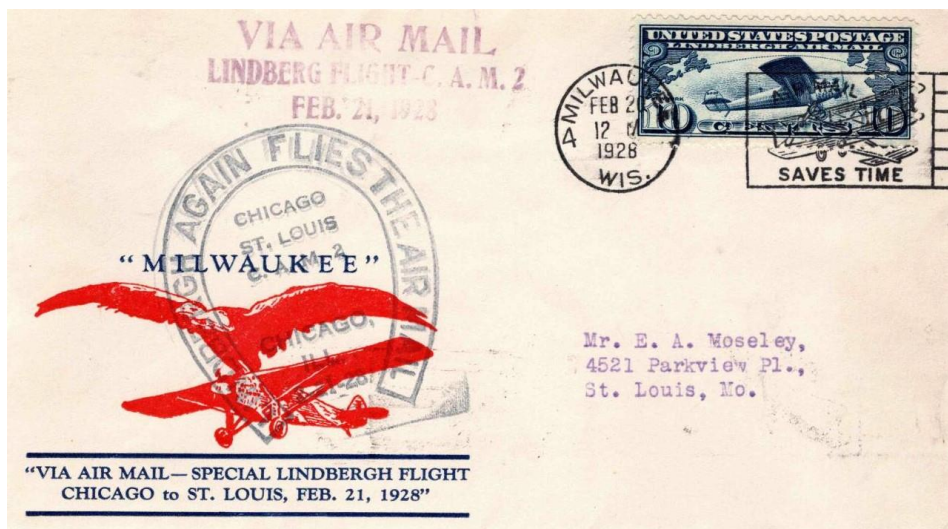


Figure 3 – Front of cover.

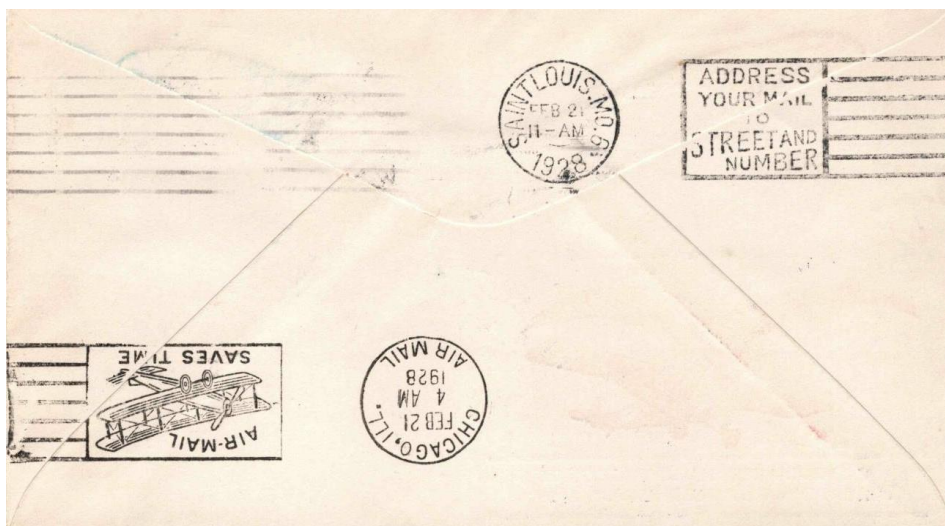


Figure 4 – Back of cover.

DID YOU KNOW?

Mike Wilson

Remember studying the periodic table in school? Maybe, maybe not? How about a refresher in the form of a “Philatelic Table of the Elements”?

Larry G. French, a professor of chemistry at St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY, put together a periodic table of elements in 2016 and updated it in 2019. He used stamps from 74 stamp-issuing entities plus two self-created stamps to cover all 118 elements. His purpose was to provide a platform for a discussion of people, places, sources and applications associated with all the elements.

You can read more about his project at this [link](#). Clicking on this [link](#) will open a higher resolution picture of the image to the right.



CLUB SECRETARY NEEDED

Letty Moon is stepping down after ten years of service. Thank you for your continued service Letty!

We are looking for a volunteer who could write up minutes for our meetings and handle some communications with our members. The pay is great! Ok, it's zero, but think of the good karma you'll build up. And by the way, you don't need to be a female to apply.

Contact any officer if you could volunteer, and we will give you all the help that you could need!

CLUB MAILING ADDRESS

Greater Philadelphia Stamp & Collectors Club
P.O. Box 446
Willow Grove, PA 19090-0446

CALL FOR AUTHORS!

Have something philatelic that you would like to share? Know of an article from another publication that you think others would like to read? Send Mike Wilson a note at newsletter@gpscc.org, and he'll include it in an upcoming newsletter.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

If you haven't already done so, check out our new website! You can find it at <https://www.gpscc.org>. Spread the news – and the link!

REPORT OF THE AUGUST 19, 2023, PHILATELIC GATHERING

Seventeen collectors gathered to hear two speakers.

John Howker described U.S. airmail stamped envelopes, specifically the monoplane design used from 1923 to 1946. He discussed the transcontinental first flight as background and then focused on the monoplane envelope design with die proofs and watermark varieties. He also showed uses including survey flights, uses to the Far East, Europe, Zeppelin use, the concessionary military rate, the 1¢ surcharge for the increased rate in 1958, and Dorothy Knapp cacheted envelopes.

John's presentation can be seen [here](#).

Bill Schultz shared some pages of his exhibit on the enclosed 5-cent rate on stampless mail before the 1847s were issued. This was a narrow period of time, and he focused on the use of the figure "5" enclosed in circles, ovals, triangles, and boxes—nine types altogether. The handstamps were made of rubber, wood, and brass. The rate was usually on a collect rather than prepaid basis

Source: [Philatelic Society of Lancaster County](#)

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023, PHILATELIC GATHERING

10:00 am - Noon

Chester County Historical Society
225 N. High Street
West Chester PA 19380.

Speakers:

Alan Warren, FDC Ericcson Issue

Steve Washburne, Portugal Rowland Hill Issue
1940

ANYONE COLLECT CRYPTO STAMPS? DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY ARE?

In June 2019, Austria Post started selling the world's first blockchain stamp. The so-called Crypto stamps were issued with 150,000 of such stamps placed in circulation. Though the stamps were normal postage stamps, each stamp also had a digital counterpart. This digital counterpart of the physical stamp was in five colors, each with a different degree of uniqueness or rarity: Red (1,500), Yellow (10,000), Blue (20,000), Green (40,000) and Black (78,500).



*Austria's
first crypto
stamp*

Other postal authorities have followed Austria's lead including Switzerland, Thailand, Netherlands, and the United Nations. Even the USPS has gotten in on the action by marketing digital images of its 2021 Day of the Dead stamps. If you search for "Crypto" on HipStamp, you'll find about 75 items for sale.

Would you add such items to your collection? Graham Beck has a well-done, non-technical YouTube video on crypto stamps if you are interested in learning more. This is a [link](#) to that episode.

Please share your thoughts by sending me a note to newsletter@gpscc.org!

Mike Wilson