"Serving Lebanon and Berks Counties"

THE PATENT - OVERPRINT

The combined monthly newsletter of the Lebanon and Reading Stamp Collectors Clubs

September 2026
Number 84

The September meeting of the Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club was held on Tuesday, September 16, 2026, in the Community Room of the Lebanon Community Library. President Dick Colberg shared his collection of Commercial Overprints on Great Britain's stamps. This interesting topic has so many possibilities that even serious collectors might find themselves simply scratching the surface of it.

Our October meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lebanon Community Library. More details forthcoming in the October edition of the Patent.

Tom's Boston Finds and Memories

At our August meeting, Tom Shott shared his trip to the big Boston show with us. He undertook the six-hour drive to the show with a couple of family members, and he was lucky enough to find a hotel room that was conveniently located two blocks from the convention center.

The Boston show, of course, coincided with the 250th Anniversary of our Independence, and the City of Boston was a tremendous place to hold the 2026 Philatelic Exposition and honor our national milestone. There were several items commemorating this milestone in the show catalog.

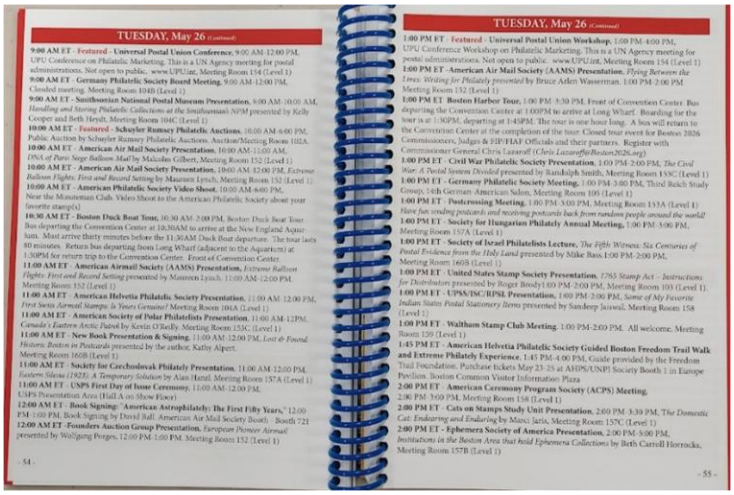
When Tom arrived on Tuesday, there was no line to get in! The show had already been open for a few days and lively crowds with large numbers of people had already passed through the hall. But this did not mean that Tom missed out on anything; he acknowledged that he spent more money than he wanted to on treasures, and he was able to meet a few of the dealers who he regularly does business with online/through the mail.

He began by making a quick pass through the hall, as in addition to all the dealers present, the USPS and several other international postal services were present and had a lot going on at their booths. Two of the non-philatelic exhibits that he was able to enjoy were Queen Elizabeth's Rolls Royce, courtesy of the Royal Mail, and a wonderful depiction of the Boston skyline – made entirely of LEGO blocks!

Some of the non-want list items Tom brought home with him are a Holmes 2.0 UV detector, and a book about PAN-AM Clippers Air Mail. He had a whole table full of ephemera about the show to share with us. This included a Kelleher card which featured not one – not two – but five Inverted Jenny stamps, each of which was present at the show and presented to attendees in five individual Kiosks.

One other item Tom brought to us for discussion, that none of us are very familiar with, is Postcrossing; there were a lot of people there who engaged in that active philatelic activity. According to postcrossing.com, the goal of this project is to enable people to exchange postcards with people they don't know around the world. The USPS has even issued a special set of Global rate stamps for people who enjoy Postcrossing.

One regret Tom expressed was that he was not able to partake in the vast number of seminars that were happening on the days he was there; indeed, this might have been the #1 disappointment among attendees. But the time that he was able to spend with his daughter-in-law and granddaughter who accompanied him to the show are among the treasures that he got to take away from Boston 2026.



TUESDAY, May 26 (Continued)

9:00 AM ET - Featured - Universal Postal Union Conference, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, UPU Conference on Philatelic Marketing. This is a UN Agency meeting for postal administrations. Not open to public. www.UPU.int, Meeting Room 154 (Level 1)

9:00 AM ET - Germany Philatelic Society Board Meeting, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Closed meeting. Meeting Room 104B (Level 1)

9:00 AM ET - Smithsonian National Postal Museum Presentation, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM, *Handling and Storing Philatelic Collections at the Smithsonian NPM* presented by Kelly Cooper and Beth Heydt, Meeting Room 104C (Level 1)

10:00 AM ET - Featured - Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, Public Auction by Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions. Auction Meeting Room 102A

10:00 AM ET - American Air Mail Society Presentation, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM, *DNA of Paris Siege Balloon Mail* by Malcolm Gilbert, Meeting Room 152 (Level 1)

10:00 AM ET - American Air Mail Society Presentation, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM, *Extreme Balloon Flights: First and Record Setting* by Maureen Lynch, Meeting Room 152 (Level 1)

10:00 AM ET - American Philatelic Society Video Shoot, 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, Near the Minuteman Club. Video Shoot to the American Philatelic Society about your favorite stamp(s)

10:30 AM ET - Boston Duck Boat Tour, 10:30 AM-2:00 PM, Boston Duck Boat Tour Bus departing the Convention Center at 10:30AM to arrive at the New England Aquarium. Must arrive thirty minutes before the 11:30AM Duck Boat departure. The tour lasts 60 minutes. Return bus departing from Long Wharf (adjacent to the Aquarium) at 1:30PM for return trip to the Convention Center. Front of Convention Center.

11:00 AM ET - American Airmail Society (AAMS) Presentation, *Extreme Balloon Flights: First and Record Setting* presented by Maureen Lynch, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, Meeting Room: 152 (Level 1)

11:00 AM ET - American Helvetia Philatelic Society Presentation, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, *First Swiss Airmail Stamps: Is Yours Genuine?* Meeting Room 104A (Level 1)

11:00 AM ET - American Society of Polar Philatelists Presentation, 11:00 AM-12PM, *Canada's Eastern Arctic Patrol* by Kevin O'Reilly. Meeting Room 153C. (Level 1)

11:00 AM ET - New Book Presentation & Signing, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, *Lost & Found Historic Boston in Postcards* presented by the author, Kathy Alpert. Meeting Room 160B (Level 1)

11:00 AM ET - Society for Czechoslovak Philately Presentation, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, *Eastern Silesia (1920): A Temporary Solution* by Alan Hanzl. Meeting Room 157A (Level 1)

11:00 AM ET - USPS First Day of Issue Ceremony, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, USPS Presentation Area (Hall A on Show Floor)

12:00 AM ET - Book Signing: "American Astrophilately: The First Fifty Years," 12:00 PM-1:00 PM, Book Signing by David Ball. American Air Mail Society Booth - Booth 721

12:00 AM ET -Founders Auction Group Presentation, *European Pioneer Airmail* presented by Wolfgang Pforges, 12:00 PM-1:00 PM, Meeting Room 152 (Level 1)

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TUESDAY, May 26 (Continued)

1:00 PM ET - Featured - Universal Postal Union Workshop, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM, UPU Conference Workshop on Philatelic Marketing. This is a UN Agency meeting for postal administrations. Not open to public. www.UPU.int, Meeting Room 154 (Level 1)

1:00 PM ET - American Air Mail Society (AAMS) Presentation, *Flying Between the Lines: Writing for Philately presented* by Bruce Arden Wasserman. 1:00 PM-2:00 PM Meeting Room 152 (Level 1)

1:00 PM ET - Boston Harbor Tour, 1:00 PM-3:30 PM, Front of Convention Center. Bus departing the Convention Center at 1:00PM to arrive at Long Wharf. Boarding for the tour is at 1:30PM, departing at 1:45PM. The tour is one hour long. A bus will return to the Convention Center at the completion of the tour. Closed tour event for Boston 2026 Commissioners, Judges & FIP/FIAP Officials and their partners. Register with Commissioner General Chris Lazaroff (*Chris.Lazaroff@Boston2026.org*)

1:00 PM ET - Civil War Philatelic Society Presentation, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM, *The Civil War: A Postal System Divided* presented by Randolph Smith, Meeting Room 158C (Level 1)

1:00 PM ET - Germany Philatelic Society Meeting, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM, Third Reich Study Group, 14th German-American Salon, Meeting Room 105 (Level 1)

1:00 PM ET - Postcrossing Meeting, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM, Meeting Room: 153A (Level 1) *Have fun sending postcards and receiving postcards back from random people around the world!*

1:00 PM ET - Society for Hungarian Philately Annual Meeting, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM, Meeting Room 157A (Level 1)

1:00 PM ET - Society of Israel Philatelists Lecture, *The Fifth Witness: Six Centuries of Postal Evidence from the Holy Land* presented by Mike Bass.1:00 PM-2:00 PM, Meeting Room 160B (Level 1)

1:00 PM ET - United States Stamp Society Presentation, *1765 Stamp Act – Instructions for Distributors* presented by Roger Brody1:00 PM-2:00 PM, Meeting Room 103 (Level 1).

1:00 PM ET - UPSS/ISC/RPSL Presentation, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM, *Some of My Favorite Indian States Postal Stationery Items* presented by Sandeep Jaiswal. Meeting Room: 158 (Level 1)

1:00 PM ET - Waltham Stamp Club Meeting. 1:00 PM-2:00 PM. All welcome. Meeting Room 139 (Level 1)

1:45 PM ET - American Helvetia Philatelic Society Guided Boston Freedom Trail Walk and Extreme Philately Experience, 1:45 PM-4:00 PM, Guide provided by the Freedom Trail foundation. Purchase tickets May 23-25 at AHPS/USNPJ Society Booth 1 in Europe Pavilion. Boston Common Visitor Information Plaza

2:00 PM ET - American Ceremony Program Society (ACPS) Meeting, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM, Meeting Room 158 (Level 1)

2:00 PM ET - Cats on Stamps Study Unit Presentation, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM, *The Domestic Cat: Endearing and Enduring* by Marc Jaris, Meeting Room: 157C (Level 1)

2:00 PM ET - Ephemera Society of America Presentation, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM, *Institutions in the Boston Area that hold Ephemera Collections* by Beth Carroll Horrocks, Meeting Room 157B (Level 1)

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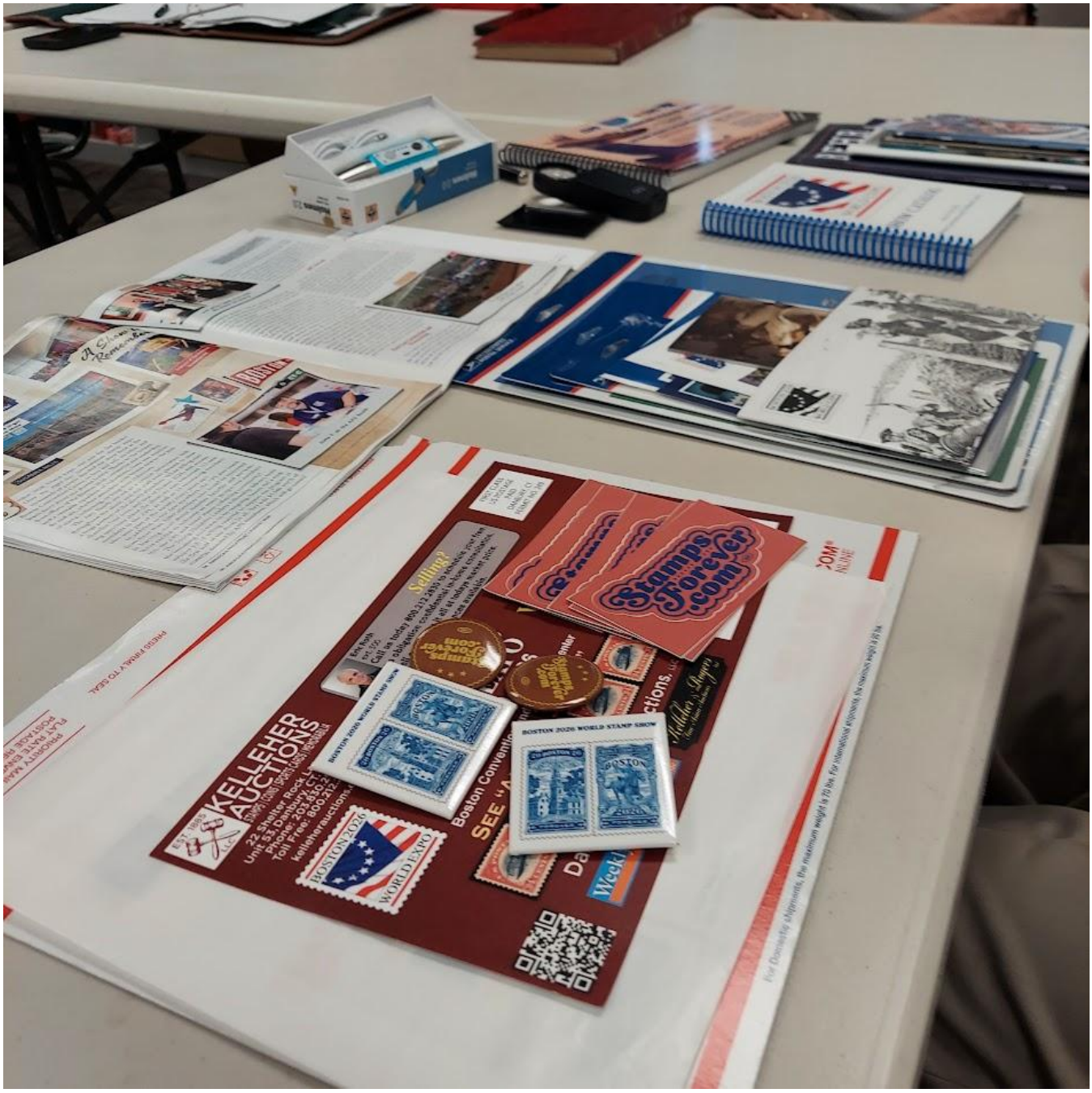
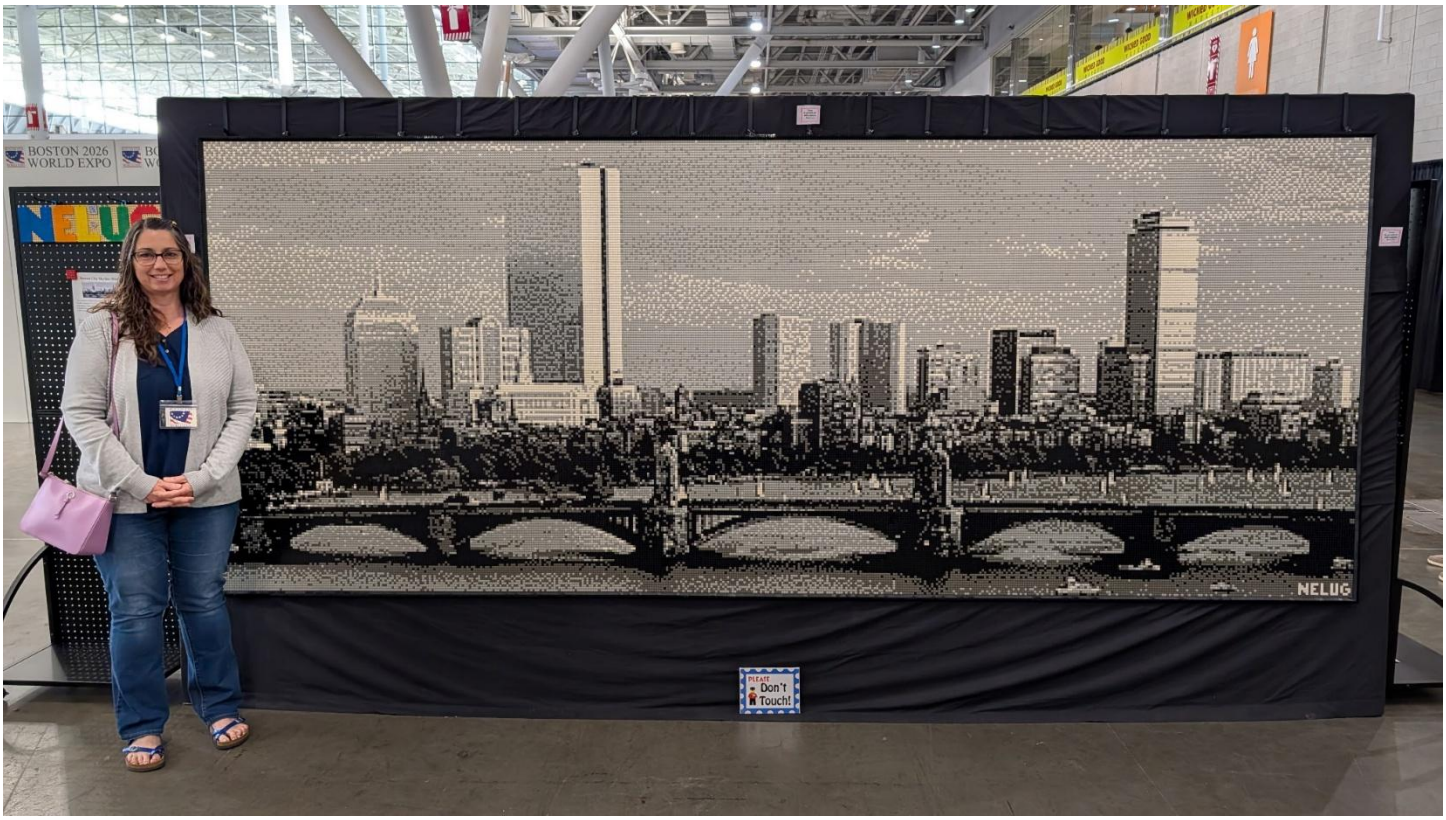
These facing pages of the show catalog list the conferences and seminars for but one day of the expo, on Tuesday May 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



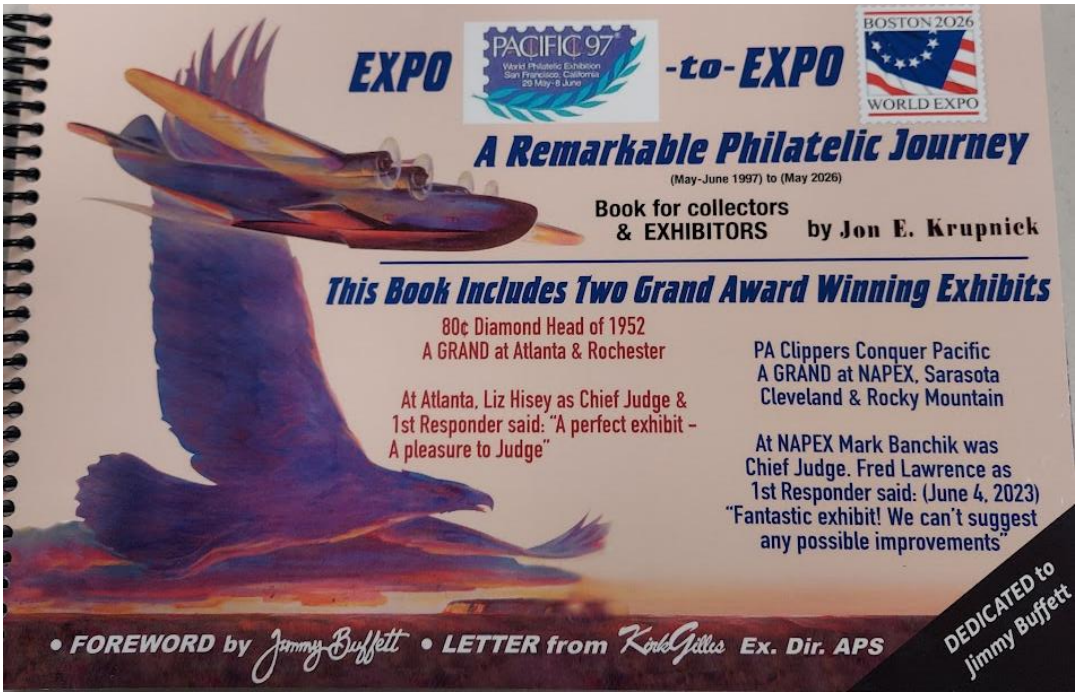
Some of the goodies that Tom brought back from the show

Kelleher's amazing collection of Inverted Jenny's



Tom's daughter-in-law poses with the LEGO skyline

Tom poses with the Queen's Rolls Royce



Tom purchased this book at the expo; all of you citizens of Margaritaville take notice of who it is dedicated to

We all enjoyed sharing Tom's once in a lifetime experience at Boston 2026!

Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club Calendar

Please contact the editor if you are interested in presenting at one of our monthly meetings.

Date	Presenter and Subject
September 15, 2026	Commercial Overprints of British Stamps – Dick Colberg
October 20, 2026	
November 17, 2026	Observations About My Stamp Sale – Joe Duke
December 15, 2026	LSCC Holiday Dinner

The Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club thanks the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County for hosting our affiliate page, which is accessible by clicking the following link:

The Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club – Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (lcps-stamps.org)

The PSLC Events Calendar is located at the following link:

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County – Award-winning, non-profit community organization dedicated to promoting stamp and postal history collecting as a hobby for education and fun. (lcps-stamps.org)

The Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club Lebanon, PA 17042 – 17046

Scott Ney, newsletter editor

The Overprint

Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

Meetings held at Calvary Lutheran Church,
1009 Elizabeth Avenue in Laureldale.
Elizabeth Avenue crosses Kutztown Road in the Muhlenberg Township area.
(About a mile north of Rt 12)

Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
(doors open around 6:30 for pre meeting social time)

Issue: 2026 - 09

NEXT MEETING:
October 6th 2026

TOPIC: The U.S.S. Arizona
presented by Stan Raugh

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Current Account as of 07/31/2026: **$ 615.80**

Savings Account as of 03/14/2025: **$ 3,570.82**

Future Meetings:

November 3rd **Flight (In honor of Wright brothers flight at Kitty Hawk on 12/17/1903)**

December 1st **Christmas Dinner (spouses / significant others welcome)**

Do You Know Why We Are called Philatelists? Here is the answer.

Don't Like Taxes? Then You're a "Philatelist"
by John F. Dunn

If you or someone you know collects stamps, then you may be among the few who know that "philatelist" is a fancy-sounding word for "stamp collector". Stamp collectors who think they know more about stamp collecting than other stamp collectors like to call themselves "philatelists." To truly qualify as a philatelist, you need to know what the word means.

Most "philatelists" know this. Many "stamp collectors" do not.

'In the beginning' "philately" had nothing to do with collecting stamps. "Philatélie" is a combination of the French "phil"—meaning "love" in English—and the Greek "ateleia" meaning "tax exemption" in English. Literally, philately is the love of tax exemption, more commonly interpreted as "love of freedom from paying a tax". At a time when tax avoidance and tax reduction is such a hot theme, it's a wonder more people don't realize they are "philatelists."

"But how", you ask, "do we get from 'love of not wanting to pay taxes' to 'collecting stamps'?"

Here's how: Before the creation of postage stamps, most mail was sent unpaid by the sender, with the postage to be paid by the recipient; and that postage was a fee, or tax, paid for the delivery of a letter. When postage stamps and other forms of prepaying postage for a mailed letter were developed, the recipient was freed from paying for the letter, which can also be described as being exempt from the postage fee or tax.

As you might expect, recipients just loved not having to pay the postage fee, or tax thus, making them "philatelists". Then add in the fact that the recipient also could keep, save, and collect those stamps that freed them from paying for the postage and you know why philatelists, usually defined narrowly as stamp collectors also can be people who love not having to pay a tax

The following article is a reprint of an article in Mekeels Weekly from July 22nd 1947 on the Civil War and Philately that was reprinted again in 2018 with added pictures.

Yesterday in Mekeel's:

The Civil War and Philately

by Ernest S. Craighead *(From Mekeel's Weekly, July 22, 1946, with images added)*

The great effort put forth as a nation in the First and Second World Wars has led many people to think that the Civil War was small in the face of these later conflicts—in fact a horse and buggy and candle-light affair. Each reader can make his own comparisons so only a few figures will be presented here. The Civil War population of the Northern States was some twenty-two and a half million from which one million seven hundred thousand soldiers were enlisted or approximately one-twelfth of the population. Conservative historians estimate the loss of the North at five hundred thousand and if that figure is accepted then about one out of every three soldiers engaged on the side of the North was slain. Practically every able bodied man in the Southern States served in the Confederate Army and altogether, North and South combined the Nation lost nearly a million men killed, the flower of young American manhood, and this out of a population hardly one-third that of 1940.

Unnumbered readers of *Mekeel's* are sons, grandsons or great-grandsons of Northern and Southern soldiers—in fact, many still living have clear recollections of the time when the great conflict seemed very near. The Civil War was costly not only in lives but in treasure and required every effort of the civilian population to sustain the armies in the field. This necessity for funds taxed the ingenuity of the Governments, both Federal and Confederate, resulting in a multitude of devices, the mementoes of which are so prized today by collectors of postage and revenue stamps, paper money and American generally. One of the fiscal features of the Civil War was an income tax, the amount of income returned by every tax payer being published in the daily papers. The Civil War, like our later Wars, was partially financed by bond issues, but one great difference was the rate of interest which ran as high as 7% on some issues.

In presenting a brief review of the philatelic items born in the fiery furnace of the great Civil conflict it must be born in mind that the size of the subject forbids touching any but the high spots. Any one item alone offers material for a lengthy article.

The demonetized 1857 issue used in combination with the 1861 issue that replaced it: 1857 3¢ upper right (Sc. 26) tied by "Chicago Ill. Oct. 22" double-circle datestamp and duplex grid on cover to Detroit with printed corner card, blue "OLD STAMPS / Not Recognized" two-line handstamp and matching "Held for Postage" oval, also with 3¢ 1861 (Sc. 65) tied by "Chicago Ill. Oct. 23" double-circle datestamp and duplex grid.

The outbreak of the Civil War found large stocks of United States postage stamps in the hands of Southern postmasters. To take care of this situation the Federal Government demonetized all outstanding issues and on August 15th, 1861 a new series was placed on sale, produced by the National Bank Note Company and consisting of 1, 3, 5, 10, 12, 24, 30 and 90 cent denominations all with numerals in upper corners and "U" "S" in lower.

Sc. 72

The Act of 1863 reduced letter postage to the uniform rate of three cents and raised the local rate to two cents, resulting in the handsome 'big face' Jackson two cent black, familiarly known as the "Black Jack" placed on sale July 1, 1863.

Sc. 73 in a plate block of 8

President Lincoln was assassinated on April 14, 1865 (just as the Civil War was ending) and to honor the martyred President his portrait in black was used on the first fifteen cent stamp, issued for use upon the introduction of the new registration fee in 1866. This stamp is generally considered as the first United States commemorative. Other Presidents similarly honored by mourning stamps have been Garfield (brown color) and McKinley, Harding and Wilson in black.

Sc. 77

Sc. EP1, 1¢ encased postage issued by the Aerated Bread Co.

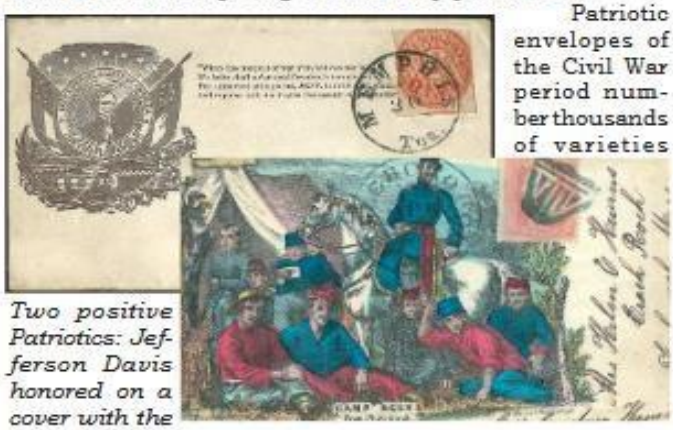
Due to the scarcity of small coins with which to make change, many private firms resorted to a novel form of advertising by "encasing" these postage stamps in metal frames with a mica front, placing their names on the back in embossed letters. Small copper "tokens" with a value of one cent were extensively issued by private firms and to take care of this pressing necessity for change the Government issued "Postage Currency" under the Act of July 17, 1862.

The First General Issue August 21, 1862 to May 27, 1863 had on each note a facsimile of the postage stamp then current: on the five cent denomination, one Jefferson five cent stamp in

Front and back of Sc. PC7, the 1862 25¢ Postage Currency with 5 x 5¢ stamp facsimiles.

brown; on the ten cent denomination, one ten cent Washington stamp in green and on the twenty-five and fifty cent denomination the five cent and ten cent stamps are drawn over-lapping each other, five in a row, respectively, brown for the twenty-five cent and green for the fifty-cent. A set of the four postage currency notes in crisp new condition can be purchased perforated for about $22 and imperforate for about $6 [Scott 2018 lists the total of the first four "in crisp new condition", Sc. PC1-PC4 at $915]. Altogether, five general issues of fractional currency (shinplasters) were produced, comprising some thirty-seven major varieties and some seventy-eight major and minor varieties in denominations of 3, 5, 10, 15, 25, 50 cents. A collection of Civil War Postage Currency and Fractional Currency is very beautiful and fascinating. The Confederate States also issued a profusion of paper money the collection of which makes an interesting sideline.

Although the main varieties of Confederate postage stamps are not too numerous, their collection is a specialty in itself and one requiring a rather deep pocket book.



Two positive Patriotics: Jefferson Davis honored on a cover with the Memphis 5¢ Provisional, Sc. 56X2; and a Magnus Patriotic Camp Scene design with the 3¢ Sc. 65 stamp tied by a fancy cancel. See next column for two additional examples.

Patriotic envelopes of the Civil War period number thousands of varieties and with postage stamps and post-marks affixed they rank high as philatelic curiosities.

The envelope stamps of the Civil War period consist of the series of 1861, distinguished by outline letters and with the higher denominations from 12 to 40 cents bicolored (rare and high priced).

1861 24¢ corner, Sc. U44

Two less positive views: positive: a Jefferson Davis "Jackass' cover from the Union side— turn it upside down and it pictures a jackass; and a 'Hanging Lincoln' cover from the Confederate side.

Add to this series the two cent black profile of Jackson, with the curious topknot, resembling an Indian headdress and issued in 1863-64.

A Great Central Fair (Philadelphia) Sanitary Commission cover using the 1863 Jackson envelope, Sc. U46; and the Grand Central Fair 1864 10¢, Sc. WV11

The Sanitary Fair Stamps of 1863-64 while not valid for postage are today very rare. In our generation the Red Cross performs on battlefield and in hospital many of the functions inaugurated in the Civil War with funds raised by the Sanitary Fairs.

Left to right: 1862 First Issue proof, Sc. R1P4; r1871 Second Issue 20¢, in this case with the black center inverted, Sc. R111a; 1872 Third Issue $20, Sc. R150.

As far as the Northern States are concerned, Revenue Stamps played a conspicuous part in financing the Civil War and continued in use for seventeen years after the War ended, or until 1882. The First Issue, from 1862 until 1871, both imperforated and perforated were followed by the Second Issue in 1871 in which the vignettes are blue with a black medallion (Stuart's) portrait of Washington. The Third Issue

used the same plates as the Second but with the vignettes in various colors. *(Front cover, the 1872 Third Issue 1¢ Proof in a Plate Block of 8, Sc. R134P4).* It would seem as though the engravers' art reached a pinnacle of excellence in the production of these Civil War revenue stamps that has never been equalled since. A beautiful collection can still be formed for a moderate outlay.

Although not generally collected, "Revenue Stamped Paper" presents a fascinating field for the collector of Civil War items with some twenty-three different types or dies and innumerable colors denominations and varieties. These stamps are imprinted on checks and other documents and should be collected on the whole document, never clipped. In use for twenty years, many are not at all rare and a beautiful, but not complete collection can be acquired at modest cost.

Revenue Stamped Paper: 2¢ Orange J Die, Sc. RN-J11, on 187_ Commercial National Bank of Pa. check printed on violet laid paper. Printed by Wm. F. Murphy's Sons, Philadelphia.

"Private Proprietary" Match, Medicine, Perfumery and Playing Card stamps complete this review of Civil War philatelic items. These stamps performed a double duty: paying the revenue tax to the Government and

Left: San Francisco Match Co. on silk paper, Sc. RO165; right, Hunt's Remedy Medicine stamp, Sc. RS56

serving to advertise the firms that issued them. Many of these can still be had for a few cents each and no Civil War collection can be considered complete without a representative showing.

Left: Baird's Bloom of Youth Perfumery stamp on pink paper, Sc. RT14c; right, Goodall Playing Cards stamp on old paper, Sc. RU8a

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RED IS RED, BLUE IS BLUE AND GREEN IS GREEN…OR IS IT?

By Mike Bach
Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

Have you ever had trouble identifying the color of a stamp and what it is named? In many instances this is difficult and sometimes impossible and a very frustrating exercise. I primarily collect Great Britain from 1840 to 1940. Identifying stamps issued for Queen Victoria was pretty easy but when you get to Edward VII I you run into a major problem as you will learn a little later.

This mini-article was inspired by an article in the latest American Philatelist from the APS written by Tom Horn called "Basics of Color". It is well worth a read. The following panels were taken from the article. These are Blue, Red and Green examples of United States issues from the Stanley Gibbons color naming convention.

Here is the first dilemma. What catalogue do you use? Stanley Gibbons or Scott? Over many years of collecting, I now defer to Stanley Gibbons for three reasons. First Stanley Gibbons tends to give far more color varieties, second the same stamp in the two catalogues will be given a different color name and third there seems (to me at least) more consistency in color naming from stamp to stamp. By this I mean that Stanley Gibbons will name two different stamps the same color while Scott may have a different color name for each stamp. Confusing isn't it?

So here are the three panels from the American Philatelist:

Figure 3. Examples of blue shades on stamps, using the Stanley Gibbons color naming conventions.

These panels are by and large showing color variations using different stamps but when you have the same stamp the two catalogues can come up with quite different color names.

Let's use the Blue Special Delivery stamps as an example. Using the Scott 2022 Classic Specialized Catalogue 1840-1940. The messenger on bicycle (Design SD4) Cat. Ref. E 4 and E4a are Ultramarine and Blue respectively. The Postman and Motorcycle (Design SD6) Cat. Ref. E12 and E12a are either Gray Violet or Deep Ultramarine. Notice the difference in nomenclature between the two catalogues.

Turning now to Great Britain and particular Edward VII. This was quite a short reign from 1902 to 1911. I am going to use the Half Penny (Green)and the One Penny (Red) Issues to exemplify the color variations. During that short period stamps were issued using by two different printers. In the case of the Half Penny and One Penny these were De La Rue & Co and Harrison & Sons. For higher values such as the One and One Half Pence it was De La Rue & Co and Somerset House.

Normally I create the album pages in chronological order however there are 31 variations of the Half Penny stamp and 13 variations of the Penny stamp listed by Stanley Gibbons during this period. Trying to compare colors across maybe 6 plus pages was an impossibility so for my Edward VII collection, I broke my normal convention and created pages by stamp value.

Below are scans of the two pages I created for the Half Penny and one page for the One Penny. Even sorting the stamps this way was still a challenge. Fortunately, with each printing there were some perforation differences but even so this still took a long time to figure out the different colors.

KING EDWARD VII

ONE HALF PENNY GREEN

1902-10: Printed by De La Rue & Co - Wmk Imp. Crown - Perf 14

SG 215 / SC 127
Dull Blue Green

SG 216 / SC 127a
Blue-Green

SG 217 / SC 143
Pale Yellowish Green
1904

SG 218 / SC 143a
Yellowish Green
1904

SG 215 / SC 127
Dull Blue Green
Wmk Inv

SG 218 / SC 143a
Yellowish Green
Wmk Inv

1911: Printed by Harrison & Sons - Wmk Imp. - Perf 14

SG 267 / SC
Dull Yellow Green

SG 268 / SC
Dull Green

SG 269 / SC
Deep dull Green

SG 270 / SC 127c
Pale Blish Green

SG 271 / SC 127d
Bright Grren

1911: Printed by Harrison & Sons - Wmk Imp. - Perf 15 x 14

SG 279 / SC 146
Dull Green

SG 279a / SC146a
Deep Dull Green

KING EDWARD VII

ONE HALF PENNY GREEN

1902-10: Printed by De La Rue & Co - Wmk Imp. Crown - Perf 14

SG 215 / SC 127
Dull Blue Green

SG 216 / SC 127a
Blue-Green

SG 217 / SC 143
Pale Yellowish Green
1904

SG 218 / SC 143a
Yellowish Green
1904

SG 215 / SC 127
Dull Blue Green
Wmk Inv

SG 218 / SC 143a
Yellowish Green
Wmk Inv

M2a

1911: Printed by Harrison & Sons - Wmk Imp. - Perf 14

SG 267 / SC
Dull Yellow Green

SG 268 / SC
Dull Green

SG 269 / SC
Deep dull Green

SG 270 / SC 127c
Pale Blish Green

SG 271 / SC 127d
Bright Grren

1911: Printed by Harrison & Sons - Wmk Imp. - Perf 15 x 14

??

N33 1

~~SG 279 / SC 146~~
~~Dull Green~~
N33 2

N33 4

a

~~SG 279a / SC 146a~~
~~Deep Dull~~ Green

KING EDWARD VII

ONE PENNY SCARLET

1902-10: Printed by De La Rue & Co - Wmk Imp. Crown - Perf 14

SG 219 / SC 128
Scarlet

SG 220 / SC 128h
Bright Scarlet

SG 220 /
Bright Scarlet
Wmk Inv

1911: Printed by Harrison & Sons - Wmk Imp. - Perf 14

SG 272 / SC 128a
Rose Red

SG 273 / SC
Deep Rose Red

SG 274 / SC 128b
Deep Rose Carmine

SG 275 / SC 128d
Aniline Pink
May-11

SG 271 / SC 128c
Aniline Rose
May-11

SG 272 / SC
Rose Red
Wmk Inv

1911: Printed by Harrison & Sons - Wmk Imp. - Perf 15 x 14

SG 280 / SC 147b
Rose Red

SG 281 / SC 147
Rose Carmine

SG 282 / SC 147a
Pale Rose Carmine

When these different issues are put on one page, some of the color differences are more easily to discern. Even so some of the later issues with the same perforations are almost impossible to tell apart. In fact, I have read in several articles that state that the only way one can really know what issue you have is if the stamp on a cover and there is a clear date on the cover. As most stamps are off cover, finding these stamps on a cover is very difficult.

Even creating pages by this method, I am still not sure that I have correctly identified the stamp with the right color. I am sure that some are wrongly classified. The variations can be quite minute and unless you have a template to go by it is not easy.

So how do you fare with color identification? A blue, green or red stamp may not be the color you first thought it might be. It takes time to research and a lot of patience to get it right and sometimes you don't.

Postscript:

I mentioned at the beginning that identifying Queen Victoria stamps was quite easy. There is a caveat with early Penny Red stamps. He are just a few different varieties that I have in my collection that I think I have correctly identified.

ADDENDUM to Rob Sternberg ATA article from last month:

Unfortunately, Rob got back to me after the ATA article went to print in the Overprint.

Here are his comments:

- As far as I remember, ATA (not me) picked the stamps and cover to show. I have other covers in my collections that I like more, but the one shown is representative enough. The image of stamps shows a selection of IGY stamps from different countries, all of which (and more) I have in my collection.

- Here is the link to my blog (https://internationalgeophysicalyear.blogspot.com/), on the IGY in general and on my collection, but it is dormant.

- The photo of me was taken at a glacier in Saas-Fee, Switzerland. (Glaciers are beautiful, but the flood in Nepal is tragic.)

- My email rs_sternberg@yahoo.com if any reader wishes to contact me on this topic.

The Reading Stamp Collectors Club
Mike Bach, Newsletter Editor