



1907 Jamestown Exposition  
See Page-5

# Philatelic Society of Lancaster County

The James Buchanan Chapter (#173) of the  
American Philatelic Society  
American Topical Assn., Chapter 118  
Member, NY Federation of Stamp Clubs



**Notice: This is a  
Joint September-  
October Issue**

**Please note that all PSLC meetings are virtual, starting at 6:15 p.m.  
on Wednesdays, 8 and 22 September and 13 and 27 October**

## The Veranda Chronicles

Where did the summer go? Though I can't complain, as fall is one of my favorite seasons. And compared to last year, there are some differences. When you check the show calendars on the website and on Pg.-2 of this newsletter, you will see that we have stamp shows! Just recall that this time last year, there were none on deck and none on the foreseeable horizon. But this fall we'll have opportunities in

Baltimore (Hunt Valley), Lancaster (Farm & Home Center), Harrisburg (Middleton), and Reading (Leesport). While this gives us some hope, we still must be cautious with fall weather and returning to school. Covid spiked this time last year. But let's remain optimistic. We field many questions regarding the start-up of in-person meetings, and we are following up with the local venues and their availability to the public. They must remain fluid

with respect to Covid-19 as do the rest of us. Then there are the CDC guidelines. Be assured, once we know, we'll let you know right away so that you can plan. And speaking of shows and optimism, read the article on Pg.-5 on the 2026 Boston Int'l Stamp Expo. As Paul notes, we should start talking about this. Given that this is an eight-hour trip, the logistics will necessarily be vastly different than our (see Veranda Pg.-4)

## September 2021 Meeting Features

**8 September 2021 at 6:15 p.m.**

Madison, Florida, The 3¢ 1861 Postmaster's Provisionals - Study in Research  
Patricia Kaufmann



It was Trish Kaufmann's definitive research on the 3-cent 1861 Postmaster's Provisionals, published jointly in both the 1984 and 2000 *American Philatelist* and the *Confederate Philatelist*, that resulted in an entirely new Confederate section in the 2000 *Scott Specialized Catalogue*, as well as the CSA catalog. Her research on the Madison provisionals was a 16-year project, (Madison Pg.-6→)

**22 September 2021 at 6:15 p.m.**

Zeppelin Picture Postcards of World War One  
Steve Suddaby

In the First World War (1914-1918), Germany employed their lighter than air Zeppelins for high altitude bombing raids. Following a brief introduction and history of these rigid airships, Steve will display an assortment of period picture postcards from Germany, France, and the United Kingdom as they were used to express propaganda (pro and con), national pride, outrage, just desserts, some rare humor, and other topics.



## Meetings for October '21

**13 October 2021 at 6:15 p.m.**

The Proprietary Tax of 1898: Provisionals, Battleships, Cancels, Private Die Stamps, and Facsimiles  
Ron Leshner



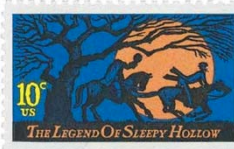
A look at the Spanish-American War proprietary tax on patent medicines, perfumes, chewing gum, and wine. The haste with which the tax was passed and the need to distribute stamps nationwide brought about some provisional tax stamps in several parts of the country. Internal Revenue again permitted companies to submit designs to the Bureau of (Battleships Page-6 →)

**27 October 2021 at 6:15 p.m.**

Halloween Stamps and Postal History  
Dave Hunt

A Philatelic Hallowe'en (no tricks please, but bring your own treats).

In recent years the USPS has issued several Hallowe'en themed stamps, but I was surprised to find that a number of foreign countries have also commemorated the holiday with stamps. I had the rather parochial view that Hallowe'en was a particularly American celebration, and I thought it curious that France and Austria would issue stamps for Hallowe'en, (Halloween Page-6 →)



**Volume 84, Nos. 9-10**

September & October 2021

**Visitors are Always  
Welcome**

*Given the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing to curtail the spread of the virus, PSLC has ceased its in-person monthly meetings, replacing them with virtual meetings on Zoom twice a month.*

PSLC usually meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of the month (except August) at the Crossings Meeting Room, Landis Homes, 1001 E. Oregon Road, Lititz, PA 17543 at 7:00 pm. Dues: \$10.00/year. For club information call Paul Petersen at 717-299-5640.

Website: [LCPS-Stamp.org](http://LCPS-Stamp.org)

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# 14 July Treasury, Minutes and Happenings

David Weichert, Sect'y, and Lou DiFelice, \$\$\$

**Opening:** Dr. DiComo opened at 6:30 with the good news that the club YouTube Channel reached 100 subscribers. This will bring many benefits including more options to customize, easier naming, opportunities for greater feedback such as "likes", and other "comments."

**Membership:** Paul Petersen reported that the latest membership data is expected soon, and he will let us know. (Ed's note: Based on the 15 July report following this meeting prepared by **Barbara Buchanan**, PSLC now has 138 dues paying members and 90 (70%) have paid their 2021 dues.) Paul introduced PSLC's latest new member in attendance, **Jeff Loch** from Lawrence, KS.

**Other:** Paul briefly reminded members to save the dates for upcoming events: i.e., 11 August picnic, 8 August Some Sunday Stamp Show, the Great American Stamp Show 12-15 August. **Mike Bach** announced the Reading Show will be held on Saturday 17 October in Leesport, PA.

## Treasury: 1-30 June 2021

<b>Opening:</b>	\$3632.21
<b>Income:</b>	\$20.00
<b>Expenses:</b>	\$0.00
<b>Sum:</b>	\$3652.21
<b>2-CDs @</b>	\$5983.30

**Approval of the Treasury and Club Activity Reports:** This was approved unanimously by voice vote on the screen.

**Tonight's Attendance:** +/-35

**Feature Presentation:** Tonight **Mark Schwartz** presented *The Use of the 1847 Issue in Boston*. He displayed 16 slides with multiple covers of the #1-5¢ and #2-10¢ stamps on cover in both foreign and domestic destinations. Many were multiples. He shared the challenges of obtaining and collecting these items which dated from 1847 into 1851 when demonetized as the new rates were introduced. Of great interest were the treaties between the U.S. and UK for the transatlantic transportation and delivery of mail. Very detailed accountancy was needed to insure that each country and shipping line received their due fees.

Above right is one of only two Boston Covers with a strip of four

5¢ stamps affixed.



A distinct subset of Mark's covers involved the addition of a Boston Penny Post adhesive. This was a local post that would deliver Boston city mail to the PO. Below is the only known Boston Penny Post+5¢ Benjamin Franklin combination mailed overseas.



Mark recommended several excellent references and digital exhibits on the topic. The appearance of the Universal Postal Union in 1875 simplified the process of international mail somewhat. Those participating countries would now have the same rates for equivalent services. Questions regarding these covers and related postal history were legion and were answered informatively. (Ed's note: Members are reminded to review the slides and live YouTube recording of this presentation and the others on the club's website.)

## Show & Tell:

**Larry Rosenblum** had two items. The first is from Ireland. The Guinness Company specially created these bar mats/coasters. One was given free of charge to customers ordering a Guinness. On one side of the mat was a holiday greeting, and the backside was a format of a postal card with indicia for mailing the card worldwide from special post boxes in the pubs or any other box in Ireland. These would be delivered on 24 December, and Guinness would make a donation for every card sent.



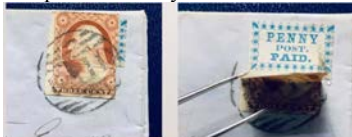
Larry followed up on the letter he displayed last time, the one written on a shirt collar from San Francisco a few days after the earthquake. Larry obtained the image of the address side from the California Hist'l Society. It was sent to a NYC address. While the cancel is indeterminate right now, he will use RetroReveal for clarification and get back to us.

**RD Noble** displayed two rose liberty documentary stamps (#241 and cancelled in 1922) pointing out the difference in color, one with a yellow tinge. Any opinions?



Following the meeting, **Bob Koltanichik** contacted Ed on this matter. He recalled the essence of a previous *American Philatelist* article on changes in the color of stamps. These were called 'changelings.' One source for causing a changeling was sulfur in the air around the stamp. As many homes heated with coal, sulfur was a small by-product in the home's atmosphere. The exposure typically caused stamps to take on some yellow or orange tints. In extreme cases, the stamps could change into a yellowish or orangish variety which later collectors thought might be true color variations. The greater the exposure, the greater the change.

And speaking of Boston Penny Post, **Dr. DiComo** displayed a Boston cover dated 5 October 1852. It was franked with a 3¢ cent stamp of the 1851 issue. What is interesting about this cover is that underneath the 3¢ stamp was a Penny Post adhesive.



The image above shows the cropped upper right corner of the cover with the edge of the Penny Post adhesive sticking out from under the 3¢ cent stamp. Carefully peeling back the 3¢ cent stamp (only partially) reveals the full Penny Post label. The stamp and label are tied to one another and to the cover by the cancel.

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:40 p.m.

## Club Notes

### Programs & Shows

#### 2021 Programs

**8 September:** Madison, Florida, The 3¢ 1861 Postmaster's Provisionals - Study in Research. Patricia Kaufmann

**22 September:** Zeppelin Picture Postcards of World War One. Steve Suddaby

**13 October:** The Proprietary Tax of 1898: Provisionals, Battleships, Cancels, Private Die Stamps, and Facsimiles. Ron Leshor

**27 October:** Halloween Stamps and Postal History. Dave Hunt.

**10 November:** The U.S. 1933 Byrd Antarctic Stamp: Production, First Day, and Other Uses. Alan Warren

**24 November:** Christmas Seals. Stanley Jones

**8 December:** (Potentially) Annual December Dinner. Deb Ehleiter and Dinner Committee.

**22 December:** The DC-4 Skymaster Issue. Tom Nichols

#### 2022

**12 January:** Open meeting? In House Auction?

**26 January:** French Definitive Stamps. Larry Rosenblum

**9 February:** The 5¢ West Point Stamp of 1937. Mick Zais

**23 February:** Open

**13 April:** Postal History That Sizzles. Bill Schultz

**27 April:** A Thematic Collection of the International Geophysical Year, 1957-58. Rob Sternberg

### Local Stamp Shows

♦**Baltimore:** (F-N) 3-5 Sept., Baltimore Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, MD

♦**Harrisburg:** (S) 11 September, Lower Swarara Firehouse, 1350 Fulling Mill Road, Middleton

♦**Chambersburg:** (S) 11 October. Eugene Clark Rec Center, 235 S. Third St.

♦**Gettysburg:** (S) 16 October. Gettysburg Fire Company, 35 North Stratton Street

♦**Reading:** (N) 17 October, Leesport Farmers Market, Route 61, just north of Leesport. Set your GPS or do a MapQuest route search for 321 Gernants Church Road in Leesport.





## 28 July Meeting Proceedings

**Opening:** At 6:30 p.m. **Paul Petersen** started the meeting with a welcome to all. He noted that some who are associated with PSLC won 2021 APS Awards. Member and regular speaker, **Bill Schultz** won the *Kehr Award* for "Enduring contributions that help guarantee the future of the hobby." **Ron Leshner**, our spring and fall speaker on revenues, won the *Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research*. **Ron Breznay**, a regular virtual meeting visitor from the Wyoming Valley Club, won the *Nicholas Carter Volunteer Recognition Award for Local service*. Paul also reported a new website, [www.buildyourclub.com](http://www.buildyourclub.com), from **Steven Kennedy**. This site was developed to help stamp clubs assess and fortify their societal operations and membership numbers.

He reminded everyone of the 11 August picnic where the information regarding this is in the July-August Newsletter. Further, he introduced new member, **Steve Brooks** from South Carolina who shared his interests.

**Membership:** Paul shared **Barbara Buchanan's** latest dues count; 96 of 138 members have paid their dues. He suggested that for those who still owe and are paying late, they might consider paying for 2022 at the same time. He provided an update on the Kasper family. Father and son hope to reopen the store in a few weeks on a limited basis.

**Attendance:** This was +/-31.

**Feature Presentation:** **Jesse Spector, MD** gave a presentation entitled *The Future of Philately*. He has studied the topic for years. While he admits to some areas in need for improvement in the hobby, he is weary of all the articles that prophesy the demise of collecting. He sees them as 'philatelic undertakers.'

Jesse provided details in many of the declines in the leading indicators in the hobby such as club membership and magazine subscriptions among others. He is concerned with the increased cost of proliferating new issues. Digital devices and resources have altered the hobby making it more accessible to some and easing the burden of research

through online browsing. eBay has revised the playing field of the marketplace with both pro and con results. For youth there are many more attractive activities competing for their time than in our generation. While many issues can be resolved, our response must be immediate, as this is a race against time.

Follow-up discussion was lively.

**Al Schaub** shared his seven (7) points for adult recruitment into the hobby. Plant the seeds of collecting now. (*See separate article to the right.*)

**Mike Bach** introduced the hobby to his sons when they were young as did **Carol Petersen**. **Dave Wichert** is doing the same with his 7½ y/o granddaughter who has an interest in flags.

**Bob Toal** noted that sharing older though not necessarily expensive covers, stamps, letters, and their stories with non-collectors with enquiring minds can be quite fruitful. He further mentioned **Postcrossing**, an international postcard exchange club that promotes stamps.

**Suzanne Noble** shared that as a very new collector with a touch of OCD, she finds the hobby stimulating and rewarding and that the work is never done.

**RD Noble** thinks that some of the reticence of potentially new collectors is the greed of stamp-issuing entities. "There is just too much stuff, and it's too pricey."

### Show & Tell

**Mike Bach** displayed an interesting philatelic cover, the "Anglo-American Goodwill Coronation Flight." The producer and pilot was Dick Merrill, an enthusiast in postal history.



The cover was cancelled in NYC on 8 May 1937 and flown to London. There it was franked with a coronation stamp of GRVI and Queen Mary and cancelled on 13 May, the day after the coronation. It was then flown back to NYC, franked and cancelled on 14 May. It is a wonderful souvenir for both aero historians and Royal enthusiasts.

## Keeping Philately Alive and Well

Al Schaub

Both as individuals and groups there is a meaningful way in which we can help keep philately alive and well. It is by motivating people who are not collectors to join our ranks.

To be clear about motivation, it does not involve trickery, deception, or coercion. Rather it involves helping people to meet their personal needs. People will favorably respond to something when they see that it will benefit them by meeting some personal need or needs. What are some of the need satisfiers that could encourage someone to become a philatelist? The list includes the following motivators:

1. Philately provides slow paced, relaxing pleasure; something that is desperately needed in an era dominated by the stressful, fast-paced lifestyle of many people.
2. The hobby can be called upon for enjoyment at any available time, for whatever amount of time is available, and regardless of weather conditions.
3. Philately can add an interesting dimension to other hobbies such as sports, history, gardening, railroading, etc., etc.
4. A life well-lived is one filled with a lifetime of continuous learning. Philately is a bottomless pit of research and study.
5. Philately can be pursued as a solitary activity, a social activity, or a combination of both.
6. Because philately involves a high level of mental activity it has the potential to slow brain aging, and it can be pursued as our bodies develop age-related limitations.
7. With age many people downsize their homes. Because philately can be pursued with minimal to moderate available space it can continue to be pursued.

In closing, two final thoughts:

- In what way are the motivators listed above a factor in your philatelic interests?
- No matter how passionate you are about the many items that you collect, be sure to impress all others about the fact that there are an infinite number of ways in which one can pursue philately as a hobby.



## Odor Removal

Tom Bowman

Below are a few ways I have found to remove odors and smells from various paper-based products including stamps, covers, and other ephemera. (There are several other ways, as everyone has their favorite means of odor removal.)

**Musty smells:** In a container with the item, place carbon filters. These may be available in some of your medicine bottles or with other over-the-counter pain medicine. Also coffee works well as long as an air exchange is maintained by opening the container periodically for a few minutes.

**Chemical smells:** When possible, determine what chemical is causing the smell, as each variety has a favored process.



♦Baking Soda is effective with most chemical smells. Remember it is an alkali and will react with acidic material. This could form a Carbon dioxide gas as well as salts that could be deposited on the covers. Place the baking soda in a small open jar (etc.) and add paper items in a way not to touch the powder. Seal container.

♦Dusting Powder without Talc. Normally a natural starch is added with Kaolin Clay and Mica. The Clay helps keep the bugs away. Works very well with Clorox or Chlorine type odors. Also great for dusting the backs of stamps that may still have an adhesive residual on the back.

♦Talc - is one of the better chemicals for removing odors, but there are always hazards with this. Wear a mask with this so the particles do not go in your nose. Let sit for 24 to 48 hours before checking and exchanging the air.

♦Talcum Powder-This is one of the misused terms, one that speaks different meanings to the many people in the different generations. Talc is a powder as is Talcum Powder; sometimes they mean the same thing, and sometimes they do not.

If it is Baby Powder that has Talcum Powder, it may also contain added perfume and/or cornstarch. Baby powder can also be just plain cornstarch. Just do not use this.

## 11 August Picnic & Silent Auction

This was like no other picnic we've had in the past. Nasty weather was supposed to pass us by, and guess what? They lied. A view of the images below show most of the images with dark skies. In the bleakness that settled in, folks turned on their smart phone weather applications. They compared weather maps, but most had large red, yellow, and green blobs getting dangerously close to and surrounding Millersville.



The pavilion has always kept us safe from the rain and heat. And it did its best this evening. While we were quite dry from the heavy rains above, it was the westerly winds that blew in the mist. All pitched in, as we moved the auction materials to the central rows of tables for safety. And we were fortunate...for a while, that is. But the rain was so heavy, that it was starting to build up on the east side of the pavilion and flow downhill and overrun the cement floor. Within a foot of the tables, the deluge stopped, the sun started to pop out, and all was well with the world. We were saved. This returning sunshine is seen in the picture below.



One of the consequences was the saga of **Doug Milliken**. He has been in charge of ordering good weather for our picnics for the last umpteen years, and he served admirably. But tonight the streak ended. In the heat of the moment, a few called for Doug's replacement in his august and esteemed office. But calmer heads prevailed; he was given a second chance. As a result, Doug, instead of looking for another post, was simply put on 12-month waivers. He has vowed to redeem himself next year.

There were several highlights of the evening. The first was the door prizes, and these were many. Everyone received a ticket and won at least two items. The second highlight was a silent auction with numerous lots of donated materials to benefit the club.

Following the auction and doing the math, club treasurer, **Lou DiFelice** added the winnings, and the PSLC raised \$420.00.

Finally, there was a large amount of philatelic literature for the taking throughout the evening. Then as the soiree ended, another table was filled with giveaway philatelic materials of all sorts, first come, first served.

To give an estimate of the volume of door prizes and auction items, consider that under the pavilion there are four rows of five large picnic tables. These tables are large enough that it takes a few people to move one of them. In fact it does not look as if they have been moved since we started having our picnic here many years ago. The display of literature, door prizes and auction items that evening filled ten (10) of these tables!

As with last year and the Covid precautions, this evening was also a self-catering operation, in other words everyone brought their own chow and drinks. But to brighten our evening, **Twila Schaub** baked two large batches of individually wrapped homemade cookies. All were grateful. She and Al are pictured below.



A special moment this evening came for **Bob Hinkley**. In going through the donated auction lots, he came across his Uncle Bill's childhood album! The inscription was ...

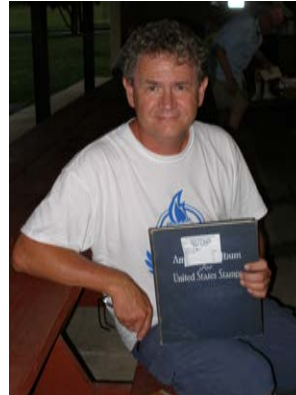
**To: Bill**

**From: Marie and Henry** (his

parents)

**Christmas, 1948**

Uncle Bill was ten years old at the time, and is still doing well today at 83. Bob is looking forward to sharing this with him. He noted that this is the best few bucks he has spent in a long time. Bob and his Uncle Bill's stamp are pictured below.



It is always a pleasure to recognize those who made an event possible.

A shout-out is given to those members who helped with the set-up, breakdown, and/or clean up of the operation. It was a lot of work with the twenty-five (25) picnickers. The crew included from left to right: **Dan Martin, Mark Jardel, George Younes, Lou DiFelice, Robert Hinkley, and John Hostetter.**



For several months, **Lou DiFelice, Dr. DiComo, and Paul Petersen** sorted, resorted, bundled, and priced the donated materials for this silent auction.

Below **Mike Bach, Robert Kramer, and Al Schaub** are reviewing auction lots.

Even with the blip in the weather, this was a successful event.



## Ave et Vale

### Gary Kurtz

A member of PSLC since 1995, Gary Kurtz passed away on 13 June at the age of 87. Due to some health issues, he had been unable to attend our meetings for the past few years, however he always supported the club through his membership.

Gary's obituary states that he was born in York County and received a BS degree in Electrical Engineering. From there he worked at the U.S. Army Human Engineering Lab at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland until his retirement in 1995. Gary's organizations were listed to include his local church, the York Bottle Club, and the Lancaster Stamp Club. It stated that Gary was a local postal historian.

### John M. Bray

According to John's brother, Mark, he was killed on 22 August when a car crossed the median on Route 30 near Mountville and rolled head-on into him. John had health issues, but he was still living independently at the time of the accident.

John's day jobs included retail management, bartending, sales, Karaoke, cooking, and others.

He joined PSLC in 2007 and served as President during 2011. His collecting interests included U.S., Germany and its territories, and some South American countries. He was an active participant in the club joining the bus trips, enjoying the auctions, and volunteering at Lan-copex. When he became ill in '20 PSLC assisted him in disposing of his collection, and some of this was donated to the society.

←**Veranda Pg-1:** 2006 and 2016 one-day trips. And this will include an overnight or two. **Roy Baardsen** and his Reading Irregulars or Usual Suspects, however you wish to call them, have planned our last several trips superbly. But they can no longer do so. As Paul has noted, please think of taking charge of our initial discussions to make this trip happen. Let him know.

Keep it on the fairway. **CJDi**

### Treasury: 1-31 July 2021

<b>Opening:</b>	\$3652.21
<b>Income:</b>	\$310.00
<b>Expenses:</b>	\$131.44
<b>Sum:</b>	\$3830.77
<b>2-CDs</b>	@ \$5983.30



## 25 August Proceedings

**Opening:** Paul Petersen started the meeting at 6:32 and welcomed all to tonight's program. He reviewed the 11 August picnic (See Page-4 for picnic details and images). He gave a brief financial report for Treasurer, **Lou DiFelice** (See page 6 for data).

### Feature Presentation:



**Roger Brody** gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled *Jamestown 1907*. This was about the 1907 World Expo to mark the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of settling of Jamestown, the first settlement in North America. Since there were stamps issued for the Columbian, Trans-Mississippi, Buffalo, and St. Louis Expos, why not some for the Jamestown Expo?



The stamps were comprised of 328, 329, and 330. The 1¢ green (Captain John Smith) and 2¢ red (The Landing) were the first planned, and when it was known that there would be a greater int'l participation, the 5¢ blue (Pocahontas) for the overseas rate was issued shortly after the stamps for domestic use. All stamps were first sold at the Expo.

To illustrate much of the Expo's history, Roger displayed a variety of ephemera from picture postcards, maps (period and current), photos, paintings, documents, etchings, historical drawings, and covers.



Roger presented some of the documents involved in the planning and production of the stamps along with a host of die proofs, transfers, covers with various rates, combinations, and usages along with a variety of special cancellations that were used at the three sites of the Expo.

Below is one of the cancellations from Newport News:



### Show & Tell:

**David Weichert** shared his album page of Jamestown related stamps on the screen.

**Paul Petersen** exhibited two items. The first was a 1923 cover from NYC to a business in Philadelphia. It was marked as "unclaimed." There is a second auxiliary marking in purple noting "Removed, Dearie-135." With some previous input on this marking from Bob Rufe, Tony Wawrukiewicz, and Ralph Nafziger, the "Dearie-135" was the name of the postal clerk in Philadelphia. (↓)



The second cover, 1926 from NYC to NYC was a 2¢ red Washington Franklin bisect with machine cancel. A discussion of the status and history of bisects followed. The question was also raised if this 1¢ cent payment underpaid the mailing. While this may be the case, especially if this was a favor cancel, **Roger Brody** added that this "1¢" may have gone at the drop rate of 1¢ but that it did not make it legal. The cover was unsealed with pristine gum and did not appear to have gone through the mail stream.



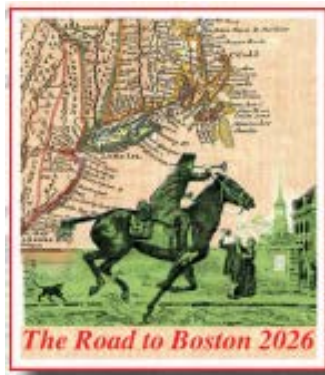
**Larry Rosenblum** came across an interesting revenue item at Westpex. While this is a ticket to the High Life Casino in Dinard, RF covering 24-31 July 1926, it con-



tains two revenue stamps of different denominations, one on the front and the other on the back. That part is in English indicated the international tourist interest in the establishment that requires evening dress after 8:00 p.m. A period post-

## Boston 2026 World Expo

At the Great America Stamp Show outside of Chicago on 12 August, the label for the 2026 Boston World Expo was unveiled. Created by Chris Calle, the program further included Scott English, Executive Director of APS, Chris Lazaroff, Boston 2026 USPS Liaison, and Nancy Clark, World Expo President.



The label above includes a postal rider with post horn in the foreground of Herman Moll's 1729 map showing the postal road from New England to surrounding areas. Part of this route is the Boston Post Road that remains today and is also known as U.S. Route-1.

This will be the 12<sup>th</sup> international stamp show that has taken place approximately every ten years since 1913. The logo from the



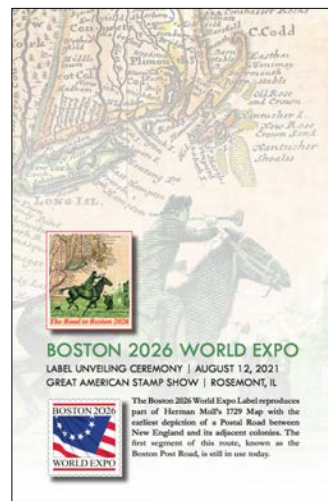
1913 show is below.

The eight-day event will be held from 23 thru 30 May 2026 at the Boston Convention and Exposition Center.

**For info:** [www.boston2026.org](http://www.boston2026.org)

Those who are interested can sign up on the noted above website to receive regular updates via email with show news and more.

For the 2006 and 2016 U.S. International shows in Washington, DC and New York City respectively, club members organized day trips. These were long days, but attendance at the Boston Expo will require overnight travel, perhaps a few days. While we have five (5) years to plan our trip, the time will fly, so some preliminary planning is needed. The 2026 show committee started planning right after the 2016 show closed down.



What is needed is for some PSLC members to get together to suggest some preliminary plans. These may begin with an interest survey and progress from there. Please think about it, as the club will provide all the help that is needed. Don't wait.

card is below, and the facility remains extant.



**Roger Brody** displayed an item from a Philadelphia Museum. This is a 17 July 1765 bill of lading of a British vessel docking in Philadelphia. Topping the list of the goods being shipped is the paper containing the embossed tax

stamps that will be used to tax documents in the colonies for the upcoming Stamp Act scheduled to go into effect on 1 November.



Students of history will know that this was most unpopular, and following protests, the Stamp Act was repealed on 18 March 1766. A U.S. stamp (#5064) marking the repeal was issued at NY World Expo '16.

## Fall Programs

*Continued from Pg.-1*

←**Madison:** which ultimately disproved the misconceptions of over a century of prior catalog listings - both U.S. and Confederate. Her 2000 article, dedicated solely to the Madison C.H., Florida, 3-cent postmaster provisionals, was a watershed moment for Confederate philately. This program will trace her efforts from 1984, when the Madison provisionals were not accepted as genuine by the philatelic community, to their ultimate acceptance in 2000. There are only six recorded 3-cent Madison provisionals recorded, only one of which is known on cover, and a unique 5-cent Confederate rated Madison provisional.

←**Battleships:** Engraving & Printing for tax stamps used only by that company. These private dies were a natural marketing plus and a number of the companies continued to use a facsimile of these designs after the tax was eliminated.



## Dr. DiComo Wins Large Vermeil

Dr. DiComo's 2021 February *American Philatelist* article entitled "A Noteworthy Precancel on Lancaster Watch Company's Advertising Covers" won a large vermeil award in Chicago at the Great American Stamp Show's 53rd Annual National Literature Exhibition. And remember, we saw it first at PSLC, as early in his research process for this article he shared the stamp with us along with his preliminary findings.



As one reviewer penned, "Dr. DiComo successfully presented his research by weaving the philatelic research of the precancel with a social story of the watch company. The author's presentation style allowed his research to flow as a historical story instead of a clinical dissertation... The 'lesson learned' is that world class philatelic research needs to be multi-dimensional... not only does it need to be well-researched, it must be written in a manner that captivates the reader." Dr. DiComo's Large Vermeil medal/award is at the left along with a congratulatory hug from his lovely wife, Kathleen.

## Bill Schultz Wins APS Kehr Award



At the Great American Stamp Show in August, Bill Schultz received the 2021 APS Kehr Award. This is for enduring contributions that help guarantee the future of the hobby. Many in PSLC know Bill from his annual presentations at our club, both in person and virtually, on topics of postal history and exhibiting. Ed. ✉ always appreciates the images Bill sends for the newsletter and his donated items for our auctions and door prizes.

But there is the bigger picture where Bill shines even brighter. He's a regular instructor at the APS Summer Sessions and teaches a variety of On-the-Road courses. Much of his teaching has to do with exhibiting. As an exhibitor for 60 years and a judge for over half that, he is doing all he can to encourage collectors to exhibit. As Bill notes, "As goes exhibiting, so goes the hobby." What makes philately so special are those dedicated collectors who take the time to research and compile their collections, often promulgating information that is new to the hobby. With Mark Schwartz, they write a monthly column on exhibiting in the *American Stamp Collector & Dealer*.

Through the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Bill has mentored many new and advanced exhibitors. Well done, Bill.

←**Halloween (from Pg.-1):** Of course, All Saints' Day exists throughout the Roman Catholic world, and there are time-honored traditions associated with the Day in Europe and Britain. The old English name for the holy day is All Hallows' Day. (Hallows meaning the same as Saints). Since the time of the early church, major features in Christianity (such as Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost) had vigils that began the night before, as did the feast of All Hallows. The Scottish word for evening is even, and even can be contracted to e'en. Hence All Hallows' Even, which was further contracted to Allhallowe'en and then Hallowe'en.

Most of our modern Hallowe'en customs spring from practices of the Celtic speaking peoples of Britain and western Europe. Some of the early traditions for Hallowe'en include spirits being abroad and needing help to complete their journey to Heaven. Also, in parts of Europe there was the custom of baking small "soul cakes" which were given to poor people, often groups of poor children, in return for their prayers for the dead. This is thought to be the origin of "trick or treating".

While celebrations for Hallowe'en are quite ancient, the celebrations of our modern, mostly secular holiday show significant American influence. After all, the pumpkin is native to North American and was not known in Europe until brought back by early explorers (the Celts are said to have hollowed out turnips to serve as lanterns) While witches, bats and black cats have been symbols of evil for a long time it is not clear to me how they came to be associated with Hallowe'en.



Please clip this dues renewal notice, complete, and mail to **Mrs. Barbara Buchanan**, PO Box 116, Conestoga, PA 17516-0116, with **\$10.00**, ☒ Checks only, no cash. Be sure to sign your check. Thank you in advance.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

ATA Member ☐

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Please check the appropriate ATA/APS box(s) if you are a paid up member. ☒ Make checks payable to **Philatelic Society of Lancaster County**. Also, please advise of any changes in address, cell number, or email address.



**A TALE OF THREE U.S. MAIL SERVICES!***By Hal Klein*

The average collector views U.S. covers as being handled by the U.S. Postal Service. However, there are actually three (3) separate and very unique mail services officially operated by the U.S. government, and all work independently of each other. The mail services consist of the: U.S. Postal Service (USPS), with established post offices and related zip codes; the lesser known Military Post Office system (MPO), operated by the Quartermaster Corp branch of each military service, with stationary and floating APO and FPO zip codes. The little known Diplomatic Mail Service (DPO) is operated by the U.S. State Department or Diplomatic Post Office mail system.

The Diplomatic Post Office operates under 39 U.S. Code 413, channeling correspondence by “pouch” for the U.S. State Department on behalf of numerous government alphabet agencies and organizations as well as U.S. contractors, and NGOs worldwide, utilizing a unique APO and FPO zip code system. The Consolidated Metals Co., air mail cover (illustrated above) was handled by all three mail services and began its travels at a Diplomatic Post Office. The first question is where did it originate?

Commercial Metals Company, Dallas, Texas<sup>1</sup> was (and still is) a U.S. Government construction contractor, with military construction contracts in the U.S., Europe, Asia and Southeast Asia stretching back to the early 1950s. The cover is a commercial size air mail envelope of the mid-to-late 1950s period, bearing *no postage*, with a label covering the postage area. The cover and label provide a wealth of information – all you need to know is how to understand what the cover is telling you...and what it doesn't.

We'll start with the information on the sticker indicating: “AIR MAIL” (in red), “POUCH LOOSE ONLY TO / A.M.F. La Guardia”; in the lower left corner: the “*SF 3043 3-56*” is a printer's code indicating, “...where printed: *SF*=San Francisco for mail out of Asia or Southeast Asia; a purchase order number: #3043, and, most importantly, a reference date: 3-56 or March 1956” and finally, after the date – there is “no quantity” indicator i.e.: 1M, 2M, or 10M - indicating this was a very small print run of  $\leq 1,000$  pieces.

Mail processed thru Diplomatic Post Offices take several forms, but it must always be personal mail. It is not the “James Bond Top Secret” spy mail everyone thinks it is though once its in sealed in a diplomatic pouch the mail is classified “SECRET”. The only mail permitted is personal communications, letters, or merchandise gifts from State Department including diplomats and employees; military attachés, guards, and liaisons. With the Commerce Department this includes members of any branch of government including NSA, CIA, and other alphabet agencies working at and/or through the embassy. With building contractors, it can include contract NGOs (non-government aid organizations). When “Pouch Loose” mail travels without a country-of-origin showing, as this piece did, it's for a reason. They weren't allowed to divulge their exact location, what they were doing, or where they were doing it.

The label/cover was mailed thru an Embassy in Asia or Southeast Asia in the 1956-1957 period. So, with a little research, what country was the U.S. actively engaged in supporting military operations and/or government building and which Asian countries had established Embassy DPOs as well as Military Post Offices (MPO),

Postal Regulating Stations (PRS) in the 1950s? This is where knowledge of 20<sup>th</sup> century U.S. history and an understanding of how our government works below the radar is helpful.

The 33<sup>rd</sup> MPO PRS, operating out of Luzon, Philippines, included a long and well-established American Embassy DPO, while 36<sup>th</sup> MPO PRS, operated out of Saipan. So, the cover originated from Southeast Asia.



During the late 1950s the United States carried out Military activity in Asia and Southeast Asia thru its established Embassies, Missions, etc., as well as SEATO (South East Asia Treaty Organization),<sup>2</sup> with U.S. “military advisors” channeled under the authority of “MAAG” or the Military Assistance Advisory Group.<sup>3</sup>

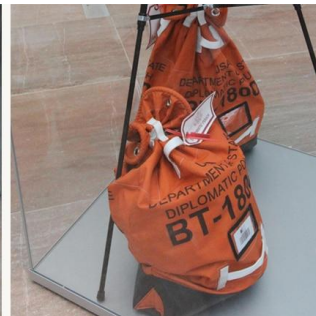
MAAG created military advisory units for the following Southeast Asia countries: Republic of China (1951-1978); Cambodia (1955-1963); Laos (1955-1962); Thailand (1953-current), and Viet-Nam (1954-65?) then the MACV or the U.S. Military Assistance Command Viet Nam (1965-1974) in support of ARVN (Army of the Republic of Viet Nam). My guess is this mail originated from South Viet Nam.



#3 USPO Mail Sack



1950's "Brown" Diplomatic Pouch/Bag/Sack



Modern "Orange" Diplomatic Pouch/Bag/Sack

Shown above (left to right) are examples of a U.S. Post Office “white” mail sack, a “brown” 1950’s Diplomatic mail pouch/sack, and the current “hi-viz orange” Diplomatic mail pouch/sack. The plain white canvas U.S. domestic “#3 mail sack” is circa 1950s-1980s.

Again, the term “POUCH LOOSE ONLY”<sup>4</sup> is a postal term used only by the Diplomatic Post Office to designate when a single piece of mail is placed loose in a diplomatic pouch.

A “Diplomatic Pouch” is defined as any properly identified and sealed package, pouch, envelope, bag, or other container that is used to transport official correspondence, documents, and other articles intended for official use, between: embassies, legations, consular posts, missions and the foreign office of any government; the headquarters or any other office of a public international organization and its regional offices in the United States or in a foreign country; or the foreign office of any country with full membership in a public international organization and its mission to that organization. Once the “DIPLOMATIC POUCH” identification tag and/or a seal is placed on a pouch/bag/box, etc., the piece becomes classified as “Top Secret.”<sup>5</sup> See next page.





So, what makes mail marked “DIPLOMATIC MAIL”, “POUCH MAIL” and “POUCH LOOSE MAIL” special and in need of its own Diplomatic Postal Service? “The Inviolability of Diplomatic Pouches, Bags, Boxes, etc.”, in accordance with Article 27.3 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations -- properly designated diplomatic pouches “shall not be opened or detained.”<sup>5</sup>

Today, the hi-viz color of the Orange mail sack makes mail sortation and separation easier in palletized mail and container shipments, as mail sacks may sit side-by-side with USPS and MPO mail.

As a mail sack/pouch arrived at a U.S. international port or airport port-of-entry, the brown mail sack/pouch was then sent to the U.S. State Department DPO in Washington, D.C. for internal mail sortation for delivery and re-mailing into the U.S. Postal System or Military Postal System in the case of military attachés, guards and liaisons.

When the “POUCH LOOSE ONLY/A.M.F. (Air Mail Facility) La Guardia (New York) cover arrived at the State Department DPO in Washington, D.C., it would have been reviewed by a DPO mail clerk and the cover re-processed for mailing. The cover would move to the outbound mailing section of the DPO facility.

The internal DPO mail process in the 1950s are very different than the automated, bar-code mail handling processes today, where more and more DPO mail is being outsourced to courier services for handling and mail delivery. However, I believe this is how this piece was handled during the 1950s.

Due to its size, the U.S. State Department, like many large facilities with in-house mail shops, had its own functioning in-house U.S. Post Office. Here mail was processed just like any other U.S. Post Office, with a managing Postmaster and its own postal code (now zip code). The only difference with this post office, the office wasn’t open to the general public.



(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



(E)

Here the cover (A) would be placed in a (B) small, white #3 U.S. Domestic Mail Sack “loose” by itself. The U.S. Mail Domestic mail sack would be closed, with a (C) latching slide and locked with one of (D) eight different type universal U.S. Post Office bag locks, now replaced by zip ties. Then an (E) Air Mail flight tag (similar to the above), indicating the: USPS CONTRACT AIRLINE CARRIER / 3-digit AIRPORT CODE/ AIRPORT NAME / DESTINATION CITY, STATE.

The mail would have been picked-up at the State Department shipping dock and the mail sack taken directly to Washington’s Dulles Airport for a direct flight to the LaGuardia Airport Mail Facility (LGA-AMF) with final delivery to the LGA Post Office.

Upon arrival at LGA, the mail was handled and processed at LaGuardia Airport Station, and slotted directly into P.O. Box 8, at the in-house Post Office facility at LaGuardia Airport. (*Disc PO - Dec. 31, 2010 shown below.*)

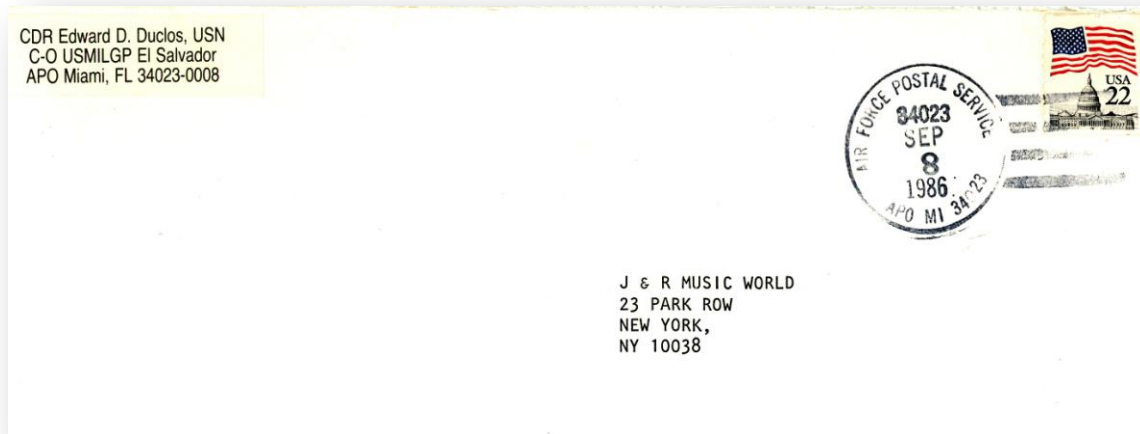


*LaGuardia Airport Station U.S. Post Office*

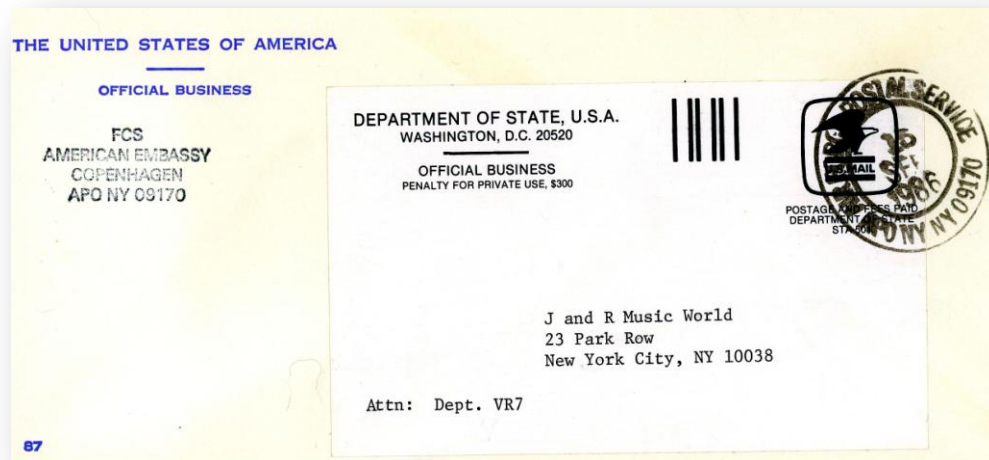
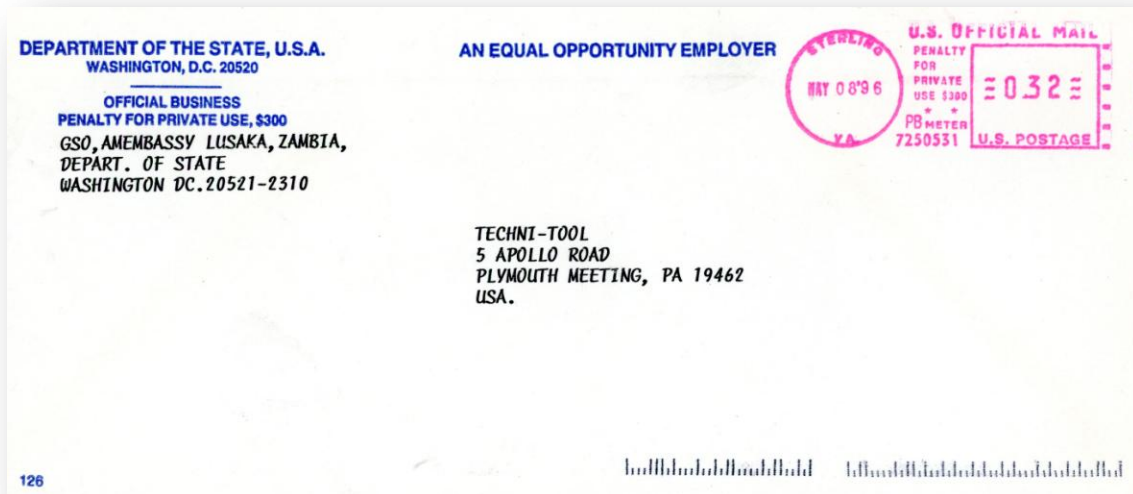
Below are examples of mail processed thru various Embassy DPO facilities<sup>6</sup>, with “Pouch Mail” indicated. The majority shown include: Embassy DPO APO and/or FPO handstamps; DPO meter usages; foreign postage usage with domestic DPO cancels; DPO machine cancellations applied in country; Contractor Mail; DPO mail carried to the U.S. State Department directly to Washington, D.C., receiving U.S. domestic cancellations.



(a.) Below El Salvador Embassy; APO Miami 34023 – U.S. Military Attaché

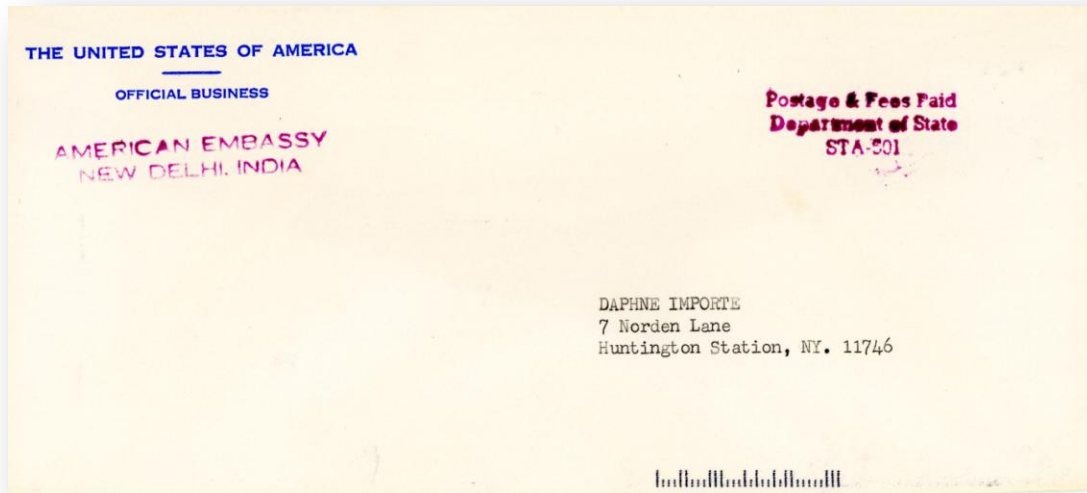


(b.) Below Lusaka, Zambia Embassy (maybe...maybe not) METER MAIL – Sterling, VA.



(c.) Above-Copenhagen Embassy Label/NY APO 09170 Embassy; Military Group – (State Dept. Account)

(d) Below India Embassy, New Delhi with Postage & Fees Paid Handstamp STA-501 (State Dept. Account 501).



(e.) Above-Bendix Corporation – U.S. Contractor - Air Force APO 09697 = Jedda, Saudi Arabia.

(f.) Below Santiago, Chile - Embassy-USIS - marked center top: "VIA AIR POUCH"-  
franked with Chile '1962 Soccer Issue' stamps.





Some of the above covers are more easily recognizable as DPO covers than others, but the covers that usually stump most U.S. collectors are the one above and the two below.

(g.) Pretoria, South Africa – American Embassy – US Foreign Service covers “VIA SOUTH AFRICA AIR MAIL” – Correctly franked with South African postage stamps mailed to Quarryville, PA.



So, when a contractor is building or re-modeling an Embassy in Russia, expanding or updating a NATO Air Base in Iceland, doing a clandestine CIA project in South America, or building a new school under a U.S.A.I.D. program, etc., their mail, based on the contract, location or situation, maybe carried, postage-paid or postage-free, by a U.S. Embassy DPO with an APO/FPO handstamp in a diplomatic pouch.

Mail from contractors, like “Commercial Metals Company, Dallas, Texas” may bear U.S. postage or franking, with APO/FPO/Embassy Diplomatic Post Office cancels, with U.S. or foreign postage with or without State Department, Washington, D. C., cancellations. When construction work is being done in an area *not for* discussion, then mail lacks “live” postage.



Today, the “AIR MAIL / POUCH LOOSE ONLY TO / A.M.F. LaGuardia” routing on this cover is equivalent to “AIR MAIL EXPRESS SERVICE”.

#### References:

1. [cmc.com](http://cmc.com) (last accessed 7/1/2021).
2. [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast\\_Asia\\_Treaty\\_Organization](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia_Treaty_Organization) (last accessed 7/1/2021).
3. [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military\\_Assistance\\_Adv\\_history\\_Group](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_Assistance_Adv_history_Group) (last accessed 7/1/2021).
4. [usps.com/publications/pub32/pub32\\_terms.htm](http://usps.com/publications/pub32/pub32_terms.htm) state.gov/diplomatic-pouches (last accessed 7/11/2021).
5. *ibid.*
6. [fam.state.gov/FAM/14FAM/14FAM0760.html](http://fam.state.gov/FAM/14FAM/14FAM0760.html).