



The Greater

Philadelphia Stamp & Collector's Club

Founded 1835

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, 2018 Newsletter - Volume 6, Issue 8

Next Meeting - Tuesday, August, 21 2018

Our Featured Topic

for August

James Downing

US Naval Postal Clerk

We will enjoy a recent video from the Rocky Mt. Philatelic Library. It covers the story, interspersed with postal history, of a naval postal clerk, who was at Pearl



Harbor on the USS West Virginia.

He became an officer and was involved in the Castle Bravo H bomb test. After his retirement he continued his work in a Christian evangelical group which eventually brought him into contact with the leader of the Japanese air attack on Pearl Harbor. The bonds of wartime experiences and faith unexpectedly complete the circle of life triggered by the events at Pearl Harbor. Postal history is bound with life's events in this video.

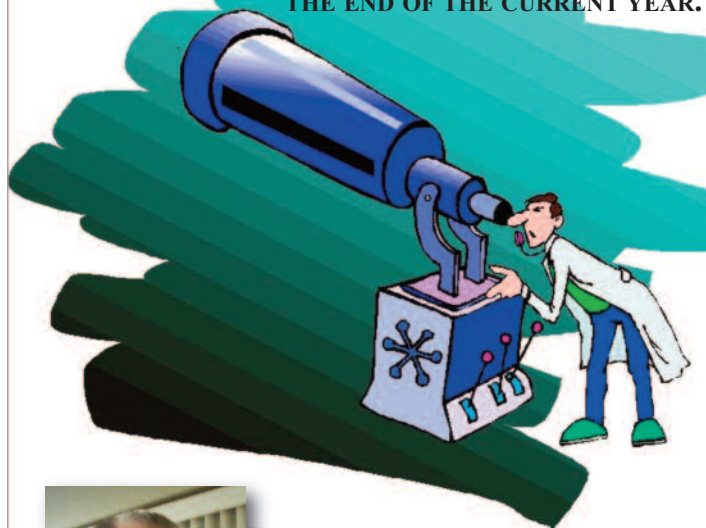
Library Has a New Home

Our GPS & CC philatelic reference library recent moved to the home of Vince Costello. Anyone making inquiries should email Vince, our treasurer, or contact him before a meeting and he will bring the material to the meeting for you. Vince's email appears at the bottom of the front page of the newsletter.

Message from the Pres.

Still Lookin'

FOR SOMEONE TO TAKE OVER
FOR RICH AS PRESIDENT UNTIL
THE END OF THE CURRENT YEAR.



Rich Majerick is doing well and says "Thanks!" for the get well cards.

2018 Meeting Dates

All Tuesdays - All start at 7:30 pm - All at the Giant

AUG. 21ST SEPT. 18TH OCT. 16TH NOV. 20TH
DECEMBER 18TH - Holiday Dinner

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

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Stamp Club Meeting Address

GPS and CC

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

Stamp Club Address

GPS and CC

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Awards & Recognition

Mark Schwartz won two large gold awards at NAPEX in McLean, Virginia in June for "New York Postmaster Provisional" and "The 'Special Arrangement' between Liverpool and the U.S., 1843-1848." The latter also received the Germany Philatelic Society award.

Minutes From June's Meeting

The meeting was called to order by **Phil Russell** at 7:40 PM with 14 members and guests present. **Bill Schultz** presented a program on the new APS manual of philatelic judging and exhibiting and the use of the new point system for evaluating exhibits. The new manual does away with "rules" except that exhibitors must own the material they are displaying.

The manual was developed using over 50 people who served as advisors and consultants as well as national show chairmen. Bill described the new Exhibit Evaluation Form that every exhibitor at a national show receives, indicating where they could make improvements to the exhibit. These include the title page, importance of the material, treatment of the material, primary and secondary knowledge and research, difficulty of acquisition, condition, and presentation.

Vince Costello reported the Treasury bank balance is \$4,190.98. **Carl Barna** won the 50-50 lottery. Recent newcomers **Phil Andrews** and **Ray McGrath** mentioned their collecting interests. During the show-and-tell, **Joe Gudonis** displayed his recently completed model ship, *Maid of the Mist* that is featured at Niagara Falls. Vince Costello showed some old pre-printed postal cards that sought information about stolen automobiles.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Alan Warren
Secretary pro tem

Smile a Little

The reason Mayberry was so peaceful and quiet was because nobody was married. Andy, Aunt Bea, Barney, Floyd, Howard, Gooper, Gomer, Sam, Earnest T Bass, Helen, Thelma Lou, Clara and, of course, Opie were all single. The only married person was Otis, and he stayed drunk.

Meet Our Newest Member

Bruce Marsden

Bruce Marsden collects Switzerland, tourism theme and Worldwide. Bruce grew up in the San Francisco area, where he belonged to two stamp clubs.

He started collecting when for his 8th birthday his aunt gave him a children's collecting kit. He has never stopped collecting since! He began collecting Switzerland in 1972 and has since traveled there many times. He finds the stamps pretty and the history interesting. He also has a thematic collection related to the promotion of worldwide tourism which includes stamps, cancels and illustrated postal cards. The most unusual thing that he has collected was a wine bottle label which was soaked off a bottle, flattened, stamped and canceled as it went through the mail from Switzerland.

Bruce is semi-retired while working for the Riverside Research Institute in Manhattan. After moving around some, his is now settled in the Bucks Co. area. He currently belongs to the Collector's Club of New York and the Westfield Stamp Club in NJ.

Bruce has a wife and two adult children. He and his wife enjoy traveling a good deal and in May went to the National Stamp show in Lugano, Switzerland, a show which is held only every six years.

Up Coming Shows & Times

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|--------------|--|
| August 31 to | BALPEX , Hunt Valley Inn, Shawan Rd., |
| September 2 | Hunt Valley, Md. |
| Oct. 19-21 | NOJEX/ASDA , Meadowlands Hilton |
| | Hotel, East Rutherford, N.J. |
| October 20 | Dover Stamp Show, |
| | Camden-Wyoming Fire Hall, |
| | 200 East Camden-Wyoming Avenue, |
| | Camden, Del. |
| October 27 | Eastern Pennsylvania Stamp Show (EPASS), |
| | Jordan United Church of Christ, |
| | 1837 Church Rd., Allentown, Pa. |
| Nov. 1-2 | Blount Postal History Symposium, |
| | National Postal Museum, Washington D.C. |
| Nov. 2-3 | 50th anniversary celebration of the |
| | American Philatelic Research Library, |
| | Bellefonte, Pa. |



Shades, Tones, and Faded Colors of U.S. Stamps, 1847-1910 *Why They Occur, Significance, And Value If Any*

By R. H. White



Introduction -

The philatelists who specialize in collecting shades and color varieties usually consider the quest for those items as an avocation; very little thought is given to intrinsic value. The reward for finding rare shades of colors, e.g., the 3 Cent pigeon blood of the 1861 issue, is the knowledge that those stamps are really different from the normal printings, and not minor shades or stamps altered by time or exposure to environmental factors.

There are very few deliberately manufactured outstanding color variants to be found in any of the popular or commemorative issues which were produced by private printers, Bank Note companies, or the Bureau. Rather, they are the result of a change in the ink formulation, and are the only ones of any significant monetary value.

The hundreds of modest shades or tints of the normal stamp colors are the result of minor differences in percentages of white pigment added to the basic colorant. For example, the 2 Cent denominations of the first and second Bureau issues typify the range of shades (tones) which can occur as the amount of white additive to the pigment is increased or decreased.

Shades Of The 1847 Through 1869 Issues-

The color of the 5 Cent stamp of the 1847 issue suffered at the outset from too much

experimentation with ink composition. Essentially a lead oxide formulation with small percentages of iron compounds, the stamp is found in many shades of brown, reddish brown, orange-brown and orange-red. Some of the latter colors are true shades, i.e., they contain a mixture of two or more mineral pigments. The lighter "shades" are really tones resulting from adding white filler compounds to, or removing them from, the ink mixture.

The 3 Cent stamp of the 1851-1858 issue was printed in numerous shades or tones which have been the subject of much debate.

Dr. Carroll Chase, in his classic review of that 3 Cent stamp, both imperforate and perforated, exhaustively reviews the shades and/or tones to which he assigned color names⁽¹⁾. The explanation for and analysis of the many varieties which exist is detailed in the *Color Encyclopedia of United States Stamps*⁽²⁾.

In substance, most of those shades or tones were the result of slightly varying ink formulations, with only a few being a product of mixed pigment or dye additives. Nonetheless, it is one of about a dozen U.S. stamps that collectors enjoy accumulating because of shade differences.

The 5 Cent, 10 Cent and 30 Cent stamps of the 1851-1857 and 1861 issues offer several examples of "shades" which are produced by using varying

grades of a single colorant in the ink composite. Notable among these are the 5 Cent Indian red and the 30 Cent orange-red; both are quite scarce and much more valuable than their normal counterparts.

The 1 Cent indigo, 10 Cent blue-green and the 90 Cent blue stamps are all mixtures of two colorants.

The 3 Cent pinks and pigeon-bloods, and the 24 Cent violets, lilacs, grays, and variations of each are all the result of adding a red or violet dye color to the basic oxide pigment; in some instances, such as the 3 Cent pigeon-blood, the ink colorant is nearly all dye-stuff and quite susceptible to fading in sunlight.

The 24 Cent stamps of 1861-3, Scott #'s 70 and 78, are subject to color manipulation by various chemicals. An extensive number of created shades are known. The so-called 24 Cent steel-blue stamp, Scott 70b can be manufactured from shades of both 70 and 78, and is not simply a "changing" of samples of 78, as Scott implies. Color plates of typical altered 24 Cent stamps are illustrated in the *Color Encyclopedia of U.S. Stamps, Volume I*⁽³⁾.

The 1869 Pictorials And The Bank Note Printings

There are few shades of any consequence, although all of the printings of the bi-colored values of the regular issue of the Pictorials, 15 Cent to 90 Cent, can be found with lighter

or darker vignettes. The stamps can be found with faded central designs, notably the 30 Cent and 90 Cent denominations.

Special printing specimens all exhibit much better color than the regularly issued stamps.

The Bank Note issues do not offer much challenge relative to significant shades or specific color varieties. Rather, the collector should be aware that those Bank Note denominations printed with mixtures of dyes and mineral colors or dyes alone occur as weak impressions or faded examples.

Of particular concern are the 6 Cent, 12 Cent, 24 Cent and 90 Cent values, each of which was printed with inks containing a red or purple dye. The 6 Cent Lincoln design is almost always found with a red dye plus iron oxide composite ink, e.g., the brown-red of 1882.

A truly pink variety of Scott #148 is an example of a very scarce stamp. So much so that Scott does not list it. It is matched in color only by very fine examples of the 3 Cent pinks of 1861.⁽⁴⁾

The 1890 And Columbian Issues -

The mixed ink formulations used in printing the 2 Cent, 3 Cent, 6 Cent and 8 Cent stamps of the 1890 issue all contained one or more red or purple dyes, either as dyestuffs or lakes.

The methods of preparation and techniques for mixing mineral and dye components is

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Shades, Tones, and Faded Colors of U.S. Stamps, 1847-1910

Continued

reviewed elsewhere.⁽⁵⁾ Simply stated, lake dyes, which can be of almost any color, are manufactured by causing the solution of a dye to precipitate on a white insoluble chemical such as white lead in the presence of a "bonding" agent (mordant).

The 2 Cent stamps which are not lake colors occur in many shades and tints, each variety usually printed with ink containing more or less white filler. Some shades of red and orange-red, and the so-called "lakes" are all lake colors; these are most susceptible to water and watermarking fluids which result in "bleeding" of the ink into the paper fibers.

Columbian stamps which also are printed with mixed colorants include the 2 Cent, 6 Cent, 8 Cent, \$1, \$2 and \$4 denominations. All are found in varying shades. The \$2 and \$4 are laked colors; the deep brown-red of the former, and

carmine lake shade of the \$4 are the most desirable.

The 1894-5

Bureau Issues -

There are numerous shades and tints of dye colored stamps to be found in the first and second Bureau printings including the 1898 color changes. As always, the varieties of the 2 Cent and 3 Cent denominations far outnumbered all the shades of the other values. There are many examples of laked colors in these issues, with an assortment of carmine, purple, orange and rose types to be found. At least ten different tints of the carmine colors exist, all resulting from varying percentages of white filler compounds in the ink.

The 1902 And 1910 Regular Issues -

The trend to standard color selection for the 1902 series is reflected in the pigments chosen for these stamps, which,

except for the 4 Cent orange-browns, the 5 Cent blue and 8 Cent violet-black, all repeat the pigment selections for 1894-8 Bureau stamps. Again, there are many shades to be found. A few are much scarcer than average; the 8 Cent in a distinct lavender color is rare.

By the time the 1908-9 definitives went to press the selection of ink pigments had stabilized. Although different colors had been chosen for some denominations, e.g., orange for the 6 Cent, olive-green for the 8 Cent, yellow for the 10 Cent, and blue-green for the 13 Cent stamp, these were all pigments that had been used for earlier issues. Shades or tints exist for all the denominations, but they are less distinctive than those preceding them.

Later Franklin/Washington issues, particularly those appearing in 1912 and subsequent, were printed with inks

quite similar to those used in 1908-9. As dyestuffs became more difficult to obtain with the advent of war restriction on German dye imports, different ink formulations were tried to make up for the shortages. These may be reviewed in a subsequent article.

Do You Know Where This Photo Was Taken?

Answer - Pg 2

