



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

September, 2019 Newsletter - Volume 7, Issue 9

Next Meeting - Tuesday, September 17, 2019

## Our Featured Topic

for September

### The Development of Perforations on U.S. Postage Stamps: 1855-1857

Due to my recent discovery of a #11P3 3¢ 1851 imperforate "brush stroke" pair, I revisit the events preceding the purchase of a perforating machine by Toppan, Carpenter & Co. (TCC), reviewed the inventors of rotary perforating machine, then the rouletting trial period by TCC with Perkins, Bacon and Bemrose, the conversion of the machine to a perforator, and the eventual issuance of perforated 3¢ stamps in Feb. 1857. This presentation builds upon the seminal work (mostly unpublished) of W. Wilson Hulme, who pioneered this area of research and shared his database and unpublished research with me prior to his passing.

by **Charles J. DiComo, PhD.**

#### Philatelic BIO

Charles is a life-long philatelist and active in the philatelic community. He is the Editor-in-Chief of The Chairman's Chatter, Editorial Proofreader for The Chronicle, Webmaster and Life Member of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society. He is also the President, Web Designer/Developer of the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County as well as President and Webmaster of the Empire State Postal History Society. Charles served for 9 years on the Council of Philatelists at the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum and is a Charter member of The Philatelic Gathering, whose mission is to share their love of philately with others.

He maintains active memberships in the American Philatelic Society (30+ yrs.), British North American

*Continued* →

## President's Message

Welcome Autumn, which will arrive less than a week after our meeting this month. With the cooler weather philatelic activity always increases, so why not come out to supper and good stamp gossip at the Willow Inn with the gang before the meeting. Happy hour is until 6, so get there early.

This is being written before Labor Day weekend and Balpex, the traditional beginning of the stamp season. I'm sure I saw many of you there less than a two hour drive from Philadelphia; it always is a well-attended show with excellent exhibits. Two days after our meeting I'll be off to Milcopex, another Midwest show. Now if only getting to Milwaukee wasn't twice as complicated, and expensive, as, say L.A.

See you at the meeting.

Steve



## 2018-19 Meeting Dates

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

SEPT. 17TH    OCT. 15TH    NOV. 19TH

DEC 19 - HOLIDAY DINNER

Philatelic Society (20+ yrs.), Pennsylvania Postal History Society; and the Society of Paper Money Collectors. He has also held memberships in the Collectors Club of NY, the Carriers and Locals Society, the Postal History Society, and U.S. Stamp Society – to name a few.

Charles holds a PhD in Genetics and is an Executive at WellSpan Health, an 8 hospital, 19,000 employees, integrated health system

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### Stamp Club Meeting Address

#### GPS and CC

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

### Stamp Club Address

#### GPS and CC

PO Box 446,  
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19090-0446

## Meet Our Newest Member...

### Richard Brent

Rick grew up in Springfield, Delaware Co, where he started taking an interest in stamps at age 6. He noticed that envelopes that ended up in his father's waste paper basket had attractive stamps on them, so he started saving the stamps. By the time he was in junior high, he started to buy Harris Ambassador Worldwide Stamp Albums. His interest in collecting never stopped.



When he was in his early 20's he was collecting Mexico. He now has collections of commemoratives, Caribbean Islands (focusing mostly on Montserrat, Cayman Is. and Bermuda,) Switzerland, Falkland Is., Liechtenstein and a nearly complete collection of Poland.

He is also a member of the American Topical Assoc. since 1977, and has topical collections of John F. Kennedy, Copernicus and ships on stamps. He recently joined one of the many ATA study units: Cats on Stamps.

Rick has been retired for 5 yr. from doing electrical work on ships and tug boats, mostly in the Philadelphia area, but also in Baltimore and NY. In retirement he has enjoyed traveling around the country to the larger stamp shows. His other interests are wood-working and gardening.



## Minutes From August's Meeting

The meeting began with our program given by **Mark Schwartz**. He presented his talk on Boston Postal History to 1851. He covered the development and operation of the early post office in America, from the earliest letter sent in the original Thirteen Colonies through the simplification of Postal Rates in 1845, and the introduction of the first U.S. adhesives.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** We had two guests tonight. **Phil Anders** joined us and has visited us before. His collecting interests are US mint regular issues and commemoratives.

Our second guest was **Richard Brent** from Bryn Mawr who became a member tonight. See the New Member article.

Our dates for the use of the Community Rooms at the Giant have been requested and approved. We have requested the Alps room for most meetings since the equipment seems to be more compatible with the laptops that we use.

The APS is looking for a new, permanent name to be used for the annual APS stamp convention which will be a joint show with the American Topical Association and the American First Day Cover Society. You can submit your suggestions to the APS by Sept. 12.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** We have \$3989.57 in our account.

There was no Old Business or New Business. General discussion followed related to tonight's program, various facts concerning the APS headquarters and Library, and the upcoming postal exhibition and symposium in Bellefonte: The Civil War, A Postal System Divided. It will be held from Oct. 24th-26th.

*Respectfully submitted by Letty Moon*

**I DON'T HAVE AN  
ATTITUDE I HAVE A  
PERSONALITY YOU  
CAN'T HANDLE**

## Did You Know...

### Wooden Postage Stamps – Switzerland, 2004

Switzerland had one of the more innovative sales techniques with these wooden stamps intended to promote the Swiss wood industry.

On 7 September 2004 Switzerland issued a limited edition of stamps made from high-quality fir cut 0.7mm thick to promote Swiss wood and demonstrate its variety of uses.



### Coffee Scented – Brazil, 2001

In 2001, Brazil produced coffee scented stamps to promote their coffee, using coffee essence and special technology to ensure the aroma lasted.



### Chocolate – Belgium, 2013

Continuing the trend for delicious smelling and tasting stamps, Belgium produced a range of stamps that also looked great to promote their famous chocolate.



Stamps around the world have also appeared on other alternative materials, including cork (Portugal, 2007), embroidery (Austria, 2005), CD-ROMS (Bhutan, 2008) and even meteorite dust (Australia, 2004).

## Awards & Recognition



### Club Members Win Big at BALPEX

Congratulations to the two big winners at the BALPEX show held Labor Day weekend in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Mark Schwartz received a large gold and the multiframe grand award for his “The First U.S. International (U.P.U.) Postal Card and its Forerunners.” He also received the United Postal Stationery Society’s Marcus White award for best postal stationery exhibit. Mark won another large gold for his “The Introduction of the First Standardized Federal CDS.”



Vern Morris took a large gold and the single frame grand award with his “Local Posts of Philadelphia 1843-1861.” He also received the American Philatelic Society’s pre-1900 award of excellence.



Bill Schultz and Alan Warren served on the show jury. Chief judge Ed Andrews, also seen in the photos, is a former club member.

## Bear This In Mind

A grizzly bear paw, from a bear that's sedated and about to be tagged and released...





I hope you all enjoyed this part of our newsletter. We now continue with PART 8

# The Classic Collector

By Peter Mosiondz, Jr.

## The Grilled Stamps Of 1867 And 1868

### Three Cent Stamp With "E" Grill, Scott 88

This is the second most common of all the 1867 and 1868 grilled stamps (Scott 94 being, by far, the most common). Some 80,000,000 were printed from just one plate, Plate 36.

You'll frequently encounter this stamp on very thin paper, which is believed to be an experiment designed to obtain better efficiency from the grills.

Some of the other collectible varieties include the split grill, double grill, triple grill, and inverted grill.

Shades include the issued rose as well as pale rose, rose red, and the lake red.

Cancellations, in ascending order of scarcity, are black, blue, red, ultramarine, and green. Numerous cancellation varieties exist as well.

The earliest known use

is May 23, 1868.

### Ten Cent Stamp With "E" Grill, Scott 89

As was the case of the preceding stamp, this one is found on very thin paper and the normal thickness paper.

Some 1,500,000 were issued, assumed to be from Plate 15. Shades include the green, as issued, as well as dark green and blue green.

Split grills, double grills, and a double transfer exist and are highly sought by enthusiastic specialists. In addition, there are several cancellation varieties.

Cancellations, in ascending order of scarcity, are black, blue, and red. Earliest known use is May 6, 1868.

### Twelve Cent Stamp With "E" Grill, Scott 90

Plate 16 printed this stamp in a quantity thought to be about 1,000,000 examples.

Although very rare in

blocks, very fine singles are a bit easier to find than the many other denominations in this series.

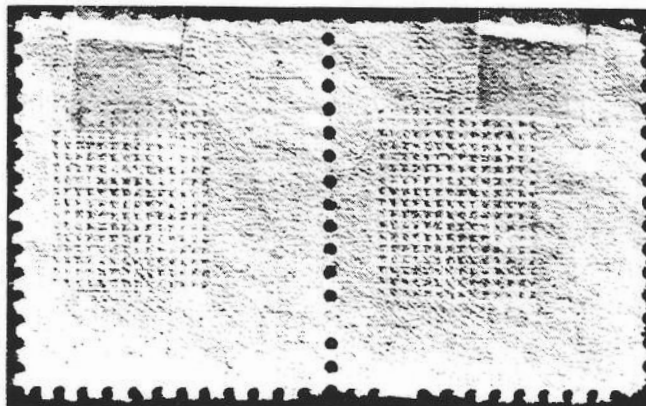
Issued shades are black, gray black, and intense black. Cancellations, in ascending order of scarcity, are black, blue, red, and green.

The student can have a grand old time hunting down varieties such as the double transfer of top frame line, double transfer of bottom frame line, and the double transfer of top and bottom frame line. In addition, we have the split grill and double grill to collect.

Earliest known use is March 3, 1868.

### Fifteen Cent Stamp With "E" Grill, Scott 91

In block form this is one of the toughest "E" stamps to locate. Just four are known to this writer, one of which sold for \$8,500 in the 1989 Robert



*The inaccurate workmanship in reducing the grills on the "D" roller to create the "E" roller makes it possible, as on this 10¢ "E" pair, to find different grill sizes on adjacent stamps.*

A. Siegel Rarities of the World sale. Another was hammered down for \$5,750 in his 1991 Rarities sale, this one having two thinned stamps.

A pair, ex Caspary, sold for \$13,000 in his 1990 Rarities sale. This top left corner margin, horizontal pair grades very fine with bold color, and is choice in all other respects. All told, it is the finest multiple that I have encountered on this stamp.

Shades are black and gray black. Cancellations, in ascending order of scarcity, are black, blue, and red.

Collectible varieties include the split grill and double grill.

The estimated quantity issued is 500,000 for this moderately scarce stamp.

Earliest known use is June 25, 1868.



Scott 88

Look For Part Nine Of Ten In  
October's Newsletter